



Monday Matters - May 7, 2012

An Inspirational Sports Story for the Ages

Carl Joseph was born without a left leg. Raised in poverty in a single mom household, he grew up in north Florida on a tobacco farm, the fourth of 10 children. Faced with obstacles most of us can only imagine, Carl didn't let himself be discouraged. Sports provided a platform for him to excel.

In high school, Carl played basketball, football and track - all done without the aid of his prosthesis. In basketball, he swatted opponents' shots into the stands and could dunk at just 6'1" tall. In football, as a captain and starter, he played nose tackle on defense and hopped to make tackles. In one game, he had 11 tackles. He even played college football at Bethune Cookman College. In track, he once high jumped 5'10" high. Nicknamed "Sugarfoot," Carl was also an honors student.

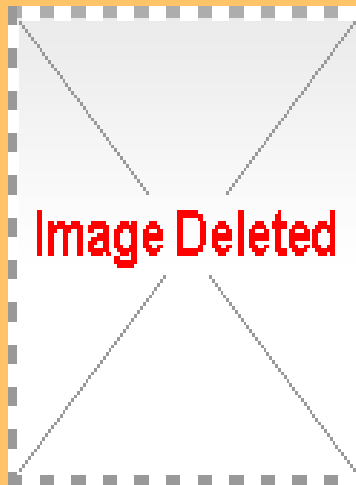
Carl traces his inspirational sports story roots back to his mother. He said, "My mama never felt sorry for me, and I never felt sorry for myself.

Believe you can do it and Christ does the rest." Recently, the Florida High School Athletic Association inducted Carl into the Hall of Fame.

Carl's statement included this line, "A one-legged athlete in the Hall of Fame gives hope to disabled people that anything is possible if you put your mind to it and never quit."

Perhaps former NFL star Dan Dierdorf summarized Carl's abilities the best when he called him, "the most amazing athlete I've ever seen."

Today Carl is a football coach in Tallahassee, Florida, Associate Pastor in a church and sings with the gospel



Philippians 4:10-14 From The Message

I'm glad in God, far happier than you would ever guess-happy that you're again showing such strong concern for me. Not that you ever quit praying and thinking about me. You just had no chance to show it. Actually, I don't have a sense of needing anything personally. I've learned by now to be quite content whatever my circumstances. I'm just as happy with little as with much, with much as with little. I've found the recipe for being happy whether full or hungry, hands full or hands empty. Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am. I don't mean that your help didn't mean a lot to me-it did. It was a beautiful thing that you came alongside me in my troubles.

Quote of the Week

" And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

-- Abraham Lincoln

group Elder Carl Joseph & The Spiritual Tru-Tones. Carl says, "My faith was always very important to me. It still is." That faith that was instilled in his life by his mother is still there.



One-Legged Wonder Makes Hall of Fame

Contact Information

Ron Nelson
P.O. Box 397
Folly Beach, SC 29439
noctelopus@bellsouth.net