

## 1994 John Elway “Throwback” Jersey Research

### General Notes

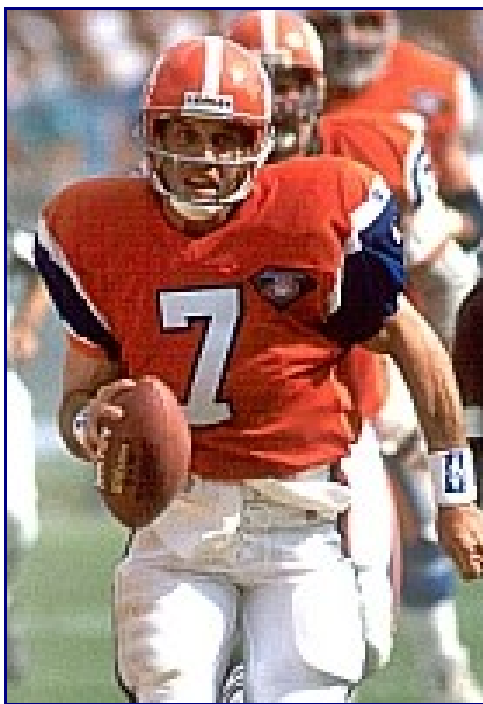
In 1994, the National Football League, in recognition of its' 75th anniversary, celebrated in part, by asking its' member teams to don uniforms paying homage to teams of the past. For a home game in Denver versus the Raiders on September 18th and a road game in Buffalo on September 26th against the Bills, the Broncos wore "throwback" uniforms patterned after the style worn by the 1965 AFL-era team.

As these two distinct modern jerseys—one orange home and one white road—were each used for only one game each, it is fair to say that they constitute the rarest of any post-merger-era Broncos jersey style. As was the common practice during the mid-90s, the team equipment staff would likely have prepared two of each jersey for each player on the team's roster at the time—one prepared for game use and one made "game ready" and held in reserve in case the actual game jersey should be damaged beyond repair during play. In theory, for each player who took the field for each of the two games, during the '94 season, there should be a single game-worn/used jersey as well as possibly a single "team-issued" (though not worn/used) jersey. Though possible that exceptions may exist, it would be expected that this would be the standard.

Though unconfirmed, it is suspected that at least some of these jerseys may have originated from a lot that was created though a business partnership. In 1995 a Denver-area memorabilia dealer was contacted about purchasing the remaining stock of unused Wilson Throwback jersey blanks. The dealer acquired these jersey blanks—the same exact blanks as those provided to the team—and had the entire lot made up as Elway jerseys with appropriate numbers and nameplates. The dealer entered into an agreement with John Elway whereas, in exchange for his autograph on a number of the jerseys, which the dealer would retain for sale, John would be given a quantity in payment for his services, to do with as he wished. It is suspected that these likely were given away as gifts, donated for charitable functions and the like, with no way of telling exactly how many of these may now be circulating accompanied by "game worn" credentials.

Source: Scoggin, Patrick (ESC) “Unique” Elway Jerseys Abound”, May 8, 2005. Online: The Broncos Endzone - Game Used News Archive, <http://endzonesportscharities.org/newsarch.htm>

**Home Jersey – Worn September 18<sup>th</sup> vs. Raiders**



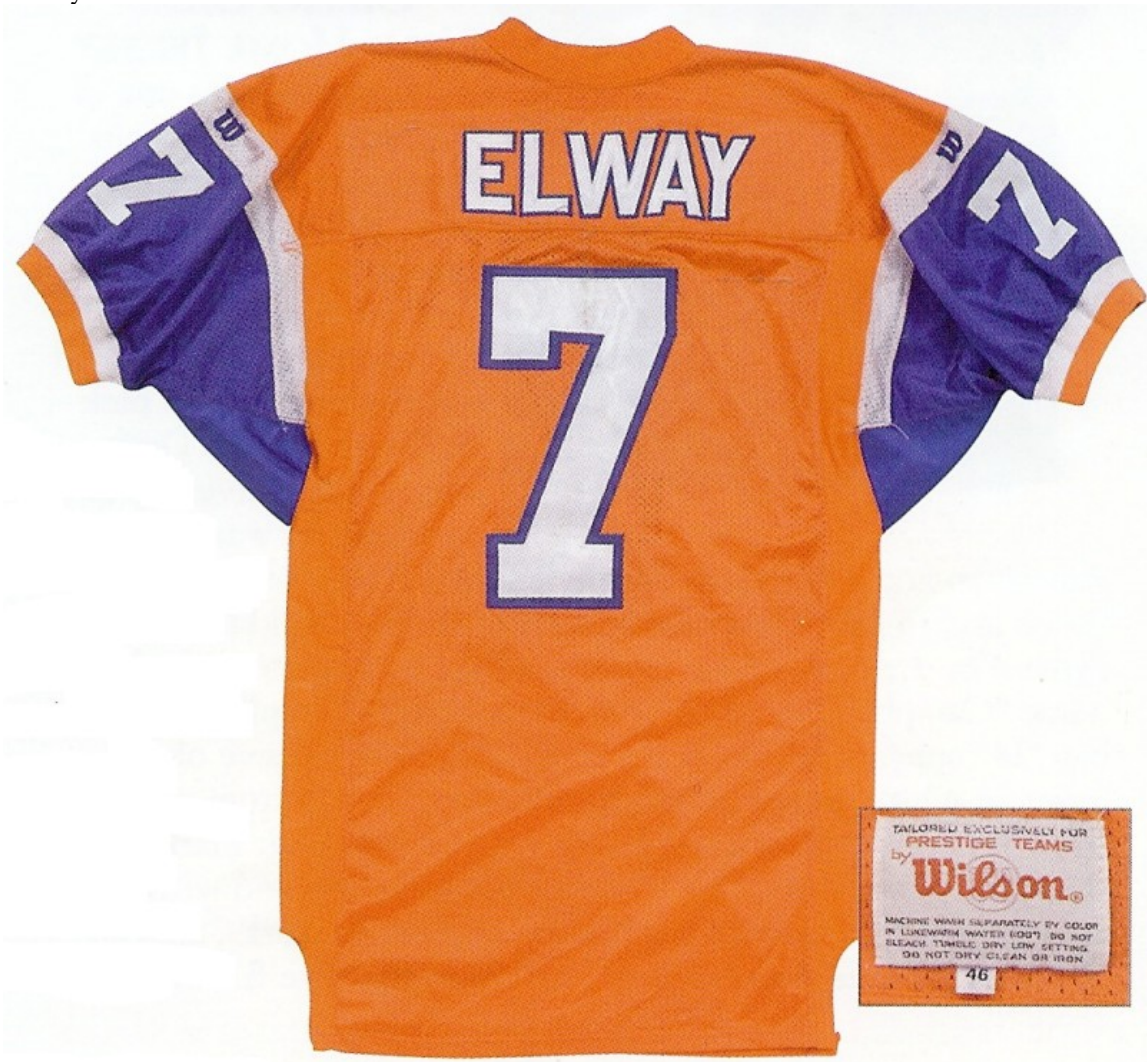
Jersey # 1

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
11/9/00	Grey Flannel	1188	46	On front #7 in blue ink	Grey Flannel	Unk

**Short Description:** 1994 John Elway Denver Broncos Game-Used and Autographed "Turn Back the Clock" Jersey

**Extended Description:** John Elway's extraordinarily powerful throwing arm took him to the top of the record books in several major categories. Elway leads all quarterbacks in game-saving fourth quarter drives, victories, and rushing attempts. He joined Dan Marino and Fran Tarkenton as one of the three quarterbacks to throw for over 50,000 yards. Elway ended his career with 300 touchdown passes and is surely a future Hall of Famer. On the upper left front of the jersey is "NFL 75" anniversary patch. On the left front tail is the "Wilson" exclusive label and below is the size tag "46." On the back of the jersey is an orange mesh nameplate with the name "Elway" in white on blue tackle twill. The player number "7" appears on the front, back, and on each sleeve of the jersey. The numbers on the front and back are made of white on blue tackle twill and the numbers of the sleeves are made of white tackle twill. On the front number "7" is an autograph in blue ink that rates an 8. The jersey shows game use and appears to have no alterations of any kind.

Image(s):



**Notes:** Only known jersey of this style autographed; sized at '46'



## Jersey # 2

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
3/31/05	Vintage Authentics	1188	48	No	Lou Lampson	Unk

### Short Description:

### Extended

### Description:

### Image(s):



### Notes:

First documented sale of this sized '48' jersey with game-dated tag

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
5/8/08	Vintage Authentics	1188	48	No	Lou Lampson	Unk

**Short Description:** John Elway 9/18/94 Game Used TBC Jersey GU8

**Extended Description:** Home orange Wilson Denver Broncos 75th Anniversary season "throwback" jersey used by HOF superstar QB John Elway on September 18, 1994 in a home game vs LA Raiders. The jersey features all sewn identifiers with nondesignated extra tail length and is appropriately tagged on outer tail with Wilson Prestige label black marked "9/18/94 vs LA" and flagged for size 48 ID. The gamer has three characteristics that define its authenticity including blue "W" logos on the white shoulder stripe, ribbed sleeve cuffs instead of John's normal QB floppy, and the location of the 75th patch entirely under the major obverse horizontal seam, not normal for most NFL teams but apropos for the Broncos and Dolphins. Overall the rare gamer exhibits quality moderate single game event type usage and earns a final authentic high grade of 8.

**Image(s):**



**Notes:** Second documented sale of this sized '48' jersey with game-dated tag

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
7/17/08	American Memorabilia	72	48	No	100% Authentic team	Unk

Short Description:
1994 John Elway Game-Worn Broncos Throwback Jersey

Extended Description:

The Denver Broncos haven't been able to replace John Elway. Once in a lifetime a quarterback comes around who brings what Elway did to the table. A game was never out of reach as long as Elway always had some bullets in his cannon of an arm. After three unsuccessful tries, Elway finally won a Super Bowl. The next year he repeated and went out a two-time Super Bowl champion. This jersey was worn by Elway in 1994. A Wilson exclusivity tag is sewn in the tail, and suspended off the Wilson label is a size flag "48" designator. The style replicated the Bronco jerseys of 1965-66, which featured a contrasting royal blue sleeve inserts accented by white striping and has been considered the club's most attractive style in their 48-year history. The use is light, as would be expected from a jersey only wore for a game. Of special note note on this jersey are the elasticized sleeve ends, the placement of the NFL 75th Anniversary patch, and the "9/18/94 vs. L.A" designation written in black marker on the Wilson tag. A review of Getty images from the Raider game noted on the tag confirms these unique aspects. Getty image #360857 clearly shows Elway wearing the cuffed sleeves during that game. This differed radically from his normal, open QB, semi-floppy sleeve ends. Highlighting the left breast is an NFL 75th Anniversary patch which is correct in its low position as seen in Getty image #248951. Constructed out of mesh, the jersey has all of its identifiers applied in two-color tackle twill. The numbers have softened, puckered and frayed slightly. ELWAY appears across the verso, affixed to an elongated mesh nameplate. The thick letters are consistent with what the Broncos wore. Two noteworthy customizations include orange stretch spandex which runs from the underarm down the sides and blue spandex inserts under the arms. There are minor pilling marks on the upper edges of the side panels. Overall, a quality Elway gamer from those famous "Orange Crush" days.

Image(s):



Notes:

Third documented sale of this sized ‘48’ jersey with game-dated tag



Jersey # 3

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
5/5/07	Heritage Auction Galleries	Auction 707; Lot 19921	48		Lou Lampson	Unk

Short Description:

Extended Description:

1994 John Elway Game Worn Throwback Jersey

Considered by many to be the greatest quarterback in the game's history, Elway suited up in this throwback orange and blue mesh gamer on September 18, 1994 to meet the fearsome Los Angeles Raiders at Mile High. It's pretty clear that the offensive line was a bit off its game this day, as the jersey shows remarkably strong wear for a single-game style, with no shortage of scuffing and dirt staining throughout. And actually we'll include in this lot a floppy disk with four photographs of Elway wearing this jersey to further prove the point, as a couple show him either getting hit hard or picking himself up off the ground. It's clear that the photo matches are dead-on too, from the "N.F.L. 75th Anniversary" patch on the upper left chest, to the unique throwback striping at the armpits. Number "7" is sewn in two-tone tackle twill to chest, back and sleeves, with "Elway" across shoulders. "Wilson [size] 48" tagging in tail. When you consider the selling points--game worn throwback jersey from a top Hall of Fame quarterback, with photo matches--there's no question that this is a special piece indeed. LOA from Lou Lampson.

Image(s):



Notes:

First documented sale of this sized '48' jersey without game-dated tag

## Road Jersey – Worn September 26<sup>th</sup> at Buffalo

The jersey said to have been worn in this game is purportedly a part of the Pro Football Hall of Fame collection. An e-mail from Jason Aikens of the HOF; dated Aug. 27, 2001 stated:

*"Your dates [home jerseys worn September 18th vs. Raiders; white road jerseys worn Sept. 26th at Buffalo] are correct about the Broncos wearing the throwbacks uniforms. Our [1994] Elway throwbacks jersey is white and size 44."*

---

### Jersey # 1

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
1995	Grey Flannel		46	?	Grey Flannel	M.N. 949B (7/10/95)

**Short Description:**

**Extended Description:**

**Image(s):**

**Notes:**

First known authenticated by Grey Flannel; sized '46'

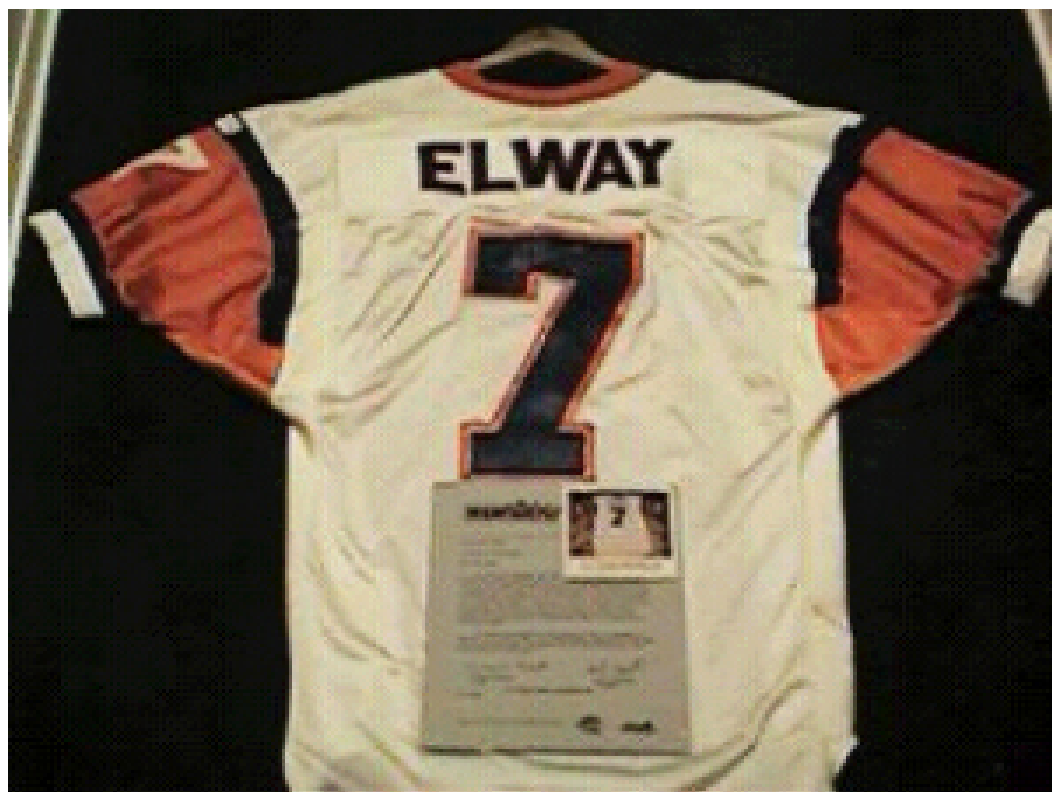
### Jersey # 2

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
Nov 1998	Pvt. Sale		48	On back 7 in (silver)	Grey Flannel	R.V. 324E (2/9/98)

**Short Description:**

**Extended Description:**

**Image(s):**



**Notes:**

Second documented as authenticated by Grey Flannel. Autographed; sized '48'



### Jersey # 3

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
May 2001	Grey Flannel	Lot 1130	44	No	Grey Flannel	

#### Short Description:

1994 John Elway Broncos "TBC" Road Mesh Game-Used Jersey

#### Extended Description:

#### Image(s):



#### Notes:

Third documented as authenticated by Grey Flannel. Sized '44'

## Jersey # 4

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
9/2/02	American Memorabilia	Lot 115	48	No	Lou Lampson	

### Short Description:

Elway Game Used Road 1994 Throwback Jersey

### Extended Description:

Styled after mid 60's AFL Broncos jerseys. Complete with front & back sewn on numbers. Elway wore ribbed sleeve cuffs with the throwback jersey only. 75th patch in proper low position. Wilson Prestige labels w/ size 48 flap tag. Shows light QB wear.

### Image(s):



### Notes:

First documented as authenticated by Lou Lampson, Sized '48' (un-autographed)

Jersey # 5

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
10/21/04	American Memorabilia	Lot 115	48	Black on back 7; "To Tom"	Lou Lampson / 100% Authentic	

Short Description:

Elway Game Used Road 1994 Throwback Jersey

Extended Description:

White mesh Denver Broncos gamer is blessed with the historic number "7" on chest, back and sleeves, with "Elway" in proud block lettering across rear nameplate. N.F.L. 75th Anniversary patch is on upper left chest. Awesome quarterback wear--check out the armpits in particular. There's heavy pilling of the the orange spandex from the wear of running and throwing. This is how you tell a quality quarterback jersey, since you won't typically find the bruising wear you see on higher-contact position jerseys. "Wilson [size] 48" tagging in tail. Signed in perfect black sharpie on rear numeral. You will not be disappointed with this one.

Image(s):



Notes:

Second documented as authenticated by Lou Lampson, ; Autographed "to Tom"; sized '48'



Jersey # 6

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
9/29/05	American Memorabilia	Lot 20	48	Silver on back 7	100% Authentic team	

**Short Description:** 1994 John Elway Game-Worn Signed Jersey with Solid Game Use

**Extended Description:** The legendary John Elway blessed this scarce 1994 Denver Broncos road throwback gamer with an absolutely perfect silver signature, only adding to what is already a true museum piece. This fantastic shirt, complete with a Wilson Prestige (size) "48" tag in the tail, features unusual ribbed sleeve cuffs, as appropriate for Elway game-used throwbacks. Properly, the sewn-on, two-colored "ELWAY" is stitched on the plate of this lightly-used garment, with the NFL 75th Anniversary patch on the right breast.

**Image(s):**



**Notes:** Third offering from American Memorabilia; authenticated by 100% Authentic Team (incl. Lou Lampson); Autographed in silver; sized '48'

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
4/26/07	American Memorabilia	Lot 10	48	Silver on back 7	100% Authentic team	

**Short Description:** 1994 John Elway Game-Worn, Signed Throwback Broncos Jersey

**Extended Description:** Fans of the Denver Broncos eventually learned not to leave a game early. It didn't matter if the team was down by double digits in the fourth quarter, if the gunslinging John Elway was behind center there was always a chance. On 47 occasions, Elway led the Broncos to fourth-quarter comebacks (game-winning or tying). This size "48" Wilson throwback jersey was worn by the Hall of Fame quarterback during the 1994 season. Light quarterback wear, as would be expected from a style used for only a few games, is evident on this timeless gamer. Orange and blue sleeve ends and an orange V-neck accentuate the white mesh body. All of the numerals, which have puckered noticeably, are sewn on in two-color tackle twill. An NFL 75th Anniversary patch is affixed on the left breast. Diamond-shaped inserts are built into the underarms, and a strip of stretch spandex is applied to the sides. "ELWAY" is sewn to a nameplate on the verso. A Wilson tag appears in the tail with a suspended flag designator. Elway signed ("9") the verso numeral in silver paint pen.

**Image(s):**



**Notes:** Same as jersey above

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
4/12/07	Vintage Authentics		48	Silver on back 7		

Short Description:  
Extended Description:  
Image(s):



Notes: Same jersey as above



Jersey # 7

Sale Date:	Source:	Item/Lot No:	Size:	Autograph:	Authentication	Authen. #
4/12/2007	Vintage Authentics	Lot 6	46	No	Vintage Authentics and Grey Flannel	Lou Lampson #1699 & M.S. 603C

Short Description: John Elway 1994 75th Anniversary Game Used Jersey GU6.5

Extended Description: Road white Wilson Denver Broncos throwback style jersey used by Hall of Fame QB John Elway during the NFL's 75th Anniversary season of 1994. The gamer features the ever-popular 75th Anniversary patch in correct position on upper left chest properly zigzag affixed. Single color sleeve numerals and Wilson "W" (left sleeve) in correct white while body numerals and NOB in proper 2-color font sewn on. The sleeve cuffs are ribbed as worn by Elway on TBC jerseys in 1994. Overall the game use evidence is light apropos single game and leads to a final authentic grade of 6.5.

Image(s):



Vintage AUTHENTICS LETTER OF ORIGIN

JOHN ELWAY 1994 GAME USED JERSEY GU 6.5

GRADE BREAKDOWN

JERSEY CHARACTERISTICS/IDENTIFIERS (4)	4.0
AESTHETICS-CUSTOMIZATION (2)	2.0
RANGE OF WEAR (2)	0.0
PROVENANCE/RAREITY (2)	0.0
FINAL GRADE (10)	6.5

AUTHENTICATION COMMENTS

ROAD WHITE WILSON DENVER BRONCOS THROWBACK STYLE JERSEY USED BY HALL OF FAME QB JOHN ELWAY DURING THE NFL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON OF 1994. THE GAMER FEATURES THE EVER-POPULAR 75TH ANNIVERSARY PATCH IN CORRECT POSITION ON UPPER LEFT CHEST PROPERLY ZIGZAG AFFIXED. SINGLE COLOR SLEEVE NUMERALS AND WILSON "W" LEFT SLEEVE IN CORRECT WHITE WHILE BODY NUMERALS AND NOB IN PROPER 2-COLOR FONT SEWN ON. THE SLEEVE CUFFS ARE RIBBED AS WORN BY ELWAY ON TBC JERSEYS IN 1994. OVERALL THE GAME USE EVIDENCE IS LIGHT APROPOS SINGLE GAME AND LEADS TO A FINAL AUTHENTIC GRADE OF 6.5.

LOU LAMPSON

Grey Flannel Collectibles, Inc. "THE STANDARD OF THE INDUSTRY"

1994 Denver Broncos throw back by John Elway. On the left is the 75th NFL Anniversary patch. The name "ELWAY" and under this the player number "7" appears on each sleeve along with the letter "W" which stands for Wilson. All the letters and numbers that appear on the jersey are made of blue or orange tackle twill except the numbers on the sleeves which are made of just white tackle twill.

Then jersey shows game-use and appears to have no alterations of any kind. In our opinion, this is an authentic game-used jersey worn by Denver Broncos John Elway during the 1994 season.

Richard Flanagan C.E.O. For Grey Flannel A.A., Inc. M.S. 603C

Andy Imperio President

Official Approvers and Submitters For The National Historical Baseball Hall of Fame

Notes: Second jersey sized '46' to be authenticated by Grey Flannel (see Jersey #1 above, MN 949B); first to be authenticated by Lou Lampson (4<sup>th</sup> of style overall)