

For Immediate Release
2011 Tazón De Estrellas Notes 0
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Contact: Preston Consulting
Tel: (001)-781-363-0305
MP@MPrestonSports.com

THREE FORMER AZTEC BOWL STANDOUTS MEET IN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE ACTION AND RECALL MEMORIES OF TAZÓN DE ESTRELLAS FORERUNNER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010 - GRANBURY, TEXAS - Three former NCAA D-III all-stars who made their mark on the Aztec Bowl game that became the Tazón de Estrellas will be in opposition in the National Football League during the remaining weeks of NFL regular season action.

Former Coe College rushing sensation **Fred Jackson** and ex-John Carroll University defensive dominator **London Fletcher** were already reacquainted in Toronto on October 30 when Jackson rushed for 120 yards as his Bills blanked Fletcher's Redskins 23-0. The official NFL website NFL.com featured their meeting: <http://www.nfl.com/news/story/09000d5d8239365a/article/bills-jackson-redskins-fletcher-followed-unusual-paths-to-nfl>

This Sunday in Miami, Fletcher will come up against Miami Dolphins linebacker **Jason Trusnik**, who following his career at Ohio Northern recorded 8 Aztec Bowl tackles for the U.S. all-star team in a 28-7 victory over their Mexican counterparts at the Estadio Victoria in Aguascalientes in 2007.

A week later, Trusnik will be charged with stopping AFC-leading rusher Jackson out of the Bills backfield as Miami and Buffalo meet in South Florida, then a month later the AFC East rivalry and battle of former Aztec Bowl stars heads to Buffalo on December 18. In 2002, Jackson was named the MVP of the Aztec Bowl after scoring on a 60-yard touchdown run in a 15-9 win over the Mexicans.

Upcoming NFL games between former Aztec Bowl players

Washington Redskins at Miami Dolphins Trusnik	Sunday, November 13	Fletcher vs.
Buffalo Bills at Miami Dolphins Trusnik	Sunday, November 20	Jackson vs.
Miami Dolphins at Buffalo Bills Jackson	Sunday, December 18	Trusnik vs.

This year's Tazón de Estrellas, when the next generation of D-III prospects are in action, will be played on Saturday, December 17 at El Templo del Dolor (The Temple of Pain) in Puebla between a Team Stars & Stripes all-star roster of all-star American college players and a similar selection from the CONADEIP conference in Mexico.

Dolphins linebacker Trusnik has 109 tackles 3 sacks in a NFL career that started when he was signed as an undrafted free agent out of Ohio Northern by the New York Jets and took him to the Cleveland Browns and then the Dolphins.



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Dean Paul quote

Trusnik finished his career at Ohio Northern (2003-06) with a school-record 43 sacks in addition to generating 277 tackles and was a two-time Division III All-American and first team All-Ohio Athletic Conference selection.

This Sunday's fellow former D-III opponent Fletcher captained and led the 1997 U.S. team with nine tackles in the Aztec Bowl, as the Americans won a 42-41 thriller over the Mexicans. The Redskins middle linebacker has posted a NFL seventh-best 72 total tackles and 2 interceptions so far in 2011.

Fletcher went undrafted in 1998 and signed as a free agent with the St. Louis Rams after a stellar career at Division III John Carroll University, where he has school records for tackles in a season (202) and a game (29). He has been one of the NFL's most durable linebackers at 5-foot-10 and 245 pounds, has never missed a game having played 216 to date.

"He always had a great attitude and he pretty much did everything we asked him to do," said Ron Dolciato, John Carroll's offensive coordinator, who was the team's running backs coach when Fletcher played there.

"We put him at running back, we had him return kicks at times. Very intense. What you see in the NFL is what he was here. His motor was always going. He was a team captain and a team player all the way through.

"We thought here that he would get to the NFL, probably make a career of special teams. We were always hoping it would be more than that."

Jackson, who attended Coe College, where he ran for 1,702 yards and 29 touchdowns as a senior, said of his Aztec Bowl experience: "The number one thing I remember about it is how I tired I was afterwards. We were playing so far up in the mountains, and the air was really thin.

"We played against the national champion team mixed with other all-star players. It was a really good team. I remember was how crazy the crowd was and it being a bunch of college guys down in Mexico. There is always going to be great camaraderie with that."

Global Football will organize the third annual Tazón de Estrellas (Bowl of the Stars), to be played on Saturday, December 17 at the 5,000-seat El Templo del Dolor (The Temple of Pain) in Puebla, Mexico, between the NCAA Division III college all star Team Stars & Stripes and the CONADEIP All Stars from Mexico.

Last year Team Stars and Stripes, led by 2011 College Football Hall of Fame inductee Bill Manlove, triumphed 48-7 in Toluca having suffered a 24-12 loss to the Tec Monterrey All-Stars in the first Tazón de Estrellas in 2009.

