

FRESH NEW DUDS

Falcons & Lions To Sport New Uniforms In 2003

Two teams will introduce uniform changes in 2003.

While the Atlanta Falcons hope that their new unis will help them continue their success from last year when they advanced to the NFC Divisional Playoffs, the Detroit Lions hope that their new duds help propel them back to the playoffs.

The new NFL uniforms that will debut this year:

ATLANTA FALCONS: With a quarterback whose speed abounds, the Falcons will unveil a faster, more aggressive look.

In the fifth uniform change in their 37-year history, the Falcons will wear black jerseys and white pants during home games. On the road, they will don white jerseys and white or black pants. Both the jerseys and pants have red piping down the side, which expands at the knee for a sleek, aerodynamic look. The jerseys have “Falcons” stitched at the neckline in a newly developed font and the numbers are designed with a drop shadow that gives them more depth. The white pants are a change from the silver pants of recent years.

The new helmet is a metallic black, as compared to the previous flat black, and displays the new Falcon logo, which adds dark red and silver to the former logo and tilts the image of the falcon forward to create a sense of movement. The logo had remained the same since 1966.

“The new logo depicts a more powerful, aggressive falcon – one of fast movement,” says Falcons owner **ARTHUR BLANK**. “It’s representative of the evolution and direction of our team.”

The Falcons will also use the combination of black jersey and black pants on occasion, much to the players’ excitement. “Everybody wants to wear the all-black,” says Falcons All-Pro quarterback **MICHAEL VICK**. “I wish we could wear the all-black every game, but we’ve got the other nice uniforms that we can wear. This is just a substitute. This is for the special games: playoffs, the preseason and Tampa Bay.”

DETROIT LIONS: The Lions’ uniforms have undergone few changes over the years, but this season they will be “tweaked” a little bit.

The traditional “Hawaiian” blue remains the distinctive color of the team and the silver pants are virtually the same as before. The noticeable change to the uniforms is the black strip that lines the collar of the jerseys and defines the stripes on the jersey sleeves. This same strip serves as an outline for the numbers on the jerseys.

Lions president **MATT MILLEN**, who introduced the new uniforms, says that the idea was to add a little splash to the outfits rather than try to make any drastic changes. “The Lions have a great tradition,” says Millen.

2003 TEAM PATCHES

- **Chicago Bears:** Inaugural Game at new Soldier Field (Worn on September 29).
- **Green Bay Packers:** Inaugural game at new Lambeau Field (Worn on September 7).
- **New York Jets:** 40th anniversary.
- **Cleveland Browns:** Memorial patch for late owner Al Lerner.
- **San Diego Chargers:** Memorial patch for late general manager John Butler.
- **Washington Redskins:** Memorial patch for late member of ownership group Gerald Snyder.

2003 SPECIAL GAME BALLS

- **All NFL Openers:** Will have Kickoff 2003 footballs (other than Green Bay and Philadelphia)
- **Green Bay Packers:** Inaugural game at new Lambeau Field (September 7)
- **Philadelphia Eagles:** Inaugural game at new Lincoln Field (September 8)

TOP UNIS

NFL offensive players can’t seem to get away from one particular inside linebacker. It may seem that way to fans as well. No. 54 in the navy blue, orange and white of Chicago Bears All-Star linebacker **BRIAN URLACHER** accounted for the most NFL player jerseys sold on NFLShop.com for the second consecutive year in 2002.

The NFL is the world’s most popular sports brand and is the fourth-largest overall brand globally. Approximately four million NFL jerseys were bought by fans around the world last season.

Following are the top-selling player jerseys according to NFLShop.com for the 2002 season (through March 31, 2003):

Top-Selling NFL Player Jerseys

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Brian Urlacher, Chicago Bears | 11. Emmitt Smith, Dallas Cowboys |
| 2. Ricky Williams, Miami Dolphins | 12. Terrell Owens, San Francisco 49ers |
| 3. Michael Vick, Atlanta Falcons | 13. Jerome Bettis, Pittsburgh Steelers |
| 4. Warren Sapp, Tampa Bay Buccaneers | 14. Mike Alstott, Tampa Bay Buccaneers |
| 5. Donovan McNabb, Philadelphia Eagles | 15. John Lynch, Tampa Bay Buccaneers |
| 6. Tom Brady, New England Patriots | 16. Rich Gannon, Oakland Raiders |
| 7. Jerry Rice, Oakland Raiders | 17. Charles Woodson, Oakland Raiders |
| 8. Jeff Garcia, San Francisco 49ers | 18. Zach Thomas, Miami Dolphins |
| 9. Jeremy Shockey, New York Giants | 19. LaDainian Tomlinson, San Diego Chargers |
| 10. Brett Favre, Green Bay Packers | 20. Keyshawn Johnson, Tampa Bay Buccaneers |

The **OAKLAND RAIDERS** remained at the top of the NFL’s Top 10 in licensed merchandise for 2002, while the Tampa Bay Buccaneers – the team that defeated the Raiders in Super Bowl XXXVII – moved from their number 10 spot last year to No. 2. The Green Bay Packers, who earned an NFC Wild Card berth, placed in the top five for the seventh consecutive year.

Top-Selling NFL Teams in 2002

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Oakland Raiders | 6. Philadelphia Eagles |
| 2. Tampa Bay Buccaneers | 7. Chicago Bears |
| 3. Dallas Cowboys | 8. St. Louis Rams |
| 4. Green Bay Packers | 9. New England Patriots |
| 5. Pittsburgh Steelers | 10. San Francisco 49ers |

56 YEARS AGO ON OPENING DAY -- A RECORD 87 POINTS!

Fifty-six years ago, the **WASHINGTON REDSKINS** and **PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** opened the 1947 season with a record-breaking bang. The Eagles outscored the Redskins 45-42 on September 28 before a crowd of 35,406 in Philadelphia's Municipal Stadium. The 87-point total was an NFL record and continues to stand as the most points scored in an opening game. The record for most combined points in any NFL game is 113 by Washington (72) and the New York Giants (41) on November 27, 1966.

The 12-touchdown scoring blitz, an NFL record at the time, was highlighted by the play of two future Pro Football Hall of Famers -- Washington quarterback **SAMMY BAUGH** and Philadelphia halfback **STEVE VAN BUREN**.

Baugh, whose 1947 totals in completions (210), attempts (354) and yards passing (2,938) were NFL records, threw for 364 yards and five touchdowns, including three to rookie end **HUGH TAYLOR**. Van Buren, whose 1,008 rushing yards for the year were also a league record, returned a kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown and rushed for another while totaling 98 yards on the ground.

September 28, 1947, Municipal Stadium, Philadelphia, PA

Philadelphia	10	14	14	7 --	45
Washington	0	14	14	14--	42
Phi -	FG Muha 40				
Phi -	Pihos 19 pass from Thompson (Patton kick)				
Was -	Nussbaumer 25 pass from Baugh (Poillon kick)				
Was -	Taylor 62 pass from Baugh (Poillon kick)				
Phi -	Van Buren 95 kickoff return (Patton kick)				
Phi -	Sherman 1 run (Patton kick)				
Was -	Saenz 94 kickoff return (Poillon kick)				
Phi -	Van Buren 1 run (Patton kick)				
Phi -	Pihos 21 pass from Thompson (Patton kick)				
Was -	Poillon 4 pass from Baugh (Poillon kick)				
Phi -	Armstrong 29 pass from Thompson (Patton kick)				
Was -	Taylor 36 pass from Baugh (Poillon kick)				
Was -	Taylor 18 pass from Baugh (Poillon kick)				

OPENING DAY: THE DUTCHMAN GOES WILD!

Los Angeles Rams quarterback **NORM “THE DUTCHMAN” VAN BROCKLIN** entered the 1951 season entrenched in a dual for the starting position with veteran **BOB WATERFIELD**. A Waterfield injury sidelined the incumbent quarterback prior to the season opener against the Yanks, and opened the door for Van Brocklin to show his worth. Van Brocklin took advantage of the opportunity by producing the most prolific passing performance in NFL history. Van Brocklin threw for an NFL record 554 yards in a 54-14 rout of the New York Yanks at the Los Angeles Coliseum. The Hall of Fame quarterback tossed five touchdowns and completed 27 of 41 passes.

“It’s the finest exhibition of passing I’ve ever seen,” said Rams Coach **JIMMY PHELAN**. “Van Brocklin was hitting them in the eye practically every time he threw the ball.”

Van Brocklin, who passed away at the age of 57 in 1983, remained subdued about the performance. “Everything I threw seemed to be caught and run for a long gain,” he said.

TOM FEARS averaged 23.1 yards on his seven catches and **ELROY “CRAZYLEGS” HIRSCH** averaged 19.2 on nine receptions. Los Angeles amassed an NFL record 735 total yards and 34 first downs.

“They don’t need me out here anymore,” said Waterfield after the game. The two quarterbacks would split time for the rest of the season as the Rams captured the 1951 NFL Championship.

Van Brocklin’s record has stood for the past 51 years. Former Houston Oilers quarterback **WARREN MOON** came the closest to breaking Van Brocklin’s record with a 527-yard day against Kansas City in 1990.

Following are the top passing performances in different levels of football:

LEAGUE	QUARTERBACK	DATE	PERFORMANCE
NCAA Division III	Zamir Amin, Menlo	October 7, 2000	731 yards vs. Cal Lutheran
NCAA Division I A	David Klingler, Houston	December 2, 1990	716 yards vs. Arizona St.
Canadian Football League	Matt Dunigan, Winnipeg	July 14, 1994	713 yards vs. Edmonton
High School	Rhett Lashlee, Springdale Shiloh Christian, AR	November 26, 1999	672 yards vs. Junction City
NCAA Division II	Wilkie Perez, Glenville St.	October 25, 1997	642 yards vs. Concord
NCAA Division I AA	Jamie Martin, Weber St.	November 23, 1991	624 yards vs. Idaho St.
NFL Europe	Dameyune Craig, Scotland	May 22, 1999	611 yards vs. Frankfurt
NFL	<i>Norm Van Brocklin, LA Rams</i>	<i>September 28, 1951</i>	<i>554 yards vs. NY Yanks</i>
Arena Football League	Clint Dolezel, Houston	May 14, 1999	479 yards vs. Milwaukee

NFL FED BY FLORIDA

A lot of states feel proud of their football heritage. But as far as the NFL is concerned, Florida should feel *real* proud.

The top two colleges to contribute the most players to 2002 NFL opening day rosters were from Florida, and three of the top six such schools were from the state. The University of Florida and Florida State both produced 39 NFL players in 2002. The University of Miami was not far behind, having accounted for 35 players in the league.

"The nature of where we live is to our advantage," says Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker and 2002 Associated Press NFL Defensive Player of the Year **DERRICK BROOKS**, a Florida native and graduate of Florida State. "In the South, you preach football and track, and most guys from the state of Florida have great speed. That's why we get a lot of guys drafted and that's why a lot of guys remain in the league and we brag about that. There's a fraternity of us and we like to stick together and brag when somebody is from our state."

Following is a list of the colleges that produced the most players on 2002 NFL opening day rosters:

College	Number	College	Number
Florida	39	Miami	35
Florida State	39	Tennessee	32
Michigan	38	Nebraska	30
Notre Dame	38	Southern California	29
Georgia	35	Ohio State	28

Three of the top six high schools to contribute the most 2002 NFL players were Florida-based. Ely High School of Pompano Beach, Glades Central of Belle Glade and William M. Raines of Jacksonville each had five alums on NFL rosters in 2002.

"One of the reasons why Raines has been so successful in producing athletes year after year is due to the fact that the guys who make it in the pros always come back and work out with the younger guys," says Houston Texans wide receiver and Raines graduate **JABAR GAFFNEY**. "The guys show the kids how to be successful and it is a continuing process each year."

Following is a list of the high schools that produced the most players on 2002 NFL opening day rosters (with 2003 clubs):

HIGH SCHOOL, TOWN, STATE	NUMBER	NFL PLAYERS
Ely, Pompano Beach, FL	5	Tyrone Carter, NYJ.; Henri Crockett, Min.; Zack Crockett, Oak.; Al Harris, Phil.; Corey Simon, Phil.
Glades Central, Belle Glade, FL	5	James Jackson, Clev.; Willie Jones, KC; Johnny Rutledge, Ariz. (2002); Jimmy Spencer, Den.; Fred Taylor, Jax
Long Beach Poly, Long Beach, CA	5	Marques Anderson, GB; Willie McGinest, NE; Ken-Yon Rambo, Dal.; Omar Stoutmire, NYG; Brandon Whiting, Phil.
Thornton Township, Harvey, IL	5	Barry Gardner, Clev.; Napoleon Harris, Oak.; Antwaan Randle El, Pitt.; Tai Streets, SF; Sammy Williams, Jax
Torrey Pines, San Diego, CA	5	John Allred, Pitt. (2002); Hayden Epstein, Min.; Chad Hutchinson, Dal.; Brody Liddiard, Min.; John Lynch, TB
William M. Raines, Jacksonville, FL	5	Brian Dawkins, Phil.; Rod Gardner, Wash.; Jabar Gaffney, Hous.; Shawn Jefferson, Det.; Lito Sheppard, Phil.

In 17 of the past 21 years, a Florida team has played for the national championship of college football. Over the past 20 years, Miami, Florida State and Florida have gathered eight national championships, 54 trips to bowl games and a winning percentage of .795.

And in 2002, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers brought a Super Bowl title to the state. Not to mention that in 2005, Jacksonville will play host to Super Bowl XXXIX

"Florida is such a great football state," says Buccaneers head coach **JON GRUDEN**. "People love the Gators, the Seminoles, USF, Miami, the Dolphins, Jags and us. To have 80,000 people waiting on a list to get a seat for our games is unbelievable."

Florida: A key feeder of the NFL.

NFL NETWORK DEBUTS

Though many associate the first Tuesday of November with Election Day, Tuesday, November 4 takes on added significance this year for football fans with the debut of **NFL NETWORK**, the first 24-hour, seven-day-a-week network dedicated solely to the NFL and the sport of football.

NFL Network promises to be *the* gathering place for everything “NFL” and the great game that generates such passion among millions of fans.

NFL Network’s signature show will be **NFL TOTAL ACCESS**. It will air each weeknight at 8:00 PM. For one hour Monday through Friday, *NFL Total Access* on NFL Network is designed to be appointment viewing for football fans. *NFL Total Access* will provide viewers with the latest breaking news directly from team sites, behind-the-scenes insight from players, coaches and newsmakers, and add a diverse look at the NFL past, present and future. Using NFL Network’s unique access, all aspects of the players’ lives on and off the field will be covered. *NFL Total Access* will take advantage of its Los Angeles studio location to provide celebrity involvement -- showing how Hollywood interacts with the NFL experience.

NFL Films and its 100-million feet of NFL footage will play an integral role in the programming and technical operations of NFL Network. From its 200,000 square-foot studio complex in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, NFL Films provides the most comprehensive television and film capabilities available anywhere. With a fully-equipped live video control room that is switchable to operate in Standard or Hi-Definition, NFL Films will bring NFL Network top quality programming using cutting-edge technology.

Among the original programs being produced by NFL Films will be **NFL FILMS PRESENTS**. The show will air Tuesday through Saturday at 9:00 PM ET.

In addition, NFL Films is developing **PLAYBOOK**, an Xs and Os program detailing the upcoming week’s games. *Playbook* will air Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 PM ET. On one edition of *Playbook*, a special one-hour condensed version “Game of the Week” will be shown in High Definition. The game will be chosen from one of the many afternoon games that took place the previous Sunday and filmed by NFL Films cameras.

Former ESPN CEO and ABC Television President **STEVE BORNSTEIN**, the NFL’s executive vice president of media and president and CEO of NFL Network, brings more than 25 years of television industry experience to the league. He has already begun to deliver. Playing a pivotal role in the agreement with DirecTV last December to extend the Sunday Ticket package through 2007, Bornstein also negotiated carriage of NFL Network on the satellite provider’s basic service reaching more than 11,400,000 U.S. homes.

“We are very excited to launch a television network that cherishes and celebrates the NFL,” exclaimed Bornstein. “With such a rich history, our aim is to bring fans programming honoring that tradition, while using innovation to provide a broad audience with the most technologically advanced and compelling content the NFL brand makes possible.”

Bornstein’s team has been working intensively on all the technical and strategic issues involved in starting a television network. The programming and personnel puzzle is now in place for the November 4 launch.

Acclaimed sportscaster **RICH EISEN**, who spent the past seven years as one of the main *SportsCenter* anchors for ESPN, has joined NFL Network as the host for *NFL Total Access* as well as *NFL Films Presents*. Known for his knowledge, insight, and humor, Eisen was hand-picked by Bornstein. The two worked together at ESPN in the 1990s.

NFL Network will provide 365 days a year of NFL and football-related programming. With original shows, the NFL Films library and preseason games, NFL Network will be a cable and satellite channel serving a broad audience with in-depth, innovative and compelling programming made possible by its unique access to America’s most popular sport.

NFL & ESPN GO TO THE MOVIES

The **NFL** and **ESPN** will collaborate on two original, made-for-TV movies as part of a multi-year development agreement announced this spring. The movies will be made in association with Emmy-award-winning NFL Films. The first project under the new partnership will be *The Ice Bowl*.

The *Ice Bowl* will be a rendering of actual events as they unfolded on December 31, 1967 on the frozen turf in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Two great football teams, the Dallas Cowboys and Green Bay Packers, were playing for the NFL Championship and the right to play in Super Bowl II in what might be the most famous football game ever played.

ORLY ADELSON, who was executive producer of ESPN’s critically acclaimed TV movie *The Junction Boys* (2002), will serve as executive producer for the *Ice Bowl*, which will premiere on ESPN Saturday, December 13 at 9:00 PM ET. The second original made-for-TV-movie is to be announced.

NFL KICKS OFF WITH NATIONAL TV THURSDAY NIGHT GAME;
NFL TV & RADIO 2003

THE NFL is the only sports league that televises all regular-season and postseason games on free, over-the-air network television. This season, the league will kick off its 84th season with a national television Thursday night game when the New York Jets visit the Washington Redskins on September 4 (ABC, 9:00 PM ET).

Following is a guide to the “new look” for the NFL on television and radio in 2003, beginning with the talent and technology changes:

- Sideline reporter **LISA GUERRERO** joins game analyst **JOHN MADDEN** and play-by-play announcer **AL MICHAELS** on **ABC’s NFL Monday Night Football**.
- **FOX** celebrates its 10th season of NFL telecasts as both the *FOX NFL Sunday* pregame show and the *NFL on FOX* return.
- Joining **ESPN’s Sunday NFL Countdown** are former NFL wide receiver **MICHAEL IRVIN** as a full-time studio analyst and talk-show host **RUSH LIMBAUGH**, who will deliver a weekly opinion piece on football.
- **TREY WINGO** will host **ESPN’s NFL Live** (formerly *NFL 2Night*).

NFL ANNOUNCER LINEUP FOR 2003

ABC

NFL Monday Night Football: Al Michaels-John Madden-Lisa Guerrero (Reporter).

CBS

NFL Today (Pregame): Jim Nantz-Dan Marino-Deion Sanders-Boomer Esiason-Marcus Allen (Reporter)-Lesley Visser (Reporter). **NFL On CBS:** Greg Gumbel-Phil Simms-Armen Keteyian (Reporter); Dick Enberg-Dan Dierdorf-Bonnie Bernstein (Reporter); Kevin Harlan-Randy Cross; Gus Johnson-Brent Jones; Ian Eagle-Solomon Wilcotts; Don Criqui-Steve Tasker; Craig Bolerjack-Beasley Reece; Bill Macatee-Jerry Glanville; Tim Brando-Spencer Tillman.

ESPN

Sunday NFL Countdown (Pregame): Chris Berman-Tom Jackson-Chris Mortensen-Steve Young-Michael Irvin-Rush Limbaugh. **ESPN NFL Sunday Night Football:** Mike Patrick-Joe Theismann-Paul Maguire-Suzy Kolber (Reporter).

FOX

FOX NFL Sunday (Pregame): James Brown-Terry Bradshaw-Howie Long-Jimmy Johnson-Jillian Barberie. **NFL on FOX:** Joe Buck-Troy Aikman-Cris Collinsworth-Pam Oliver (Reporter); Dick Stockton-Daryl Johnston; Sam Rosen-Bill Maas; Kenny Albert-Brian Baldinger; Curt Menefee-Tim Green; Ron Pitts-Tim Ryan.

2003 NFL TV PROGRAMMING

<u>Day</u>	<u>Programming</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Start Time (ET)</u>
<u>Tuesday</u>	NFL Films Presents	ESPN2	1:30 PM
	NFL Live	ESPN2	7:00 PM
<u>Wednesday</u>	NFL Live	ESPN2	7:00 PM
<u>Thursday</u>	NFL Live	ESPN2	7:00 PM
	Inside The NFL	HBO	11:00 PM
<u>Friday</u>	NFL Films Presents	ESPN2	2:30 PM
	Inside The NFL	HBO	7:00 PM
	NFL Live	ESPN2	7:00 PM
	Edge NFL Match-Up	ESPN2	7:30 PM
<u>Saturday</u>	Edge NFL Match-Up	ESPN	3:00 AM
	Edge NFL Match-Up	ESPN2	6:30 AM
	NFL Under the Helmet	FOX	12:00 PM
	NFL Live	ESPN2	7:00 PM
<u>Sunday</u>	Edge NFL Match-Up	ESPN	8:30 AM
	Sunday NFL Countdown	ESPN	11:00 AM
	FOX NFL Sunday	FOX	12:00 PM
	NFL Today	CBS	12:00 PM
	NFL On CBS	CBS	1:00; 4:05/4:15 PM
	NFL On FOX	FOX	1:00; 4:05/4:15 PM
	NFL Prime Time	ESPN	7:30 PM
	ESPN NFL Sunday Night Football	ESPN	8:30 PM
<u>Monday</u>	NFL Films Presents	ESPN	2:30 AM
	NFL Films Presents	ESPN	3:30 PM
	NFL Films Presents	ESPN2	7:00 PM
	NFL Monday Night Countdown	ESPN	7:30 PM
	ABC’s NFL Monday Night Football	ABC	9:00 PM

MADDEN & MICHAELS BEGIN YEAR TWO

JOHN MADDEN begins his second season as analyst for *ABC's NFL Monday Night Football* alongside 17-year veteran play-by-play man **AL MICHAELS**. The duo will be joined this season by a new sideline reporter, **LISA GUERRERO**, formerly an anchor with Fox Sports Net's *Best Damn Sports Show Period*.

"There isn't a bigger opportunity in sports than *Monday Night Football*, says Guerrero. "To be associated with a booth that includes Al Michaels and John Madden is a dream come true for a football fan."

The series will kick off its 34th season on September 8 when the defending Super Bowl-champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers visit the Philadelphia Eagles in a rematch of Tampa Bay's 27-10 victory in last season's NFC Championship game. The game also ushers in a new era for the Eagles, who open their new, state-of-the-art home, Lincoln Financial Field.

The Buccaneers and Eagles both play three games on Monday night in 2003. So do the AFC Champion Oakland Raiders, beginning with a showdown against the AFC West-rival Denver Broncos on September 22, and the NFC North Champion Green Bay Packers, who first face the Bears at Chicago's renovated Soldier Field on Monday, September 29.

"You're the only show in town," says Oakland wide receiver **TIM BROWN** about the thrill of playing on Monday night. "A lot of people are going to be watching you and you want to put on a good performance. This is a prime time to do it."

Monday Night Football was created in 1970, when NFL Commissioner **PETE ROZELLE** proposed a weekly prime-time game to the networks. ABC Sports President **ROONE ARLEDGE** convinced the network to televise the series and went about creating a weekly event.

The longest-running prime-time entertainment series of all-time, *ABC's NFL Monday Night Football* has made a lasting impression since its first broadcast (New York Jets at Cleveland Browns) on September 21, 1970. Since 1990, *MNF* is the only prime-time entertainment program to be ranked among the top 15 programs each year.

TV's LONGEST CONTINUOUSLY-RUNNING PRIME TIME ENTERTAINMENT SERIES

Program	Years
NFL MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL (ABC)	34 (1970-present)
Walt Disney (ABC, CBS, NBC)	29 (1954-82)
Ed Sullivan (CBS)	24 (1948-71)
Red Skelton (NBC, CBS)	20 (1951-71)
Gunsmoke (CBS)	20 (1955-75)

Source: The Complete Directory to Prime Time Network TV Shows 1946-present

ALL-TIME MNF ANNOUNCERS TEAMS

1970	Keith Jackson, Howard Cosell, Don Meredith
1971-73	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Don Meredith
1974	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Alex Karras, Fred Williamson (Preseason)
1975-76	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Alex Karras
1977-78	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Don Meredith
1979-82	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Don Meredith, Fran Tarkenton
1983	Frank Gifford, Howard Cosell, Don Meredith, O.J. Simpson
1984	Frank Gifford, Don Meredith, O.J. Simpson
1985	Frank Gifford, O.J. Simpson, Joe Namath
1986	Al Michaels, Frank Gifford
1987-97	Al Michaels, Frank Gifford, Dan Dierdorf
1998	Al Michaels, Dan Dierdorf, Boomer Esiason
1999	Al Michaels, Boomer Esiason
2000-01	Al Michaels, Dan Fouts, Dennis Miller
2002-Present	Al Michaels, John Madden

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL – CAREER RECORDS

MOST TOUCHDOWNS		MOST TD PASSES		MOST RECEPTIONS	
Jerry Rice	35	Dan Marino	74	Jerry Rice	227
Emmitt Smith	24	Steve Young	42	Andre Reed	124
Marcus Allen	19	Joe Montana	36	Cris Carter	123
Mark Clayton	15	Brett Favre	34	Art Monk	114
Eric Dickerson	14	Jim Kelly	31	Tim Brown	110
John Riggins	14				

MOST RUSHING YARDS/CAREER		MOST RUSHING YARDS/GAME	
Emmitt Smith	2,434	Bo Jackson	221
Tony Dorsett	1,897	Ricky Williams	216
Thurman Thomas	1,769	Thurman Thomas	214
Marcus Allen	1,486	Earl Campbell	199
Franco Harris	1,435	Garrison Hearst	198

HIGHEST PERSONAL WINNING PCT. (Min. 10 games)		
Rod Woodson	17-1	.944
John Matuszak	14-1	.933
Kenny King	12-1	.923
Leon Searcy	12-1	.923
Chuck Thomas	12-1	.923

JOHNSON: NFL EUROPE TO SUPER BOWL CHAMP

Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback **BRAD JOHNSON** enters the 2003 season on the heels of a triumphant 2002 campaign. The two-time All-Star played an instrumental role in helping the Buccaneers to their first NFL championship, leading them to a 48-21 win over the Oakland Raiders in Super Bowl XXXVII.

Johnson’s road to the top was immeasurably helped by a stint in the NFL Europe League, when he quarterbacked the London Monarchs in the spring of 1995, finishing second in the league with 13 touchdown passes.

“During my third year in the NFL, I was with Minnesota and **BRIAN BILLICK** was our offensive coordinator,” Johnson explains. “I was practicing well, but playing behind a great player in **WARREN MOON**. I was not getting any game experience. I told Brian that I wanted to compete in NFL Europe, and it was one of the best decisions I ever made.”

Johnson had plenty of company among NFL Europe League veterans at the Pro Bowl last February, as a record eight former Europe Leaguers made the trip to Hawaii. Included in that group are two of the NFL’s most exciting players – return specialists **DANTE HALL** of Kansas City (Scotland, 2001) and **MICHAEL LEWIS** of New Orleans (Rhein, 2001).

“NFL Europe allows young football players a chance to play in games and to get better,” says Seattle Seahawks head coach **MIKE HOLMGREN**. “That’s very important. They really learn a lot and I think it’s a great experience.”

More than 250 Europe League veterans are expected to adorn NFL rosters this season. At the quarterback position, approximately 25 percent of NFL signal-callers have experience in NFL Europe, including expected Kickoff Weekend starters Johnson, Miami’s **JAY FIEDLER** (Amsterdam, 1997), Cincinnati’s **JON KITNA** (F.C. Barcelona, 1997) and St. Louis’ **KURT WARNER** (Amsterdam, 1998).

A look at NFL Europe League veteran QBs for 2003:

PLAYER/CLUB	NFLEL CLUB	PLAYER/CLUB	NFLEL CLUB	PLAYER/CLUB	NFLEL CLUB
Todd Bouman, NO	FC Barcelona, ‘99	Damon Huard, NE	Frankfurt, ‘98	David Priestley, KC	Amsterdam, ‘03
Seth Burford, SD	FC Barcelona, ‘03	Jarious Jackson, Den	FC Barcelona, ‘01	Mike Quinn, Hou	Rhein, ‘98
Jake Delhomme, Car	Amst, ‘98; Frankfurt ‘99	Brad Johnson, TB	London, ‘95	Jonathan Quinn, KC	Berlin, ‘01
Jay Fiedler, Mia	Amsterdam, ‘97	Jon Kitna, Cin	FC Barcelona, ‘97	David Rivers, Atl	Amsterdam, ‘03
Chris Finlen, NO	FC Barcelona, ‘03	Cleo Lemon, SD	Berlin, ‘02	Nick Rolovich, Den	Rhein, ‘03
Jason Garrett, NYG	San Antonio, ‘91	Tee Martin, Oak	Rhein, ‘02	Cory Sauter, Chi	FC Barcelona, ‘00
Quinn Gray, Jac	Frankfurt, ‘03	Jim Miller, TB	Frankfurt, ‘95	Shane Stafford, TB	Scotland, ‘03
Tim Hasselbeck, Phi	Berlin, ‘02	Craig Nall, GB	Scotland, ‘03	Clint Stoerner, Dal	Scotland, ‘01
Shaun Hill, Min	Amsterdam, ‘03	Doug Pederson, GB	NY/NJ, ‘92; Rhein ‘95	Kurt Warner, StL	Amsterdam, ‘98
Kelly Holcomb, Clev	FC Barcelona, ‘96	Wes Pate, Sea	Frankfurt, ‘03		

The NFL Europe League has not only been beneficial for young NFL players, but also for the many up-and-coming international athletes that are making their mark on the sport. This spring, several such players fulfilled important roles for their NFL Europe teams, including wide receiver **CARLOS ROSADO** of the Amsterdam Admirals.

Rosado, a native of Mexico, went to training camp with the N.Y. Jets after leading the Admirals with a 15.0 yards per catch average, finishing the 10-game season with 25 receptions for 377 yards.

“The talent from around the world continues to improve,” says FOX-TV analyst **BRIAN BALDINGER**, a former NFL offensive lineman (1982-93) who covered the league this spring. “It is only a matter of time before one of these players makes a mark in the NFL.”

A look at the international players that competed in NFL Europe in 2003 who have been signed by NFL clubs:

PLAYER	POS.	NFL/NFLEL CLUB	COUNTRY	PLAYER	POS.	NFL/NFLEL CLUB	COUNTRY
Daniel Benetka	DT	KC – Frankfurt	Germany	Marco Martos	WR	Car – FC Barcelona	Mexico
Rob Hart	K	Mia – Scotland	England	Antonio Rodriguez	LB	Hou – FC Barcelona	Mexico
Joerg Heckenbach	WR	GB – Berlin	Germany	Carlos Rosado	WR	NYJ – Amsterdam	Mexico
Peter Heyer	G	NO – Rhein	Germany	Marc Soumah	WR	Clev – Frankfurt	France
Yoshinobu Imoto	WR	NYJ – Amsterdam	Japan	Patrick Venzke	OL	Ind – Rhein	Germany
Masafumi Kawaguchi	LB	SF – Amsterdam	Japan	Shinzo Yamada	LB	TB – Amsterdam	Japan
Ralf Kleinmann	K	TB – Frankfurt	Germany				

NFL SEEN AROUND THE WORLD; SALUTES THE MILITARY

As the popularity of the NFL around the world continues to grow, fans everywhere can follow the action up close this season. Approximately 71,000 hours of NFL programming will be broadcast to 226 countries and territories. Some interesting facts about the NFL on TV around the world:

Countries & Territories	226	Time zones represented	24
Hours of programming	71,000	Languages games broadcast in	26

Members of the United States military will also have a chance to follow their favorite teams, as servicemen and-women in 178 countries will receive NFL programming.

“The American Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) salutes the National Football League for again providing the men and women in uniform with game coverage for the 2003-04 season,” said **TOM WEBER**, director of industry liaison for the AFRTS Broadcast Center.

“It goes without saying that the NFL continues to be the No. 1 rated sports programming on our network,” added **TIM MATTOX**, AFRTS chief of sports. “We are extremely proud to be able to deliver the NFL to the U.S. Armed Forces stationed overseas and aboard U.S. Navy ships at sea. Being able to see their favorite players and teams take the field throughout the season is a great morale booster for America’s finest who put themselves in harm’s way on a daily basis in service to our nation.”

The NFL has long been a tremendous supporter of America’s men and women in uniform. To say thank you, General **RICHARD B. MYERS**, U.S. Air Force and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, invited NFL Commissioner **PAUL TAGLIABUE** and NFLPA Executive Director **GENE UPSHAW** to the Pentagon this May 16.

Miami Dolphins defensive end **JASON TAYLOR** and linebacker **ZACH THOMAS**, along with Philadelphia Eagles running back **DUCE STALEY** all made visits this spring to troops serving in countries such as Germany, Iraq and Kuwait – but it was the NFL players who said thanks.

“The freedoms we enjoy at home are due to the men and women of the armed forces who protect us 24 hours a day, 365 days a year,” said Taylor, who made separate trips to Europe and the Middle East. “We’re here to say thank you and make sure they know that we care and that they are not forgotten.”

FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO THE NFL

Not only can fans worldwide watch NFL games, but they are playing American football in vast numbers as well. One emerging German national is **CONSTANTIN RITZMANN**, who is expected to start at defensive end for the University of Tennessee this fall. Ritzmann is hoping to realize his dream of playing in the NFL in 2004.

A look at foreign-born players in the NFL in 2003:

COUNTRY	PLAYER(S)
AMERICAN SAMOA	T Pita Elisara, Was; G Toniui Fonoti, SD; DT Junior Ioane, Oak; TE Gabe Reid, NYJ; DT Joe Salave’a, Bal
ARGENTINA	K Bill Gramatica, Ariz; K Martin Gramatica, TB
AUSTRALIA	P Darren Bennett, SD; P Mat McBriar, Den
BARBADOS	RB Elvis Joseph, Jax
CAMEROON	T Mathias Nkwenti, Pitt; T Roman Oben, TB
CANADA	P Mitch Berger, NO; RB Kerry Carter, Sea; K Steve Christie, SD; C Jean-Philippe Darche, Sea; TE Deitan Dubuc, Sea; DE Israel Idonije, Cle; WR Paris Jackson, Buf; LB Riall Johnson, Cin; RB Morgan Kane, TB; DE Rob Meier, Jax; QB Jesse Palmer, NYG; G Taylor Robertson, Phi; C Brett Romberg, Jax; TE OJ Santiago, Oak; TE Raymond Thomas, Buf; K Mike Vanderjagt, Ind; WR Patrick Woodcock, Was
DENMARK	K Morten Andersen, KC
EL SALVADOR	K Jose Cortez, KC
ENGLAND	K Rob Hart, Mia; WR Scott McCready, NE; TE Visanthe Shiancoe, NYG; DE Osi Umenyiora, NYG
FRANCE	WR Marc Soumah, Cle
GHANA	LB Amon Arnold, Bal; DE Ebenezer Ekuban, Dal
GERMANY	DT Daniel Benetka, KC; DT Willie Blade, Dal; WR Jorg Heckenbach, GB; G Peter Heyer, NO; K Ralf Kleinmann, TB; CB Ray Mickens, NYJ; G Jamar Nesbit, Jax; DE Kavika Pittman, Car; RB Tony Richardson, KC; RB Travis Stephens, TB; TE Tony Stewart, Cin; WR Elijah Thurmon, Chi; T Patrick Venzke, Ind
GUAM	C Troy Andrew, Mia
GUYANA	S Lance Schulters, Ten
HAITI	S Ricot Joseph, Was
ITALY	WR DeVeren Johnson, Dal
IVORY COAST	RB Amos Zereoue, Pitt
JAMAICA	CB Calvin Carlyle, Ind; QB Rohan Davey, NE; RB Dahrran Diedrick, SD; RB Omar Easy, KC; LB Morlon Greenwood, Mia; T Kwame Harris, SF; CB Lloyd Harrison, Was; LB Roger Knight, NO; T Damion McIntosh, SD; C Omar Smith, NYG
JAPAN	WR Yoshinobu Imoto, NYJ; LB Masafumi Kawaguchi, SF; LB Justin Seaverns, Mia; LB Shinzo Yamada, TB
KUWAIT	QB Gibran Hamdan, Was
LIBERIA	CB Bhawoh Jue, GB
MEXICO	G Victor Leyva, Cin; WR Marco Martos, Car; LB Antonio Rodriguez, Hou; WR Carlos Rosado, NYJ
NEW ZEALAND	G David Dixon, Min
NIGERIA	LB Patrick Chukwurah, Hou; CB Tony Okanlawon, SD
POLAND	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oak
PHILIPPINES	LB Fred Jones, KC
SIERRA LEONE	CB BJ Tucker, Dal
SOUTH AFRICA	WR Jerome Pathon, NO
SWEDEN	K Ola Kimrin, Dal
TONGA	T Spencer Folau, NO; DT Maake Kemoeatu, Bal
UGANDA	CB Kato Serwanga, NYG
VIRGIN ISLANDS	RB Kevin Clemens, Phi; S Hank Milligan, SD
YUGOSLAVIA	P Filip Filipovic, Dal

USA FOOTBALL KICKS OFF!

This past December, the NFL and the NFL Players Association came together to create **USA FOOTBALL**, a national advocacy group dedicated to acting as a unifying voice for youth football. USA Football is funded by the **NFL YOUTH FOOTBALL FUND**, a \$150 million fund also created by the NFL and NFLPA which provides support for organizations involved with youth and amateur football. USA Football will be managed by a diverse 15-person board of directors, headed up by **JACK KEMP**, former MVP of the American Football League and former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

DAVE OGREAN, former executive of the College Football Association, was named the Executive Director of USA Football. His 25 years of experience in the sports industry will help USA Football become an umbrella organization for all entities involved in youth football.

"The mission of USA Football is to promote youth and amateur football and its invaluable lessons by creating a unified national structure to maximize participation in the sport," says Ogrian. "We seek to preserve the integrity of the sport by advocating character development, citizenship, and sportsmanship both on and off the field."

"USA Football believes that the well-being of the sport depends on a broad appreciation of the game, excellence in coaching, high levels of youth participation, and collaboration with stakeholders."

This year, the organization, based in Vienna, Virginia, plans to launch a website by the start of the football season, build partnerships, conduct research, and work with the Fairfax County, Virginia youth football program, a league of 300 teams and 5,000 players. The union will experiment with rules, coaching certification, parent education, and promotional efforts.

USA Football believes that football has the unique ability to teach life lessons and promote citizenship and sportsmanship. "USA Football has not been created in response to a crisis or a problem but rather to help assure that a generation from now, football is still hale and hearty," says Ogrian.

A sampling of the NFL's youth football programs:

- **TEAMS AND PLAYERS:** NFL teams have made great strides in enabling young people to experience the joys of participating in youth football. They have created multiple opportunities for local youngsters to have access to quality programs. NFL teams and players host camps to sharpen skills and improve basic techniques from passing and kicking, to blocking and defense.

The **ST. LOUIS RAMS**, for instance, initiated the **ST. LOUIS AMATEUR FOOTBALL COUNCIL** as a way to connect area coaches with one another. The Rams also hosted the NFL Coaching Academy at Rams Park for youth football coaches, while head coach **MIKE MARTZ** hosts an annual clinic for high school coaches.

The **NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**, to cite another example, reach out to thousands of youngsters each year through programs such as the Gatorade Junior Training Camp, Saints Experience, and the Outback Steakhouse Tackle Football Program. As a part of the Youth Football Fund's "Play it Smart" program, the Saints also place an academic coach in a local high school to help its football team excel in academics as well as on the field.

Both current and former NFL players also are dedicating time and resources to give young people opportunities to play football. Many, like **AARON BROOKS** of the New Orleans Saints, **DENNIS NORTHCUTT** of the Cleveland Browns and **MARCO RIVERA** of the Green Bay Packers, host youth football camps in their hometowns. Others such as **ROD WOODSON** of the Oakland Raiders and **JASON FABINI** of the New York Jets, joined forces and created a football clinic for youngsters. So did **TARIK GLENN** and **MARCUS POLLARD** of the Indianapolis Colts with their "Trust the Dream" camp.

- **NFL PROGRAMS:** The NFL has many programs aimed at strengthening the youth football movement across the country.

One example is the **JUNIOR PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (JPD)**, an introductory youth tackle football program for boys ages 12-14. The program is designed so that participants are able to learn each football position and receive counseling in life skills and character development as well as football. Several school athletic systems, located in New Orleans, Houston and Oakland, have adopted the plan in order to improve the existing football programs or to launch new junior high school programs.....For older youth participants, the **HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (HSPD)** has been developed for inner-city high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to provide both on-field training and develop an awareness of what it takes to become a successful student-athlete. The program goes hand-in-hand with the league's **NFLHS.COM** website, which is devoted exclusively to high school football. NFLHS.com provides helpful information for all those involved with high school football, from the players and their parents to the coaches and referees.....Another important aspect of the NFL's work in this field is to recognize the coaches who play such a large role in shaping the experiences of young athletes. Each year, starting in 2000, the NFL has held the **NFL YOUTH FOOTBALL SUMMIT** during the Pro Football Hall of Fame Weekend in Canton, Ohio. Fifty top high school coaches, each representing their home state, are chosen by a panel of judges formed by the National Football Foundation. They attend clinics, seminars, and roundtable discussion led by NFL legends such as this year's guest speaker, Hall of Famer **BILL WALSH**.

- **PARTNER PROGRAMS:** The NFL recognizes the tremendous value of teaming up with strategic partners to create the most innovative and effective youth football programs.

In collaboration with leading national health organizations, the NFL in 2002 launched **PLAY SAFE! HEALTH & SAFETY SERIES**, a unique youth football education series designed to provide coaches, players and their parents with football-specific health and safety information.....The NFL, in conjunction with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), has invested nearly \$8 million into 88 football fields in more than 409 urban neighborhoods since 1998 through the **NFL GRASSROOTS PROGRAM**. The initiative provides non-profit, neighborhood-based organizations with financial and technical assistance to improve the quality, safety and accessibility of local football fields, providing up to \$100,000 for capital improvement projects.....Through a consortium of national youth organizations, the NFL's **LOCAL AGENCY GRANT PROGRAM** has enabled hundreds of thousands of young people across the country to participate in flag and tackle football programs in their local communities.

FOOTBALL TOP HIGH SCHOOL SPORT; COLLEGES ADD FOOTBALL

More boys play football in high school than any other sport, according to the most recent statistics released by the National Federation of State High School Associations. In the 2001-02 school year, 1,023,712 boys played 11-man football, showing an 11,292 increase in participants and marking the third year in a row 11-man football topped the one-million participant mark. This total nearly doubles boys’ basketball, which was second with 540,597 participants. Another 25,766 boys participated in 6-man, 8-man, or 9-man football, bringing the total number of boys playing high school football to 1,049,478.

MOST POPULAR BOYS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
1. Football (11-man)	1,023,712
2. Basketball	540,597
3. Track and Field (outdoor)	494,022
4. Baseball	451,674
5. Soccer	339,101

In addition, several schools at the collegiate level have recently added football to their athletic program. **SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA** will field a football team in 2003 for the first time in 17 years. The program reinstated as a result of more than \$5 million in fund-raising. Following is a list of schools that have recently initiated football programs:

<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>START DATE/LEVEL</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>START DATE/LEVEL</u>
LaSalle	1997-NCAA, Div. 1-AA	Christopher Newport (VA)	2001-NCAA, Div. III
South Florida	1997-NCAA, Div. 1-AA	Erie Comm. College (NY)	2001-NJCAA
Jacksonville Univ.	1998-NCAA, Div. 1-AA	Southern Maine	2002-NCAA, Div. III
Texas Lutheran	1998-NAIA	Florida International	2002-NCAA, Div. 1-AA
Benedict (SC)	1999-NAIA	Coastal Carolina	2003-NCAA, Div 1-AA
Paul Quinn College	2000-NAIA	Southeastern Louisiana	2003-NCAA, Div 1-AA
Southern Nazarene	2000-NAIA	St. Paul’s College (VA)	2003-NCAA, Div III
Florida Atlantic	2001-NCAA, Div. 1-AA		

A new home for the **UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT** football team will open this season. The Huskies, who became a Division I-A program in 2000 and will begin competing in the Big East in 2004, will inaugurate their 40,000-seat Rentschler Field in East Hartford on August 30 against Indiana, replacing Memorial Stadium, which holds 16,000 and is a half-century old.

PLAYERS LEARN FROM THEIR TEACHERS

They’ve had coaches just about their whole life that they have learned from, on and off the field. But talk to a lot of NFL players and they still hark back to some of the most influential teachers in their life – those that actually taught them in grammar or high school.

That is the reason NFL Commissioner **PAUL TAGLIABUE** and NFL clubs created the **NFL TEACHER OF THE YEAR** program in 1990 – to honor those long-ago educators in NFL players’ lives who had a positive and lasting influence on them. The program is presented by MBNA.

“The aim of the program is to honor and recognize teachers and to encourage our young fans to think of teachers, as well as athletes, as role models,” says Tagliabue.

Each month during the fourth-month NFL regular season, a panel of educators and civic leaders selects a teacher to be honored from a pool of NFL player nominations. The nominating player presents the award at the teacher’s school or at one of the player’s home games. In January, the panel names a fifth winner, the NFL Teacher of the Year, who receives a \$2,500 grant. A \$10,000 grant is presented to their school. The four NFL Teacher of the Month winners each receive a \$2,500 grant, and their school is awarded an additional \$5,000 NFL scholarship. Ten Teacher of the Year finalists each receive \$1,000 for their schools.

Last year’s winner was **HAL FARRAH** of Waterford Kettering High School in Waterford, Michigan. He was nominated by Chicago Bears quarterback **JIM MILLER**.

“He is so deserving of this award,” said Miller. “I remember he would live out the characters in the books he would read to us. He was so good at relating to his students and getting everybody involved in his class.”

Other NFL players have had similar feelings for their Teacher of the Year Award winners through the years:

- Green Bay Packers defensive tackle **SANTANA DOTSON** on **SARAH GIBBS** of Yates HS (Houston): “Mrs. Gibbs was one of the toughest teachers I ever had, but she was also one of the most caring. It’s funny how the teacher you remember as the most rigorous also seems to be the one who looked out for you the most.”
- New York Giants tackle **SCOTT GRAGG** on **SUZANNE BYERS** of Hayesville Elementary School (Salem, Oregon): “Mrs. Byers came to class every day with so much energy. You could tell she really cared about us. My third-grade class was the first of her teaching career, but she followed our progress and even recited a poem she wrote for us when we graduated. She truly made a difference in my life.”
- Seattle Seahawks cornerback **SHAWN SPRINGS** on **JOYCE AMATUCCI** of Springbrook HS (Silver Springs, Maryland): “I wasn’t the top student in my class in high school. That’s why teachers like Ms. Amatucci are so special. She always went that extra mile and was concerned about me. Her job wasn’t a 9-to5 thing.”
- Carolina Panthers tight end **WESLEY WALLS** on **JANE GREGORY** of South Pontotoc (Miss.) HS: “She would accept nothing but the best. She challenged me in the classroom, but made it fun and exciting.”