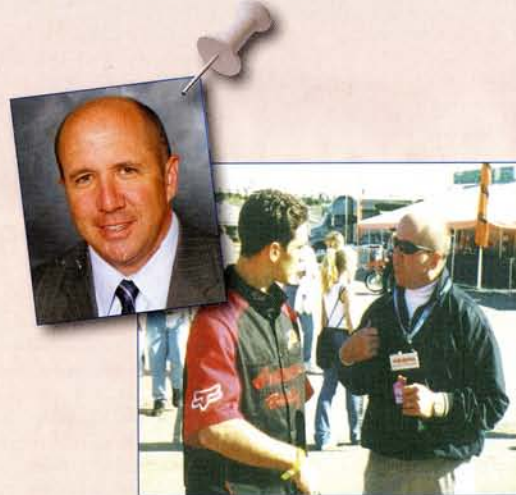


After Hours

The Comeback Kid



Many of the landlords who Kevin Turner works with day in and day out may not realize how close they were to losing him to the world of sports broadcasting for good. Nearly 19 years ago Turner, now with Voit, made the decision to pursue a career in commercial real estate, specializing in the sale, lease and representation of industrial R&D properties in Orange County. What many people may not know is that his choice initially came at the cost of a budding sports broadcasting career.

"As my real estate career came into full bloom there were some decisions I had to make," Turner says. "Do I want to stay in radio and television and continue to fight it out? Or do I pursue the real estate



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career? [At the time] real estate was paying five times what they were paying in radio."

Don't feel too bad for Turner, however. Not only has he enjoyed the glowing reputation of being the largest industrial square footage producer in the Orange County market, he hasn't entirely had to give up his broadcasting either.

"Fortunately for me I've been able to continue in both fields," he notes. "I've kept the passion and the dream alive with broadcasting. It's become a hobby, and real estate has gone so well that I'd like to think of myself as one of the highest paid sportscasters in Southern California."

Though never a full-time gig, Turner—who has been a play-by-play announcer for local Orange County sports teams, UC Irvine and the Anaheim Piranhas indoor football league; been a sports broadcaster for XTRA Sports; hosted UCLA pre- and post-game radio shows; covered

Santa Ana's Mater Dei football team on AM 830; been the television voice of the Long Beach Ice Dogs hockey team and hosted the Rev Zone, a Supercross radio show—still finds time to pursue his passion on the weekends as a sports broadcaster for Cox Communications Channel 3 in Orange County.

Turner doesn't like to think of his broadcasting duties as a paid gig, however, as he donates 100% of his on-air income to charities.

"For me this has been a labor of love and I'm fortunate to be able to redeploy my proceeds back into education and other causes," he says. "I don't call it a paid hobby because I don't keep the earnings. A lot goes back to Cox charities, some has gone to Mater Dei [high school]. It's been about a six-figure sum in the past 15 years."

Turner's interest in sports journalism began while he was playing football for Arizona State University. "Everyday I'd walk out to practice and see a half dozen news people there," he says. "I developed a relationship with these folks and from there it sparked my interest."

This led Turner to enroll in the Sportscaster's Camp of America, who employed broadcasting legends like Chick Hearn and Vince Scully. These names alone

were enough incentive to get some people into these camps, and although they were a definite plus to Turner, he was there to truly learn the trade.

"These people were there to help us be sportscasters," he says. "Lots of people enrolled in the camp for the fantasy of going, but I had a plan. I wanted to pursue the notion that someday I could become a legitimate sportscaster."

Though Turner has covered a lot in his broadcasting career, including two high school national championship games, CIF championship games and many broadcasting opportunities at the Rose Bowl, Turner assures that his on-air days aren't over yet.

"I'd like to interview Tiger Woods," he adds. "He's from Orange County and he's a guy I truly respect and admire for what he's done for golf and how he has given back to the community."—*Nellie Day*—SOCAL