

NEVADA WOLF PACK

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2010

QUARTERBACKS - In '07 UN lost starting QB Nick Graziano vs Fresno and the Colin Kaepernick era began. UN was a huge underdog at Boise but in his 1st start, Kaepernick passed for 243 (rush 177) in a 4OT, 2 pt loss. For the season he threw for 2,175 (54%) with an amazing 19-3 ratio (593 rush, 5.6) and was the WAC FPOY. In '08 Kaepernick threw for 2,849 (54%, 22-7) while adding 1,130 rush (7.0). He became just the 5th player in NCAA history to have 2,000 passing and 1,000 rushing in a season and was the WAC OPOY. Graziano hit 15 of 32 for 145 and opted to transfer to Ark Tech. Kaepernick improved his 40 time to 4.58, his bench to 280 and his VL to 33" and had another fantastic season in '09 rushing for 1,183 (7.3) with 16 TD's while throwing for 2,052 (58.9%, 20-6) becoming the FIRST player to ever have B2B 2,000/1,000 yd seasons (Brad Smith, Missouri only other player twice, '02 & '05). Tyler Lantrip played in 7 (3-9 for 31 yds, 8 rush att). Adding depth are Mason Magleby (6'2" 195 rFr, PS#280) and David Fisher (6'1" 205 rFr, PS#281). Transfer Corbin Louks, who played QB at Utah, will be a DB. It will be tough for Kaepernick to improve his stats but if he stays healthy, he will be one of the NCAA's most dangerous offensive players. He needs just 94 rush yards to become the 2nd QB in WAC history to have 3,000 rush/3,000 pass in his career (Beau Morgan, AF '94-'96).

RUNNING BACKS - It's not too hard for HC Ault to recruit RB's for Nevada. In 2005 BJ Mitchell led the WAC in rushing with 1,399 (5.4). In '07 Luke Lippincott led the WAC with 1,420 (5.3). Lippincott was lost in Wk 2 of '08 and Vai Taua led the WAC with 1,521 (6.4). Last year Lippincott was granted a 6th year. He and Taua both topped 1,000. Taua finished with 1,345 (7.8) but as UN's top RB was "just" #2 in the WAC. Lippincott finished with 1,034 (7.7) as UN finished as the NCAA's #1 rush attack despite both RB's missing the bowl. Their fastest RB, Lampford Mark (6'1" 200 Jr), had 182 (4.2) in '08 and 376 (6.4) last year. Mike Ball (PS#90) was impressive as a rFr with 184 (12.3) and 5 TD's vs UNLV but surprisingly had just 36 (5.1) the rest of the year. Courtney Randall (5'10" 215 Sr) had 435 (4.6) from '07-'08 and in '09 added 154 (7.0). Not listed in the PSL are Stephon Jefferson (5'11" 190 rFr) and Cameron Loeffler (6'0" 195 rFr). This year they lose Lippincott as well as Brandon Fragger who had 800 (4.3) in 3 yrs. The Wolf Pack should have a RB lead the WAC in rushing this year but as a group they are not quite as deep.

RECEIVERS - After having a depth-shy receiving corps in '05, Ault recruited heavily for speed in '06. Last year they had to replace 2 st's including their #1 rec, Marko Mitchell (1141, 18.7). With a heavier reliance on the rush attack, the passing numbers were down. They expected rFr Brandon Wimberly (GS at Oregon St), who was the Scout Tm POY here in '08, to have a big impact. He was banged up in August and didn't start the opener but led with 733 (13.8). Tray Session was #2 with just 368 (12.3) and Chris Wellington (PS#133) who had 632 (15.0) in '08, only had 327 (13.6). They talked about possibly using 5 TE's but Virgil Green was clearly the best and had 260 (11.3) and won one of the team's rare Striker Awards (for dominating play). This year they lose 2 TE's and a WR (comb 4 st, 8 rec) and not listed below is Joseph Huber (6'0" 180 rFr). This group is more exp'd and after a down year production-wise, should have better numbers in 2010.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In '08 Nevada had 4 st's back and paved the way for a school record 278 ypg rush (6.1) while allowing just 19 sks. Last year they had to replace a 1st Tm WAC C and 4 bkps (comb 14 sts). They did return a pair of 2nd Tm WAC OT's in Alonzo Durham and Mike Gallett. Gallett was susp'd after 5 sts. The unit still managed to pave the way for an amazing 345 ypg rush and 7.4 ycp while allowing just 12 sks (4.1%). This year they lose 2nd Tm WAC C Kenneth Ackerman (13 st, 2Y st'r), 1st

Tm WAC WT Durham (12 st, 3Y st'r) and Gallett. They return just 46 career sts and while "The Union" will be one of the WAC's top O-lines, they will be down a notch from '09.

DEFENSIVE LINE - The Wolf Pack basically had just 1 starter back in '07 and switched to a 4-3 at midseason. They allowed 174 ypg rush (4.4). In '08 they had to replace 1.5 st's (2nd Tm WAC DE) but made tremendous improvements finishing #6 in the FBS in rush D allowing just 89 ypg (3.1) with 36 sks. Last year they were the only team in the country to return 2 DL who recorded double digit sack totals in '08 in DE's Dontay Moch (11.5) and Kevin Basped (10). They only had to replace 1 starter. Basped was banged up (miss 1) but still had 9.5 sks. Surprisingly the rush D slipped a little to 112 ypg (3.6) with 31 sks. This year they lose 2nd Tm WAC Basped (10 st, 32 tkl), DT Nate Agaiva (12 st, 27 tkl, 2 sk) and DT Chris Slack (7 tkl). Moch, despite having his sks drop to 6.5, had 13.5 tfl and was the WAC DPOY. They add 4 JUCO's and even with the loss of Basped, they should be close to 2009's level.



DE Dontay Moch

LINEBACKERS - In 2008 with a 3-man LB corps, no LB managed to start all 13 due to inj's. Last year they had to replace 2 st's (#3 and #8 tkl's). The 3 st's were #6, #11 and #13 in tkl's in '08 and all 3 started all 13 in '09 as the Wolf Pack improved to allowing 28.5 ppg on D. This year they lose MLB Mike Bethea (13 st, #2 tkl'r, 5.5 tfl), Jared Silva-Purcell (12 tkl) and Andre Davis (6 tkl) but return their #3 and #6 tacklers. James-Michael Johnson earned 2nd Tm WAC and this is a more experienced group with good size.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - Nevada has an excellent run D but their pass D has struggled and in 2008 they yielded 312 ypg (54%) with a 31-16 ratio to finish #62 in my PDR. They did face one of the toughest slates of opposing QB's in the pass-happy WAC as well as Graham Harrell and Chase Daniel. Last year they only had to replace 1 st'r but allowed 298 ypg, 61.5% with a 33-8 ratio. This year they lose 2nd Tm WAC FS Jonathon Amaya (12 st, 89 tkl, 1 int, 9 pbu), SS Mo Harvey (12 st, 61 tkl, 1 int, 2 pbu), CB Antoine Thompson (8 st, 22 tkl, 3 pbu) and DB Cameron Bayne (4 tkl). They also add rFr Chris Metcalf (PS#35). Corbin Louks (PS#139QB) who played QB on Utah's undefeated team of '08 (218 rush yds, 104 pass, 4.42 spd) and 2 JUCO's. They can only improve upon '09's #117 PDR.

SPECIAL TEAMS - Ault has not had great success with the ST units since his return. In his first 5 yrs back they finished just #96, #99, #71, #99 and #112 in my ST rankings. In '08 their P was #3 in the WAC but their net punting was just #6 forcing them to go into a new punt formation LY. Brad Langley, who avg 44.0 (34.5 tm net in '08) missed the spring but punted all year and avg 41.1 (37.4 net). The big improvement came at K as Ricky Drake has a booming leg on KO. Drake recorded 20 TB and UN improved their KR D from 26.1 to 21.3. While not called

on often for FG's, Drake hit 6 of 9 but surprisingly with a long of just 40. Vai Taua started as the PR but lost his spot after a pair of fumbles (tm 3.1). RFr Mike Ball (PS#90) was explosive on KR (24.8). The Wolf Pack moved up to #49. This year all of the key players are back and with improved PR and a healthier P, should have their best finish in recent seasons.

COACHES - Chris Ault led Nevada to 7 conf titles and a 163-63-1 record from 1976-'92 and '94-'95 and is in the College Football Hall of Fame! He was the AD here from 1986-'03 and fired Chris Tormey despite him having an improving record each year. Ault took over as HC in '04 for his 3rd tenure here and vacated his AD duties. He has guided UN to 5 bowls in the 6 years of his latest stint. DC Nigel Burton left to become the HC of Portland St and 6 year OC Chris Klenakis left for Arkansas. They have a run game coor in Cameron Norcross and Ault will coor the passing game. The new DC is Andy Buh who was the LB coach and co-DC at Stanford the L/3Y.

PHIL'S FORECAST

Chris Tormey got the team pointed in the right direction with win totals of 2, 3, 5 and 6 but was let go after the 2003 season. When Chris Ault took over in 2004, 13 players left the team over the summer and he had just 70 on scholarship. They benefited from playing a soft schedule (#105) and went 5-1 at home (42-27 avg win). On the road they were 0-6 (42-18 avg loss). In '05, Nevada had a dream season getting its first winning season since 1998. Seventy-two of their 73 players attended summer workouts and Ault commented they were bigger, stronger and faster. They ended a 5 game losing streak to rival UNLV and won their final five, including victories over #16 Fresno and an OT win vs UCF in the bowl. Nevada finished 9-3 and received votes in the AP poll. They were 7-1 and WAC co-Champs but just +59.6 ypg (4th best). In '06 they had 13 st's back. After opening 0-2, they won 8 out of 9 to stand at 8-3 before a 10 game home winning streak was snapped by Boise, 38-7. They went 5-3 in WAC play, (+41.7 ypg, 3rd best). They came up 1 point short against Miami in the bowl despite a 23-13 FD edge. The defense allowed just 19.2 ppg which was the best since 1991 (in IAA). Nevada did benefit from +12 TO's. In 2007 UN had a showdown vs LT for a bowl spot and destroyed the Bulldogs 49-10. It was a strange season as they almost beat the 2 top teams in the WAC (Boise and Hawaii) losing to both by 2 but also almost lost to the worst teams (NMST and Utah St). In the bowl they shockingly had the NCAA's longest streak without being shutout (329 games, 1980) end vs New Mexico, 23-0 and finished 6-7. UN was 4-4 in the WAC but was +123.5 ypg which almost topped Boise. In '08 they were picked for 3rd in the WAC (cch & media). Nevada was +120.5 ypg (2nd best WAC) but thanks in part to 2 IR TD's lost to Boise St by 7. They also lost at Hawaii despite a 481-331 yard edge and were upset at home by NMST 48-45 despite being favored by almost 3 TD's. Ault said they would not accept a bowl bid unless they beat LT in the finale and they trailed 31-14 with 4:00 left in the 3Q but rallied for the win to make it to a school record 4th straight bowl. They lost to Maryland by 7 in the Humanitarian Bowl. I pointed out there were some good signs in Nevada's favor last year as they had 3 net close losses in '08, had a defensive ypg of 12.4 (pg 299), had 39 sts lost to injury (15th most FBS) and had 13 ret st's. They shockingly started out the year 0-3 including a shutout loss to ND but would win their next 8. At 8-3 they were playing for the outright WAC Title and trailed Boise 20-0 and lost 44-33. Nevada became the first offense in NCAA history to have three 1,000 yard rushers but unfortunately played the bowl without 2 of them (Lippincott and Taua) and were thrashed by SMU 45-10. In their 5 losses, UN avg just 183.8 ypg rush and in their 8 wins avg 445.6. UN does have 15 ret st's and last year their +165.6 ypg was BEST in the WAC. They get the WAC's biggest game (Boise St) at home on a Friday night making them a prime contender for the WAC Title. They will top last year's 8 win total.

TOP NEWCOMERS FOR 2010

DB	Malik James 6-1 190 PS#180JC
DB	Charles Garrett 5-11 193 PS#160
OL	Jordan Mudge 6-4 300 PS#142JC
DB	Dean Faddis 6-1 190 PS#148JC
DB	Chris Boudreaux 6-0 195 PS#153JC
WR	Rishard Matthews 6-2 215 PS#160JC
DL	Jared Jackson 6-6 225 PS#164JC
DL	Willie Faataualoala 6-3 292 PS#231JC
QB	Cody Fajardo 6-2 189 PS#151
DL	Devon Rosa 6-4 255 PS#292JC
TE	Jeremiah Green 6-2 227 PS#303JC
LB	DeAndre Broughton 6-1 215 PS#331JC
OL	Avery Poates 6-4 297 PS#293
DL	Mat Galas 6-1 273 PS#301
DB	Aaron Brown 6-0 184 PS#431
OL	Kyle Roberts 6-6 275 PS#404
WR	Necho Bugh 6-0 203 PS#353
DL	Ben Hughes 6-0 280 PS#625JC
OL	Sebastian Tretola 6-4 290 PS#429
TE	DeAndre Roberts 6-4 244 PS#104
OL	Mike Mitchell 6-4 287 PS#449
TE	Erik Stewart 6-4 245 PS#682JC
WR	Lamar Duran 6-2 213 PS#379
DL	Jordan Hanson 6-2 275 PS#438
DL	Taylor George 6-4 256 PS#476
LB	Luke Arciniega 6-2 220 PS#435
DL	Kyle Pappendorf 6-4 245 PS#515
DL	Brook Hekking 6-4 245 PS#518
OL	Connor Talbott 6-3 250 PS#566
DB	Evan Favors 6-0 175 PS#714
WR	Aaron Bradley 6-1 180 PS#823
DL	Zachary Brickell 6-4 240 PS#867

OFFENSE

JERSEY #
IN BLUE

2010 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

JERSEY #
IN BLUE

DEFENSE

QB 10 COLIN KAEPPERNICK SR. 6-6 215 PS#153.8 st, 2175 yd, WAC FPOY rFr. 2849, WAC OPOY '08. 13 st, 2052 (59%, 20-6), 2nd Tm WAC LY. **16** Tyler Lantrip (6'4" 220 Jr) 10 gm, 10 att 2Y.
RB 34 VAITAUA SR. 5-10 220 PS#289.1633 (6'4")/07/08.6 st, 1345 (7.8) st, 1st Tm WAC LY. **5** Mike Ball (5'10" 225 So) PS#90. 220 (9.6). Courtney Randall 589 (5.0) 3Y.
WR 14 CHRIS WELLINGTON SR. 6-1 190 PS#133.12 st, 662 (14.7)/07/08.9 st, 327 (13.6) LY. **18** LJ Washington (6'0" 195 So) 6 gm, (9.1) 98 (19.6) rFr. Mose Patterson (6'3" 200 Sr) 3 gm.
WR 82 TRAY SESSION JR. 6-3 175 PS#282.74 4 gm rFr. 13 st, 368 (12.3) LY. **88** Rishard Matthews PS#160JC. IFS. **84** Aaron Bradley PS#823. GS LY. IFS. **16** Zack Quilici (6'0" 180 So).
WR 4 BRANDON WIMBERLY SO. 6-3 195 12 st, 733 (13.8), WAC FPOY rFr. **19** Malcolm Shepherd (6'3" 210 Sr) RS '08. 9 gm LY. **23** Shane Anderson (6'1" 205 Jr) PS#168. 2 rec 2Y.
TE 85 VIRGIL GREEN SR. 6-5 240 9 st, 164 (11.7) 2Y. 12 st, 260 (11.3). 2nd Tm WAC LY. **44** Zach Sudfeld (6'7" 245 Jr) 10 gm 2Y. **86** Kelton Hall (6'3" 225 So) 1 gm rFr.
C 67 Jeff Meads Jr. 6-3 290 PS#485. 1 gm rFr. 5 gm LY. **71** Jordan Mudge (6'4" 300 Jr) PS#142JC. IFS. Matt Galas PS#301. **LS 58** Ryan Coulson also proj starting DE.
SG 62 JOHN BENDER SR. 6-8 325 5 st (inj) rFr. 6 st. SG 10 gm '08. 13 st OG LY.
68 Steve Werner (6'5" 310 So) PS#342. 3 gm rFr. **64** Stephen Jeffers (6'3" 260 Jr) PS#156.
WG 75 CHRIS BARKER SO. 6-4 305 PS#374. 13 st OG rFr. OFS '10. **77** Alex Pinto (6'3" 290 So) 1 gm rFr. **61** Scott Frisbie (6'4" 275 Jr) 13 gm 2Y. Avery Poates is PS#293.
ST 74 STEVE HALEY JR. 6-5 305 PS#347. 2 gm rFr. 8 st OT, 13 gm LY. **70** Joel Bittonio (6'4" 280 Jr). **76** Jon Rabe (6'5" 285 So) PS#280. From DL. Kyle Roberts PS#404.
WR 79 Jose Acuna Sr. 6-6 305 PS#238JC. 1 st OT, 6 gm LY. **78** Jeff Nady (6'7" 285 So) PS#411. 3 gm rFr. **66** Aaron Huck (6'3" 295 So) PS#306. No gm action as fr.
K 46 RICKY DRAKE SR. 6-0 190 PS#216JC. 6-9 FG, L/40, 60-64 PAT, 81 KO, 20 TB LY. **39** Nick Rhodes (5'11" 180 Jr) PS#83. 6 gm 2Y. **8** Anthony Martinez (5'6" 175 rFr).

DE 58 Ryan Coulson Sr. 6-3 255 PS#160.5 st, 17 tkl '07/08.5 st, 26 tkl LY. **92** Mike Andrews (6'2" 275 Jr) PS#293JC. RS here '08. 3 tkl LY. **90** Jared Jackson PS#164JC. IFS.
DT 93 ZACK MADONICK JR. 6-1 285 PS#331. 3 tkl, 1 sk, 6 gm rFr. 13 st, 26 tkl, 5 tfl LY. **97** Mark Avery (6'4" 270 So) PS#421. 1 gm rFr. **94** Wesley Hollingshead (6'2" 295 rFr).
DT 47 Brett Roy Jr. 6-4 260 11 tkl rFr. 22 tkl LY. Willie Faataualoala PS#231JC.
91 Ben Hughes PS#625JC. IFS. **98** Jack Reynoso (6'3" 275 So) PS#399. GS '08. May play OL.
DE 55 DONTAY MOCH SR. 6-1 245 PS#153. 12 st, 63 tkl 2Y. 13 st, 61 tkl, 20 tfl, WAC DPOY LY. Devon Rosa PS#292JC. **87** Sam Foster (6'4" 250 rFr). David Jamieson (6'4" 225 rFr).
SAIL 33 BRANDON MARSHALL JR. 6-1 235 PS#353. 6 st, 33 tkl rFr. 13 st, 61 tkl, 9.5 tfl LY.
3 Adam Liranzo (6'4" 230 Sr) PS#226. 27 tkl '07/08. 11 tkl LY. Kaelin Burnett (6'4" 205 Jr). 12 tkl LY.
MIKE 52 JAMES-MICHAEL JOHNSON JR. 6-2 240 8 st, 49 tkl rFr. 13 st, 58 tkl, 11.5 tfl, 2nd Tm WAC LY. **51** Albert Rosette (6'2" 225 So) PS#408. 5 tkl 2Y. Joe Easter (6'1" 240 Jr) PS#427. 19 tkl 2Y.
WOLF 42 DeAndre Boughton Jr. 6-1 215 PS#331JC. IFS. **31** Kevin Grimes (6'0" 205 Sr) PS#435. 1 st, 70 tkl '07/08. 25 tkl LY. **56** Deantae Green (6'2" 235 Jr) 9 gm rFr. 4 tkl, 9.5 tfl LY.
CB 28 ISAHIA FREY JR. 6-0 190 PS#234. 3 st, 23 tkl true. 10 st, 29 tkl LY. **22** Thaddeus Brown (5'11" 175 So) PS#157. 5 tkl rFr. **12** Khalid Wooten (6'0" 195 So) PS#456. 1 st, 15 tkl rFr.
CB 6 DOYLE MILLER SR. 5-11 185 3 st, 8 tkl rFr. 6 st, 33 tkl LY. **37** Ahmad Wood (5'11" 185 So) PS#421. 7 tkl, 12 gm rFr. Charles Garrett (5'11" 193 Fr). **45** Mark Porras (5'9" 170 rFr).
SS 20 Duke Williams So. 6-1 185 PS#232. 1 st, 29 tkl true. **11** Dean Faddis PS#148JC. IFS. Mose Denton (6'1" 180 So) PS#376. 3 gm rFr. Evan Favors PS#714. Mike Davis (5'10" 175 rFr).
FS 7 Corbin Louks Jr. 6-0 200 PS#139QB. Utah trans. **32** Chris Metcalf (6'2" 185 rFr) PS#35. **30** Chris Boudreaux PS#153JC. IFS. **8** Marlon Johnson (5'11" 185 So) 2 tkl, 4 gm rFr.
P 48 BRAD LANGLEY SR. 6-0 200 PS#502JC. 42 punts (44.0), net 34.5, 2nd Tm WAC '08. 45 (41.1), net 37.4 LY. **46** Ricky Drake (6'0" 190 Sr) PS#216JC. **69** Jake Hurst (6'1" 210 Jr).

