

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2012

OUARTERBACKS-In '09 1st time starting QB Kyle Parker (PS#31) stepped in for the departed Cullen Harper (2601, 61%, 13-14, banged up) and broke Charlie Whitehurst's ('02) frosh passing rec¹s with 2,526 (56%, 20-12, 135 rush). In 10 there was a big question if he would return (#1DC MLB). He didn't make a decision until July and VHT Tajh Boyd (PS#8) benefitted from the extra work over the summer. Much like Harper, Parker was banged up and his stats dropped (2213, 58%, 12-11, 28 rush). Boyd ply'd in just 7 (329, 52%, 4-3). LY I had big expectations for Tajh Boyd. He had a great start and while he slumped a little at the end (9 int L/6 gm), he still threw for 3,828 (218 rush) setting CU single season records for pass yds, ttl off, pass td (already #5 all-time at CU) and td's responsible for (ACC rec 38). He was the 1st CU QB to lead the ACC in pass and ttl off in the same vr s/57 and tied a schl record for most wins by a 1st yr st'r. True frosh Cole Stoudt (PS#40) played in 6 (115 vds), TY Tony McNeal (6'0" 195 rFr. PS#34) is likely OFY (ACL spg gm) while VHT true Fr Chad Kelly (PS#12) looks to make an immediate impact. It will be interesting to see if Boyd can avoid what has been a 2nd year jinx for CU QB's. **RUNNING BACKS**-CU had the "Thunder and Lightning"

duo of James Davis (PS#21) and CJ Spiller (PS#10) from '06-'08. Davis (#6 DC) finished as the #2 car rusher (1st CU RB #1 rush each of his 4Y). Spiller set an ACC rec (#2 FBS) with 7,588 car all-purp yds and departed after '09 (#1 DC). In '10 Andre Ellington (PS#37) was the most effective back but started just 6 (inj, 686, 5.8). Jamie Harper (PS#31) led with 760 but only a 3.9 ypc. LY they had to replace Harper (7 st, #4DC) but expectations were high for true frosh Mike Bellamy (PS#6). While he didn't get his first carry until the 4Q vs Troy, he had the longest first carry for a CU player (75 yd td). Ellington had a career high 212 (8.8) vs MD then was inj'd and had just 5 yds on 7 att vs NC. He missed GT (CU lost) but finished with 1,178 (5.3) and Bellamy only had 343 (6.0). RFr DJ Howard (PS#61) had 230 (5.6). Roderick McDowell (5'9" 190 Jr, PS#30) has 224 (4.9) over 2Y. They lose solid blocking FB Chad Diehl (2 st) but

have perhaps the ACC's top RB corps.

It is a corps.

In '10 CU had to replace their top 2 WR's (#4DC). They lacked a breakaway threat at WR, allowing defenses to shrink the field. DeAndre "Nuke" Hopkins (PS#23) is 6'1" with huge hands and led with 637 (12.3) incl a CU bowl record 9 rec's becoming the 1st ever true frosh to lead CU in rec. TE Dwayne Allen was #3 (373, 11.3) and WR Jaron Brown

little speed the offense had and prepped the frosh class to push the vets. LY they ret'd 7 of the top 8 and got the huge addition of 6'1" true frosh Sammy Watkins (PS#3) who is a hard worker with blazing speed. Watkins finished with a CU record 1,219 (14.9) playing 13 (inj) and setting a CU rec for the quickest 1st career td scored at :26 (Terry Allen 8:53). Hopkins benefitted from this keying on Watkins and finished #2 (978, 13.6). Allen took home the John Mackey Award (nation's Top TE, 598, 12.0) and Brown added 406 (13.1). True frosh Martavis Bryant (PS#19) had 221 (24.6). TY they lose Allen (#3DC IND) but the WR's still make this one of the finer units in the country

OFFENSIVE LINE- Clemson has not had an OL drafted in the 1st 3 NFL rounds s/79. When Swinney took over, he wanted a larger O-line and they had the biggest OL in the ACC in '09 avg 315 lbs. It was a unit with 71 car sts and CU improved to 170 ypg rush (4.8, 19 sk). In '10 they had 4 ret sts (did lose RB Spiller) but slipped to 139 ypg (4.0, 18 sk). LY they had to replace a 1st Tm ACC LT but had 9 of the top 10 back (118 car sts), with all 5 st'rs being VHT's. I called it their best O-line s/'06 (5.7 ypc, 15 sk). Surprisingly they rushed for just 159 ypg (4.2) and all'd 33 sks (6.3%). OL Coach Robbie Caldwell prefers to put his best athlete at C and Dalton Freeman earned 1st Tm ACC. One ret st'r, David Smith did lose his job after an inj (4 st). TY they lose a comb 3,363 plays from LY's OL incl 3rd Tm ACC RT Landon Walker (PS#39, 14 st, 4Y st'r), LT Phillip Price (13 st), RG Antoine McClain (14 st, 3Y str), Mason Cloy (1 st) and Smith. They drop to 48 car sts but should match LY's underachieving numbers.

DEFENSIVE LINE-In '10 Da'Quan Bowers exploded with 15.5 sks and 10.5 tfl as CU improved to allowing 128 ypg rush (3.5). LY they had to replace 1st Tm AA Bowers (#2DC) and 1st Tm ACC DT Jarvis Jenkins (#2DC, 315 lbs). They had 2 st'rs ret and as you would expect had weaker rush numbers (177 ypg, 4.4, 24 sk). DE Kourtnei Brown had an IR and FR td, the first time a DL scored twice since Walt Laraway (1954). This year they lose 2nd Tm AA Andre Branch (85 tkl, 10.5 sk, 17 gbh. #2DC JAX), 1st Tm ACC NG Brandon Thompson (13 st, 77 tkl, 8 tfl, 18 qbh, #3DC CIN), DT Rennie Moore (12 st, 58 tkl, 4 sk, 18 qbh) and DE Brown (25 tkl, 2 sk). A DE from CU has led the ACC in sks each of the L/2Y. Even with just 1

st'r back, CU could improve upon that 4.4 ypc.

LINEBACKERS-In'11 the Tigers had to replace Brandon Maye (8 st, inj, 43 tkl) but had 5 of the top 6 back. While the ret sts were just the #3, #15 and #18 tkl'rs, they added the best set of true frosh LB's in the country in PS#2 Tony Steward, PS#3 Stephone Anthony and PS#18 Lateek Townsend. Townsend had 16 tkls and Anthony st'd 3 (32 tkl). Steward was OFY after 5 gms and denied a RS. Their 3 st'rs were the #3, #5 and #12 tkl'rs. After allowing 70 pts in the bowl, the Tigers yielded 29.3 ppg on the yr. DC Brent Venables takes over and this unit should thrive under his tutelage. I look for much bigger years from the 3 true soph's and the unit only loses a bkp (5

tkl) and is one of the ACC's top LB corps.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - Heading into '10 CU had finished #14, #25, #22, #24, #21 and #15 in my PDR. In '10 they had to replace both CB's who st'd 40 consec gms together (4018 pl 3Y) DeAndre McDaniel (tied CU record w/8 int '09) turned down the NFL and they moved FS Marcus Gilchrist to CB. It was still surprising to see CU drop to #39. LY they had to replace 3 st'rs (#2, #6DC's) incl 1st Tm ACC SS McDaniel. CU dropped to #71 (58.3%, 26-14) TY they lose CB Coty Sensabaugh (14 st, 40 tkl, 14 pd, #4DC TEN) plus 3 bkps (22 tkl). They have 7 back who started LY and I look for significant improvement from the CU pass D.

SPECIAL TEAMS - CU has finished #32, #7, #104, #31, #75, #45, #14, #24 and #34 in my ST rankings the L9Y. LY they (PS#99) was #2 (405, 12.7). OC Chad Morris was surprised how had to replace their top KR and PR but ret'd P Dawson Zim-

merman (38.2 tm net) and K Chandler Catanzaro (PS#28) who only hit 14-22 (L48) as a rFr. Catanzaro opened with 3 FG of 45+ vs Troy (2nd ply'r CU hist, 1st Mark Buchholz '08). Spencer Benton had 12TB on 54 KO but was inj'd vs VT and Zimmerman and Catanzaro comb for 1 TB on 37 KO. Catanzaro improved to 22-27 (L47) setting a CU record for K pts. Sammy Watkins was an explosive KR (25.0). TY they lose P Zimmerman (35.5 tm net) but should improve on LY's 6.9 PR avg.

COACHES - Tommy Bowden was HC for 10 yrs here. In '08 CU was the preseason ACC favorite and he was fired after a 3-3 start. Then WR cch Dabo Swinney surprisingly got the interim job, was named the permanent HC and led them to the Gator Bowl. Swinney is in his 10th yr here overall. LY he brought home CU's 1st Nat'l COY Awd s/81 (Bobby Dodd). Chad Morris is in his 2nd ssn as OC. He was a successful TX HS coach (82% win) and was Tulsa's OC in '10 (41 ppg). They let go 3Y DC Kevin Steele and opened their pocketbook making Brent Venables one of the nation's highest paid DC's (DC Okla s/99). No other BCS school has 2 coor's that comb to make more than the HC.

ALSO ON ROSTER:

PHIL'S FORECAST

Tommy Bowden went through many ebbs and flows. They were in the Top 15 six times, but finished ranked just 4 times. In '09 CU was unranked in the preseason but my magazine was the only major publication to call for them to win the Atlantic (picked as low as 4th by others). CU got to their first ever ACC Title gm but lost to GT by 5. After beating UK in the Music City Bowl, they finished #24. In '10 they had to replace RB Spiller and WR Ford (their most dangerous weapons) and veteran senior QB Parker had a down yr. They did lead eventual Nat'l Champ Auburn 17-3 at half but lost in OT and were a very disappointing 6-7. LY CU had 14 ret sts and were coming off a rare losing season where they had 4 net close losses. Naturally, they made my Most Improved List and the Tigers nearly had a dream season. They were picked 4th or 5th by many but I had them 2nd in the Atlantic. After lackluster wins vs Troy and Wofford they knocked off defending Nat'l Champ Auburn 38-24, snapping AU's 17 gm win streak. They caught Fla St off their big gm vs #1 Okla and w/o their QB. CU won again and for the 2nd straight week the fans charged the field. It was a great situation for VT as it was the first road game for CU plus were off 2 emotional wins, but CU kept the streak going and set an ACC record with their 3rd str win over a ranked foe. They had a letdown spot vs BC but won by 22. They actually trailed MD 38-24 in the 3Q but rallied for a 56-45 win. After beating NC 59-38 (1st time CU hist w/ B2B gms of 56+ pts), their Nat I Title hopes went out the window when they lost at GT w/o RB Ellington (2 fumbles by RB's). They got past WF 31-28 (trailed 28-14) with a walk-off 43 yd FG to člinch the div. In a letdown spot and w/o Watkins they were upset by NCSt, 37-13. SC had the situational edge (CU ACC Title on deck) and whipped them 34-13. Despite their earlier 20 pt win over VT, Clemson was a td underdog in the ACC Title gm but won their first ACC Title s/'91 with a dominating 38-10 win. A 99 yd FR td turned the momentum in the bowl and they ended up embarrassed by WV, 70-33 (their 4th loss in final 6) CU overcame a 14 pt deficit 3 times to earn a victory (just 9 times in 115 yrs prior). They racked up their 1st DD win ssn and 1st undefeated ssn at home s/'90. New OC Morris helped them improve from 335 ypg to 441 and TY, despite the loss of 3 OL's, he has Boyd, Ellington and Watkins back and should be explosive again. They have 14 ret sts but do have to play Fla St on the road and my 2 main sets of power ratings have CU 11-1 with their lone loss being that gm.

OFFENSE IN PURPLE

2012 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

JERSEY # **DEFENSE** IN PURPLE

QB 10 TAJH BOYD JR. Chad Kelly PS#12. 8 Cole Stoudt (6'4" 200 So) PS#40. 6 gm, 115 (57%, 0-0) LY. Morgan Roberts (6'2" 200 rFr) PS#171. 10.14 st, 767 pl (most by DL in CU hist), 59 tkl, 4 tfl, 14 qbh LY. Shaq Lawson (6'3" 240) PS#63. Martin Aiken PS#47. RB 23 ANDRE ELLINGTON SR. 5-10 190 PS#37.491 (7.2) rFr. 6 st (inj), 686 (5.8) 10.13 st, 1178 (5.3), 2nd Tm ACC LY. NG 50 Grady Jarrett So. 5 Mike Bellamy (510" 190 So) PS#6. 12 gm, 343 (6.0) true. 22 DJ Howard (511" 195 So) PS#61. 2 st, 12 gm, 230 (5.6) rFr. So) PS#134. 9 gm, 7 tkl rFr. 96 Jeron WR 18 JARON BROWN SR. 6-2 200 PS#99.11 gm, 30 (10.0) rFr. 10 st, 12 gm, 405 (12.7) '10.12 st, 406 (13.1) LY. DT 99 DeShawn Williams So. 19 Charone Peake (6'3" 205 So) PS#6. 71 (17.8) true. FB 84 Darrell Smith (6'2" 245 Jr) PS#50TE. 24 gm 2Y. TE/FB spg. WR 6 DeANDRE HOPKINS JR. 6-1 212 PS#23. 8 st. 637 (12.3), 3rd Tm Fr AA true. 11 st. 978 (13.6) LY. DE 93 Corey Crawford So. 1 Martavis Bryant (6'5" 205 So) PS#19. 2 st. 14 gm, 221 (24.6) true. Germone Hopper (6'0" 170 Fr) PS#14. (6'3" 235 So) PS#31TE. 9 gm, WR 2 SAMMY WATKINS SO. 6-1 200 PS#3.10 st (inj), 656 pl, 1219 (14.9), 231 rush (7.2), 33 KR (25.0), 89 yd SLB 7 TONY STEWARD SO. KR td, ACC RPOY, 1st Tm AA all-purp true. 16 Adam Humphries (6'0" 190 So) PS#120. 2 st, 258 pl, 130 (8.7) true. TE 80 Brandon Ford Sr. (6'4' 265 rFr) PS#8.86 Sam Cooper (6'4' 240 So) PS#64. 14 gm, 54 pl rFr. 81 Stanton Seckinger (6'5" 200 rFr) PS#141.

215 So) PS#18. 10 gm, 16 tkl true

C 55 DALTON FREEMAN SR. 6-5 285 PS#27.22 st, 1358 pl 2Y.14 st, 1044 pl, 1stTm ACC LY. Jay Guillermo

PS#58. IFS. 58 Ryan Norton (6'3" 285 rFr) PS#79. LS 52 Phillip Fajgenbaum (6'0" 220 Jr). 5 gm rFr. 14 gm LY.

220 Sr) PS#75. 14 gm, 10 tkl rFr. 2 st, RG 62 Tyler Shatley Jr. OG spg '12.74 Spencer Region (6'4" 370 rFr) PS#45.77 Reid Webster (6'4" 295 So) PS#110.6 gm, 33 pl rFr. 6-5 335 **PS#58.** IFS but back surg, RS '10.12 gm, 49 pl (mostly ST's) rFr. Impres-LG 67 Kalon Davis So. sive spg '12. 68 David Beasley (6'4" 315 So) PS#105.5 gm, 30 pl rFr. 65 Oliver Jones (6'6" 320 Fr) PS#72. IFS. RT 70 Gifford Timothy So. 6-6 315 PS#181. 7 gm, 45 pl rFr. MIP OL Awd spg '12. 73 Joe Gore (6'6' 260 rFr) PS#70DL. OFÝ (knee) LY. Pushing Timothy for starting spot spg '12. 71 Patrick DeStefano PS#46. IFS. 210 Sr) PS#182. 1 st, 34 tkl 2Y. 10 st, 14 gm, 744 pl, 61 tkl, 3 int LY. 36 Jerrodd Williams (6'0" 205 Jr) PS#171. VT trans. LT 63 BRANDON THOMAS JR. 6-3 300 PS#54.10 gm, 126 pl, 4 kd rFr. 10 st (9 LG, 1 LT), 13 gm, 777 pl, 39 kd FS 9 XAVIER BREWER SR. LY. Can play OG or OT. 79 Isaiah Battle (6'7" 265 Fr) PS#105. GS '11. IFS. 76 Shaq Anthony (6'4" 275 rFr) PS#56. pd LY. 11 Travis Blanks PS#9. IFS. 39 CHANDLER CATANZARO JR. 6-2 200 PS#28. 14-22 FG, L/48, 1 blk, 34-34 PAT rFr. 22-27 FG, L/47, 52-53 P PAT, 2nd Tm ACC, Groza semi LY, CU rec'd 71.4% from 40+ in career. 36 Ammon Lakip (5'10" 185 rFr) PS#34. 195 Sr). 1-1 FG, 4-7 PAT, 87 KO, 7 TB rFr. 64 KO, 3 TB '10.54 KO, 12 TB, opp's failed to cross 20 on 23 of his KO's LY.

6-1 225 PS#8.7 gm, 329 (52%, 4-3) rFr. 14 st, 3828 (60%, 33-12), 1stTm ACC LY. DE 97 MALLICIAH GOODMAN SR. 6-4 280 PS#5. 14 gm, 329 pl, 31 tkl, 5 tfl true. 1 st DE, 13 gm, 343 pl, 32 tkl, 3 tfl NG 50 Grady Jarrett So. 6-0 295 PS#121.9 gm, 2 tkl, 1 qbh true. MIP DT Awd spg '12.6 Tavaris Barnes (64* 270 So) PS#134.9 gm, 7 tkl rFr. 96 Jerome Maybank (64* 345 rFr) PS#115. 98 Kevin Dodd (6'5* 277 Fr) PS#207. Hargrave LY. IFS. 6-1 290 PS#93.1 st, 14 gm, 20 tkl, 2 tfl true. Carlos Watkins (6'4" 275 Fr) PS#21. 91 Josh Watson (6'4" 290 So) PS#132.5 gm, 2 qbh rFr. 95 Tra Thomas (6'0" 290 So) PS#187.2 gm, 1 tkl rFr. 6-5 280 PS#99. GS '10. 14 gm, 29 tkl, 2 tfl, 252 pl, 2 pbu true. 3 Vic Beasley (6'3" 235 So) PS#31TE. 9 gm, 2 tkl, 16 pl rfr. **92** Roderick Byers (6'3" 275 rfr) PS#147. Josh Brown PS#131.

SLB **7 TONY STEWARD SO.**6-1 245 **PS#2**.5 gm (inj), 5 tkl true. **34 Quandon Christian** (6'2" 220 Jr) PS#113.

7 st, 13 gm, 24 tkl, 1.5 tfl rfr. 7 st, 36 tkl LY. **8** Justin Parker (6'1" 225 Jr) **PS#48**. 9 gm, 9 tkl true. 14 gm, 10 tkl LY. 6-4 235 PS#97.82 (7.5) '09-'10.1 st, 14 gm, 222 pl, 166 (11.9) LY.88 Eric Mac Lain MLB 12 STEPHONE ANTHONY SO. 6-3 235 PS#3.3 st, 13 gm, 292 pl, 32 tkl, 6fl true. 20 Lateek Townsend (6'2' '4' 240 So) PS#64. 14 gm, 54 pl rFr. 81 Stanton Seckinger (6'5" 200 rFr) PS#141. 215 So) PS#18. 10 gm, 16 tkl true. 33 Spencer Shuey (6'3" 250 Jr) PS#249. 9 gm, 9 tkl rFr. 14 gm, 27 tkl LY. 5-11 230 PS#50. 14 st, 90 tkl '09-'10. 11 st, 80 tkl, 5 tfl LY. 46 Jonathan Willard (6'2' 220 Sr) PS#75. 14 gm, 10 tkl rFr. 2 st, 12 gm, 27 tkl '10. 11 st, 14 gm, 75 tkl, 4 pbu LY. 44 BJ Goodson (6'1" 235 rFr) PS#155. 6-3 295 PS#74RB. 12 gm, 11 tkl, 1.5 tfl rFr. 2 st DL, 14 gm, 30 tkl, 2 qbh LY. CB 17 BASHAUD BREELAND SO. 6-0 185 PS#59. 4.4 spd, hands like a WR. 7 st (6 CB, 1 NB), 14 gm, 643 pl, 53 tkl, 6 pd rFr. 26 Garry Peters (5'11" 190 So) PS#34. 11 gm, 6 tkl rFr. Cordrea Tankersley (6'1" 190 Fr) PS#48.

CB 21 Darius Robinson Jr. 5-11 170 PS#56.7 gm, 2 tkl true. 6 st (2 CB, 4 NB), 11 gm, 346 pl, 18 tkl, 1 int LY.

14 Martin Jenkins (5'9" 175 Jr) PS#285. 11 gm, 9 tkl true. 3 st NB, 304 pl, 27 tkl LY. 24 Cortez Davis (6'3" 195 rFr) PS#42. SS 31 RASHARD HALL SR. 6-1 210 PS#246.19 st, 128 tkl, 13 pd 2Y. 12 st, 89 tkl, 3 pd LY. 5 Jonathan Meeks (6'1 5-11 190 PS#73. 15 tkl rFr. 10 st, 13 gm, 54 tkl, 10 pd 10. 13 st, 771 pl, 60 tkl, 8 Starting NB post-spg. **27** Robert Smith (5'11" 210 So) PS#97. 1 st, 9 tkl true. 6-5 220 **PS#**6. IFS. 1st CU K to earn *USA Today* AA s/ 92 Bradley Pinion Fr.

at Marvland

at NC State

at Georgia Tech Wake Forest

at †

10-16

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North Carolina

South Carolina

Virginia Tech

Georgia Tech

at Boston College

NC State -

at Wake Forest

South Carolina - #18

Miami, FI - #8
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Florida St

Virginia South Carolina

Georgia Tech -

NC State

at

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Georgia Tech

at Florida St -

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at Maryland

Wake Forest

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