



AP PHOTO

Mike Fynt, 59, returned to Sul Ross State 37 years after he was kicked off the football team, and he will play for the team this season. He is a grandfather, is older than his coach and has two kids older than any of his teammates.

SPORTS PEOPLE

NEVER TOO OLD

Mike Fynt was drinking beer and swapping stories with some old football buddies a few months ago when he brought up the biggest regret of his life: getting kicked off the college team before his senior year. So, one of his pals said, why not do something about it?

Most 59-year-olds would have laughed. Fynt's only concern was if he was eligible. After finding out he was, Fynt returned to Sul Ross State in Alpine, Texas, this month, 37 years after he left and six years before he's eligible for Medicare.

His comeback peaked Wednesday with the coach saying he's made the Division III team's roster. He could be in action as soon as Sept. 1.

Fynt is giving new meaning to being a college senior. He's a grandfather. He's eight years older than his coach and has two kids older than any of his teammates.

"I think it was **Carl Yastrzemski** who used to say, 'How old would you be if you didn't know how old you were?' I'd be in my late 20s or early 30s, because that's how I feel," said Fynt, who has made a living out of physical fitness. "I'm just going to find out if I can perform and make a contribution to the team."

A longtime strength and conditioning coach at Nebraska, Oregon and Texas A&M, he's spent the past several years selling the Powerbase training system he invented. Clients include school systems and the military.

COUNTING HIS BLESSINGS

Stuard Baldonado doesn't remember much about those first

n today, I felt really calm." — Chic