



MULARKEY LATEST BRANCH OF COWHER TREE

New Buffalo Bills head coach **MIKE MULARKEY** is the fourth current NFL head coach who at one time served under **BILL COWHER** in Pittsburgh.

Mularkey joins **DOM CAPERS** of the Texans, **JIM HASLETT** of the Saints and **MARVIN LEWIS** of the Bengals as aides to Cowher who have moved into head-coaching roles.

It was not a big surprise to Cowher to see yet another one of his talented assistant coaches become a head coach.

“Mike is an excellent football coach, and I could not be more happy for him,” says Cowher. “I know he has been looking forward to an opportunity to be a head coach in the NFL. Mike was a valuable and loyal member of our staff for the past eight years and has earned this opportunity.”

A former NFL tight end with the Vikings and Steelers, Mularkey’s toughness – mental and physical – played a major role in his selection as coach.

"We wanted to get a head coach we felt could be a strong leader," says Bills General Manager **TOM DONOHOE**, who was with the Steelers during Mularkey’s playing days in Pittsburgh. “His toughness is an asset, mental toughness. If you watched Mularkey’s teams, they played with an attitude. He’s a good teacher and communicator."

The four NFL head coaches to have served under Bill Cowher in Pittsburgh:

| HEAD COACH | SERVED UNDER COWHER | CURRENT TEAM |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Dom Capers | Defensive Coordinator, 1992-94 | Houston Texans |
| Jim Haslett | Defensive Coordinator, 1997-99 | New Orleans Saints |
| Marvin Lewis | LB Coach, 1990-91 | Cincinnati Bengals |
| Mike Mularkey | TE Coach, 1996-00 Defensive Coordinator, 2001-03 | Buffalo Bills |



TURNER’S IMPRESSIVE FOOTBALL FAMILY TREE

No, it’s not like the **BILL WALSH** or **BILL COWHER** “family coaching tree,” but examine the background of new Oakland Raiders head coach **NORV TURNER** and there are some interesting NFL interrelationships.

Two are that he played quarterback at Oregon behind future Pro Football Hall of Famer **DAN FOUTS**... and that he coached future Tennessee Titans head coach **JEFF FISHER** as a defensive backfield coach at USC.

Fisher was a member of one of the most dominant defensive backfields in the history of college football, as future Pro Football Hall of Famer **RONNIE LOTT** and six-time NFL All-Star **DENNIS SMITH** both were selected in the first round of the 1981 draft. Fisher was a seventh round selection that season.

A 19-year veteran of the NFL coaching ranks, Turner bulwarked his reputation as a skilled football tactician during his days as offensive coordinator for the dominant Dallas Cowboys teams of the early 1990s.

With weapons like **EMMITT SMITH** and **MICHAEL IRVIN** at his disposal, Turner routinely found the best way to utilize his superstars en route to two Super Bowl victories over the Buffalo Bills. Smith led the NFL in rushing all three years Turner was calling the plays in Big ‘D.’

"Jimmy Johnson was a tremendous football coach,” says former Cowboys quarterback **TROY AIKMAN**. “But I don’t doubt for a minute that if Norv had not come in, we wouldn’t have won the Super Bowls we did, and I'm not the only one who feels that way."

Turner, who has spent the last two seasons as the offensive coordinator of the Miami Dolphins, also guided the Redskins to four winning seasons during his seven-year tenure in Washington.

“Every job, ever year, when it’s over, there are things you look at, there are things you want to do,” says Turner, a California native. “Yet, you’ve got to keep going. I was 41 years old when I took the job at Washington. Today, I’m more experienced, and I’ve been exposed to a lot more things.”

He has exposed a lot of other people to things, too.

Five interesting highlights about Norv Turner tree:

- As quarterback of Oregon, backed up future Pro Football Hall of Famer **DAN FOUTS**.
- At Oregon, was the only quarterback to start a nationally televised game and win from 1965-80.
- As a USC defensive backfield coach, tutored future Hall of Famer **RONNIE LOTT**.
- Coached future Tennessee Titans head coach **JEFF FISHER** as USC defensive backfield coach (the teams face each other this December 19).
- Hired future St. Louis Rams head coach **MIKE MARTZ** as his quarterbacks coach with the Washington Redskins in 1997.