

Sunday will be Elway's last

DENVER (AP)—On Sunday, John Elway's football career will officially end, brought down by the sort of physical ailments that dog many 38-year-olds, let alone one who has been pounded for 16 seasons.

Denver Broncos owner Pat Bowlen confirmed Monday that Elway was leaving football because he "felt in his own mind that he had some physical problems he didn't think he could overcome."

Hamstring, back and rib injuries caused the usually durable Elway to miss all or part of six games last season. Of more concern, however, was a troublesome left knee. Elway played with a brace on that knee throughout his career.

Limping around a golf course in California last weekend, he admitted he eventually will require an artificial knee.

Bowlen said a news conference to announce the retirement, already delayed several times, will be held Sunday at a time and location to be determined later this week.

"We wanted to be very sensitive to the families involved in the Columbine (school shooting) situation," Bowlen said. "We wanted to make sure we did not in any way interrupt the grieving process."

"We feel that Sunday probably is the time when we could put this tragedy

behind us, and perhaps John's press conference could be received as sort of a happy time."

In Monday's Denver Post, Elway left no doubt about his plans.

"Absolutely, I'm retired," he told the newspaper. "I seriously considered coming back, but I just couldn't make it because of my knee."

Bowlen was in Australia nearly two weeks ago, promoting his team's Aug. 6 preseason game there, when he received a telephone message from Elway.

"As soon as I got the message, I knew what it was about," Bowlen said. "I called him back and basically it was a short conversation. He said, 'Pat, I've decided to retire and go on with the rest of my life.' I told him I respected his decision and was really happy for him."

"Because I couldn't get back until the following week, we originally decided to announce it on Wednesday (April 21). With what happened at Columbine (April 20), that was very much not appropriate. And it was just a matter of time before the press figured out what was going on."

Bowlen, who said he will retire Elway's No. 7, insisted he would not lower his expectations for the two-time Super Bowl champions this season, despite the loss of the Hall of Fame-bound quarterback.

"John will be missed, for sure,"

Bowlen said. "But our expectations are going to be the same. I think we've got a very solid football team. Bubby Brister is going to play well, and, of course, we have Terrell Davis and many other very good players on this team."

"I would have loved to have had John come back for another year. I'd love to see him three-peat, do something that no other quarterback has done in history. But that wasn't to be. So we'll go forward. We'll be fine. I think we'll be a good football team, if not a great football team."

The leadership void left by Elway's exit might be harder to overcome, Bowlen said.

"Everybody loves to talk about the comebacks and all the rest of those things, but there is much, much more to John's participation on this team than that," he said. "His physical accomplishments are unparalleled, but my biggest concern right now is the man that John was — the guy he was in the locker room and the stability he brought. Losing that is going to be difficult for us, quite frankly."

Linebacker Bill Romanowski said he saw the retirement coming.

"Last year when he came back, he said that definitely was going to be his last year," Romanowski said. "You have to believe what he said. In my mind, it's always been official."

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

| NATIONAL LEAGUE | | | |
|------------------|----|------|------------|
| East Division | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Atlanta | 12 | 6 | .667 — |
| New York | 11 | 8 | .579 1 1/2 |
| Philadelphia | 10 | 8 | .556 2 |
| Montreal | 6 | 11 | .353 5 1/2 |
| Florida | 5 | 14 | .263 7 1/2 |
| Central Division | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| St. Louis | 11 | 6 | .647 — |
| Houston | 10 | 8 | .556 1 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 9 | 9 | .500 2 1/2 |
| Pittsburgh | 8 | 9 | .471 3 |
| Chicago | 7 | 9 | .438 3 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 7 | 10 | .412 4 |

| West Division | | | |
|---------------|----|------|------------|
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| San Francisco | 13 | 7 | .650 — |
| Arizona | 11 | 9 | .550 2 |
| Los Angeles | 9 | 10 | .474 3 1/2 |
| San Diego | 8 | 10 | .444 4 |
| Colorado | 6 | 9 | .400 4 1/2 |

| Monday's Games | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Atlanta 5, Florida 3 | | | |
| Houston 5, Arizona 2 | | | |
| Only games scheduled | | | |

| Today's Games | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| San Francisco (Rueter 1-1) at Montreal (Battista 2-0), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Cincinnati (Neagle 0-0) at Philadelphia (Schilling 3-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Chicago (Sanders 0-2) at Florida (Fernandez 1-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Los Angeles (Brown 1-1) at Milwaukee (Roque 0-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| San Diego (Ashby 3-1) at New York (Yoshii 1-2), 5:10 p.m. | | | |
| Pittsburgh (Schmidt 2-1) at Atlanta (Perez 0-0), 5:40 p.m. | | | |
| Arizona (Reynoso 1-0) at Houston (Reynolds 3-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | |
| Colorado (Thomson 0-1) at St. Louis (Oliver 1-1), 6:10 p.m. | | | |

| Wednesday's Games | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| San Francisco (Nathan 1-0) at Montreal (Hermanson 2-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Cincinnati (Tomko 0-1) at Philadelphia (Ogea 2-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Chicago (Trachsel 0-2) at Florida (Hernandez 1-2), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Los Angeles (Park 1-2) at Milwaukee (Woodard 2-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| San Diego (Hitchcock 1-1) at New York (Leiter 1-2), 5:10 p.m. | | | |
| Pittsburgh (Peters 0-1) at Atlanta (Glavine 0-3), 5:40 p.m. | | | |
| Arizona (Benes 2-2) at Houston (Holt 0-3), 6:05 p.m. | | | |
| Colorado (Bohanon 3-0) at St. Louis (Oliver 1-1), 6:10 p.m. | | | |

| AMERICAN LEAGUE | | | |
|-----------------|----|------|--------|
| East Division | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| New York | 12 | 5 | .706 — |

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----|------------|
| Toronto | 12 | 8 | .600 1 1/2 |
| Boston | 10 | 9 | .526 3 |
| Tampa Bay | 11 | 9 | .550 2 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 4 | 14 | .222 8 1/2 |

| Central Division | | | |
|------------------|----|------|------------|
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Cleveland | 13 | 5 | .722 — |
| Chicago | 9 | 7 | .563 3 |
| Detroit | 9 | 10 | .474 4 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 8 | 12 | .400 6 |
| Kansas City | 6 | 10 | .375 6 |

| West Division | | | |
|---------------|----|------|------------|
| W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Texas | 11 | 8 | .579 — |
| Oakland | 9 | 11 | .450 2 1/2 |
| Anaheim | 8 | 11 | .421 3 |
| Seattle | 8 | 11 | .421 3 |

| Monday's Games | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Minnesota 6, Boston 2 | | | |
| Detroit 7, Seattle 0 | | | |
| Anaheim 4, Toronto 3, 11 innings | | | |
| Cleveland 5, Oakland 4, 10 innings | | | |
| Only games scheduled | | | |

| Today's Games | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Kansas City (Appier 2-1) at Baltimore (Mussina 2-1), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Tampa Bay (Rekar 2-0) at Chicago (Parque 2-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | |
| Boston (Portugal 2-1) at Minnesota (Milton 0-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | |
| New York (Clemens 2-0) at Texas (Sele 3-1), 6:35 p.m. | | | |
| Toronto (Hentgen 0-1) at Anaheim (Olivares 2-1), 8:05 p.m. | | | |
| Cleveland (Nagy 2-1) at Oakland (Candiotti 2-2), 8:05 p.m. | | | |
| Detroit (Thompson 2-2) at Seattle (Hincliffe 0-0), 8:05 p.m. | | | |

| Wednesday's Games | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Boston (Rapp 0-1) at Minnesota (Lincoln 0-3), 11:15 a.m. | | | |
| Kansas City (Rosado 0-1) at Baltimore (Guzman 0-2), 5:05 p.m. | | | |
| Tampa Bay (Saunders 2-2) at Chicago (Snyder 2-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | |
| New York (Hernandez 3-1) at Texas (Clark 1-2), 6:35 p.m. | | | |
| Cleveland (Wright 1-0) at Oakland (Haynes 1-3), 8:05 p.m. | | | |
| Toronto (Wells 3-1) at Anaheim (Belcher 1-1), 8:35 p.m. | | | |
| Detroit (Blair 0-2) at Seattle (Garcia 2-0), 8:35 p.m. | | | |

Miller signed as back-up for Brister

DENVER (AP)—The Denver Broncos on Monday agreed to contract terms with unrestricted free agent quarterback Chris Miller, who retired after the 1995 season because of a series of concussions.

Miller, 33, provides the Broncos with backup insurance because of the loss of John Elway, who will make his retirement announcement Sunday. Bubby Brister and Brian Griese are Denver's other quarterbacks.

Miller was Atlanta's first-round draft pick in 1987.

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Left to right Kent Deines, parts manager, 12 years; Vern Younger, technician, 19 years; Dawson Weisshaar, technician, 15 years; Jeff Fikes, technician, 1 year; Glen Maddox, service manager, 44 years; Elvira Gramm, office manager, 37 years; Brandy Thierichen, receptionist, 1 1/2 years; Bob Weber, sales, 32 years of Ford experience.



LIMON

Left to right: Stephen Gonzalez, detail, 6 months; Jettomie Otto, technician, 6 months; Kevin Deck, technician, 7 years; Jimmy Dole, technician, 9 years; Lester Dewitt, technician TR, 6 months; Roger Dykes, services/parts manager; 5 years; Ricky Monks, office manager, 1 year; Gary Chandler, sales manager, 7 years.

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| USED VEHICLES | |
|---|--|
| <p>1998 Chevrolet 1500 Supercab, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 38,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford Expedition 4 Door, 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 27,000 miles.</p> <p>1996 Chevrolet Lumina 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 51,000 miles.</p> <p>1995 Buick Park Avenue 4 door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 42,000 miles.</p> <p>1994 Buick Park Avenue 4 door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 46,000 miles.</p> <p>1993 Mercury Sable 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 54,000 miles.</p> <p>1992 Ford Club Wagon Parkwood Conversion, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded.</p> <p>1991 Ford F150 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 86,000 miles.</p> <p>1990 Mercury Topaz 4 Door, 4 cylinder, auto, loaded, 94,000 miles</p> <p>1989 Lincoln Continental 4 Door, V6, auto overdrive, loaded.</p> <p>1988 Lincoln Continental 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded.</p> <p>1988 Ford Ranger, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, air</p> <p>1986 Ford T-Bird 2 Door, 4 cylinder, turbo, auto, loaded.</p> <p>1985 Chrysler Fifth Ave., V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 91,000 miles.</p> <p>1978 Chevrolet Corvette, V8, auto, overdrive, Silver Anniversary, 50,000 miles.</p> <p>1998 Ford Escort 4 Door, 4 cylinder, auto, overdrive, loaded, 20,000 miles</p> <p>1997 Ford F350 Crew Cab Powerstroke, auto, overdrive, loaded, 30,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Expedition 4 Door 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 11,000 miles.</p> | <p>loaded, 13,000 miles.</p> <p>1995 Lincoln Continental 4 Door, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 56,000 miles.</p> <p>1998 Lincoln Navigator 4 Door 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 21,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford F-150 Supercab 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 57,000 miles.</p> <p>1995 Oldsmobile 88 LSS 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded.</p> <p>1998 Mercury Sable 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 28,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford F-150 Supercab 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 40,000 miles.</p> <p>1998 Ford Contour, 4 cylinder, auto, overdrive, loaded, 35,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford Ranger, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, flareside, 24,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Mercury Mountaineer 4 Door 4x4, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 19,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford Taurus 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 29,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Lincoln Town Car 4 Door, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 26,000 miles. (Signature.)</p> <p>1997 Ford Ranger, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, air, 25,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Ford Windstar, V6, auto, overdrive, loaded, 28,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Mercury Grand Marquis, V8, auto, overdrive, loaded, 30,000 miles.</p> <p>1997 Taurus 4 Door, V6, auto, overdrive, laded, 47,000 miles.</p> <p>1998 Mercury Sable 4 Door, V6, 24V - auto, overdrive, loaded, 18,000 miles.</p> <p>1996 Mercury Mystique 4 Door, 4 cylinder, 5 speed,</p> |

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