

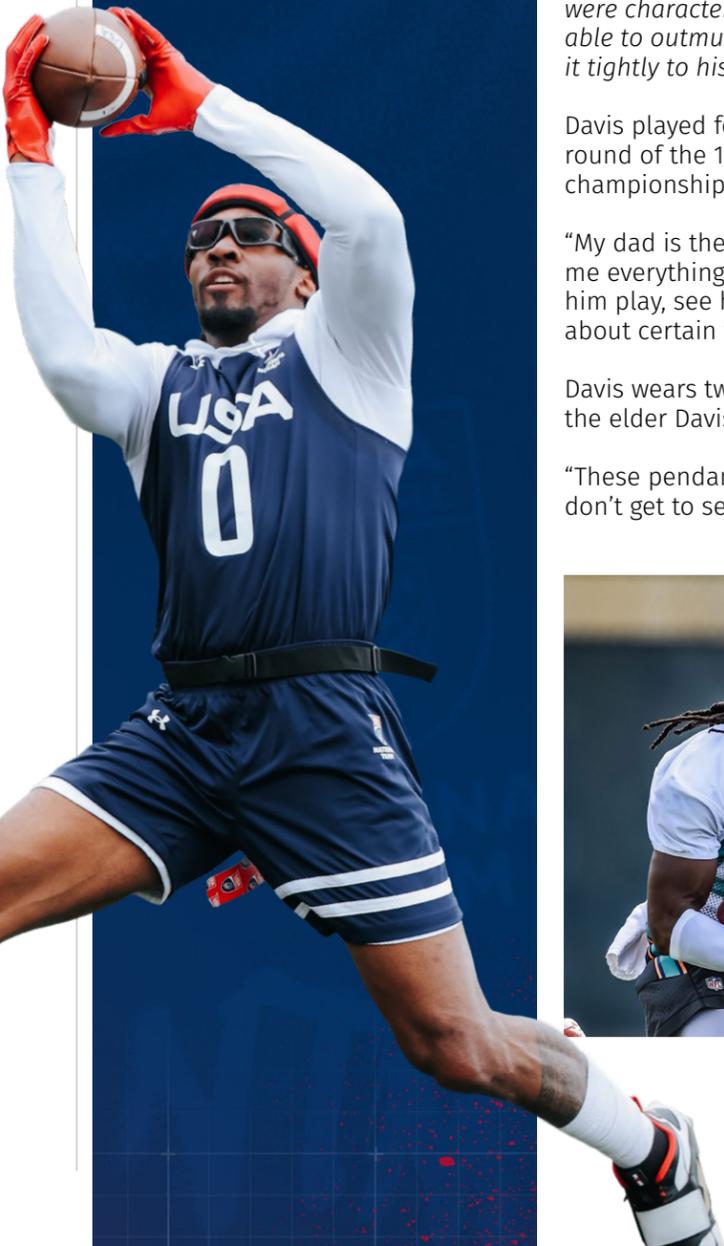
WR/DB

TYLER DAVIS

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HOMETOWN: Oakland, Calif.
RESIDENCE: Austin, Texas
AGE: 34
HEIGHT: 5-10
YEAR ON U.S. NATIONAL TEAM: 1st



“THE SEA OF HANDS”

Davis’s father is former Oakland Raiders running back Clarence Davis, who made one of the most famous catches in NFL history during a 1974 AFC Divisional Game against the Miami Dolphins. The play – know as “The Sea of Hands” was ranked the No. 17 play in NFL history on the “NFL 100 Greatest” show.

With thirty-five seconds left in the game and the Raiders trailing the Dolphins 26-21, the Raiders had the ball, first-and-goal at the Miami eight-yard line. Raiders quarterback Ken Stabler looked for his primary receiver Fred Biletnikoff, but he was covered, as was fullback Marv Hubbard, his second option on the play. Finally, as Dolphins defender Vern Den Herder, grabbed onto Stabler’s legs, the QB tossed the ball towards Davis who was covered by three Miami defensive players.

As Raiders.com described it:

In a “sea of hands,” Miami safety Charlie Babb and linebacker Mike Kolen fruitlessly extended their fins with the Raiders running back also stretching out his hands that were characterized by friend and foe as notoriously bad. But this time, Davis was able to outmuscle the defenders, clutching the pigskin with both hands and pulling it tightly to his chest as he fell to the turf.

Davis played for the Raiders from 1971-78 after being selected in the fourth-round of the 1971 NFL Draft out of USC. He was part of the Raiders Super Bowl XI championship team.

“My dad is the reason I wanted to play football,” Tyler said. “He wasn’t able to teach me everything because he had a life-changing stroke when I was one, but to see him play, see his impact, hear old stories and see his memorabilia, talk to him about certain things helped me.”

Davis wears two pendants that his father wore while playing – a No. 28, signifying the elder Davis’s jersey number with the Raiders, and a Raiders logo.

“These pendants are what he wore and this is how I carry him around, because I don’t get to see him all the time.” said Davis.



PLAYING FOOTBALL ACROSS THE WORLD

Before playing flag football, Davis played tackle football, first at University City High School in St. Louis, Mo., and then at Missouri Valley College.

Davis is one of the best players in Missouri Valley College history, earning All-Heart of America Athletic Conference first-team honors each of his four years at the school, and taking home the conference’s defensive player of the year award in 2012. He also earned All-America honors in 2012 from the American Football Coaches’ Association.

After college, his football career took him across the globe. He began his professional football career in 2014 with the Munich Cowboys of the German Football League (GFL) and earned GFL MVP honors with the Kiel Baltic Hurricanes in 2015, seeing action on both sides of the ball and notching 94 receptions for 1,733 yards and 24 touchdowns and adding six interceptions on defense.

His play in the GFL led to the Miami Dolphins signing Davis to a reserve/future contract in January 2016. After his stint with the Dolphins, Davis moved to the CFL, seeing action with the BC Lions.

Davis’ international experience in tackle football should make him right at home with the U.S. National Team where international travel is commonplace.

“Football has been an outlet for me to travel the world on somebody else’s dime, and it’s been an amazing experience,” Davis said. “I’ve lived in three different countries, two different continents and learned a lot about different cultures. Now, flag has opened up even more outlets for me.”

FROM TACKLE TO FLAG

Davis made the transition to flag football after a friend from Austin, Texas approached him about playing in a local league.

“I said why not?” Davis recalled. “We got a bunch of friends together and went to play in a local league in Leander (Texas) and I went off in our first game.”

Davis began considering where flag could take him, and that he could potentially earn a spot on the National Team after traveling around the country and seeing how his talent stacked up at some of the biggest and best tournaments in the country.

Davis met National Team head coaches Jorge Cascudo and Pat Alley at a tournament in Nashville in 2024 and put together strong performances in front of them. Alley, who was coaching the Dallas Ocelots of the AFFL at the time, invited Davis to the team’s tryouts where he made the team’s 12-man roster.

“That’s where the connection between Pat and I came from and from there, I was able to earn an invite to National Team Trials,” Davis said.