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Central Washington University Football Quick Facts

Central Washington University Athletics

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IRONMAN AT QUARTERBACK: In 1986, Jim Hill played every down except one at quarterback (Andy Troxel took one snap). Hill, who passed for 1,575 yards, was the only player to attempt a pass that season for the Wildcats.

PATTERSON FIRST AMONG TWO-YEAR PLAYERS: Pat Patterson, who rushed for 2,640 yards in the 1988 and 1989 seasons for CWU, is the 12th leading rusher in Columbia Football Association history, but he ranks first among two-year players. Jimmie Dillingham, who played for CWU between 1984 and 1987, ranks 16th with 2,405 yards. The all-time leader is Lewis & Clark's Dan Ruhl, who rushed for 4,141 yards between 1988 and 1991. Puget Sound's Mike Oliphant, who ranks fourth with 3,601 yards, was the first pick for the Washington Redskins in the 1987 NFL draft, going in the third round.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME: Over the years, Central Washington has played 18 home games away from Ellensburg, including three playoff games. The Wildcats are 12-4-2 at those home sites including: Yakima - 8-2-1, Wenatchee 2-1-0, Puyallup 1-1-0, Kennewick 1-0-0, Tacoma 0-0-1.

IN THE TOP 10: In the final NAIA National Poll, Central Washington has finished in the Top 10 seven times since 1984, winning poll titles in 1990 and 1991. In 1995, the Wildcats were ranked just 14th in the final poll, but then went on to earn a tie for the NAIA national title with Findlay, Ohio.

'CATS OFFENSE PRODUCES 470 YARDS PER GAME: Over the past six seasons, Central Washington has had the most prolific offense in the CFA, averaging 462.7 yards per game. The Wildcats have had six consecutive seasons in which they have averaged 400 or more yards per game. Prior to the 1990 season, CWU had averaged 400 yards per game just twice in its history - in 1972 when it averaged 423.9 yards per game and in 1988 when it averaged 462.2 yards per game.

??????? Needs update 200 YEAR RUSHING GAMES: In the 11-year history of the Columbia Football Association, there has been 53 individual 200-yard rushing games, five by Puget Sound's Mike Oliphant. Twelve of the 37 were in the 1989 season, including a record four by CWU's Pat Patterson. Tom Craven's 265-yard effort in 1993 against Linfield ranks first in CWU history and sixth on the CFA's all-time list.

FIRST IN 25 SEASONS: When Central Washington completed its 1988 regular-season unbeaten, it was its first perfect campaign in 25 years. The only previous teams to go unbeaten in Central's football history (minimum of five games) were its 1926 (6-0-0), 1930 (6-0-1) and 1963 (9-0-0) teams. The 'Cats made it four straight unbeaten seasons, finishing 8-0-1 in 1989, 9-0-0 in 1990 and 1991 before having their 41-game regular-season unbeaten streak snapped the next season by Idaho State.

DUNBAR RANKS FIRST IN CFA: Despite coaching only six seasons here (1983, 1987-91), Mike Dunbar is the second winningest coach in school history with 54 victories. His .852 winning percentage ranks No. 1 in Columbia Football Association history.

KITNA NAIA CAREER LEADER: Jon Kitna is the NAIA's all-time total offense leader with 12,907 yards. He ranks second in NAIA history and first in the CFA in

career passing with 12,353 yards, four times more yardage than the No. 2 quarterback in CWU history (3,045 yards by Ken Stradley between 1989 and 1991).

RUSSAW ERASES BRIDGES MARK: Kenny Russaw broke one of the oldest marks in CWU's record book during the 1995 season when he eclipsed the single-season record for most points scored. Russaw finished with 122 in 14 games, five more than Hall-of-Famer Corky Bridges. CWU, however, played just eight games when Bridges, scored 117 points during the 1958 season. Corky accounted for 51.3 percent of his team's points. Russaw scored 26.7 percent of his team's points. Actually, the most prolific single-season scorer in CWU history is running back Pat Patterson. Patterson scored 116 points in nine games during the 1989 regular-season, then added 54 more in three playoff games for a grand total of 170. Playoff games, however, did not count in season totals prior to the 1991 season.

200 CONFERENCE WINS: Central Washington's 56-7 victory over Eastern Oregon in the next-to-last game of the 1995 season was the Wildcats' 200th conference victory in its history. Since 1923, CWU has a 204-130-14 record in conference games and has won or shared 25 league titles.

VIKING SCORING DROUGHT: Between 1928 and 1934, Western Washington failed to score a point against the Wildcats. In seven games, CWU outscored Western 83-0, winning six and battling to a scoreless deadlock in the seventh game.

LUTES REMAIN NO. 1 NEMESIS: Despite winning the 1995 NAIA Division 2 national title, CWU has lost its last seven games to Pacific Lutheran. The Wildcats' last victory against PLU came during the 1991 regular-season. Among teams the Wildcats have played at least 20 times, PLU is the only one to hold the all-time series lead against the 'Cats. The Lutes lead the all-time series 32-25-1.

RUSHING TOUCHDOWN LEADERS BY DECADES: In the 1920s, Lynn Robinson scored 21 rushing touchdowns. He was the only Wildcat player to reach double figures in that statistical category. In the 1930s, Clifford Exley led Central in rushing touchdowns with 11. In the 1940s, the team leader was L.G. Carmody with 11. Corky Bridges was the rushing touchdown leader in the 1950s with 17. In the 1960s, quarterback Phil Fitterer led the way with 13. R. J. Williams scored 15 to set the pace in the 1970s. In the 1980s, the co-leaders were Pat Patterson and Ed Watson with 31. So far, Kenny Thompson is the leader in the 1990s with 22.

MOST PRODUCTIVE IN CFA THIS DECADE Between 1991 and 1996 The 400-yard average streak came to an end last fall when the Wildcats' average fell to 374.6 yards per game. Since the Columbia Football Association was formed in 1985 (661th, 24 TDs).

Northwest small-college NCAA Division 1-AA career passing with 12,353 yards. Current CWU quarterback Casey Jacox is a distant second with 3,309 yards. Kitna's 911 career completions is nearly twice as many as any other quarterback in school history has even attempted. Dan and Dan Murphy are the co-leader.