

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR/FORMER NFL ATHLETE

ROBERT W. TURNER II, PH.D

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ABOUT ROBERT TURNER

Robert W. Turner II is a former professional football player and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership at The George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Science. He also holds a position as a Research Scientist in the Center for Biobehavioral Health Disparities Research at Duke University.

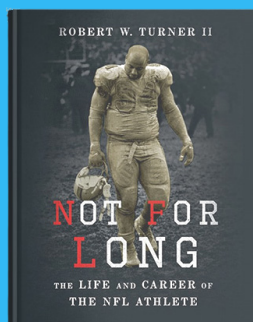
SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING

 Twitter: 2,100+ followers

 Instagram: 500+ followers

DR. TURNER IS:

AN AUTHOR



Nor For Long: The Life and Career of the NFL Athlete reveals the life and mind of high school, college, and NFL athletes, shedding light on what might best help players transition successfully out of the sport.

A FORMER PRO FOOTBALL PLAYER



After attending James Madison University on an athletic scholarship, Dr. Turner played football professionally in the United States Football League, the Canadian Football League, and briefly in the National Football League.

A SCIENTIST



Dr. Turner is a health disparities researcher examining how traumatic injury, specifically mild traumatic brain injury (MTBI), hinders daily living and career planning over the life course. His current focus is on former athletes.

PRIOR MEDIA APPEARANCES

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS



TV Feature

Dr. Turner speaks with Tamron Hall about why student athletes should be paid



TV Feature

Dr. Turner speaks with Pat Lawson Muse about the R.W. Turner Lab's ongoing Black Male Caregiver Burden Study



Book Discussion

Dr. Turner speaks about his book and gives perspective of an NFL athlete



Conference

Dr. Turner speaks at the CBCF panel on the state of Black student-athletes



Podcast

Dr. Turner joins the Marc Bernier Show to discuss the rights of athletes, including ownership of name and likeness and public speech



Podcast

Dr. Turner joins Make It Plain to discuss his book and the lives of NFL athletes



Podcast

Dr. Turner joins The Power of Sports podcast to talk about the problems that arise from our society's relationship with football and how they can be addressed

PRIOR MEDIA APPEARANCES


PRESS FEATURES

MAGAZINE | NEIL SWIDEY

Our college sports system is broken. Do we have the guts to fix it?

From big-money Division I football and basketball to the privileged niche sports caught up in the Varsity Blues scandal, campus athletics needs a complete overhaul. Could this bold idea work?

By Neil Swidey | Sep 16, 2018 | 747 L.A.



THE college admissions scandal dubbed Operation Varsity Blues has served up a powerful cocktail of outrage and schadenfreude. We've witnessed unashed "Ancient Beaky" blithely signing autographs outside Boston's federal courthouse and learned about CEO David Stang's photos of their fake-athlete kids as happily as Mr. Felicity Huffman's sex salesman character in *Fury* attempted frisk with his penis.


The Boston Globe

Author: Dealing with racism and pain two constants for African-American NFL players

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Why This Matters

For African-American NFL players, dealing with racism falls in two categories - the black nationalism, or Afrocentric approach, and the racial integrationist approach. How they utilize those approaches can matter for their success.

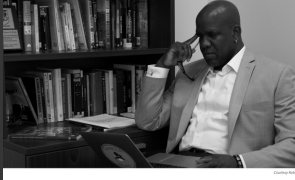


Global Sports Matters

Sociologist Takes a Look at the NFL

Published September 16, 2018 at 1:38 PM EDT

LISTEN - 19:21



Neither the controversy over football players taking a knee during the national anthem nor the increasingly apparent risk of long term brain damage for players has badly hurt NFL television ratings thus far.

For players, the draw is the competition, the fame, and the fortune. The average salary is a little over two million dollars per year for NFL players.


But on average players spend just 3.3 seasons in the NFL while a player must stay for four seasons to be "veteran" and qualify for lifetime benefits coverage. Many players exit

CAI News

Robert Turner II challenges foundations of college athletics

MU visit

JOE NOGIER
1/16, 2019



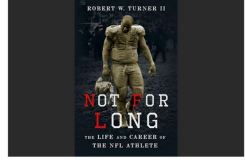
Robert W. Turner II, an assistant professor for the School of Medicine and Health Science at Georgetown University, finishes reading an excerpt from his book on Tuesday at Middlebush Hall. The book History Month Committee hosted the former NFL player to speak about his book published in discussing the college football athletic experience. In his book, Turner recounts his own experience as a college athlete but also includes anecdotes from athletes he interviewed from elite universities. "It (college football and basketball) is a revenue-generating enterprise," Turner II. He also mentions race and issues in college athletics. [College sports are a bad time to be in](#)

The Columbia Missourian

9 football books to kick off the 2018 season

Here are excerpts from new releases.

7. *Not for Long: The Life and Career of the NFL Athlete*, by Robert W. Turner II



Not many pro football players go on to earn Ph.D. degrees and hold up college professor. So when we discuss on Robert W. Turner II, we should also learn one about his quest to socially integrate. In Turner's case, he is barely interested in why so many players struggle with life after football. Instead, he seeks to understand how they deal with the challenges of the experience playing in the United States Football League, the Canadian Football League, and finally in the National Football League. But when he returns to college, he is a pro football player that had had to learn to cope with life after football, and he is back to work for the next stage in their lives.


Here is an excerpt from *Not for Long*:

"My own career in the NFL was relatively brief. When the general manager of the San Francisco 49ers called me into his office, it was an abrupt dismissal. He said, as if I had never, ever been considered for him. He told me I was not good enough to be on the roster. He said

The Christian Science Monitor

The LeBron James-Produced Documentary 'Student Athlete' Releases Its First Trailer

Check out the first trailer for the HBO documentary 'Student Athlete'.



HBO has just released the first trailer for its LeBron James executive produced documentary *Student Athlete*, a project which was announced earlier this year. Running for just one minute long, the trailer gives viewers a sneak peek into the lives of amateur athletes and the challenges of not getting them and their families for their services, though they help to bring in billions of dollars for their institutions each year.


The doc will focus on four men including former NCAA and NFL coach John Shoop, New Jersey high school basketball player Mike Roberts, who at the University of Kentucky, Mike Stone, who played at the University of Illinois and Siena University, Senator Graham, a former who received at Rutgers University and Mike Nease, a walk-on who played at Baylor University.

Student Athlete, which was also produced by Oscar-winning director Sherman Ochi, premieres on HBO October 2 at 10 p.m. on HBO, Maxstar Cable, CEO of Springfield Entertainment.

Hypebeast

Book examines NFL careers and retirement from a sociologist's view

Author: Dealing with racism and pain two constants for African-American NFL players



Robert W. Turner II spent eight years researching and writing about the careers and lives of football players for his new book, *Not for Long: The Life and Career of the NFL Athlete*.

Turner is an assistant professor in the George Washington school of medicine's Department of Research and Leadership. He will speak about the book on Oct. 14 at the Strategic Careers in Health Panel.

Turner will speak about his research. Here is that conversation, edited for length.

What is the book about?

It's an exploration of the Graduate Center of the City University of New York in the book's sociological perspective. It comes out of a new project. My professor said,

Chicago Tribune

What Happens to Football Players after They Quit the Game?

Robert Turner, SMHS assistant professor, explores how athletes retool their identity when their athletic careers




Robert Turner, SMHS assistant professor, wrote a book that explores why some athletes are better prepared for life compared to others. (Photo: GW School of Medicine and Health Science)

GW Today

How NFL players approach their short shelf lives: your body. Sometimes those things are priceless.

By COLLEEN KANE
OCTOBER 2, 2018 AT 5:00 PM



John Timms knows the stress of this weekend on NFL players as well as anyone. The inside linebacker was one of as many as 1,100 NFL players who left their jobs this weekend as teams out their 90-man training camp rosters to the regular-season limit of 53.

Some of this weekend's cuts will fall into a practice-squad safety net, as Timms did in years past. Some will latch on to other teams. But others will find themselves in early retirement, the saddest example of how quickly an NFL career can come and go.

Chicago Tribune

NOT FOR LONG: THE LIFE AND CAREER OF THE NFL ATHLETE

Robert W. Turner II
Oxford University Press (Aug. 1, 2018)
Hardcover: \$24.95 (256pp)
978-0-19-989290-7

Images of wealthy pros and stars from top-tier NFL by the reality of injury-shortened careers, lives of modesty in Robert W. Turner II's *Not for Long*. This book argues that celebrity status is short-lived for most African American men whose careers are controlled by coaches, and agents. Turner's exploration is a step perspective as a sociologist and a former professional player with limited success in the NFL and beyond.

Interviews with former players make this revised book although a few chapters on the agency traps into the lives of pros after their playing days are over bitterness caused by the loss of celebrity and no return for four years to be needed for their period only three years long, it shows. In addition, career opportunities, and head trauma caused by concussive physical and mental deterioration and, in extreme

The book provides excellent advice for college and pro players and their families on how to avoid the dark side of the "sports-industrial complex," the institutions that govern organized football, from *Not for Long* to the book argues that players must develop their own identities and pursue their own interests so that the football.

Those who believe that most players make huge salaries and earn millions from endorsements will soon discover the sad fate of many players whose earnings years end in their twenties. For former pro

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