



Coach Carew Featured in ICNFE July 2010 Newsletter – *“Quashed Vision Transforms to Glorious Heights!”*

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By Passaic Valley Today

About five years ago, I reached a point in my career where I felt compelled to pause and reassess. I loved coaching but I had a burning desire to touch the masses.

And yet the negative voice inside my head kept pushing me back, telling me I was an idiot for thinking I could have any kind of lasting effect on society. My heart, speaking with the pure and simple voice of my soul, said I needed to do it.

All my life, I've been an NFL fan. My dad was a football player and coach, and there were always football players in the house. NFL games were a constant backdrop throughout my upbringing. And I couldn't stop thinking about the idea of using NFL players as role models. I am convinced that children growing up today have a daunting lack of role models to look to as good examples of how to live a life governed by ethics and values.

So I pushed past my fears and self-doubts. I traveled to NFL corporate headquarters to share my vision with officials there.

And the NFL leaders listened. They suggested I approach each of the NFL's 32 teams individually and talk to their player development directors. Easy, I thought and began calling. All I had to do was communicate my excitement about using my personal coaching skills to evoke from the players their ability to be magnificent role models on and off the field.

Then I ran into a roadblock. It wasn't that the player development directors hated my idea; it was just that they didn't buy into it with the passion I believed was needed in order for me to see it through.

I felt as if my glorious vision had been quashed. It was discouraging. I questioned God, asking Him why He would give me this inspiration and then deny me the ability to see it through. I indulged in some self-pity and a sense of defeat.

But then I stopped feeling sorry for myself and took a more positive tack. I itemized the points I'd distilled thus far. They included:

1. There are a lot of magnificent role models in the NFL that are unknown.
2. The NFL may have the biggest stage in the world.



3. If these wonderful players used that stage, they could make this world a better place, especially for kids.
4. This is the work that has been waiting for me all along – to get these wonderful players on their worldwide stage. Focus on being the catalyst and the coaching will follow.

Taking a step back from that initial wave of idealistic passion, reorganizing my thoughts and marshalling my energy gave the project the boost it needed to finally get under way. This is how Insightful Player™ was born. I reached out to all the teams again, but this time I went through their PR departments. I proposed writing feature stories about their high-integrity players for the sole purpose of lifting the spirit of their worldwide audience, especially kids. A lot of teams were excited by this vision.

At this point, I've profiled twenty-six players as part of the Insightful Player™ campaign. Each of these men is a remarkable human being and a magnificent role model. Many of them believe firmly in the value of telling their stories, especially those that involve overcoming hardships, in hopes of helping today's youth see their way to a clearer path to success.

Already, I have learned so much from these players. The further I get into the Insightful Player™ campaign, the more I believe that my original vision has tremendous potential: to get this message to a much wider audience. It is that belief that carries me onward as I promote what I now believe to be my life's work.

Chrissy Carew, MCC, is Founder and Head Coach of Insightful Player, LLC. The Insightful Player™ campaign is an uplifting series of stories, interviews and programs featuring high integrity people such as current and former NFL players. Each player shares their personal message of hope to inspire all, especially kids.



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