

Breaking Down the Broncos

presented by



Two Broncos Have Husker Ties

Two members of the Western Michigan football program have direct ties to Nebraska. Wide Receivers coach Mike Grant, a three-time letterwinner for the Huskers as a quarterback and a 1992 NU graduate, makes his coaching debut for the Broncos tonight after coaching last season at Southern Miss and the nine years before that as an assistant with Iowa State.

Meanwhile, senior cornerback Londen Fryar is the son of former Husker wingback Irving Fryar. A key component of the offensive juggernaut Husker teams of the 1980s, Irving Fryar led the Huskers in receiving in 1983 with 40 catches for 780 yards before being the No. 1 pick in the 1984 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots. Londen Fryar has gone on to an illustrious career in his own right, as he has been named to the MAC's first team the two straight seasons, including last year, when he broke up 16 passes.

WMU Loaded with Experience

Western Michigan returns 11 players who started at least one game on defense. Along with the 11 starters, seven reserves who lettered last season return. To put it another way, 11 of the top 12 tacklers from last year's WMU squad return, including last year's leading tackler, linebacker Boston McCornell, who led the Broncos with 99 tackles including eight for loss. Also returning are

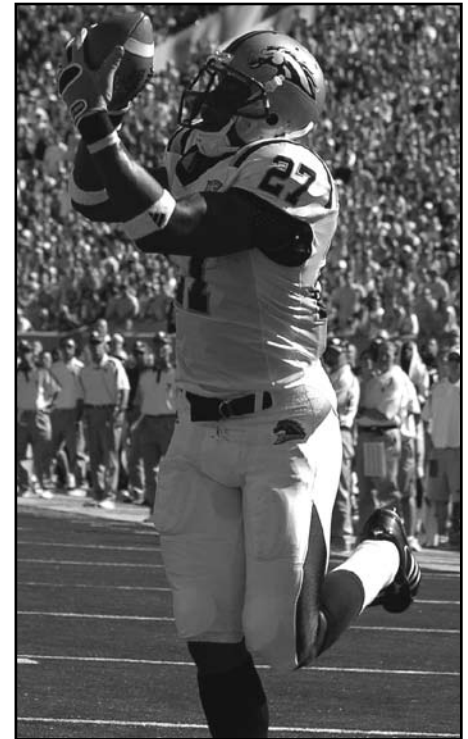
Western Michigan's leaders in tackles for loss (Zach Davidson, 12.5), sacks (Davidson and Greg Marshall, 6.5), and pass breakups (Londen Fryar, 16).

Hiller Drives Bronco Offense

Junior quarterback Tim Hiller enters tonight's game looking to build on last season, when he became only the second Bronco in school history to throw for 3,000 yards. Hiller threw for 3,021 yards, good for third all-time in WMU history behind the 1998 and 1999 performances of Tim Lester. Hiller also tied his mark for third in Western Michigan history with 20 touchdowns. With 108 passing yards, Hiller would move into the top six in Bronco history for career passing yards and could rise as high as third in the WMU annals by the end of the season. Hiller is fourth in Bronco history with 40 career touchdowns and is just nine scoring passes from second. Lester is the school record-holder with 87.

WMU a Worthy Opponent

The Broncos have proven to be a tough opponent for Bowl Championship Series teams under coach Bill Cubit. Last year, the Broncos defeated Iowa in Iowa City, 28-19. In addition, Western Michigan gave Florida State a scare in Tallahassee during the 2006 season, as the Seminoles edged the Broncos, 28-20.



Jamarko Simmons, Sr., WR

Western Michigan 2007 Statistical Leaders

| Rushing | G | Att. | Yards | TD | Avg./G | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Brandon West, RB* | 12 | 183 | 848 | 4 | 70.7 | |
| Mark Bonds, RB | 11 | 157 | 690 | 8 | 62.7 | |
| Passing | Att. | Comp. | Pct. | Int. | Yards | TD |
| Tim Hiller, QB* | 421 | 267 | 63.4 | 15 | 3,021 | 20 |
| Receiving | G | No. | Yards | Avg./G | TD | |
| Jamarko Simmons, WR* | 12 | 84 | 980 | 81.7 | 6 | |
| Brandon West, RB* | 12 | 45 | 365 | 30.4 | 2 | |
| Herb Martin, WR | 12 | 42 | 465 | 38.8 | 2 | |
| Tackles | G | UT | AT | TT | TFL | Sacks |
| Boston McCornell, LB* | 12 | 46 | 53 | 99 | 8-29 | 2.5-17 |
| Anthony Gebhart, SS | 12 | 49 | 35 | 84 | 6-14 | 0-0 |

*Returning players



Tim Hiller, Jr., QB

Nebraska 2007 Statistical Leaders

| Rushing | G | Att. | Yards | TD | Avg./G | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| Marlon Lucky, LB* | 12 | 206 | 1,019 | 9 | 84.9 | |
| Quentin Castille, LB* | 12 | 76 | 343 | 4 | 28.6 | |
| Passing | Att. | Comp. | Pct. | Int. | Yards | TD |
| Sam Keller, QB | 325 | 205 | 63.1 | 10 | 2,422 | 14 |
| Joe Ganz, QB* | 152 | 89 | 58.6 | 7 | 1,435 | 16 |
| Receiving | G | No. | Yards | Avg./G | TD | |
| Marlon Lucky, LB* | 12 | 75 | 705 | 9.4 | 3 | |
| Maurice Purify, WR | 11 | 57 | 814 | 14.3 | 9 | |
| Tackles | G | UT | AT | TT | TFL | Sacks |
| Steve Octavien, LB | 12 | 52 | 40 | 92 | 15-52 | 2-9 |
| Larry Asante, S* | 12 | 38 | 40 | 78 | 0-0 | 0-0 |

*Returning players



Larry Asante, Jr., S