

The Fan-atic Flyer

January 2006
Volume 6, Issue 1

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The Handwriting is on the Wall

The Atlanta Falcons hiring of new quarterbacks coach Bill Musgrave is the beginning of the end for QB Mike Vick.

Musgrave was the offensive coordinator for the University of Virginia Cavaliers in 2001



2002. During his reign, Falcons QB Matt Schaub who was Virginia’s quarterback became the 2002 ACC Player of the Year and threw for 28 touchdowns.

This hiring reunites the pair and could only spell good things for the Falcons. Let’s face the truth here. Matt Schaub is the prototypical NFL quarterback. He has the size, the accuracy, and the arm strength to be a pure pocket passer. Not to mention that he ran the West Coast offense in college.

The hiring shows that the Falcons are not convinced with the skill set of starting

quarterback Mike Vick. It shows that the Falcons are more concerned with fundamentals than the flashy run plays of Vick. Let’s face it, the team struggled the whole year after Vick injured his leg and could not run.

The Falcons have realized that although Vick is the most electrifying player in the NFL, that Vick sells out the Dome,

that Vick sells millions in Falcon merchandise that there is much more than glitter needed to win in the NFL.

Yes, the Falcons have realized that a quarterback change is needed and Matt Schaub will get the nod in the 2006 – 2007 NFL season.

Oh, and the Falcons will be making TJ Duckett a Fullback and moving Alge Crumbler to safety.

Everything written to this point has been a parody of comments that I have heard or read since Musgrave was

January's Fan-atic's

Meeting

We will have a meeting in February and it will be at Corky's near Gwinnett Place Mall on February 21st at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is being moved so that members can enjoy Valentine's Day.

Topics of discussion will include planning this year's tailgate, membership renewals, financial goals and objectives for the upcoming season.

Directions to Corky's:
Phone Number: 770-564-8666

From I-85N

- I-85N to Exit 104 (Pleasant Hill Road).
- Take a right and proceed approx. 6/10th of a mile.
- Turn right onto Sweetwater Road.
- Corky's will be on the right

From I-85S

- I-85S to Exit 104 (Pleasant Hill Road).
- Take a left and proceed approx. 6/10th of a mile.
- Turn right onto Sweetwater Road.

Corky's will be on the right

Meeting Date Moved

In case you did not catch it in the above meeting notice, the monthly meeting has been moved to the third Tuesday of February instead of the second Tuesday.

The move is being made so that members can set the night aside to spend with their significant others since February 14th is a little known holiday known as Valentine's Day.

In case that has slipped past you, may I suggest a quick run to the store. After all, they deal with our love for the Falcons. Let's show them some love and appreciation for all that they do for us.

See you on the 21st. If you haven't been to a meeting, come on by. You never know who will be there. Last month, former Falcon Tight End Harper Le Bel was a guest speaker and it was new president Mike Scarce's first meeting. Both did a wonderful job.

Raffle Items Needed

Now is the time of year that NFL apparel goes on sale and now is the time that we need to restock items for our tailgate raffles.

The tailgate raffles are our number one fundraiser that allows us to do such things as hosting pizza parties at the local children hospitals and making donations to various charitable organizations.

So if you see a good deal, let one of the officers know about it.

Better yet, purchase the item and donate it to the club. Every dollar we save in purchasing items is a dollar more that can go to charity.

Frank Battle, a Falcon Fan-atic member has put a challenge on the table as well. In his words, he is not a shopper but will donate \$100 to the club so that the club can purchase the items for the raffle. If you are interested in meeting Frank's challenge, send an email to falcon_fanatics@yahoo.com and I will send you the information on where to send

the check or come to a meeting and make the donation there.

Either way, please help as we need to have enough items to place at 10 tailgates in the 2006 – 07 season.

Most needed items are hats, small items with Falcon's logo, car flags, and polo shirts.

Material Needed

I have been bringing you the newsletter for 5 years now and I need some help. I want the newsletter to not only bring you club news but also be entertaining and a value add member benefit.

That said, I need your help in achieving this. Send articles or suggestion for articles to falcon_fanatics@yahoo.com.

Some articles I would like to see come from members are a spotlight article on themselves. Other ideas could be a tailgate recipe, trivia questions... The list goes on but the creativity of one person does not.

Yes, I am begging. Please send in those articles.

Moving/Change of

Address or E-mail

If any member has a change of address or e-mail or is planning to have a change of address, please let Joe Cooper at falcon_fanatics.com know so he can update the records so that he can make sure you continue to get your newsletter. Thank you.

Falcons 2006 Opponents Now Determined

Atlantafalcons.com

With the close of the 2005 regular season, the Atlanta Falcons 2006 opponents have been determined.

Fourteen of the Falcons' sixteen games were predetermined by the NFL's schedule rotation system, but two games - one home and one away - are determined by teams' finish during the previous season. By virtue of their third-place finish in the NFC South, the Falcons will face the third-place teams in both the NFC North (Detroit Lions) and NFC West (Arizona Cardinals).

The NFL will be releasing the schedule with specific dates and times sometime in the month of April.

The Falcons opponents in 2006 are as follows:

HOME

Carolina
Tampa Bay
New Orleans
Dallas
New York Giants
Cleveland
Pittsburgh
Arizona

AWAY

Carolina
Tampa Bay
New Orleans
Philadelphia
Washington
Baltimore
Cincinnati
Detroit

Saints set to host Falcons in first game at Superdome since Hurricane Katrina

Associated Press

The New Orleans Saints will return to the Louisiana Superdome for their first regular-season home game there since 2004 when they play host to the Atlanta Falcons on Sept. 24, the NFL announced during Super Bowl XL.

A 40- by 150-foot mural with the news of the Saints' 2006 home opener was completed on the outside of the Superdome hours before the kickoff of Super Bowl XL.

"Superdome officials are pointing to the Falcons-Saints game on Sept. 24 as the first event in the building since Hurricane Katrina," NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue said. "We are pleased that this historic re-opening will feature the annual renewal of the traditional Falcons-Saints rivalry."

The spectacular Superdome mural contains the date of the Sept. 24 game; Saints and Falcons helmet logs; and a "Go Saints" slogan. It took four workers nearly five days to complete the challenging project under less-than-ideal weather conditions, including high winds.

Arthur Blank Named Walter Camp's Distinguished American

Atlantafalcons.com

Arthur Blank, owner and CEO of the Atlanta Falcons and co-founder of The Home Depot has been named the Walter Camp Football Foundation's "Distinguished American."

The Walter Camp "Distinguished American" award is presented each year to an individual who has utilized his or her talents to attain great success in business, private life or public service and who may have accomplished that which no other has done. He or she may have a record of dedication to mankind that should not pass unrecognized and a life that has been dedicated to the preservation of the American ideal. The recipient need not have participated in football but must be one who understands its lesson of self-denial, cooperation and teamwork, and one who is a person of honesty, integrity and dedication. He or she must be a leader, an innovator, even a pioneer, who has reached a degree of excellence that distinguishes him or her from contemporaries, as well as someone who lives within the principles of Walter Camp.

Blank co-founded The Home Depot, now the world's largest home improvement retailer and second largest retailer in the United States, in 1978. When he retired as co-chairman of The Home Depot in 2001, the company also was a component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average and one of Fortune Magazine's "Global Most Admired Companies." In addition to the company's financial success, during his 23 years with The Home Depot the company donated more than \$113 million to communities, and Home Depot associates provided hundreds of thousands of hours of personal volunteer time.

Since Blank purchased the Falcons in 2002, the club has made significant changes with the goal of building a consistently winning team on and off the field. The changes have created renewed excitement among Falcons fans across the region. In his first year as owner, season ticket sales increased 100 percent -- an NFL record; every home game has been a sellout; and the club has its first-ever waiting list for season tickets. Blank has brought similar fan enthusiasm and success to the Georgia Force, the Arena Football League team he purchased in 2004.

Blank is also chairman, president & CEO of AMB Group, LLC, and chairman of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. Both companies are part of The Arthur M. Blank Family Office, with the common purpose of giving back to society through financial contributions and personal involvement. Through his generosity, The Blank Family Foundation, along with his personal giving, has granted more than \$200 million to support early childhood, education, the arts, and parks and greenspace. Blank also serves on the corporate boards of Cox Enterprises, Inc., and Staples, Inc. In addition, he chairs the board of Outward Bound USA, and serves on the board of trustees of The Carter Center, Inc.; Emory University; and The Cooper Institute.



hired and I just had to shake my head.

It is true that Musgrave coached Schuab but that is not the reason he was hired. Musgrave's sole purpose will be to develop Vick into an all around NFL quarterback in the West Coast system.

Face it, this is Vick's team and he will be given every opportunity to succeed. As if his winning percentage as a starting quarterback is not success enough. Vick is still a young quarterback that is throwing to young receivers standing in a pocket being protected by undersized linemen.

The handwriting is on the wall but do not misread the message.

Happy Valentine's Day

Falcon Fan-Atics
Newsletter
301 Meadow Lane
Auburn, GA 30011

Place Stamp
here