

Tim Hightower

2008 Arizona Cardinals Draft Selection

Round 5, Selection 14 – 149th overall

RB – University of Richmond– 6-0, 216

OVERVIEW:

A powerful downhill runner, Hightower stepped up and filled the leadership void on the offensive unit that lost star receiver Arman Shields early in the 2007 campaign. He went on to shatter 18 school game, season and career rushing records, including 1,829 yards and 20 touchdowns on the ground as a senior.

The two-year full-time starter amassed a school career-record 3,617 yards and 34 touchdowns rushing, as his 39 total scores also set a Spider all-time mark. His 4,448 all-purpose yards are the most ever by a Richmond player.

At Episcopal High School, Hightower earned All-State honors as a junior and senior. The team MVP and first-team All-I.A.C served as squad captain during his last two seasons. In addition to earning three letters in football, he had two more letters in both basketball and track. He was a four-time honor roll student and chairman of the Spectrum Club, a diversity organization, during his final two years of high school.

As a true freshman, Hightower started four of eleven games for Richmond in 2004. He totaled 161 yards on 58 carries and 158 yards on 19 receptions. He caused a fumble, recorded seven tackles (5 solos) and returned two kickoffs for 30 yards with the special team units.

In 2005, Hightower started nine of thirteen contests. He ran for over 100 yards three times, en route to piling up 777 yards and nine touchdowns on 142 attempts (5.5 avg). He made 21 catches for 163 yards (7.8 avg) and continued to excel on the coverage units, collecting seven tackles (5 solos).

As a junior, the Richmond tailback started all eleven games, earning third-team All-Atlantic Ten Conference honors. He rushed 177 times for 850 yards (4.8 avg) and five touchdowns, ranking sixth in the league with an average of 77.27 yards per game on the ground. He had a career-high 34 receptions for 269 yards (7.9 avg) and two scores. He completed a 24-yard pass for a touchdown and posted three tackles (2 solos).

Hightower was a consensus first-team All-American and unanimous All-Colonial Athletic Association choice in 2007. He led the league and ranked sixth in the nation, setting school season-record with 20 touchdowns and 1,924 yards (5.9 avg), carrying 327 times. He grabbed 32 passes for 228 yards and three scores, ranking second in the league and tenth nationally with 138 points scored. He also came up with six tackles (5 solos).

In 49 games at Richmond, Hightower started 38 times. He rushed 704 times for 3,712 yards (5.3 avg) and 34 touchdowns. He caught 106 passes for 818 yards (7.7 avg) and five scores. He returned two kickoffs for 30 yards and recorded 23 tackles (17 solos) with a forced fumble. He scored 234 points, completed his only pass attempt for a 24-yard touch-down and amassed 4,560 all-purpose yards, an average of 93.06 yards per game.

CAREER NOTES:

Holds the school career-record with 3,712 yards rushing, topping the previous mark of 3,520 yards by Uly Scott (1991-94)...His 34 touchdowns on the ground topped Scott's previous Spider all-time record of 29...His 704 rushing attempts are topped by Scott (807) and Barry Redden (707, 1978-81) on the school's career-record chart...His 1,924 yards rushing in 2007 broke the old school season-record of 1,629 yards by Barry Redden in 1981 and rank third in Colonial Athletic Association history behind Jerry Azumah of New Hampshire (2,195 in 1998) and Marcel Shipp of Massachusetts (2,542 in 1998)...Carried 327 times in 2007, joining Barry Redden (335 in 1981) as the only Richmond players to carry the ball more than 300 times in a season...His 20 touchdowns rushing in 2007 shattered the old Richmond season-record of thirteen, held by Uly Scott (1992), Greg Grooms (1984) and Barty Smith (1973)...His 295 yards rushing vs. Bucknell in 2007 topped the old school game-record of 280 yards by Barry Redden vs. Pennsylvania in 1981, and his 246 yards vs. Northeastern in 2007 tied Cordell Roane (vs. Hofstra in 2001) for third place on the school game-record list...Hightower's 295-yard performance is the seventh-best game total in conference annals...His four touchdowns rushing vs. both Northeastern and Bucknell in 2007 rank behind the school game-record five scores that were first set by Henry Dohrmann vs. Lynchburg in 1928 and matched by Jimmie Miles vs. William & Mary in 1998.

2007 SEASON:

All-American first-team selection by The NFL Draft Report, College Sports Network, Walter Camp and the Associated Press...All-Colonial Athletic Association first-team choice...Set school season-records with 1,924 yards and 20 touchdowns, carrying the ball 327 times (5.9 avg)...His average of 137.43 yards per game rushing led the league and ranked sixth in the nation...Scored a school season-record 138 points, ranking tenth nationally with an average of 9.86 points per game...Caught 32 passes for 228 yards (7.1 avg) and three scores...Recorded six tackles (5 solos)...Gained 2,152 all-purpose yards, an average of 153.71 yards per game...Ran for at least 100 yards in nine of fourteen contests.

2006 SEASON:

All-Atlantic Ten Conference third-team choice...Started all 11 games, pacing the Spiders and ranking sixth in the league with 850 yards on 177 carries (4.8 avg), including five touchdowns...Caught a career-high 34 passes for 269 yards (7.9 avg) and a pair of scores...Scored 42 points and gained 1,119 all-purpose yards, an average of 101.7 yards per game...Ran for over 100 yards vs. Northeastern and VMI...Also completed a 24-yard touchdown pass vs. William & Mary.

2005 SEASON:

Hightower started nine of 13 games, picking up 777 yards on 142 attempts (5.5 avg) with nine touchdowns...Ran for over 100 yards in three games...Gained 163 yards on 21 receptions (7.8 avg) as he recorded seven tackles (5 solos) and scored 54 points...Finished with 940 all-purpose yards, an average of 72.3 yards per game.

2004 SEASON:

Played in 11 games as a true freshman, starting four contests...Carried 58 times for 161 yards and made 19 catches for 158 yards (8.3 avg)...Returned two kickoffs for 30 yards and recorded seven tackles while also causing a fumble.

HIGH SCHOOL:

Attended Episcopal (Alexandria, Va.) High School, playing football for head coach Mark Gowin...Earned All-State honors as a junior and senior...The team MVP and first-team All-I.A.C served as squad captain during his last two seasons...In addition to earning three letters in football, he had two more letters in both basketball and track... Four-time honor roll student and chairman of the Spectrum Club, a diversity organization, during his final two years of high school.

PERSONAL:

Religion major...Son of Nikkie and Lewis Hightower...Born 5/23/86...Resides in Waldorf, Maryland.

PLAYER STATISTICS:

RUSHING STATISTICS								
STATS	GP	GS	NO	YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG	GM/AVG
2004	11	04	58	161	2.8	0	20	14.64
2005	13	09	142	777	5.5	9	37	59.77
2006	11	11	177	850	4.8	5	54	77.27
2007	14	14	327	1924	5.9	20	90	137.43
TOTAL	49	38	704	3712	5.27	34	90	75.76

RECEIVING STATISTICS					
STATS	NO	YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2004	19	158	8.3	0	26
2005	21	163	7.8	0	28
2006	34	269	7.9	2	24
2007	32	228	7.1	3	28
TOTAL	106	818	7.7	5	28

SPECIAL TEAM TACKLES					
STATS	TK	SO	AS	FR	FC
2004	7	5	2	0	1
2005	7	5	2	0	0
2006	3	2	1	0	0
TOTAL	23	17	6	0	1

PASSING STATISTICS							
STATS	ATT	COMP	PCT	YARDS	TD	INT	LONG
2007	1	1	100.0	24	1	0	24