

# DEION & TRACEY

## NEW SEASON, SAME PLAYBOOK

From behind the scenes to in front of the camera, Tracey Edmonds helps to coach a winning family team on *Deion's Family Playbook* and scores points of her OWN!

by KIMBERLY FIELDS

Tracey Edmonds is known for producing many shows like *Soul Food* and *College Hill*, but this time she isn't calling shots behind the scenes, she is front and center for the first time and it's on reality TV. *Deion's Family Playbook*, Tracey says, is a modern, progressive, family show that deals with issues of today's non-traditional families headed by single parents. Chronicling the family life of NFL and MLB legend Deion Sanders as he raises his five children and helps raise his niece and nephew, the adopted twin girls his mother cares for, as well as a student athlete he has taken in from Prime Time Prep Academy, a charter school Deion co-founded for inner city youth in Dallas.

With so much going on with Deion, Tracey flies from Los Angeles to Dallas some weekends and assists Deion with his team. When he is away, Tracey and the children play. From the mall to movies or just hanging out around the house, Tracey loves spending time with Deion's children and family and is always up for a bite to eat.

"Sometimes Deion needs to be in two places at one time, so I might drop the kids off or help get them to one of their games or stuff like that, but it's fun. They're a really fun, beautiful, positive family and I actually enjoy spending time with his family... they really are like my second family."

Spending the holidays together is no different. Although a child or two may not be able to make it, everyone gets along.

Her son Dylan meshes well with Deion's sons, Shedeur and Shilo, and despite the fact that her oldest son, Brandon, doesn't match up age wise with any of Deion's children, it does not stop any of them from having fun together.

While Tracey can handle 10 children plus her 2 sons, she wasn't sure about the cameras. Preferring to be behind the scenes, Tracey transitioned to appearing on screen in order to capture Deion's life accurately. It took a little while for her to get used to the idea of cameras watching things as they happened, but keeping up with the "reality" in reality TV, Tracey says that she isn't going to do anything that she is embarrassed by or ashamed of.

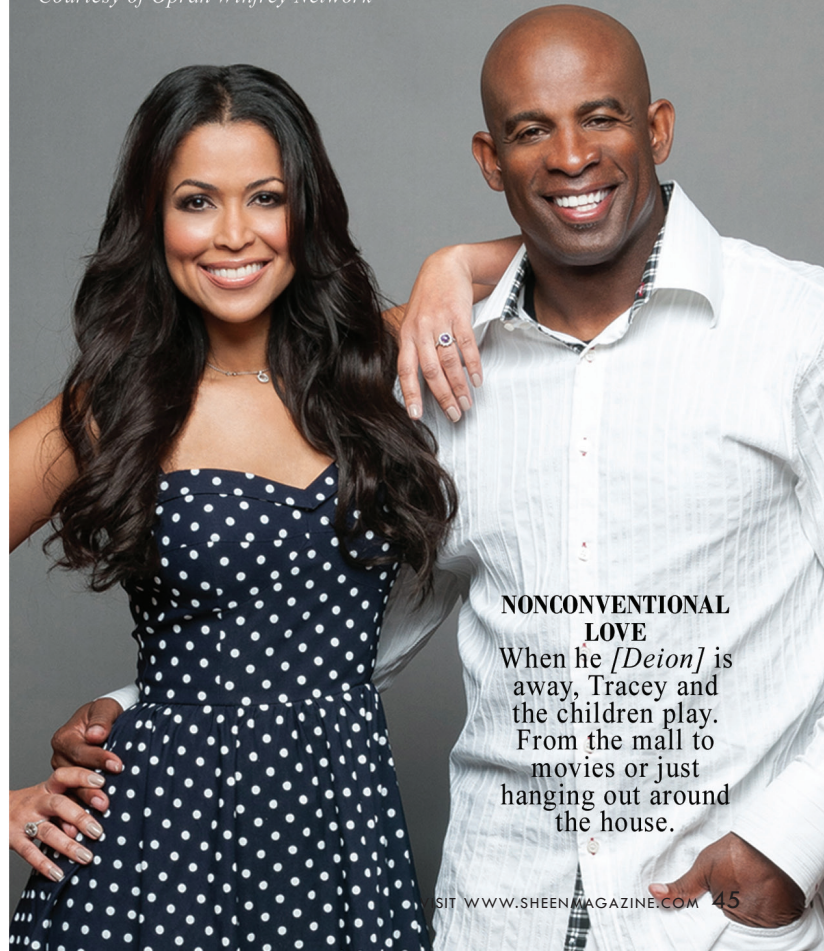
"I conduct myself on camera as I would conduct myself in real life, so I'm not doing anything too, too crazy. [Laughs]."

Filming season two of *Deion's Family Playbook*, Deion being head football coach at his charter school and working for the NFL network, Tracey just finishing her new movie, *With This Ring*, for Lifetime and becoming the new co-host for *Extra!*, seems to be a bit much for Tracey and Deion. When down time is needed, they create another game plan and head to the water.

"He kind of likes just getting on a boat and just laying back and fishing on the water, so those are his favorite kind of trips to take and those are like the 'couple time' trips that we take." If they aren't by the water, then ordering in some food, watching a movie and cuddling in bed is just as good.

Tune in to season two of *Deion's Family Playbook* on the OWN network as they go even deeper into Tracey's life, visiting her in Los Angeles and interacting with her sons. ■

Courtesy of Oprah Winfrey Network



### NONCONVENTIONAL LOVE

When he [*Deion*] is away, Tracey and the children play. From the mall to movies or just hanging out around the house.