



Broncos Veteran Guard Mike Wahle Retires Najeh Davenport Released



Denver, February 12th, 2010: The Denver Broncos announced today that veteran guard Mike Wahle has retired from the ISFL effective immediately. Wahle, 32, started the first 11 games for the Broncos in 2009 but injured his shoulder in that game versus Buffalo in November and missed the remainder of the season. After extensive rehab, the Broncos determined that Wahle's shoulder was not capable of withstanding the rigors of ISFL play any longer and decided to give him his unconditional release yesterday. Today Wahle told the team that he was hanging up his cleats 'for the time being' and would spend more time with his family.

Wahle played his college ball at the Naval Academy before being drafted by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the sixth round of the 2000 ISFL draft. The Broncos acquired Wahle in April of 2008 before the start of the 2008 season in a trade with San Francisco. He started all 16 games in 2008 for the Broncos and was a starter again this season before the injury.

Head Coach Hank Sienzant said of Wahle, "He was a solid contributor with the Broncos in his time here. However, unfortunately for the Broncos and Mike, his body is not capable of sustained pro action any longer. We wish we had more players like Mike when healthy, and we wish him well in his future endeavors."

In separate transactions, the Broncos also announced the outright release of three other players. Cut were running back Dwayne Wright, who spent last season on the team's reserve list; wide receiver Ryne Robinson (reserve list); and veteran running back Najeh Davenport.

Davenport spent most of the past season as a special team's player, returning 29 kickoffs for 465 yards (16.0 yards per return). Stuck behind Lendale White and Ricky Williams in 2009, he saw limited action from scrimmage, catching three passes for 13 yards and rushing once for a three-yard loss.

Davenport was drafted in the sixth round by the Broncos in 2003, and spent his entire seven-year career with the Broncos. Davenport entered the ISFL with a lot of untapped talent but the rap as injury-prone. However, in the pros the big (6-1, 247) running back never played fewer than 13 games in a season, and played in all 16 games in three different years, including this past season. Overall, he missed only eight games in his seven-year career.

Davenport's best year was his second as a pro, in 2004. He rushed for 585 yards on just 81 carries (7.2 per carry), caught 5 passes for 37 yards, and returned seven kickoffs for a 32.4 average. He gained 849 all-purpose yards that year, and 622 from scrimmage.

NAJEH DAVENPORT'S BRONCO CAREER

	Rushing							Receiving							Kick Off Returns					Total Ydg	Scrim Ydg	
	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	10	FD	Rec	Dp	Yds	Ave	25	FD	Lg	TD	Ret	Ydg	Ave	Lg			TD
2003	33	238	7.2	43	0	9	8	2	0	11	5.5	0	0	6	0	1	23	23.0	23	0	272	249
2004	81	585	7.2	52	4	22	33	5	2	37	7.4	0	2	16	0	7	227	32.4	38	0	849	622
2005	69	315	4.6	27	1	8	20	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	2	36	18.0	19	0	351	315
2006	31	94	3.0	9	1	0	4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	2	25	12.5	25	0	119	94
2007	42	98	2.3	12	0	3	6	17	0	127	7.5	0	7	20	0	15	354	23.6	37	0	579	225
2008	68	221	3.3	19	1	4	15	19	4	207	10.9	1	10	29	0	7	116	16.6	28	0	544	428
2009	1	-3	-3.0	0	0	0	0	3	0	13	4.3	0	0	6	0	29	465	16.0	31	0	475	10
Totals	325	1548	4.8	52	7	56	86	46	7	395	8.6	26	19	29	0	63	1246	19.8	38	0	3189	1943