

STANFORD CARDINAL



LG David Yankey

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2012

QUARTERBACKS - I'm on the phone with Gil Brandt in 2009 and we're talking QB's. Gil says, "You know who the best QB in college football is right now?" I greatly respect Gil's evaluation and asked, "Who?" When he said "Andrew Luck" he surprised me. In his first year as a starter, Luck had decent numbers throwing for 2,575 (56%, 13-4) with RB Toby Gerhart in the backfield. Three years later, Luck is the first pick in the NFL draft, much like Brandt opined. He leaves as Stanford's all-time leader in career wins and the Cardinal has now had 26 QB's drafted incl #1 overall DC's Bobby Barrett, Jim Plunkett and John Elway. In '10 Luck took more of the tm on his shoulders and threw for 3,338 (P10 rec 70.7%, 32-8). His 453 net yds rush were the most in a single ssn by an SU QB (Gene Washington, 362 in '66). Luck (P10 OPOY, 2nd Tm AA) then surprised everyone and turned down the NFL. Luck was the pre-season Heisman favorite and had a fine yr throwing for 3,517, (71.3%, 37-10, 150 rush, #1DC IND, Heisman runner-up for 2nd str yr). He topped Elway's 4Y record of 77 td passes by throwing for 82 td's in just 3Y. Three QB's battled for the bkp spot as Brett Nottingham (PS#14) played in 6 (8 att), Robbie Picazo (6'3" 211 Jr) played in 1 (3 att) while Josh Nunes (PS#17) DNP (4 gm, 2 att '10). After this spg the QB race seems to be between Nottingham and Nunes. Naturally, I expect a significant drop off in the QB numbers with a unit that has only 13 car att's.

RUNNING BACKS - In my '08 magazine I called for Toby Gerhart (140 yds '07) to have the highest rushing total for a SU RB since Tommy Vardell (1084, '91). Gerhart did not let me down, setting the school rec with 1,136 (5.4). In '09 Gerhart finished #2 in the closest Heisman race in history, rushing for an FBS best 1,871 (5.5) and an amazing 28 td's. In '10 they had to replace Gerhart (#2DC) and the top ret RB was soph Stepan Taylor (PS#36, 303, 5.4 in '09). Taylor led with 1,137 (5.1, SU's 2nd best total ever) and was the #5 rec (266, 9.5). Good-sized true frosh Anthony Wilkerson (PS#22) rushed for 408 (4.6) while Tyler Gaffney had 255 (4.2). LY the only loss was FB Owen Marecic (#4DC). Gaffney (PS#13) was used as the team's Wildcat QB (#2 rusher, 449, 6.1). Taylor set an SU bowl rec with 177 and led with 1,330 (5.5). TY they only lose Jeremy Stewart (257, 4.7). Wilkerson (6'1" 215 Jr) was inj'd in spg but Ricky Seale (5'9" 201 So, PS#38) had a great session and Remound Wright (5'9" 200 Jr, PS#25) adds depth while Gaffney is proj'd to be a high DC in the MLB Draft and may leave. Bkp FB Geoff Meinken is 256 lbs and has drawn comparisons to NFL'ers John Riggins and Larry Csonka. This unit has more exp and OC Pep Hamilton said the RB-by-committee will be dropped as he feels Taylor is the best RB in the country.

RECEIVERS - In both '09 and '10 Luck had basically his entire receiving corps back and they were highly productive. LY he had to replace his top 2 WR's (comb 1296 yds, 13.1). The top returnee was TE Coby Fleener (434, 15.5) and game breaking WR Chris Owusu (396, 15.8). They had the best group of TE's in the country with Fleener, soph Zach Ertz (PS#9) and Levine Toilolo (PS#5). HC David Shaw said one of the main tasks he had was to keep Owusu healthy but after suffering at least his 3rd conc in 2Y, he made only 7 sts (376, 10.7) and saw his SU career end with 3 gms remaining in the reg season. Griff Whalen (249, 14.6 '10) led with 749 (13.4) while Fleener was #2 (667, 19.6). Ertz was #5 (346, 12.8, out 3 w/inj) and Toilolo #6 (343, 13.7). TY they lose Owusu, Whalen (10 st) and Fleener (5 st, #2DC IND). Rfr Kelsey Young (PS#29RB) was a big surprise this spg and can play at WR, RB or CB. This unit is close to LY in terms of exp but after losing their top 3 rec's (comb 1792, 14.3) and having a new QB, they might be down a notch or two.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In '10 SU had to replace a 1st Tm P10 RT but had 4 st's back. The unit paved the way for 214 ypg rush (5.2) and allowed just 6 sks (FBS best 1.6%). LY they had to replace a 1st Tm AA C, 2nd Tm P10 LG and had just 2 st's back. Those 2 were a great foundation to build on in David DeCastro (#1DC PIT) and Jonathan Martin (#2DC MIA) who just missed being the 12th OL teammates s/'67 to each be #1DC's! The Cardinal rushed for 211 ypg (5.3, 11 sk, 2.6%). SU's OL has created holes for the top 3 rush totals in sch hist in each of the L3Y all'g just 24 tkl sks in that span. TY they have 3 st's back and add in PS#2, PS#4 and PS#7 true frosh but go from 50 car sts to 37 while having to replace their 2 stars and with a young QB, expect the unit to take more sks.

DEFENSIVE LINE - SU allowed 4.9 ypc in '06, their worst in over 2 decades. SU switched to a 4 man front in '07 and showed improvement each of the next 3 yrs going from 169 ypg allowed to 153 and 138 in '09. In '10 they had to replace 1 st'r and 2 bkps (#7DC) and moved a starting DE to OLB in their new 3-4 D (1 st'r back). SU allowed just 121 ypg with their 3.9 ypc the best s/'04 (36 sk). LY SU had to replace 2 st's (#3DC) but still led the P12 in rush D (84 ypg, 3.0) and was #2 in sks (39) as well as in tfl (89). TY they lose DE Matthew Masifilo (13 st, 34 tkl, 2.5 sk) but have 2 st's back in 1st Tm P12 DE Ben Gardner (4.5 sk) and the strongest player on the tm in Terrence Stephens (11 tkl), who often occupies two blockers.

LINEBACKERS - In '10 the Cardinal ret'd PS#11 Shayne Skov (#3 tkl'r true) as well as their #6, #7 and #10 tkl'rs. SU all'd just 17.4 ppg, their best s/'92. LY they had to replace 2 st's (#5, #9 tkl'r) and a bkp (21 tkl) but still returned their #1 and #2 tkl'rs. Chase Thomas was unblockable in Aug and it showed as he had 8.5 sks and 9 tfl (3rd Tm AA) but Skov tore his ACL in Wk 3 leaving a large hole. Surprisingly James Vaughters (PS#9), who Shaw mentioned already looked like a veteran in Aug, had just 11 tkl's. SU all'd 21.9 ppg. TY they lose Max Bergen (5 st, 32 tkl, 1.5 sk) but look to have their top 6 LB's back (Blake Lueders is ?) incl Skov and this looks like one of the P12's best LB corps.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - Despite not having a winning record from '02-'06, Stanford performed well in my PDR finishing #37, #36, #20, #68 and #45. In Harbaugh's first 3 seasons, they dropped to #74, #88 and #97 in '09. In '10 they only had to replace 1 st'r and I called for their best finish in at least 4 yrs. The Cardinal rose to #16, their best s/'96. LY they had to replace 1 st'r (#5DC) and 2 bkps (6 st, 67 tkl) but did return 2nd Tm P10 SS Delano Howell (PS#27). I said that while they were equal to '10 in terms of exp, with the loss of their top cover CB, they would probably drop after their unusually high finish and SU slipped to #36 (61.7%, 18-7). OFSU's 7 tfl int's, only 3 came from CB's. TY they lose 1st Tm P12 Howell (10 st, t-4 tkl'r, 4 pbu),

FS Michael Thomas (13 st, 66 tkl, 3 int, 5 pbu) and CB Johnson Bademosi (13 st, 48 tkl, 7 pbu). SU returns 1 st'r along with 3 who had 3+ sts LY. They add in rfr Wayne Lyons (PS#10) who Shaw called a physical freak who ply'd 2 gms then RS (inj) LY. This unit is less exp'd and will likely drop a 2nd str yr.

SPECIAL TEAMS - In '06 SU finished just #11 in my ST rankings but in Harbaugh's first 3 yrs they improved to #27, #19 and #2. In '10 they dropped to #40. LY they only had to replace their K but then top KR Chris Owusu (24.3) had just 8 KR (inj). Stanford slipped a bit more to #43. Jordan Williamson hit 13-19 FG (L45) but missed 3 w/inj and Eric Whitaker hit 4-5 (L37). P Daniel Zychlinski handled most of the duties in '10 (tm net 36.8) but lost his job to David Green who avg 41.7 (tm net 36.2). True frosh TY Montgomery (PS#44) avg 25.2 on KR while Drew Terrell had 12.0 on PR. TY everyone but Green is back and SU has the opportunity to move up in my ST rankings.

COACHES - Jim Harbaugh took over in 2007 after a 1-11 season and improved SU's record each year before departing for the NFL after a 12-1 season. David Shaw is the 5th alum to be HC here ('94 grad, 4L at WR). Shaw was the OC here since '07 and spent the previous 9 years as an NFL of asst (PHI, OAK, BAL). OC Pep Hamilton was the WR coach here in '10. He also has an NFL background (QB cch CHI '09, SF '06, NYJ '03-'05). The co-DC's LY were Derek Mason (DB cch LY) who was in the NFL prior (MIN '07-'09) and Jason Tarver but Tarver left for the Oakland DC job.

ALSO ON ROSTER:

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| QB David Olson 6'3" 216 So | WR John Flacco 6'2" 193 So | LB Sam Mercer 6'0" 215 Jr |
| QB Adam Brzezczak 6'0" 188 Jr | WR Rollins Stallworth 6'4" 196 Jr | LB Torsten Rottlo 6'2" 238 Jr |
| RB Andrew Stultz 6'1" 199 Jr | WR Jeff Tojan 6'3" 183 So | LB Cameron Vandervall 6'3" 208 Jr |
| RB Jackson Cummings 5'9" 166 So | WR Sam Knapp 6'3" 201 Jr | DB Cason Kynes 5'9" 192 Jr |
| WR Jordan Pratt 6'5" 208 Jr | TE Matt Kasper 6'4" 224 Jr | DE Alex Izzell 6'1" 254 Jr |

PHIL'S FORECAST

In the 7 yrs from '01-'07 the Cardinal had 4 different HC's. In '06 they were 1-11 and dead last in the Pac-10 in conf ypc (-169, 90 yds worse than #9). Their 11 st'r losses tied a SU rec (1959-'60). In Harbaugh's first ssn ('07) SU had 15 ret sts and improved to 3-6 in the P10 but were #10 (-176 ypg, 109 worse than #9!) for the 5th str yr. Stanford (15 ret sts) was picked #9 in the P10 media poll in '08 but improved to 5-7 overall. In '09 they had 16 ret sts and 7 HG's. RB Toby Gerhart rushed for 1,871 (5.5) and helped SU to an 8-4 reg ssn (ranked as high as #14). In '10 SU had 15 ret sts incl QB Luck. Three of my 9 sets of power ratings called for an 11-1 ssn but Stanford exceeded my expectations. They had their first undefeated home ssn s/77 and won 8 of their first 9 for the first time since the 1970 tm (led by Jim Plunkett). SU also had 3 shutouts (1st time s/'69). #5 Stanford then wallopped #12 VT 40-12 in the bowl and finished #4, their 6th ever Top 10 finish (1st s/'92) and 2nd highest in tm history (#2 in '40). SU was +13 in TO's, had 2 net close wins and an offensive ypp of 11.7. SU also had just 11 ret sts LY and had to replace their HC. The great news was that Andrew Luck turned down the NFL. Two of my 9 sets of power ratings called for an unbeaten ssn, but I said they would not match 2010's 12 win total. I must admit Shaw did better than I expected as they went 11-2. SU was a slow starter. Vs SJSU the FD were basically even at the half, vs Duke they got a td with :39 left in the half to lead 17-7 and only led 16-10 at half vs Ariz, 17-7 vs UCLA and 10-7 vs Wash St but in those first 7, won by 36 ppg! They outlasted USC in 3OT then after leading OSU 17-13 in the 3Q, won by 25. SU was #3 when they hosted #6 Oregon but lost 53-30 despite only being outgained by 2 yds. They got past Cal in the pelting rain 31-28 then whipped ND 28-14 (ND td :23 left). In the Fiesta Bowl, SU missed the GW 35 yd FG vs Okla St and lost in OT. Their +152.1 ypg was the best in P12 play. TY they lose Luck and have just 13 ret sts. SU once again draws USC out of the South and has to play both ND and Oregon on the road. Despite losing two #1 (1st overall) and two #2DC's, the Cardinal remains one of the P12's elite.

OFFENSE

JERSEY # IN CARDINAL

QB 7 Brett Nottingham So. 6-4 216 **PS#14** 6 gm, 78 (63%, 1-0) rfr. **6 Josh Nunes (6'4" 216 Jr) PS#17** 4 gm rfr. DNP LY. **8 Kevin Hogan (6'4" 216 Jr) PS#18** Evan Crowder (6'5" 209 rfr) **PS#25** Dallas Lloyd (6'3" 205 Jr) **PS#24** MSN 2Y. **RB 33 STEPHAN TAYLOR SR.** 5-11 211 **PS#36** 303 (5.4) true. 12 st, 1137 (5.1), 2nd Tm P10 '10. 13 st, 1330 (5.5), 182 rec (7.3), 2nd Tm P12 LY. **25 Tyler Gaffney (6'1" 217 Sr) PS#13** 87 (4.0) true. 255 (4.2) '10. 13 gm, 449 (6.1) LY. **FB 85 RYAN HEWITT JR.** 6-4 243 **PS#23TE** 13 gm rfr. 11 st, 35 (3.5), 282 rec (8.3), HMP12 LY. **10 Geoff Meinken (6'4" 256 Jr) PS#160** 4 gm rfr. 2 st, 13 gm, 90 (7.5) LY. **36 Lee Ward (6'1" 242 So) PS#144** 8 gm, 1 rec rfr. **TE 86 Zach Ertz Jr.** 6-6 247 **PS#9** 1 st, 190 (11.9) rfr. 3 st, 346 (12.8) LY. **WR 4 Drew Terrell (5'11" 171 Sr) PS#62** 13 (4.3) 2Y. 13 gm, 81 (10.1), HMP12 RS LY. **Kelsey Young PS#29** 20 Keanu Nelson (5'11" 173 So) **PS#98**. **WR 88 TY Montgomery So.** 6-2 210 **PS#44** 4 st, 13 gm, 350 (14.6), HMP12 ST true. **21 Jamal-Rashad Patterson (6'3" 213 Sr) PS#25** 104 (11.6) 3Y. **Jemari Roberts (6'3" 222 Jr) PS#28** 12 gm 2Y. **89 Devon Cajuste (6'4" 213 rfr) PS#61**. **TE 11 LEVINE TOILOLO JR.** 6-8 263 **PS#5** 1 st, 1 rec rfr (inj), 10 st, 13 gm, 343 (13.7), HMP12 LY. **Luke Kaumatule PS#8** 83 Davis Dudchok (6'4" 237 So) **PS#23** 6 gm ST rfr. **9 Brandon Gottfried (6'5" 227 So) PS#252** 4 gm rfr. **C 64 SAM SCHWARTZSTEIN SR.** 6-3 290 **PS#217** 1 gm rfr. 6 gm bkp '10. 13 st LY. **Graham Shuler (6'4" 277 Fr) PS#49** 61 Conor McFadden (6'3" 275 So) **PS#228** DNP rfr. **LS 62 Austin Tubbs (6'0" 190 Fr).** Walk-on LY. **RG 76 Kevin Danser Jr.** 6-6 292 **PS#111** DNP rfr. 12 gm bkp OGLY. **65 Khaili Wilkes (6'3" 291 Jr) PS#57** 5 gm bkp C rfr. 4 gm bkp C/OG LY. **63 Kevin Reinher (6'4" 288 rfr) PS#61** Johnny Caspers (6'4" 285 Fr) **PS#177**. **LG 54 DAVID YANKEY SO.** 6-5 302 **PS#61** 13 st LG, HMP12 rfr. Saw time at LT (due to inj's) spg '12. **Joshua Garnett (6'5" 305 Fr) PS#7** 75 Dillon Bonnell (6'4" 276 So) **PS#63** No game action rfr. OFS '12 (inj). **RT 73 CAMERON FLEMING SO.** 6-6 308 **PS#92** 11 st RT, 11 gm (out 2 with inj), HMP12, 3rd Tm Fr AA rfr. **Andrus Peat (6'7" 305 Fr) PS#2** Nick Davidson (6'7" 285 Fr) **PS#34** 60 Brian Moran (6'7" 302 rfr) **PS#339**. **LT 50 Cole Underwood So.** 6-4 289 **PS#93** 6 gm as bkp OT rfr. **74 Brendon Austin (6'6" 302 rfr) PS#25** Outstanding winter. Missed time in spg (inj). **Kyle Murphy (6'7" 278 Fr) PS#4** All-American as Sr in HS. **K 19 JORDAN WILLIAMSON SO.** 5-11 190 **PS#12** 10 gm (inj), 13-19 FG, L4/5, 54-56 PAT, 65 KO, 8 TB, 2nd Tm P12 rfr. **46 Eric Whitaker (5'9" 175 Jr) PS#145** 1 KO, 2 gms rfr. 4 gm, 4-5 FG, L/37, 14-15 PAT, 16 KO LY.

2012 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

JERSEY # IN CARDINAL

DEFENSE

DE 49 BEN GARDNER JR. 6-4 274 3 tkl, 2 tfl rfr. 12 st, 13 gm, 35 tkl, 4.5 sk, 5.5 tfl, 6 qbh, 1st Tm P12 LY. **48 Charlie Hopkins (6'6" 271 rfr) PS#47** Aziz Shittu **PS#19** Eddie Plantario (6'5" 273 So) **PS#76** 3 gm, 2 tkl rfr. **NG 99 TERRANCE STEPHENS SR.** 6-2 296 **PS#48** 4 tkl true, 3 tkl, 1 tfl '10. 8 st, 13 gm, 11 tkl, 4 tfl LY. **97 Anthony Hayes (6'3" 297 Fr) PS#96** 95 Lance Callihan (6'3" 298 Fr) **PS#135** 58 David Parry (6'2" 292 So), 13 gm, 6 tkl rfr. **DE 91 Henry Anderson So.** 6-6 273 **PS#119** 13 gm, 6 tkl rfr. **90 Josh Mauro (6'6" 275 Jr) PS#217** 11 tkl, 2 sk 2Y. **48 Kevin Anderson (6'4" 243 rfr) PS#94** 72 JB Salem (6'4" 262 rfr) **PS#99** Jacob Gowan (6'3" 256 Jr). **OLB 93 TRENT MURPHY JR.** 6-6 255 **PS#156** 2 tkl rfr. 13 st, 40 tkl, 6.5 sk, 3.5 tfl LY. **Noor Davis (6'4" 235 Fr) PS#5**. **42 Alex Debnick (6'2" 238 Sr) 8 gm**, 4 tkl true. **RS (inj)** 09, 18 tkl, 1 sk '11 gm, 10 tkl LY. **Blake Martinez is PS#136**. **ILB 11 SHAYNE SKOV SR.** 6-3 251 **PS#11** 18 st, 146 tkl, 13.5 tfl '09-'10, 3 st (ACL), 19 tkl, 5 tfl LY. **OFS '12**. **9 James Vaughters (6'2" 250 So) PS#9** 13 gm, 11 tkl, 4 tfl true, 10 Hemschoot (6'1" 219 So) **PS#285** 11 tkl rfr. **ILB 35 JAREK LANCASTER JR.** 6-1 235 **PS#155** 15 tkl rfr. L/10 st, 13 gm, 70 tkl, 3.5 sk, 3.5 tfl, 2 qbh LY. **17 AJ Tarpley (6'2" 232 So) PS#89** 8 st, 13 gm, 57 tkl, 1.5 sk, 5 pd rfr. **7 Patrick Skov (6'1" 237 rfr) PS#188** OFS (inj) '12. **OLB 44 CHASE THOMAS SR.** 6-4 245 **PS#90** 8 st, 36 tkl, 7 tfl rfr. 13 gm, 70 tkl, 11.5 tfl, 1st Tm P10 '10. 13 st, 52 tkl, 17.5 tfl, 3rd Tm AA LY. **43 Blake Lueders (6'5" 258 Jr) PS#20** 23 tkl 2Y. ? '12 (surg). **Brent Etiz (6'1" 210 Jr)** 8 tkl 2Y. **CB 2 Wayne Lyons rfr.** 6-1 194 **PS#10** 2 gm (inj), 3 tkl LY. **31 Barry Browning (6'1" 179 Jr) PS#201** 3 st, 10 gm, 15 tkl true, 3 st, 9 gm (inj), 21 tkl LY. **Usua Amanam (5'10" 178 Jr) PS#32** 11 gm RB rfr. 13 gm CB, 9 tkl LY. **6 C TERRENCE BROWN JR.** 6-1 174 1 st, 5 tkl rfr. 10 st, 13 gm, 43 tkl, 6 pd LY. **Alex Carter PS#10** 23 Ronnie Harris (5'10" 172 rfr) **PS#104** 38 Ra'Chard Pippens (6'2" 187 Fr) **PS#106** Chris Gaertner (6'1" 190 So). No action rfr. **SS 5 Devon Carrington Jr.** 6-1 200 **PS#37** 7 tkl true. 5 st, 12 gm, 30 tkl LY. **8 Jordan Richards (5'11" 211 So) PS#70** 3 st, 13 gm, 31 tkl true. **15 Brent Seals (6'1" 189 Jr) PS#191** 4 tkl 2Y. **Myles Muagutulia (6'2" 210 Jr)** 12 tkl 2Y. **FS 29 Ed Reynolds So.** 6-2 199 **PS#157** 6 tkl true. OFY (inj) LY. **Best S in spg '12** 28 Harold Bernard (6'2" 187 Sr) **PS#101** 21 tkl 2Y. 1 st, 13 gm, 17 tkl LY. **Zach Hoffpauir PS#57** 22 Kyle Olugboke (6'1" 191 So) 1 tkl rfr. **P 36 Daniel Zychlinski Sr.** 6-3 213 **PS#74** 4 gm, 2 punts (38.2) rfr. 13 gm, 24 (41.8), L/64, tm net 36.8 '10. 13 gm, 3 punts (31.3) LY. **14 Ben Rhynne (6'2" 204 So)** 5 gm, 18 KO, 1 TB rfr. **Spencer Summers (5'8" 173 rfr).**

