



Omon



Peterson



Flynn

Omon, Peterson, Flynn elevated to professional ranks

Three former student-athletes from the 2007 Northwest football team are continuing their work on the gridiron at the professional level.

The Buffalo Bills selected former Northwest student-athlete Xavier Omon '07 in the sixth round as the 179th overall pick of the 2008 National Football League draft. Omon is the sixth Bearcat ever drafted by the NFL and the first since Dave Tollefson was drafted in the seventh round by the Green Bay Packers in 2006.

Omon concluded his collegiate career last season as the first player in NCAA history to rush for 1,500 yards in all four seasons. He led Division II last season with 2,337 rushing yards and became the second player in Division II history to rush for 7,000 yards during a career.

He earned four All-America awards in 2007 and was named the Offensive Player of the Year by D2Football.com, the MIAA Offensive Player of the Year and the Texas vs. The Nation All-Star Game MVP. He holds 32 Northwest game, season, career and postseason records and is the all-time leading rusher in MIAA history.

Tight end Mike Peterson, a 6-foot-3, 250-pounder from Atlantic, Iowa, signed a free agent contract with the Green Bay Packers, but was released in late July. Last season, Peterson caught 44 passes for 706 yards and had five receiving touchdowns.

The Toronto Argonauts of the

Canadian Football League signed Dallas Flynn to a free agent contract, although he was released in June. Flynn ended his career at Northwest with 19.5 sacks, fifth in all-time program records, and 34 tackles for loss, tied for sixth. He also blocked three kicks and recorded 148 tackles in his four years at Northwest.

Flynn missed playing with former Bearcat wide receiver and punt returner Tony Miles, who was granted free agency by Toronto in February and signed with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

All-time Northwest NFL Draft Selections:

- **Bob Haller** (Chicago Bears, 1959, 23rd round, 273rd overall pick)
- **Ed Tillison** (Detroit Lions, 1992, 11th round, 306th overall pick)
- **Chris Greisen** (Arizona Cardinals, 1999, 7th round, 239th overall pick)
- **Seth Wand** (Houston Texans, 2003, 3rd round, 75th overall pick)
- **Dave Tollefson** (Green Bay Packers, 2006, 7th round, 253rd overall pick)
- **Xavier Omon** (Buffalo Bills, 2008, 6th round, 179th overall pick)

Bearcats in the CFL:

- **Seneca Holmes** (British Columbia Lions, 2001)
- **Tony Miles** (Hamilton Tiger-Cats, 2002; Toronto Argonauts, 2003-07; Hamilton Tiger-Cats, 2008)
- **Marcel Smith** (Winnipeg Blue Bombers, 2004) ■



Meyer named assistant men's basketball coach

Former Northwest men's basketball player Austin Meyer '06, '08 has been named assistant coach to Steve Tappmeyer and the Northwest men's basketball program. His official duties began June 1.

"I'm excited Coach Tappmeyer has given me the opportunity to start my career here at Northwest at such a young age," Meyer said. "I'm familiar with the program, and with school behind me I can devote all my efforts toward our team. I've met a lot of great people at this University and look forward to working with them on a

professional level."

A native of Blue Springs, Meyer played four seasons with the Bearcats from 2002 to 2006. He was the leading scorer and rebounder of the 2004-2005 squad when he averaged 13.3 points and 5.4 rebounds. Meyer is the sixth-leading scorer in program history with 1,294 points. His 215 three-pointers remain the career record. In addition, Meyer won an MIAA conference tournament championship and made an appearance in the Elite Eight during the 2003-2004 campaign. ■

Austin Meyer (left), a former player and most recently a graduate assistant, has been a go-to guy – both on the court and off – for Coach Steve Tappmeyer (right). Meyer has now joined the full-time ranks as Tappmeyer's assistant coach.

Fall Classic VII set for Arrowhead Stadium

The seventh annual Fall Classic at Arrowhead Stadium will kickoff at 5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 4, in Kansas City.

The Fall Classic once again pits the Northwest Bearcats against the Pittsburg State Gorillas – perennial MIAA powers. Last season's contest lived up to the game's name – a classic. Xavier Omon's 1-yard leap into the end zone on fourth-and-goal gave Northwest a 37-34 overtime win in front of nearly 20,000 fans.

Northwest is 4-2 at Arrowhead Stadium and has won the past three meetings between the two teams. The Bearcats and Gorillas have been nationally ranked in 13 of the last 14 meetings, with Northwest holding a 9-4 record in those contests. In the six games at Arrowhead, 135,269 fans have watched the Fall Classic.

Arrowhead Stadium parking lots open at 2 p.m., and the stadium gates open at 3 p.m. Parking is \$17 and \$12.

All Bearcat alumni and friends are invited to a tailgate party hosted by the Northwest Alumni Association. The party will begin at 2 p.m. and

will be located at the Arrowhead Pavilion. There will be food, music and appearances from the Northwest cheerleaders and band.

Game tickets are \$25 for club level seats. Field level seats are \$20 for adults and \$10 for fans ages 3 through high school as well as Northwest students with a University ID. Children 2 and under sitting on an adult's lap are admitted free. New this year is the availability of a \$50 family package, which admits two adults and two children.

To order tickets, call the Northwest Student Services Center at (660) 562-1212 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or purchase tickets online at www.nwmissouri.edu/tickets. ■



Bearcat supporters enjoy tailgating prior to the Fall Classic game at Arrowhead Stadium.

2008 M-Club Hall of Fame inductees

The following individuals will be inducted into Northwest's M-Club Athletics Hall of Fame. The ceremony and banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 17, in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom. Tickets are \$17 and can be purchased by contacting Michele Steinmeyer at (660) 562-1977.

David Imonitie '75

Tennis; four-time MIAA singles champion; three-time MIAA doubles champion; three-time NCAA All-American; all-time career wins leader; lives in Houston, Texas.

David Alvey '78

Basketball; three-time All-MIAA; currently the second all-time leading scorer in school history with 1,747 points; school record holder for single season scoring average of 23.8 points per game; currently fourth on all-time rebounding charts; lives in Tell City, Ind.

Tom Franke '80

Baseball; All-MIAA and North Central Region pitcher; 1.36 ERA in 1976 season was ranked third nationally; all-time career leader in wins; third in career complete games; second in career shutouts; second in career strikeouts; lives in Eureka.

Mary Beth Bishop Steele '85

Volleyball; three-time All-MIAA; first Bearcat player to be named MIAA Most Valuable Player and is one of two to ever receive the honor; school record holder in attack percentage and kills; ranks fifth on all-time list for career kills; lives in Omaha, Neb.

Steve Hansley (attd. '83-'85)

Football; three-time All-MIAA first team; two-time AP Little All-American; holds NCAA Division II postseason record for most receiving yards in a game with 220; first Bearcat receiver to top 1,000 yards receiving in a single season; single season record holder for receptions in a game; lives in Kansas City.

Russ Northup '65, '90

Meritorious Service Award; former student athlete who returned to Northwest following his career in the military and private business to teach in the marketing department; served as Northwest's Faculty Athletics Representative; following his retirement, returned to Northwest for a stint as the athletics department compliance director; lives in Mound City. ■



During his days at Northwest, David Imonitie '75 was a tennis standout, claiming four MIAA singles championships.