

**HOMETOWN
SPORTS
MANAGEMENT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rating the HSM 2006 Draft Class

HELENA, MT- Hometown Sports Management achieved a 100% placement rating this season for the second time in four years. All four of HSM's 2006 clients signed contracts with either NFL or CFL teams. Two players signed NFL contracts and two signed CFL contracts. That raises HSM's placement rate to 89% over the last four seasons. Sixteen out of eighteen players represented by HSM over that time frame have signed either NFL or CFL contracts. "That placement percentage is pretty amazing," said HSM Agent Dan Hoven. "That's about as good as it gets in the Agent business."

Getting the right roster situation for a rookie player separates the good Agents from the mediocre. "Zac (Alcorn) has a great chance to make the Packers' active roster. After the first mini-camp it looks like he's already in the number four spot. They'll keep at least three Tight Ends on their Active Roster, maybe four," said HSM Agent Chris Gittings. He added, "Before we accepted the Packers offer on draft day, we wanted a promise that he'd be the only rookie Tight End they would bring in. They agreed, and now Zac has a real opportunity."

Nick Hagemann also found opportunity through HSM when he signed with the Steelers on draft day. "We had a couple of teams calling on Nick, but we thought the Steelers would be a great fit. The Steelers are going to love Nick's work ethic, toughness, and athleticism," said Dan Hoven.

Getting players into a camp does not always mean that the player has a good opportunity. Sports agencies sometimes sign a player to the first team that contacts them, which may not give the player the best chance to make the team. Other times they send a player to an NFL camp rather than accept a contract in the CFL or Arena League, where the player would have a much better chance of making the roster. Sometimes this is because the player would make much less money for the Agent in the lower leagues.

"We do things a little differently than most Agents," said Gittings. "If we know a player would be a better fit in the CFL, we won't wait for the NFL draft. We'll try to sign him to a good CFL contract prior to the NFL draft so we don't have to compete with all the other Agents calling the CFL teams immediately after the draft. We don't want our players watching football this fall; we want them playing."

HSM used this strategy with two of this year's players: WR Casey Allen and QB Tyler Emmert. Gittings said, "I'm not convinced that both of these guys won't be playing on Sundays. We had some interest from NFL teams on both of them, but we felt that the CFL was a great fit for them at this point in time. They both have qualities that could lead them to successful careers in the CFL and someday to the NFL."

Not only has Hometown Sports Management's placement record over the last four seasons been remarkable, but so has their ability to place players in situations where the player has the best chance to make the roster. Isn't that why you hire an Agent?

For more information contact Chris Gittings at 406.443.6879.