

2007 Recruits

Central Washington

Wildcats Sign 17, Including Four "White Chip" Prospects (2/7/07)

A total of 17 student-athletes, including 15 high school student-athletes from the state of Washington, have signed National Letters of Intent to continue their football careers at Central Washington University.

"I feel really good about the overall depth and talent of this recruiting class," said first-year coach Beau Baldwin. "The thing that I really like, too, is that we were able to hit address many different positional needs and we were able to fill a number of voids that we had, and we ultimately may add some more players before it's all said and done."

Of the 15 prep signees inking with the Wildcats, four were tabbed as "White Chip" prospects by the Seattle Times.

Two junior college transfers -- defensive end Tyrone Davis (6-3, 255, Olympia, Wash./Eastern Arizona College) and offensive lineman Kiel Greenleaf (6'2", 275, Woodland, Wash./Feather River College) -- also declared their intentions to continue their college football careers at CWU.

Headlining the group of incoming prep standouts are four players who, by virtue of their listing on the Times' "White Chip" list, are considered among the top 100 high school football players in the state of Washington.

That group includes offensive lineman Ben Brown (6'4", 265, Auburn, Wash./Auburn HS), wide receiver Justin Helwege (6'4", 192, Sammamish, Wash./Eastlake HS), running back Micah Lape (6'1", 205, Vancouver, Wash./Skyview HS), and wide receiver Manny Melo (6'1", 190, Battle Ground, Wash.).

Five of the Wildcats' signees earned all-state accolades from the Associated Press as seniors, including four first team selections. Brown, Helwege, and Lape all earned first team all-state honors -- Brown in the 3A classification and Helwege and Lape both at the 4A level -- while Adam Bighill (5'10", 190, Montesano, Wash.) was a Class 1A first team all-state performer at Montesano.

Bighill, who earned all-state recognition as a running back and defensive back, is expected to transition to the linebacker position at CWU.

In addition, wide receiver Nick Proen (6'1", 190, Spokane, Wash./Mead HS) was a Class 4A honorable

mention all-state selection during his final prep campaign last fall.

Two Central Washington signees -- Lape and Bighill - were named WashingtonPreps.com Player of the Year in their respective classifications. Lape was the Class 4A Offensive Player of the Year, while Bighill took home Defensive Player of the Year accolades at the Class 1A level.

Joining Lape among the Class 4A all-state selections by WashingtonPreps.com were Helwege (first team), Ryan Carpenter (6'0", 205, Moses Lake, Wash.), and Andrew Oney (6'3", 240, Spanaway, Wash./Spanaway Lake HS).

Carpenter, the Columbia Basin League 4A Co-Offensive Player of the Year, and Oney were both named to the WashingtonPreps.com Class 4A honorable mention squad.

At the 3A level, Brown was a first team all-state pick by WashingtonPreps.com, while tight end Matt Erb (6'3", 245, Lacey, Wash./Timberline HS) and quarterback Nick Williams (6'1", 190, Lakewood, Wash./Lakes HS) picked up honorable mention all-state honors.

Erb is expected to play defensive tackle with the Wildcats, while Williams is slated to add depth at the quarterback position.

Among the JUCO transfers, Davis prepped at Olympia High School before playing one season each at Dixie State College (Utah) and Eastern Arizona College. He will have two years of eligibility remaining when he suits up for the Wildcats this fall.

Greenleaf split his high school career between both Port Angeles and Woodland High Schools before graduating from Woodland in 2004. He played one season at Feather River College in Quincy, Calif., and will have three years of collegiate eligibility remaining.

Central Washington will play its first season under Baldwin, and its last as an affiliate member of the North Central Conference, this coming fall. The Wildcats lost 17 seniors, including seven starters, from their 2006 squad that finished 6-5 overall and tied for fifth place in the NCC in 2006.

Recruits: Adam Bighill (LB 5'10" 190 Montesano, Wash./Montesano); Ben Brown (OL 6'4" 265 Auburn, Wash./Auburn); Austin Burton (WR 6'0" 190 Graham, Wash./Graham-Kapowsin); Ryan Carpenter (RB/DB 6'0" 210 Moses Lake, Wash./Moses Lake); Tyrone Davis (DE 6'3" 255 Olympia, Wash./Olympia/Dixie State - Eastern Arizona College); Justin Eden (OL 6'4" 285 Lacey, Wash./Timberline); Matt Erb (DT 6'3" 245 Olympia, Wash./Timberline); Kiel Greenleaf (OL 6'2" 275 Woodland, Wash./Woodland/Feather River); Justin Helwege (WR 6'4"

192 Sammamish, Wash./Eastlake); Kevin Jeffery (LB 6'1" 205 Auburn, Wash./Auburn); Micah Lape (RB 6'1" 205 Vancouver, Wash./Skyview); Manny Melo (WR 6'1" 190 Battle Ground, Wash./Battle Ground); Andrew Oney (TE 6'3" 240 Spanaway, Wash./Spanaway Lake); Nick Proen (WR 6'1" 190 Spokane, Wash./Mead); Seth Ronk (TE 6'3" 225 Aberdeen, Wash./Hoquiam); Taylor Tanasse (LB/DL 6'1" 240 Yakima, Wash./West Valley); Nick Williams (QB 6'1" 190 Lakewood, Wash./Lakes).

Western Oregon

Wolves Sign Largest Recruiting Class (2/7/07)

Bigger is better for the Western Oregon football program which signed 38 players to National Letters of Intent, the largest class in school history.

The list includes 13 players who were all-state selections, and five players who were conference players of the year.

"This is by far the largest and best class that we have ever signed here," WOU head coach Arne Ferguson said. "It's the biggest, the most athletic and the fastest. We have made tremendous progress in the last few years, and this class helps us continue in that drive to be a national caliber program."

Ferguson and his staff have more verbal commitments in addition to the names listed below, but the school is not allowed to announce those names until the National Letter of Intent form is returned. In addition, there could be more signings in the next week or so.

"We are bringing more kids to talk with, and could sign as many as 10 players in the next few weeks," Ferguson confirmed.

In 2007, Ferguson will be in his third season at the helm of the WOU program. In 2004, the Wolves were 5-6 and improved to 6-4 last fall. Western Oregon is an NCAA Division II program and will compete as an independent this fall before beginning play in the GNAC in 2008.

WOU's signees:

Jordan Aldredge, Gladstone, RB, 6-1, 215. 2nd -team All-State (4A) RB, 1 st -team All-Capital Conference RB.

Matt Arbuckle, Sheldon HS (Eugene), WR, 6-1, 215. 2nd -team All-State (6A) DB. 1 st -team All-Southwest Conference WR and DB.

Cory Bean, Hillsboro, QB, 6-4, 230. Honorable mention All-State (5A), 1 st -team All-Northwest Oregon Conference QB, NWOC Offensive Player of the year runner-up.

John Berokoff, Molalla, LB, 6-2, 215. 2 nd -team All-State (4A) LB. Capital Conference Defensive Player of the Year, 1 st -team All-Capital Conference TE and LB.

Joe Cornett, Hidden Valley HS (Grants Pass), OL, 6-5, 250. 1 st -team All-Skyline Conference OT.

Brandon DelaCruz, Mililani, Hawaii, OL, 6-2, 250. 3rd-team All-State OL, 2nd-team All-Oahu Interscholastic League OL.

Eric Derschon, Regis HS (Stayton), RB-LB, 6-3, 215. 3 rd -team All-State (3A) RB, 1 st -team All-Pacific West Conference RB.

Shane Durando, Corvallis, WR, 6-1, 190. 2 nd -team All-Mid Willamette Conference WR.

Gabe Flores, South Umpqua, WR, 6-0, 180. 2 nd -team All-Far West League DB. Honorable mention WR.

Brad Gengler, Silverton, DB, 6-0, 175. 1 st -team All-Mid Willamette Conference DB, 3 rd -team return specialist, honorable mention WR.

Miguel Gonzalez, McKay HS (Salem)/College of the Siskiyou, DB, 5-9, 175. All-Valley League DB.

Wyatt Taboh-Graziano, Nathan Hale HS (Seattle, Wash.), TE, 6-7, 225. 1 st -team All-Metro Sound League TE.

Miles Haley, Springfield, RB, 6-1, 200. 1 st -team All-Midwestern Conference RB and DB.

Ben Heidenreich, Twin Falls, Idaho, TE, 6-5, 215. 1 st -team All-State (5A) TE.

Terry Hodder, Grants Pass, DB, 5-10, 165. 2 nd -team All-Southwest Conference DB.

Tyler Hoflich, South Albany, WR, 6-2, 170. Honorable mention Mid-Willamette Conference WR.

Kyle Hughes, Grant HS (Portland), TE, 6-5, 220. Honorable mention All-Portland Interscholastic League TE.

Dane Kelsey, Hudson 's Bay HS (Vancouver, Wash.), RB, 5-11, 195. Three-time 1 st -team All-Greater St. Helen's League RB. All-league punter.

Zak Kokesh, Aloha, WR-DB, 6-2, 170. 2 nd -team All-Metro League WR.

Darren Lind, Lake Oswego, DL-E, 6-6, 215. Honorable mention All-Three Rivers League DL.

Andy Loscutoff, Canby, DB, 6-1, 190. 2 nd -team All-State (6A) DB, Honorable mention RB. 1 st -team All-Pacific Conference RB and DB.

Michael Lynch, Sandy, TE, 6-2, 230. 1 st -team All-Mt. Hood Conference TE and DE.

Lorin Lynch, Newport , WR, 5-11, 200. Honorable mention All-State (4A) WR, 1 st -team All-Valco League WR and DB. Valco League Offensive Player of the Year.

Mike Magee, Mead, Wash. , OL, 6-5, 300. 1 st -team All-Greater Spokane League OL.

Matti Maki, Grant HS (Portland), OL, 6-3, 245.

Ben Merrill, Sprague HS (Salem), DB, 6-0, 170. 1 st -team All-Central Valley Conference DB, 2 nd -team QB.

David Mesa, Siuslaw, RB-LB, 6-0, 190. 1 st -team All-State (4A) RB and LB. 1 st -team All-Far West League RB and LB.

Jesus Munoz , Phoenix , OL, 6-3, 255. Honorable mention All-Skyline Conference OL.

Jordan Rainwater, Siuslaw, WR, 5-11, 160. 1 st -team All-State (4A), WR and DB. Far West League Offensive Player of the Year. All-Far West League WR and DB.

Kameron Ross, Newport , LB, 6-0, 225. 2 nd -team All-Valco League LB.

Derek Smith, Hermiston , DE , 6-5, 230. 1 st -team All-Intermountain Conference OT.

Aaron Solo, North Kitsap , Wash. , DL, 6-2, 225. 1 st -team All-Narrows Bridge League DL.

Jordan Strickland, Auburn , Wash. , DB, 6-2, 205. All-South Puget Sound League WR.

Richard Torres, Kahuku HS (Oahu), DB-WR, 5-9, 150. 1 st -team All-Oahu Interscholastic League utility, Honorable mention All-State.

Daniel Wells, Westview HS (Beaverton), DB, 5-11, 165. Honorable mention All-State (6A) DB. 1 st -team All-Metro League DB.

AJ Zinkgraf, Springfield , DL, 6-3, 245. Honorable mention All-State (5A) DL. Midwestern Conference Defensive Player of the Year. 1 st -team All-Midwestern Conference OL and DL.

Kalani Zoller, Marysville , Wash. , DE, 6-4, 255.

Cuellar, Merrill part of Wolves' largest set of recruits

Salem Statesman Journal (Feb. 8, 2007)

In the largest class to sign to play football Wednesday at Western Oregon University, one of the biggest recruits came from just around the corner.

Justin Cuellar, the standout linebacker and tight end at Central High School, signed to play at the Division II school up the road.

"I think that's a big catch for the Wolves," Central coach Shane Hedrick said.

The 6-foot-6, 230 pounder was a first-team Class 4A all-state linebacker and the Val-Co defensive player of the year this season.

On the defensive side of the ball for the Panthers this year, Cuellar made 176 tackles, had five interceptions, blocked four punts and scored three defensive touchdowns.

For the Wolves, Cuellar could play at tight end, linebacker or at defensive end.

"I was pretty familiar with the campus and the surroundings because I live in the area," Cuellar said.

"They're pretty nice guys and they all have the same goals: They want to win."

Cuellar passed up a full-ride scholarship to Portland State and other Division I interest to sign with Western Oregon.

"I would have been fine going away from home," Cuellar said.

Cuellar's national letter of Intent hadn't been received by the Western Oregon coaches Wednesday so he wasn't on the team's signing lists.

Western Oregon officially signed its largest class, by far, in school history with 39 signees.

The group includes six players from local high schools: Sprague's Ben Merrill, McKay's Miguel Gonzalez, Silverton's Brad Gengler, Regis' Eric Derschon and Santiam's Andrey Paronevsky.

Paronevsky, like Cuellar, isn't officially listed by the school because his letter hadn't been received by the coaching staff because his parents are in Russia and they must coordinate faxing and signing it.

Paronevsky, a 6-foot-6 offensive lineman who's highest honor as a football player was an honorable mention all-Tri-River Conference selection this season, has two years of football experience.

"Actually it was a surprise because I've only been playing for a while," Paronevsky said.

Though Paronevsky was lightly regarded in high school, college scouts apparently saw something.

"There's a lot of schools that wanted him to go there, smaller schools that wanted him to go there because he has a ton of potential," said Santiam coach Vic Lease, a WOU alum.

Merrill was the only football player from the Central Valley Conference to sign to play college football so far.

"It's an exciting time," Merrill said. "It's something special that you'll always remember. Eventually we'll get to know these guys that I just signed with and it should be good. They seem like good guys."

Derschon, a third-team Class 3A all-state running back this season, has been told by coaches he would play linebacker.

"I'm ready to play anywhere and linebacker is going to get me some playing time so I'm ready to knock some people over," Derschon said.

Gengler was a first-team all-Mid-Willamette Conference defensive back and is likely to see time at safety.

"It's nice that I've already made a decision even though all my classmates are still wondering where to go," Gengler said.

Gonzalez, a 2005 graduate of McKay, spent the past two years in junior college at College of the Siskiyous in Weed, Calif., and has developed well there.

"He's a person that's really helped out with the family and it was tough for him to go away from home," Western Oregon coach Arne Ferguson said. "He's going to be very successful."

Some of the highlights of the recruiting class are Mike Magee of Mead, Wash, a 6-5 offensive lineman who was nationally ranked at his position.

League players of the year include Molalla linebacker John Berokoff, Newport receiver Lorin Lynch, Siuslaw receiver Jordan Rainwater and Springfield lineman A.J. Zinkgraf.

The class is by far the largest Western (6-4 last year) has ever signed. It could grow by 10 in the next week.

"With us being the only Division II school in the state, it allows us to attract the better student-athlete," Ferguson said.

"We're extremely excited about the size, the speed in all positions in this class. Obviously we signed some kids that we didn't think were available."

Western Washington

Wide Receiver Rocki Sandusky Transfers to Western (8/7/07)

Rocki Sandusky, who earned second-team all-state honors in 2005 as a wide receiver at Ferndale High School, has signed a scholarship agreement to play football at Western Washington University.

The 6-foot-2, 170-pound Sandusky is a transfer from University of Nevada-Las Vegas where he was a squad member last year but did not see action. As a senior at Ferndale, Sandusky received second-team WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A all-state and first-team Northwest League all-star honors.

He caught 29 passes for 800 yards (27.6 yards per catch) and 17 touchdowns, helping the Golden Eagles finish 14-0 and win the state title.

Sandusky also was a first-team all-league pick as a junior on a 13-2 team that reached the state championship game. He hit .490 as a senior in baseball, earning first-team all-state honors.

Sandusky's father, Jim, was an All-America wide receiver at Walla Walla CC, UNLV and San Diego State University, and played 14 seasons professionally, mostly in Canada with the B.C. Lions and Edmonton Eskimos.

The elder Sandusky is currently in his sixth year as head football coach and director of athletics at Lummi High School.

Pickar Signs With Vikings; Western NLI Freshmen List at 20 (2/9/07)

Michael Pickar (pronounced pih-CAR), who played defensive end at Hoquiam High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football at Western Washington University this fall.

The 6-foot-4, 225-pound Pickar was a first-team Washington State Associated Press and WashingtonPreps.com Class 2A all-State selection as a senior for the Grizzlies. He also was a first-team Evergreen League all-star and was listed as a White Chip on the Seattle Times Top 100 state high school seniors.

Pickar was credited with 79 tackles, including 12 quarterback sacks, helping Hoquiam to a 7-4 record and the first round of the state playoffs. He received all-league honorable mention as a junior and sophomore.

Pickar's signing brings Western's total number of freshmen NLI signings to 20. Of that group, 10 were listed by the Seattle Times in its Top 100. Ten were

first-team all-state selections, with seven of those being both all-state and Seattle Times Top 100.

Nineteen Freshmen, Two Transfers To Join Vikings (2/7/07)

A total of 19 high school seniors have signed National Letters of Intent to play football at Western Washington University.

Three of those players were ranked among the Top 100 in the seven-state Northwest region by Scout.com. They were wide receiver Toney Henderson from Gig Harbor High School, who was 48th, and was also ranked the No.18 prospect in the state of Washington by Rivals.com; quarterback Chris Bolt from Lynden High School, who was 65th; and linebacker Andre Davis from Franklin High School in Seattle, who was 78th.

The Vikings also announced the addition of two transfers – junior wide receiver DeAndre Williams from Santa Ana Junior College , and sophomore tight end Zach Hekker from Weber State.

Among the 19 freshmen, nine were listed by the Seattle Times in its Top 100 seniors list, with one, Henderson, being a Red Chip pick, and the other eight being White Chip prospects. Nine were first-team all-state selections, with six of those being both all-state and Seattle Times Top 100. Eight also have been selected to play in the East-West all-star game.

“I'm really happy with what we've done,” said Ross, who became Western's head coach in December of 2005. “We have nine in the Seattle Times Top 100, which I think shows the quality. It's good to have a solid class coming in for our second year, we had that full year of recruiting under our belt this time.”

Henderson , a first-team Class 4A all-state pick by the Associated Press on defense and a first-team WashingtonPreps.com pick on defense and special teams, brings a speed element that Ross said is a key component of every recruiting class. He returned four kickoffs and two punts for touchdowns as a senior.

“Toney Henderson is exciting,” said Ross. “He has the ability to score touchdowns both on offense and on special teams.”

Davis was a first-team WashingtonPreps.com Class 4A selection, making 104 tackles and forcing three fumbles as a senior. He was also a force as a fullback, rushing for 1,129 yards and 14 touchdowns.

“Andre Davis is such a powerful player on both sides of the ball, at both fullback and linebacker,” Ross said. “He's as physical a linebacker as I've seen for awhile in high school. He has good size, about 240 right now, and brings tremendous impact when he hits.”

Despite being in his first season as a starting quarterback, Bolt directed Lynden's spread offense like a veteran, helping the Lions win the Class 2A state championship. He threw for 2,789 yards and 32 touchdowns while completing 63.8 percent of his passes and also ran for a team-high 710 yards and 10 scores.

Bolt, named The Bellingham Herald Whatcom County Player of the Year, was an honorable mention WashingtonPreps.com all-state pick as a quarterback, punter and placekicker, and was a first-team Associated Press all-state selection as a punter as well as earning honorable mention as a placekicker.

“Chris Bolt has a tremendous upside,” Ross said. “He had so much success playing quarterback just one year. With a quarterback, you always look at the record of a team, and taking his team to a state championship in his first year as a quarterback shows a lot about his makeup and abilities.”

Bolt was one of three players from Whatcom County signed by the Vikings. Joining him are wide receiver Dirk Dallas, who was a teammate at Lynden; and defensive end Jeb Hobbs from Nooksack Valley High School .

“It's great to be able to keep the local talent here so people in Whatcom County can continue to watch them play,” said Ross. “The state championships showed the talent this area has, and we want to be able to tap into that.”

Dallas was a first-team WashingtonPreps.com all-state pick on both offense and defense. He had 78 receptions for 1,137 yards and 11 touchdowns, and added five interceptions as a defensive back.

Hobbs was a second-team WashingtonPreps.com Class 1A all-state pick on defense, having 16 quarterback sacks as a senior. He was an honorable mention all-state pick as a tight end on offense.

“ Hobbs may be one of the most under publicized players in Whatcom County ,” Ross said. “He has good size, and we'll start him out at defensive end. He didn't receive much notoriety, but we think he has the frame and build to turn into a top player.”

“Dirk Dallas is a very solid receiver. He can catch the ball, he makes good decisions, and he runs good routes. And it helps that his quarterback is here, we'll want to keep that tandem going.”

Williams, who signed with Western during the early junior college period in December, had 34 receptions for 656 yards and 10 touchdowns for Santa Ana , earning second-team all-Orange Empire Conference honors. It was just his second year of football, as he played basketball at Long Beach Poly High School .

Bolt, Davis and Hobbs are three of nine White Chip selections. The others are tight end Casey Hamlett from Edmonds-Woodway High School in Edmonds, linebacker/defensive end Danny Hawkins from Ballard High School in Seattle, linebacker Henry Hippely from Woodinville High School, wide receiver/defensive back J.D. Neumeister from Peninsula High School in Gig Harbor, and running back/linebacker Kevin Sampson from Rainier Beach High School in Seattle.

Neumeister was the Olympic League Defensive Player of the Year and Sampson the Metro League Sound Division Offensive Player of the Year.

Davis, Hawkins, Hippely and Sampson are all possible linebackers, as is Luke Jones of Bothell High School, who could also play fullback.

“Linebacker was an area we wanted to have a good class in,” said Ross. “We have five senior linebackers, so we needed to be strong in recruiting there.”

Two of the freshmen are from out-of-state. Offensive lineman John Hughes was a first-team all-CIF Inland Division pick for Redlands High School in California, and wide receiver Quincy Hurst, from Centennial High School in Coquitlam, B.C. was the B.C. Provincial MVP as a senior.

Hughes was one of four offensive linemen. The others are David Lipinski of Stanwood High School, David Sinex from Archbishop Murphy High School in Everett, and Jason Yous from Woodinville High School.

“We’ll continue to look at the offensive line,” Ross said. “We like the four players who have committed, and we’re still actively recruiting a couple more.”

Adding to the Western secondary are Reggie Christor from Spanaway and Graham-Kapowsin High School, David McMurray from Granite Falls and Lake Stevens High School, and Jabari Mu’ied from Redmond High School. McMurray, who was the Western Conference Defensive Player of the Year, can also play wide receiver.

“This is a good group,” Ross said. “We signed the No.1 quarterback on our board, the No.1 tight end and the No.1 juco receiver. With all the guys we’ve signed, we’ll have to look at how they’ll fit in when they come to camp in August and see how they look with the other players as we put the team together.”

Western was 5-6 last season and 3-5 in the North Central Conference, but closed the season with three consecutive victories.

Recruits

Chris Bolt, QB, 6-5, 205, 18, Fr., Lynden, WA (Lynden)

Reggie Christor, DB, 6-0, 180, 17, Fr., Spanaway, WA (Graham-Kapowsin)
Dirk Dallas, WR, 6-4, 185, 17, Fr., Lynden, WA (Lynden)
Andre Davis, LB, 6-3, 230, 17, Fr., Seattle, WA (Franklin)
Casey Hamlett, TE, 6-3, 240, 17, Fr., Edmonds, WA (Woodway)
Danny Hawkins, LB/DE, 6-3, 230, 18, Fr., Seattle, WA (Ballard)
Zach Hekker, TE, 6-4, 240, 21, So.-TR, Bothell, WA (Weber State)
Toney Henderson, WR, 5-9, 170, 19, Fr., Gig Harbor, WA (Henry Hippely, LB, 6-0, 215, 17, Fr., Woodinville, WA (Woodinville)
Jeb Hobbs, DE, 6-4, 230, 17, Fr., Everson, WA (Nooksack Valley)
John Hughes, OG/C, 6-2, 240, 17, Fr., Redlands, CA (Redlands)
Quincy Hurst, WR, 5-8, 160, 18, Fr., Coquitlam, BC (Centennial)
Luke Jones, LB/FB, 6-0, 205, 17, Fr., Bothell, WA (Bothell)
David Lipinski, OT, 6-5, 240, 17, Fr., Stanwood (Stanwood)
David McMurray, WR/DB, 5-11, 170, 18, Fr., Granite Falls, WA (Lake Stevens)
Jabari Mu’ied, DB, 5-10, 160, 18, Fr., Redmond, WA (Redmond)
J.D. Neumeister, WR/DB, 6-4, 215, 18, Fr., Gig Harbor, WA (Peninsula)
Kevin Sampson, RB/DB, 5-8, 170, 18, Fr., Seattle, WA (Rainier Beach)
David Sinex, OG/C, 6-2, 265, 18, Fr., Everett, WA (Archbishop Murphy)
DeAndre Williams, WR, 6-3, 195, 24, Jr.-TR, Long Beach, CA (Long Beach Poly/Santa Ana College) (early period signee)
Jason Yous, OT, 6-3, 265, 17, Fr., Woodinville, WA (Woodinville)

2005 Recruits

Central Washington

Wildcats Announce Four Additional Football Signings (2/4/05)

Central Washington added four names to its 2005 recruiting list Friday. Joining the Wildcats' list of signees were defensive tackle Ryan Stokes, tight end James Murphy, and cornerbacks Brandon Kennedy and Kyle Williams.

Kennedy (5-8, 160) was an Associated Press first team Class 4A all-state selection on both offense and defense at Gonzaga Prep in Spokane. He will continue his career with the Wildcats as a cornerback, as will Williams, who starred at Bellarmine Prep in Tacoma. Williams (5-11, 180) was an all-Narrows Bay League standout for the Lions during his senior season.

Murphy (6-3, 200) prepped at White River High School in Buckley, where he earned first team all-Seamount Pierce League honors as a tight end and second team accolades as a defensive end. Stokes (6-2, 287) was a second team all-SPSL North selection this past fall as a senior at Kentridge High School. He will play defensive tackle for the Wildcats when he joins the Crimson and Black in 2005.

BRANDON KENNEDY
DB/WR, 5'8", 160
Fr.-HS, 09/01/87
Spokane, WA (Gonzaga Prep, 2005)

GONZAGA PREPARATORY SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Gonzaga Preparatory Academy in Spokane in June 2005 * Played four seasons of football for the Bullpups, earning two letters * Associated Press first team all-state (Class 4A) selection as a wide receiver and defensive back as a senior * Second team all-state defensive back by WashingtonPreps.com * Also earned first team all-Greater Spokane League honors on both offense and defense * Registered 62 tackles, three interceptions, and five forced fumbles in 2004 * Also netted 800 receiving yards on just 27 catches, for an average of nearly 30 yards per catch * Best prep game included two catches for 103 yards and two TDs, a 68-yard fumble return, and an interception return for a touchdown against Cheney High * Also a standout in track and field and basketball * Qualified for the WIAA Class 4A state championships in the triple jump as a junior.

PERSONAL: Born Brandon Edward Kennedy on September 1, 1987 * Plans to major in business at CWU * Parents are Gerald and René Kennedy of Spokane * Father is a systems analyst * Has four siblings, sister Jennifer (22), brother Gerald II (20), and twins Blake and Brittany (15).

JAMES MURPHY
TE, 6'3", 200
Fr.-HS, 03/06/87
Carbonado, WA (White River, 2005)

WHITE RIVER HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from White River High School in Buckley in June 2005 * Lettered twice in football for the Hornets * First team all-Seamount Pierce League tight end as a senior * Also earned second team all-league honors as a defensive end * Averaged better than 20 yards per reception in 2004 * An all-academic team selection each of his two years on the gridiron * Has also lettered in basketball and track and field * Owns a 3.63 grade-point average.

PERSONAL: Born James Michael Murphy on March 6, 1987, in Tacoma * Age 18 throughout the season * Plans to go into corrections and become a police officer * Parents are Michael and Amy Murphy of Carbonado * Both parents are residential services coordinators for the state of Washington * Has two older sisters, Patricia (25) and Sarah (23), and two younger brothers, Thomas (16) and Kaleb (12) * Cousins Gunner and Stryder Argo have attended CWU * Gunner currently competes on the Wildcats' track and field team * Has another relative, Samantha Hubbard, who plays women's basketball at Western Washington.

RYAN STOKES
DT, 6'2", 267
Fr.-HS, 10/16/86
Renton, WA (Kentridge, 2005)

KENTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Kentridge High School in Kent in June 2005 * Played two seasons of varsity football for the Chargers * Earned second team all-SPSL North honors as a senior defensive lineman * Finished his final campaign with 66 tackles, including 8 tackles for loss and 2.5 quarterback sacks * Also forced a pair of fumbles * Had a career-high 11 tackles versus Tahoma High * Lettered in track and field as a junior.

PERSONAL: Born Ryan Stokes on October 16, 1986, in Santa Monica, Calif. * Turns 19 the day after the game at Humboldt State * Undecided on a college major * Parents are Gilbert and Robin Stokes * Has two older brothers, Gilbert (32) and Aaron (22).

KYLE WILLIAMS
CB, 5'11", 180
Fr.-HS, 12/01/86
Tacoma, WA (Bellarmine Prep, 2005)

BELLARMINE PREPARATORY SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Bellarmine Preparatory School in Tacoma in June 2005 * Three-year letterman in football for the Lions * First team all-Narrows Bay League defensive back as a senior *

Added second team all-league honors as a junior * Starred for four seasons in track and field * Finished eleventh in the state (Class 4A) in the long jump as a sophomore * Recipient of the Scholar Athlete Award * Currently has a 3.6 grade-point average.

PERSONAL: Born Kyle Robert Williams on December 1, 1986, in Redmond * Age 18 throughout the season * Plans to pursue a career in education * Parents are Wayne and Lori Williams of Tacoma * Has two older siblings - sister Keri McKee (41) and brother Kevin Williams (39).

Central Washington Football Signs Thirteen to Letters of Intent (2/2/05)

With 17 lettermen to replace, including more than half of the starting defense, Central Washington University has announced the signing of 13 high school seniors to national letters-of-intent.

"I am extremely excited about this class of recruits who have signed letters of intent today," CWU head coach John Zamberlin said. "With graduation, we lost some quality players on our defense, and one of our goals was to bolster that unit by bringing in some young talent. We feel that we have addressed those goals with the student-athletes that we have signed so far."

Five Seattle Times "White Chip" prospects, listed among the top 100 prep recruits in the state of Washington, highlight the list of Wildcat signees. Other individuals not on that list include the Associated Press Class 2A State Player of the Year, Matt Snell (Yakima, Wash./East Valley HS), and Ellensburg High standout Anthony Quirk.

Among the White Chip signees were a pair from Puyallup High School - Steve Cook and Johnny Spevak. Cook (6-3, 273) was a defensive lineman for the Vikings, while Spevak (6-3, 185) - primarily a quarterback and defensive back as a prep - could see time at any number of positions during his collegiate career with the Wildcats.

Also on the White Chip list was Yakima native Brycen Taylor, Bellevue standout Keilan Watson, and former Ballard star Jerome Williams-Davis.

Taylor (6-2, 240) was a first team all-Big Nine Conference linebacker at Eisenhower High School, racking up six quarterback sacks and four hurries during his senior season with the Cadets. Watson (6-1, 207) was a two-year letterman at perennial state Class 3A power Bellevue, earning second team all-state honors from WashingtonPreps.com as a senior defensive lineman for the Wolverines.

Williams-Davis (6-0, 202) had eight interceptions for Ballard High School of Seattle in 2004, adding 75 total tackles. Offensively, he averaged 145 yards per

game as a running back and earned second team all-KingCo League accolades.

"One goal is to build a fence around our own backyard, and recruit high school talent to come to Central," Zamberlin added. "We are extremely excited about the signing of Anthony Quirk, a three-sport standout at Ellensburg High School, who has an outstanding potential to become a very good offensive lineman once he decides to focus on just football."

"Two Yakima products - Matt Snell, an exciting and talented player who was recognized as 2A state player of the year, is someone we see fitting into our program either at receiver or safety. We also added Brycen Taylor, a player whom I had the opportunity to coach in our high school camp. He has good size, can run, and has the potential to play numerous positions."

Snell (6-2, 170) helped East Valley take a 13-0 record into the Class 2A State Championship game in 2004, where the Red Devils lost to conference rival Othello. He was a first team all-state selection at both wide receiver and linebacker, finishing with more than 1,000 receiving yards while scoring 21 touchdowns. Quirk (6-6, 235) played both tight end and defensive end locally at EHS, picking up second team all-Mid-Valley League honors on defense, and honorable mention accolades on offense. Zamberlin expects Quirk to move to the interior line upon his arrival with the Wildcats.

Clarkston High teammates Jason Curtis and Peter Leonard both elected to continue their football careers with the Wildcats - Curtis (5-10, 160) as a quarterback and Leonard (6-1, 185) as a wide receiver. Central Washington's starting quarterback last season, Brian Baugh, also played his high school football at Clarkston.

Ryan Dyer, a first team all-state (Class 1A) linebacker at Life Christian Academy in Tacoma, signed with the Wildcats. Dyer (6-0, 220), who also ranked second in the Seattle Metro area in rushing yards as a senior, racked up 243 tackles during his three-year playing career with the Eagles.

Another Tacoma-area product who the Wildcats added to their program on Wednesday was wide receiver Brandon Stout from Bellarmine Prep. Stout was a first team all-Narrows Bay League choice both as a receiver and returning kicks, also being named to the WashingtonPreps.com honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) squad.

Michael Goings, a prep teammate of Cook and Spevak at Puyallup, will continue his career wearing the Crimson and Black. Goings (5-11, 225) played both running back and linebacker for the Vikings.

Nick Jones was a two-way all-league selection at Bothell High School, playing both running back and

defensive end. At 6-2, 200, Jones earned honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) honors from WashingtonPreps.com after totaling 850 rushing yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior for the Cougars.

"A major focus of this recruiting class was at the linebacker position," Zamberlin said, "and with the addition of quality student-athletes in Ryan Dyer, Mike Goings, Nick Jones, and Keilan Watson, we have helped address that focus."

"One common thread among all of these student-athletes is the character they possess, which will enable them to represent CWU at its highest possible level."

While the Wildcats have bolstered their arsenal with 13 signings on Wednesday, Zamberlin is awaiting the addition of up to six more high school seniors to the Wildcats' recruiting class over the remainder of the signing period, which runs through April 1.

STEVE COOK
DL, 6'3", 273
Fr.-HS, 05/11/87
Puyallup, WA (Puyallup, 2005)

PUYALLUP HIGH SCHOOL: Seattle Times "White Chip" prospect * First team all-SPSL South defensive lineman as a senior at Puyallup High School * Honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) by WashingtonPreps.com.

PERSONAL: Born May 11, 1987.

JASON CURTIS
QB, 5'10", 160
Fr.-HS, 05/16/86
Clarkston, WA (Clarkston, 2005)

CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Clarkston High School in June 2005 * Three-year letterman in football for the Bantams * All-Greater Spokane League selection as a sophomore and junior * Also named to the Class 3A honorable mention all-state team in 2003 * Threw for 5,516 yards on 419 of 723 passing during his three-year career * Also tossed 45 touchdown passes for the Bantams * Set school records in numerous categories, including career passing yards and touchdowns, and single-season touchdowns and completion percentage * Top prep performance included 291 yards passing on 23 of 31 for three touchdowns against Mount Spokane High * Lettered three times each in basketball and tennis as well ... In the top 10 percent of his class, carrying a 3.95 grade-point average * Scholar Athlete.

PERSONAL: Born Jason William Curtis on May 16, 1986, in Walla Walla * Undecided on a college major * Parents are Dave and Lynn Curtis of Clarkston * Both parents are teachers * Is an only child * Comes

from an athletic family - father played football at Eastern Washington and Whitworth * Uncle Doug also played football at Whitworth * Cousin Tyson Curtis attended CWU.

RYAN DYER
RB/LB, 6'0", 220
Fr.-HS, 04/06/86
University Place, WA (Life Christian, 2005)

LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (2002-05): Plans to graduate from Life Christian Academy in Tacoma in June 2005 * Played three seasons of football for the Eagles * First team all-Nisqually West League selection at running back and linebacker as a senior * First team all-state (Class 1A) linebacker by the Seattle Times * Honorable mention choice at running back * Second team all-state (Class 1A) selection by WashingtonPreps.com * Also collected all-league honors as a sophomore and junior * Finished his three-year prep career with 3,269 rushing yards and 37 touchdowns on offense * Defensively, was credited with 243 tackles and eight interceptions * Set numerous LCA school records, including most rushing yards in a single game (297), single season (2,052), and career * Top prep performance included 297 rushing yards, five touchdowns, 18 tackles, an interception, and a forced fumble against Winlock High as a senior.

PERSONAL: Born Ryan Joseph Dyer on April 6, 1986, in Tacoma * Plans to major in business at CWU * Parents are Thomas and Doreen Dyer of University Place * Father works in auto retail, mother in school development * Has two younger siblings, brother Calvin (15) and sister Gracie (11).

MICHAEL GOINGS
LB/RB, 5'11", 225
Fr.-HS, 02/25/87
Puyallup, WA (Puyallup, 2005)

PUYALLUP HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Puyallup High School in June 2005 * Played four seasons of football for the Vikings, earning three letters * First team all-SPSL South linebacker as a senior * Honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) by WashingtonPreps.com * Finished the 2004 campaign with 63 tackles and 440 yards rushing * Earned honorable mention all-league honors as a junior * Team's Defensive MVP during his sophomore season * Prep teammate of fellow CWU signees Steve Cook and Johnny Spevak * Has also lettered in baseball, collecting his first letter as a junior in 2004.

PERSONAL: Born Michael C. Goings on February 25, 1987, in Puyallup * Undecided on a college major * Plans to pursue a career in video productions * Parents are Curtis and Nancy Goings of Puyallup * Father is a detention supervisor, mother is a para-educator * Father played football for two years at Olympic College * Has a younger sister, Amanda (15)

* Has an uncle and two grandparents who also attended CWU.

NICK JONES

RB/DE, 6'2", 200

Fr.-HS, 03/03/87

Bothell, WA (Bothell, 2005)

BOTHELL HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Bothell High School in June 2005 * Played three seasons of football for the Cougars, earning two letters * First team all-KingCo 4A selection at both running back and defensive line as a senior * Honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) selection by WashingtonPreps.com * Totaled 850 yards rushing and 11 touchdowns, averaging 6 yards per carry, in 2004 * Had four quarterback sacks defensively * Ran for career-high 168 yards against Inglemoor High * Once scored four touchdowns in a game against Juanita High * Earned second team all-league honors during his junior season.

PERSONAL: Born Nicholas Garrett Jones on March 3, 1987, in Kirkland * Plans to major in business at CWU * Parents are Stephen and Cindy Jones of Bothell * Father is a field superintendent for Pacific Cable, mother is a materials handler for Tech Express * Father attended CWU * Has two brothers, Travis (23) and Lucas (15).

PETER LEONARD

WR, 6'1", 185

Fr.-HS, 11/18/86

Clarkston, WA (Clarkston, 2005)

CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Clarkston High School in June 2005 * Played four seasons of football for the Bantams, earning two letters * All-Greater Spokane League wide receiver during his junior season * Missed most of his senior season due to injury * Had 1,087 receiving yards on 48 catches during his two-year varsity career * Scored 14 touchdowns * Best prep game was a seven-catch, 197-yard performance against Mead High * Prep teammate of fellow signee Jason Curtis * Lettered in track and field as a junior * Also participated in baseball during his prep career.

PERSONAL: Born Peter Charles Leonard on November 18, 1986, in Lewiston, Idaho * Plans to enroll in the paramedic education program at CWU * Parents are Steve and Cindy Leonard of Clarkston * Has a younger sister, Emily (14).

ANTHONY QUIRK

TE/DE, 6'6", 235

Fr.-HS, 10/17/86

Ellensburg, WA (Ellensburg, 2005)

ELLENSBURG HIGH SCHOOL (2003-05): Plans to graduate from Ellensburg High School in June 2005 * Played two seasons of football for the Bulldogs *

Second team all-Mid Valley League defensive end as a senior * Also earned honorable mention all-league honors at tight end in 2004 * As a junior, was a second team all-league tight end and honorable mention defensive end * A representative on the school's Associated Student Body.

MANKATO WEST HIGH SCHOOL (2001-03):

Attended Mankato West High School in Mankato, Minn., as a freshman and sophomore * Was a three-sport student-athlete for the Scarlets, competing in football, basketball, and baseball * Helped Mankato West defeat Mahtomedi High, 17-7, for the 2002 MSHSL Class AAAA state football championship.

PERSONAL: Born Anthony John Quirk on October 17, 1986, in Pullman * Undecided on a college major * Parents are Wayne and Kelley Quirk of Ellensburg * Father works as an administrator at CWU, mother works for the Daily Record newspaper * Has three sisters, Chloe (19), Kaitlin (11) and Carly (9).

MATT SNELL

WR/S, 6'2", 170

Fr.-HS, 08/19/87

Yakima, WA (East Valley, 2005)

EAST VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from East Valley High School in Yakima in June 2005 * Played four years of football for the Red Devils, lettering twice * Associated Press Class 2A State Player of the Year as a senior * First team all-state (Class 2A) selection at both wide receiver and linebacker by the Associated Press and WashingtonPreps.com * Added first team all-CWAC South accolades as a wide receiver and linebacker * Totaled 56 receptions for 1,001 yards and 21 touchdowns in helping East Valley to the Class 2A state championship game * Top prep performance included four catches for 103 yards, and three total touchdowns (punt return, interception return, and pass reception) * Earned three letters each in basketball and track and field * Honorable mention all-CWAC South selection in basketball as a junior * Carries a 3.62 grade-point average * Member of the National Honors Society.

PERSONAL: Born Matthew Raymond Snell on August 19, 1987, in Yakima * Plans to major in mechanical engineering at CWU * Parents are John and Patricia Snell of Yakima * Father is self-employed, mother works for the Yakima Heart Center * Has two siblings, brother Johnny (20) and sister Molly (15).

JOHNNY SPEVAK

WR/S, 6'3", 190

Fr.-HS, 03/05/87

Puyallup, WA (Puyallup, 2005)

PUYALLUP HIGH SCHOOL: Seattle Times "White Chip" prospect * Second team all-SPSL South

selection as a quarterback and safety at Puyallup High School * Honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) by WashingtonPreps.com.

PERSONAL: Born March 5, 1987.

BRANDON STOUT
WR, 6'3", 190
Fr.-HS, 05/15/87
Tacoma, WA (Bellarmine Prep, 2005)

BELLARMINE PREPARATORY SCHOOL: First team all-Narrows Bay League wide receiver and kick returner * Honorable mention all-state (Class 4A) choice by WashingtonPreps.com.

PERSONAL: Born May 15, 1987.

BRYCEN TAYLOR
DE/LB, 6'2 1/2", 240
Fr.-HS, 04/29/87
Yakima, WA (Eisenhower, 2005)

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Dwight D. Eisenhower High School in Yakima in June 2005 * Three-year letterman in football for the Cadets * Seattle Times White Chip prospect * First team all-Big Nine Conference linebacker as a senior * Credited with 84 tackles and 52 assists in 2004 * Also had six tackles for loss, four quarterback hurries, and two passes defended * Also set an Ike school record for most defensive statistical points earned (250) * Lettered in wrestling and track and field as a junior * Will compete on the Cadets' track and field team as a senior as well * Had a career-best throw of 140 feet in the discus last spring.

PERSONAL: Born Brycen Robert Taylor on April 29, 1987, in Yakima * Plans to major in business administration at CWU * Parents are Scott Taylor and Carolyn Swan of Yakima * Father is a manager at Tree Top, mother is a personal trainer * Has two younger brothers, Brad (15) and Brett (13).

KEILAN WATSON
DE/LB, 6'1", 207
Fr.-HS, 11/04/86
Renton, WA (Bellevue, 2005)

BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Bellevue High School in June 2005 * Played four years of football for the Wolverines, earning two letters * Seattle Times White Chip prospect * First team all-KingCo 3A defensive lineman as a senior * Second team all-state selection (Class 3A) by WashingtonPreps.com * Also received honorable mention all-state accolades from the Seattle Times * Lettered in track and field for the Wolverines as a junior, and will compete again in the sport as a senior.

PERSONAL: Born Keilan Watson on November 4, 1986, in Tacoma * Plans to major in business or sociology at CWU * Father is Andrew Watson of Renton * Father is self-employed.

JEROME WILLIAMS-DAVIS
SS, 6'0", 202
Fr.-HS, 06/30/87
Seattle, WA (Ballard, 2005)

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL (2001-05): Plans to graduate from Ballard High School in Seattle in June 2005 * Three-year letterman in football for the Beavers * Seattle Times White Chip prospect * Second team all-KingCo 4A at running back as a senior * Finished with eight interceptions and 75 total tackles (65 solos) in 2004 * Offensively, averaged 145 yards per game rushing in just seven games * Earned second team all-league honors at safety during his junior season * Set a Ballard school record with three interceptions in a single game * Also a two-year letterman in basketball for the Beavers * Lettered once in track & field.

PERSONAL: Born Jerome L. Williams-Davis on June 30, 1987, in Seattle * Undecided on a college major * Parents are Jerry Davis and Pamela Williams of Seattle * Father works for the Seattle School District * Has four older siblings - brothers Greg (38) and Anthony (35), and sisters Nichell (31) and Shalease (23) * Brother Anthony has played linebacker professionally with the Seattle Seahawks (1993), Kansas City Chiefs (1994-98), Green Bay Packers (1999), and Baltimore Ravens (2000).

Humboldt State

Humboldt Adds Eight Players To Football Roster (4/6/05)

Humboldt State has added eight players, including five with collegiate experience, to its 2005 football roster. Four offensive players —two wide receivers and two offensive linemen — will join the Jacks, along with three defensive players and one individual who has starred on both sides of the ball.

Joey Stein (WR, 6-0, 170, Jr., Fresno City College - Central High School) - Started for Cal Lutheran College as a freshman in 2003 at defensive back and led the team in interceptions. He transferred to Fresno City College where he led the team in receptions with 28 and touchdowns with four. Stein was an all-conference selection both at Fresno City College and Central High School.

Trevor Messersmith (TE-DE, 6-2, 225, Galt High School) - Was a two time all-league Sierra Valley selection. Made 22 receptions for 367 yards and four touchdowns during his prep career. Also tied for second in league with seven sacks and was a four-time Sierra Valley Scholar-Athlete honoree.

Derrek Ross (DE, 6-3, 235, Antelope Valley JC - Quartz Hill High School) - Led Antelope Valley in sacks in 2004 and was an all conference selection.

Richard Torrence (OL, 6-4, 265, Sacramento, CA - Hiram Johnson) - Started for HSU at right tackle in 2002 as a redshirt freshman before leaving school for family commitments. Was the strongest offensive lineman on the team as freshman with a 400-pound bench press, a 525-pound squat, and a 330-pound power clean.

Spencer Cary (OL, 6-2, 245, Malibu) - Was a three-year varsity starter at Malibu, and was voted most valuable lineman on the team his senior year.

James Nelson (LB, 6-1, 225, Mendocino College - Kelseyville High School) - Led team with 113 solo tackles at Mendocino College in 2004 and was a first-team all-conference selection. Also served as the head coach for his high school wrestling team for two years.

Bryan Iriye (LB, 6-1, 215, Fresno City College - Lindsay High School) - Was all-conference and all-region linebacker. He led his team in tackles with 109, had six sacks, and one interception in 2004, helping Fresno City to a conference championship in 2004 and a berth in the Northern California JC championship game.

Darren Ross (WR, 6-1, 190, Long Beach City College - Long Beach Poly High School) - Earned all-conference and all-region selection in 2003. Finished his sophomore year with 50 receptions for 780 yards and seven touchdowns, helping Long Beach City to a conference championship in 2003. Also started on the Long Beach Poly High school team that won the prep national championship in 2000.

Lumberjacks Add Eight To Spring Roster (2/5/05)

Eight talented student-athletes have transferred to Humboldt State for the spring semester and will join the Lumberjack football squad when spring practice begins on April 7.

The prime area the Lumberjacks have focused on with the early crop of recruits was the secondary. With that in mind, the Jacks' coaching staff has added four players to the defensive backfield.

"Our immediate goal was to reload our secondary," HSU head coach Doug Adkins said. "We have a whole new group, but they are experienced and can step right in and play."

Also added to the roster is a linebacker, an offensive lineman and defensive lineman. They'll join approximately 60 Lumberjacks for the three-week practice session that concludes April 30.

"It's great to be able to bring this group in now, so we could have them learn the system and step right in in the fall" Adkins said, "We're still in the middle of the recruiting wars, however, and plan to bring in several more high school and JC players for the fall."

Lennox Hunte, 6-0, 184-pound, senior, cornerback: A native of Georgetown, Guyana, Hunte prepped at Pittsburg HS where he ran on the state-qualifying 4X100 sprint team. He then transferred to Los Medanos College in Pittsburg where he was an all-conference cornerback in 2003. Hunte played his junior year at Southwest Missouri State University.

Kenny Edwards, 6-0, 210-pound, junior, safety: A native of El Sobrante, Edwards prepped at Pinole Valley HS where he was 1st team all-league and second team All-Bay Area as a senior in 2002. He then transferred to Contra Costa College in San Pablo where he was a two-time all-conference selection at safety in 2002 and 2003. Edwards sat out the 2004 season.

Nick Dominelli, 6-2, 200-pound, senior, safety: A native of Santa Barbara, Dominelli attended Santa Barbara HS then transferred to Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa where he was a two-year all-conference safety and an All-State honorable mention as a sophomore. Dominelli then transferred to the University of New Mexico-Highlands where he was a two-time conference Player of the Week as a junior.

Chris Weingarten, 5-8, 180-pound, junior, cornerback: A native of St. Petersburg, Fla., Weingarten attended Boca Ciega HS. Weingarten entered the military out of high school and served four years in the United States Air Force. He then attended Long Beach City College in 2002 and 2003 where he was an all-conference cornerback for the Vikings. He sat out the 2004 season.

Mike Sage, 6-1, 187-pound, junior, wide receiver: A native of Mountain View, Sage attended Los Altos HS where he was an all-league selection in football and both all-league and All-Peninsula selection in basketball. Sage then attended De Anza College in Cupertino where he achieved all-conference honors at wide receiver and was the state Offensive Player of the Week vs. Monterey Peninsula College.

Matt Dale, 6-2, 220-pound, junior, defensive lineman: Dale is a 6-2 220 pound defensive lineman out of Esperanza High School in Anaheim. He previously played at San Diego Mesa Junior College.

Taylor Diaz, 5-8, 205-pound, junior, linebacker: Diaz is a Humboldt County native, having played linebacker at Eureka High School. Diaz attended and played at both College of the Redwoods and Santa Rosa Junior College. He was an All Humboldt-Del Norte League linebacker during his career at EHS. He has also served in the military.

Brett Battle, 6-3, 270-pound, junior, offensive lineman : Brett Battle is a 6-3, 270 pound offensive lineman from Eureka High School. Battle was an all H-DNL offensive lineman for Eureka. He played for Humboldt State in 1997 and 1998 before leaving school.

Western Oregon

Western Oregon Inks 24 Players to National Letters of Intent (4/29/05)

Eight more players have signed national letters of intent to attend Western Oregon University next fall.

WOU first-year coach Arne Ferguson and his staff have now inked 24 players to scholarship offers during the NCAA signing period. The 2005 recruiting class also includes many more signees that need financial aid paperwork completed before the university can make an announcement, per NCAA rules.

"I have spent nearly 20 years in the Western Oregon football program, and this recruiting class is shaping up to be the best we have had," said Ferguson, who was a player at the school in the mid 1980s and has since served as an assistant coach until this year.

The latest signees include:

Chaz Barit, Kamehameha HS (Hawaii), LB, 5-11, 225. All-ILH defensive lineman. Prep team won state title.

Noah Brennan, South Medford HS, DL, 6-3, 235. Honorable mention All-State (4A), first team All-Southern Oregon Conference.

Brian Buckmier, Westview HS (Beaverton), OL-DL, 6-4, 250. Second team All-State OL (4A), First-team All-Metro League OL.

Bryan DeAngelo, Evergreen HS (Vancouver, WA), DB, 6-0, 185. All-Greater St. Helen's League pick. Plainsmen won 4A state title.

Jose Escobedo, Nyssa HS, DL-OL, 6-4, 260. Honorable mention All-State (2A), First-team All-Wapiti League.

John Malone, Roseburg HS, DL, 6-5, 195. Honorable mention All-State (4A), First-team All-Southern Oregon Conference.

Isiah Smith, Roseburg HS, WR, 6-3, 190. Honorable mention All-State (4A), First-team All-Southern Oregon Conference.

Thomas VanNice, Cove HS, OL, 6-4, 240.

Western Oregon Signs 16 Players To National Letters (2/2/05)

Sixteen standout players from the state of Oregon signed national letters of intent with Western Oregon Wednesday.

The group, part of new head coach Arne Ferguson's first recruiting class, includes six players who earned all-state honors this past season and four athletes that earned conference player of the year awards.

"I have spent nearly 20 years in the Western Oregon football program, and this recruiting class is shaping up to be the best we have had," said Ferguson, who was a player at the school in the mid 1980's and has since served as an assistant coach until this year.

"There is still work to be done, we have five or six key players to sign, but the potential of this group is excellent."

February 2 is the first day of the signing period for NCAA Division I, I-AA and II programs. The signing period runs until April 1. More players, in addition to the 16 that have inked national letters, have signed institutional letters of intent to attend Western Oregon, but per NCAA bylaws universities are not allowed to announce those signings yet.

"We are very excited about all our kids, especially the fact that they come from the state of Oregon," Ferguson added. "Many of these players were recruited by Division I schools, but chose to come to Western Oregon and a Division II school to fit their athletic and academic needs."

Colin Beeson, Lincoln HS (Portland): QB, 6-3, 185. Portland Interscholastic League Offensive Player of the Year. Second-team All-State QB (4A), 1,622 yards passing, 31 TD's.

Jordan Coleman, Westview HS (Beaverton): TE-DE, 6-2, 225. Second-team All-Metro League TE.

J.T. Gilmore, Taft HS (Lincoln City): OL-LB, 6-4, 240. Second-team All-State LB (3A), honorable mention all-state offensive tackle. Valco League Defensive Player of the Year. All-league on offense and defense.

Chris Helbling, Canby HS: TE-DE, 6-5, 225. Second-team All-Pac 9 League pick at tight end.

Ryan Hilliard, Lake Oswego HS: WR, 6-3, 195. Second-team All-Three Rivers League WR, Lake Oswego was state runner-up (4A).

Andrew Jackson, Madison HS (Portland): RB-DB, 6-0, 170. Third-team All-State DB (3A), honorable mention all-state RB. First-team All-PIL RB and DB, 1,583 yards rushing, 20 TD's.

Ben Kuenzi, McKay HS (Salem): RB-DB, 5-10, 195. Second-team All-Valley League RB '04, first-team all-league in '03. 1,731 yards rushing, 19 TD's. All-region team. Rushing bests of 350 and 347 yards.

Tim Linn, Clackamas HS: OL-DL, 6-3, 270. Second-team All-Three Rivers League at OL, DL.

Jered McClellan, Eagle Point HS: QB, 6-3, 180. Southern Oregon Conference Offensive Player of the Year, 1,556 yards passing and 21 TD's, 616 yards rushing and 11 TD's.

Russell Millage, Grant HS (Portland): UTL-DB-RET, 5-10, 170. First-team All-Portland Interscholastic League UTL.

Sean O'Donnell, Reynolds HS (Troutdale): RB-LB, 6-1, 195. First-team All-Mt. Hood Conference RB and Returns. 1,608 yards rushing, 19 TD's.

Gabe Palone, Westview HS (Beaverton): WR-RET, 5-11, 170. Second-team All-Metro League WR.

Maddison Peterson, Sam Barlow HS (Gresham): DB-RET, 6-1, 185. Second-team All-Mt. Hood Conference DB.

Joey Pratt, Sprague HS (Salem): DE-OL, 6-4, 220. First-team All-State DL (4A), first-team All-Valley League, All-region team, 50 tackles, 35 solo, 5 sacks, 3 fumble recoveries. Sprague won 4A state title.

Gavin Romanick, Madras HS: RB-LB, 6-2, 205. Honorable mention all-state RB (3A), first-team All-Tri-Valley League RB and LB.

Hunter Utz, Gladstone HS: OL-DL, 6-2, 220. Defensive Player of the Year in the Tri-Valley League. First-team Tri-Valley OL and DL. Second-team All-State DL (3A).

Western Washington

Vikings Sign Ninth High School Player to Letter (2/20/05)

Mike Fuaau, a senior fullback/linebacker at Tacoma 's Washington High School , has signed a national letter of intent to play football at Western Washington University. That brings the Vikings' total of high school signees to nine.

Last fall, Fuaau was a second-team WashingtonPreps.com all-State and first-team Tacoma News Tribune all-Area pick, and was named Defensive MVP of the Seamount League Pierce Division.

The 5-foot-11, 215-pound Fuaau was credited with 158 tackles, five quarterback sacks, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery on defense. On

offense, he ran 148 times for 1,081 yards and 10 touchdowns.

MIKE FUAUU
Linebacker/Fullback
Freshman, 5-11, 215, 18, 6/15/86
Tacoma , WA

HIGH SCHOOL: Second-team WashingtonPreps.com all-State and first-team Tacoma News Tribune All-Area pick, and defensive MVP of Seamount League Pierce Division as senior at Washington High School ... First-team all-league choice both ways ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Credited with 158 tackles (led team three straight seasons), 5 quarterback sacks, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery ... As fullback on offense, ran 148 times for 1,081 yards and 10 touchdowns . .Captain's Award winner and Patriots' MVP on offense and defense (third straight year) ... First-team all-league as junior ... Credited with 142 tackles ... Had 136 stops as sophomore ... Team captain three years ... Started and lettered three years ... Also earned two years in track.

PERSONAL: Plans to take program in pre-law ... His brother, Yuteson, plays football at Ottawa University (Kan.).

Vikings Get Linebacker Transfer from Idaho (2/16/05)

Shane Simmons, a transfer from the University of Idaho, has signed a scholarship agreement with Western Washington University and will begin attending classes spring quarter.

Simmons, a 6-2, 210-pound linebacker from Kent (Kentlake High School), played in three games with the NCAA Division I Vandals last season as a true freshman, making eight tackles, including one for loss, before leaving school for personal reasons.

He is immediately eligible to practice with the Vikings once enrolled at Western, but his availability to compete in games next fall is uncertain pending a waiver appeal to the NCAA.

Simmons was a first-team all-South Puget Sound League pick as a senior on both offense and defense at Kentridge, also being a Seattle Times White Chip selection. He was the SPSL North Division Offensive Player of the Year as a quarterback, completing 49-of-96 passes for 1,052 yards and eight touchdowns, and rushing for 638 yards and 11 scores. On defense, he had 73 tackles, two interceptions, two blocked punts, and a fumble recovery.

SHANE SIMMONS
Outside Linebacker
Sophomore, 6-2, 210, 19, 8/9/85
Kent, WA

COLLEGE: Transfer from University of Idaho ... Played in three games for Vandals as true freshman ... Credited with 8 tackles, 1 for loss of minus-1 yard.

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Seattle Times, Seattle P-I and Tacoma News Tribune all-Area pick as senior at Kentlake High School ... South Puget Sound League North Division Offensive Player of the Year as quarterback ... First-team all-league both ways ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Completed 49-of-96 passes for 1,052 yards and 8 touchdowns, and ran for 638 yards and 11 touchdowns ... Had 73 tackles, 2 pass interceptions, 2 blocked punts and 1 fumble recovery ... Helped Falcons to 9-2 record, SPSL North Division title and second round of Class 4A state playoffs ... Team co-captain and MVP ... First-team all-league as safety as junior, despite missing five games with broken leg ... Honorable mention all-league on offense as junior and defense as sophomore ... Started both ways and lettered three years ... Also earned two letters in baseball ... First-team all-league as sophomore.

Vikings Sign Eight Prepsters, 2 JC Players To Letters (2/2/05)

Six Seattle Times White Chip selections lead a group of eight high-school seniors who have signed letters of intent to play football at Western Washington University.

Also joining the Vikings are two junior college transfers – defensive end/long snapper Matt Overton from Diablo Valley JC in California ; and running back /defensive back Johnny Lopez from Glendale CC in Arizona .

The white chip selections, designated by the Seattle Times as being among the top 100 high school seniors in the state of Washington, are cornerback C.J. Green of Federal Way High School, linebacker William Jackson of O'Dea High School in Seattle, wide receiver Noah Jiles of Eisenhower High School in Yakima, offensive guard Chris Miller of Mariner High School in Everett, running back Cody Visser of Lynden High School, and linebacker Dan Winter of North Thurston High School in Lacey.

Completing the high school signees are offensive tackle Jason Paull of Mountain View High School in Vancouver and lineman Kyle Winkley of Black Hills High School in Tumwater.

“We knew going in that this would be a much smaller class than normal,” WWU coach Rob Smith said. “We only graduated seven seniors, and we already have over 90 players going through winter conditioning.

“We’re very pleased with what we got. In each case, you can see that player having a bright future here. Normally, in a bigger class, there are players at the tail

end who are projects, or who you’re hoping for development. In this case, we feel like each of these guys has a great chance to contribute.”

One key area was the offensive line. Miller (6-3, 260) was an honorable mention Associated Press Class 4A all-state pick, Paull (6-4, 270) earned first-team Vancouver Columbian all-area honors, and Winkley (6-3, 280) was a first-team Tacoma News Tribune and Daily Olympian all-area choice.

“It’s always nice to get offensive linemen, and we feel like we got three good ones in Miller, Paull and Winkley. Miller’s brother Maurice played for us, and we’ve had our eyes on Chris for some time.”

Visser (6-0, 190), who ran for 1,349 yards and 21 touchdowns in earning honorable mention AP Class 3A all-state honors and helping Lynden to the state semifinals, is the only signee from Whatcom County.

“He was the local player we really went after,” Smith said. “He could play on either side of the ball, and overall, this is a class with flexibility. Green is a cornerback and running back, and Noah Jiles is a wide receiver but also a fine safety.”

Green (5-8, 180) was a first-team AP and WashingtonPreps.com Class 4A all-state pick and had 80 tackles and nine pass breakups as a senior. He also rushed for 1,037 yards and 17 touchdowns after running for 1,253 yards and 19 scores as a junior. Jiles (6-0,195) had 34 catches for 485 yards and five touchdowns as a senior, despite missing five games because of a broken ankle.

In Jackson (6-1, 235) and Winter (6-0, 230), the Vikings added some much needed bulk at linebacker. Winter was a first-team AP and WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A all-state pick and a two-time Pac Nine League Defensive Player of the Year, making 102 tackles as a senior. Jackson had 93 tackles to earn WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A honorable mention all-state recognition.

“Linebacker was an area of need for us,” said Smith. “We needed some bigger-sized backers to help us, and we got two very talented players.”

Lopez (5-9, 185), a graduate of Kennedy High School in Seattle, rushed for 1,171 yards (5.8 apc) and nine touchdowns to earn first-team all-Arizona Junior College and second-team Western States Football League all-star honors at Glendale CC last year, including a 242-yard performance against Dixie State. As a senior at Kennedy High, Lopez ran for 1,957 yards (8.8 apc) and 38 touchdowns. Overton (6-1, 245) was a starter at defensive end for Diablo Valley JC and will also battle for the long snapping job.

“Lopez is another guy who can play both offense and defense. He had great numbers as a running back, and

we're excited to have him in the picture. Overton is an outstanding long snapper. A.J. Porter stepped in and did a great job in his first year at the spot, now we can bring in someone with experience to challenge him.”

The Vikings were 6-4 last season, and return 35 letter winners, including 14 starters.

“I'm pleased, and we're not done,” Smith said. “There's still others out there, both freshmen and transfers, that we've targeted.”

C. J. GREEN
Cornerback
Freshman, 5-8, 180, 18, 11/21/86
Federal Way, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Washington State Sportswriters Association and WashingtonPreps.com Class 4A all-State selection as senior at Federal Way High School ... Seattle P-I Fall all-star, second-team Tacoma News Tribune all-Area, first-team all-South Puget Sound League South Division both ways and Federal Way Mirror all-City Player of the Year and first-team all-star both ways ... Honorable mention WashingtonPreps.com all-State pick on offense ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... One of five 2004 Sports Illustrated Wrangler 5-star Student-Athletes of the Year ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Honored as scholar-athlete by King County Chapter of National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame ... Ran for 1,037 yards and scored 17 touchdowns for Eagles... Credited with 80 tackles, 9 pass breakups, 2 blocked kicks, 4 forced fumbles and 1 recovered ... Team co-captain and MVP ... Second-team all-league and first-team all-city both ways as junior ... Ran for 1,253 yards and 19 touchdowns ... Credited with 63 tackles and intercepted two passes ... Second-team all-league both ways as sophomore on 7-2 team that reached first round of state playoffs ... Started and lettered three years ... Also earned three letters in basketball ... Honorable mention all-league as sophomore, went to state tournament ... Team co-captain as senior ... three letters in track ... track Team captain ... Placed second in 4x400 relay as junior at state championships.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in business ... ASB President in high school.

WILLIAM JACKSON
Linebacker
Freshman, 6-1, 235, 17, 4/2/87
Seattle, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: Honorable mention WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A all-State and first-team all-Metro League Mountain Division pick as senior at O'Dea High School ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ...

Helped Fighting Irish to 8-3 record and first round of Class 3A state playoffs ... Credited with 93 tackles, intercepted 1 pass, had 2 quarterback sacks, forced 2 fumbles and recovered 2 fumbles ... Team co-captain and Golden Helmet award winner ... As junior, played on team that finished 12-2 and won state title ... Started and lettered two years.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in business.

NOAH JILES
Wide Receiver
Freshman, 6-0, 195, 18, 10/13/86
Yakima, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Big Nine League all-star as senior at Eisenhower High School ... Made 34 receptions for 485 yards and five touchdowns, despite missing five games because of a broken ankle ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Starting safety for Cadets as junior ... Started and lettered three years.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in business or take program in pre-law ... His father, Leland, played basketball at Rutgers and Central Washington University ... His brother Nick plays football and baseball at University of Washington, and another brother, Coubi, played baseball at Yakima Valley CC.

CHRIS MILLER
Offensive Guard
Freshman, 6-3, 260, 17, 1/31/87
Everett, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: Honorable mention Washington State Sportswriters Association and WashingtonPreps.com Class 4A all-State choice on offense, second-team Everett Herald all-Area pick on defense and first-team Western Conference all-star both ways as senior at Mariner High School ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Team co-captain and Coaches Award winner ... Honorable mention all-league as junior ... Helped Marauders to 9-2 record and first round of state playoffs ... Also honorable mention all-league as sophomore on squad that reached first round of playoffs ... Started and lettered three years ... Also earned three letters in wrestling.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in business management ... His brother, Maurice Miller, played football at Western.

JASON PAULL
Offensive Tackle
Freshman, 6-4, 270, 18, 12/1/86
Vancouver, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Vancouver Columbian all-Area and all-Greater St. Helens League pick as

senior at Mountain View High School ... Helped Thunder to 8-3 record and first round Class 4A state playoffs ... Team co-captain and Outstanding Lineman ... Second-team all-league as junior on 8-3 team that reached first round of state playoffs ... Started as sophomore on squad that got to state semifinals ... Started and lettered three years ... Also earned three letters in track as shot putter and discus thrower.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in business.

CODY VISSER

Running Back

Freshman, 6-0, 190, 18, 9/4/86

Lynden , WA

HIGH SCHOOL: Received Washington State Sportswriters Association Class 3A all-State honorable mention and first-team all-Northwest League choice as senior at Lynden High School ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Second-team all-league on defense as strong safety ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Helped Lions to 10-3 record, league co-championship and semifinals of Class 3A state playoffs ... Ran for 1,349 yards and 21 touchdowns ... Credited with 52 tackles, intercepted 3 passes, blocked 2 kicks, forced 3 fumbles and recovered two fumbles ... Team co-captain ... Second-team all-league both ways as junior ... Ran for 900 yards and seven touchdowns ... Honorable mention all-league on defense as sophomore on team that finished 11-1 and reached the state semifinals ... Started three years and lettered four ... Also lettered four years in baseball and two in basketball ... First-team all-league in baseball as junior, hitting .389, and second-team as sophomore ... Helped Lions to district title as sophomore.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in technology ... His father, Kevin, played baseball at Skagit Valley CC ... His sister, Nikki, played basketball at Whatcom CC, and another sister, Kristen, competed in volleyball at Whatcom CC.

KYLE WINKLEY

Offensive Line/Defensive Line

Freshman, 6-3, 280, 17, 4/9/87

Tumwater , WA

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Tacoma News Tribune and Daily Olympian all-Area and all-Pac Nine League choice as senior at Black Hills High School ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Helped Wolves to 8-3 record and first round of Class 3A state playoffs ... Team co-captain and Big Block award winner ... Second-team all-league as junior ... Honorable mention all-league as sophomore on squad that reached first round of state playoffs ... Started three years and lettered four ... Also earned four letters in track and two in basketball.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in exercise science.

DAN WINTER

Linebacker

Freshman, 6-0, 230, 17, 5/14/87

Lacey, WA

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Washington State Sportswriters Association and WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A all-State choice as senior at North Thurston High School ... Also first-team Tacoma News Tribune and Daily Olympian all-Area selection and Pac-Nine League Defensive Player of the Year for second straight time ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Selected to play in East-West all-star game ... Team co-captain for third year, and Player of the Year and Defensive MVP each for second time ... Helped Rams to 8-3 record and first round of state playoffs ... Credited with 102 tackles, 4 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery, 1 blocked kick and 2 quarterback sacks ... Daily Olympian all-Area pick as junior ... Credited with 92 tackles, 4 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries ... First-team all-league as sophomore ... Started and lettered three years ... Also two letters in track and one each in baseball and wrestling ... Placed eighth in discus at state track meet as junior.

PERSONAL: Plans to major in exercise science.

MATT OVERTON

Defensive End

Junior, 6-1, 245, 19, 7/6/85

Tracy , CA

COLLEGE: Transfer from Diablo Valley JC (Pleasant Hill , Calif.) ... Long snapper ... Helped Vikings to 6-5 record and appearance in East County Growers Bowl as sophomore ... Special Teams MVP (long snapper) and Team co-captain as freshman ... Started one year and lettered two.

HIGH SCHOOL: Honorable mention San Joaquin Athletic Association all-star as senior at Tracy High School Team co-captain as senior for Bulldogs ... Started and lettered two years as offensive guard ... Also lettered one year in golf and baseball.

PERSONAL: Major is business or sports medicine ... His father, Tom, played football at Cal State Hayward, and his grandfather, Paul Wallrof, played football at University of Washington and was a long-time head football coach and Athletic Hall of Fame inductee at University of Puget Sound.

JOHNNY LOPEZ

Running Back/Defensive Back

Junior, 5-9, 185, 20, 12/30/84

Seattle , WA

COLLEGE: Transfer from Glendale (Ari.) CC ... First-team All-Arizona Junior College and second-

team Western States Football League all-star as sophomore ... Ran 201 times for 1,171 yards (5.8 apc) and 9 touchdowns, helping Gauchos to 6-4 record ... Had 21 carries for 242 yards and 1 touchdown in 45-35 win over Dixie State, earning WSFL Player of the Week honors; and 180 rushing yards and 3 touchdowns against New Mexico Institute ... Team co-captain ... Ran for nearly 400 yards as freshman ... Started and lettered two years.

HIGH SCHOOL: First-team Seattle P-I all-Area and all-Seamount League choice as senior at Kennedy High School ... Listed among Seattle Times Top 100 (white chip) state high school seniors ... Played in East-West all-star game ... Ran for 1,957 yards (8.8 apc) and scored 38 touchdowns, plus four 2-point conversions for a total of 236 points ... Helped Lancers to 10-1 record, league title and first round of Class 4A state playoffs ... Ran for 305 yards and 5 touchdowns against Clover Park ... Team co-captain and MVP ... Second-team all-league on defense, intercepting 4 passes ... Started and lettered one year ... Attended Auburn-Riverside previous two years, receiving all-South Puget Sound League honorable mention (punt returner) as a junior and first-team all-league honors (special teams) as a sophomore ... Started and lettered two years.

PERSONAL: Major is physical education ... His brother, Tyrese, is a standout quarterback at Kennedy High.

2004 Football Recruits

Central Washington

Wildcats Add Three White Chip Prospects, Pair from State Champion Pasco (2/4/04)

Fourteen newcomers, including 13 high school seniors, have declared their intention to play football at Central Washington.

"I am excited about the bunch of guys that we have signed," CWU coach John Zamberlin said. "I felt we addressed some needs that we had in positions where we needed to reload. We signed some white chip guys, and some others that we feel will help address the need we will have in the coming year."

Three of the high school players who signed National Letters of Intent Wednesday in an effort to help the Wildcats reload in several positions were on the Seattle Times' list of White Chip prospects – the top 100 prep high school players in the state of Washington. Included in that group are defensive lineman Mitch Reffett (Moses Lake, Wash.), and wide receivers Kevin Coad (Vancouver, Wash./Evergreen HS) and Jason Gran (Buckley, Wash./White River HS).

Reffett was the Big Nine Conference co-Defensive Player of the Year in 2003 after earning first team all-state accolades during his junior season. Two other Big Nine players – linebacker Michael Welch and cornerback Brant (J.R.) Jamerson from Class 4A state champion Pasco – also signed with Central Washington. Welch earned first or second team all-conference honors each of his final three years with the Bulldogs, and he was the team's leading tackler in its 21-14 title game victory over Ballard. Jamerson, who like Welch will compete in the East-West all-star game, led the Big Nine in interceptions this past season.

Coad, Gran, Pat McElligott (Tacoma, Wash./Wilson HS) and Nicholas Bacolod (Lakewood, Wash./Lakes HS) are all wide receivers whom the Wildcats inked to help absorb the losses of three graduating pass-catchers from the 2003 squad.

Other areas that Central addressed with its signings were the offensive line and cornerback positions. Prep teammates Anthony O'Dell and Jess Tate of Everett's Mariner High School were signed to help out on the offensive line, while Jamerson and Maurice Prince (Lakewood, Wash./Lakes HS) will join junior college transfer Marcellus Justin (Kirkland, Wash./Lake Washington HS/Santa Monica JC) among the newcomers at corner.

Single players add both the quarterback and running back position were added on Wednesday. Brian

Ellersick (Mountlake Terrace, Wash.) was a two-time all-Wesco South signal caller at Mountlake Terrace High School, while running back Zach Fletcher (Spanaway, Wash./Bethel HS) will help add to the Wildcats' depth in the offensive backfield.

Humboldt State

Six Sign Letters With Lumberjacks (2/27/04)

Six players have signed letters of intent to attend Humboldt State University and play football for the Lumberjacks next fall.

"All six of these players will have an impact on the program," HSU head coach Doug Adkins said. "It feels great to have their commitment this early."

Earlier this semester, 21 student-athletes transferred to Humboldt State and will participate in spring football practice, which begins April.

Following are brief biographies of HSU's new signees:

Jose Gallo, a 6-2, 300-pound offensive lineman, achieved all-conference status while playing for American River College. Gallo attended Vacaville High School, where he played defensive tackle before making the switch to offense. He also threw the shot-put and discus for the track and field team at American River, placing second at NorCal championships and ninth in the state meet. He will major in computer science at Humboldt State.

Allen Brunner is a 6-0, 218-pound linebacker out of Saint Bonaventure High School in Ventura. His impressive background includes three years as varsity starter. During that time, he helped his program achieve a 40-2 record and two section championships.

In the three years he spent at Saint Bonaventure High School Brunner amassed 28 sacks. During the 2003 season Brunner recorded 103 solo tackles despite missing four games due to injury. Also in that year he recorded three sacks, 14 tackles for a loss, forced three fumbles and had a fumble recovered. Brunner received All-Channel League, All-Ventura County and All-CIF honors.

Lionel Arnold, a 6-0, 220-pound running back, shores up the Jacks' offensive backfield. The incoming junior combines size and speed, with a time of 4.5 seconds in the 40. Arnold transfers from Contra Costa College, where he was a two-time, first team all-conference running back. As a freshman, Arnold rushed for 1,528 yards and 14 touchdowns. He was limited to just nine games his sophomore year but still ran for 1,251 and 14 touchdowns. In his two years at CCC, Arnold averaged 145.5 yards per game and 5.5 yards per carry.

Eli Curtis is a 6-2, 204-pound safety who runs the 40 in 4.5. Curtis played basketball at Cal State Fullerton for one year then transferred to Fullerton JC, where he was a two-year starter on the football team at safety and earned all-conference honors his sophomore year. Curtis was being looked at by small Division I and Division 1-AA schools, but would have been limited to a single year of eligibility because of NCAA "clock" rules. Curtis retains two years of eligibility remaining at the Division II level.

Chris Walker adds size to the Jacks' defensive line at 6-3, 270-pounds. Walker played at Chabot College and was a second team Golden State Conference player as a freshman and a pre-season All American as a sophomore. He played at Hayward High School and was an All HAAL first team defensive line honoree. Walker utilized a redshirt year at Portland State University last fall.

Mark Klawiter (6-2, 245) is another addition expected to impact the Jacks' offensive line. Klawiter earned first team honors in the Mission Valley League a second team All-CIF selection as a senior at Gabrielino High School in San Gabriel last fall. He also achieved all-West Area and all-San Gabriel Valley first team honors.

Twenty-One Enroll For Spring Quarter (1/29/04)

Twenty-one football players have enrolled at Humboldt State for the spring semester and will participate in spring workouts.

Along with the quantity, Humboldt head coach Doug Adkins is impressed with the quality of his class of recruits. He expects the newcomers to shore up holes left by graduation and help the Jacks improve their prospects for the 2004 campaign.

"This is by far the best group of recruits we've brought in at the semester break," Adkins said. "Having them enrolled and on-campus this spring helps diminish the learning curve for next fall's workouts and also gives them a chance to adjust to life as a Humboldt State student."

The new players include:

Blake Moorman - Moorman is a 6-1, 185-pound quarterback from San Diego Mesa Junior college. While at San Diego he passed for 5,800 passing yards and 28 passing touchdowns while also rushing for two. He earned Team MVP and All Foothill Conference honors, and was all-CIF in high school.

Rashel Gunn - Gunn is a 5-10, 195-pound running back from Mt. San Antonio College. During his sophomore year he ran for 600 yards with five touchdowns. In high school he earned all-district and honorable mention All State.

Justin Butler - Butler is a 6-4, 280-pound defensive lineman transferring from Mendocino Junior College, where he earned Bay Valley League Defensive MVP in 2001.

Greg Gruendyke - Gruendyke is a 5-11, 192-pound defensive back coming from Alan Hancock Junior College where he earned second team all-conference honors and had five interceptions. Two years ago he redshirted at Arizona State.

Micheal Dean - Dean is a 6-3, 280-pound offensive lineman coming from Santa Barbara Junior College where he he was a two-time all-conference honoree. He also was named team MVP following the 2003 season.

Adam Fain - Fain is a 6-3, 260-pound defensive end from Fresno City College. In high school he earned all-conference linebacker and tight end, and also won league championships in track in both the long jump and 1,600-meter relay.

Mark Maples - Maples is a 6-0, 180-pound wide receiver from Dakota State University where he earned first team NAIA All-American honors in 2001.

Scott Sports - Sports is a 6-7, 340-pound offensive lineman coming to the Jacks from Southwestern Junior College in San Diego.

Todd Eagle - Eagle is a 6-2, 255-pound, junior defensive end from Contra Costa College in San Pablo. He signed a professional baseball contract with the Philadelphia Phillies after graduating from Albany High School.

Christian Hodges - Hodges is a 6-2, 198-pound senior safety from Western Michigan University. He was a two-time all-conference player at Allen Hancock College in Santa Maria.

Tyson Hampton - Hampton is a 6-1, 205-pound senior cornerback transfer from Baylor University. Hampton was a two-time all-conference player at American River College in Sacramento.

Justin M. Heimiller - Heimiller is a 6-4, 220-pound quarterback transferring from Bakersfield Junior College. In his senior year of high school Heimiller totaled 1,852 passing yard, 14 passing touchdowns, and nine rushing touchdowns.

Monty Duke - Duke is a 6-2, 220-pound quarterback transfer from Clarion University. While in high school he had 4,800 passing yards, 48 passing touchdowns and eight rushing touchdowns.

Rodney Berbenes - Berbenes is a 5-11, 215-pound linebacker who transferred from Santa Barbara Junior College. While at Santa Barbara he earned all-conference.

Avraham Bernard - Bernard is a 5-9,165-pound, redshirt freshman wide receiver from Venice High School. He was a walk-on at San Jose State University out of high school.

Greg Curoso - Curoso is a 5-10, 180-pound senior safety from Santa Rosa college.

Allen Gamble - Gamble is a 5-9, 195-pound junior running back from Monterey Peninsula College.

Izaiah Williams - Williams is a 6-1, 211-pound sophomore from Monterey Peninsula College where he was an All-Conference running back.

Don Wilson - Wilson is a 6-0, 185-pound freshman cornerback from Santa Margarita High School.

Chris Goodwin - Goodwin is a 5-9, 190-pound freshman safety from Franklin High School in Stockton.

Western Oregon

Fifteen More Added to 2004 Class (4/7/04)

Fifteen more players have been added to Western Oregon's incoming football class of 2004. The Wolves now have 36 high school players committed since February 4, the first day of the signing period. The period ended on April 1.

The latest signees include all-state (4A) honorable mention standouts Zach Royall of Hood River (DL) and Kacy Fairfax (LB) from Wilson HS in Portland. Also on the newcomer list are defensive linemen Kasey Cate (Junction City) and Larry Farley (Beaverton), defensive back Robert Sparks (Wilson-Tacoma), offensive linemen Curtis Shirley (Colony-Alaska), Sean Lugo (Tualatin) and Matt Hermsen (Wilson-Tacoma).

The Wolves have also inked tight end Jake Anderson (Central Linn), quarterback Garrett Hubrich (Hillsboro), fullbacks Joe-Kyle Werner (Marshall-Portland) and Willy Schlitt (West Linn), tailback Jacob Dixon (Black Hills-Olympia), wide receiver Matt Christensen (Wilsonville) and kicker Kyle McWhirter (Clackamas).

Twelve More Commit To Play Football at WOU (3/2/04)

Twelve more players have committed to play football at Western Oregon beginning this fall.

"We still have a few more to go, and are anticipating signing some top-flight kids in the next few weeks," WOU coach Duke Iverson said.

The Wolves now have 23 players committed since February 4, the first day of the signing period. The period ends on April 1.

Players coming on board with Western Oregon in the past few weeks include linebackers Matt Buche (Myrtle Point), Jake Silver (Melba, Idaho), Mitch Dehnert (Battleground, Wash.), Matt Zollman (Sweet Home) and Ben Fennimore (Salem/McKay HS).

Buche was the defensive player of the year in the state (2A), while Silver was an all-league selection as running back and linebacker at Melba. His team won the Idaho state title in 2002. Dehnert was a first team all-league pick at Battle Ground, ditto for Zollman at Sweet Home who was also a second team all-state selection (3A) on a Husky team that was ranked No. 1 in the state most of the season. Fennimore was a second team All-Valley League pick at McKay.

Also on the defensive side, the Wolves added defensive back Brandon Cobb. Cobb, who prepped at Brentwood in New York, spent the last three academic terms in the Oregon State program. North Bend lineman Brian Wuethrich, a first team all-league pick on both sides of the ball, has also committed.

Offensively, the Wolves add coveted lineman Joe Zagunis from Wilson in Portland and Cabrillo Junior College transfer Steve Norton. In addition to all-state (4A) honors (3rd team), Zagunis is a first team All-PIL pick. Norton, who is 6-3, 320 pounds, is an Aptos, Calif. native and was an all-league selection at Cabrillo.

Corvallis High School standout Corey Dickson was a first team All-Valley League punter and also earned third team all-state honors (4A). Seth Graves is another Sweet Home signee and is a second-team all-state pick (3A). Fellow running back Tyler Pugh (Rogers HS, Puyallup) was his team's MVP.

Wolves Sign Four More To Letters (2/12/04)

Western Oregon has signed four more players to letters-of-intent. This foursome, signed during the second week of the NCAA signing period, is still just the tip of the iceberg, according to WOU head coach Duke Iverson says.

"We expect to add eight to ten more in the coming weeks," he said. "This is another part of the process in our continued quest for a solid freshman class."

The players recently signed are Anthony Marin of McKay High School (Salem), Derrick Mailau (DB, Kailua, Hawaii), Grant Silva (OL, Prairie HS, Vancouver, Wash.) and Matt Justice (FB, Wilsonville).

Marin, a 6-0, 245-pound lineman, was an honorable mention all-state (4A) selection at McKay. He was

also a first-team All-Valley League pick on both sides of the ball. He is also a standout wrestler for the Royal Scots.

Justice (6-1, 225) was a second team all-state choice (3A) at running back and a first team All-Tri Valley League pick. Wilsonville played in the 2003 state title game.

Silva is a 6-5, 290-pound offensive lineman, while Mailau is a speedy 5-10, 175-pound defensive back. Both were all-league selections.

Wolves Sign Seven To Letter-of-Intent (2/4/04)

Seven high school football players with valley-area ties committed to Western Oregon on the first day of the signing period Wednesday.

The group includes two players from McKay High School (Salem) along with gridiron standouts from West Salem, West Albany, Junction City, Dayton and McMinnville.

"We are excited to have these local players in our program," said head coach Duke Iverson. "It's a quality group and it is one that will grow in the coming weeks."

February 4 is the first day of the signing period for NCAA Division I, I-AA and II programs. The signing period runs until April 1.

"It is a slower process this year," Iverson said. "We have a good squad coming back, which means fewer spots available. But we still expect to sign ten more or so in the next couple of weeks."

Those who signed a letter indicating their intent to attend Western Oregon to play football are:

Mark Amerson, McMinnville WR-DB, 5-11, 175. First-Team All-Pac-9 wide receiver, 14-9 on the track in the pole vault.

Shane Cardenas, West Salem, WR, 5-8, 170. First-Team All-Valley League wide receiver, Second-Team linebacker.

Darnell Hall, McKay HS, DB, 6-0, 170. Injured this season, 21-9 on the track in the long jump.

Mike Hibbert, West Albany, RB-LB, 6-3, 200. Second-Team All-Valley League running back.

Aaron Kennas, Dayton, OL, 6-2, 300. First-Team All-State (2A) as an offensive lineman and defensive lineman.

Brett McClintock, Junction City, QB-P, 6-0, 180. First-Team All-State (3A) punter, First-Team All-Sky Em quarterback.

Cory Perkins, McKay HS, OL, 6-0, 250. First-Team All-Valley League center, honorable mention all-state (4A).

Western Washington

Quarterback Transfers from UW (3/21/04)

Quarterback Ben Huebschman (pronounced HIPSCH-mon), who was the 2002 Associated Press Class 4A State Player of the Year, has enrolled at Western Washington and will participate in spring football practice beginning April 5.

The 6-foot-3, 220-pound Huebschman is a transfer from University of Washington where he was a walk-on redshirt last season.

"He was our No.1 quarterback recruit a year ago and decided to go elsewhere," said WWU head coach Rob Smith. "Now he's coming here, so we'll give him a shot and see what he can do."

Huebschman was a first-team all-state selection by the Washington State Sportswriters Association, Tacoma News Tribune, Seattle Times and Washington Prep Football Report as a senior at Mountain View High School in Vancouver. He also was the Vancouver Columbian Area Player of the Year and Greater St. Helens League co-Player of the Year.

Huebschman passed for a state record 3,405 yards and 36 touchdowns, helping the Thunder to a 10-3 record and the semifinals of the state playoffs. He completed 23-of-27 passes for 272 yards and five touchdowns in a 40-14 state quarterfinal win over Kentridge, and passed for 396 yards against Hudson's Bay.

As a junior, Huebschman directed Mountain View to a 9-3 record and the state semifinals as well as a league title. He was the GSHL Player of the Year.

Vikings Sign Two More To Football Letters (2/25/04)

Defensive tackle Junior Aumavae (pronounced AH-ma-vi), who earned Lineman of the Year honors for the state of Alaska, and defensive end Erik Olson, who was a Seattle Times White Chip selection, have signed national letters of intent to play football at Western Washington University. That brings the total number of Viking signees to 18.

Aumavae, a senior at Palmer High School, was a two-time all-state and all-Northern Rail-Belt Conference selection on both offense (guard) and defense (tackle). As a senior, he was credited with 33 quarterback sacks, four fumble recoveries, three forced fumbles and one blocked kick.

Aumavae also helped the Moose offense gain over 2,000 yards rushing in winning the league title and

reaching the first round of the large school state playoffs. As a junior, he played on a team that won the conference championship and got to the state semifinals.

Olson, a senior at Bellevue's Newport High School, was a first-team all-Kingco League pick, being credited with 44 tackles, four sacks and one blocked kick.

Olson's father Ed, played football at the University of Washington and was the head football coach at Hazen High School.

Vikings Sign 14 High School Seniors to Letters (2/4/04)

Seven Seattle Times White Chip selections, including two that turned down full-ride offers from NCAA Division I-AA schools, lead a group of 14 high school seniors who have signed national letters of intent to play football at Western Washington.

The white chip selections, designated by the Seattle Times as being among the top 100 high school seniors in the state of Washington, are tight end Logan Cullen of Anacortes High School, outside linebacker Steve Davis of Kamiakin High School in Kennewick, offensive tackle Phil Hayes of O'Dea High School (Renton), running back Jordyn Jackson of Columbia River High School in Vancouver, wide receiver Travis McKee of Bothell High School, quarterback Adam Perry of R.A. Long High School in Longview, and cornerback Anthony Rosso of Walla Walla High School.

Completing the 2004 recruiting class are offensive tackle Scott Allanson of Jackson High School in Everett, cornerback Maurice Jones of Spanaway Lake High School, defensive tackle Dale Moore of Evergreen High School in Vancouver, linebacker Joe Pennell of Cascade High School in Everett, wide receiver Jeff Schwab of Rogers High School in Puyallup, running back/strong safety Jason Yell of Cascade High School in Leavenworth, and the lone out-of-state signee, strong safety Chris Ware from Rainier, Ore.

"It's a very good day – there's a lot of smiles around this office right now," WWU head coach Rob Smith said. "Top-to-bottom it is maybe as talented athletically as any group we've had. They have flexibility, in that there's a lot of guys who can play on either side of the ball or in multiple positions. It's also a group that is strong academically and strong in character."

Hayes is likely the top offensive recruit. The 6-foot-5, 295-pound Hayes, who turned down offers from Big Sky schools, was a Associated Press first-team Class 3A all-state pick and a second-team selection on two

other lists, as the Fighting Irish went 11-2 and reached the state semifinals.

"We went head-to-head with Idaho on him," said Smith. "Phil has family here, his aunt works on campus. It's been difficult to recruit linemen who have size and combine it with talent. We have that with him. He's a big addition."

Leading the defensive recruits is Davis, a two-way first-team AP Class 4A all-state pick as a linebacker and quarterback who, like Hayes, turned down offers from the Big Sky. He had 85 tackles last season, including 6.5 sacks, and caused seven turnovers, as Kamiakin went 11-2 and reached the state quarterfinals. As a quarterback, Davis threw for 2,371 yards and 25 touchdowns, breaking school records previously held by former Western standout Scott Mitchell, who was his quarterback coach at Kamiakin.

"Scott called us very early and said you have to get this kid," Smith said of Davis. "Scott compares him athletically to (ex-Viking and ex-Pittsburgh Steeler) Erik Totten, which speaks for itself. The Big 9 has turned out to be a pretty good conference for us over the years and we're pleased to add both Steve and Anthony Rosso to our secondary."

Perry is the only signee recruited specifically as a quarterback. He established numerous school records as a three-year starter at R.A. Long, throwing for 5,519 yards and 50 touchdowns in his career. As a senior, he threw for 2,390 yards and 24 touchdowns while being intercepted just five times, and he added 589 yards rushing to earned second-team WashingtonPreps.com and honorable mention Seattle Times and AP Class 3A all-state recognition.

"Adam Perry is a very good fit for our program," said Smith. "From the day I first saw tape on him, he was our No.1 guy. It's always nice when you can target a guy and say that's the one we want and have it work out. He's a tremendous student and he's averaging over 30 points a game in basketball."

Cullen, an honorable mention Class 3A all-state pick by AP and WashingtonPreps.com, had 14 receptions for 260 yards and four touchdowns as Anacortes went 8-3 and reached the state playoffs. He was also named Skagit Valley Herald Defensive Player of the Year as a defensive end.

Jackson broke many Columbia River records previously held by Jon Brunaugh, Western's career rushing leader, running for 2,259 yards and 26 touchdowns while averaging 9.7 yards a carry as a senior. A first-team AP and WashingtonPreps.com Class 3A all-state pick, he helped the Chieftains reach the state quarterfinals this year after running for 1,700 yards and 23 scores as a junior.

McKee had 53 receptions for 843 yards and 13 touchdowns, earning first-team Class 4A honors from WashingtonPreps.com. Rosso was a pre-season all-state pick and a three-year starter on a Walla Walla team that twice reached the state playoffs in that time.

One of the hallmarks of the class is the caliber of programs that produced it. Ten of the 14 recruits played in state playoff games last fall.

“They come from programs that have gotten it done,” Smith said. “They’ve been brought up with certain expectations about how to conduct yourself, about how to be successful. It’s nice to have that, because our program operates along the same lines.”

Smith said the Vikings may sign a couple more players in the coming days.

Western was 4-6 last year, its first non-winning season since 1990, but the Vikings did win the Great Northwest Athletic Conference title with a 3-0 mark.

“We only have nine seniors next year, one of our strengths is how young we are,” Smith said. “To add a class as talented as this sets us up down the road. A lot of credit goes to the assistant coaches – they spent a lot of time on the phone and making evaluations.”

Two Lineman Enroll at WWU For Winter Quarter (1/28/04)

Two offensive linemen, guard Adam Bossard (pronounced Bah-surd) and center Will Freitag, have enrolled winter quarter at Western Washington and will play football for the Vikings this fall. Both are transfer juniors and each weighs 280 pounds.

The 6-foot-2 Bossard attended Ellsworth CC in Iowa Falls, Iowa. He started two years, helping the Panthers to a triple overtime win over Hudson Valley (NY) CC as a sophomore in the Graphic Edge Bowl.

Bossard was named to two all-state teams as a senior at Hubbard-Radcliffe High School. A three-time first-team all-Area and North Iowa Conference all-star, Bossard helped the Rebels to three state playoff appearances, winning a title as a junior and reaching the semifinals as a senior.

Freitag comes from University of Minnesota-Crookston. He started two years for the Golden Eagles, receiving Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference all-star honorable mention as a sophomore.

Freitag was a first-team all-Metro League choice as a senior at Eastside Catholic High School, helping the Crusaders reach the first round of the Class 3A state playoffs as a junior.

Vikings Get All-State Transfer from Washington State (9/22/03)

Cornerback Wes Rainwater (Fr., Renton/Kentridge), a transfer from Washington State University, has enrolled in classes at Western Washington University and is practicing with the Viking football team, head coach Rob Smith announced today.

Rainwater, a 2002 graduate of Kentridge High School, spent part of the 2002-03 academic year at Washington State, participating in spring football drills.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound Rainwater was a first-team Washington Prep Football Report all-state choice as a senior at Kentridge. He also was a red chip in the Seattle Times Top 100 list of high school seniors, the No.15 prospect in the Northwest by Super Prep Magazine and an honorable mention Northwest Nugget by the Tacoma News Tribune.

Rainwater had 1,224 all-purpose yards that season, rushing for 850 of them, scoring eight touchdowns and making four interceptions. Among his touchdowns were a school-record 96-yard kickoff return and a 71-yard punt return.

Rainwater was a first-team all-Area pick by both the TNT and South County Journal. The South Puget Sound League Special Teams Player of the Year, he earned first-team all-SPSL North Division honors as a running back and second team as a defensive back.

Rainwater helped Kentridge to a 9-2 record, a league co-championship and the first round of the Class 4A state playoffs. He scored twice in the first six minutes of the playoff game.

2003 Recruits

Central Washington

Two More Recruits Sign with Wildcat Football (2/7/03)

Enumclaw's Tyson Gamblin and Matt Kuljis from Evergreen High of Vancouver have signed letters-of-intent to play football at Central Washington.

Gamblin, 6-0 and 195 pounds, played three years of running back and linebacker for the Enumclaw Hornets. He was named first team all-state as a kick returner in 2002 by the Associated Press, while also racking up numerous all-league and all-area accolades on both offense and defense.

Offensively, Gamblin averaged 6.4 yards per carry and 18.7 yards per reception as a senior, totaling 17 touchdowns. He is expected to play both linebacker and running back at Central Washington.

Kuljis, meanwhile, was an all-Greater St. Helens League offensive tackle for Evergreen High School of Vancouver. The 6-6, 300 pounder played just one season of football for the Plainsmen, who won the GSHL regular-season title and finished 9-2. In addition to his accolades on the gridiron, Kuljis has been a two-year letterman in track and field at Evergreen.

CWU Signs Eleven On NLI Day (2/5/03)

Coming off its best season in more than a decade, Central Washington began to reload its football stock for the 2003 season, signing eleven high school seniors to national letters-of-intent on Wednesday.

"It is an exciting day for Central football," said Coach John Zamberlin, who will begin his seventh year at the helm of the Wildcats in 2003. "I think that in our recruiting process we addressed some needs that we will have in the future. We are excited to have these eleven men come to Central... We are anticipating the addition of more student-athletes in the coming days."

Headlining the list of student-athletes already declaring their intent to play for the Wildcats are three local stars from Ellensburg High - all-state quarterback Joe Standish, wide receiver Brandon Robertson, and linebacker Ryan Cotton. Standish was the Mid-Valley League Offensive Player of the Year, while Robertson joined as a fellow first team all-state choice - as a defensive back.

Tight end Matt Coffman, a 6-5, 245 pound senior from Othello High School, will join the Wildcats in the fall as well. Coffman, who also played offensive tackle, defensive tackle and was a long snapper for the

Huskies. A two-time all-Central Washington Athletic Conference selection, Coffman will compete in the East-West game this year.

CWU also signed six players from west of the Cascades. Running back Victor Valle (South Kitsap HS) and defensive lineman James Harrison (Kentrige HS) - both first team Class 4A all-state selections by the Associated Press - will suit up in the black and crimson next fall. In addition, quarterback Bradley Addink (White River HS), wide receiver Cody Petterson (Cedarcrest HS), linebacker Haden Gienger (Bethel HS) and defensive lineman Matt Hansen (Battle Ground HS) will all join the Wildcats' program this fall.

Returning to the state of Washington to play collegiately will be defensive lineman Kellen Becker (6-3, 270). Becker, from Robstown, Texas, used to live in Bremerton while his father was stationed at the Naval base.

Western Oregon

Twenty More To Play For Wolves (3/5/03)

Twenty more athletes have agreed to continue their football careers at Western Oregon bringing to 33 the number of players who have signed with the Wolves.

That group includes McNary High School offensive lineman Ryan Belcher, who was coveted by a number of Big Sky Conference schools. Belcher, a 6-4, 305 pound second team all-state selection, signed his national letter of intent on Tuesday.

"That is a huge signing for us," WOU Coach Duke Iverson said. "We are really very happy with this whole group."

Other players to write their names on the dotted line in recent weeks include Mazama linebacker Matt Starley (6-5, 215), Newport linebacker Grant Ferris (6-2, 240), defensive lineman Tyler Hartstein (6-3, 265) from Hermiston, Brookings-Harbor defensive back Colby Eslinger (6-1, 190), Hermiston linebacker James Williams (6-3, 195) and Canby defensive back Landon Stewart (5--10, 165).

All members of that group were all-state selections at the 4A or 3A level.

Other standouts signed include defensive linemen Nick Olsen of Benson (6-3, 260) and Danny Alexander of Marshall (6-2, 245), linebackers Nick Fertitta of Sandy (5-11, 230), Casey Dark of Stayton (6-1, 190) and Scott Hodges of Brookings-Harbor (5-11, 195) and defensive back Zach Christopherson of Wilson (6-2, 180).

The Wolves also added Sandy quarterback Mark Thorson (6-6, 200), brother of Ryan Thorson, who is currently a back-up quarterback for Iverson's team.

Iverson and staff also dipped into the Washington high school market, claiming Puyallup's Chad Blau (linebacker, 6-0, 205), Josh Holland (OL, 6-3, 235), Roy Bonner (RB, 5-10, 195) and Steve Manning (WR, 6-3, 190), along with Columbia River's Sean Bresnahan (WR, 5-11, 170) and Clover Park's Evan Kirkegaard (OL, 6-4, 280).

Amity's Campuzano, Valley League Standouts to Play for WOU (2/5/03)

Western Oregon football coach Duke Iverson has announced the signing of 13 high school football players who will be a part of the WOU program next fall.

That list includes 2A Offensive Player of the Year Baltazar Campuzano from Amity, a running back that rushed for 1,240 yards last fall.

Iverson and staff also inked four other players from the immediate area in Valley League standouts Josh Miles (North Salem), Allan Mikolas (McKay), Jon Strowbridge (Corvallis) and Kyle Van Ness (West Albany).

Campuzano, who helped lead his team to a 12-1 mark and a state final match-up with Dayton, tallied 14 touchdowns and averaged 7.5 yards a carry. He is also a two-time first team all-state selection at both defensive back and running back.

Mikolas (6-5, 290), an offensive lineman, was a first team All-Valley League pick. Ditto for running back Miles (6-1, 190), who rushed for 1,463 yards (third in the state) and 11 touchdowns for the Royal Scots.

Van Ness (6-5, 255) was a second team all-league pick as an offensive lineman and Strowbridge (6-1, 245) was the Valley League's top punter and earned third team all-league honors as a linebacker. He was also a third team All-State selection as a punter.

Third team All-State (3A) defensive back Brian Seward from Sweet Home will also be a Western Oregon Wolf next fall. Seward (5-11, 190) is a two-time first team All-Capital Conference choice. Canby offensive tackle Brett Rhodes (6-2, 230) is a first team All-Pac 9 pick and was a second team All-State (4A) selection.

The Far West Defensive Player of the Year, Brandon O'Neal, will also wear WOU colors. The first team all-league offensive and defensive lineman is 6-3, 260, out of North Bend High School.

Three Westview High School athletes will be among WOU's freshman class next year. Defensive back

Jason Buckmier (6-3, 200) was a first team All-Metro pick and was also a second team kicker. Running back Greg Coleman (5-11, 200) placed seventh in the 4A track meet last year in the 100 meters and his teammate, fellow ground gainer Jon Gibson (5-11, 205) is also a speed burner that ran track.

Western Oregon's signees also include two Portland Interscholastic League players, both of them first team all-league athletes. Paul Wright (6-3, 285) is an offensive lineman from Franklin and Eric Snow (6-0, 205) is a linebacker out of Wilson High School.

Western Washington

Dell To Play for Vikings (4/21/03)

Wide receiver Casey Dell, who earned first-team Associated Press Class 2A all-state honors as a senior at Yakima's East Valley High School, has accepted admission into Western Washington University this fall and will play football for the Vikings.

The 5-foot-11, 175-pound Dell was the Central Washington Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year and will play in the East-West all-star game this summer.

A first-team, all-league pick both ways, Dell caught 51 passes for 795 yards and 12 touchdowns, all league-leading figures. He also intercepted four passes as a defensive back and returned two kickoffs for touchdowns.

Dell, a team co-captain, helped the Red Devils to a 9-3 record and the quarterfinals of the state playoffs in 2002. He was the team MVP on both offense and defense.

Dell also was a first-team all-league pick in basketball at East Valley as a senior.

Western gets offensive lineman and cornerback (3/18/03)

Andy Thompson, a 305-pound offensive lineman who played two seasons at NCAA Division I-AA Eastern Illinois University, and John Shields, a cornerback at College of the Siskiyous (Calif.), have signed national letters of intent to play football at Western Washington.

Thompson, who is currently enrolled at Siskiyous, helped Eastern Illinois to a 9-2 record, the Ohio Valley Conference championship and first round of the national playoffs in 2001.

Thompson was named to two all-state teams as a senior at Milan High School (Ind.), helping the Indians to four Mid-Indiana Football Conference championships and state playoff appearances. A two-

time all-league choice, he played in the North-South senior all-star game.

The 5-foot-11, 190-pound Shields earned first-team conference all-star honors in both his seasons at Siskiyou. A team co-captain, he was credited with 45-1/2 solo tackles, two interceptions (one returned for touchdown), two forced fumbles, and one fumble recovery as a sophomore.

Shields was a first-team all-South Puget Sound League South Division all-star as a senior at Bethel High School, helping the Braves to an 11-2 record, the league championship and semifinals of Class 4A state playoffs. He intercepted seven passes for the Braves, and as a wide receiver on offense, made 35 receptions for 400 yards and seven touchdowns.

Shields and Thompson will each complete spring quarter at Siskiyou before enrolling at Western. The signings brings Western's NLI total to 20, 17 high school seniors and three transfers. Ten of the high school signees earned all-state honors.

Walla Walla QB Signs With WWU (2/13/03)

Casey Waddell (pronounced wah-DELL), a senior quarterback at Walla Walla High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play football at Western Washington University.

Waddell directed the Blue Devils to a 10-3 record and the semifinals of the Class 4A state playoffs last fall, passing for 2,200 yards and 24 touchdowns. He was a first-team Tri-City Herald all-Area pick and Big Nine Conference Tri-Offensive Player of the Year.

As a junior, Waddell played in just six games because of mononucleosis, but still managed to lead Walla Walla to the state quarterfinals, throwing for 1,187 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Waddell's signing brings Western's NLI total to 18, 17 high school seniors and one junior college transfer. Ten of the high school signees earned all-state honors.

Mountain Day Players Signs With Vikings (2/9/03)

James Day, a senior at Mountain View High School in Vancouver, has signed a national letter of intent to play football at Western Washington University.

Day, who is expected to play safety on defense at Western, received honorable mention Associated Press Class 4A all-state honors and was selected to play in the East-West all-star game this summer.

Twice a first-team Vancouver Columbian all-Area pick and a three-time first-team Greater St. Helens League all-star, Day helped the Thunder to a 10-3 record and the semifinals of the state playoffs last fall.

Despite missing three games with a pulled hamstring, Day was credited with 110 tackles, six forced fumbles and three blocked kicks as a defensive end, and ran for over 700 yards and 21 touchdowns as a running back on offense. In a state quarterfinal game against Oak Harbor, he set a state playoff record by scoring five touchdowns in one half.

As a junior, Day, who had his jersey No.11 retired, helped Mountain View to a 9-3 record, the league championship and the state semifinals. He also has earned letters in wrestling and baseball, leading the league in hitting (.523), slugging percentage and home runs (9) as a junior.

Day's signing brings Western's NLI total to 17, 16 high school seniors and one junior college transfer. Ten of the high school signees earned all-state honors.

Nine "White Chips" Head Up Recruiting Class (2/5/03)

Nine players selected as "white chip" prospects by the Seattle Times are among 14 players who signed national letters of intent Wednesday to play football at Western Washington University.

Five of those "white chip" prospects, rated by the Times as being in the top 100 high school seniors in the state of Washington, were also first-team Associated Press all-state picks. They are outside linebacker Tieba Bropleh (pronounced bro as in grow-play) from Bremerton, defensive end Ryan Conwell from Kent (Kentwood High School), offensive lineman Drew Fowler from Kent (Kentwood High School), quarterback/safety Danny Hill from Elma and offensive lineman Evan Noteboom from Lynden.

"As always, this is a very exciting day," said Western head coach Rob Smith. "We're very pleased with the group of players we've signed. Top to bottom this is a quality group of young men and they'll add a great deal to our program."

Fowler, who along with Conwell played key roles as Kentwood won the last two Class 4A state championships, and Noteboom, who twice reached the Class 3A title game with Lynden, are part of a group of offensive linemen that also includes white chip pick Hazen Palmer from Kennewick (Southridge High School).

"You always feel a need to do well in the offensive line," said Smith. "We've added some size with this group." Smith also was pleased with the additions in the secondary – Justin Coronado, a white chip pick from Walla Walla; Bryan Jarrett, who had nine interceptions for Puyallup High School; Mike Schmit, a second-team Class 3A all-state pick from Vancouver (Columbia River High School); and Kerry Williams from Tacoma (Foss High School).

Bropleh had 174 tackles as a senior and 384 in three years, and was the Narrows League Defensive Player of the Year. Conwell had 13.5 sacks, five fumble recoveries and four blocked kicks as a senior. Conwell's brother, William, plays at the University of Washington. Their father, Ben, played at Idaho, and their uncle, Ernie, played for the Huskies and started for the St. Louis Rams in their Super Bowl-winning season of 1999.

Hill directed Elma to the Class 2A state championship game each of the last two seasons, the Eagles winning the title in 2001. He threw for 2,095 yards and 26 touchdowns as a senior, earning first-team all-state honors as both a quarterback and a safety.

Completing the white chip picks are wide receiver Chris Robinson from Lakewood (Clover Park High School), who had 40 receptions for 739 yards and 10 touchdowns as a senior, and running back Jon Williams from Redmond, who led the Kingco League as he ran for 1,605 rushing yards and 26 touchdowns.

Two tight ends are joining the Vikings – Joe Briggs from Kennewick (Kamiakin High School), who was injured for most of his senior season, and Brett Smedley, a first-team Class 3A all-state pick from Vancouver (Columbia River High School).

“It's going to be fun to watch this group go through the program,” Smith said. “A lot of credit goes to our assistant coaches. They did a nice job of identifying players who were a good fit and developed the relationships that led us to today's signings.”

There's a common thread of success that runs through the new recruiting class, as four players played in state championship games this season and three others reached the state semifinals.

“We have players who know how to win,” Smith said. “They've been successful at the high school level and will bring a lot to our program.”

Vikings Add Two Transfers (1/17/03)

Two transfers have joined the Western Washington University football program. Wide receiver James Laurence, a junior from Antelope Valley College (Calif.) who signed a national letter of intent; and linebacker Jeff Parks, a freshman from Boise State University, are enrolled and attending winter quarter classes.

Laurence was a second-team Foothill Conference all-star at Antelope Valley, catching 55 passes for 791 yards and three touchdowns. He had 12 catches for 189 yards and two touchdowns in one game.

The 6-foot-5, 225-pound Laurence received all-league honorable mention as a freshman, making 28

receptions for 410 yards and one touchdown on a team that reached the Shrine Potato Bowl.

Laurence was a first-team all-South Puget Sound League North Division choice as a senior at Kent-Meridian High School in 1997, averaging 16.5 yards per catch and making nine touchdown grabs.

Parks did not play in two seasons at Boise State. He was a first-team Associated Press, Seattle Times and Tacoma News Tribune Class 4A all-State choice as a senior in 2000 at Bethel High School.

Listed as a red chip among the Seattle Times Top 100 state high school seniors, Parks was named South Puget Sound League Defensive Player of the Year. He also received first-team all-area and all-league recognition and played in the East-West all-star game.

Parks was named defensive MVP in the state title game, being credited with 11 tackles in a 21-3 loss to Pasco. For the season, he had 156 tackles, including 28 for loss and led the state in quarterback sacks with 17.

2002 Recruits

Central Washington

Myers Latest Addition to Wildcat Program (3/26/02)

Offensive lineman Zach Myers, a starter on Skyline High School's state 3A championship football team in 2000, has signed a national letter of intent to play collegiately at Central Washington.

Myers, who can play either the guard or center position, was a KingCo League first-team pick his senior year while playing both offense and defense. He has bench pressed a personal-high 325 pounds and squatted 425, CWU coach John Zamberlin said.

Adding to the list of Myers' accomplishments is his selection as the best offensive linemen at the University of Oregon's 2001 summer camp.

Myers' signing brings the number of gridiron athletes committing to CWU to 10.

Nine Players Commit To Wildcats (2/7/02)

Nine high school seniors have signed national letters of intent to join Central Washington University's football program next fall, head coach John Zamberlin announced Thursday.

Heading up the list is Edmonds-Woodway tight end/offensive lineman Keith Grennan (6-6, 310), an athlete Zamberlin sees as "the foundation of this recruiting class."

Grennan was selected to the 4A WesCo League's first-team and an all-area performer by the Seattle Times. He has also bench pressed 395 pounds on two occasions during his senior year and achieved a 4.9-second mark in the 40-yard dash.

"Keith possesses great strength and athletic ability for an athlete his size," Zamberlin said. "We're extremely excited about Keith's decision to play football for the Wildcats. He had other offers from NCAA Division I schools but chose to come to Central."

Ellensburg product Nolan Teasley (6-0, 200 pounds), named this past season a first team all-state 3A running back and Mid Valley League Offensive Player of the Year, is another recruit Zamberlin is high on.

Teasley, whose older brother Levi enjoyed a solid 2001 campaign at Central as a linebacker, was also a first team all-league kick returner and defensive back for the Bulldogs.

"He is a kid that has a great work ethic and is a strong runner who possesses great vision," Zamberlin said.

"He could make an impact for us early in his career. We're excited to keep a homegrown talent at Central so local fans can continue to watch him play."

Another versatile athlete signed by CWU is Thomas Jefferson's Kamarr Evans (5-10, 170), a first team South Puget Sound League running back and second team defensive back. Evans, a standout kick returner, earned All-Area Special Teams Player of the Year honors after racking up 1,602 all-purpose yards last fall.

"He'll bring a great explosiveness to all positions," Zamberlin said. "He's an outstanding track athlete who has already recorded an indoor mark of 23-2 in the long jump this year."

With the departure of senior defensive backs Terrance Allen and Jason Patterson, the school's all-time leader with 22 career interceptions, the Wildcats sought and have added personnel to their defensive backfield with commitments made by Inglemoor safety Josh Jessup (6-0, 180) and cornerback Adam Jackson (5-9, 170) of Spanaway Lake.

Jessup, Inglemoor's MVP, was selected to the KingCo League's and Eastside's first team twice, honored by the Seattle Times as an all-area safety and chalked up 133 tackles his senior season. Jackson impressed Zamberlin and his coaching staff at CWU's team camp last summer with his quickness and has been clocked at 4.52 in the 40-yard dash.

"Josh is an extremely physical football player that is a devastating tackler that we are excited about," Zamberlin said. "Adam played well despite playing most of this past season on a bad ankle. He should be a great addition to our cornerback position."

Rounding out the list of future Wildcats are South Kitsap offensive lineman Buddy Anderson (6-0, 310); Zach Fluke (6-0, 175), a first team all-league honoree at both wide receiver and defensive back at North Thurston; Brian Wilson (6-0, 185), who played both running back and cornerback for state B-11 champion Willapa Valley last fall and Richland's Scott Piippo (6-1, 230).

"For his size Buddy possesses good feet and tenaciousness for an offensive lineman," Zamberlin said. "He is an outstanding line prospect for the Wildcats."

Fluke has won three varsity letters in both football and baseball at North Thurston while Wilson was voted all state, B-11 Player of the Year and Aberdeen Daily World Athlete of the Year.

Humboldt State

Nineteen Sign With Lumberjacks (4/12/02)

The following 19 freshman and transfer student-athletes have signed to play football for Humboldt State:

Brandon Wigton 6-0 210 LB Bakersfield, Calif./Centennial HS

Wigton was an all-league and all-area selection at Centennial High School. ...led his team in tackles. ...team played in the C.I.F. Central Section Valley Championship. ...starter at centerfield for the baseball team which is expected to compete for the C.I.F. baseball championship.

Charles Holt 6-3 250 OL Deer Valley HS

Holt was a two-year starter at Deer Valley High School. ...earned all-league honors as a senior.

Chris Dixon 6-0 190 QB Contra Costa College

Dixon finished the 2001 season with 2,032 yards passing, 26 TDs, 225 yards rushing and five rushing TDs. ...named team's offensive MVP and offensive MVP of the East County Bowl. ...earned all-conference honors at quarterback. ...graduated from Richmond High School in 2000.

Travis Kinyon 6-1 220 LB Contra Costa College

Kinyon led his team to its first bowl appearance in 13 years. ...finished 2001 season second on team in tackles and had three interceptions. ...named to the all-conference first team at linebacker. ...2000 graduate of John Swett High School.

Chris White 5-11 160 WR College of the Redwoods

White led the Corsairs in receptions the last two seasons. ...three-time State Player of the Week. ...named first team Mid-Empire in 2001 and earned honorable mention in 2000. ...holds the school record for receptions in a game (13) and is second in career receptions at CR. ...2000 graduate of Fort Bragg High School. ...twin brother Nick also signed with the Lumberjacks and older brothers Josh and Jason are former HSU football players.

Nick White 6-0 170 DB College of the Redwoods

White led the Corsairs in tackles in 2001. ...earned first team Mid-Empire honors. ...named State Player of the Week for his performance against Shasta College (18 tackles, 1 sack, 1 pass defended). ...graduated in 2000 from Fort Bragg High School with twin brother Chris. ...older brothers Josh and Jason are former HSU football players.

Chris Hegler 6-2 250 DL Stockton, Calif./Franklin HS

Hegler was a two-time all-area and all-conference selection at Franklin High School. ...twice voted lineman of the year. ...team captain.

Tim Wilson 6-0 200 P San Diego, Calif./Grossmont College

Wilson averaged 41.5 yards per punt in 2001 at Grossmont College. ...was an all-academic selection at linebacker while at El Capitan High School. ...will pursue a marine biology major at HSU.

Scott Sports 6-8 315 OL Southwestern College

Sports was a two-year starter at Southwestern College. ...earned all-conference honors his sophomore season. ...expected to contribute immediately at offensive tackle for HSU.

Dana Howell 6-4 220 DE Carlsbad HS

Howell was twice selected to the All-Avocado League honorable mention. ...two-time player of the week. ...finished the season with 65 tackles, 4.5 sacks and one interception which he returned 94-yards for a touchdown. ...also was a long snapper at Carlsbad High School.

A.J. Mount 5-11 210 LB Sierra College

Mount was a first team all-conference selection at Sierra College. ...team captain. ...twice selected to the all-league team in high school.

Jermikio Barlow 6-2 280 DT San Francisco, Calif./Moorehouse College

Barlow was an outstanding defensive line prospect out of Washington High School. ...redshirted 2001 season at Moorehouse College. ...high school teammate of HSU defensive back Jonathan Dayao.

John Otterness 6-4 245 TE Bakersfield College/Portland State

Otterness was an All-Western State Conference selection at Bakersfield College. ...signed with Division I-AA Portland State University out of Bakersfield College, but was plagued by injuries. ...graduated from North Bakersfield High School.

J.D. Hellinger 6-2 185 QB Winters HS

Hellinger was an all-league and all-area quarterback at Winters High School. ...threw for over 4,000 yards in his two seasons as a varsity starter. ...selected to play in the Optimist and Area All-Star football games in June. ...also wrestled and played baseball in high school.

Dan Davis 6-5 280 OL Santa Barbara City College

Davis was a starting offensive tackle for the Vaqueros last season. ...played high school football with HSU lineman John Stokes.

Cody Killingsworth 6-0 192 DB College of the Redwoods

Killingsworth led the Corsairs in interceptions and pass defenses in 2001 and was third on the team in tackles. ...named first team Mid-Empire. ...State Player of the Week for his performance against College of Marin. ...finished 2001 with 64 tackles, four tackles

for loss, five interceptions and 16 kick off returns for 440 yards and one touchdown.

Bernie Lewis 5-11 190 DB El Camino High School

Lewis was an all-league wide receiver and free safety at El Camino High School. ...named El Camino High School's Most Athletic Student. ...earned second team all-league honors in baseball.

Martin Arce 6-2 240 LB Santa Monica City College

Arce was a second team All-Western State Conference selection at Santa Monica City College last season. ...team captain.

Kejuan Bullard DB Los Angeles, Calif./Jordan HS

Bullard was a first team all-league and All-Los Angeles City Section selection at Jordan High School.

Western Oregon

Wolves Sign 11 More To Letters, Total at 28 (2/27/01)

Western Oregon football coach Duke Iverson has announced the signing of 11 more high school football players who will be a part of the WOU program next fall.

That brings the total number of prep players committed to 28, all from the state of Oregon.

Among the recent players inked are two First-Team All-State (3A) selections. Defensive lineman Justin Cameron (6'2", 265) was named to the first-team squads on both sides of the ball at tackle, while playing for state runner-up Pleasant Hill. Quarterback Chad Harrington (6'3", 195) of Reedsport was also a first-team pick.

Julian Halgerson (6'0", 190), from state champion Scappoose, was a Second-Team All-State selection. Ditto for fellow wide receiver Mike Greene (6'0", 160) of Sisters. Greene, brother of former WOU standout Brian Greene, was also a first-team pick as a defensive back.

A First-Team All-State pick at the 2A level has also signed with the Wolves. Tight end/wide receiver Todd Grassman (6'4", 200) from Yoncalla will be in camp next summer. Grassman was a second-team selection as a defensive back. Another first-team selection who will be in a Western Oregon uniform next fall is Warrenton's Josh Hollaway (6'4", 260).

Other players on board since the initial signing day on Feb. 6 are Lincoln defensive back Jay Darden (5'9", 165), Oakridge defensive back and quarterback Tom Wortham (6'2", 185), Hood River running back Wes Martens (6'1", 215), Hermiston wide receiver Al Ayers (6'0", 180), and David Douglas defensive back Eric Odegbami (6'0", 180).

While the number of players who signed letters of intent to attend WOU is very respectable (28), it is the size of the crop, especially in the offensive line, that raises eyebrows.

Iverson and staff have now signed seven offensive lineman, three of them tipping the scales at 300 pounds or better. All seven are 6'3" or taller.

"You would always like to have some sort of balance in regards to position when signing a freshman class," Iverson said. "But we really did especially well this year on the offensive line and at quarterback. These are the best offensive line prospects that we have brought in, in terms of size and ability."

Following is complete list of all signees:

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN: Justin Cameron, Pleasant Hill HS (6'2", 265); Colby Jones, Newport HS (6'4", 220); Conrad Venti, McNary HS (5'8", 240).

LINEBACKER: Tyler York, Redmond HS (6'2", 205).

DEFENSIVE BACK: Jay Darden, Lincoln HS (5'9", 165); Eric Odegbami, David Douglas HS (6'0", 180); Tom Wortham, Oakridge HS (6'2", 185).

OFFENSIVE LINE: Mike Brabbin, Eagle Point HS (6'4", 300); Jordan Graybeal, Glencoe HS (6'4", 250); Josh Hollaway, Warrenton HS (6'4", 260); Brandon Jasmin, Crook County HS (6'5", 310); Willie Kingry, Roseburg HS (6'4", 320); Jake Lucey, McNary HS (6'4", 250); Mike Salvey, Rex Putnam HS (6'3", 275).

TIGHT END: Kevin Boss, Philomath HS (6'6", 215); Todd Grassman, Yoncalla HS (6'4", 200); Dane Wagner, Sprague HS (6'4", 230).

QUARTERBACK: Chad Harrington, Reedsport HS (6'3", 195); Matt Jirges, Gervais HS (6'4", 230); Ryan Thorson, Sandy HS (6'6", 200); Josh Wagenblast, Redmond HS (6'4", 215).

RUNNING BACKS: Andrew Beachamp, Toledo HS (5'11", 190); Wes Martens, Hood River HS (6'1", 215); Tom Martin, Grants Pass HS (6'0", 175).

WIDE RECEIVER: Brandon Bodine, Jefferson HS (5'11", 160); Mike Greene, Sisters HS (6'0", 160); Julian Halgerson, Scappoose HS (6'0", 190); Al Ayers, Hermiston HS (5'11", 170).

Wolves Sign 17 on Letter-of-Intent Day (2/6/01)

Western Oregon football coach Duke Iverson signed a "huge" crop of players to national football letters-of-intent Wednesday.

Huge, as in literally.

While the number of players who signed letters of intent to attend WOU is respectable (17), it is the size of the crop, especially in the offensive line, that raises eyebrows.

Iverson and staff signed six offensive linemen, three of them tipping the scales at 300 pounds or better. All six are 6'3" or taller. In addition, Iverson inked three quarterbacks, all at 6'4" or better.

"You would always like to have some sort of balance in regards to position when signing a freshman class," Iverson said. "But we really did especially well this year on the offensive line and at quarterback. These are the best offensive line prospects that we have brought in, in terms of size and ability."

While that group commands attention, there are other headliners in the 17.

Conrad Venti, a First-Team All-State selection (4A) from state-title winning McNary, will help the defensive line. Venti's teammate, offensive lineman Jake Lucey (6'4", 250) will also play for WOU next fall.

Josh Wagenblast, who led the state (4A) in passing while slinging for Redmond, is one of three signal callers new to the program. Wagenblast threw for 3,869 yards and 31 touchdowns in 2001. He was the conference player of the year and a Third-Team All-State selection.

Also signed as quarterbacks were Sandy's Ryan Thorson (6'6", 200) and Matt Jirges from Gervais (6'4", 230). "Jirges is really an athlete, he has the potential to play a number of other positions," Iverson said.

With 14 of his 17 signees listed at 6'3" or better, Iverson has impressive size. "I guess that height is in," he laughed. "It just is a very large group."

Other signees include Valco League Offensive Player of the Year Andrew Beauchamp (running back), Second-Team All-State offensive lineman Willie Kingry (Roseburg), and Third-Team All-State lineman Jordan Graybeal of Glencoe.

Western Washington

Vikings Sign Three More, Total Now at 20 (3/13/02)

Three more top high school seniors have signed National Letters of Intent to play football and attend Western Washington University.

They are defensive tackle Nicholas Buck from Kent's Kentridge High, cornerback Sly Whitfield, Jr., from Seattle's Garfield High, and running back/defensive

back Kenny Williams from Seattle's Rainier Beach High. That gives Western a total of 20 signees.

Buck, who will graduate from Seattle Christian but played football for Kentridge, was a second-team all-South Puget Sound League North Division choice as a senior. He helped the Chargers to a 9-2 record, the league co-championship and the first round of Class 4A state playoffs.

Whitfield was a first-team all-Kingco League selection at Garfield. He intercepted three passes and recovered three fumbles on defense, and had nearly 900 yards in total offense.

Williams missed his senior year at Rainier Beach because of a knee injury. As a junior, he earned first-team all-Metro League honors on both offense and defense, helping the Vikings to a league championship and the semifinals of the Class 3A state playoffs.

Williams ran for 1,024 yards and 10 touchdowns, having nearly 1,800 all-purpose running yards. He also intercepted six passes, returning two for touchdowns, and was credited with 53 tackles. Williams was also a reserve point guard as a senior on Rainier Beach's state championship basketball team.

Vikings Sign 17 Including Six All-State Picks (2/6/02)

Seventeen players, including six All-state picks and five Seattle Times Top 100 selections, have signed National Letters of Intent to play football and attend Western Washington University.

The five Seattle Times "White Chip" picks are offensive tackle Jose Chavira from Walla Walla, tight end Johnny McDonald from Vancouver (Hudson's Bay High), quarterback James Monrean from Bellingham (Sehome High), inside linebacker Pat Mutzel from Bellevue, and running back Darrius Tuggle from Spanaway (Spanaway Lake High).

"We're very pleased," said Western coach Rob Smith. "It's an exciting class and we feel good about what we've been able to accomplish. Our assistant coaches did a great job in evaluation and in identifying the type of player we wanted to bring in. There's a lot of smiles around here today."

Monrean is one of two local players signed by Western, joining defensive tackle Parker Follis of Bellingham's Squalicum High School. Monrean threw for 1,503 yards and 12 touchdowns for Sehome last year, completing 95 of 177 passes and earning first-team all-Northwest League honors.

"We wanted to get a quality quarterback and we're very excited to get James Monrean," Smith said. "We're very excited about his talent, and that he's a

local player we've been able to convince to stay home and compete for us."

Follis was also an all-NWL pick and was a second-team all-state selection by Washington Prep Football Report. He's also a starter on the Squalicum basketball team.

"We've watched him (Follis) play basketball and he's a very good athlete," Smith said. "He has a frame that will fill out. He brings a real intensity to his play, and when we talked to coaches who played against him, they all talked about the problems he caused."

Chavira is one of six offensive linemen signed by Western. The others are Phil Blair from Reno, Nevada (Galena High), Chris Erikson of Shoreline (Shorewood High), Chris Krueger of Port Orchard (South Kitsap High), Brandon Torrey from Graham (Bethel High), and Peter Van Datta of Bremerton (Central Kitsap High).

"We always want a well-rounded class, but in terms of position we focused on the offensive line," Smith said. "We graduated four seniors, and graduate three more this year. We needed to replenish our depth. We've done that with the six players we signed."

Phil Blair is joined by his identical twin Pat Blair, a defensive lineman who was a first-team Las Vegas Sun all-state selection. The Blairs lived in Snohomish until they were 11.

Torrey and Van Datta will play in the East-West all-star game, and Chavira and Krueger were all-state picks. Mutzel was a first-team pick on four different all-state teams as he had 13 sacks and helped Bellevue go undefeated in winning the Class 3A state championship.

Also joining the defense are end Jeff Cooper from Spokane (Ferris High); strong safety Eric Duenas of Shoreline (Shorecrest High); cornerback Ocie Moore of Kent (Kent-Meridian High); and inside linebacker John Williams from Sammamish (Eastlake High), the son of former Seattle Seahawk fullback John L. Williams.

McDonald had a team-high 15 receptions for 350 yards and two touchdowns and was also the defensive MVP at Hudson's Bay. Tuggle was limited to two games as a senior because of a broken leg, but helped Spanaway Lake reach the quarterfinals of the Class 4A state playoffs as a junior.

Another running back is Jesse McMichael of Graham (Bethel), who missed all of his senior season with a knee injury but ran for 2,500 yards and 19 touchdowns as a junior to earn second-team all-state honors.

Viks get verbal commitment from Division I strong safety (1/28/02)

Offensive lineman Jon Pagan, a standout at El Camino (Calif.) Junior College, has signed a national letter of intent to play football at Western Washington University, and the Vikings have received a verbal commitment from strong safety Scott Horne, who played at NCAA Division I Iowa State University as a true freshman.

Horne, a sophomore from Vancouver, B.C., played in all but two games on special teams as a true freshman in 1999 at Iowa State. He did not compete in 2000 because of a knee injury and left school prior to the 2001 season.

The 6-foot-3, 210-pound Horne was a first-team all-conference and all-city pick both ways as a senior at Central Catholic High School in London, Ont. He had 1,430 all-purpose yards and 12 touchdowns, and 81 tackles and eight pass interceptions, helping the Crusaders to the city championship game.

As a junior, Horne was a first-team all-Provincial choice as a wide receiver and first-team all-league both ways at Notre Dame Regional Secondary School in Vancouver, B.C. He finished with 1,075 receiving yards and 10 touchdowns, and 76 tackles and six interceptions.

Horne's stepfather is Butts Giraud, who was an All-America defensive tackle at Western in the late 1960s and played professionally for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in the Canadian Football League.

Pagan, a junior from Los Angeles, Calif., started all 10 games last fall at El Camino JC (Torrance, Calif.) where he was the Coaches' Award winner. He also was a second-team all-Mission Conference selection as a defensive end in 1999 before signing a professional baseball contract and played one year in the Pittsburgh Pirates' farm chain.

The 6-4, 260-pound Pagan was a second-team California Interscholastic Federation all-star and all-league choice as a senior at El Segundo (Calif.) High School. He started three years for the Eagles.