



345 Park Avenue

The National Football League

By Jean Aiello

Super Bowl Trophy

This trophy is named after the Pro Football Hall of fame coach Vince Lombardi, who won the first two Super Bowls with the Green Bay Packers. Tiffany makes the trophy.



The Giants Super Bowl Ring

When a team wins the Super Bowl, everybody on the team receives a big fancy ring. The Giants have won four Super Bowls and this is the ring for their fourth Super Bowl victory.



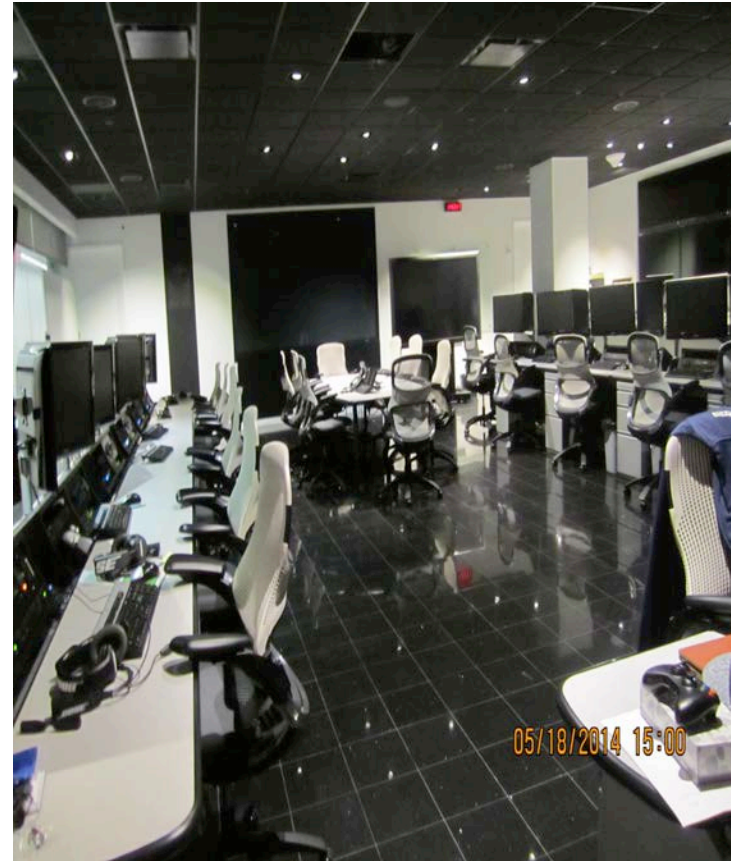
The Board Room

This is the big conference room at the NFL headquarters, where Roger Goodell and other league executives have important meetings. There's a big screen, which is used for videoconferences.



NFL Game Day Center

This big room, with all the TVs, is where the officiating department monitors every game. The department grades the officials and is in charge of the rules.



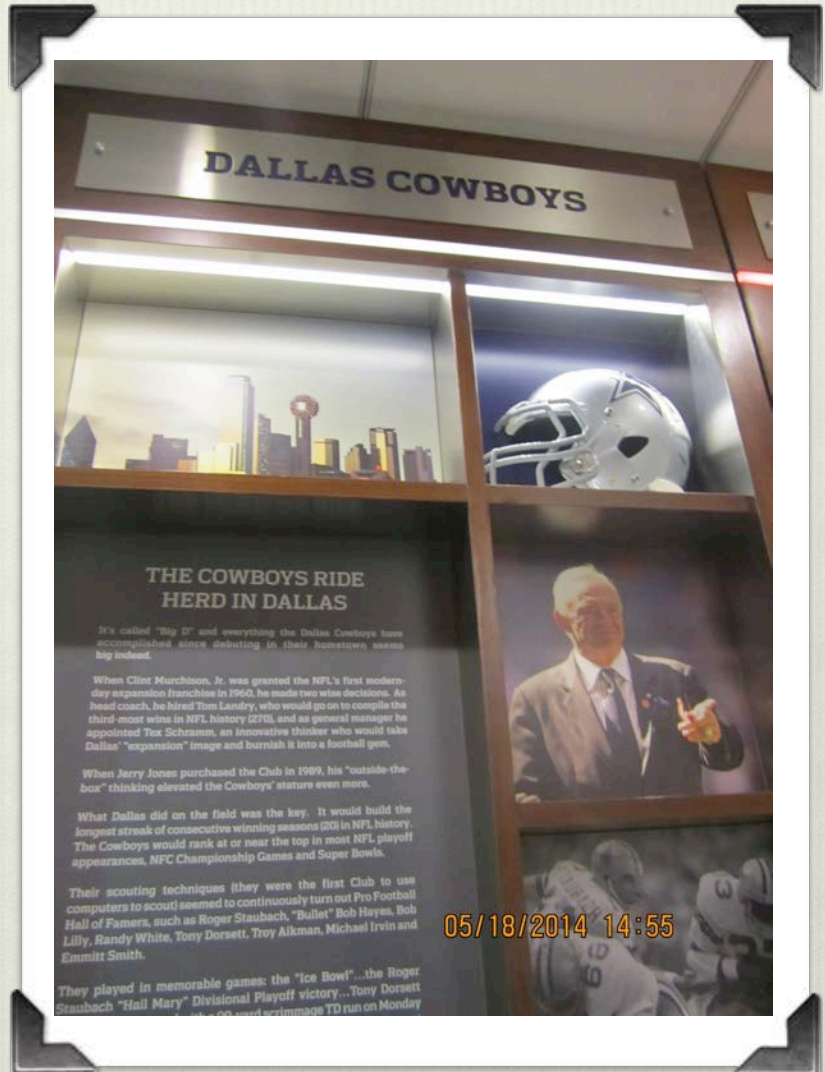
The History of the New York Giants

There's a short history of every team (32) on a long wall. This is about the New York Giants.



Dallas Cowboys History

This is the history of the Cowboys, where my dad worked for 11 years, and my mom for 4 years.



Pat Tillman

In 2002, Pat Tillman left a successful football career with the Arizona Cardinals to join the U.S. Army. His fellow soldiers killed him accidentally in 2004.



My Dad in His Office

My dad is the Senior Vice President of communications for the NFL. (He's a spokesman to the news media.) He's been working for the NFL for 36 seasons.



Together We Make Football

Last year, the NFL asked fans to send in a story about why they love football. Many people submitted photos, including my dad. Here's him wearing a football uniform at the age of 6 with his family. It's on a "Together We Make Football" wall of photos at the NFL office.



ESSAY

It's Sunday night, in the fall and you quickly turn on the TV to watch the usual Sunday night football game. Football is very popular, and the NFL has been a big part of American culture for a long time.

Many people in the USA love football and love the NFL. About 65 percent of Americans watch NFL football; 73 percent of men and 55 percent of women. Today, the NFL has the highest average attendance (67,591) of any professional sports league in the world and is the most popular sports league in the USA. Individual Super Bowl games account for many of the most-watched television programs in American History.

The NFL was created on August 20, 1920 as the American Professional Football Conference. On September 17, 1920, the name was changed to the American Professional Football Association. Later, on June 24, 1922, the name was changed again to the National Football League. This year, will be the NFL's 95th season.

NFL games are the most-watched shows on television. Sunday Night Football on NBC has been the highest-rated show on television in each of the last three years.

Football brings people together more than anything else in our culture. Youth, high school, and collage football are very popular in our country. Only the very best players make it to the NFL and that's why it's so special.



Interview

With Greg Aiello

1. What is your job in the NFL and how long have you been working for it?

“My job is to be a spokesman to the news media about the NFL. I started with the Dallas Cowboys in 1979. I moved to the Commissioner’s office in 1990.”

2. Do you think the NFL has progressed from what it used to be? If so, how?

“The NFL started in 1920 and struggled for decades. It took off when television came along in the 1950s. Since 1965, the NFL has been the most popular sports league, and its popularity has kept on growing.”

3. What is the biggest problem with the NFL?

“The biggest problem with the NFL is dealing with many complicated issues because the NFL is now a very big business.”

4. What is the best part about the NFL?

“The best part of the NFL is the game and how many people love to watch NFL games, and how so many people are interested.”

Bibliography

Pat Tillman Information: www.biography.com