## Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.

## **P&D Sports Chat Wednesday**

Press & Dakotan sports editor James D. Cimburek and assistant sports editor Jeremy Hoeck will host a live chat on Wednesdav afternoons.

The weekly event, which will run from 3:30-4:30 p.m.. will cover local and regional high school and college sports, as well as some topics of national interest. Go online to http://www.yankton.net/live\_chat

## South Dakota's Starr Named To **College Sports Journal Presea**son All-American Team

VERMILLION — South Dakota junior defensive end Tyler Starr has been named to the 2012 College Sports Journal Preseason FCS All-America second team, it was announced on Tuesday. Starr is one of 12 players from the Missouri Valley Football Conference to earn honors from the CSJ.

Starr (Little Rock, Iowa), had a breakout season in 2011, recording 14 sacks for 96 yards, ranking in the top 10 in the nation in that category. He led the Great West Conference in tackles for loss with 19, and finished with 51

SCOREBOARD

**Pts** 800

624

608

608 32-3

484 458 34-3 32-3 24-8 13

458 420

374 24-7

296 260

242 25-7 T20

105 20-9 T20

89 60 60

Others Receiving Votes and listed on two or

more ballots: Fresno Pacific 42: Armstrong At-

lantic State 39; West Florida 33; Missouri S&T 24; Seattle Pacific 24; Emporia State 20; West-ern Washington 20; Arkansas-Fort Smith 14; Alacka Asbergen 11, Cread Vollay State 11

Alaska-Anchorage 11; Grand Valley State 11

Truman State 10: Florida Southern 7: Arkansas

FOOTBALL

32-4

33-2

32-1

32-2 29-5 25-7 28-4 660 642

23-8

28-4 31-6 31-7 22-6 358 322

27-5 19-4

32-1 24-11 18 NR

23-7

19-11 36-4

22 NR

24 NR

23

VOLLEYBALL

AVCA DIVISION II PRESEASON POLL

. Concordia-St. Paul (32)

. Nebraska-Kearney . Central Missouri . Southwest Minn. State

. Minnesota Duluth

0. West Texas A&M 10. Hillsdale 10. Indianapolis 12. Wayne State (Neb.)

. Washburn

13. Metro State

4. Ferris State

Flagler
UC San Diego

BYU-Hawai'i

23. Minnesota State

4. Sonoma State

25. Wheeling Jesuit

NFL PRESEASON

Saturday's Games

Seattle 27, Tennessee 17

Sunday's Game Indianapolis 38, St. Louis 3

Thursday, Aug. 16 Cleveland at Green Bay, 7 p.m.

Cincinnati at Atlanta, 7 p.m.

Detroit at Baltimore, 7 p.m.

Miami at Carolina, 7 p.m.

Oakland at Arizona, 9 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 18 N.Y. Giants at N.Y. Jets, 6 p.m

San Francisco at Houston, 7 p.m

Kansas City at St Louis 7 nm

Washington at Chicago, 7 p.m. Dallas at San Diego, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 19 Indianapolis at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 20 Philadelphia at New England, 7 p.m.

BASEBALL

Seattle at Denver, 8 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 17 Tennessee at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.

Buffalo at Minnesota, 7 p.m. Jacksonville at New Orleans, 7 p.m.

Monday's Game Dallas 3. Oakland 0

Tech 5.

Colo. School of Mines

8. Lewis (III.)

Eckerd

Wingate Rollins

2. Tampa 760 3. Cal State San Bernardino 700

63 53 57 60 55 61 Central Division

**W** 63 L 52

62 54 50 55 62 65 .530

50 66

West Division

**W** 67 61

Monday's Games N.Y. Yankees 8, Texas 2 Toronto 3, Chicago White Sox 2, 11 innings

Minnesota 9. Detroit 3

Tampa Bay 4, Seattle 1

Tuesday's Games Baltimore 7, Boston 1 N.Y. Yankees 3, Texas 0

Detroit 8, Minnesota 4

(R.Romero 8-9), 6:07 p.m

(E.Santana 5-10), 9:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Washington

Philadelphia

Atlanta

Miami

Cincinnati

Pittsburgh St. Louis

Milwaukee

Los Angeles

San Francisco

Chicago

Houston

Arizona

San Diego Colorado

New York

Cleveland 6, L.A. Angels 2

Chicago White Sox 3, Toronto 2

Kansas City 5, Oakland 0 Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 10:05 p.m.

ednesday's Games Detroit (Scherzer 11-6) at Minnesota (De

Vries 2-3), 12:10 p.m. Tampa Bay (Hellickson 7-7) at Seattle (F.Hemandez 10-5), 2:40 p.m.

zalez 4-2), 6:05 p.m. Texas (Feldman 6-7) at N.Y. Yankees (F.Garcia 6-5), 6:05 p.m. Chicago White Sox (Floyd 8-9) at Toronto

Oakland (McCarthy 6-3) at Kansas City (W.Smith 3-4), 7:10 p.m. Cleveland (R.Hernandez 0-0) at L.A. Angels

East Division

W 72 67

55 61 .474

54 52 62 65

**Central Division** 

**W** 70

64

63 52 45

39

West Division

W 64 63

58

52 42 66 71 .441 .372 12 1/2 20

Monday's Games L.A. Dodgers 5, Pittsburgh 4

Philadelphia 4. Miami 0

San Diego 4, Atlanta 1

**L** 44 49 Pct GB

**L** 46 Pct

.621 .578

.603

.331 32

Pct GB

.547 .543

.500 5 1/2

.466 18 .444 20 1/2

.552 6 .543 7 .456 17 .391 24 1/2

5 17

GB

1/2

15-day DL

Boston (A.Cook 3-5) at Baltimore (Mig.Gon-

Tampa Bay at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

.543 6 .487 12 1/2 .474 14

Pct .548 GB

Pct .583 .530 .517

.453 15

2

GB

6

7 1/2

.466 9 1/2 .435 13 .431 13 1/2

Baltimore

Boston

Toronto

Chicago Detroit Cleveland Kansas City

Minnesota

Texas Oakland

Seattle

Los Angeles

## Sorry, But I'm Not Ready For Some Football Yet

**BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK** james.cimburek@yankton.net

Every time I've seen the ESPN talking heads talk about football this week, I've changed the channel. As I was putting together today's sports section, I scanned for stories that weren't about football before giving in and dropping a Vikings story, a Broncos story and a couple other football-related items on the pages. I watched SyFy

channel Monday night rather than watching the Monday Night Football game. No, I am not anti-football, even though my mom was. (Why else do you think a 6-1, 180-pound freshman would run cross country?) But I will admit that I am not even close to ready for it to be here. So why am I avoiding football as much as possible? Because football means fall.

total tackles on the year. He was a first-team all-conference selection as well.

The iunior also was named to the College Sporting News Preseason All-American third team in July and was named to the MVFC Preseason first team earlier this month.

The Coyote football team opens the season on Sept. 1 at Montana

## Wavne State Men's Basketball Team To Play Exhibitions In Canada

WAYNE, Neb. - Wayne State College men's basketball head coach Paul Combs announced today that the Wildcats will journey north of the border for three games with colleges in Canada over Labor Day weekend.

The Wildcats will play the University of Winnipeg on Saturday, Sep. 1, the University of Manitoba on Sunday, Sept. 2 and will complete the trip with another contest against the University of Winnipeg on Monday, Sept. 3. This trip allows the Wildcats to have 10 practice days

under NCAA rules leading up to the trip. Wayne State College returns four starters from a team

Wednesday, August 15 GOLF, BOYS' Dakota Valley Inv. at Two

ers GC (Dakota Valley, Elk Point-Jeffer-, Vermillion, 9 a.m.)

Thursday, August 16

Huaita d, Gai Diego C Houston 10, Chicago Cubs 1 St. Louis 8, Arizona 2 Milwaukee at Colorado, 8:40 p.m. Washington at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (Dickey 15-3) at Cincinnati (Leake

4-7), 6:10 p.m. San Diego (Volquez 7-8) at Atlanta (Maholm

TRANSACTIONS

and strikes during Sunday's game against Seat-

called RHP Steve Johnson from Norfolk. Placed

pach to the N.Y. Mets for a player to be named

Activated RHP Andrew Bailey from the 60-day

Tomlin on the 15-day DL, retroactive to Aug. 13. Reinstated RHP Roberto Hernandez from the

DETROIT TIGERS—Recalled RHP Luke Putkonen from Toledo (IL). OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Placed 3B Bran-

don Inge on the 15-day DL, retroactive to Aug.

12. Recalled INF Josh Donaldson from Sacra

Smoak from Tacoma (PCL).

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Placed RHP Josh

tle.

No activities scheduled

Cincinnati 3, N.Y. Mets 0

Philadelphia 1, Miami 0 Atlanta 6, San Diego 0

that was 10-17 last season, finishing eighth in the Northern Sun Conference with a 9-13 league mark. The Wildcats open the season Nov. 9 against Southwest Baptist in the Southwest Baptist Tip-off Classic in Bolivar, Mo. They open the home portion of their season Nov. 15 against Neb.-Kearney.

#### **Bonte Named to USA Football News Preseason Third Team All-**America Squad

ROSELAND, N.J. - USA Football News has named USF senior linebacker Nick Bonte to its preseason thirdteam All-America squad.

Members of the selection committee included coaches. sports information directors, certified players' agents, professional scouts, national media reporters and USA Football News staff members.

Bonte was named as one of the "NSIC Defensive Plavers to Watch" earlier this summer. He started all nine games for the Cougars in 2011 and tallied seven or more tackles in five contests. Bonte earned first team All-Dakota Transition accolades. The Garretson product led the Cougars with three forced fumbles and 12 tackles for a loss and was third on the squad with 56 tackles. A second team All-GPAC honoree in 2010, Bonte finished his sophomore campaign with 48 tackles (8 TFL). two sacks, two interceptions, three pass deflections, two fumble recoveries and two forced fumbles.

will make it to the printers in time for its Friday, Aug. 24 release

are opened up once again.

USF finished 2011 with an overall mark of 5-4. The Cougars began fall camp on Saturday and will open the 2012 season on August 30 at St. Cloud State.

#### **Riverboat Days Parking Passes** Available From Two Groups

Two organizations are offering parking passes for lots near Riverside Park for this weekend's Riverboat Days festivities.

 The Yankton Baseball Association is selling parking passes during Riverboat Days festivities. Passes are available at JJBenji and First Chiropractic. The parking area is located in the old Gurney's parking lot.

For more information, contact Jeff Benjamin at 661-6351 or Marcia Walter at 660-6564.

- The Yankton club high school soccer program are selling parking passes for near Riverside Park for during

Passes are available at Slumberland and the Scrap-

book Store. The parking area is located near the Scrapbook Store, 315 É 3rd Street.

PRESS & DAKOTAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012

The stack of preview forms that remain untyped and schedules that remain unprocessed tell me that I am

But like those students and student-athletes who will break out those books because the schedule says it's

not ready for fall yet. I am sure those boys and girls whose names appear on those preview forms - while prob-

ably ready for his or her sport to begin - could handle a week or two more of summer vacation before the books

time, I will get my act together some time in the next few days, and the Press & Dakotan Fall Sports Preview

By the way, if you're a high school coach of a fall sport, you can help that happen by getting your team in-formation to the *P&D*. Drop it in an email to sports@yankton.net or fax it to 1-605-665-1721.

For more information, contact Deb Lillie at 661-1296.

#### South Dakota State Baseball **Camps Coming Up**

BROOKINGS - The South Dakota State University baseball coaching staff will conduct a pair of one-day camps this fall for high school prospects.

The first camp will be for high school seniors and will be held Saturday, Sept. 8 at Erv Huether Field on the SDSU campus. The camp will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A camp for underclassmen is set for Saturday, Oct. 6,

and will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Erv Huether Field. For more information, call the Jackrabbit baseball office at (605) 688-5778.

Games will be played on Sunday afternoons in September and October. Contact Kathy Shelburg at 661-9483 by Aug. 17.

quarterback this game is solely

about you, I think you're sadly

mistaken. This is the greatest

quarterback to gripe about

a play.

team game ever invented. For a

whether he's getting in rhythm or

not ... grab the football and make

NOTES: CB Antonio Cromar-

tie, who hopes to play on defense

and offense this season, caught a

short touchdown pass from Greg

McElroy while working as a wide

receiver with the third-team of-

fense. Some of the Jets players

on defense teased him, calling

him a "traitor" for working with

the offense. "I'm not a traitor

when we're on the same team,"

Cromartie said with a grin. "I feel

like I can help, so, yeah, I feel like

I'm a traitor for the day, but I can

take it." He has had limited snaps

against the Giants. ... X-rays were

negative on rookie WR Stephen

Hill's right ring finger after he

said it might have been dislo-

cated when he got jammed up

with CB Darrelle Revis during a

drill. He had it taped up before

returning to 7-on-7 drills, but sat

out of the final 11-on-11 periods..

... Ryan expects NT Sione Pouha

(forehead, back) to be ready for

the season opener, but revealed

that he left camp one day to go

to New York to receive treatment

on his back. ... LB Nick Bellore. a

special teams standout, has also

been working on learning how to

play fullback.

at wide receiver, but could play

the position this season — and

maybe even Saturday night

"Ťhat's what it's about."

## AREA CALENDAR

Friday, August 17 GOLF, DAKOTAS TOUR Paradise Val-

would certainly know. He was part of the tricky offensive

Manginio no aminor league contract. CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP Seth McClung on a minor league contract. CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Placed LHP Brian Fu

tract of LHP Tom Layne from San Antonio (TL). Designated LHP Alex Hinshaw for assignment FOOTBALL

10-7), 6:10 p.m. Arizona (J.Saunders 6-8) at St. Louis (Wain-Waived RB Eddie Williams.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS-Signed CB BASEBALL MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL—Suspended L.A. Angels pitching coach Mike Butcher one game and fined him an undisclosed amount for

rence

David Johnson on injured reserve. Signed TE Justin Peelle to a one-year contract. Activated OT Max Starks from the physically-unable-torform list. Waived RB John Clay. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Signed TE Joe vyer and TE Gijon Robinson. Waived G Gar-

Burns assistant wrestling coach. BROWN—Named Dwayne Pina and Kevin /der men's assistant basketball coaches

W

men's assistant soccer coach. MONMOUTH (NJ)—Named Andrew Gei-

son assistant lacrosse coach. NYIJ-Named Rita Welsh Costigan

TEXAS A&M-CORPUS CHRISTI—Named

,. TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Assigned RHP tt Richmond to Las Vegas (PCL). Agreed to Yaphett King men's assistant basketball coach. WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE—Named Tod terms with C Jeff Mathis on a two-year contract through 2014. Herskovitz men's assistant soccer coach

Inv. at Casper, Wyo. SOCCER, BOYS' Custer at Vermillion TENNIS, GIRLS' R.C. Stevens/Watertown at YHS (1 p.m.)

LHP Mike Zagurski outright to Reno (PCL) and selected his contract. Placed RHP Takashi Saito on the 15-day DL. Agreed to terms with 1B Matt

SS Johan Rodriguez on a minor league contract.

Rosario to the 60-day DL. PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Assigned RHP Kyle Kaminska from Altoona (EL) to Bradenton

 Philade(phia (Buehrle 9-11), 11:40 a.m. Houston (B.Norris 5-9) at Chicago Cubs (Germano 1-2), 1:20 p.m. Milwaukee (M.Rogers 0-1) at Colorado (Moscoso 0-1), 2:10 p.m. Washington (Strasburg 13-5) at San Fran-cisco (Lincecum 6-12), 2:45 p.m. L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 10-6) at Pittsburgh W.Rodriguez 7-11), 6:05 p.m. N.Y. Metz (Dirkey 15-3) at Cincinnati (Leake Brian Fuentes on the restricted list. Recalled RHP Trevor Rosenthal from Memphis (PCL). SAN DIEGO PADRES—Selected the con-

GREEN BAY PACKERS—Re-signed G T.J. Lang to a four-year contract extension through

Nike Holmes. Waived CB Jeremiah Brown. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Placed LB Dane Fletcher on injured reserve. Released WR leaving the dugout to aggressively argue balls

American League BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Selected the con-tract of LHP J.C. Romero from Norfolk (IL). Re-LHP Troy Patton on the 15-day DL, retroactive to Aug. 13. Designated RHP Miguel Socolovich for assignment. BOSTON RED SOX—Traded C Kelly Shop-

rett Chisolm.

APPALACHIAN STATE-Named Daren

COLLEGE OF ST. ROSE-Named Scott arren men's golf coach. FELICIAN—Promoted assistant trainer Brian Vogler to head trainer. Named Mick Sudol

I FFS-MCRAF—Named Catherine Hauck mento (PCL). SEATTLE MARINERS—Placed 1B Mike Carp on the 15-day DL. Recalled 1B Justin

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with C Koyie Hill on a minor league contract and as-signed him to Round Rock (PCL). Agreed to

signed nim to Kound Rock (FCL), Agreed of them still Covid Toreale and a minor league. Enright men's assistant basketball coaches. contract and assigned him to New Hampshire RADFORD—Named Maggie Johnson softball coach

scheme in Miami, when he played with the Dolphins under current Jets offensive coordinator Tony Sparano.

Washington ac C-Wednesday's Games Philadelphia (Halladay 6-6) at Miami MIAMI MARLINS-Transferred RHP Sandy

National Football League CLEVELAND BROWNS—Claimed DT Ronnie Cameron off waivers from Chicago.

Britt Davis. NEW YORK JETS—Waived CB Devon Tor-

PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Placed RB

COLLEGE BIG EAST CONFERENCE—Named Mike

nen's assistant vollevball coach.

PFEIFFER—Named Matt Adams and Steve

the Riverboat Davs festivities.

CORTLAND, N.Y. (AP) — Chad

Pennington thinks the New York

Jets, Tim Tebow and the wildcat

The former NFL quarterback

"If the wildcat allows you to

win and be more successful,"

Pennington said Tuesday, "you

should be all for it as a player.

Pennington spent his first

eight NFL seasons with the Jets

before being released in 2008

when New York acquired Brett

Favre. The former first-round

pick signed with Miami and was

there when Sparano dusted off

the wildcat offense and took the

For Pennington, that was a big

change after working in a conven-

tional offense his whole career -

just as current starting quarter-

"If you are totally focused on

winning," Pennington said, "there

While some fans and media

think the wildcat may have be-

have caught up to it, Jets coach

Rex Ryan insists it's still difficult

to prepare for. Ryan said adding

an athletic quarterback such as

"Well, obviously Tim adds an-

other threat with the ability to do

being able to throw the football,

and that changes the defense's

perspective," Pennington said.

**Fantasy** 

zone-read concepts as well as

Tebow makes it even tougher,

something Pennington com-

pletely agrees with.

come ineffective as defenses

back Mark Sanchez has.

NFL by storm.

is no adjusting."

are a perfect fit.

**Fall Softball Leagues Forming** The fall coed softball league is now forming.

## Pennington: Jets Can Succeed With Tebow, Wildcat nington said. "If you think as a

Pennington, who said he is now officially retired from playing after taking his last NFL snap in 2010 following several shoulder operations throughout his career, worked with Jets starting quarterback Mark Sanchez in the offseason to help him learn Sparano's offense.

"From what I've seen from afar, and now being here, Mark is throwing the ball better than I've ever seen him throw," said Pennington, who added that he's "invested" in Sanchez after spending so much time with him. "I think he's doing an outstanding job. I think he's definitely gotten better in the offseason, and made a point to take it to the next level. Kudos to him for doing that because that's a decision you have to make as a pro to listen to the criticism and do something about it. He's certainly done that.'

Pennington spoke to Sanchez after the Jets (No. 17 in the AP Pro32) traded for Tebow in March and tried to lighten the mood a bit. "I told him: 'Guess what? Look

on the bright side. You don't

a smiling Pennington said.

ing training camp has been

have to do as many interviews.""

While a major story line dur-

whether Sanchez and Tebow will

has no doubts that the two quar-

terbacks will be able to do so. He

also doesn't think Sanchez will

something wide receiver Santo-

nio Holmes suggested could be

"I think that's selfish," Pen-

the downfall of a two-quarter-

back system.

have his rhythm affected —

be able to co-exist, Pennington



National League ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Assigned

# Hockey

From Page 7

plavers in revenue share by introducing new contract restrictions, including a five-year cap on deals. The NHLPA has proposed a threeyear deal for a CBA with an option for a fourth, Fehr said.

The proposal would have the players accepting a lower percentage of the revenues over the first three years. The fourth year would see the CBA revert to its current terms.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said Tuesday he has received the union's proposal and hopes to continue talks Wednesday. "Our hope is we can take care of business in the next month," Bettman said. "That's our goal."

Bettman said the owners would

#### carefully consider the latest proposal.

"It's clear to me that they didn't put it together in an hour or two, and as a result we're going to need to take a little bit of time to evaluate it, understand it," Bettman said. "If we're going to respond, we want to respond appropriately."

The current deal expires Sept. 15.

"Everything that we've done has been well thought out," Spezza said. "There's a reason behind our proposal. The biggest reason is because we want to try to find a way to play and find a way to reach a fair agreement."

Fehr has said the players are willing to work past Sept. 15 if an agreement hasn't been signed, as long as one is on the horizon. Bettman has already said the NHL is prepared to lock out its players if no deal is reached by then. Negotiations have been under way for seven weeks. The regular season is

slated to begin on Oct. 11. Fehr said the proposal, "should lead to a new CBA.

"Players did not believe the owner's initial proposal was appropriate," he said.

Both sides acknowledged negotiations are firm and constructive. "In essence, when you boil it all

down, what we're suggesting is that the players partner with the financially stronger owners to stabilize the industry," Fehr said, "and assist the less financially strong ownership groups.

The NHL has had two seasons disrupted by labor disputes over the past two decades. In addition to the cancellation of the 2004-05 season, almost half of the 1994-95 season was wiped out by a labor dispute. Training camps are scheduled to start on Sept. 16, one day after the current CBA ends.

"The players want a new CBA," Fehr said. "And they want it soon."

From Page 7

ter. New Era will display the official NFL sideline cap. Fathead is

involved, as is Roto Experts. Caesars Entertainment and the Taj Mahal hotel also are part of the festival's promotion.

And why not? Topalian estimates there are more than 30 million fantasy players in a \$550 million — and growing — business that includes television shows, dozens of magazines offering advice, and, naturally, gambling.

'The League," a sitcom built around a fantasy league, is headed into its fourth season on FX, and a paper for the Journal of Sport Administration & Supervision released last year found some relationship between TV ratings for a particular game and

whether it featured popular fantasy starters.

With such popularity, a convention makes sense, Topalian says

"If the comic industry can have a Comic Con, that is good for the industry," he says. "And this will be good for fantasy sports."

Adds Shaldone: "Comic Con was very relevant. They had a system in place where we know they have had success, already have the credibility in the marketplace, and we have a lot of confidence knowing they have run successful similar events on a large scale.'

Topalian's company is hopeful of making it an annual event, growing it to include celebrities, moving it around the nation, making it "become part of a fantasy football community's year."

The big enticement for fans is that \$2 million payoff.

Through Stratmish, players compete in fantasy groups of 12

and must finish in the top three to advance each week. The first nine weeks of the regular season serve as satellite tournaments leading to a field of 4,096 going into Week 10. Random head-tohead matchups ensue until the field is whittled to 32 finalists in Week 17.

All 32 finalists will win money, ranging from \$5,000 for exiting in the first round of Stratmish's playoffs, to the \$2 million megaprize for winning it all.

"Our game is not competition to the way people play now and that is critical to us and the public in general," Shaldone says. "They will be doing their draft parties at the Atlantic City venue and selecting their teams and evaluating players, and we are a complement to that.

We are excited because this is our inaugural season and it is theirs, too. We anticipate being major players with everything they do."

# **Broncos**

#### From Page 7

was probably trying to throw the ball away and I just went and got

The two faced each other six times in the regular season and twice in the playoffs, and they always seemed to battle to a draw regardless of the outcome. "Champ has never intercepted

me in the NFL, and yet, I don't think I've ever thrown a touch down on him, either," Manning said. "So, it's a pretty good battle. He got me in college one time on an interception. So, I'm glad we're on the same team."

Before his release from the Colts in March, after missing the entire 2011 season because a nerve injury caused weakness in his throwing arm, Manning had run an offensive juggernaut in Indianapolis. He had 13 consecutive years with at least 300 completions for at least 3,700 yards and a mini-

mum of 26 TD throws. Along the way, he became a Super Bowl champion and the league's only four-time MVP.

Yet, every time they faced Bailey, he was a thorn.

"We always had healthy respect for Champ," Manning said. "We never throw away from a certain guy because we felt like we loved our receivers. With Marvin (Harrison) and Reggie (Wayne), we were going to throw to those guys. But vou always knew that Champ, boy, if you couldn't get set and get your feet into it, it wasn't worth throw-

ing. If you threw a little bit behind him, he was going to make you

"And he looks good to me out here in camp. His work ethic, I've always heard about, is outstanding. He sets a great example for these young cornerbacks.'

Asked to name Bailey's best quality, Manning couldn't.

'Oh, it's hard to pick just one. He's got some of those rare skills that special corners have: you know, Deion, Rod Woodson. He sort of has 'it' when it comes to being a cover corner," Manning

said. "But his work ethic I think is what keeps him at the top every year.

That's what Bailey thinks will get Manning back to the top after missing last season, too.

Bailey said the Manning he sees today is no different than the one he saw all those years at the Pro Bowl.

"Well, one thing about him is, you can cover a guy and his ball placement is so perfect," Bailey

said. "It's frustrating because, when you're all over a guy and he puts the ball here, you can't do anything ... I mean, there's not a lot of turnover opportunities. Not a lot of quarterbacks are that sharp. I'd say 90 percent of them are not that sharp. We're going to face some of those 90 percent, and as long as we're covering our guys in practice close enough to make a play, we'll make some plays in games.'



