

MCNEESE STATE COWBOYS

Lake Charles, Louisiana
Enrollment: 8,900

Matt Viator (Career 39-15)
6th Year at McNeese State
Viator at McNeese State 39-15

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2011

QB's - McNeese has had quite the lineage at QB recently. From '07-'09, Derrick Fouroux earned All-SLC honors and was named the SLC Co-POY in '09 after throwing for 2,477 yds (64%, 20-7). LY he departed but the Cowboys brought in Tulsa transfer Jacob Bower (PS#28 JC) who started 9 gms and threw for 1,476 yds (57%, 8-9). Backup Cody Stroud started 2 and added 586 yds (57%, 3-4). Bower departs TY but Stroud returns and they bring in former North Texas QB Riley Dodge (PS#6). With a VHT taking over I expect improved numbers from the Cowboys QB's this year.

RB's - Todd Pendland took over the RB duties in '08 and led the SLC with an MSU ssn record 1,431 (6.5, 12 td) and was the SLC OPOY. He ret'd in '09 and led again with 1,059 (5.9, 17 td) and was 1st tm SLC. LY they lost Pendland and their #2 rusher. They ret'd #3 Champlain Babin (395, 6.0, 5 td) then after spg brought in Mich St transfer Andre Anderson (PS#139). Anderson ran for 855 (5.0) while earning Tm MVP and 1st tm SLC honors. Marcus Wiltz was #2 with 317 (4.3) while Babin again was #3 with 280 (4.3) This year the top 4 return and this should be one of the best RB units in the SLC.

Rec's - In '09 McNeese ST ret'd 5 of their top 7 including 2nd tm SLC TE Wes Mangan (170, 9.4). LY they lost 4 of their top 5 rec including #1 Immanuel Friddle (457, 13.4) and 1st tm SLC TE Mangan (294, 13.6). Their top returnee was TE Corday Clark, who was #2 with 425 (16.3). Clark was #4 LY with 241 (8.0) while WR's Damion Dixon (PS#112, 289, 13.8) and Wes Briscoe (260, 13.7) were #1 and #3. TY Clark departs along with #2 WR Bernardo Henry (261, 29.0) but Dixon and Briscoe both return. Former Texas A&M transfer Harold Turnage (PS#59) takes over at TE. With two of their top three receivers back and a Big 12 transfer at TE, I look for improved numbers.

O-Line - The OL ret'd 4 str's in '08 incl 3 All-SLC OL and they increased their ypc for a 3rd straight year going from 4.8 to 5.1. The losses were massive in '09 (4 str's) incl 3 All-SLC OL yet they increased their ypc again to 5.6. LY they lost a 1st tm SLC RT but ret'd 4 str's and shockingly fell to 154 ypg (3.8). This year they lose 2 str's. They return RG Miguel Gauthreaux, who earned 1st tm SLC honors, Taylor Johnson, who made 12 st at LT in '09 but was only available for the first 3 LY and 2HM SLC OL in OT Alec Savoie and LG Jonathan Landry. With only the C spot open, I expect the OL to get back to their '08 level.

D-Line - In '09 the DL lost 3 str's including 1st tm SLC DT Vaalyn Jackson. They did ret 2 DL who comb for 14 st in '08 incl DE Terrance Freeman, who led with 5.5 sks. As expected

their rush D fell from 119 ypg to 160 ypg and their ypc went from 3.9 up to 4.2 while the D's sk tkl dropped to 18. LY they ret'd all 4 str's incl 1st tm SLC DT Desmond Lighten, DE Freeman and DE Josh Ellison, who led the D in tfl (12) and sk (5). The exp'd unit put up their best numbers in recent history all g just 113 rush ypg (3.5). This year Freeman (26 tkl, 2.5 tfl), 2nd tm SLC DE Ellison (#9 tkl'r) and Damion Aultman (2Y str'r) all depart. They return 2x 1st tm SLC DT Lighten (#4 tkl'r, 7.5 tfl). With 3 of their top 4 departing I look for this unit to be down a notch or two.

LB's - The Cowboys run a 4-2-5 D and in '09 the LB unit lost 1st tm SLC Allen Nelson, who was the #1 tkl'r for 3 straight years. They did return #2 tkl'r LB Deron Minor but he was inj and lost for the ssn after 4 gm. Surprisingly they did improve their ppg all'd from 29.3 to 27.3. LY they lost starter Matt Kreamer (#6 tkl'r, 5.5 tfl) but ret'd 2nd tm SLC ILB Jeremy Pilate (#4 tkl'r, 9.5 tfl) and also got Minor back. As expected the defense improved again to 24.9 ppg. TY they lose Minor (#1 tkl'r, HM SLC) and Pilate (#3 tkl'r, 8 tfl). They do return 3 players who all had 40+ tkl's LY including Joe Narcisse (#6 tkl'r, 7.5 tfl) and Ford Smesny (#7 tkl'r, 4 tfl). However with the loss of their top 2 guys this unit looks to take a step back.



FS Malcolm Bronson

DB's - The secondary ret'd just 1 of 5 str's in '09 and lost the #3, #4, #5 and #6 tkl'r's incl 2nd tm SLC CB Jeremy Haynes (3 int, 13 pbu). Despite the losses, they remained #2 in SLC pass D allowing 199 pass ypg (59.2%). They ret'd all 5 str's LY led by 3 All-SLC players in 1st tm FS Malcolm Bronson (#1 tkl'r), 1st tm SLC WS Darrel Jenkins (#3 tkl'r) and 2nd tm CB Seth Thomas (#13 tkl'r, 3 int). Shockingly, their numbers dropped to 230 pass ypg and 60.6%. TY they lose HM SLC Devin Holland (4 pbu) while HM SLC Thomas (#11 tkl'r), 1st tm Bronson (#5 tkl'r, 5 int) and 2nd tm Jenkins (#2 tkl'r) all return. This unit clearly underachieved LY and I expect much improved numbers.

2011 SCHEDULE

9/3	at Kansas
9/10	
9/17	Sioux Falls
9/24	SE Louisiana
10/1	at Northwestern St
10/8	Texas St
10/15	at Central Arkansas
10/22	Sam Houston St
10/29	at Stephen F Austin
11/5	Nicholls St
11/12	UTSA
11/19	at Lamar



2010 RECORD:
(6-5)

RETURNING STARTERS:
OFFENSE: 4
DEFENSE: 5

LETTERMEN:
Returning: 52 (28,23,1)
Lost: 21 (7,14,0)
2010 AVG ATTENDANCE:
13,770 (#21)

SOUTHLAND

SPECIAL TEAMS - In '09 MSU lost their top PR and K/P Blake Bercegeay (6-17 FG, 38.3 ypg). P Beau Lasseigne avg'd 37.2 ypg in '09 but departed LY. They did return K Josh Lewis (8-12 FG) and RM Babin (658 ret yds). TY all of the top guys return including 1st tm SLC Lewis (13-16 FG) and P Ben Bourgeois (37.0 avg).

COACHES - HC Matt Viator took over after 4 gms in '06 and has led the Cowboys to 3 SLC Championships. DC Lark Hebert and Co-OC's Tim Leger and Broderick Fobbs both enter their 5th ssn.

FORECAST - Viator's first full season ('07) has been the highlight of his tenure as the Cowboys finished 11-1. While they capped their 6th straight winning season last year it was Viator's worst record yet at 6-5. The season did not get off to an auspicious start as they beat Lamar, a team playing their first game since restarting FB program by just 3. After an expected rout at the hands of Missouri, they were humbled at home by Cal Poly. After splitting the next 2 gms they limited LSU to just 282 total yds in a 32-10 loss. The "moral victory" ignited the Cowboys as they won four straight. In the finale with a conference title and a playoff berth at stake they fell behind 21-0 early before nearly completing the comeback in a 28-24 loss at Central Arkansas. Last year with just 4 starters back the off avg'd just 22 ppg and 343 ypg. They again have just 4 str's back but all 4 earned All-SLC honors plus they add a VHT QB. On defense they return just 5 str's but 4 were All-SLC. Keep in mind just 2 years ago the Cowboys returned a total of 9 str's and went 9-3 and this year I look for them to be improved and contend for another SLC championship.

STADIUM: COWBOY STADIUM (17,410) (#36) PLAYING SURFACE: ARTIFICIAL (Geomax 2)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	9Yr Total
Straight Up	13-2	10-2	4-7	5-4	7-5	11-1	7-4	9-3	6-5	72-33
Home	8-0	5-1	2-3	4-0	4-2	6-1	3-2	6-1	3-2	41-12
Away	5-2	5-1	2-4	1-4	3-3	5-0	4-2	3-2	3-3	31-21
Playoffs	3-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-0	3-6
Conf	6-0	5-0	1-4	3-3	5-1	7-0	4-3	6-1	5-2	42-14
Non Conf	7-2	5-2	3-3	2-1	2-4	4-1	3-1	3-2	1-3	30-19

2010 STATISTICAL LEADERS

	ATT	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	AVG	PLAYER	TKL	SKS	TFL	PBU	INT
RUSHING												
Andre Anderson	172	906	51	855	5	5.0	Deron Minor	111	1.5	3	1	0
Marcus Wiltz	74	320	3	317	3	4.3	Darrel Jenkins	78	1	3	5	0
Champlain Babin	65	313	33	280	2	4.3	Jeremy Pilate	70	1	7	1	0
Dionta Spencer	35	156	29	127	1	3.6	Desmond Lighten	65	4	3.5	1	0
Bernardo Henry	6	82	0	82	0	13.7	Malcolm Bronson	58	0	1	6	5
Jacob Bower	37	115	58	57	4	1.5	Joe Narcisse	48	2.5	0	0	0
Blake Barousse	7	37	0	37	0	5.3	Ford Smesny	47	1	3	2	0
Cody Stoud	25	70	65	5	1	0.2	Kentrell Butler	43	2	1	0	2
PASSING												
Jacob Bower	199	113	56.8	1476	8	9	Josh Ellison	38	5	2	1	0
Cody Stoud	110	63	57.7	586	3	4	Brandon Robinson	36	1.5	1	3	2
RECEIVING												
Damion Dixon	21	289	13.8	2	44		Seth Thomas	35	0	3	8	0
Bernardo Henry	9	261	29.0	1	77		London Durham	31	0	1	0	0
Wes Briscoe	19	260	13.7	3	27		Nick Toti	31	0	1	0	0
Corday Clark	30	241	8.0	1	25		Jace Peterson	30	2	2	2	0
Chris Royal	18	212	11.8	0	33		Devin Holland	27	1	4	4	0
Andre Anderson	21	185	8.8	0	26		Terrance Freeman	26	0	2.5	1	0
Dionta Spencer	12	175	14.6	0	78		Michael Ware	21	0	0	0	0
Champlain Babin	15	107	7.1	1	30		Jarron Jackson	20	0	0	4	2
Marcus Wiltz	8	92	11.5	1	21		Brandon Zanders	17	0	1	0	0
PUNTING												
Ben Bourgeois	55	2033	37.0	21	32.9(1)	0	Damion Aultman	17	0	2	1	0
KICKING												
XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	10-16	LONG	Dionta Spencer	7	60	8.6	0	0
Josh Lewis	26-29	6-6	4-4	2-5	1-1	13-16	Malcolm Bronson	20	398	19.9	0	0
							Bernardo Henry	14	358	25.6	1	0

OFFENSE - LAST 7 YEARS - DEFENSE

RET STS	OFF PTS	TOTAL OFF	OFF RUSH	OFF YPC	PASS %	OFF YPP	SKS VS	TOTAL TURN	RET STS	DEF PTS	TOTAL DEF	DEF RUSH	DEF YPC	DEF PASS %	DEF YPP	SKS VS		
4	21.9	343	154	3.8	189	56.7	15.6	19 -3	2010	10	24.9	343	113	3.5	230	60.6	13.8	17
6*	35.0	433	218	5.6	215	64.8	12.4	15 +3	2009	3	27.3	359	160	4.2	199	59.2	13.2	18
7*	37.5	464	228	5.1	236	61.0	12.4	14 +6	2008	5	29.3	351	119	3.9	232	57.1	12.0	25
10*	35.2	432	209	4.8	223	61.2	12.3	15 +17	2007	7	18.3	377	153	3.8	224	55.7	20.6	26
8	25.2	323	169	4.4	154	53.4	12.8	16 +12	2006	10	22.6	338	171	4.3	167	57.6	15.0	27
4	24.6	318	108	2.9	209	48.6	12.9	15 +4	2005	6	31.9	387	182	4.1	204	56.9	12.1	23
5	23.8	366	159	3.3	207	58.7	15.4	17 +19	2004	4	38.5	378	160	4.6	218	52.4	9.8	8

OFFENSE

2010 STATS BY GAME

DEFENSE

MSU 2010	ATT	OPPONENT	FD	Rush-YDS	AVG	CO-ATT	YDS	SKS	VS	FD	Rush-YDS	AVG	CO-ATT	YDS	SKS	BY	TURN
19,235	Lamar	23	44-187	4.3	18-31	292	2	16	20-10	0.5	24-42	426	1	-1			
55,582	at Missouri	18	33-65	2.0	21-31	180	3	21	30-193	6.4	32-39	245	1	-3			
11,958	Cal Poly	13	29-52	1.8	13-28	241	1	20	65-310	4.8	7-12	77	0	-4			
7,848	at Northwestern St	23	49-174	3.6	20-28	240	1	14	27-67	2.5	17-30	200	3	+2			
13,284	Stephen F Austin	18	47-131	2.8	21-30	151	4	21	19-35	1.8	29-52	339	2	-1			
92,576	at LSU	11	34-101	3.0	15-32	118	2	19	41-179	4.4	14-22	103	3	0			
5,720	at SE Louisiana	17	37-95	2.6	17-33	192	3	19	31-137	4.4	20-39	224	0	+2			
13,012	Nicholls St	20	50-292	5.8	12-21	112	0	11	31-83	2.7	15-22	152	2	0			
4,228	at Sam Houston St	22	41-158	3.9	15-30	281	2	14	25-107	4.3	21-36	301	1	+3			
11,363	Texas St	18	42-295	7.0	7-12	77	0	12	42-65	1.5	14-27	170	2	+1			
5,466	at C Arkansas	24	40-142	3.6	18-36	192	1	12	23-59	2.6	22-34	291	2	-2			
TOTALS	207	446-1692	3.8	177-312	2076	19	179	354-1245	3.5	215-355	2528	17	-3				
AVERAGES	18.8	41-154	3.8	16-28	189	1.7	16	32-113	3.5	20-32	230	1.5	-0.3				

2005 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Georgia Southern	23-20
at Southern Miss	20-48
Texas Southern	46-28
at Stephen F Austin	33-23
at SE Louisiana	13-37
Sam Houston St	31-26
at Texas St	7-49
Northwestern St	22-17
at Nicholls St	26-39

2006 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at USF	10-41
West Virginia Tech	76-0
at Toledo	7-41
South Dakota St	17-20
Southern Utah	30-27
Texas St	17-27
at Stephen F Austin	20-17
at Sam Houston St	31-18
SE Louisiana	34-13
at Northwestern St (OT)	29-26
Nicholls St	26-10
at Montana	6-31

2007 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
Portland St	35-12
at Louisiana	38-17
at Southern Utah	41-20
South Dakota	31-7
at Texas St	41-20
Sam Houston St	31-21
at Nicholls St	28-7
SE Louisiana	45-17
at Stephen F Austin	49-20
Northwestern St	27-21
Central Arkansas	41-14
Eastern Washington	15-44

2008 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at North Carolina	27-35
Delta St	52-27
Southern Virginia	63-7
at South Dakota St (OT)	46-44
Texas St	42-45
at Sam Houston St	28-17
Nicholls St	35-38
at SE Louisiana	24-14
Stephen F Austin	42-31
at Northwestern St	24-17
at Central Arkansas	30-47

2009 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
Henderson St	27-24
at Appalachian St	40-35
Savannah St	56-0
at Tulane	32-42
at Stephen F Austin	13-16
Northwestern St	51-23
SE Louisiana	36-35
at Nicholls St	38-17
Sam Houston St	63-42
at Texas St	30-27
Central Arkansas	21-17
New Hampshire	13-49