

International practice squad program, cont'd:

A closer look at the eight international players from NFL Europe heading to AFC West and NFC South practice squads:

Player	NFL/NFLE Team	Country	Background
TE Klaus Alinen	Atlanta/Berlin	Finland	Played in every game as tight end and long-snapper, posting eight receptions for 33 yards and one touchdown for Berlin.
DE Anders Akerstrom	NO/Frankfurt	Norway	Joined Galaxy in mid-season after beginning his career at Arkansas as a kicker.
LB Aden Durde	Carolina/Hamburg	UK	Sidelined due to injury after first four games of season, posted six tackles for Hamburg.
G Peter Heyer	KC/Rhein	Germany	Spent 2004 NFL season on practice squad of St. Louis Rams. Started every game at right guard for Rhein in 2005.
DT Patrice Majondo-Mwamba	Denver/Rhein	Belgium	Joined Fire in midseason, seeing action in four games on defense and special teams. Played collegiately at Texas Tech.
S Claudius Osei	TB/Hamburg	Germany	Played in five games, starting one, for Sea Devils. Spent 2001-04 with Florida State, seeing action in 48 games.
DT Michael Quarshie	Oakland/Frankfurt	Finland	Former all-Ivy League selection at Columbia, posted 11 tackles and 1.0 sack in five games with Galaxy.
S Richard Yancy	SD/Rhein	Germany	Started every game for Fire in 2005, totaling national player-high 42 tackles.

HISPANIC INFLUENCE RISES IN NFL

Almost 80 years after the first Hispanic – halfback **LOU MOLINET** of the Frankford Yellowjackets in 1927 – played in the NFL, Hispanic players are more and more making an impact on the league.

In a country where the U.S. Census Bureau says that Hispanics are the largest minority, and that the Hispanic population is growing at a faster rate than the population as a whole, following is a rundown of some of the NFL’s most notable Hispanic players:

- **TONY GONZALEZ** led the NFL in receptions last year with 102, the highest total ever for an NFL tight end. As he enters his ninth year with the Chiefs, Gonzalez needs only nine more TDs to assume the all-time lead for scoring receptions by a tight end. Gonzalez played in his sixth Pro Bowl last season.
- Gonzalez was joined in the Pro Bowl by guard **MARCO RIVERA** who has signed with the Dallas Cowboys this year. When Cowboys owner Jerry Jones announced the additon of Rivera, he used words like "leadership" and "professionalism" to explain why he had reached the Pro Bowl in each of his last three seasons with Green Bay.

The nine-year veteran expects to make his 100th consecutive regular-season start on kickoff weekend.

- This year, the Buffalo Bills’ first-round selection in 2004, **J.P. LOSMAN** will start at quarterback for the team. “The guys believe in me, the coaches believe in me, I’m surely but slowly starting to believe,” says Losman. “I have this thing that I don’t care what people tell me, what teammates or coaches say. I always feel like I can do better.”
- First-round draft choice **LUIS CASTILLO** is predicted to start at defensive tackle for the San Diego Chargers. “I’m a first-round draft pick and I have things to prove,” says Castillo. “If the Chargers are going to give me the opportunity to come here and be a playmaker, I have to accept that challenge and make plays.”

A list of some of the 2005 Hispanic NFL Players:

Player	Position	Team	Player	Position	Team
Ken Amato	LS	Tennessee	Tony Gonzalez	TE	Kansas City
Richard Angulo	TE	Minnesota	Jason Jimenez	T	Detroit
Adam Archuleta	S	St. Louis	Victor Leyva	G	New England
Jason Babin	LB	Houston	Hugo Lira	WR	Carolina
Rolando Cantu	G	Arizona	J.P. Losman	QB	Buffalo
Luis Castillo	T	San Diego	Joe Maese	LS	Baltimore
Jorge Cordova	LB	Jacksonville	Zeke Moreno	LB	Houston
Ronnie Cruz	RB	Kansas City	Carlos Perez	WR	Philadelphia
Donnie Edwards	LB	San Diego	Walter Reyes	RB	Tennessee
Jeff Garcia	QB	Detroit	Marco Rivera	G	Dallas
Roberto Garza	C	Chicago	Dario Romero	DT	Miami
Joaquin Gonzalez	T	Indianapolis	Scott Tercero	G	St. Louis



