

## STONY BROOK 2019 PREVIEW

After making the playoffs in 2011 & 2012 the Seawolves won 5 games in each of the next 3 seasons. In 2016 they started 5-2 but lost their final 4 to again finish with 5 wins. In 2017 they again started 5-2 but this time won their final 4 regular season games. They made the playoffs and beat Lehigh in the first round but after avoiding them in CAA play faces #1 James Madison and lost 26-7.

In last year's opener Stony Brook was dominated by Air Force being outgained 362-75 in a 38-0 loss. They finished off Bryant with a 95 yd IR TD on the final play in a 50-21 win. They led Fordham 28-0 before giving up a TD with 2:14 left. They only led Richmond 16-10 in 3Q before scoring the final 20. Ranked #17, Stony Brook upset #13 Villanova 29-27 stopping the Wildcats 2 pt conv attempt with :50 left. Up to unlucky #13, they were in turn upset by #23 Towson 52-28. Despite just a 317-312 yd edge and with 2 defensive TD's, they won 35-7. At #17, they dominated #22 Rhode Island 52-14. At #15 they led #3 James Madison 10-7 at HT but lost a hard fought game 13-10. At #12 they never trailed #11 Delaware in a 17-3 win. They moved all the way up to #10, but were shocked by Albany losing 25-23 on a final play 48 yd FG, that hit the crossbar & went over. They slipped to #15 and in the playoffs led at #20 SMO 14-0 at HT allowed 28 pt in the 3Q and lost 28-14. They still finished #16.

HC Chuck Priore returns for his 14th season and will have just 11 returning starters to work with but add 7 transfers including 6 from the FBS. He will be joined by 5th year co-OC Chris Bache, 4th yr co-OC Carmen Felus, 3rd yr DC Bobby McIntyre & 7th yr STC Tony Thompson.

The Seawolves return just 3 starters to the CAA's #4 scoring (26.8 ppg) & #5 Total Offense (372 ypg). They must replace 3 yr starting QB Joe Carbone, who started all 25 games the L/2 yrs. In '18 he threw for 1,884 (51.1%, 15-7) was the #4 rusher (66, 1.3, 4 td). They return QB Tyquell Fields (166, 48.6%, 2-0), who was the #5 rusher (49, 2.5). Also back is QB Jack Cassidy (0 att), who with 1 rush att was the #6 rusher (23 yds) and in '16 started the season finale (9-24-155, RS '17). They lose their top 4 rushers including 1st tm CAA RB Donald Liotine (1148, 5.2, 6 td, 100 rec) & 2nd tm CAA Jordan Gowins (995, 5.8, 8 td). Their top returning rusher is QB Fields as they do not return an RB who had a carry last year. Their only non-frosh RB is Isaiah White, who RS LY, with his only rush attempts as a true frosh in '15 (243, 3.6). The offense loses their top 4 receivers who combined for 1,408 yds (12.8, 13 td) including WR Julius Wingate, (556, 13.9, 6 td) & 1st tm CAA TE/FB Cal Daniels (256, 11.1, 2 td). Their top 2 returning WR's are Andrew Trent (1 st, 217, 13.6, 1 td) & Nick Anderson (4 st, 175, 13.5, 1 td). They add 4 transfers in WR Brandon Benson (SMU, PS#134), TE Thomas Dutton (Air Force, PS#79), TE Carter McCarthy (UTSA) and WR Jean Constant, who was the #2 receiver at Bryant (477, 11.1, 7 td) LY. The OLine loses two 12 gm starters including CAA Leadership Award winner RT Chris Infantino. They return 5 OL who combined for 36 starts including 2nd tm CAA RG Kyle Nunex (L/6 st) and add UConn transfer James Tunstall (PS#319). Despite the addition of 5 transfers this unit may take a step back with all the losses.

Stony Brook returns 8 starters to the CAA's #2 scoring (20.3 ppg) & #5 Total Defense (315 ypg), that had 6 Def TD & a Safety LY. The DLine loses 3rd tm CAA DE John Haggart (12 st, 62 tkl, 4 sk, 5 tfl) & NT Jordan Scarbrough (5 st, 15 tkl, 2.5 tfl, 1 int) who transferred. They return 4 DL who combined for 31 sts including 2nd tm CAA DE Sam Kamara (12 st, 42 tkl, 9 sk, 2 tfl) & NT Casey Williams (7 st, 76 tkl, 6 sk, 5.5 tfl). They also add Ball St transfer DE Sean Hammonds (5 st, 10 tkl, 1.5 tfl). The LB unit loses two 12 gm starters in 1st tm CAA SLB Shayne Lawless (89 tkl, 13.5 tfl, 6 pd) & 3rd tm CAA MLB Noah McGinty (94 tkl, 7.5 tfl, 4 pbu). They return ROV Augie Contressa (73 tkl, 10 tfl, 6 pd) and add USF transfer LB Keiston Johnson (PS#249) but the top returning backup LB is Elijah Duff (17 tkl, 1 tfl). The secondary returns all four 12 gm starters including 2nd tm CAA CB Gavin Heslop (59 tkl, 4 tfl, 10 pbu) & 3rd tm CAA CB TJ Morrison (42 tkl, 1 int, 7 pbu). While they lose 8 of their top 17 tklr's they return 7 of their top 10 & add 2 FBS transfers. This should again be one of the top defenses in the CAA.

The Special Teams unit loses their top returnmen, top P (38.2 avg) & 2 K's who combined for 5-10 FG. They return K/KO Jack Pruban (5 TB/35 KO, 1-2 FG) & backup P Mitchell Wright (6-32.3 avg). They add transfer KR Jean Constant (39.1) who had 3 KR TD's at Bryant last year.

The Seawolves defense will again be their strength but the offense will need to be rebuilt and may struggle at the start of the season. They must make a long trip to play Utah St but host their other 3 more winnable non-conf games. They avoid both Maine & Elon in CAA play but host James Madison in early October. Their final 3 games vs Towson, at Delaware & vs Albany will likely determine if they can return to the playoffs for a third straight season.