

JOE GALAT SCORING POINTS

April - 2019

...American Football is rapidly growing internationally; yet, in the USA we must rally our people for our voices to be heard in order to preserve the game of football. Politicians have yet to recognize the critical skill development and life's values learned in youth football.

Erez and David agreed that football teaches life values. We also acknowledged the value of being on a team feels like family. I have personally experienced how family and brotherhood is valued to even the most accomplished football players. Earl Campbell was a great running back for the Houston Oilers and University of Texas Longhorns. I was surprised when he asked me "how much time did you spend with your son Joey?" I was pleased he thought my son was a good boy. My son was more pleased to be a passenger in Earl's Skoal Brothers Van. I asked some coaches who knew Earl about his interest in family involvement. I then learned that when Earl Campbell signed with the Houston Oilers, he built his mother a mini mansion in Tyler Texas. When Earl was named the MVP of the NFL, he responded by buying each his Brother offensive lineman Rolex Watches as a thank you. I fondly remember his response after playing a great game rushing for 247 yards. When asked by the media, why did you play so well? Earl responded, "Because my Mama was here to watch me play!"

Howie Long of Fox Sports Fame was a developing young player when Coach Dick Corbin took him under his guidance at Medford High School. Years passed with Howie growing into an All Pro Oakland Raider Defensive Lineman. His agent excitedly called with an offer to do a lucrative TV Commercial the following week. "I can't make it; I have to go to my family reunion." The agent asked, "What family?" Howie responded, "Coach Corbin's Family" Interestingly Howie is the father of two number one NFL Draft Selections. Son Chris Long donated his remaining season salary to his hometown Charlottesville Virginia to help the City recover from the violent demonstrations two years ago.

Brad Van Pelt New York Giants all pro linebacker was hesitant to sign a contract extension. Giants owner Wellington Mara asked me to help with the negotiations. Joe Remember to tell him "once a Giant, always a Giant!" During our dinner meeting, I asked Brad why he was holding out on signing a new contract and repeated Mr. Mara's favorite quote "Once a Giant, always a Giant!" Coach Brad responded "it is not the money; my father is not getting any younger and he drives many miles to all our football games. If the Giants would fly my father to our home games; I will continue to play here" Of course, this modest expense request was quickly approved, and Brad Van Pelt was "always a Giant!" Years later I watched a Colorado State Football Game on TV. The announcer commented that "very few fans braved the brutal storm to see the game." The TV Camera zoomed in on the proud father of the Colorado State Quarterback named Van Pelt. "When your son is playing - What Storm?" Erez and David loved these stories because - after all we are all family in the "football brotherhood"!