

Blue Bombers release Williams

Written by Mike Kelly
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Former Appalachian State quarterback Richie Williams, who led the Mountaineers to their first national championship in 2005, was released by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League July 30.

Williams became expendable when the Bombers signed veteran quarterback Michael Bishop July 26. Williams, a four-year veteran himself, signed a free-agent contract with the Blue Bombers June 8. He only played one game, when he came on in a relief role during the fourth quarter July 24 in a 19-5 loss against Toronto.

Williams completed three passes in ten attempts for 30 yards; he also two carries for nine yards. In his career, Williams completed 160 passes in 272 attempts for 2,107 yards, 11 touchdowns, nine interceptions and a quarterback rating of 83.1. Rushing wise, he only carried the ball twice this season for nine yards. In his career, he ran for 540 yards on 81 carries, a 6.7 yard average-per-carry, he scored two touchdowns and fumbled five times.

During his senior year at ASU, Williams, a native of Camden, SC, completed 62% of his passes, he threw for 2,809 yards, 20 touchdowns, four interceptions, he ran for 936 yards and scored five touchdowns. And he also closed out his career at ASU in dramatic fashion as he came off the bench with a leg injury in relief of Trey Elder and led the Mountaineers to a 21-16 win against Northern Iowa in the national championship game in Chattanooga.

Bishop made his Bombers debut August 1 at Toronto. He was 16-30 for 213 yards, one touchdown, one interception as Winnipeg beat the Argonauts 13-12 at Rogers Center.

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