



Jay Cutler

Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler has teamed up with Eli Lilly and Company to help inspire children with diabetes to achieve their goals -- and let them see that diabetes doesn't have to stop them from becoming who they want to be. That's why Cutler -- who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes last spring and established himself as one of the NFL's top young quarterbacks with a Pro Bowl season in 2008 -- is serving as an ambassador for Lilly USA's Inspired by Diabetes campaign, which asks people affected by diabetes to tell their story and inspire others.

As part of the campaign, Lilly donates money to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), in Cutler's honor, for scholarships for children from lower-income families to attend ADA diabetes camps. The ADA is the largest provider of camps for children with diabetes in the world and is the U.S. national advocate for Inspired by Diabetes. Through the Jay Cutler Foundation, Cutler works to help organizations that have a profound effect on helping people who are in need.

In 2009, Cutler begins his first season as the Bears quarterback, matching one of the NFL's top young stars with one of its legendary franchises. Last year, his second full season as the Denver Broncos' starting quarterback, Cutler had a breakout year and was named to his first Pro Bowl. His 4,526 passing yards led the American Football Conference (AFC) and were third in the NFL, and his 25 touchdown passes were third-best in the AFC. A first-round draft pick from Vanderbilt University, Cutler became the Broncos starter late in the 2006 season and was the first NFL rookie to throw at least two touchdowns in each of his first three starts. In total, he threw at least one touchdown in each of his first eight NFL starts.

Cutler is a native of Santa Claus, Ind., about a three-hour drive south of Lilly's Indianapolis headquarters, and won an Indiana high school state championship just a few blocks from the Lilly labs where insulin was first produced for mass patient use more than 85 years ago.