

High-Profile Athletes Aid Tsunami Victims

The deadly freak tsunami that killed so many people has inspired aid from all over the earth, and certainly from sports. Most notably, German Michael Schumacher -- a seven-time Formula One racing champion -- pledged \$10 million to help victims. The tsunami touched him personally, since it killed his bodyguard and probably that man's two sons on Phuket Island in Thailand. "It's so unfathomable and horrible what happened to so many people," Mr. Schumacher said. "One cannot simply blind it out. We're suffering with them."

Here is a necessarily incomplete list of other pro athletes and organizations that have contributed:

FIFA (soccer's world governing body): \$2 million
English Premier League (soccer): \$1.88 million
Asian Football Confederation (soccer): \$1 million
Bayern Munich (German soccer club): \$397,836
Indiana Pacers: \$57,400
Baltimore Ravens fans, at one game: \$51,475
Baltimore Ravens: \$25,000
Detroit Lions: a sum in "five figures"

In addition, basketball stars Kobe Bryant (Los Angeles Lakers), Tracy McGrady and Bob Sura (Houston Rockets), Jalen Rose (Toronto Raptors) and Pau Gasol and Mike Miller (Memphis Grizzlies) will play \$1,000-per-point games and donate the totals to UNICEF.

[*Los Angeles Times*, 1/3/05; *ESPN.com*, 1/4/05; *USA Today*, 1/6/05; *Detroit News*, 1/6/05]

