



**4**

Straight losses to end a 5-7 2007 season

**16**

Starters returning from a year ago

Career victories for UW coach Joe Glenn

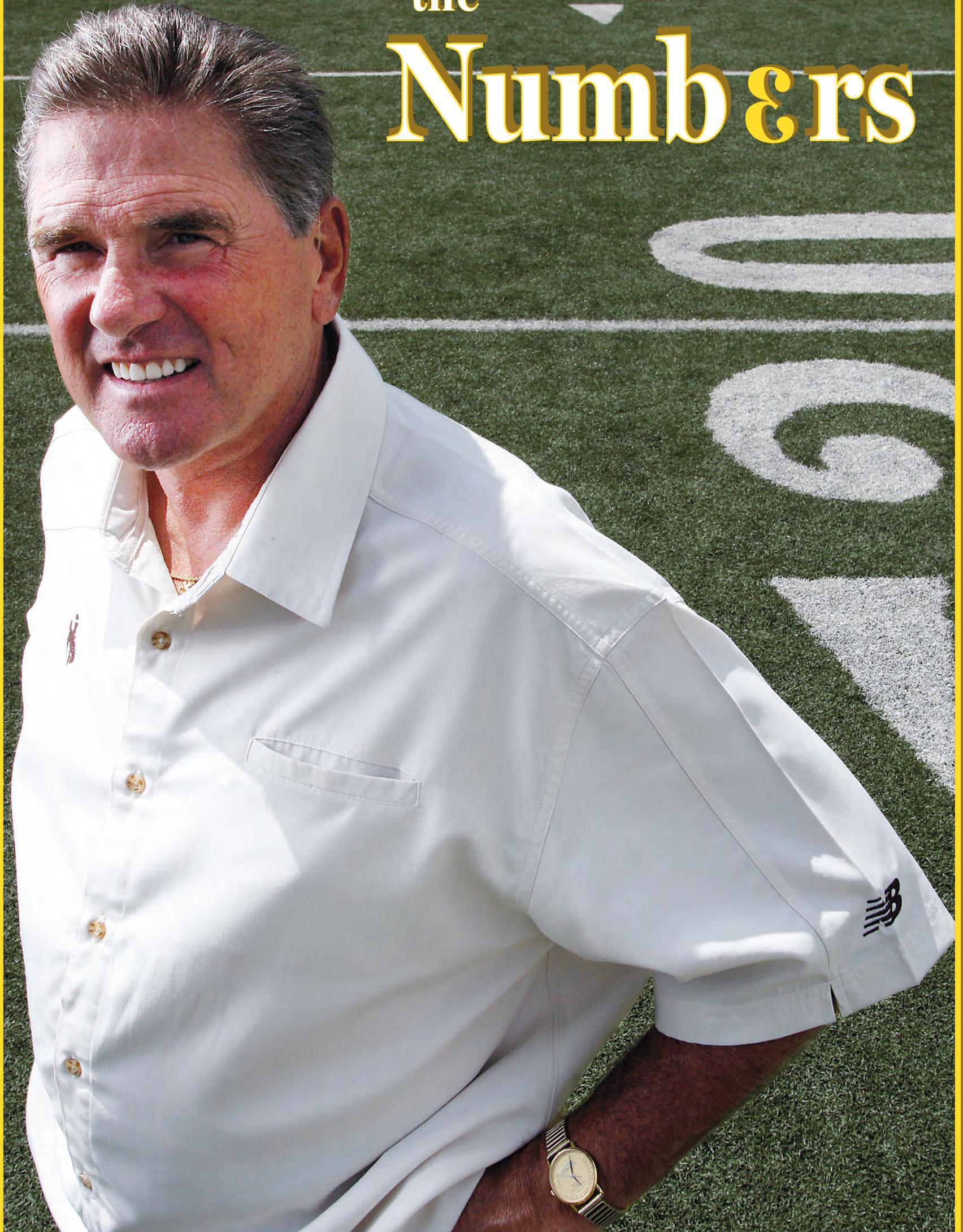
**184**

Bowl appearance in 15 years

**1**

Increasingly anxious to make it back to the postseason, **Countless** Wyoming fans have spent much of their time ...

# Crunching the Numbers



Defensive tackle John Fletcher finished 11th in the nation with 10.5 sacks in 2007. One of 70 players in the country named to the 2008 Outland Trophy watch list, was his sophomore year only the beginning?

**PAGE UW9**



Running back Devin Moore rushed for 965 yards last season. With the scheme of first-year offensive coordinator Bob Cole, Moore could be looking at the 10th 1,000-yard season in Wyoming history.

**PAGE UW10**

**Nobody can accuse Joe Glenn of lacking experience. Starting with Doane College and including stops at Northern Colorado and Montana, the sixth-year UW coach is heading into his 24th season as a head man.**



# STAIRWAY TO SEVEN



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Wyoming head coach Joe Glenn knows exactly what his team needs to do if he wants to keep welcoming foes to 7,222 feet: Win seven games and make the postseason. After a 4-1 start a year ago, the Cowboys looked destined for their first bowl game since 2004. But they dropped six of their last seven games, leaving Glenn squarely on the hot seat entering the 2008 campaign.

## Plenty on the line for Glenn entering sixth sixth season at UW

By **AUSTIN WARD**  
Star-Tribune staff writer

Joe Glenn is well aware of the stakes.

The Wyoming coach doesn't need daily reminders that his seat is now equipped with a thermometer.

Or the motivation that might come from looking at the new scoreboard and seeing "Cowboys" lit up under home and "Bruins" under visitor — a not-so-subtle reminder of the Las Vegas Bowl win over UCLA that seems so long ago now.

Publicly, Glenn no longer even feels the need to bring up the progress he's made compared to the dire situation he inherited six years ago.

"The time is now," Glenn said.

Glenn has steadfastly maintained that any heat he might be facing comes solely from within, and the eternal optimist is prepared for what's in store over the next three months — or more.

**No excuses.  
No justifications.  
No pressure, right?  
It only takes seven  
wins to make it all disappear.**

### I. THE SENIOR

Devin Moore is rarely at a loss for words, and little gets him going like doubts about the Cowboys.

Or their coach.

The veteran running back is unfailingly polite, thoughtful and well-spoken. But no matter how many times he's asked about Glenn's job status, Moore still pauses before answering — seemingly to make sure the defense doesn't get too impassioned.

"We let no man wreck what we create," Moore said. "That's the little quote we have about it in the locker room. You can't get between it."

"Nobody can get in between our bond with our coach."

Those relationships are carefully cultivated by Glenn, who can rattle off names of family members, high school stats and personal stories about virtually every player on his roster.

That in itself isn't enough to win games, but it certainly doesn't hurt to have loyal troops going into battle.

"We're behind him 100 percent," Moore said. "We're going to try to make things happen for him, no doubt."

"We're going to try and show the fans and the state that he belongs here. Wyoming and Joe Glenn, they belong together."

### II. THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Tom Burman hasn't made an ultimatum. But the UW athletic director hasn't been shy about making his expectations crystal clear.

The Cowboys should win seven games, and it's not hard to figure out what may happen if they don't this season.

"Well, I don't want to send the message that if you don't win seven, your contract won't be renewed," Burman said. "That's not what I'm saying. I'm saying I think we should win seven, and I expect to win seven."

"There are sometimes extenuating circumstances that occur, but this team has enough seniors, enough veterans, these guys

### THE JOE GLENN FILE

- **RECORD:** 184-92-1 overall (24th season); 26-33 at Wyoming (sixth).
- **CRUNCH TIME:** The Cowboys have clearly improved since coach Joe Glenn was hired to clean up the program, but the progress has hit a plateau. Just about everybody from the athletic director to the fans is getting restless — and Glenn counts himself with the group. "It's time," Glenn said. "I know we have the athletes to compete, I know the schedule is tough, but there's a heartbeat in this program, and I love it." "I'm the eternal optimist, but I'm saying that something is going on. There's a feeling that's pretty darn good."
- **SECOND-HALF STRUGGLE:** The Cowboys rallied late in the year two seasons ago, but it wasn't enough to earn a bowl bid. If they had, Glenn's seat wouldn't be heated — and the memory of a pair of collapses wouldn't sting quite so much. There was the six-game skid in 2005 after a promising 4-1 start made a Las Vegas Bowl encore a possibility. And last year was equally painful after four more wins in the first five games gave way to six losses in the last seven. UW's seven home games should help it avoid a hat trick and safely keep Glenn in Laramie. "We've got every chance in the world to get out of the blocks and get some momentum going," Glenn said. "We've got to carry it with us through the second half of the season."

have been recruiting long enough that I think they're ready to win seven, eight games."

Burman has done his part, working and reworking the schedule before eventually ending up with seven home games for just the second time in school history.

That certainly stacks the deck in Glenn's favor, and it's not a coincidence.

UW wants a winner, and Burman wants nothing more than to extend a contract with Glenn that's currently set to expire in 2010.

"I haven't really spent a lot of time thinking about (contracts) yet," Burman said. "The way I look at it, I think we're going to have a good enough year that Joe and I can sit down at the end of the season and see what we need to do to make sure that we keep this thing getting better and keep him here. They have a great schedule to do that, and everyone will be disappointed if we don't win seven games."

"That's where I want to be in December. If I'm not in that situation, then you have to analyze the situation and say, 'All right, where do we go from here?'"

### III. THE BOWLS

UW fans aren't the only group ready for a postseason return.

Bowl committees can't wait to welcome them back.

John Saccetti, assistant executive director of the Las Vegas Bowl, still raves about the Cowboys' win in 2004, their fans — and Glenn.

"People are still talking about Wyoming," Saccetti said. "Our committee loved them, our title sponsor loved them, the city loved them, the host hotel loved them. I mean, they still say they sold the second-most amount of beer ever right behind Wisconsin."

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Glenn vowed to bring in more recruits from Colorado and he's been true to his word.

### CREDITS

Photographer Tim Kupsick provided all the images. Sports reporter Austin Ward produced the content. Sports reporter Eric Schmoldt designed the section. And sports editor Jack Nowlin helped organize the section.

Wyoming football beat writer Austin Ward can be reached at (307) 266-0634 or austin.ward@trib.com. Sports editor Jack Nowlin can be reached at (307) 266-0528 or jack.nowlin@trib.com.



The coaching partnership has been plenty profitable, and defensive coordinator Mike Breske and coach Joe Glenn aren't done yet. They've already combined to win three national championships in 21 years together — all they need is a bowl game in Year 22.

# Triple threat

## Glenn adds trio of (relatively) new faces

The buzz is back. Wyoming coach Joe Glenn is relentlessly excitable under normal circumstances, so occasionally it's difficult to tell when he's legitimately pumped about something or merely operating at his typical daily level. Get him going about his new staff though, and there's no room for debate.

"It's made my job so much for fun just to be around," Glenn said. "I'm way fired up. We're all hard at it, the kids are working hard at it, but we're all having a little fun with it. I'm just going to tell you straight up, Bob Cole is the difference. He's just got it."

The Cowboys needed plenty of whatever it is last year, though the circumstances surrounding his addition as UW's offensive coordinator made his warm welcome somewhat surprising.

Famously loyal, Glenn had his first high-profile breakup with the Cowboys when he cut former coordinator Bill Cokhill loose, a move that clearly wasn't easy.

But their professional relationship had obviously run its course, and Glenn's been refreshed by the new faces on campus — even if one bears a striking resemblance to his own. Meet the guys that have Glenn raving:

### OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

**Old:** Bill Cokhill  
**New:** Bob Cole  
The kids went to work right away exploring the area. The father dug right into the playbook. The whole Cole family feels right at home, though it would be nice if the smallest member of the clan would come home. "Oh yeah, we're having a great time," the new offensive coordinator said. "My kids have been at Register Rock,



Joe Glenn added three new staff members during the offseason. From left to right: Jovon Bouknight (offensive graduate assistant); Bob Cole (offensive coordinator); and Casey Glenn (tight ends).

Territorial Prison, Curt Gowdy, they've seen it all. They love it. "The only bad thing is we lost our cat in the tornado, so if anybody's seen a black and white cat, let me know." Cole hasn't had much time to look, what with a quarterback battle that carried over into fall camp and the installation of his offense to attend to.

The signal-caller struggle finally ended after the first scrimmage with Cole tapping junior-college transfer Dax Crum as the starter, and he's worked overtime to make the transition for the Cowboys as seamless as possible offensively. Cole pored through the old playbook and tried to retain as much as he could in terms of popular plays and terminology, voluntarily taking on a learning curve to match his new players.

"His personality, his persona, his relationships, he's just got it," Glenn said. "There's a sense that he believes in the kids and

they know it. They play harder. "Did you play for a coach that pats you on the back or kicks you in the butt? Who'd you respond to the best? It's made a difference, a huge difference. I'm so happy he's here." All that's missing is a black and white cat.

### TIGHT ENDS

**Old:** Harvey Patton  
**New:** Casey Glenn  
The man in charge prefers to hire people he already knows, and Joe Glenn didn't need to look at a resume when he brought in the leading candidate for the tight ends job. He had it committed to memory, as only a father could. "It's a dream job for me," Casey Glenn said. "Working with Dad is something that I've always wanted to do, when I was growing up I was an absolute office rat.

"I always talked with Dad about coaching together some day, and to be at this point in our professional careers and to be able to share it with him and the rest of the staff is something that's definitely special. Great opportunity for me to work with these guys."

For a staff with as much history together as UW's, those guys basically raised Casey Glenn.

So it's no surprise that he ended up a coach himself, but he cut his teeth elsewhere to bring a new perspective.

Stops at Idaho State, South Dakota and two years with powerhouse Oklahoma provided that — and helped eliminate some accusations of nepotism.

"I don't think there's ever been any of that," Casey Glenn said.

"I think one thing that's important was that I had a chance to get away for a while, and now to come back, I've learned enough that not everything was taught to me by these guys."

"I have known this staff for my entire life, and this is a dream come true."

### OFFENSIVE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

**Old:** Devin Harvey  
**New:** Jovon Bouknight  
Joe Glenn couldn't turn former star Jovon Bouknight down for the job.

He still can hardly believe that he needed one.

The timing never quite worked out for Bouknight in the NFL — which bothers Glenn to no end — but he could help spring a current UW wideout to the league with his guidance.

Just three seasons after wrapping up his collegiate career ranked No. 20 in NCAA history with 250 catches and 3,626 receiving yards, Bouknight is back in Laramie, fine-tuning routes, breaks and positioning for the guys chasing him in the UW record books.

Unless, maybe, the NFL calls back again.

"I'd have to think about that for a minute," Bouknight said.

"Maybe sleep on it for a couple nights."

Until then, he's resting easy with his decision and seemingly loving every minute.

Cole teased Bouknight in the spring about stealing film to help the scout team offense bust big play after big play, and his influence has been noticeable on the UW receivers.

"Bob calls them the Patriots and he says Jovon is down there stealing film and illegally filming," Glenn said. "Again, they're having a little fun with it."

"I heard him say the other day, 'They just scored another touchdown? Get the hose out, they're on fire.' There's just a great spirit here."

In fact, the whole program is buzzing.

— Austin Ward, Star-Tribune

"Coach Glenn is one of our all-time favorites; he came in here and remembered everybody's names, and everybody took to him."

Sin City would love to test his memory again.

The Las Vegas Bowl has the first choice of any eligible Mountain West Conference team, a privilege that's often confused with an obligation to the league champion.

That doesn't necessarily mean Saccenti would recommend taking a 7-5 UW team over an 11-1 BYU squad, for example, but he wouldn't summarily rule it out, either.

"We want the best matchup for Las Vegas, but we also have to be responsible to Las Vegas to find the best team to travel to Las Vegas at the time," Saccenti said. "The Wyoming fans come down here in force and have a good time. They'd be a great option."

"(Glenn) is the best, so if Wyoming can get in that spot, we'd love to have them back."

### IV. THE FORMER PLAYER

Jovon Bouknight doesn't notice a big difference in Glenn.

He just has a new perspective as a graduate assistant than he did as a record-breaking receiver.

"It would be kind of hard to say he's different," Bouknight said. "At the time (as a player), I was just one of those knuckleheads running around trying to get the job done."

Bouknight was around the last time the job was finished in the postseason, but he was also part of the first of Glenn's two memorable second-half collapses.

The step back UW took when Bouknight was a senior in 2005 was somewhat understandable. Glenn was still establishing himself as a recruiter and trying to build some consistency for a program that had little.

Last season was a total shock to the system, although Bouknight has a better appreciation for the difficulties in the coach's office.

"For me, on staff now, I see what they go through and the way that they game plan and stuff like that," Bouknight said. "As a player you don't really think about some of the stuff that they do, the way they coach and the day-to-day activities."

"It's still hard to say he's changed."

### V. THE IMPACT

It's hard to argue that Glenn hasn't significantly cleaned up the mess that led to his hiring.

Even with second-half losing streaks in two of the last three seasons, Glenn's Cowboys are almost always competitive in the conference and haven't been close to matching the five-wins-in-three-years ineptitude that preceded him.

The progress may have hit a plateau, but his success in Laramie can't be measured solely by wins and losses.

The beautiful, sprawling — and protective — Indoor Practice Facility might not have been built without Glenn's lips on babies or his glad-handing around the state.

He's a born salesman, pitching both a dream and his charm, and UW fans have generally stood in line to buy the product.

UW wanted a sellout for the season opener against Virginia last season, and Glenn delivered one of the finest wins in school history for the record crowd.

The school needed a bowl appearance to end an unbearable wait in 2004, and Glenn topped it with an upset win.

The trick is repeating feats like those more regularly.

### VI. THE ASSISTANT

Naturally, Glenn won't be alone in front of the firing squad if things go wrong.

His assistants get to share the blame, even if their names aren't at the top of the marquee.

The pressure trickles down, but most of his staff has been together for so long, there's nothing they'd rather do than stick it out with him.

"You know the pressure is there, I'm not going to sit there and lie that you don't understand," linebackers coach Marty English said. "But at the same time, there's not one thing you could do different."

"The thing I think that people forget sometimes is maybe where the program was before we got here. Whether we've been able to make as many strides as we wanted to as quick as people would like, probably not."

It's not like there's any magic UW can work to pick up the tempo, either.

But they've done things the right way over the last six seasons, largely recruited kids that fit the program and have appeared more than capable of taking the stride they're after.

"Are we a better program, are they better kids, are there better things going on?" English said. "Absolutely."

"Is it good enough? I don't know. We just have to do what we do. We've been very successful everywhere we've ever been, and if things are lined up right, we're going to be pretty good this year."

### VII. THE MAN

The stories come just as easily. The smile and infectious enthusiasm are the same as ever.

But Glenn has changed, whether the differences are clearly visible or not.

The disaster of last season forced him to break a bond with offensive coordinator Bill Cokhill, testing the long-held belief that Glenn is blindly loyal to his staff.

He ceded some control to Cokhill's replacement Bob Cole in the search for a quarterback, when even holding an open audition hinted that Glenn is fully aware of the importance of winning immediately.

Glenn's not exactly a noted disciplinarian, but a few fights early in camp prompted him to punish the entire roster with sprints — and he promised worse if it happened again.

That doesn't mean the perceptible changes are necessarily a product of pressure from the outside, though there's plenty of it.

"It's what you put on yourself," Glenn said. "You want to win. If I didn't want the high-pressure kind of deal, I'd do something else. "This is fun."

The time for fun is now.

# Go Pokes!

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More birthdays,  
more starts.

The Cowboys return all five starters on the offensive line from last season, a group that's now piled up 86 career starts for the Brown and Gold. Senior Kyle Howard leads the way, having started the last 28 games for UW.

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Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Coming off a season in which he earned honorable mention All-Mountain West Conference honors, Wyoming offensive tackle Kyle Howard will lead the protection effort of quarterback Dax Crum.

# PARTY OF FIVE

One year older and wiser, Pokes return entire offensive front from '07

By **AUSTIN WARD**  
Star-Tribune staff writer

**M**arch 5.  
May 13.  
Nov. 29.  
The Wyoming offensive line and coach Joe Glenn have ticked the days off the calendar one at a time, celebrating the exact thing Glenn has been wanting for so long.

The only question is, what happened to all the cake?

"We've talked all along about needing birthdays, and the offensive line is the most improved spot on our football team right now," Glenn said. "They're different looking physically, no doubt."

But it's not from blowing out candles or licking too much icing.

The front five is indeed bigger, but also much stronger — even faster.

And since the criticism and calls of inexperience started midway through last season, the closest unit on the team hasn't been hurting for motivation heading into a campaign where much is expected of it.

Though not necessarily because they're a year older.

"I don't really buy the whole birthday thing," center Tim Bond said. "I think it's obvious that more experience helps, but I don't think our young age had anything to do with it. "Just as a whole, we're a better offense. Granted, having everybody back helps, and definitely we're more mature, we're bigger, we're faster, we're stronger, but I don't think that was the downfall of our team last year. I just think everybody liked to put that on us. Usually when things go wrong the o-line is the first to get blamed, that's just life."

There was clearly plenty of blame to go around for last year's disastrous finish, and nobody on the offensive side of the ball should be spared.

Predictable play-calling helped cost offensive coordinator Bill Cockhill his job.

An inability to throw the ball downfield allowed teams to stack

eight or nine defenders in the box against UW.

And the running game went from a downpour to a drizzle during the second-half collapse, culminating in the desultory loss at Colorado State.

The offensive line was certainly part of the problem, though the cause of it is up for determination.

"You know, I'm 21 now, so I guess I'm an adult," left tackle Ryan Otterson said. "No longer a child."

"We're going to stand by our team, and if they feel that (being too young) was the case, then that was the case. It just adds fuel to the fire. It'll make us better, we'll always rally around each other."

After an entire offseason and double-digit starts for all five returners last year, there's little doubt the group should be better.

Taking those birthdays and molding them into a noticeably improved product falls on position coach Chad Germer, who might never have a more experienced unit.

"We'll find out against Ohio," Germer said. "They had a great offseason, worked hard in camp and we've got some veteran leaders. I'm excited to see how they progressed over the year; we'll see how we do."

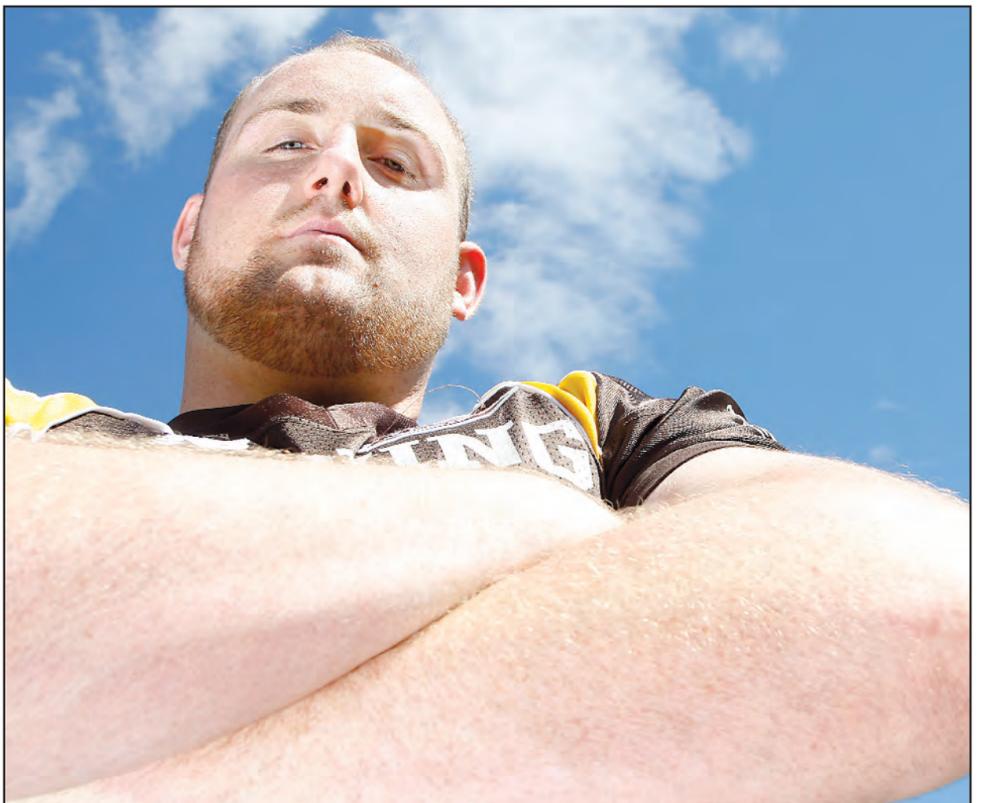
"Up front you have to prove something every week. You're about as good as your last performance. The thing we have to understand is regardless of how a practice or a scrimmage goes, a game goes, we have to continually work to get better. We have to keep building, keep building throughout the year."

The foundation is there. Now the Cowboys have to find a way to build more experience before they're forced to beg for the calendar to turn again.

"We'll try to get more guys in, but what we need to try and do is get some leads," Germer said. "That's a big focal point. We'd obviously like to win games, but it's been a long time since we could put guys in the game and get them reps midway through the third quarter, fourth quarter."

"Those types of opportunities have been few and far between, and hopefully we can get some of those chances so we can get some of our younger players experience."

That would be an even better reason to celebrate.



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Senior center Tim Bond started all 10 games that he played on a somewhat youthful offensive line last year. He'll celebrate his 23rd birthday just two days before UW's season opener against Ohio.

## O-line experiences coming of age

Ryan Otterson's birthday might not have made him a better left tackle. But it did allow for him to take part in a few more of the Wyoming offensive line's more mature bonding activities. And when the closest unit on the team has something to celebrate, it's hard to miss. "We might, you know, have a couple spirits at the Buckhorn (bar)," center Tim Bond said. "Nothing bad really. Ryan Otterson turned 21 last year and we went out and

had a good time, it was fun. "We're a unit, people always make comments because it's easy to notice a bunch of big dudes together." They're even bigger now, not to mention older. As much as the linemen might be annoyed by the birthday talk that UW coach Joe Glenn started in reference to his somewhat inexperienced group last season, they don't mind when they pop up on the calendar.

"We're always together," Bond said. "We're a big family, like a bunch of brothers, and we like to go out together and have a good time. Spend(ing) time off the field as much as we can just makes us closer and bond better." One possible concern? Bond's bash will be Aug. 28 — two days before the season opener against Ohio — so the senior won't be able to have more than a couple of those spirits.

Actually, it's more like 36 for senior linebacker Ward Dobbs.

Dobbs has etched his name into the single-game record books twice with 18-tackle performances. UW's deep rotation might make another difficult, but Dobbs is healthier than he's been in a while.

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# Dispatching digits



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Wide receiver Travis Burkhalter wore jersey No. 11 last year, but the Eufala, Okla., native opted to switch to No. 3 for his sophomore campaign.

## Cowboys find plenty of reasons to swap jerseys in offseason

By AUSTIN WARD  
Star-Tribune staff writer

First Devin Moore dumped it. Then Travis Burkhalter ended his marriage with the number. Poor No. 11 just can't seem to stick with any Cowboys.

The relationships with the double-ones were good while they lasted for the Wyoming running back and receiver, respectively, and both said it was nothing personal.

But, naturally, that's exactly what it was when they both sought a newer, sexier jersey number.

"Man, it's very important to feel comfortable in a number," Moore said. "You know, I just love No. 5."

"It's a family number, and 11, if I wouldn't have been able to get No. 5, I would have stuck with 11. There's nothing against 11."

Moore's change paid off with a breakout season and nearly 1,000 yards rushing, and his old number tried to rebound with Burkhalter.

But the sophomore wideout was checking out single-digits all of last season and jumped at the first chance to the jersey vacated by cornerback Troy Lewis last year.

"Growing up I liked Allen Iverson, and my birthday is Nov. 3, so I felt like three was the number for me," Burkhalter said. "Plus, I look good in single-digits."

"It was really difficult for me last season because in high school I wore the No. 5 that D-Mo's wearing now, and, you know, I just wanted to get back to a single-digit. I kind of think it does make a little bit of difference; you want to feel comfortable in the number you're wearing."

And the converted Cowboys insist that the comfort can translate to better results on the field.

Moore actually did appear faster last season. He posted easily his best rushing campaign and more than doubled his career

### OUT WITH THE OLD

High school ties, family connections, vanity — the reasons for a number change vary just like the options.

Cowboys that have made a switch don't undersell the importance of feeling comfortable with a digit and the effect it can have on performance. But does it make a difference?

Let the numbers decide.

#### DEVIN MOORE

No. 11 Soph. 80 carries, 574 yards, 3 touchdowns.  
No. 5 Jr. 198 carries, 965 yards, 5 touchdowns.

#### WYNEL SELDON

No. 18 Soph. After a record-breaking freshman season, Seldon dropped nearly a yard per carry and from 11 touchdowns to one.  
No. 31 Jr. Even while splitting carries with Moore, Seldon bounced back with a new number to score eight times.

#### GREG BOLLING

No. 1 Fr. The 6-foot-2 receiver saw action in 10 games as a freshman, but he caught just one pass for zero yards.  
No. 84 Soph. Bolling broke out for UW and ranked second on the team with 35 catches for 375 yards despite struggling to stay healthy.

#### TRAVIS BURKHALTER

No. 11 Fr. Burkhalter struggled to make the transition from quarterback to wide receiver, making just three catches for 12 yards in his first season.  
No. 3 Soph. He made the change to single digits for Year Two, with results to be determined.

touchdowns after leaving No. 11 behind.

But he was also a redshirt junior emerging as the focal point of the UW offense after previously spending his time waiting for carries behind three other backs.

Though perhaps good timing coincides with a good-looking uniform.

"I don't know how it really helps," UW coach Joe Glenn said. "You know, if it's in their mind, it helps I guess."

"I don't really think if you put a number on it makes you a better player. If that number's gone, you've got to put on what Dog (equipment manager Michael Aanonsen) gives you, and make up some reason why you like it. But if they have the number that they want and they feel good in it, more power to them."

Generally, the good feelings players associate with a favorite number can have

some powerful results — if only mentally.

Moore's new number represents each of the members in his immediate family, giving him a sense that he's running with them on the field.

Burkhalter is among the most improved targets on the roster after switching positions as a freshman, but the chance to show off his preferred single digit might be just the incentive to push even harder for playing time.

Whatever the motivation, sometimes the competition for a particular jersey can be just as intense as a position battle during fall camp.

Linebacker Alex Toney waited somewhat patiently for Hoost Marsh to graduate and open up the coveted No. 6 — and the former No. 41 wasn't going to let it get away.

"It wasn't difficult per se, but it was something I had to fight for," Toney said. "When he left, I knew I had to do whatever I could do to get it. It was more competitive, more drive."

"It does make a difference. You feel like yourself, I guess you could say. When you have a number that you don't want, it kind of feels awkward, you feel like you're wearing somebody else's number. But when it's your number, when it's what you wanted, you feel prideful. It makes you want to be seen."

So Toney will continue to fight for an expanded role against a stocked stable of linebackers with a slimmer figure on his chest.

Burkhalter will try to look as sharp in the passing game as the new digit on his jersey, and Moore will keep representing his family with every rush.

And what about those lonely matching ones?

No. 11 is starting a new relationship, testing the waters with freshman safety Eric Benson.

Nothing personal?

"Your number is your name, man," Moore said.

It doesn't get more personal.

**Joe Glenn reemphasized recruiting in Colorado when he came to UW in 2003, and the efforts have clearly taken hold.**

**The Pokes will open the season with 30 neighbors from the south on the roster, more than the next highest states — California (12) and Wyoming (10) — combined.**

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# CENTENNIAL MEN



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Senior linebacker Mike Juergens, left, started six of the 11 games he played in and finished with 46 tackles, three sacks and two forced fumbles in 2007. Fellow outside 'backer Weston Johnson, right, played in just nine games but had 26 tackles, two for a loss and two pass breakups. They are two of 11 Wyoming starters who hail from the state of Colorado.

## UW boasts 30 players, including 11 starters, from Colorado

By **AUSTIN WARD**  
Star-Tribune staff writer

Recruiting might simply be a matter of finding Division I players wherever they might be.

But it's no secret that Wyoming coach Joe Glenn has made searches in Colorado a priority since taking the job, and business is booming.

The Cowboys will start five imports from south of the state border in their front seven.

As many as three could be on the field for the first snap against Ohio as eligible targets in the passing game.

Quarterback Dax Crum will have another three protecting him on the offensive line.

In all, Glenn will start 11 Colorado natives, and should any of them get hurt the Cowboys have 19 more in reserve — more than the next two best represented states, Wyoming and California, combined.

The lineup might be strictly dictated by UW's growing presence in Colorado, but it's certainly not a surprise that so many imports have cracked the rotation.

"That's not by design," Glenn said. "It just so happened that those guys have risen to the top of the depth chart."

"There are good players out there, even if you maybe don't find the finished product. I've said this

### Quite the collection



| Player             | Hometown         | Impact   | Also recruited by                         |
|--------------------|------------------|--|---|
| WR Greg Bolling    | Aurora           | Second-leading receiver as soph                | Colorado, Tulsa                           |
| TE Jesson Salyards | Haxtun           | 10 catches last year, could breakout as junior | Colorado                                  |
| LT Ryan Otterson   | Brighton         | Started all 12 games as soph                   | Colorado, Colorado State, Nebraska        |
| RG Russ Arnold     | Westminster      | Started all 12 games as soph                   | Colorado, Colorado State, San Diego State |
| RT Kyle Howard     | Colorado Springs | Started 28 consecutive games                   | E. Michigan, Northwestern, Texas Tech     |
| FB Greg Genho      | Brush            | Limited so far, starting as a junior           | Not listed                                |
| LB Weston Johnson  | Wray             | One of the most athletic LBs UW has landed     | Colorado, Kansas State                    |
| LB Mike Juergens   | Westminster      | Vicious hitter forced two fumbles last year    | Colorado State, New Mexico                |
| LB Gabe Knapton    | Mead             | Could be huge as redshirt freshman             | Colorado, Colorado State                  |
| DT John Fletcher   | Erie             | Named to Outland watch list as junior          | Colorado, Colorado State, Purdue          |
| DE Mitch Unrein    | Eaton            | Honorable mention all-MWC last season          | Army, Colorado State                      |

"I really don't even recognize (the Colorado ties). We're all Cowboys now. Once you're up here you're a Wyoming boy through and through."

**MITCH UNREIN**  
Wyoming defensive end

before, but there are a lot more Division I football players out there than there are Division I scholarships."

With increasingly regularity, the Cowboys are finding more talent closer to home — if not their own backyard, the neighbor's.

The roster makeup hasn't changed all that dramatically since Glenn's first season, when he inherited 28 players from the Centennial State. But UW is no longer taking a back-seat to Colorado State — or sometimes Colorado — and sifting through the leftovers.

"I think, yeah, we've been doing a good job recruiting down there," linebackers coach and area recruiter Marty English said. "But for

us, we might offer 16 guys for four positions and I think just the proximity of the Front Range, the familiarity with it, those guys seem to commit sooner than the other guys from somewhere else."

"It's a good fit, to be honest, with them close to home and stuff like that, and they're the kids that do a little better in school, stick around a little longer, stuff like that. I think it's just a good fit."

English has clearly made good use of the efforts in Colorado, and his starting linebacker corps will feature three of his former recruiting targets.

Outside linebackers Mike Juergens and Weston Johnson are a handful on either side of UW's 3-4 defensive scheme, and redshirt

freshman Gabe Knapton is shaping up to be an absolute terror inside.

"He better have a big impact, since we're going to start him," defensive coordinator Mike Breske said. "I think just being in the Front Range, neighboring state, pretty good-size area, Denver metro area has over 2 million people, we knew that going in and it hasn't changed any."

"We're a Front Range school, so we're going to be down there butting heads with Colorado State and Colorado."

The Cowboys are winning more of those battles now that they've proven a measure of success under Glenn, though some of their pickups have merely been over-

looked by the Buffaloes.

Right tackle Kyle Howard, for one, doesn't list Colorado as one of his suitors coming out of high school in Colorado Springs.

Honorable mention all-conference defensive end Mitch Unrein is another, though that hardly seems to serve as a motivator for the junior.

"I really don't even recognize it," Unrein said. "We're all Cowboys now."

"Once you're up here you're a Wyoming boy through and through."

That's certainly not the prevailing sentiment amongst the Colorado Cowboys.

Unrein isn't alone, but there's a clear majority that rallies around a sense of home-state pride.

"We do, because there are some guys from bigger states like Florida or places like that who like to brag about it," Juergens said. "I don't know about the exact numbers of how many dudes are on our team from Colorado, but it's definitely well represented up here on the Wyoming football team, especially in the linebacking corps and in our front seven."

"We do brag about it a little bit sometimes, because a lot of the starters are from Colorado so we kind of have the right to brag about where we're from a little bit."

There's also still a part of Juergens that seems to be holding on to the fact that he didn't have a chance to stay home.

The 6-4, 230-pounder was recruited out of Pomona High School in Westminster by the Rams, but he's taken subtle jabs at Colorado for focusing its recruiting efforts in larger states like Texas while letting in-state kids get away.

Juergens doesn't doubt that he made the right decision, and he represents the overlooked but physically talented prototype UW is after.

"It's just like in Wyoming," Juergens said. "They say when it comes to recruiting season, all the planes are flying over."

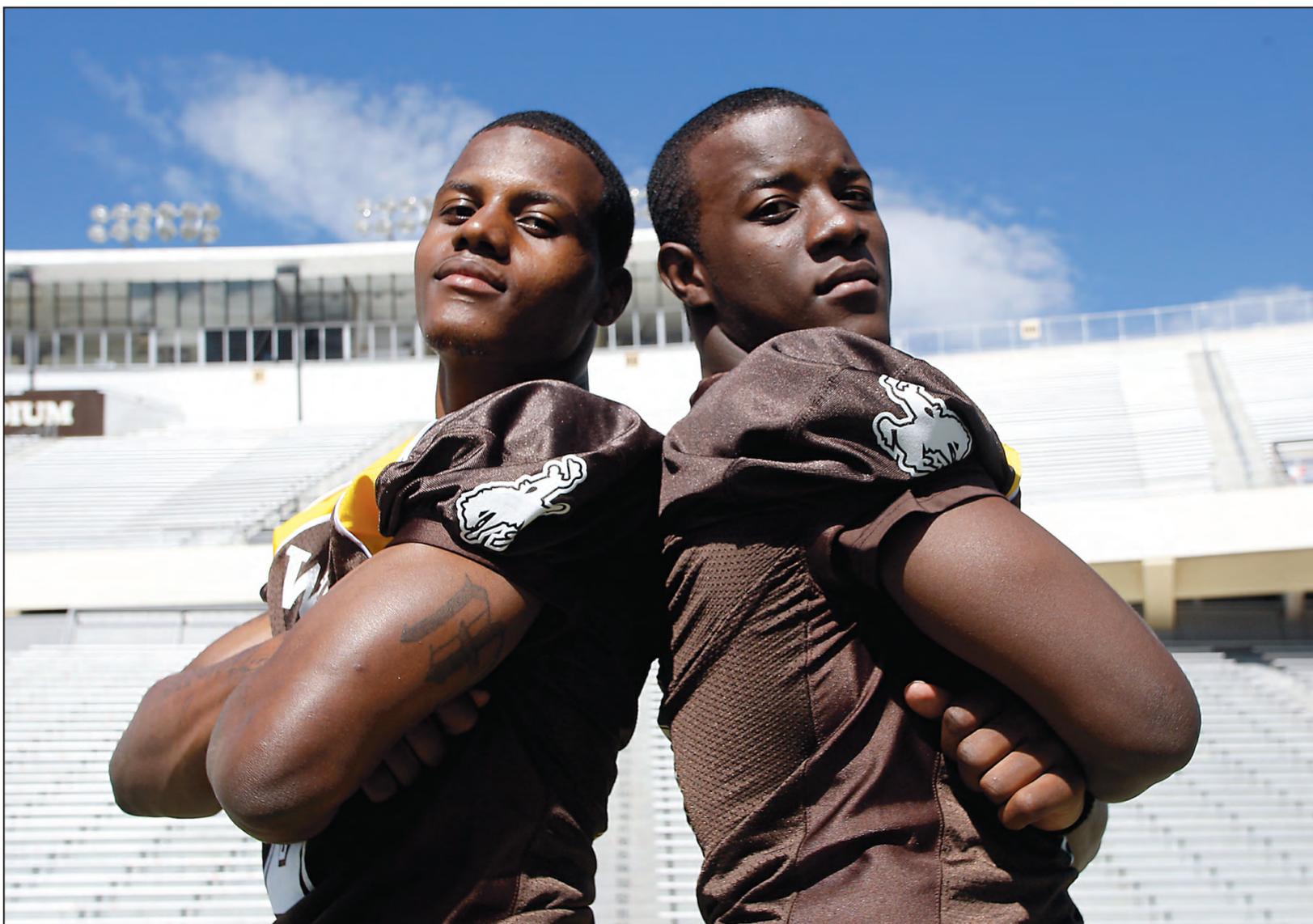
Good thing it's a short drive for Glenn across the state line.

Sunday, August 24, 2008

The longest winning streak against teams on the schedule doesn't seem all that long — though UNLV might disagree. UW's 29-24 win at home last season made it a Fab Four over the Rebels.

But a short week after a trip to Tennessee could make the fifth a little tougher to pick up in November.

24 22 86 18 30 **4** 149,625 9 25 250



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Brothers Marcell, left, and Tashaun Gipson will start opposite one another at cornerback for the Cowboys, who hope the first-year starters can fill the shoes of Michael Medina and Julius Stinson.

# Texas two-step

## Gipsons take over at corner

By AUSTIN WARD  
Star-Tribune staff writer

It's not exactly like looking across the field at a mirror for Marcell Gipson.

But when the Wyoming cornerback throws up his arms, crosses them in an 'X' and waits for the matching response, it's about as close as it gets anywhere.

After all, not every school has a pair of brothers with the talent to both earn a starting gig — let alone at the same position.

A matching set of cornerbacks might not be so unusual at lower levels, and growing up Marcell and Tashaun Gipson have grown accustomed to working as a tandem.

But Division I football?

It's nothing short of improbable.

And a childhood dream come true.

"As far as me just seeing him on the other side, I feel a lot more comfortable with him than anybody else since I've been knowing him my whole life," older brother Marcell said. "We've been playing together since we were in Pop Warner, and he's always been big so he was at the older level and always on my team."

"Honestly, (starting together) was our goal. Ah man, it don't get any better than that."

The Gipsons can both test that theory when the season opens against Ohio, though it figures to be more rewarding for the older brother.

The sophomore originally signed with UW in the spring of 2005, provided some promising glimpses at his potential soon after — then his long-assumed ascension on the depth chart hit a snag.

There was a baby, a job, a return to school on his own dollar to restore eligibility and the issue of playing catch-up with the Cowboys well before he could even consider starting opposite Tashaun.

"Oh man, first I had to get a job," Marcell said. "When I went back to Dallas, it was a struggle at first when I had to stay with my Mom and my Pops and all that. God blessed me to find a job, and all I was worried about was just taking care of my little girl, just getting her all the necessities and whatever she needed."

"Now with Tashaun here it makes everything just so much easier out here — everything, as far as helping me out at home as far as my kids, being at home watching film and critiquing each other all the time."

Marcell returns the favor the way only a big brother can, passing on lessons

### ALL IN THE FAMILY

Mike Breske isn't concerned about making history. The Wyoming defensive coordinator certainly doesn't care about names on the back of jerseys. Marcell and Tashaun Gipson had to earn their starting cornerback jobs like anybody else, making the pairing only slightly more than a coincidence to Breske. "I was happy with them, but I was happy with all our corners," Breske said. "(Tashaun) has held his own out there ... "With Marcell it's a matter of focus." Breske has perhaps been hardest on the Gipson brothers because so much is expected of them. But they're also maybe the best equipped to handle the attention with a built-in support group in Laramie. "Oh I'm sure (it helps to have that connection)," Breske said. "They're competitive, they both like to compete against each other, but they're best buddies. "They fight like brothers and love each other like brothers." They also can play a little bit of defense.

from the mistakes he's made, looking out for Tashaun during his adjustment to Laramie and, come November, helping raise Tashaun's first child.

Not to mention some constructive criticism, corner-to-corner.

"The defense is coming to me a little sooner because my brother's helping me out, but I'm just comfortable here with him," Tashaun said. "I mean, he's had some tough tribulations, and I know that. I can't do anything but learn from it."

"I saw what he went through, and it's just a stepping stone for me. I want to follow his footsteps, but also he's helped me learn. And maybe instead of doing it like this, I can take it another route. I just feel like it helps me see the big picture."

In the meantime, they're turning the UW secondary into a family portrait.

Marcell had been a favorite to win a starting job since the end of an impressive spring, once again showing off his affinity for physical play and solid coverage.

After two weeks in fall camp, Tashaun helped turn the dream into a reality by edging three other candidates to win the right to return the 'X' to Marcell.

The younger Gipson is bigger and might even be the more athletic brother — which provides extra motivation that no other roster could for Marcell.

"I might make a mistake or something and he'll be like, 'Marcell, you need to do this,'" he said. "I can tell him the same thing, so it makes things a whole lot easier out there. Plus, there's the competition."

"You can't let your little brother be better than you."

A reflection would work just fine.



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The highest total attendance mark for a season could be in jeopardy. With seven home games for the first time since 1990 — not coincidentally when the record was set — UW has a chance to play in front of more home fans than ever before.

Average attendance in 1990? 21,375. Last year? 22,190.

24 22 86 18 30 7 149,625 25 9 250



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

First-year offensive coordinator Bob Cole won't just be in charge of running a revamped offense. Like every other coach around the country, he'll be adapting to the new 40-second play clock.

40 SECONDS DASH

Bob Cole has never had this much time on the clock. It's rarely seemed to disappear quite so fast. The first-year Wyoming offensive coordinator is no stranger to calling plays, and he clearly embraces that responsibility. But like everybody else sending in signals in the college game this season, the move to a pro-style, 40-second play clock has Cole and his colleagues under the gun. Start the timer.

**:40** The number is bigger, but for the first time there's no delay in starting the clock.

The old play countdown was 25 seconds, but the officials didn't wind the clock until the chains were set and the ball was placed on the correct hash and ready for play.

Now, no matter what just happened — 30-yard gain or 10-yard sack — it's T-minus 40 seconds until liftoff.

Working off a typical expectation for the previous play, Cole is one step ahead on his calls. Barring anything unusual, he's ready to get on the headset with the next play as soon as the lights refresh on the play clock.

"I usually have one in mind while the previous play is going on," Cole said. "If something crazy goes on, whether we get a big gain or a big loss and we have to go to something completely different, then the hash is obviously going to be a key. Down and distance is going to be a key, where you are on the field is going to be a key, so all those things you need to take into consideration."

That information must be processed quickly, particularly if Cole just nailed a call and the Cowboys popped a big play.

Suddenly he's working with new data and has at least 11 offensive players waiting for instructions.

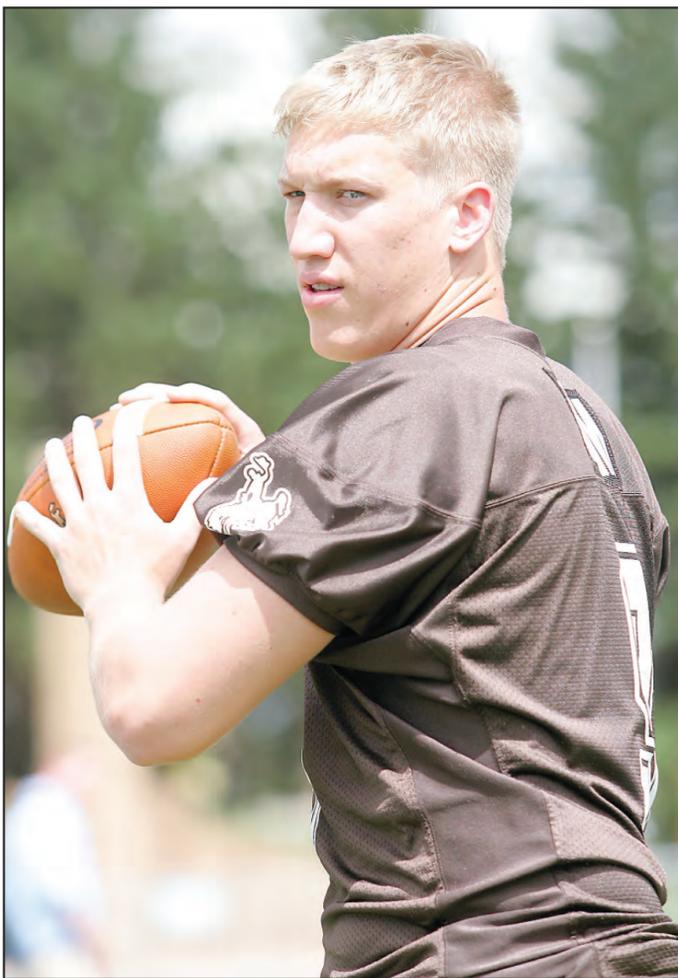
"Before they would get the ball, move it to a hash, set the ball, raise their arm and wind the clock, then the 25-second clock would start," Cole said. "Basically, it should be about 40 seconds either way but the biggest concern would be, if you had a big play, a 40- or 50-yard gain, your whole offense is at the other end of the field and they're already spotting the ball, you've got to be ready to come out with something."

"You've got to have a quick play ready or a no-huddle play ready so that you don't get burned on the clock. I talked to a couple NFL coordinators and they said that's the biggest issue."

Obviously, it's a good problem to have.

**:30** The call from the booth is through the headsets.

Now it must find its way into the huddle.



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

After winning a battle that lasted well into fall training camp, junior college transfer Dax Crum will start under center when Wyoming opens its season against Ohio.

One of the handful of coaches and clipboard-holding quarterbacks is signaling in the correct formation and play — or plays — to the signal-caller on the field.

"They probably have it by 35 seconds, and then you've got to wait until it gets signaled in and everything," Cole said. "I'd like to be at the line of scrimmage with anywhere between 15 and 20 seconds still on the clock in case we need to change the play or audible or that type of thing."

"If we can get up there between 15 and 20 seconds, I'll be happy." In the meantime, the cadence is set.

The play is shared with the other 10 guys in the huddle.

And the Cowboys are only halfway home.

**:20** Cole is happy. The Cowboys are out of the huddle and heading to the line of scrimmage.

The offensive coordinator's work is done for this play, and now it's in the hands of the quarterback.

There's still just as much information to sort through.

"When you get out, check the clock and see how much time you have," two-year starter Karsten Sween said. "There could be a check

in the play, there could be two or three checks, there could be no checks depending on whether I was looking at the defensive front, the linemen, the linebackers, the safeties or whatever.

"I don't know how it times out differently with the new clock, but it seems like we've always been pretty good about getting out of the huddle. If we get to playing quick and get to the line, maybe there'll be more time this year."

Either way, at this point the quarterback is quickly running out of it.

**:10** There's still time to make a change. But if the quarterback is planning on making one, this is the time to do it.

"Last year I usually broke the huddle with probably 11 to 15 seconds left on the clock, if we were going out of huddle," Sween said. "As soon as I call the play and get up to the line as fast as I can, I have to take into account how much time I have for my shifts, my motions, my reads."

"If it's double-cadence — call a cadence, see if the defense shifts at all then call one of the two plays that I called in the huddle. There's a lot of stuff, believe me."

Cole has streamlined some of that process by almost entirely removing the double-cadence from the offense, an addition by former coordinator Bill Cockhill that was anything but a huge hit.

That could leave a few extra seconds at the line for adjustments, and all of them are precious.

**:00** The snap is off in time.

The real fun begins. Cole is thinking through the play chart and coming up with his next call.

The players are executing the one that came down from upstairs just more than half-a-minute ago.

And there's still more information to digest.

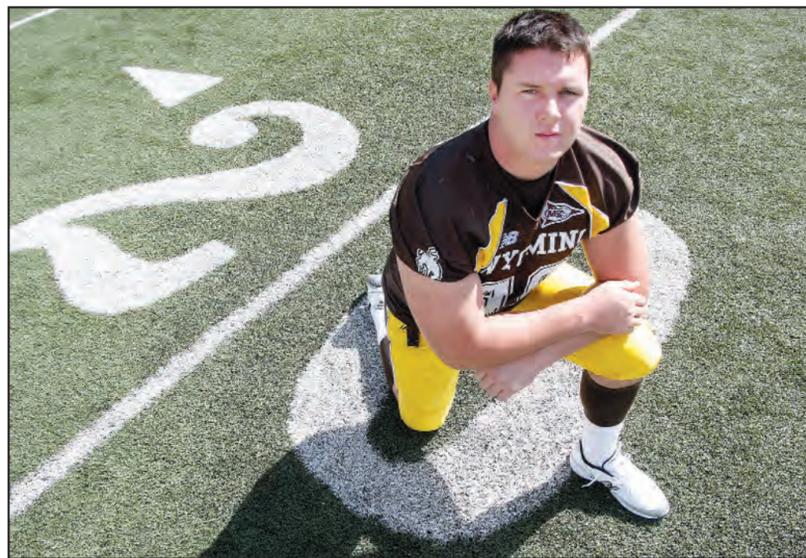
"There's a lot to think about when you're getting down to about three seconds, then still see what they do after the snap," Sween said. "There's a pre-snap read and post-snap read, so if stuff changes after the snap, you've got to be ready in a half-second."

Then ready to do it all again in 40 more.

**John Fletcher and Mitch Unrein combined for 25 tackles for a loss during their breakout sophomore campaigns. The bookends of UW's 3-4 defense could post even more impressive numbers as bigger, stronger juniors — if the Cowboys' depth doesn't catch up to them.**

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# Equal at the ends



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Defensive end Mitch Unrein had 55 tackles and five sacks last year as a sophomore. With much attention being given to John Fletcher, Unrein could be in for an even bigger junior campaign.



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

After piling up 10.5 sacks last year as a sophomore, UW defensive end John Fletcher was named first-team all-Mountain West Conference and to the Outland Trophy watch list this preseason.

## Wyoming defensive linemen share honors and accolades

By AUSIN WARD  
Star-Tribune staff writer

Mitch Unrein doesn't count statistics. John Fletcher isn't concerned with preseason watch lists.

Both Wyoming defensive ends are equally dismissive of individual goals.

No wonder the Cowboys line is so evenly balanced — the bookends are a perfect match in virtually every way.

"It's huge when you can have ends on both sides of the ball that are pretty much equal," Fletcher said. "There are so many ways that we help each other out."

"I think it's just a great combination between me and him."

It might just be the best tandem in the conference up front, though heading into the season just one has commanded much attention.

On the heels of a breakout sophomore season with 10.5 sacks, Fletcher was named to the Outland Trophy watch list for the nation's best interior lineman and preseason first-team all-conference.

Meanwhile, on the heels of a breakout sophomore season with 11 tackles for a loss, Unrein seemingly slipped into the shadows — and celebrated the attention piled on Fletcher.

"Oh no, I don't feel overshadowed at all," Unrein said. "I love it when any of us on the defensive line gets attention, because that means that we're all doing our jobs."

"You know, Fletcher is really a standout guy and I feel privileged to be on the same line with him. I love when other guys get attention. It's great, it gets everyone up."

If that attention follows Fletcher to game days and double-teams start appearing more frequently, things could get even greater for Unrein.

It's certainly within reason to expect improvement from both players — but a complete reversal in statistics and accolades.

The more blockers it takes to slow down one end, the more likely the other is to wreak havoc in the backfield.

And that's exactly how they want it. "I don't think any of that matters really," Unrein said. "We try not to even think about it."

"At the beginning of the season we might look at it to try and set goals, but

when the season's going we just go out there and play. That's all we can do. If you do that, you play hard every down, that shows up on the stats."

Just as quickly as Unrein mentions a possible use for the stats sheet, the junior dismisses it.

If the twin terrors have goals that can't be measured in the standings, they aren't talking about them publicly.

Fletcher has summarily dismissed any talk of awards or statistics as a benchmark, and Unrein will only allow that he's trying to "never take a play off."

The two of them couldn't be a better fit for defensive line coach Lance Robinson's family-first approach.

"It's really not just those two," Robinson said. "That's the way we carry ourselves off the field, and they're as excited to see the other guy do well as they are for themselves. I think that carries over."

"There are no 'me' guys; it's all of us. They're just two examples, but there are a lot of examples. Fred Givens takes up a lot of double teams, freeing those guys up, but they have a good working relationship with each other and I think I'm more proud of that than anything."

That relationship also carries over off the field, which certainly doesn't hurt on it.

As thoughtful as the 6-foot-6, 280-pounder is intimidating, Fletcher doesn't undersell the importance of the close bond with Unrein.

"We can both go to each other with problems that we have and kind of rationalize what we're thinking," Fletcher said. "We help each other out a lot in those kind of ways where maybe we're having a bad day and I might need somebody to pick me up, he's usually the first one to do it. I try to do the same thing for him."

"It is so important, if I didn't have the two other guys up front and the rest of the guys behind me, there's no way I could have been on those lists."

Those lists are merely for the preseason though.

Don't be surprised if the roles are reversed by December, with the ends again deflecting praise and celebrating the other's accomplishments.

Eventually both sides of the equation must be balanced.

### All for one-on-one

Make a choice. Double-team preseason all-conference choice John Fletcher and Mitch Unrein will gladly improve on last year's 11 tackles for a loss. Shift some attention to



ROBINSON

Unrein and tune in to watch Fletcher pick up his Outland Trophy at the end of the

season. Handle them both? Good luck with the Wyoming linebackers. "It's huge because we really feel like with the speed and athleticism that we have at linebacker that if you try to double anybody we have enough guys that can win one-on-one," defensive line coach Lance Robinson said. "That's really what this defense is about, putting players in one-on-one situations."

Generally it's up to nose guard Fred Givens to occupy blockers and free up the

individual matchups by clogging the middle of the line. Ironically, he could be one of the beneficiaries of the attention on Fletcher and Unrein.

As long as Givens can outrace the linebackers to the football.

"If you have a weak link where they can put a guy up on the line and do other things, that can create some problems," Robinson said. "We feel on our line and with any of the linebackers behind that, if we get a one-on-one, we can win that."

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**The Cowboys haven't had a running back hit the 1,000-yard mark in a season since Marques Bringham in 1998, a nine-year drought that either Wynel Seldon or Devin Moore could end. Moore nearly did it in 2007, coming up just 35 yards short.**

24 22 86 18 4 30 149,625 25 **9** 250



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Wyoming running back Devin Moore, above, will once again share carries with fellow senior and good friend Wynel Seldon, below. Moore, whose nickname is Lightning, had more carries (198) and yards (965) for the Cowboys in 2008, but Seldon, often referred to as Thunder, put more points on the board, finding the end zone eight times, the last of which gave him 20 career touchdowns.

# DOUBLE TROUBLE

## Moore, Seldon continue to share the load in stormy backfield

By **AUSTIN WARD**  
Star-Tribune staff writer

The forecast hasn't changed much.

There's a 50 percent chance of Thunder and 50 percent chance of Lightning.

As improbable as it may sound, senior running backs Wynel Seldon and Devin Moore are still 100 percent in favor of splitting carries for Wyoming.

Despite battling every day for playing time in the Cowboys backfield, the two remain the closest of friends off the field — which puts everything in perspective on it.

"I want more carries, but that doesn't mean I want more carries than him," Moore said. "I would like to average 20 carries a game, but at the same time, I'd like to have it where that's not needed."

"If I get 10 carries and he gets 20, I'm cool with that as long as we win this game. That's all I'm about right now."

Not surprisingly, Seldon has always echoed the same sentiment, publicly staying in lockstep with his buddy.

For much of last season the two were also stride for stride in carries, though Moore eventually pulled away and finished with 50 more in his bid for a 1,000-yard campaign.

Seldon never said a negative word about it then, and those around the backs on a regular basis insist neither is counting them in private.

"It's true," running backs coach Bryan Applewhite said. "They're very good friends; they're each other's biggest cheerleader."



get along so well in the first place.

Seldon and Moore are perfect complementary pieces, and they might fit even better lining up in the backfield at the same time.

"That is on (offensive coordinator) Bob Cole, but hopefully we'll do that a lot," Seldon said. "With both of us on the field, I feel like teams might be off balance a little bit."

"But even if we're not out there together, D-Mo, that's my man. That's my partner. When he's in, I'm rooting for him and I'm rooting for the whole team, and when I'm in, he's rooting for me. He tells me what's up, I tell him what's up and it's just all good. It's easy for us when we started out as friends first, that just made it like, OK, we're just helping each other out."

That friendly assistance is about the only possible snag in the partnership.

The backs spend hours in the film room breaking each other down and offering constructive criticism, though each seems well aware that nobody is better qualified to critique the other.

"At times it may get a little hard because he may see something I'm not doing right and he won't hesitate to tell me, that's for sure," Moore said. "And you know, I'll see the same and I won't hesitate to tell him, so anytime we have to take our remarks from each other, all the critical stuff, we're each other's biggest critic."

"We'll watch film on each other and he'll tell me, 'You need to hit those hole a little faster, a little harder.' I'll tell him the same and run with it. Once we leave the field or the film room, the meetings, all that stuff, everything is always good. Once we walk in the meeting room or the field, everything is still always good. I tell him, whenever he needs me, I'm always going to be there for him. I think we love each other, you know, as football player to football player and friend to friend. He's a good friend and I'll always be there for him."

"I know he's going to have my back."

Unless Seldon's lined up right next to him.

That'll make it even harder for the opposition to play weatherman.

## THREE'S COMPANY

Darius Terry doesn't have a flashy nickname.

Not counting his lone carry last season, the sophomore running back has hardly even needed to be identified at all.

Trapped behind Wyoming's catchy backfield tandem, Terry's been an afterthought to Wynel Seldon and



TERRY

Devin Moore — but he's a serious threat to turn the dynamic duo into a threesome.

"Darius has been getting downhill pretty good," UW coach Joe Glenn said. "He's been playing pretty good, turned the corner I think. 'I know he's been making some yards.'"

At least for one more season, the problem for Terry is finding the opportunity to do it in meaningful situations.

The versatile back had an impressive spring and looked like a viable third

option then, but a summer spent working out with the guys on the top of the depth chart helped him solidify the spot in fall camp.

"Those two guys are like my big brothers," Terry said. "I mean, it took me awhile to get going being behind Wynel and D-Mo, but I've just learned so much just from watching them on the sideline and being in meetings with them."

"They took me under their wing. It's paying off a lot." Eventually it might land him a handle of his own.

"I know a lot of people that tell me that they can't believe it, but it's true, they're best friends and they really don't care about who gets the most carries and who gets the most touchdowns."

Moore figures to have the edge in carries again this season, though Seldon has somewhat evened the score by punching in more touchdowns.

The thunderous 6-foot, 219-pound

Seldon is generally a better option around the end zone than his more elusive counterpart, who earned his moniker with his blazing open field speed.

That's part of the reason they

The new graduate assistant knows what he's talking about. Only Marcus Harris topped Jovon Bouknight's career reception total of 250, and the latter is back in Laramie teaching the Wyoming wideouts the tricks of the trade.



# '08 Pokes Schedule: By The Numbers



## GAME 1

- **WHO:** Ohio.
- **WHEN:** Aug. 30, noon.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Cowboys lead 1-0.
- **LAST YEAR:** UW trailed by as many as 17, turned the ball over seven times — and still pulled off a thrilling 34-33 win on the road.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Running back Devin Moore posted a career-high 198 yards rushing against the Bobcats last season.

- **WHERE:** Provo, Utah.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Cougars lead 41-30-3.
- **LAST YEAR:** The two-time defending league champs didn't completely overpower the Cowboys, but the Cougars also didn't exactly struggle with a 35-10 win in Laramie.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Junior quarterback Max Hall could be a dark horse Heisman Trophy candidate if he can build on last year's 3,848 passing yards and 26 touchdowns.



## GAME 5



## GAME 2

- **WHO:** Air Force.
- **WHEN:** Sept. 6, 1:30 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** CBS College Sports Network.
- **SERIES:** Falcons lead 23-20-3.
- **LAST YEAR:** A controversial fumble call with UW leading 9-7 in the third quarter led to an Air Force touchdown and helped the Falcons lock up a 20-12 win at home.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Air Force lost 15 starters off its surprising 9-4 squad, including multi-purpose dynamo Chad Hall and quarterback Shaun Carney.

- **WHO:** Bowling Green.
- **WHEN:** Sept. 27, 2 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** First meeting.
- **RECORD AGAINST MAC:** 2-1.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Falcons coach Gregg Brandon helped UW post a 35-15 record while serving as an assistant under Paul Rouch from 1987-90.



## GAME 6



## GAME 3

- **WHO:** North Dakota State.
- **WHEN:** Sept. 13, 1 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** None.
- **SERIES:** First meeting.
- **RECORD AGAINST MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE:** 2-0.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Senior running back Tyler Roehl piled up 1,431 rushing yards last season, a nice complement to his 21 touchdowns.

- **WHO:** New Mexico.
- **WHEN:** Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Albuquerque, N.M.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Cowboys lead 32-28.
- **LAST YEAR:** New Mexico and steady rain both stormed through Laramie, with the Lobos jumpstarting UW's second-half slide with a 20-3 win.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Running back Rodney Ferguson has picked up right where DonTrell Moore left off, continuing New Mexico's run of six consecutive 1,000-yard seasons with 1,177 last year.



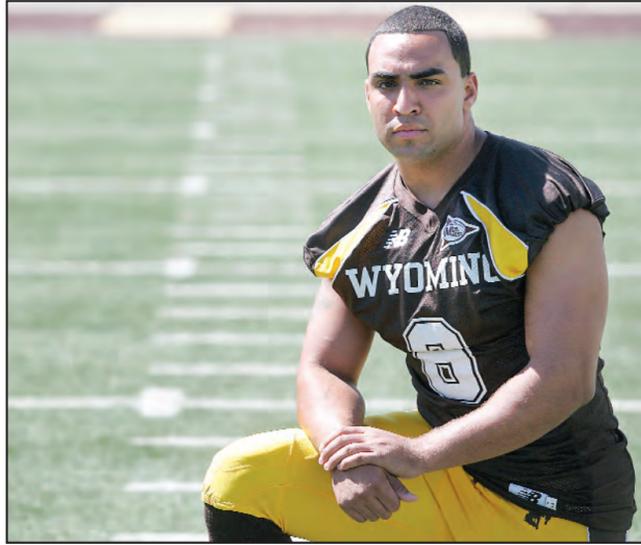
## GAME 7



## GAME 4

- **WHO:** BYU.
- **WHEN:** Sept. 20, 1 p.m.

- **WHO:** Utah.
- **WHEN:** Oct. 11, noon.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Utes lead 48-31-1.
- **LAST YEAR:** Utah jumped out early, kept its foot on the gas and showed no mercy after Joe Glenn guaranteed a victory —



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Wyoming linebacker Alex Toney switched to jersey No. 6 — formerly worn by wide receiver Hoost Marsh. Toney wore No. 41 last season.

building up to a 50-0 whitewash in Salt Lake City and a memorable gesture by Glenn.

- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** No team brings out the worst in UW like the Utes, who've won seven of the last eight meetings. The last loss? In Laramie on Homecoming two seasons ago — the same situation as this year's showdown.

short years for the Horned Frogs to catch and pass UNLV with 18 conference victories — and they're only one back of UW.



## GAME 9

- **WHO:** San Diego State.
- **WHEN:** Nov. 1, noon.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Cowboys lead 15-14.
- **LAST YEAR:** UW's season officially derailed after it blew a 21-0 lead on the road, eventually falling with just more than one minute to go on a 27-yard touchdown pass in the Aztecs' 27-24 win.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Technically Kevin O'Connell only counts as one of San Diego State's departed starters, but it might as well be the entire offense. The quarterback not only accounted for 3,063 passing yards, he also led the team in rushing.



## GAME 8

- **WHO:** TCU.
- **WHEN:** Oct. 25, 4 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Fort Worth, Texas.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Tied at 2.
- **LAST YEAR:** The Cowboys thought they had just the victory they needed to propel them to the top of the conference. Instead, the desultory fourth quarter of the 24-21 home victory proved to be a harbinger of things to come.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** It only took three



## GAME 10

- **WHO:** Tennessee.
- **WHEN:** Nov. 8, 11 a.m.
- **WHERE:** Knoxville, Tenn.
- **TV:** VideoSeat PPV
- **SERIES:** Vols lead 2-0.
- **LAST MEETING:** The 'N' in the record books stands for 'neutral' — not Nashville. That was the site of the bloodbath the last time UW saw the SEC power, a 47-7 thrashing by the Vols.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Tennessee coach Phillip Fulmer's .766 winning percentage is the best in the nation for active coaches with at least 10 seasons in the division formerly known as I-A.



## GAME 11

- **WHO:** UNLV.
- **WHEN:** Nov. 13, 7 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Las Vegas.
- **TV:** CBS College Sports Network.
- **SERIES:** Tied at 8.
- **LAST YEAR:** Sloppy as it might have been, UW's 29-24 home win against the Rebels was the lone bright spot of its devastating second half of the season.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** The series is tied, but it hasn't been conventional. The Rebels won five straight from 1999 to 2003 to open a lead, but UW has won the last four meetings.



## GAME 12

- **WHO:** Colorado State.
- **WHEN:** Nov. 22, noon.
- **WHERE:** Laramie.
- **TV:** The Mtn.
- **SERIES:** Rams lead 54-40-5.
- **LAST YEAR:** The Cowboys nearly salvaged some of the season, but even the Bronze Boot slipped away in Fort Collins. UW led in the fourth quarter, but the Rams pulled out a 36-28 win to end the suffering.
- **NUMBER CRUNCH:** Look who's turning 100 — it's the Border War. The regular-season end will push the rivalry to the century mark, and no love has been lost since the first meeting in 1899.



Tim Kupsick, Star-Tribune

Two-year starter Karsten Sween is the most accomplished backup quarterback in the Mountain West Conference. Sween lost a long battle with Dax Crum for the starting job in the opener against Ohio, but he figures to play a role in the offense in some capacity after making 18 starts over the last two years.

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