

# Bronco says training camp is a necessary evil

DENVER (AP) — For the Denver Broncos, the worst time of the NFL season is the first time.

Nearly eight months after their play-off loss to the Baltimore Ravens, the Denver Broncos return to rural Greeley on Thursday for their 19th training camp at the University of Northern Colorado.

"It's what we have to do — a necessary evil," fullback Howard Griffith said Wednesday. "I don't think you find too many guys who like training camp."

With three former Pro bowl quarterbacks, three 1,000-yard running backs and a new-look defense, plenty of in-

trigue awaits Griffith and the Broncos when they begin twice-daily practices Friday on the UNC campus about 50 miles northeast of Denver.

While Brian Griese is the starting quarterback, he missed seven games and the playoffs because of a separated right shoulder that required reconstructive surgery in January.

For insurance, the Broncos resigned backup Gus Frerotte and added free agent Steve Beuerlein to the mix at the end of May.

The backfield is equally crowded as Terrell Davis tries to regain his 1998 MVP form after injuries limited him to nine games in the past two seasons.

Backup Olandis Gary is back from a torn knee ligament, and Mike Anderson returns after setting Denver's rookie rushing record last year.

"Every year, you try to bring in as much competition as you can, but this is the most talented team I've been around going to camp," Griffith said.

Offensively, the Broncos should have no problem retaining their status among the league's best, but defense could determine whether they can become the third team in NFL history to win three Super Bowls in five years.

Denver coach Mike Shanahan fired longtime defensive coordinator Greg Robinson in January and quickly re-

placed him with Ray Rhodes. The move came after the Broncos allowed 5.8 yards per game and finished last against the pass in 2000.

Changing coordinators was only the start of Shanahan's offseason plan.

The Broncos signed cornerback Denard Walker and veteran defensive ends Leon Lett and Chester McGlockton. The trio figure to open camp on top of the depth chart, joining All-Pro defensive tackle Trevor Pryce and a linebacking corps of Bill Romanowski, John Mobley and Al Wilson.

"The core group is still there," Griffith said. "Pretty much the guys we

brought in are veterans that have played at a very high level in this league and know what it takes to get to the Super Bowl and win it."

Since Shanahan arrived in 1995, the Broncos have missed the playoffs just twice, but they have also failed to prove they can succeed in the post-John Elway era.

Griese, Elway's successor, received a vote of confidence in April when the Broncos gave him a six-year, \$39 million contract following his first Pro Bowl selection.

Griese has developed a connection with wideouts Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith, who each had more than 1,000

yards receiving last year, and four of his starting offensive linemen signed are signed through 2005.

Such stability gives the Broncos reason to believe they can survive the talent-laden AFC West and compete for another title in their first season at Invesco Field at Mile High.

"I don't think it's unthinkable at all," Griffith said. "As a competitor that's the only way you can think. Fortunately us, it's a realistic goal every year. It's not that way for a lot of teams."

The \$400 million stadium will open with an Eagles concert on Aug. 11, and the Broncos will play their first home preseason game Aug. 25.

## Sherman county speedway

**Sherman County Speedway Race Results**

**Bomber Heat No. 1**

- 01, Michael Meyer, Colby
- 99 Jason Steven, Colby
- 87M Ed Wright, Colby
- 85 Allen Snethen, Colby
- 11 Michael Shannon, Atwood

**Bomber Heat No. 2**

- 33 Wayne Williams, Wiley, Colo.
- 43J Chad Smades, Leoti
- 87X Johnny Orman, Colby
- 31 Alex West, Goodland

**Cash Dash: 33 Williams**

**Main**

- 43J Chad Smades, Leoti
- 87M Ed Wright, Colby
- 87X Johnny Orman, Colby
- 01 Michael Meyer, Colby
- 31 Alex West, Goodland
- 55 Allen Snethen, Colby
- 33 Wayne Williams, Wiley, Colo.
- 11 Michael Shannon, Atwood
- 99 Jason Stevens, Colby

**Stock Heat No. 1**

- 8FR Ryan Wark, Colby
- 6T Randy Tipton, Weskan
- 23X A.J. Warta, Colby
- 54S Earl Shannon, Atwood
- 17R Casey Rhea, Sharon Springs
- 41 Ron Hill, Sharon Springs
- 55 Wheat Lipplemann, Colby

**Cash Dash: 8FR Wark**

**Main**

- 41 Ron Hill, Sharon Springs
- 6T Randy Tipton, Weskan
- 23X A.J. Warta, Colby
- 54S Earl Shannon, Atwood
- 17R Casey Rhea, Sharon Springs
- 8FR Ryan Wark, Colby

**Modified Heat No. 1**

- 9 Monty Nordyke, Holly, Colo.
- 2D Wayne Dechant, Lamar, Colo.
- 3G Gary Dechant, North Glenn, Colo.
- 8 Frank Perez, Lamar, Colo.
- 43 Wayne Houston, Aurora, Colo.

**Modified Heat No. 2**

- 34H Doug Holzmeister, Colby

- 3 Brady Coen, Wiley, Colo.
- 383 Milo Lipplemann, Oberlin
- 81 Rick Erickson, Peyton, Colo.

**Modified Heat No. 3**

- 37 Jeff Tubbs, Colby
- 21 John Icke, Colby
- 23X Jeff Hartwell, Colby
- 9D Paul Donovan, McCook, Neb.

**Cash Dash: 34H Holzmeister**

**Main**

- 21 Darren Deloach, Lamar
- 9 Monty Nordyke, Holly, Colo.
- 3G Gary Dechant, North Glenn, Colo.
- 23X Jeff Hartwell, Colby
- 3 Brady Coen, Wiley, Colo.
- (tie) 34H Doug Holzmeister, Colby
- (tie) 37 Jeff Tubbs, Colby
- 2D Wayne Dechant, Lamar, Colo.
- 21 John Icke, Colby
- 383 Milo Lipplemann, Oberlin
- 10 9D Paul Donovan, McCook, Neb.
- 8 Frank Perez, Lamar, Colo.
- 43 Wayne Houston, Aurora, Colo.
- 81 Rick Erickson, Peyton, Colo.

## Royals benefit from trade

SEATTLE (AP) — Neifi Perez took his trade from the Colorado Rockies to the Kansas City Royals with a shrug and a smile.

"The trade is part of baseball," he said. "That's fine. I'm still playing."

Perez's first hit for the Royals, a double in the fourth, triggered a four-run inning in Kansas City's 5-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Wednesday night.

Paul Byrd pitched a complete game, but lost his shutout bid in the ninth.

Perez, acquired earlier in the day from the Rockies in a three-team trade that sent Jermaine Dye to Oakland, went 1-for-5.

"I know that they were going to trade me three days ago," Perez said. "I was ready three days ago. I got all my stuff packed."

The Mariners (74-29) still have the best record in the majors, but they dropped to 6-4 since designated hitter Edgar Martinez went on the 15-day disabled list July 16 with a strained left quadriceps muscle. They're averaging 3.5 runs without their regular No. 3 hitter.

Martinez will be out of the Seattle lineup until at least Tuesday in De-

troit.

"Obviously, we miss him," outfielder Mike Cameron said. "But we've just got to get it done while he's not here."

Al Martin, who drove in Seattle's run with a sacrifice fly with two out in the ninth, agreed.

"He's the best hitter we have, but we're supposed to be able to hold the fort without him," Martin said.

After watching Freddy Garcia get beat by Kris Wilson 6-1 Tuesday night, Mariners manager Lou Piniella saw Aaron Sele (12-2) have a string of 20 scoreless innings end in the fourth.

"The last couple of games we haven't swung the bats well," Piniella said. "We're making a lot of easy outs. I haven't seen too many balls hit that hard."

The Mariners lost two straight for the eighth time this season and dropped their fifth series of the season.

Piniella said his team's four-game sweep in Minnesota on artificial turf before returning home took something out of the Mariners.

"I think we're a little worn out from the carpet," Piniella said.

Byrd (2-4) snapped his three-game losing streak and won for the first time since June 15. He walked one and struck out four in his first career appearance against the Mariners.

"I'll take the complete game and be excited about getting the win," Byrd said.

Notes: Kansas City remains the last team in the majors without an individual shutout this season. Perez started at 2B and Rey Sanchez started at SS and went 4-for-5 with a double and triple. Royals GM Allard Baird said Perez will be the starting SS for the Royals after Tuesday's trading deadline. Baird said the Royals might trade Sanchez, who will be a free agent at the end of the season, before the deadline. The Mariners reached 2 million in attendance in their 48th home date with their 18th consecutive sellout. After the game, the Royals announced LHP Chris George, 21, will make his major league debut Thursday night. They purchased the contract of George from Omaha and optioned RHP Dan Reichert to Omaha. At Omaha, George was 11-3 with a 3.53 ERA.

## Former Rockie debuts for Giants

DENVER (AP) — Andres Galarraga, making his San Francisco debut, went 3-for-5 with two RBIs, and the Giants beat Colorado 9-3 Wednesday to stop a four-game losing streak.

Pedro Feliz, Marvin Benard and Calvin Murray all hit solo homers in the sixth for the Giants, who also got a solo shot from Shawon Dunston in the seventh. Jeff Kent added two RBIs.

Ryan Jensen (1-2) earned his first major league win, allowing three runs — two earned — and six hits in six innings.

Barry Bonds, who did not start, flied out as a pinch-hitter in the eighth. He has 42 homers but hasn't homered in the last seven games and has just three in his last 28 games, falling behind the pace Mark McGwire set when he hit a record 70 three years ago.

Larry Walker had an RBI double and Alex Ochoa an RBI single for Colorado, which has lost 26 of its last 33 games.

San Francisco scratched out a run in the first when Murray walked and scored on Kent's sacrifice fly.

Walker's RBI double tied it in the Rockies' half, and Colorado went ahead 3-1 in the third on Ochoa's RBI single and a run-scoring fielding error by Kent on Brent Butler's grounder to second.

Galarraga, who played for the Rockies from 1993-97, doubled with one out in the fourth, and Benito Santiago followed with a bloop, RBI double down the right-field line.

Kent and Galarraga had run-scoring singles in the fifth to give the Giants a 4-3 lead.

## baseball scoreboard

*By The Associated Press*

**American League**

**East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	60	41	.594	—
Boston	57	43	.570	2 1/2
Toronto	48	54	.471	12 1/2
Baltimore	42	59	.416	18
Tampa Bay	33	68	.327	27

**Central Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	58	41	.586	—
Minnesota	59	42	.584	—
Chicago	49	50	.495	9
Detroit	43	55	.439	14 1/2
Kansas City	40	61	.396	19

**West Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	59	42	.584	—
Los Angeles	58	44	.569	1 1/2
San Francisco	53	49	.520	6 1/2
San Diego	49	53	.480	10 1/2
Colorado	43	58	.426	16

**Wednesday's Games**

Atlanta 11, Cincinnati 3  
Philadelphia 8, Montreal 4  
St. Louis 10, Houston 2  
Milwaukee 4, Los Angeles 3  
Chicago Cubs 6, Pittsburgh 5  
San Francisco 9, Colorado 3  
N.Y. Mets 5, Florida 2  
Arizona 9, San Diego 6

**Thursday's Games**

St. Louis (Smith 2-0) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 8-7), 12:20 p.m.  
Atlanta (Marquis 2-3) at Montreal (Munoz 0-0), 5:05 p.m.  
Houston (Mlicki 1-0) at Pittsburgh (Schmidt 6-5), 5:05 p.m.

Philadelphia (Wolf 5-10) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 8-5), 5:10 p.m.  
San Francisco (Hernandez 8-11) at Arizona (Schilling 14-4), 8:05 p.m.  
Colorado (Neagle 6-4) at Los Angeles (Gagne 3-4), 8:10 p.m.

**Friday's Games**

St. Louis (Kile 10-7) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 7-5), 1:20 p.m.  
Atlanta (Maddux 13-5) at Montreal (Mattes 3-2), 5:05 p.m.  
Florida (Clement 6-6) at Cincinnati (Davis 3-1), 5:05 p.m.  
Houston (Reynolds 9-9) at Pittsburgh (Beimel 4-6), 5:05 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Coggin 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 8-5), 5:10 p.m.  
San Diego (Jones 6-12) at Milwaukee (Suzuki 2-8), 6:05 p.m.  
San Francisco (Rueter 9-7) at Arizona (Anderson 3-6), 8:05 p.m.  
Colorado (Astacio 6-12) at Los Angeles (Adams 6-3), 8:10 p.m.

**Wednesday's Games**

Texas 6, Baltimore 5, 1st game  
Texas 5, Baltimore 2, 2nd game  
Toronto 4, Boston 3, 10 innings  
N.Y. Yankees 4, Detroit 2  
Cleveland 7, Chicago White Sox 5  
Tampa Bay 3, Anaheim 1  
Kansas City 5, Seattle 1  
Minnesota 3, Oakland 1

**Thursday's Games**

Detroit (Holt 7-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Keisler 1-2), 11:05 a.m.  
Minnesota (Johnson 0-1) at Oakland (Heredia 6-7), 1:35 p.m.  
Toronto (Halladay 0-1) at Boston (Nomo 10-4), 5:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 7-5) at Cleveland (Nagy 4-3), 5:05 p.m.  
Baltimore (Towers 6-4) at Texas (Oliver 7-6), 6:35 p.m.  
Tampa Bay (Rupe 4-8) at Anaheim (Ortiz 7-7), 8:05 p.m.  
Kansas City (George 0-0) at Seattle (Pineiro 0-0), 8:05 p.m.

**Friday's Games**

N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 10-8) at Toronto (Carpenter 7-7), 5:05 p.m.  
Cleveland (Colon 9-7) at Detroit (Pettyjohn 0-2), 5:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (K.Wells 6-5) at Boston (Sabershagen 0-0), 5:05 p.m.  
Tampa Bay (Sturtze 4-8) at Texas (Bell 0-0), 6:35 p.m.  
Minnesota (Lohse 3-2) at Seattle (Abbott 9-2), 8:05 p.m.  
Baltimore (Johnson 9-6) at Anaheim (Schoeneweis 7-8), 8:05 p.m.  
Kansas City (Suppan 4-8) at Oakland (Mulder 11-6), 8:05 p.m.

**National League**

**East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	57	44	.564	—
Philadelphia	56	45	.554	1
Florida	52	49	.515	5
New York	46	56	.451	11 1/2
Montreal	44	58	.431	13 1/2

**Central Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	59	41	.590	—
Houston	55	45	.550	4
St. Louis	50	49	.505	8 1/2
Milwaukee	44	56	.440	15
Pittsburgh	38	61	.384	20 1/2
Cincinnati	38	63	.376	21 1/2

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The issue will appear Thursday, August 2. Please be gathering any alumni information and/or pictures no later than July 27.