



WELL-ROUNDED PLAYERS

After competing in a rigorous season, you would expect NFL players to rest up during their time off. Instead many NFL players spend their vacations pursuing new endeavors.

Kansas City Chiefs fullback **TONY RICHARDSON**, New York Giants wide receiver **AMANI TOMMER**, and Arizona Cardinals quarterback **KURT WARNER** spent a week during the offseason visiting Tsunami victims. The trio traveled to Banda Aceh, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, some of the worst hit areas, to help rebuild communities through the UN World Food Program. The goal of the players' trip was not only to deliver food but, more importantly, to promote a message of hope and caring to survivors.

"I think that the greatest encouragement that anybody can have goes beyond money, beyond resources, beyond food and the essentials," says Warner. "It is the understanding that people care and that people love them. That's where I think that the greatest effect is shown, just letting people know that they are important."

Atlanta Falcons running back **WARRICK DUNN** and New England Patriots special teamer **LARRY IZZO** spent a week this past spring visiting troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait as part of the USO-NFL "Salute the Troops Tour." While in Afghanistan, the players participated in the opening of the Pat Tillman USO Center at Bagram Air Base.

Other interesting NFL player pursuits this offseason:

PLAYER	OFFSEASON
RB Tiki Barber, New York Giants	Visited Israel as a guest of Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres
LB Nick Barnett, Green Bay	Brought an old theatre with plans to turn it into a restaurant
LB Derrick Brooks, Tampa Bay	Took kids from his 'Brooks Bunch' on a trip to Africa
LB Donnie Edwards, San Diego	Visited the Vatican as Pope Benedict XVI was chosen to succeed Pope John Paul II
TE Bryan Fletcher, Indianapolis	Visited Argentina to study Spanish
DE Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila, Green Bay	Took up horseback riding
DT Paul Grasmanis, Philadelphia	Traveled to South Africa with Champions For Christ where he went on a Great White shark dive
TE Chad Lewis, Philadelphia	Traveled to China to hold a football clinic in Beijing
LB Ray Lewis, Baltimore	Opened a restaurant in Canton, OH
LB Dan Morgan, Carolina	Took up model trains as a hobby.
TE Rod Trafford, Buffalo	Took a surfing trip to Costa Rica

NFL "SIDE JOBS"

Football takes up a lot of their time, but that has not prevented an impressive number of NFL players from starting their own businesses or trying their hand at different career paths in preparation for their post-football lives.

For example, New York Giants running back **TIKI BARBER** has honed his skills as a media personality, appearing on the YES Network's "This Week in Football," and, this offseason, serving as a guest host on "FOX & Friends" on the FOXNews Channel.

Barber's interest in preparing for a future career in broadcasting began early in his NFL playing days.

"It was my second or third year, and I was average at best," says Barber of his first few seasons in the NFL. "So I was looking for other things to do. I wanted to come in and do sportscasting."

Since then, Barber's playing career has taken off. But it appears that he has a promising career ahead of him in the media as well.

Tennessee Titans tight end **ERRON KINNEY** spends his offseasons working as a volunteer firefighter. Kinney, who became a certified firefighter during his sophomore year at Florida, has had a passion for firefighting since he was a little boy. And it shows.

"He's an excellent firefighter," says Brooklyn firefighter Andrew Gilmore, who trained with Kinney on Randall's Island in New York City. "He will be an asset to any fire department he goes to when his NFL career is over."

Fifteen off-the-field career interests of NFL players:

PLAYER, TEAM	CAREER(S)
Sam Adams, Buffalo	Owner of National Indoor Football League Team (Everett Hawks) and Seattle health club.
Tiki Barber, NY Giants	Media personality on YES Network's "This Week In Football;" guest host on "FOX & Friends."
Matt Birk, Minnesota	Owns an "Inta Juice" franchise in Eden Prairie, MN, selling fruit smoothies and healthy drinks.
Derrick Brooks, Tampa Bay	Co-Owner of Freedom Financial, a local mortgage company.
Sammy Davis, San Diego	Invented the "Hydration System" water bladder inside football pads that holds 14 oz. of water.
Warrick Dunn, Atlanta	Owns "Sports Fans Attic," with two stores, one in Tallahassee, FL and one in Atlanta
Joey Galloway, Tampa Bay	Co-owner of the Columbus Destroyers of the Arena Football League.
Randall Godfrey, San Diego	Along with his cousin, owns Godfrey Funeral Home in Valdosta, Georgia.
Dhani Jones, Philadelphia	Markets own line of bow ties and hosts the ESPN2 show "Timeless."
Erron Kinney, Tennessee	Serves as a volunteer firefighter in the offseason.
Steve McKinney, Houston	Owns Velocity Sports and FreeBirds Burritos.
Ike Reese, Atlanta	Pursuing broadcasting career; interned at Philadelphia's Comcast Sportsnet.
Troy Vincent, Buffalo	Owns several businesses including Trinity Real Estate Group and Eltekon Business Services.
Javon Walker, Green Bay	Owns his own clothing line called "J Walk."
Pat Williams, Minnesota	Owns an auto detailing company in Buffalo called "Waterworks."

