



BRONCOS GET RECOGNITION FOR GREAT 2011



January 19, 2011: With winning, comes recognition. Especially in the ISFL, since it is such a results-oriented league.

The 16-3 Super Bowl bound Broncos received a number of year-end awards, with quarterback Josh Freeman being honored twice, and head coach Hank Sienzant being honored twice as well. Two other players (offensive linemen Joe Thomas and Maurkice Pouncey) received first-place votes, but not enough to receive any awards.

Josh Freeman, the 22-year-old starting quarterback in just his second year in the ISFL, was voted the ISFL Offensive Player of the Year as well as the AFC Offensive Player of the Year. Freeman, who played about half his rookie season, really took off in his second year and led the league in passer rating, and finished in the top three in yards per pass attempt and passing yards. His 37 touchdown passes put him six ahead of his nearest competitor.

Freeman's comment was only that he was honored to receive those awards, and he thanked all who voted for him. He declined further comment saying simply, "Sorry, I have a Super Bowl to prepare for, and that is my primary focus right now."

Hank Sienzant was voted the ISFL Coach of the Year as well as the ISFL General Manager of the Year. He took a team that was generally recognized as one of the poorest in the league when he arrived in 2009, and in three years, turned it totally around. Sienzant said that "Receiving an award such as this is truly over-whelming and deeply satisfying. Especially since it comes from one's peers. Only another coach and general manager knows how tough it is to win in an ultra-competitive league such as the ISFL, and to get their recognition as the best in the business this year is a great honor."

Bronco left tackle Joe Thomas received one vote as AFC Offensive Player of the Year, while rookie center Maurkice Pouncey received three votes for Offensive Rookie of the Year. Pouncey said the votes he received "...reflects on how well the Bronco offensive line played together as a unit. Nobody looks good on the offensive line unless everyone does their job, does it well, and does it consistently. I got those votes, but I would not have if the unit had not played well together. Those votes were recognition of the job we did together."

Calls to reach Joe Thomas for comment were unsuccessful, as we were told by the person who answered his home phone that he was out fishing with his father.