



Michael Vick in Chicago telling kids about evil of dog fighting

Ex-Falcons QB in Chicago to speak about animal cruelty, not NFL

By: Fred Mitchell

August 13, 2009

Some Bears fans became anxious and perhaps a bit nervous when they spotted Michael Vick at O'Hare International Airport on Wednesday.

Turns out he was not in town to discuss the idea of becoming a backup quarterback.

Part of Vick's probationary obligation regarding his sentencing on dogfighting charges includes speaking to at-risk inner-city kids about the dangers of animal cruelty. He was spotted in the Englewood neighborhood, giving a speech at the Liberation Christian Center.

"We spoke with dozens of young people, and Michael shared his story, expressed remorse for his actions, urged the community to stand up to dogfighting, and asked them to help with the campaign," **Wayne Pacelle**, president and CEO of The Humane Society, said in a statement.

Overheard: Terrell Owens always has been able to talk a good game.

But the talented and loquacious wide receiver evidently was impressed with the advice from Chicago-based "Speaking Specialists" when they visited the Buffalo Bills' training camp this summer.

Randy Minkoff and his wife, **Sue Castorino**, provide professional advice about handling the media to professional and amateur athletes and coaches around the country (speaking specialists.com).

"[Owens] sat in the front row, paid attention, and told us afterward he learned some new things. How about that?" Castorino said.