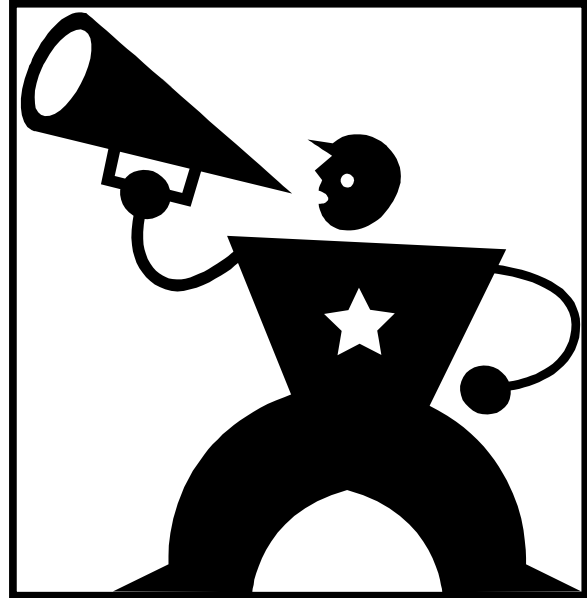


UNSTOPPABLE

This letter is dedicated to Matthew who used this very word in an art assignment in his younger days; indeed, the picture included a superhero of sort like the one to the right along with the caption, “I am unstoppable”.

As with the previous word, “unlimited”, unstoppable indicates some lack of boundaries or constraints. The superhero was evidently so super that no one or nothing could stop him...whatever he was attempting to do or to represent. In my recollection, the same word was used in a minister’s simple description of the game of football.



A minister, who himself played the game at the college level, explained that the objective of the game (football) is simple. One team makes a claim or challenge that they can move an oblong ball made of pigskin across a line while the other team accepts the challenge that they cannot – the team is either stoppable or unstoppable. Depending on the integrity of the claim, or occurrences that such a claim has proven true, the challenger may travel great distances to prove the exception – a good game is when the challenge is questioned to the very end, overtime or sudden death.

If the story has a moral, I am not sure what it might be; but what is generally true is that a good challenge will trigger challengers and that eventually someone is proven wrong. As with limits, the challenge and condition of stopping has both good and bad aspects. If someone is stopped from hurting themselves or others, the outcome is most likely good. If someone is stopped from doing a good deed or helping others, the outcome is most likely bad. In many cases, the aspect of good or bad may be convoluted by a host of conditions.

Throughout history, great civilizations and commanders have wielded their power and dominance with relative success to the point of being unstoppable; yet, time and conditions result in eventual stops, retreats, and even falls – everyone is indeed stoppable at some point and time – except in the mind of a child.

In a **WORD**