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Cowboys' Irvin urged to retire

Continued from page 16A with their February trade for Joey Galloway.

Irvin does not have to make a retirement decision by next week when teams announce their June cuts. Cornerback Deion Sanders is expected to be cut because of the salary cap.

Irvin has established himself over 12 seasons as one of the NFL's best receivers. His final catch was the 750th of his career, tying him for No. 9 in league his-

tory. But Irvin hasn't played since sustaining temporary paralysis after slamming his head into the ground following a catch Oct. 10 in Philadelphia. He later learned he has a genetic condition - a narrow spinal cord - that makes him more susceptible to serious injury if he takes another blow to the head or neck.

The neck problems forced Irvin to go on injured reserve Dec. 4, ending his season.

Irvin holds every significant

receiving record for the Cowboys and is 10th in receptions and yards in NFL history. The pick overall in



million last season before becoming a free agent.







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