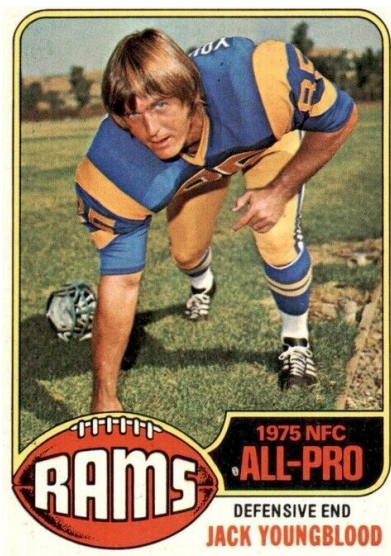


Jack Youngblood

This article was written by Matt Keddie.

Jack Youngblood found a passion in football he dates to his high school days. “From the first time I was introduced to it, the game (of football) appealed to me. I'm competitive, which means I like to beat the other man,” said Youngblood.¹ He was an outstanding high school athlete starring in basketball and football at Monticello-Jefferson County High School in Florida. To his competitive flair he was named to the state of Florida's All-Time high school team as an offensive lineman and linebacker, winning a state championship and earning All-State honors as a senior in 1966.²

Youngblood may be best known for his decorated 14-year professional career with the Los Angeles Rams (1971-1984). To sum up Jack Youngblood's style, he was relentless with killer speed and incredible brute strength that was responsible for creating havoc in the opposing backfield. He recorded 151.5 unofficial career sacks, leading the league twice (1974, 1979), while reaching seven consecutive Pro Bowls (1973-1979), and eight all-pro selections (1973-1980).³



When asked about his success, he points to being extremely coachable, “Both Merlin [Olsen] and Deacon [Jones] said to me that week 'Kid, you can play. But we gotta teach you how to play.' I looked at both of them in the eye and said, 'Trust me, I'm all ears.'”⁴ Teammate Merlin Olsen detailed Youngblood's rise from an aspiring high school player to all-time great saying, “Well, I think Jack Youngblood's dreams have come full



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cycle. From a schoolyard playground in Monticello, Florida, to a skinny 190-pound middle linebacker at Jefferson County High School who only had one scholarship offer, to an undersized defensive lineman at the University of Florida who built himself into an All-American. To Los Angeles, where he survived two very difficult years to become one of the finest defensive ends to ever play in the NFL.”⁵

Drafted 20th overall in the 1971 NFL draft out of the University of Florida, Youngblood started in four of 14 games as a rookie behind Jones and Coy Bacon.⁶ He experienced a steep learning curve transitioning from the college game. In a contest during the 1972 season against the Oakland Raiders, the Rams were blown out, 45-17. Youngblood went up against 320 pound tackle Bob Brown, who is enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.⁷ That day, Brown completely shut down Youngblood play after play. After the game, it looked as though he had been completely beat down, according to Olsen. Head coach Tommy Prothro came up to Youngblood and said, “Youngblood, you may be the worst football player I've ever seen.”⁸ Jack took the criticism to heart and that began the metamorphosis of his professional career.

Youngblood credits his success to new head coach Chuck Knox. He remarked, “I have to thank Chuck Knox. Because in 1973, Carroll Rosenbloom, who was the best owner any football player could have ever played for, made Chuck Knox the head coach.”⁹ Under Knox, Los Angeles averaged nearly 11 wins per season, winning the NFC West Division each year from 1973 to 1977.¹⁰ Knox also fully instilled his confidence and belief that Youngblood would excel at the left defensive end position saying, “Son, Jack, the responsibility of left end is yours now. You've got big shoes to fill. There's a legacy in that position, and I expect you to be my leader, to be the leader of my football team.”¹¹

In 1973, Los Angeles posted a 12-2 record, winning the NFC West division title behind the league's top ranked offense and top five ranked defense.¹² Youngblood made the Pro Bowl, recorded an unofficial 16.5 sacks in his first year as a full-time starter.¹³ The Rams were fourth in points allowed at 12.7 points per game, but suffered a loss in the Divisional round of the playoffs against the Dallas Cowboys. It was the team's first double-digit regular season win total since 1969.¹⁴

Starting in 1974, he earned all-pro honors each year thru 1979. He was a five-time first-team consensus all-pro by the Associated Press and Pro Football Writers (1974-1976; 1978, 1979), and a six-time all-conference choice (1974-1979) by the UPI. Youngblood recorded 15 sacks in both 1974 and 1975, then 14.5 in 1976 before reaching a single-season career best 18 in 1979. He was the NFC Defensive Player of the Year in both 1975 and 1976.¹⁵



Los Angeles sustained success throughout the 1970s, but could not overcome the Dallas Cowboys and Minnesota Vikings in the postseason. The Rams fell three times each to the Cowboys (1973, 1975, 1978) and to the Vikings (1974, 1976, 1977).¹⁶

Los Angeles finally broke through in 1979, beating Dallas in a close 21-19 divisional round battle. The game marked a turning point in Jack Youngblood's career when he broke his leg. He pleaded to return to action, telling team doctor Clarence Shields make any quick fix he could, "Tape it up, Clarence. ... I can still run, tape this dadgum thing up."¹⁷ Youngblood still made an impact, going full speed on every play, even recording a sack in the game's final minutes. He remembered, "When I was walking around in the huddle, going back to the line of scrimmage and then lining up, it was painful. When the

- 1 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 2 Silverstein, Adam. "Youngblood: A career of life-changing moments," onlygators.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.onlygators.com/09/30/2011/youngblood-a-career-of-life-changing-moments/>.
- 3 "Jack Youngblood," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/players/Y/YounJa00.htm>.
- 4 Elliott, Shannon. "Where Are They Now?: Jack Youngblood," November 2, 2017, <https://www.therams.com/news/where-are-they-now-jack-youngblood-19694719>.
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- 7 "Los Angeles Rams at Oakland Raiders – October 29th, 1972," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/boxscores/197210290rai.htm>.
- 8 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 9 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 10 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.
- 11 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 12 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.
- 13 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 14 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.
- 15 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.
- 16 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.
- 17 DeArdo, Bryan. "Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg," CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of->



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ball was snapped, the pain went away. I wasn't 100%. I was probably 90, at best, but I knew I wanted to get after Roger Staubach.”¹⁸ He knew there was a sense of urgency to play through the pain because, “And me being the captain, I'm the leader of this defense, this football team. And that was my job. . . . But I still had the ability to go and try and help my team win the ballgame.”¹⁹ Youngblood called on his teammates, telling them, “You guys have got to pick it up. If I mess up here, you guys have got to help out. If somebody had some sort of a lesser ability, we knew that we needed to crank up our engine a little harder, and cover his responsibility.”²⁰

In the Super Bowl, Youngblood and the Rams were on the game's biggest stage. The team felt it had as good of a chance as anyone to win. Youngblood said, “We had all the confidence that we can play with Pittsburgh, even though they had been the champions three times before. We firmly believed we could stop the run, get after [Terry] Bradshaw and we could cover [Lynn] Swann and [John] Stallworth.”²¹ Los Angeles led 13-10 at halftime, then the game experienced two lead-changes in the third quarter, with the Rams going back on top 19-17 on a Ron Smith 24-yard touchdown reception.

The game's key play came early in the fourth quarter with Pittsburgh facing a third-and-8 on their own 27.²² At the snap, Youngblood and Fred Dryer broke through Pittsburgh's offensive front, barreling down on Bradshaw. Youngblood was about to make a sack when Bradshaw aired out the ball deep for Stallworth, who hauled it in, completing a 73-yard touchdown strike that put the Steelers ahead for good, 24-19.²³

Pittsburgh never looked back and won, 31-19. Regarding the play Youngblood said, “I see it in my sleep sometimes,” recalling how close he was to possibly changing the outcome in favor of the Rams.²⁴ He says, “I could have made a difference. If I'd had that

[playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/](#).

- 1 8 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.
- 1 9 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.
- 2 0 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.
- 2 1 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.



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one more step, I could have made a difference in that ball game.”²⁵ After the game he reflected, “We knew in our hearts when we got back to the locker room that we had given all we had. We played the best football team in the league at that point. We weren't ashamed of that. Wish we had made a couple of different plays, but we were not ashamed of our effort. That was for sure.”²⁶

Following the Super Bowl, Youngblood's season was not over. There was still the Pro Bowl, an event he looked forward to all season. How could anyone want to turn down a trip to Hawai'i? Youngblood affirmed, “I mean, we went through the season, and now it's time to let your hair down a little bit. I wasn't going to miss the party.”²⁷

Youngblood continued playing at his top form into the 1980s. He finished 1980 and 1981 each with 11.5 unofficial sacks.²⁸ The Rams made the playoffs again in 1980, falling to the Cowboys in the Wild Card round. The 1982 club went 2-7, its worst record since 1-12-1 in 1962. In 1983, they bounced back behind stud rookie running back Eric Dickerson's 1,808 rushing yard output to finish 9-7, good enough for second place in the NFC West.²⁹ The Rams defeated the Cowboys in the Wild Card round, 24-17, but fell to the Washington Redskins, 51-7, in the Divisional round. The Redskins went on to lose to the Oakland Raiders in the Super Bowl.³⁰

In 1984 Youngblood turned in one of his greatest performances against the St. Louis Cardinals on November 4. He recorded three sacks and blocked a field goal attempt at the end of regulation that would have tied the game, preserving the 16-13 victory.³¹ Earlier in

2 2 “Super Bowl XIV – Los Angeles Rams vs. Pittsburgh Steelers – January 20th, 1980,” ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/boxscores/198001200pit.htm>.

2 3 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.

2 4 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.

2 5 Elliott, Shannon. “Where Are They Now?: Jack Youngblood,” November 2, 2017, <https://www.therams.com/news/where-are-they-now-jack-youngblood-19694719>.

2 6 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.

2 7 DeArdo, Bryan. “Rams Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood shares remarkable story of playing in Super Bowl, Pro Bowl with broken leg,” CBSSports.com, June 28, 2022, <https://www.cbssports.com/nfl/news/rams-hall-of-famer-jack-youngblood-shares-remarkable-story-of-playing-in-super-bowl-pro-bowl-with-broken-leg/>.



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the season, on September 9 against the Cleveland Browns, he tallied two sacks of Browns' quarterback Paul McDonald that fueled the team's come-from-behind 20-17 victory.³² Later, on December 9, Youngblood suffered a ruptured disc in his lower back that ended his streak of 201 consecutive games played. Despite being told by doctors he would miss the rest of the season, Youngblood returned two weeks later for the season finale against the San Francisco 49ers and the team's playoff game against the New York Giants.³³

He announced his retirement in 1985, concluding an illustrious career totaling 202 career games and 187 starts. His 151.5 unofficial career sacks was second most at the time of his retirement, trailing only former teammate Deacon Jones.³⁴ Youngblood holds several Rams franchise records including most consecutive games played (201), most career sacks in playoffs (8.5), and second most career blocked kicks (8).

He was inducted to the Los Angeles Rams Ring of Fame, had his number 85 retired by the franchise, and was named to the NFL's 1970 All-Decade Team.³⁵ Youngblood earned football's most prestigious award in 2001 when he was enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Merlin Olsen presented him, saying in his speech, "And, Youngblood, you may be the best damn football player I ever saw."³⁶ He added, "And, interestingly, at each step along the way, there were those telling Jack Youngblood, 'you're not big enough' or 'you're not strong enough' or 'you're not good enough.' Well, Jack, you're here today to have your name inscribed with the elite of pro football. The best of the best." Best summarizes his career. Every time Youngblood hit low points, he got back up and rose to the top of the game.³⁷

Youngblood parlayed his notoriety into acting and broadcasting after his playing career. He made appearances in various movies, including: C.A.T. Squad (1986) and C.A.T. Squad: Python Wolf (1988) where he was cast as a secret agent.³⁸ His performance in the

2 8 "Jack Youngblood," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/players/Y/YounJa00.htm>.

2 9 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.

3 0 "Cleveland/St. Louis/LA Rams Franchise Encyclopedia," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/teams/ram/>.

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3 3 Garcia IV, Bob. "Jack Youngblood: NFL Ironman and face of Rams' defense in 1970s," ramstalk.net, July 4, 2015, <http://ramstalk.net/jack-youngblood-nfl-ironman-and-face-of-rams-defense-in-1970s/>.

3 4 "Jack Youngblood," ProFootballReference.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.pro-football-reference.com/players/Y/YounJa00.htm>.



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latter netted him an Emmy nomination for Best Supporting Actor.³⁹ From 1985 thru 1989 he worked as a reporter, co-host, and guest for ESPN's NFL programs and other programs on ESPN. He also worked in player relations and in marketing for the Rams during this time, serving as the team's color analyst on the Rams Radio Network from 1986-1991.⁴⁰

Throughout his career he earned quite the popularity and fame that he even ventured into business, partnering with teammate Larry Brooks to open a western clothing store, "The Wild Bunch" that sold fancy western wear.⁴¹ Youngblood also earned a reputation for his hobbies as an outdoors man, owing that to his Florida roots.

Jack Youngblood was born Herbert Jackson Youngblood III on January 26, 1950 in Jacksonville, Florida to Herbert and Kay Youngblood. He is considered among the greatest football players in Florida football history, both at the high school and collegiate levels.⁴² Youngblood attended the University of Florida, oddly enough when he was certain that Florida State would be his school of choice. On playing for the University of Florida Youngblood recalls, "First of all, there was no recruiting process. That's the crazy part about it. We were 25 miles from Tallahassee and we had a pretty good little football team back in 1966. We won the state championship. You would've thought we would've had some recruiting going on there. In all honesty, [there was] very little. I had no conscious idea that I was ever going to get an opportunity to play at the next level until Florida came up to me when we were celebrating after the championship game. They asked me if I wanted to come play football for the University of Florida."⁴³

3 5 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.

3 6 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.

3 7 "Jack Youngblood," profootballhalloffame.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.profootballhof.com/players/jack-youngblood/>.

3 8 "Jack Youngblood," imdb.com, accessed September 10, 2022, <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0950200/>.

3 9 "Jack Youngblood," imdb.com, accessed September 10, 2022, <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0950200/>.

4 0 "Four Join Orange County Hall of Fame Youngblood, Meyes Head List," *Los Angeles Times*, November 23, 1986.

4 1 Weyler, John. "Changing Uniforms: Youngblood Trades Sacks for Suits as Ram Executive," *Los Angeles Times*, February 13, 1987.

4 2 Huguenin, Mike. "All-Time All-Florida high school football team: 15 Hall of Famers and a lot more," theathletic.com, April 17, 2020, <https://theathletic.com/1752655/2020/04/17/unstoppable-all-florida-high-school-football-team-is-loaded-from-top-to-bottom/>.

4 3 Silverstein, Adam. "Youngblood: A career of life-changing moments," onlygators.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.onlygators.com/09/30/2011/youngblood-a-career-of-life-changing-moments/>.



Youngblood led a successful career under Ray Graves' Gators squads in 1968 and 1969, also playing one year under head coach Doug Dickey. Versatility was his finest attribute as he played defensive end, defensive tackle, and kicker. When asked about his brightest memories Youngblood speaks of the wins over Florida State saying, “ ... Kicking Florida State's fanny for four years in a row – we kind of owned them back in those days. Those were special times. Robert Harrell and myself, we combined for nine or 10 sacks – something like that – I believe in 1968. We just dominated. Those are special moments, when you look back and you go, 'Yeah, that was fun. Those were good days.’”⁴⁴

To add fuel to the Florida State rivalry, Bill Parcells was an assistant coach at FSU during those days. Youngblood distinctly recalls Parcells saying he would never play at the collegiate level because he did not have the talent.⁴⁵ Meanwhile, former Florida Heisman trophy winning quarterback Steve Spurrier disagreed about Jack, “He was just a fierce competitor who came after you every play. He leveled me one time when the Rams and 49ers played, and he got up grinning. Jack loved playing the game of football.”⁴⁶ Youngblood agreed, “ ... Competition is addictive. I loved the game in high school, college, and at the professional level. I especially loved the opportunity and time spent at the University of Florida. They made me a Gator not just for four years, but for life.”⁴⁷

Another shining memory in his Florida career was in 1970 against the Georgia Bulldogs. Florida was a double-digit underdog heading into the game and trailed 17-10 in the fourth quarter.⁴⁸ Georgia possessed the ball first-and-goal at the Florida one-yard line. Youngblood forced a critical fumble that sparked the Gators' comeback.⁴⁹ He remembered, “I don't know who it was, but they had it in their hands and I just snatched it away from him. Heck, they do it all the time in the pros.”⁵⁰ Georgia head coach Vince Dooley agreed, “We couldn't block him. The fumble was the turning point. I really don't know how he came up with the football. If we could have scored there I really believe we would have won the game.”⁵¹

Youngblood was a first-team All-Southeastern Conference choice and first-team All-American in 1970. He is often regarded as the greatest defensive lineman in Florida Gators history. Graves, who closely coached Youngblood, knows why saying, “He put his heart and soul into what he did. He appreciated the game and loved to play it. He was

4 4 Silverstein, Adam. “Youngblood: A career of life-changing moments,” onlygators.com, accessed September 9, 2022, <https://www.onlygators.com/09/30/2011/youngblood-a-career-of-life-changing-moments/>.

4 5 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

4 6 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

4 7 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.



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a team player. He was tough as nails, and he was a very talented player who continually worked to get better. As a result, he continued to get better and better from high school right on through the NFL.”⁵²

After his senior season, Youngblood played in the Senior Bowl, registering four sacks. He was named the Outstanding Lineman of the Game and voted to the Senior Bowl Hall of Fame in 1989.⁵³ In 1983 he was voted to the All-Time Southeastern Conference team. In 1992, he had the greatest collegiate honor bestowed upon him when he was inducted to the College Football Hall of Fame.⁵⁴

Youngblood not only received praise from the media, teammates, and coaches, but his opposition as well. Barry Smith, former Florida State wide receiver remembers a hit he received, “My sophomore year, we were in Tallahassee and I ran a reverse early in the game, and I remember being nailed by Jack Youngblood. I remember watching the ball being given to me and thinking, when the ball was about halfway, that it was kind of a race to see whether he was going to get the ball first or me. He was foaming at the mouth. I still have nightmares from the hit he gave me.”⁵⁵

Off-the-field, Youngblood was involved in a Fellowship of Christian Athletes charitable activities that included speaking to youth groups and fundraisers for the needy. He participated in Hands Across America, an event to end hunger in America in 1986.⁵⁶ He is also active in helping former NFL players in need through the Gridiron Greats

4 8 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

4 9 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 0 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 1 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 2 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 3 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 4 Carlson, Norm. “Gator Greats: Jack Youngblood,” floridagators.com, August 18, 2006, <https://floridagators.com/news/2006/8/18/10764.aspx>.

5 5 “Mental Toughness Is A Must,” *Tampa Bay Online*, November 24, 2007, <https://web.archive.org/web/20081204033734/http://www2.tbo.com/content/2007/nov/24/sp-mental-toughness-is-a-must/?sports>.

5 6 Damer, Roy. “End Jack Youngblood Moves Fast—on Bike!,” *Chicago Tribune*, June 17, 1971, <https://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/chicagotribune/access/633577502.html?dids=633577502:633577502&FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:AI&date=Jun+17%2C+1971&author=ROY+DAMER&pub=Chicago+Tribune&desc=End+Jack+Youngblood+Moves+Fast—on+Bike!&pqatl=google>.



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Assistance Fund that sponsors various events including golf tournaments, autograph signings, and dinners to raise funds for retired players.⁵⁷

End Notes:

5 7 Milligan, Del. "Youngblood, Bleier at Tenoroc for Clays Event," *Lakeland Ledger*, February 5, 2009, <https://web.archive.org/web/20081206043729/http://www.gridirongreats.org/SB2009/SB2009.html>.