

The Fan-atic Flyer

April 2006
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Confused

The Atlanta Falcons have made some moves this year that on paper will make the defense a lot better.

The Falcons have acquired Lawyer Milloy, S Chris Croker and DE John Abraham.

Lawyer Milloy, 6-0, 190 pounds, is a four-time Pro Bowler who has started 149 of 155 games since being drafted in the second round of the 1996 draft by the New England Patriots. He has been a part of two Super Bowl teams (1996 and 2001) as a member of the New England Patriots.

Croker, 5-11, 192 pounds, played the last three seasons in Cleveland after being drafted in the third round (84th overall) by the Browns in 2003. In his career, Croker has played in 44 games with 22 starts, and has totaled 172 tackles, three interceptions, eight passes defended and four sacks. Croker, 26, amassed career-highs with 86 tackles and two forced fumbles, in

addition to tallying two sacks and two interceptions, while starting all 16 games for the Browns in 2005.

Abraham, 6-4, 258 pounds, is a six-year veteran who has tallied 328 tackles, 53.5 sacks, 18 forced fumbles and five fumble recoveries in his career with the New York Jets. He has seen action in 73 games with 63 starts since



being drafted in the first round (13th overall pick) of the 2000 NFL Draft by the New York Jets out of South Carolina.

With the acquisition of Abraham, the Falcons now have three of the top 10 sack leaders in the NFL over the past five years on their defensive line. Since 2001, Abraham ranks seventh overall with 49 sacks, DE Patrick Kerney ranks eighth with 48.5 sacks and DT Rod Coleman ranks tenth with 44.5 sacks.

But what does all this mean. Yes, the Defense will be greatly improved. But what

April's Fan-atic's Meeting

We will have a meeting in February and it will be at Corky's near Gwinnett Place Mall on April 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Topics of discussion will include planning this year's tailgate, parking, 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

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.

If you have already made purchases, please bring the items to the next club meeting so that we can gather all the items and inventory them so we can determine where the actual need is.

Don't miss a Newsletter

Have you received a torn newsletter through the mail or have not received it at all. Do you travel a lot and are not home to get your mail?

Well there is a viable solution. Switch your newsletter receipt from U.S. Mail to email. Not only will you not received damage newsletters or have to rely on the post office, by switching you will also save the club

money which is then used in our charities,

Don't miss out and help the club combat the rising costs or preparing the paper newsletters by switching to email today. Send an email to falcon_fanatics@yahoo.com in order to switch to email newsletters.

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.

NFL stars begin latest USO

tour in Kosovo

NFL.com

(March 29, 2006) -- After a full day of travel, Seattle Seahawks defensive end Bryce Fisher, Atlanta Falcons defensive end Patrick Kerney, and Pittsburgh Steelers tackle Max Starks have arrived in Kosovo to begin a 12-day USO tour to U.S. military bases in the Balkans and Persian Gulf.

The trip marks the 40th anniversary of the first NFL-USO tour in 1966, when future Pro Football Hall of Famers Willie Davis, Frank Gifford, Sam Huff and Johnny Unitas visited bases in Vietnam as the NFL became the first professional sports league to send players to visit troops stationed overseas.

"We're excited and honored to take part in this year's tour," said Fisher, who as a graduate from the Air Force Academy is a captain in the Washington Air National Guard. "It's a chance for us to say 'thanks' to all the men and women serving in our armed forces, many of whom are NFL fans."



Fisher also gets credit for the longest journey to Kosovo -- more than 7,200 miles. He began his trip March 27 in Seattle with an early-morning flight to Washington, D.C. -- a total of 2,300 miles. Next was an eight-hour flight from D.C. to Vienna -- more than 4,400 miles -- which landed in the Austrian capital the next morning. After a four-hour layover, the group flew another 500-plus miles from Vienna to Pristina, the capital of Kosovo.

Today, the players visited two bases, where they signed autographs and posed for photos as part of a "meet and greet" event. While each player was warmly received, Max Starks was accorded a special welcome by the Bravo Company "Outcasts."

The unit, composed of Apache helicopter pilots from Pennsylvania, had a large Steelers logo painted in their hangar. In addition, one of the pilots had painted a Steelers logo on the underbelly of his helicopter. He unlatched the panel and stood it next to the craft, where Starks autographed it.

As a group of 15 or so pilots huddled around Starks for a photo opportunity, a chant of "here we go, Steelers; here we go," could be heard around the flight line. "That's for Super Bowl 40," one said. "And 41," said

another, already looking ahead to the coming season.

Falcons open 2006 preseason on national television

AtlantaFalcons.com

The Atlanta Falcons announced their 2006 preseason schedule today.

The Falcons will kick off their preseason by hosting the New England Patriots on August 11 at 8:00 PM (EST) in the Georgia Dome. The game will be televised nationally by CBS.

Atlanta will then travel to Green Bay and Tennessee before returning home to face the Jacksonville Jaguars to round out the preseason. Dates and times for these particular games will be determined at a later date.

Falcons Preseason Schedule

Week 1 -- New England at Atlanta, August 11 at 8:00 p.m. (EST) -- CBS

Week 2 -- Atlanta at Green Bay, (August 17-21); Exact time and date TBD

Week 3 -- Atlanta at Tennessee, (August 24-28); Exact time and date TBD

Week 4 -- Jacksonville at Atlanta, (August 31 - September 2); Exact time and date TBD

Brooking visits local elementary school

Students at Tyrone Elementary School got a surprise on recently when Keith Brooking, a linebacker for the Atlanta Falcons and a graduate of East Coweta High School and Georgia Tech, addressed all of the students in a morning assembly.

Brooking discussed the importance of doing well in school, listening to one's

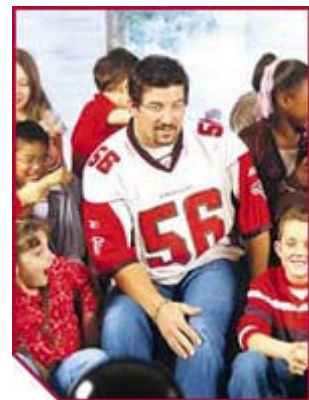
parents, following one's dreams and choosing the right friends. He stated that none of the success he has achieved professionally would have been possible if he failed to each one of those things. Brooking also answered questions from representatives from each class about reading. He discussed how important reading was to his job, telling the students that he had to read his playbook and attend meetings each day. He also said that his favorite author when he was in elementary school was Dr. Seuss.

The event was a good lead in to Read Across America Day, which took place the following day, which is also Dr. Seuss' birthday.

After the assembly, Brooking filmed a segment for the Georgia Read More program. He sat with 12 third graders, two boys and girls from each of the school's three third grade classes, and read the book, Detective LaRue by Mark Teague. Other local celebrities who have participated in the program are President Jimmy Carter, Travis Tritt, John Smoltz, Bill Elliot and Mary Perdue, among others.

The Georgia Read More segments are shown in public schools across Georgia via the educational satellite and are also shown every Saturday on GPB. The program started in October, 2004 and has found a great deal of success and acclaim.

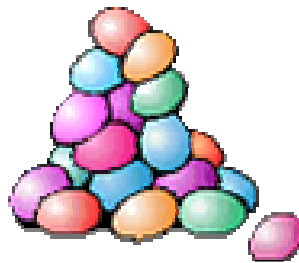
Brooking's appearance will likely be ready for air in approximately one month.



about the development of WRs Michael Jenkins and Roddy White? What about our kicking game now that Todd Peterson was released? What about the offensive line? Will it be able to better protect QB Michael Vick? And finally, the question that causes the most controversy among many Falcon fans. What about the development of Vick into a complete quarterback?

Yes the defense will be greatly improved but there are still many questions to be answered. The bottom line is I for one can not wait until the season starts so that I can get the answers to my questions.

Happy Easter !!!



Falcon Fan-Atics
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Place Stamp
here