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**ALUMNI DAY AT TRAINING CAMP**

By Tug McErlain - Training camp is in full swing for the Eagles and on July 26th, ten former players were on hand for a sneak peek at the 2008 squad. After watching the morning practice from the sidelines, the retired players gathered for a group photo before joining the current players for lunch in the team cafeteria. After their meal, alumni members were treated to a short highlight video that captured the history of the team and featured some of the former players in attendance. After the video, alumni members were addressed by Harold Carmichael who expressed his vision for making the Eagles Alumni Association the best in the league.

The alumni in attendance Saturday were (pictured above from left to right): Mike Mamula, Riley Gunnels, Dick Lucas, Will Wynn, Ben Hawkins, Larry Watkins, Major Everett, Harold Carmichael, Chuck Bednarik and Al Chesley, who said this about the event: "It was fantastic to be around some of the guys I played with and meet some of the new players like Asante Samuel, who was so nice and personable. I especially want to thank Mr. Lurie for making it all possible and coach Reid and Jim Johnson for taking the time to talk to me. Chuck Bednarik looked great and the team looks strong as ever... organized, unified... a well oiled machine." Chesley went on to say that he feels like he is on cloud nine whenever he is around the Eagles. If you would like to join Al on cloud nine, check out the upcoming alumni events listed on the back page.



**CONGRATS CHUCK!**

Eagle legend Chuck Bednarik, the last of the 60-minute-men, and his beautiful wife Emma celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 5th, 2008. A party attended by about 50 family members and friends was held for the special couple.

**2008 REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE**

Sunday, Sept. 7	<b>RAMS</b>	1:00 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 15	@Cowboys	8:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 21	<b>STEELERS</b>	4:15 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 28	@Bears	8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 5	<b>REDSKINS</b>	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12	@49ers	4:15 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 26	<b>FALCONS</b>	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 2	@Seahawks	4:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 9	<b>GIANTS</b>	8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 16	@Bengals	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 23	@ Ravens	1:00 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 27	<b>CARDINALS</b>	8:00 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 7	@Giants	1:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 15	<b>BROWNS</b>	8:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 21	@ Redskins	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 28	<b>COWBOYS</b>	1:00 p.m.

**EAGLES ALUMNI TRIVIA**

Which season did the Eagles kick-off with a pickle juice fueled romp in Dallas, Texas?

1. 2000 2. 2002 3. 2004 4. 2006

(Answer from last issue: MIKE GOLIC)





## HEALTH & FINANCES

### TIPS FOR BEATING THE HEAT

Heat can be dangerous to people of any age, indoors or out. To stay safe and healthy during hot weather, know the signs of heat stroke and the simple things people can do—like drinking plenty of water—that can prevent heat-related illness and death.

Signs of heat stroke include fainting; a body temperature of over 104 degrees; a change in behavior such as confusion, grouchiness, staggering or acting strangely; dry flushed skin and a strong rapid pulse or a slow weak pulse; not sweating in spite of the heat; acting delirious; slipping into a coma. **What to do:** call 911; get the person out of the sun and heat and have them lie down; give them plenty of water or juice to drink if they are conscious; cool their body down with a cool shower or bath or by sponging with cool water. Prompt medical attention is critical—people can die of heat stroke.

#### To avoid heat-related illness on hot days:

- \* Drink plenty of water or fruit and vegetable juices. Avoid caffeine or alcohol.
- \* Limit your time outdoors, especially in the afternoon when the day is hottest.
- \* Be careful about exercising or doing a lot of activities when it is hot. Stay out of the sun, take frequent breaks, drink water or juice often, and watch for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.
- \* Dress for the weather. Loose-fitting, light-colored cotton clothes are cooler than dark colors or some synthetics.
- \* If you live in a home without fans or air conditioning, open windows to allow air flow, and keep shades, blinds or curtains drawn in the hottest part of the day or when the windows are in direct sunlight. Try to spend at least part of the day in an air conditioned place like a shopping mall, a store, the library, a friend's house, or the movies. Cool showers can help, too. Do not use a fan when the air temperature is above 95 degrees — it will blow hot air, which can add to heat stress.

*North Carolina Department Of Health And Human Services*



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW? #56 • LB • BYRON EVANS

By **Jim Gehman** - While the label “student of the game” has been tossed about, well, since there has been a game, if Byron Evans wanted to step foot onto the field for the Eagles, he had to earn a degree from the Buddy Ryan school of hard hits.

The famed architect of the elaborate “46 Defense,” Ryan was in his second season as Philadelphia’s head coach when Evans was chosen in the 1987 draft. And while he was a second-team All-America and the Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year as a senior at Arizona, the linebacker was in a sense, taking trigonometry without a calculator.

“It was very complicated, probably one of the most complex defenses of all time,” Evans said. “But it wasn’t intimidating. I think more than anything, I was surrounded by a good bunch of guys who were willing to go the extra mile and help me out and really give me the confidence boost that I needed. If I studied, I could make it happen.”

After making eight starts during his first two seasons, Evans became the full-time starter at middle linebacker in 1989 and led the Eagles with 184 tackles, which included three games with 20-plus stops. Clearly, he was indeed making it happen.

“It just showed all the hard work I put into it,” Evans said. “I remember (assistant coach) Jeff Fisher, when we played in the ‘Fog Bowl’ (in Chicago) in 1988, he pulled me aside and said, ‘The only way the defense is really going to take off is that you have to be in there. You have to run this defense like you’re able to run it.’

“So all that reassurance during the ‘88 season and staying (in Philadelphia) all of the offseason, spending all the excess time that I needed (to learn the intricacies of the defense), when we played Seattle in the opening game (and won 31-7), I was able to call all the signals. Buddy gave me a game ball for that.”

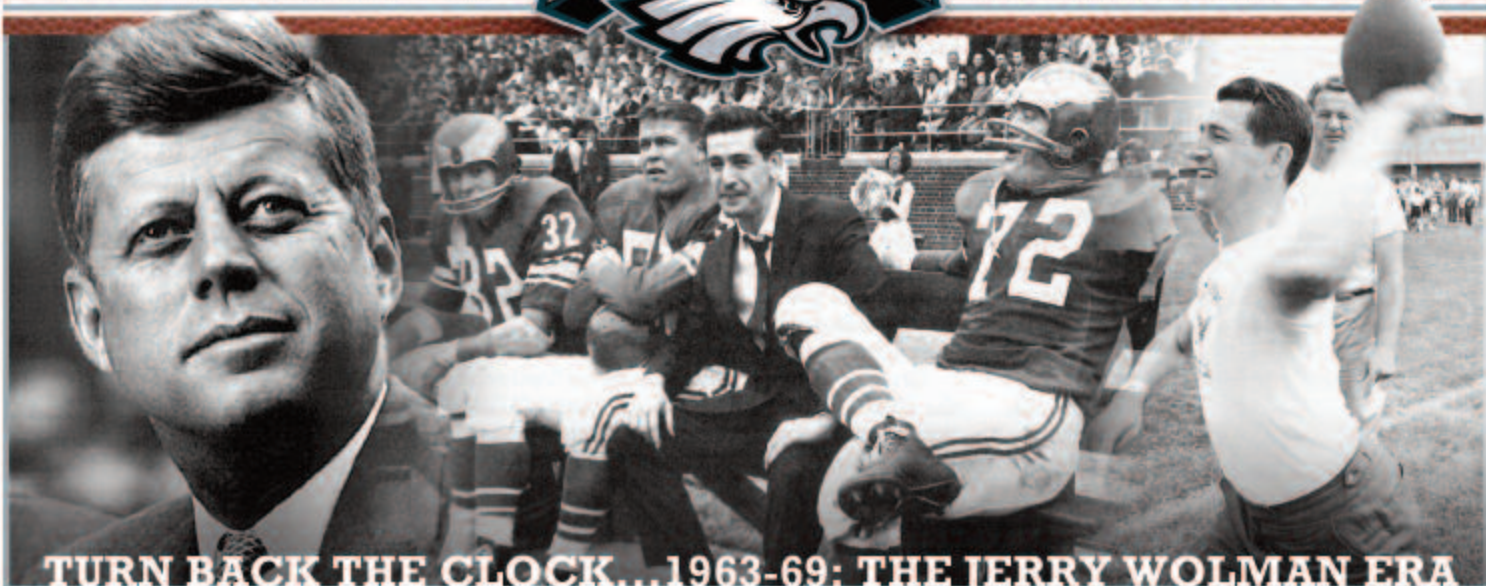
It was one of several game balls he would receive from the coaches. The following season they presented him with a title: team captain.

“It showed that the coaches felt I was competent, I was worthy and that I was able to lead the defense. That gave me another shot in the arm and the pat on the back that I needed. That made me feel like, ‘hey, I was there,’” said Evans, who finished second on the team in tackles and scored his first career touchdown after returning a Phil Simms interception 22 yards for a score. “To be named one of the captains, you had to trust the person and really believe in what they were doing. They believed that you were a leader and that made me feel real good.”

Under new head coach Rich Kotite and his staff in 1991, Evans was still thought of as a team leader and was named as a defensive co-captain along with the late Reggie White. He would also soon find himself back hitting the books in order to learn veteran coordinator Bud Carson’s defensive schemes.

“It was pretty difficult, but a lot of the things that we had were pretty similar, just different terminology,” Evans said. “Bud was a heck of a defensive coordinator, being in the (Pittsburgh’s) ‘Steel Curtain’ and the Cleveland Browns and all of that. Bud knew what he was doing. It was a good transitional period. I think Bud, rest his soul, was just a great defensive coordinator and a great person.” *(continued on back page)*





## TURN BACK THE CLOCK...1963-69: THE JERRY WOLMAN ERA

**By Tug McErlain** - When Jeffrey Lurie purchased the Eagles on May 6, 1994, Philadelphia fans were ecstatic. One local Sports publication trumpeted the move with a cover titled: "Lurie, Lurie, Hallelujah." After years of acrimony between the previous ownership and the team's star players led to a mass exodus of pro bowlers like Reggie White, Seth Joyner and Clyde Simmons, fans were ready for a breath of fresh air. Amidst the excitement, one question lingered. Why would someone from the Boston area want to purchase the Eagles? Turns out, Jeffrey Lurie wasn't the first person from Beantown who was interested in acquiring the franchise.

From 1949-62, the Eagles were owned by a group of 100 local businessmen led by a majority owner named James P. Clark. It was the presence of these "100 Brothers" that the Giants used to dissuade Vince Lombardi from accepting an offer to become the Eagles head coach in 1958. By 1962, the group of investors had been reduced to 65 and when Clark died that spring, it was time to sell. The first person to step up to the plate and express interest in purchasing the franchise was a young man from the Boston area. He was fairly busy at the time, so he arranged a meeting between his brother Ted and Eagles management to discuss a potential sale. Before the meeting could take place, a major development known as the Cuban missile crisis erupted and the potential buyer had to put his plans on hold. The suitor, John F. Kennedy, was assassinated thirteen months later and one month after the tragedy, the franchise was sold to a 36-year-old construction magnate named Jerry Wolman in December 1963.

The following year turned out to be an infamous one in Philadelphia sports history. While the Phillies were suffering a monumental collapse during the final two weeks of the baseball season, the Eagles were kicking off the doomed Joe Kuharich era. The new Eagles owner tabbed his fellow Notre Dame alum to turn around the fortunes of the ill-fated franchise. After an impressive first season, Kuharich was awarded an unheard of 15-year deal to be the coach and general manager. After securing his field general, Wolman recruited an old friend from Washington, DC named Ed Snider to run the business side of the operation. In addition to their roles with the Eagles,

Snider and Wolman partnered to bring NHL hockey and the Spectrum to Philadelphia. The arena alone cost twice what Wolman had paid for the Eagles and when construction delays hit one of his other major projects, the Eagles owner found himself on the brink of financial ruin.

Meanwhile, the Eagles fortunes on the field were a perfect reflection of their owner's finances as the team stumbled to consecutive losing seasons in 1967 and 1968. To make matters worse, the two men Jerry Wolman had hired to run the team were engaged in a bitter feud. Forced to choose sides, Wolman fired Snider and pinned his hopes on Kuharich. By the end of the 1968 season, chants of "Joe must go" were a clear indication of how the fans felt about Wolman's decision.

The final game of the year proved to be the last of the Jerry Wolman era as fans expressed their displeasure by pelting Santa Claus and Kuharich with snowballs at halftime. Five months later, a bankrupt Wolman turned the franchise over to Leonard Tose who promptly fired Joe Kuharich and hired Jerry Williams to coach the team.

Kuharich would eventually be brought back to the team in 1977 as a scout under Dick Vermeil before succumbing to cancer during the Eagles loss to the Raiders in Super Bowl XV. As for Jerry Wolman, he rebuilt his financial empire and was in the running to purchase the Redskins in 1998 before losing out to Daniel Snyder. The Jerry Wolman wing of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame was established in his honor.





## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(continued from page 2) Three seasons later, Evans' standout career came to a sudden halt while tackling Cleveland running back Leroy Hoard during an early November game at Veterans Stadium. He suffered a fractured right tibia and a torn medial collateral ligament (or in layman's terms, he broke his leg and severely tore up his knee).

Strangely enough, that particular game day was unlike the 118 previous ones Evans experienced during the eight seasons he wore an Eagles uniform.

"That was one of those days, a very eerie day," he said. "I usually had a little pre-game ritual that I used to get myself psyched up. Being a middle linebacker, you have to get the team ready and I was getting the team ready; but I wasn't ready. And no matter what I would do, I just really couldn't get ready. It just seemed like everything was in slow motion for me.

"It's hard to believe because the Browns were 7-2 and the Eagles were 7-2. One of the biggest games of the year for us... but it was just one of those things, just a real eerie feeling, almost like a cloud.

"Usually when you break your leg, you don't tear up your knee. And when you tear up your knee, you don't break your leg. But in that case, I did both. But never once did I say, 'Why me? Why did it have to happen to me?' It just happened to be that everything that was supposed to happen happened. It was just time. I think it was the Lord telling me it's time for you to go and do something else."

Evans listened. And for the past seven years, he has been involved in the ministry at Shiloh Apostolic Church in Phoenix, Arizona. In fact, he is now an associate pastor and Sunday School teacher.

"I just enjoy that I don't have to fake it. I don't have to wear a facade. I can be real with the people. And not only can I talk their talk, I can walk their walk," says Evans. "There was a time that I used to talk their talk about how this is what you had to do and this is how we had to do it, but I was doing a whole totally different thing.

"Now I have to be accountable for me, for my soul. I have to do what's right and be what's right and not only that, I have to walk what's right. And I have a beautiful wife (Alva) and three beautiful children (Brykara, 15; Byron II, 11; Brielle, 9). That's some of the things that came out of me getting hurt that day."

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

The 2008 NFL season is upon us and with it comes a number of events that will give Eagles Alumni members many opportunities to reunite. The first event took place last week at training camp and is covered on page one, but if you missed out for any reason, there is no need to fret. Look at all of the great events that are in store for the alumni this season:

### August 17, 2008 • EYP Carnival and Legends Autograph Signing

This is a great opportunity to connect with some of your former teammates and the fans who cheered your name during your playing days. Best of all, it is for a great cause. The Eagles Youth Partnership was founded in 1995 to enhance the health and educational opportunities of our region's youth. **The Carnival will take place at Lincoln Financial Field from 3-8pm.**

### September 6, 2008 • Philadelphia Eagles Alumni Meet and Greet

This is a new endeavor intended to give Eagles fans an opportunity to meet former players who are in town for Alumni Day. Eagles alumni members will have an opportunity to catch up with one another and help generate proceeds for the Alumni Association Fund.

### September 7, 2008 • Alumni Day at Lincoln Financial Field

This great tradition will be renewed during the opening week of the season as the Eagles take on the St. Louis Rams. The special day will include a pre-game brunch, the opportunity to watch warm-ups from the sideline, and participation in a pre-game alumni ceremony. Following the ceremony, alumni will settle into their club seats while the current Eagles strive to kick-off the 2008 season in winning fashion.

### Late September/Early October • Alumni/Rookie Dinner

Each year, alumni members who participate in the EYP Carnival are treated to a dinner buffet at Chickie's & Pete's. Rookies from the current squad join in the fun as bridges are built between the franchise's past and future.

### November 18, 2008 • Otho Davis Scholarship Foundation Dinner

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the inaugural dinner that was held on November 29, 1999 to honor Otho Davis just months before he died. Once again, we will gather together to remember the "Prince of Trainers" as a deserving student is awarded a \$10,000 scholarship in his name.

### Annual Alumni Road Trip (Game to be determined)

Each year, members of the Philadelphia Eagles Alumni Association have the opportunity to attend an away game together. This season, there are three games being considered for the annual trip: November 23rd (Ravens), December 7th (Giants), and December 21st (Redskins). Stay tuned for more information about this exciting event.

**If you would like to attend any of the events listed above or for more information, please contact Marie Solano at 856.939.1743**

## THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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