



Former Husker quarterback Turner Gill evades a Syracuse tackler in last year's (remember?) 63-7 victory.

Concordes' Gill performing better than former Husker teammates

By Mike Reilley

Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

Professional football has not been kind to the Scoring Explosion.

Irving Fryar is limping in New England and Mike Rozier cannot decide if he wants to be an Oiler in Houston or a Mauler in Pittsburgh.

The explosion's third member, Turner Gill, is an exception to the "Huskies do not make good pros" theory.

Gill is the starting signal-caller for the Montreal Concordes of the Canadian Football League.

Many Canadians think Gill is the second-coming of Warren Moon, the former Edmonton quarterback who defected to the Houston Oilers this season.

After winning the starting job in the pre-season, Gill has directed the Concordes to a 4-6-1 record and second place in the CFL Eastern Division standings. The tie was with the top-ranked Winnipeg Jets two weeks ago.

In the rushing department, Gill has picked up where he left off as a Husker. In his first 11 games, Gill averaged 4.9 yards-per-carry and has crossed the goal line

twice.

As a Concorde, Gill's aeriels have not been quite as accurate as his tosses at Nebraska. The same quarterback that threw 125 consecutive passes without an interception in college has averaged one per game in the pros.

Gill said that his inexperience in pressure situations has affected his passing accuracy.

"There were times when I shouldn't have thrown the ball," Gill said. "In most of those situations I was being rushed and had to scramble."

Playing in Canada, Gill has had to make adjustments on and off the field.

Gill said a communication gap had formed in Montreal. "Almost everybody speaks French up here," Gill said. "It's their first language, but not mine."

Despite the language problems, Gill said he has enjoyed his rookie stint in Montreal.

It's been a good experience for me," Gill said. "I like the city and I'd like to finish my career here unless I can come back to the states and play in the NFL."

Playing in the NFL is Gill's "No. 1 goal right now," he said.

Gill said that being paid for doing something he loves has not changed his lifestyle.

"I don't feel rich," he said. "I've been living the same way I always have."

When he first arrived in Montreal, Gill admitted he had underrated the quality of talent in the league.

"Overall, the talent is better than I had expected it to be," he said. "There are a lot of really talented players here."

Although he is hundreds of miles from Memorial Stadium, Gill said his heart is still with the Huskers.

"I'll be supportive of Nebraska for the rest of my life," Gill said. "I hope they (this year's team) win the national title for coach Osborne."

Aware of the problems that face ex-teammate Rozier, Gill reflected upon what he thinks is an important aspect of professional football.

"Pro football is a business," Gill said. "You have to take a businessman's point of view sometimes. I hope that Mike can get everything worked out. He's a great ballplayer."

NU-Colorado football tickets on sale

Tickets for the Nebraska-Colorado football game will be on sale today and Wednesday, at the ticket office in south stadium. The cost of each ticket is \$18. Groups are limited to six, and in order to sit together

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