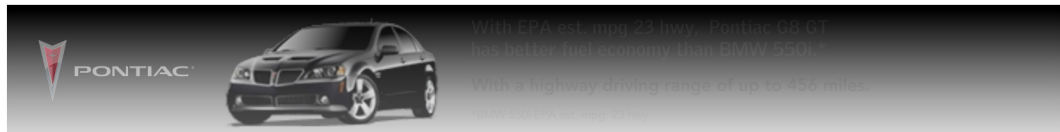


Willie Crane

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March 19, 2008

Willie Crane

HuskyDigest.com Staff Writer

Tony Heard is a powerful running back out of Western Washington for the class of 2009. With an impressive season behind him, he is eagerly looking to the future. Named Offensive Player of the year by the Everett Herald, this 6-foot, 225 lbs. powerhouse led his Edmonds Woodway Warriors' to the state 4A semifinals. Along the way to compiling a 12-1 record, he rushed for 2238 yards and scored 31 touchdowns.

Talk about it in The Bark Park



Tony Heard is a thundering power back that could be a very nice compliment to Jake Locker.

With those kinds of numbers, Heard quickly attracted the attention of the Huskies and received an official offer last week. The University of Washington is looking towards the future with Heard. While the University of Washington was second in the Pac 10 in rushing yards in 2007, the program will also be losing their two prolific backs, **Louis Rankin** and **Jake Locker**, by the time Heard graduates in 2009. The University of Washington is clearly interested in what a running back like Heard can offer.

Heard, for his part, is excited about the prospect of becoming part of the program. He has a clear eye on the West Coast and excited about the possibility of attending the University of Washington.

"I met **Tyrone Willingham** during a football camp last summer," says Heard. "I really like what he has to offer and what he had to say."

With an offer from the University of Washington in hand, Heard now is trying to take it all in.

"It is a little overwhelming right now as there are not a lot of people in my position to receive a full scholarship," said Heard. "I feel really lucky to be in this position."

Beyond receiving the recent offer from the university, the Dawgs have long been a favorite of Heard. While Heard also mentioned other Pac-10 schools such as Oregon, California, Washington State and UCLA as being on his radar as well, the University of Washington have been at the forefront for a long time.

"The University of Washington is definitely one of my top three schools," says Heard. "I grew up watching them play, having read and followed their program."

During this off-season, Heard is looking to continue his work outs and conditioning. He also completed an unofficial visit to the University of Washington recently.

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"I don't have a date set yet for an official visit, but definitely plan on having one soon," says Heard.

While a bright future in the works, Heard is keeping his options open and will sure to be creating more interest in the upcoming months. We will keep you up to date on all the latest news about this powerful, talented running back.

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