

# SUPER JETS

## HEAD TOP 100

By THOMAS CULLEN

This time, Joe Namath didn't guarantee it. The fans did.

Namath was among a host of legends on hand at the Garden last night to celebrate New York's Top 100 sports moments. And at the top of the list was the Jets' 16-7 victory over the Colts in Super Bowl III. The Top 100 was determined by a poll of New York sports fans.

No. 2 on the list was the Knicks' first NBA championship, in 1970, and No. 3 was the Rangers' 1994 Stanley Cup title.

Namath guaranteed the Jets would win the 1969 Super Bowl against the Colts, but the only pledge he made last night was that the current team would turn it around under Bill Parcells.

"I know what coach Parcells brings to the Jets," Namath said. "Bringing the level of success and the coaching staff that he has brought in already moves the team up."

The always-quotable Namath felt sympathy for quarterback Neil O'Donnell in last week's 28-22 loss to the Bills.

"I saw a mean Buffalo defense

last week," Namath said.

O'Donnell went 16-for-37 for 218 yards with one touchdown and he was picked off twice.

"He can't do much if he doesn't have the time," Namath said of O'Donnell, who was sacked eight times. "However, I know he can lead this team."

Namath said the role of NFL quarterbacks has changed — now they must fit into a system. He cited the 49ers' Joe Montana and Steve Young as two of the best at performing their roles.

"You could plug almost anyone into that [49ers'] system and the team would do well," he said. "It is such a team game that you really do thrive on the whole group."

When asked about today's top running backs, Namath mentioned Barry Sanders despite his slow start.

"He is one of the best running backs in the game," Namath said. "He was held to minus yardage two years ago against the Packers in the playoffs, and this year he is off to a horrendous start for him."

Namath wasn't the only famous New York quarterback at last



**BROADWAY'S BEST:** Joe Namath (left) makes a point to John McEnroe yesterday during New York's Top 100 Sports Moments Gala at the Garden.

New York Post: Nury Hernandez

night's gala. Former Giant Y.A. feel it will be a balanced league Tittle attended, and his seven touchdowns-pass performance

against the Redskins in 1962 ranked 63rd in the Top 100.

Tittle, looking dapper in his tuxedo with a white bow tie, admitted that he didn't get to watch many Giants games because he lives in Palo Alto, Calif.

"I only know what I read in the papers," Tittle said. "I was impressed with the way the Giants dominated Philadelphia the first week. Then to see Philadelphia Hall of Fame, Tittle said, "It was knock off Green Bay last week, I long overdue."

When asked about Mara's induction in July to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Tittle said, "It was knock off Green Bay last week, I long overdue."

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