

MONMOUTH HAWKS

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2022

QUARTERBACKS - In 2019 the Hawks returned starting QB Kenji Bahar, who threw for 2,626 (60%, 20-6) with 143 rush in '18. Bahar had all but 12 of the teams pass attempts, throwing for 3,684 (64.5%, 30-9) & was the #3 rusher (177. 2.3, 4 td). In the spring of '21 season, they had to replace Bahar. True frosh QB Tony Muskett, started all 4 games & had every pass attempt. He threw for 1,039 yds (62.5%, 9-2, -13 rush) and was the Big South Offensive Rookie of the year & a Jerry Rice Award finalist. Last year Muskett returned and had all but 7 of the Hawk's pass attempts. He threw for 2,651 (65.1%, 25-6, -47 rush) earning 1st Tm BSC honors. This year Muskett returns for his third season as the starter but loses his top 3 receivers. Still, with his experience & consistency, he should come close to last year's output despite the step up in competition.

RUNNING BACKS - In 2018 the Hawks returned #1 rusher RB Pete Guerriero (1061, 6.0, 9 td). Guerriero had another solid season but finished #2 with 918 (6.9, 8 td). True Frosh RB Juwan Farri led with 1,024 (7.4, 8 td) and was the Big South Offensive Rookie of the Year and a Jerry Rice Award Finalist. Farri redshirted in 2019. Guerriero led the FCS with 1,995 (6.7, 18 td) and was the #4 receiver (336, 10.5, 2 td). RB Devell Jones was #2 with 422 (4.6, 10 td). They had to replace both in the spring of '21 seasons as Guerriero left early for the NFL (UFA NYJ). In their 4 game "season" Farri still led with 520 (5.0, 10 td). Last year Farri returned but they lost #2 rusher Romeo Holden (180, 6.2, 1 td). Farri started the first 7 but then missed the next 3 and had 4-16 rush in the season finale. He was still 1st Tm BSC and led with 705 (4.6, 8 td). Jaden Shirden started 3 of the last 4 games and finished #2 with 497 (6.5, 3 td). Owen Wright started 1 and finished #3 (370, 4.1, 2 td). This year all 3 return and if they can remain healthy should have another solid season.

RECEIVERS - In 2019 the Hawks had to replace their top 2 receivers in Reggie White (1133, 16.0, 11 td) & Vinny Grasso (360, 12.0, 3 td). They returned #3 Lonnie Moore (292, 13.3), #4 Brandon Bates (202, 14.4) & #6 Terrance Greene (142, 8.9, 1 td). Moore took a big step up and led with 1,022 (13.8, 9 td). Greene also improved to #2 with 916 (14.1, 10 td). Zach Tredway finished #3 (492, 12.6, 1 td). Bates finished #6 with 233 (12.9). Despite playing in just 4 games, Joey Aldarelli had 160 (7.6, 1 td). The unit returned their top 3 in spring of '21 season & they again finished as the top 3 but this time Moore led with 425 (18.5, 4 td). Moore was #2 (295, 13.4, 3 td) & Tredway was #3 (112, 12.4) in their 4 game season. They returned their top 10 receivers including 1st Tm BSC TE Gene Scott. Their top 3 again finished as the top 3. 1st Tm BSC WR Moore led with 800 (11 st, 11.0, 6 td), 2nd Tm BSC WR Greene was #2 (9 st, 60.4, 14.4, 5 td) & Tredwell was #3 (11 st, 301, 9.7). This year they lose all 3 as Greene transferred to JMU, along with 2nd Tm BSC TE Scott (11 st, 148, 9.9, 2 td) & #5 Ezra Archie (204, 13.6, 2 td). The units top 3 returnees are #4 Dymere Miller (267, 13.4, 1 td), #6 Aldarelli (2 st, 185, 11.6, 5 td) & #8 Assanti Kearney (53, 13.2, 1 td). The do add some transfers in Ugo Obasi (PS#149, Virginia) & Darrion Carrington , who was Yale's #3 receiver last year (284, 15.8, 4 td). With the loss of their top 3 from the past 3 years & their starting TE, this unit is in full rebuild mode and will need some players to step up to come close to last year's output.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In 2018 the OLine paved the way for 217 ypg rush (5.8) which was #2 BSC only behind the option offense of Kennesaw St but they allowed 23 sacks (6.6%). In 2019 they returned LT Mahmoud Shabana (11 st) & LG Manny Christian (4 st) along with CAJ Farris (1 st). The Hawks slipped a little to 205 ypg rush (5.3, #2 BSC) while allowing 26 sacks (5.6%). In the spring they returned AA C Farris (14 st), 2nd Tm BSC LT Shabana (10 st, out 4 inj), 2nd Tm BSC Justin Szuba (14 st) & LG Christian (12 st) along with RG Brian Syracuse (4 st) & Charles James (2 st). In their 4 game season in the spring of '21 they put up just 182 ypg rush (4.3, #2 BSC) while allowing 10 sacks (7.8%) despite C Farris winning the Rimington Award (top FCS C). Last year they returned C Farris (4 st) 1st Tm BSC LT Shabana (4 st), RG Syracuse (4 st), LG James (3 st) & LG Christian (1 st) but 1st Tm BSC RT Justin Szuba (4 st) missed the season with injury. Shockingly in the expanded Big South they dropped to just 146 ypg rush (#4 BSC, 3.8) while allowing 32 sacks (8.6%). This year the losses are huge as they lose 3x AA C Farris (11 st), who won the Rimington Award for a 2nd straight season, 1st Tm BSC Shabana (11 st), 2nd Tm BSC RG Syracuse (11 st) & LG Christian (8 st). They return RT Oliver Jarvis (10 st) & LG Greg Anderson (4 st) and also get back RT Szuba. They have a solid core to build on and after under-performing last year, may not drop as much as you would expect losing 4 starters & moving to a tougher conference

DEFENSIVE LINE - In 2019 the Hawks had the Big South's #2 rush defense allowing 138 ypg (4.2 ypc) & were #4 BSC with 25 sacks (5.5%). They returned their 4 starters for the spring of '21 season in DE Kahari Scarlett (14 st, 43 tkl, 2.5 sk, 3.5 tfl), DE Nick Shoemaker (14 st, 39 tkl, 6 tfl), DT Kurt Aumer (14 st, 29 tkl, 4.5 tfl) & RUSH Erik Massey (11 st, 42 tkl, 3 sk, 5.5 tfl). All 4 returned but Scarlett missed 1 of their 4 games. They improved to #1 BSC allowing just 99 ypg rush & 2.9 ypc and also led the BSC with 18 sacks in their 4 game season. Last year the unit had to replace DT Aumer (4 st, 9 tkl, 3 sk). They looked to return 6 of their top 7 in DE Shoemaker (4 st, 12 tkl, 1 tfl), DT Lorenzo Hernandez (11 tkl, 2.5 sk), DE Zamon Robinson (5 tkl, 1 sk, 1 tfl), RUSH Massey (4 st, 14 tkl, 2 sk) & 1st Tm all BSC DE Scarlett (3 st, 9 tkl, 3.5 sk) but Scarlett missed the season & Shoemaker missed 4 games with injury. They slipped to #4 BSC allowing 136 ypg rush (4.2) despite being #2 BSC with 28 sacks. This year they lose 2nd Tm BSC DT Hernandez (10 st, 25 tkl, 5 sk, 5.5 tfl), RUSH Massey (9 st, 20 tkl, 4 tfl) & DE Deandre Clifton (23 tkl, 3.5 sk, 2 tfl). They return 5 of their top 7 DL that combined for 24 starts last year in DE Dominick Spano (6 st, 20 tkl, 3 sk), DE Pat Hayden (8 st, 15 tkl, 1.5 tfl), Justin O'Bannon (15 tkl, 1.5 sk), DE Shoemaker (5 st, 11 tkl, 2.5 tfl) & DE Robinson (4 st, 7 tkl, 2.5 tfl). They also look to get back Scarlett and add Buffalo transfer Chris King (PS#198) giving them a very deep unit.

LINEBACKERS - In 2019 Monmouth had the BSC's #2 Scoring (27.2 ppg) & Total Defense (373 ypg). In the spring of '21 season they had to replace #4 tkl'r LB Evan Powell. They returned #1 tkl'r 2nd Tm BSC LB Da'Quan Grimes (14 st, 115 tkl, 3 sk, 10.5 tfl, 6 pbu) & #6 tkl'r DeJuan Cooper (13 st, 46 tkl, 3 sk, 2 tfl, 1 int) but despite playing all 4 games Cooper had just 3 tkl. They also added UConn transfer Eddie Hahn. The Hawks were #2 BSC allowing 18.5 ppg & 296 ypg in their 4 games. Last year they lost Cooper & #1 tkl'r 1st Tm BSC LB Grimes (32 tkl, 2 sk) missed the season with injury. They returned #2 tkl'r 1st Tm BSC SLB Hahn (27 tkl, 1.5 sk, 2.5 tfl, 1 int), #11 LB Tyler Delgado (9 tkl, 1 tfl) & #13 NB Mikr Reid. They again finished #2 BSC in Scoring (23.6 ppg) but slipped to #4 in Total yards Allowed (381 ypg). This year they lose #2 tkl'r 1st Tm BSC SLB Hahn (65 tkl, 8.5 tfl, 1 int, 6 pbu). The unit returns 5 of their top 6 led by #4 tkl'r MLB Moran (7 st, 58 tkl, 3.5 sk, 1 tfl), #6 NB Reid (9 st, 39 tkl, 1 int, 8 pbu), #11 MLB Tyler Delgado (6 st, 23 tkl, 3 tfl). They also get Grimes back which will help offset the loss of their top man.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - In 2019 the secondary finished #6 BSC in pass efficiency defense allowing 235 ypg (60.4%, 34-12). For the spring of '21 season they lost 2nd Tm AA CB Tymer Berry (54 tkl, 2.5 tfl, 1 int, 6 pbu) & CB Matt Castronuova (34 tkl, 1 tfl, 1 int, 3 pbu). They returned #2 tkl'r 1st Tm BSC FS Anthony Budd (14 st, 66 tkl, 4.5 tfl, 5 int, 4 pbu), #3 2nd Tm BSC CB Justin Terry (14 st, 62 tkl, 5.5 tfl, 1 int, 9 pbu), #7 DB Davis Smith (45 tkl, 1 pbu) who started 4 as a true frosh along with #12 CB Eddie Morales (3 st, 24 tkl, 2 pbu) & #13 SS Tyrese Wright (31 tkl, 2 tfl, 4 pbu), who started 5 as a true frosh. They improved to #1 BSC in pass eff D allowing 196 ypg (56 %) and a very good 5-5 ratio. Last year the secondary returned #3 tkl'r 1st Tm BSC FS Budd (4 st, 26 tkl, 2 tfl, 2 int), #4 SS Wright (4st, 24tkl), #5 1st Tm BSC CB Morales (4 st, 18 tkl, 1 sk, 1 int, 5 pbu), #6 1st Tm CB Terry (4 st, 18 tkl, 1 int) & #7 DB Jason Antwi (15 tkl, 1 pbu). Shockingly with all their top players back they plummeted to #7 BSC in pass eff Def (245 ypg pass, 60.5%, 18-10). This year they lose #3 tkl'r 1st Tm MSC FS Budd (9 st, 60 tkl, 1 int, 4 pbu) & #7 CB Terry (11 st, 35 tkl, 1 sk, 2 int, 2 pbu). The unit returns #1 tkl'r 2nd Tm BSC SS Wright (11 st, 71 tkl, 2.5 tfl, 1 int, 9 pbu) & #5 1st Tm BSC CB Morales (11 st, 57 tkl, 3 tfl, 3 int, 6 pbu) along with FS Antwi (12 tkl) & CB Jaylen Dotson (1 st, 8 tkl, 3 pbu). They also add Temple transfer Thomas Joe-Kamara (PS#260) and despite the losses after underperforming last year could improve.

SPECIAL TEAMS - In 2020 the Special Teams returned P Ryan Host (40.2 ypp) & P Colin McCreary (42.1 ypp) who had split time at P in '19 (35.4 tm net) but lost K Matt Mosouera (15-20 FG, L/470). Last year the unit returned all their top players including 2nd Tm P Ryan Kost, who had a 44.1 avg but the team had just a 33.1 net as they allowed 93 yd PR td vs Gardner-Webb that skewed their numbers in a 4 game season. They also returned K Kaeon Torres, who as a True Frosh in the spring missed his only FG attempt but hit 18-19 PAT but he missed the season with injury. They added transfer K Nick Null, who prior to handling KO's at Wyoming in '20 had been a 2x all-ivy K/P at Cornell. Null hit 7-9 FG (L/48) & had 25 TB/61 KO but this year departs along with 1st Tm BSC KR Ronnie Moore (25.7 ypr, 1 td) & backup P McCreary (2-37.0 ypp). They return 1st Tm BSC P Kost (44.4

yp), who helped the team to a 38.9 net & 1st Tm BSC KR Eddie Morales (9.9 ypr) & get K Torres back.

COACHES - Monmouth has only one HC in their history as Kevin Callahan returns for his 30th season with a 173-129 career record. He has taken the Hawks to the playoffs 3 of the last 5 years. They return 4th yr OC Jeff Gallo, who has been the TE cch here since 2007. DC Andy Bobik returns for his 29th season as he started with at the same ssn as Callahan but left for 1 ssn at West Long Beach. STC/RB cch Sam Dorsett enters his 10th season here.

FORECAST

OFFENSE - In 2019 the Hawk's offense was #2 in the Big South in scoring (35.8 ppg) and led in Total Offense (473 ypg) thanks in part to RB Pete Guerriero, who led the FCS with 1,995 (6.7, 18 td). In the Spring of '21 season, they lost their starting QB & RB Guerriero but returned their top 3 receivers & 6 OL who combined for 56 starts in '19. In their 4 game season they led the BSC in Scoring (35.0 ppg) & Total Offense (442 ypg). Last year they returned the Big South Offensive Rookie of the year in QB Tony Muskett, their top rusher, top 10 receivers & all 5 starting OL including the Rimington Award winner (top FCS C) AJ Farris but then their 1st Tm BSC RT Justin Szuba missed the season with injury. They again led the BSC in Scoring (30.8 ppg) despite dropping to #4 in Total Offense (393 ypg). This year the Offense returns Their top QB, 3 top RBs but lose 4 of their top 5 receivers including their top 3 & 4 OLine starters including 2x Rimington Award winner C Farris. They return just 3 starters but also get back RT Szuba and add an FBS & an FCS transfer at WR. They also take a step up in competition and will likely take a step back this season.

DEFENSE - Monmouth's defense was #2 in the BSC in both Scoring (27.2 ppg) & Total Defense (373 ypg) in 2019. They returned 12 of their top 15 tkl'rs for the Spring of '21 season including 8 starters. In their 4 game season they again finished #2 in both Scoring (18.5 ppg) & Total Defense (296 ypg) including holding eventual FCS Champion Sam Houston to just 21 pts & 257 yds (despite allowing a 56 yd td run) in the first round of the playoffs. Last year the Defense looked to return 12 of their top 13 tkl'rs including their top 10 but then #1 tkl'r LB Da'Quan Grimes & #13 DE Kahari Scarlett both missed the season with injury. The Hawks finished #2 BSC in Scoring (23.6 ppg) despite slipping to #4 in Total Defense (381 ypg). This year they lose 5 of their top 9 tkl'rs including 2 of their top 3. They return 16 of their top 23 meaning they have experienced depth and they also return LB Grimes & DE Scarlett making them more experienced their 6 returning starters would indicate. This is a solid defense and should due well despite taking a step up to the CAA.

2022 - In 2017 the Hawks lost their ssn finale vs Kennesaw St in '17 in a game for the BSC Title but still made the playoffs & finished 9-3. In '18 they again lost the Title deciding game to KSU but missed the playoffs finishing 8-3. In 2019 they beat KSU & took the BSC Title (6-0) & beat Holy Cross 44-27 in the playoffs before falling to #2 JMU 66-21. In the '21 spg ssn they again beat KSU to finish 3-0 in the "regular" ssn & only lost 21-15 to eventual FCS Champ Sam Houston. Last year in their final season in the Big South, they again lost to KSU in the season finale costing them the BSC Title & the auto-bid for the playoffs as they finished 7-4. This year they take a step up in competition moving to the CAA along with BSC member Hampton. Fortunately for them CAA Power JMU moves up to the FBS this year and they avoid Elon & Richmond this season. They have tough road games at Villanova & Maine as well as Delaware late in the season and also host Rhode Island. The Hawks return just 9 starters but also get back 3 starters from the spring of '21 season who missed last season due to injury. They add a handful of transfers to fill some hole but the offense will need some players to take a big step up to be competitive especially on the OLine. The defense returns a solid core & if they can stay healthy are talented enough to compete in the CAA. With many of their more winnable games early in the season, how quickly the offense comes together will determine if the Hawks can have a 6th straight winning season. Still they probably will miss the playoffs for a 2nd straight season.