



COUGHLIN’S GOT SOME BACKGROUND!

Look at some of the milestones in the life of new New York Giants head coach **TOM COUGHLIN** and some football tales could be told indeed!

He played with **LARRY CSONKA** and **FLOYD LITTLE** at Syracuse, where he established the single-season pass receiving record. He was the Boston College quarterbacks coach when **DOUG FLUTIE** won the Heisman Trophy. He was the Giants’ wide receivers’ coach when they won Super Bowl XXV.

In fact, this is not the first time the Giants have had their eye on Coughlin for a head-coaching vacancy. He was actually considered for the job in 1993 while he was still at BC, but opted to stay in the college ranks. He later went on to take the head-coaching position with the expansion Jacksonville Jaguars in 1995.

“Tom Coughlin is the man we wanted 11 years ago and he is the man we wanted now,” says Giants general manager **ERNIE ACCORSI**. “Aside from his family, Tom has one interest: winning.”

Winning is something Coughlin did plenty of in Jacksonville, guiding the Jaguars to the AFC Championship game in only their second year of existence. He also led the Jags to a league best 14-2 record in 1999.

Following are five of Coughlin’s keys to success in the NFL:

COUGHLIN’S FIVE KEYS TO VICTORY

- 1. **ELIMINATE TURNOVERS**. “You’re not going to beat anybody being ‘minus.’ ”
- 2. **NO STUPID PENALTIES**. “You can’t shoot yourself in the foot and expect to win the 100-meter dash.”
- 3. **SPECIAL TEAMS**. “Special teams and winning the battle of field position must become your catalyst for victory, and not your Achilles heel.”
- 4. **CONTROL THE LINE**. “You’ve got to be able to pound the ball and you’ve got to be able to do that in key situations.”
- 5. **AVOID INJURIES**. “It’s a mental thing as much as anything else.”

WANT TO BE AN NFL HEAD COACH? PLAY DB OR QB

According to an old saying, “Those who can, do. Those who can’t, teach.”

But in the NFL, plenty of “those that can” end up teaching just the same – especially former defensive backs and quarterbacks. Those two positions account for nearly half of today’s NFL head coaches (15).

Having success as a player gives a new coach almost instant credibility with his players, since they know he has been in their shoes.

Breakdown of the positions NFL head coaches played in college and/or the NFL:

POSITION	TOTAL	COACHES	POSITION	TOTAL	COACHES
Defensive Back	8	Tony Dungy	Linebacker	5	Dom Capers
		Herman Edwards			Bill Cowher
		Jeff Fisher			Jack Del Rio
		John Fox			Bill Parcells
		Marvin Lewis			Marty Schottenheimer
		Jim Mora	Tight End	5	Bill Belichick
		Mike Shanahan			Brian Billick
		Lovie Smith			Mike Martz
Quarterback	7	Dennis Erickson			Mike Mularkey
		Joe Gibbs	Offensive Line	3	Mike Tice
		Jon Gruden			Andy Reid
		Mike Holmgren			Mike Sherman
		Steve Mariucci	Running Back	2	Dave Wannstedt
		Norv Turner			Tom Coughlin
		Dick Vermeil	Defensive Line	2	Dennis Green
					Butch Davis
					Jim Haslett

TITANS’ FISHER BOASTS BEST ROAD RECORD SINCE ’95

Since his first full season as head coach of Houston-Tennessee in 1995, head coach **JEFF FISHER** has built the best road record in the NFL – 42-30 (.583).

“We don’t let the crowd noise bother us,” says Fisher. “We don’t become preoccupied with crowd noise. We understand it can be an issue, and we understand we can control it. The best way to control it is to play well.”

That the Titans have recently done better than anybody else on the road.

The best NFL road records since 1995:

TEAM	RECORD	PCT.
Tennessee	42-30-0	.583
Green Bay	38-34-0	.528
Miami	36-36-0	.500
Pittsburgh	36-36-0	.500
Philadelphia	35-36-1	.493