



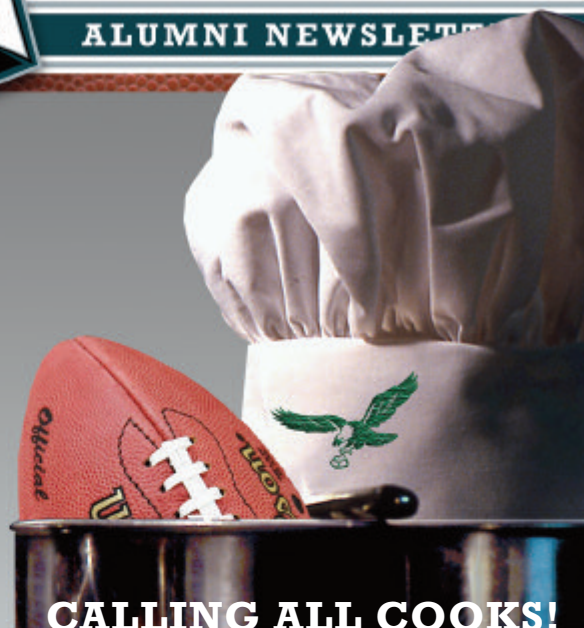
ALUMNI DAY AT TRAINING CAMP

Philadelphia Eagles alumni members are invited to join the team during their 12th training camp at Lehigh University. Alumni Day is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 4, 2007. Former players in attendance will receive gifts from the team as well as an opportunity to stand along the sidelines during practice with a guest (*age 12 and over*). After the morning session, Alumni members and their guests will be transported to the players cafeteria for lunch with the current squad.

"It is a great opportunity for the former players to catch a sneak peek at the new squad before they take the field for the 2007 season" states Marie Solano, the organizer of the event. For more information, contact Marie at 856.939.1743 or visit www.split-n.com.

In addition to their time on the field at Lehigh, the Eagles will also be gearing up for the 2007 season with four exhibition games. The team will kick-off the pre-season at Baltimore on Monday night, August 13th. The following week, the Eagles will play host to the Carolina Panthers before traveling to Pittsburgh for a nationally televised game on Sunday night, August 26th at 8pm (NBC). Philadelphia will close out the exhibition season at home against the Jets on Thursday, August 30th.

Check back next month for details about the 2007 regular season schedule and a tentative date for Alumni Day at Lincoln Financial Field.



CALLING ALL COOKS!

A recipe consisting of a dominant defense, solid special teams and a dynamic offense can lead to a magical season. In the same way, it takes just the right ingredients to make a memorable meal.

For that reason, the Philadelphia Eagles Premium Services are reaching out to you, the alumni, for some of your favorite recipes. Whether it's a game plan for the perfect appetizer, entree or dessert, we'd love to include it in a championship-worthy culinary playbook.

If you'd like to contribute a recipe, please fill out the form that came with the newsletter and send it back in the stamped envelope we've provided.

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John Mackey stomped the gridiron for the Baltimore Colts during the late 1960s and early 1970s. During that era, padding for protection was minimal to the body. Even though Mackey wore full body protection at the tight-end position, it would be determined years later in his life that his head protection was insufficient.

Mackey is one of about 20 retired NFL athletes that is suffering from dementia. Dementia is a brain disease brought on to these athletes by consistent blows to the head and reoccurring concussions. Mackey, now 65, has left his family with mental and financial burdens. The mental burden proves to be intense but manageable, but financially, it has been devastating.

The NFL and its Players Association have joined hands to create the a program to aid those families affected by dementia during their time in the NFL. The "88 Plan" was the name given to the program, named after Mackey's number in the NFL.

According to the New York Times, families of the affected will be offered up to \$88,000 a year if the player receives care from a facility away from the home, and up to \$50,000 a year to pay for in-home care.

Former Philadelphia Eagles player Andre Waters committed suicide in the Fall of 2006 at the age of 44. Waters had been suffering from dementia, and had the brain tissue of an 80-year-old with Alzheimer's when analyzed.



At the time of Waters' death there was no NFL plan in place to help retired players who suffered from dementia. With the 88 Plan there is now somewhere for retired players and their families to turn to when dementia strikes.



#55 FRANK LeMASTER

During his playing days, #55 patrolled the Vet stadium turf with a menacing fury that struck fear into opponents. Now, as a 55 year-old businessman, Frank LeMaster no longer plays on turf, but sells it... FieldTurf to be exact. "This stuff is the best artificial surface in the business!" LeMaster declared, a day after celebrating his 55th birthday. "It's a far cry from the old astroturf that I had to play on for ten years." LeMaster went on to describe an artificial surface that is actually 35% safer than natural grass. "It can handle 20 inches of rain per hour and still maintain a perfect playing surface."

Frank's product has become so popular that seven out of every ten new surfaces are FieldTurf installations. Just last year, the New England Patriots made the switch from a natural grass field midway through the season. "We had two weeks to make it happen and we had a huge workforce working 'round the clock, but we got the job done." FieldTurf now accounts for nine of the 32 playing surfaces in the NFL plus 19 professional practice facilities. In addition to the services they provide to the NFL, Field Turf can be found in 300 College stadiums and over 1000 High School fields. It's the only turf used for World Cup Soccer play and after ten years and 30 patents, FieldTurf is the fastest growing product in the industry and has been installed in over 40 countries.

As Vice President of Sales, Frank LeMaster has a unique platform by which he can pitch his product to potential buyers. "I know what it's like to play on artificial turf and I only wish they had FieldTurf during my playing days," LeMaster lamented. As it did to so many players, the infamous Vet Stadium turf took its toll on the ex-linebacker. Due to the pounding he took (and gave) over the course of 20 years in the game, LeMaster will soon be undergoing back surgery. "I'd do it all again in a heartbeat though."

Like many players from the Vermeil era, it didn't take LeMaster long to settle on the highlight of his NFL career. "Walking down the tunnel before the NFC Championship game against Dallas was an amazing experience" LeMaster recalled. "The adrenaline was pumping so hard that I couldn't even feel my legs... I knew... we ALL knew that there was no way we wouldn't win." In 2006, the Vermeil era was thrust back into the limelight with the release of the movie 'Invincible'. Frank LeMaster was one of the more heavily featured Eagle players in the movie. "It was great to see that team and Vince's amazing story brought to life." *(continued on back page)*





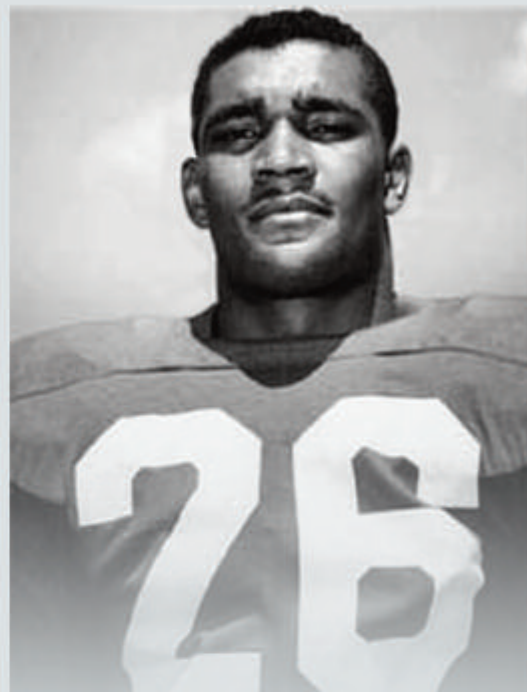
TURN BACK THE CLOCK THE 1988 PLAYOFFS

In last month's column, the "Turn Back the Clock" article focused on a story about how a dropped pass by Cleveland Browns receiver Ray Renfro doomed the Eagles 1961 season. The uncharacteristic drop handed the Giants a 7-7 tie which provided the half-game cushion they needed to beat out the Eagles for the division crown and a championship game berth. 27 years later, the Eagles found themselves in an identical situation. In order to qualify for the post-season for the first time in seven years, the 1988 Philadelphia Eagles would need some help.

Going into the final week of the season, the Eagles once again trailed the Giants by one game. Unlike the 1961 season, the NFL had tie-breakers in place that would prove advantageous to the Eagles if they could close the gap. Having defeated the Giants in dramatic fashion twice that year, an Eagles win coupled with a Giants loss would catapult them to a division title. The tiebreaker advantage was earned on the strength of two dramatic moments. The first, a physics defying play by Randall Cunningham in a week six Monday Night Football tilt that still has Carl Banks wondering what happened. The second game was decided in overtime by, of all things, a blocked field goal return for a touchdown by Clyde Simmons. These two exhilarating victories over the Giants set the stage for one of the most exciting regular season finishes in Philadelphia Eagles history.

In order to leap frog the Giants, the Eagles would first have to take care of business in Big D. The 1988 Cowboys were a shell of their former selves and Eagles coach Buddy Ryan owned them during his tenure with the Birds. The Eagles 23-7 victory that day not only kept their playoff hopes alive but marked the end of the Tom Landry era in Dallas after 29 years. Having kept up their end of the bargain, Philadelphia players huddled around TVs in Texas Stadium as they watched their postseason destiny play out up North at the Meadowlands. A Jets victory over the Giants was all the Eagles needed to lock up their first division title since 1980, but as the seconds ticked away, Big Blue held on desperately to their lead in the game, and the division. Just like in 1961, it all came down to one pass in the waning seconds.

As time expired, Jets quarterback Ken O'Brien lofted a pass to the corner of the end zone in the direction of wideout Al Toon. Unlike Ray Renfro in 1961, Toon's hands were sure and his leaping grab ignited a celebration in Texas stadium and throughout the Philadelphia region. *(continued on back page)*



IN MEMORY OF... CLARENCE PEAKS • 1935-2007

Former Eagles running back Clarence Peaks passed away on March 31 at the age of 71 at a nursing home in Voorhees, NJ.

The Eagles selected Peaks in the first round of the 1957 draft (7th overall). Peaks still ranks 10th on the Eagles all-time rushing list with 2,927 yards gained during his seven-year stint in Philadelphia. In 1960, Peaks led the Eagles in rushing, averaging 5.4 yards an attempt, but hurt his ankle near the middle of the season and was forced to stand on the sidelines and watch as the team won the NFL Championship. He was traded to Pittsburgh in 1964, and spent the final two seasons of his career with the Steelers.

After his NFL career, Peaks went on to become an analyst for the radio broadcast of Eagles games as well as a TV analyst with ABC for various NFL and college football games. Peaks followed up his broadcasting career by becoming a financial consultant for A.L. Williams, an insurance, mutual funds and stocks company.

He is survived by two sons, Clarence Jr. and Allan, a brother, Ronald, and a sister, Cathy.





TURN BACK THE CLOCK... THE 1988 PLAYOFFS *(continued from page 3)*

It was an amazing turn of events. Instead of a division title and first-round bye, the Giants found themselves on the outside looking in as tie-breakers left the 10-6 squad out of the playoffs all together. Lost in the euphoria was the fact that the same tie-breaker system that spelled doom for the G-men also relegated the Eagles to a third seed. With an identical 10-6 record, the NFC West champion 49ers edged out the Eagles for the 2nd seed on the strength of a half-game edge in their record against common opponents. Instead of a trip to Chicago to face the top seeded Bears, the Niners would enjoy home field advantage against the survivor of the wild card round.

At the time, it didn't seem to be that big of a deal. Philly fans were just happy to see their team in the playoffs once again. Two weeks later, when the fog rolled into Soldier Field, that tie-breaker loomed large. Had the system swung differently, it would have been the 49ers struggling in the fog that day against the Bears. Instead, San Francisco traveled to Chicago a week later and had little trouble dispatching the Bears on a clear Sunday in January.

Two-weeks later, Joe Montana hit John Taylor with a perfect pass in the final minute to win Super Bowl XXIII. As for the Eagles, their first division title in eight years would prove to be their last until breaking through for their first of four straight 14 years later under Andy Reid in 2001. Despite the disappointment of the Fog Bowl, the 1988 season began an unprecedented run of playoff appearances that continues today. After qualifying for the post-season just five times in the previous 37 years, Philadelphia has punched their ticket for the post season 12 times in their last 19 seasons.

APRIL TRIVIA QUESTION

Who did San Francisco defeat in Super Bowl XXIII after the 1988 regular season?

- A. Broncos B. Bengals
C. Chargers D. Dolphins

(Answer from last month: THE VIKINGS)

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

EX-EAGLE CHARLIE SMITH ATTENDS H.S. SUMMIT

During last year's Hall of Fame festivities in Canton, OH, 16 former NFL players who now coach high school football were among a group of select coaches taking part in one of the most valuable education programs offered by the NFLPA and the NFL: The Youth Football Summit.

The former players were invited to join elite High School coaches from across the country not only because of their commitment to football during their professional careers, but also as a result of their dedication to becoming high school coaches after their days in the NFL were over.

Along with the 51 other high school coaches, the former players attended seminars that focused on a variety of topics, including training methods, heat and hydration issues, steroids education, and positive coaching principles.

The coaches also heard from several special guests, including Hall of Fame Inductee Rayfield Wright, who took time out of his hectic schedule just days before being enshrined. "I really enjoyed listening to Rayfield Wright," said former Philadelphia WR Charlie Smith. "You know, we played against each other. We sort of introduced ourselves each time we played, so we talked and he remembered me..." Overall, this year's participants found the Summit to be an enlightening experience, one that will forever benefit their careers as high school coaches and beyond.

The Youth Football Summit is funded each year by the NFLPA and the NFL, which made a major commitment to investing in the game with the establishment of the \$150 million NFL Youth Football Fund. For those former players who now coach high school football and are interested in attending next year's Youth Football Summit, please contact Carl Francis or Joanna Comfort in the NFLPA Communications Department at 202-463-2200 for more information.

(continued from page two)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? #55 FRANK LeMASTER

Ironically, Frank's older brother was also part of a team featured in a 2006 sports movie. "My brother was the 6th man on Adolph Rupp's Kentucky team that was featured in 'Glory Road'." Just as Frank's character followed his big brother's onto the silver screen, LeMaster followed his sibling to the University of Kentucky after growing up on a horse farm in Lexington.

Today, Frank LeMaster resides in Chester County, Pennsylvania where he has lived since his playing days with the Eagles. He has two grown sons, Justin, 27 and Brennan, 25; as well as a 12-year-old son named Alexander. "My 12-year-old really keeps me young!" says LeMaster. That's saying a lot after all of those years on the Vet stadium turf!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have any story ideas or know of any alumni members who are not receiving this, please call Harold Carmichael at 215.463.2500.

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