Close Window

Send To Printer

## Native Utahn Boone will sign with Blaze

Arena Football

By Jay Drew The Salt Lake Tribune

Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated: 10/10/2006 02:37:46 AM MDT

When the Kansas City Brigade visited the Delta Center last May, Utah native Aaron Boone felt a twinge of regret every time he had success against the Blaze, which was often.

Playing in front of about 50 friends and family members for the first time in his professional football career, the former Millard High, Snow College and University of Kentucky standout caught 13 passes for 147 yards and five touchdowns in a 55-54 Utah win.

"I made the decision right then, right after that game, that I would like to play for the Blaze one day," Boone said. That day has come.

The Blaze will sign the free agent receiver/linebacker today, after having signed Las Vegas lineman Steve Konopka last week.

"There's nothing like coming home, I guess," Boone said. "It's definitely a done deal, and I am way excited about it."

Boone said his brother, former University of Utah lineman Jesse Boone, is also talking to the Blaze about a deal, after having been cut by the Cincinnati Bengals a few weeks ago.

Aaron Boone said he received a "good offer" from the Brigade to re-sign, but the desire to play in his home state was the determining factor. Terms of his new deal have not been disclosed.

Boone caught 66 passes for 748 yards and 19 touchdowns for the Brigade after being traded from the Philadelphia Soul midway through the season. He's listed as the fifth-best free agent available this offseason by Arena Football League expert Nathan Boudreaux, and the second-best receiver/linebacker.

drew@sltrib.com