

NFL EXTRA

Week 22

<i>Segment</i>	<i>TRT</i>
<i>Jim Tomsula</i>	<i>7:32</i>
<i>Accidents Happen</i>	<i>6:45</i>

02:29:25 - JIM TOMSULA

SO WE'RE GONNA COME RIGHT IN HERE. YOU READY? YOU SET? GO. SQUEEZE! ALRIGHT. ONE MORE TIME.

EACH SUMMER, 49ERS ASSISTANT JIM TOMSULA VOLUNTEERS AT "CAMP FOR THE STARS," WHERE HE COACHES ATHLETES WITH DOWN SYNDROME.

OOH, NICE JOB JIMMY THE ROCK!

IF A KID IS A LITTLE SHY OR HE'S THE KIND OF GUY THAT'S GONNA BRING HIM OUT AND ALLOW THEM TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS KIND OF CAMP.

LET'S SEE. OH YEA, YOU'RE GONNA CATCH THEM TODAY, HUH? (I'M GONNA TRY.) OH YEA. YOU GOT THE GOOD GLOVES. THAT'S GONNA HELP YOU OUT. HEY, NICE CATCH! GET IN THE END ZONE! GET IN THE END ZONE! YOU GOTTA SCORE!! I DIDN'T SAY HUG THE CHEERLEADERS! I SAID GET IN THE END ZONE! YEA. HE'S A LOVER, NOT A FIGHTER. ALRIGHT, HERE WE GO LOVE! LET'S GET BACK IN LINE! BOYS. YOU CAN'T TRUST ANY OF THEM.

SINCE 2007, THE 49ERS HAVE ENTRUSTED TOMSULA WITH THEIR DEFENSIVE LINE.

...MAN. IT'S POETIC, MAN. IT'S LIKE A ... O.K. LOOK HOW BEAUTIFUL.

JIM'S FANTASTIC. THIS IS A PASSIONATE, CARING FOOTBALL COACH WHO IS HIGH ENERGY AND IS ENTHUSIASTIC AS ANYBODY IN THE NFL.

THAT'S THE WAY YOU TAKE OVER A GAME!! GOOD JOB KIDDO! YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB!!

THIS SEASON, SAN FRANCISCO HAS THE TOP RUN DEFENSE IN THE NFL. IT HASN'T ALLOWED A 100-YARD RUSHER IN ALMOST 40 GAMES, DISPATCHING RUNNING BACKS WITH COOL EFFICIENCY.

WE GOT ICE IN OUR VEINS. WE PLAY COLD BUDDY. COLD! COLD BLOODED. COLD BLOODED! YOU GOT IT?!

AFTER COLLEGE, TOMSULA BRIEFLY COACHED AT CHARLESTON SOUTHERN, BEFORE EMBARKING ON A VERY DIFFERENT PROFESSION.

I WAS A DANCER. (I WILL SAY THAT) FOR THE CHIPPENDALES. THAT'S WHAT SHE TOLD PEOPLE FOR THE LONGEST TIME. I WENT FOR THE GIRLS NIGHT OUT AND HE WAS DANCING. (I JUST SUGGESTED.) YEA, YEA. PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT TOO. (I WOULD JUST SAY TO PEOPLE, "HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF CHIPPENDALES?" AND THEN I WOULD WALK AWAY AND JUST LEAVE THEM WONDERING. THAT'S ALL I EVER DID.) AND THEN THEY'RE ALL LOOKING AT ME LIKE, "WHAT?!"

TOMSULA ACTUALLY QUIT COACHING IN ORDER TO WORK AS A SALES REP FOR A FOOD DISTRIBUTOR.

HE LEFT BEHIND A NINETY-ONE-HUNDRED-DOLLAR-A-YEAR COACHING POSITION THAT HE HAD SUPPLEMENTED WITH CLEANING OFFICES, DELIVERING NEWSPAPERS, AND CHOPPING WOOD.

HIS NEW JOB PROVIDED AN EASIER LIFE FOR HIS WIFE AND TWO DAUGHTERS. BUT IT WASN'T A BETTER ONE FOR THEIR FAMILY.

AS TIME WENT ON I JUST REALIZED THAT LIFE'S TOO SHORT AND JIM SHOULD DO WHAT HE WAS PUT HERE TO DO. I'M NOT ABOUT JUST GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF LIFE, AND I WANTED HIM TO GET BACK INTO COACHING.

TOMSULA JOINED CATAWBA COLLEGE AS A VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH. HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTERS LIVED WITH RELATIVES IN FLORIDA, WHILE JIM'S CAR DOUBLED AS HIS HOME.

I HAD ALL MY SUITS HANGING IN THE BACK OF THE CAR. SO I HAD EVERYTHING IN THERE. THE DOG AND THE CAT, A LITTER BOX. THAT'S JUST WHERE I SLEPT. IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT SOUNDS. IT MIGHT SOUND BAD BUT IT WASN'T AS BAD AS IT SOUNDS. I DIDN'T REALLY THINK ANYTHING OF IT, YOU KNOW. YEA, IT WAS GOOD TILL THE CAT STARTED NOT ... (O.K., DON'T BE MEAN TO THE CAT.) WELL THE CAT..THEN THE CAT STARTED USING THE TIES AS A LITER BOX. (I DON'T BELIEVE IT.) THAT GOT BAD.

HE QUICKLY CAUGHT THE EYE OF NFL EUROPE. THAT SPRING, THE FAMILY HEADED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. OVER THE NEXT NINE YEARS, THE TOMSULAS SPENT THE COLLEGE SEASON AT CATAWBA, AND THE SPRING IN EUROPE, WHERE THE FAMILY CELEBRATED FIRST COMMUNIONS, AND JIM ROSE THE COACHING RANKS.

WHEN YOU MAKE CONTACT ON THAT THING, RIGHT? YOU HIT IT AND YOU RUN IT, RIGHT? BUT YOUR EYES STAYED ON THE BLOCK. AS SOON AS I MAKE CONTACT AND I'M RUNNING I GOTTA GET THE EYES INSIDE BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T SEE IT TILL IT WAS ON YOU, HUH? IF YOU KEEP RUNNING RIGHT THERE IT'S A NICE PLAY FOR YOU.

TOMSULA'S ENTHUSIASM HELPED EARN HIM HIS CURRENT JOB WITH THE 49ERS, WHO HIRED HIM IN 2007.

JUST PLAY GOOD BACKSIDE DEFENSE. YOU UNDERSTAND, THAT'S ALL! ALRIGHT, WE'RE SQUARE INSIDE. WE'RE SETTING THE EDGE AT THE POINT OF ATTACK. HE'S GONNA COME BACK. JUST BE THERE.

THE TEAM NEVER NEEDED HIS POSITIVITY MORE THAN LAST SEASON, WHEN HEAD COACH MIKE SINGLETARY WAS LET GO FOLLOWING WEEK 16. THE 49ERS CHOSE TOMSULA AS INTERIM HEAD COACH IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. BEFORE THE OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE, HE CALLED HIS WIFE WITH AN APOLOGY.

AND HE GOES, "AND I JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW I'M PROBABLY NOT GONNA GET A SHOWER." I SAID, "O.K.!"

HE APOLOGIZED TO ME FOR NOT HAVING A SUIT AND TIE ON BECAUSE HE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO GO HOME LAST NIGHT.

YOU'VE BEEN HERE ALL NIGHT THEN WORKING? (YES MA'AM. PRETTY GOOD.)

CERTAINLY I'VE SEEN INTERIM SITUATIONS WHERE PLAYERS CHECK OUT. CARS ARE RUNNING AT HALFTIME OF THE LAST GAME. 49ER PLAYERS SEEMED SORT OF SURPRISED AND FIRED-UP THAT JIM TOMSULA WAS GOING TO GET A SHOT.

THEY CHOSE THE RIGHT GUY. I MEAN THERE'S REALLY NO SECRET TO WHY HE GOT IT, IN MY BOOK. PEOPLE WERE LIKE, "OH, JIM TOMSULA." BUT IF YOU WERE IN THE BUILDING, YOU KNOW WHY. YOU KNOW WHY.

RADIO – THE 49ER DEFENSE PLAYING INSPIRED FOR JIM TOMSULA, THEIR DEF. LINE COACH, AND 1 GAME HEAD COACH. LOOKS LIKE IT WAS JUSTIN SMITH THAT GOT IN. HIS 3RD OF THE GAME. THE OTHER WAY. ADAM SNYDER, THE BACKUP GUARD CAME IN AS A TIGHT END. HE'S KNOCKING SNYDER ...HE'S HAVING FUN THOUGH EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR ONE DAY AS THE HEAD COACH OF THE NFL.

TOMSULA'S HEAD COACHING TENURE WAS BRIEF. BUT HIS JOURNEY HAS ALREADY TAKEN HIM FARTHER THAN HE EVER IMAGINED.

SOME OF THE GREAT COACHES, FOR WHATEVER REASON, JUST DIDN'T GET THAT SHOT EVEN AS AN INTERIM. MAYBE JIM TOMSULA JUST CONTINUES TO DO GOOD WORK BEHIND THE SCENES BUT HE CAN ALWAYS, WHEN HE'S FALLING ASLEEP AT NIGHT, CLOSE HIS EYES AND PICTURE THE HEADSET ON, AND KNOW THAT HE CAUGHT THE BUZZ.

RADIO – THAT RIGHT THERE SHOWS THE AFFECTION THAT THESE GUYS HAVE FOR THIS MAN RIGHT HERE, JIM TOMSULA. HOW MUCH THEY CARE AND APPRECIATE HIM. IT WAS MANIFESTED IN THE WAY THEY WENT OUT AND PLAYED TODAY.

I GET TO SEE A GUY THAT I KNOW IN 10 YRS. I'LL BE WATCHING ON TV WHEN I'M AT HOME. TALK TO YOUR BUDDIES OR YOUR KIDS AND BE LIKE, "HE'S MY D-LINE COACH."

THE GAME'S GREAT BUT REALLY WHAT MAKES UP THE GAME? IT'S THE PEOPLE IN THE GAME. WITH THE PEOPLE ON HOW MANY DIFFERENT CONTINENTS.

RADIO – THEY GOT HIM. THEY GOT HIM. HE LOST HIS BREATH!

THE PEOPLE IN FOOTBALL HAVE BEEN FANTASTIC TO THE TOMSULA'S. OH, CHEST-BUMPING.

YOU'RE PROBABLY TALKING THE TO LUCKIEST GUY GOING. (FOR SURE!)

02:37:03 - ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

THEY SAY MOST ACCIDENTS HAPPEN AROUND THE HOME... UNFORTUNATELY FOR NFL PLAYERS, THE FIELD HAS ALWAYS BEEN THEIR HOME AWAY FROM HOME.

LOOK OUT FELLAS. STAY ON YOUR FEET.

OH! OH, THANK YOU. THAT WAS A CUP CHECK RIGHT THERE.

LOOK AT THIS AGAIN. WOW. THAT'S A ROUGH NIGHT WHEN THE MASCOT'S ATTACKING YOU.

FOR MAN AND BEAST, PREGAME IS AN ESPECIALLY PERILOUS TIME.

IF ONE SURVIVES THE COIN TOSS AND WARM-UPS...INTRODUCTIONS AWAIT.

SOMETIMES YOU GOTTA BE LIKE... THEY'LL TAKE YOUR ARM OFF.

FORMER JET JOE KLECKO ONCE HAD AN INTERESTING INTRO.

I WAS ALL PUMPED UP. I REMEMBER MY CHINSTRAP WASN'T FASTENED. I'M RUNNING INTO EVERYBODY. MARTY LYONS, HE HITS MY HELMET, KNOCKS MY HELMET OFF AND BREAKS MY FRONT TEETH. KNOCKED MY FRONT TEETH OUT WITH MY HELMET! THAT'S A TRUE STORY. YEA, BIZARRE THINGS HAPPEN IN PREGAME WHERE GUYS GET STUPID.

OH, DON'T HURT YOURSELF. DON'T HURT YOURSELF.

WHEN IT COMES TO PREGAME HEAD BUTT ACCIDENTS, IT DOESN'T ALWAYS TAKE TWO TO TANGO.

OWEN SCHMIDT, OUR FULLBACK, HAD A HABIT OF TAKING HIS HELMET AND BANGING IT AGAINST HIS HEAD. WE WERE PLAYING THE JAGUARS AND OWEN GOES RUNNING AROUND THE FIELD. HAS HIS HELMET IN HIS HAND AND HE STARTS SMACKING AGAINST HIS HEAD!

WHAT THE HELL'S HE DOING? DID HE HEAD BUTT SOMETHING? NO. HE DID IT HIMSELF! HE ALMOST KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT OF THE GAME. HE CUTS HIMSELF AND HE'S GOT BLOOD RUNNING DOWN HIS FACE AND ON HIS JERSEY. I'M LIKE, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE PAL? WE GOT A GAME TO PLAY."

YOU SAW OWEN, RIGHT? HE'S BLEEDING. WE CAN'T HAVE THAT.

NOW THEY GOTTA GET THE BLOOD OFF OF HIS JERSEY. WHAT A DOPE.

OH, THEY TEASED THE HECK OUT OF HIM. ONE OF THOSE GUYS HAD A T-SHIRT MADE. IT WAS A PICTURE OF HIM THAT SAID, "I GOT SCHMIDT-FACED." HE WAS THE BUTT OF ALL JOKES.

RADIO – LOOK AT THAT IDIOT. THAT'S AS DUMB AS GUS FREROTTE.

AH GUS FREROTTE, HEAD HONCHO OF THE UNASSISTED HEAD BUTT BLOOPER.

I BROADCAST THAT GAME. HOW STUPID CAN SOMEBODY BE? HE HEAD BUTTS A WALL. THEN WATCH THIS. BANG! HITS HIS HEAD RIGHT INTO THE CUSHION. I MEAN THERE'S THE LAMBEAU LEAP AND THERE'S THE REDSKIN RAM! THERE ARE UMPTEEN PEOPLE OUT HERE THAT WANT TO HIT YOU. THE STADIUM IS NOT ONE OF THEM.

HE DID IT OUT OF EXUBERANCE AND THE FACT THAT HE'D SCORED. HE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT BEHIND THAT PADDING ON THE WALL WAS PURE CONCRETE.

HE JAMMED HIS NECK AND HE'S NOT ABLE TO PLAY THE REST OF THE GAME. (DO PEOPLE STILL TALK ABOUT THAT IN THE D.C. AREA?) ALL THE TIME!!

IT IS WHAT IT IS. IT HAPPENED, AND I'M NOT GONNA SUGARCOAT IT OR ANYTHING BUT. (IT WAS FUNNY FOR AWHILE.) MAYBE NOT.

DOING UNTO ONESELF IS NOT UNCOMMON IN THE NFL.

SELF-INFLICTED WOUNDS.

RADIO – GRAMMATICA 43 YDS. OFF THE LEFT SIDE.

THE CARDINALS BILL GRAMMATICA ONCE TORE HIS ACL CELEBRATING A FIRST QUARTER FIELD GOAL.

RADIO – AND IT IS GOOD, AND THE CARDINALS DRAW FIRST BLOOD. AND GRAMMATICA WAS DANCING UP IN THE ARI, AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE HURT HIS KNEE!

BUT THE NUMBER ONE SELF-INFLICTED KNEE-KNOCKER BELONGS TO THE COWBOYS DREW PEARSON.

WE WERE PLAYING THE N.Y. GIANTS. I CAUGHT A TOUCHDOWN AND I GOT SO EXCITED THROWING THE BALL IN THE STANDS, I LANDED WRONG ON MY KNEE. IT

WAS LIKE SOMEBODY SHOT ME FROM THE STANDS. I JUST WENT TO THE GROUND. AND AS I LIMPED BACK TO THE BENCH COACH LANDRY, WITH HIS ARMS FOLDED, DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING. HE JUST GAVE ME THE LOOK. ON THEIR NEXT SERIES MY KNEE IS KILLING ME. IT'S ALREADY SWELLED UP BUT I GOTTA GO BACK OUT THERE; AND COACH LANDRY CALLED A PASS PLAY ON THE 1ST PLAY FROM SCRIMAGE, AND IT WASN'T JUST A QUICK OUT. IT WAS A POST PATTERN DEEP. MAN, I KNOW WHY HE CALLED THIS. SO I LIMPED THROUGH THAT ROUTE. BEAT RAY RHODES AND CAUGHT THAT POST PATTERN FOR A 44 YD. TD.

OVERCOMING YOUR OWN MISSTEPS CAN BE FULFILLING. OVERCOMING THOSE OF YOUR TEAMMATES CAN PROVE MORE CHALLENGING.

HEY, TELL ME IF THIS HURTS? DOES THAT HURT?

WE GOTTA KEEP POUNDING, O.K.? WE GOTTA KEEP PLAYING LIKE WE'RE DOWN. OW MAN! I KNOW. I KNOW.

RADIO - HE GOT WARE, GETTING WACKED BY HIS OWN MAN WHO HAD ...

I DID ON ACCIDENT.

THEY CALL THEM FRIENDLY FIRE ACCIDENTS -- THE KING OF WHICH CAME IN THE KINGDOME, COURTESY OF KELLY STOUFFER.

JUST AS I WAS STARTING TO GET MY PLAY FAKE I WAS RAN INTO. SO I STARTED TO FALL DOWN. KURT WARNER STEPPED UP TO ACT LIKE HE WAS GETTING THE FOOTBALL, AND HIS ELBOW JUST WENT INSIDE THE SPACING OF MY FACEMASK AND BROKE MY NOSE. AND I STOOD UP AND OUR PRIMARY RECEIVER WAS JUST COMING INTO VIEW, AND I JUST LAID THE BALL OUT.

IT WAS SOMETHING I'LL NEVER FORGET. THAT'S FOR DARN SURE.

IF NFL HISTORY HAS TAUGHT US ANYTHING, IT IS THIS: THOSE WHO DID NOT LEARN QUICKLY TO EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED, EVENTUALLY GOT THE POINT.

SO IF ONE CAN SURVIVE AND INADVERTENT WAY AND DODGE THE OCCASIONAL FLAG.

RADIO - INCOMING. OH, THAT IS NICE!

ONE MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE...WHICH ITSELF IS PERHAPS THE MOST HAZARDOUS ACT IN THE GAME.

THE LINEMEN AND ME WERE CELEBRATING. THEY CAN'T HUG ME THAT MANY TIMES. IT HURTS. THEY GET ALL BIG AND HIT ME IN THE HEAD.

AS MUCH AS IT HURTS TO LOSE IN THE NFL, IT SOMETIMES HURTS JUST AS MUCH TO WIN.

RADIO – BILL PARCELLS HAS TO BE ELATED, AND HE ...HE HURT JIM BURKE IN THE POST GAME CELEBRATION! IT'S TOUGH TO BE A PLAYER AROUND AN EXCITED COACH.

AND SOMETIMES VICE-VERSA.

YEA, AND QUITE A SMACK-A-ROO IT IS.

(END)