

Willie Crane

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February 26, 2007

Willie Crane

HuskyDigest.com Staff Writer

Evergreen's [Luther Leonard](#) is fast becoming one of the top prospects coming out of Washington state in 2008. The 6-foot-3, 190 pound quarterback was a key leader in the Wolverine's 2006 season. Passing for 1535 yards and 18 touchdowns, he lead them to an 8-2 overall record and 2nd place in the Seamount League.

Many colleges around the country have been quick to express interest in him. From national powerhouses such as Michigan and Miami to Pac-10 teams such as Oregon State, University of Washington and Washington State, Leonard has been seeing his share of attention.

"UW is definitely my number one choice right now," said Leonard. Adding, "I want to bring them back to prominence and see them go big again."

Beyond the University of Washington, Leonard would like to stay in the Pac-10 conference. While not discounting any major school's interest, a few schools such as Yale and Stanford are out of the picture for now.

Evergreen's head coach Shaun Tarantola is excited about Leonard's future as well. Tarantola hopes to improve Leonard's skills by focusing on the fundamentals of the game as well as improving his reaction time. Last season, Leonard threw only eight interceptions, but seven of those came in Evergreen's only two losses. By making Leonard react quicker and more consistently, he will become a well-rounded player and, ultimately, a top prospect.

"He's a great quarterback and has the potential to the best one I've ever coached," says Tarantola. As he is preparing Leonard's film to send out to schools, he said "I have the feeling that he will be the top recruited quarterback in the state next year."

Ahead of next season, Leonard has the spring and summertime to work on the basics as well as fine tune the skills he already possesses.

"I'm going to be working on my mechanics," said Leonard. "And you know, getting bigger, stronger, and faster."

While he has not received any written offers from interested schools, Leonard plans on attending Junior Day at the UW on March 3rd. Expect to be hearing much more about this young talent in the future.

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