

# UCLA BRUINS



LB JAYON BROWN

## POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2016

### QUARTERBACKS

Brett Hundley (PS#5) was a 3 year starter and #4 (FBS) in comp % at 69% (3155, 22-5) in '14. He was inj'd vs Texas and Jerry Neuheisel (Rick's son) led the win (23-30-178). Hundley left early for the NFL (#5DC) and Neuheisel battled true frosh Josh Rosen (PS#1, IFS). As I expected "Chosen Rosen" became the first true frosh in schi hist to start an opener and was surrounded by 9 ret st'rs on offense. In his opening game he hit 28-35-351 and got a lot of national acclaim and early Heisman mentions. He only hit 11-23-106 with 3 int's vs BYU. He completed a schi record 34 passes vs Cal and had six 300 yard games. Rosen set a school record with 245 consecutive passes without an int (Drew Olson 199, '05). Neuheisel hit just 5 of 18 while Mike Fafauf was 2 of 2. This year Rosen (3668, 60%, 23-11 '15) is clearly one of the nation's top QB's but will be taking more snaps under center. Gone is Neuheisel. True frosh Matt Lynch (PS#32) & Devon Modster (PS#20) will battle Fafauf for #2.

### RUNNING BACKS

In '12 Jonathan Franklin led the team in rushing for a 4th straight year while breaking the school single season rush record with 1,734 (6.1). In '13 rFr Paul Perkins (PS#110) led the RB's w/573 (4.3) while LB Myles Jack had 267 (7.0 w/7 td's). It was the first time s/64 (Larry Zeno) that a QB led UCLA in rushing (Hundley 748, 4.7). In '14 Perkins had six 100 yd efforts (190 vs Oregon, 180 vs Colo) and led with the 2nd highest total in schi history (1575, 6.3; 201, 7.7 rec) while leading the P12 in rushing. Nate Starks (PS#15) had 139 (4.3) as a true. LY they added in PS#2 SoSo Jamabo. Perkins had 219 vs BYU and five 100 yard gms (1343, 5.7) while Jamabo had 404 (6.1) including 96 vs AZ and 90 vs Oregon St. Starks was #3 w/320 (6.4). Perkins left early for the NFL (#5DC NYG) but I think the Jamabo/Starks combo could come close to '15's production.

### RECEIVERS

In '14 UCLA had to replace their two year #1 WR (709, 15.1) and a TE (7 st). Jordan Payton (PS#15) led w/954 (14.2) while TE Thomas Duarte (PS#10) was #2 w/540 (19.3!). Devin Fuller's (PS#3) numbers dropped to 447 (just 7.6) from 471 (11.0) in '13. Eldridge Massington (80 yd rec vs Ast) was #4 (367, 14.7). Kenneth Walker (PS#73, speed), had 2 key drops vs Ast that limited his time but avg 42.3 on his 3 catches. LY they had the top 5 back and added 3 more VHT Fr. Payton became the school's all-time rec's leader, just the 2nd 1,000 yd receiver here s/04 (1105, 14.2) and Duarte was #2 (872, 16.5). Speedy soph Darren Andrews (100 vs Stanford) was #3 (443, 10.3). TY they lose Devin Fuller (7 st, 259, 10.8, #7DC ATL), Payton (13 st, #5DC CLE) and Duarte (11 st, #7DC MIA). This unit is less exp'd but still solid as they signed 3 VHT's anxious to catch passes from Rosen and add in Ishmael Adams (PS#12) from DB.

## 2016 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

### OFFENSE

**QB** 3 JOSH ROSEN SO. 6-4 210 PS#1. 13 st, 3668 (60%, 23-11), P12 Fr OPOY LY. 17 Matt Lynch is PS#32. IFS. Devon Modster is PS#20. 12 Mike Fafauf (6'2" 210 Sr) 4 gm, 6 att's F35. 19 Craig Myers (5'11" 180 So). **TB** 1 Sotonye Jamabo So. 6-3 210 PS#2. 13 gm, 404 (6.1) as true. 23 Nathan Starks (5'11" 210 Jr) PS#15. 12 gm, 139 (4.3) as true. 1 st, 320 (6.4) LY. 20 Bolu Olorunfunmi (5'10" 220 So) PS#63. 7 gm, 190 (5.4) as true LY. **WR** 1 ISHMAEL ADAMS SR. 5-8 180 PS#12. 34 st, 137 tkl, 3.5 tfl, 1081 (25.1) KR at DB L3Y. WR spg. 4 Darren Andrews (5'10" 185 Jr) PS#164. 7 st, 443 (10.3) LY. 2 Jordan Lasley (6'1" 200 So) PS#88. 9 gm, 3 rec LY. **WR** NA Theo Howard Fr. 6-0 175 PS#17. 10 Kenneth Walker (5'10" 180 So) PS#73. 1 st, 127 (42.3) 14.7 st, 231 (25.7) LY. 83 Alex Van Dyke (6'4" 210 Jr) PS#54. 12 gm, 2 rec LY. 15 Aaron Sharp (6'3" 205 So) PS#52QB. **WR** 82 Eldridge Massington Jr. 6-2 210 PS#32. 12 gm, 119 (10.8) LY. 14 Mossi Johnson (6'0" 190 Jr) PS#204. 1 st, OFY LY. 6 Stephen Johnson (5'11" 195 So) PS#60. 1 st, 123 (15.4) LY. Cordell Broadus (6'3" 190 Jr) PS#35. **TE** 32 Nate Iese Sr. 6-3 250 PS#158. 9 st, 70 (5.8) 14.4 st, 96 (8.7) LY. 88 Austin Roberts (6'2" 215 So) PS#27. 3 gm, 1 rec LY. Giovanni Gentosi (6'2" 235 So). **FB** Cameron Griffin (6'3" 235 So). Ainnu Taula (5'11" 295 So) PS#34. **C** 52 Scott Quessenberry Jr. 6-4 313 PS#52. 13 st (F/C, L12 RG), HM P12 '14. RS (inj) LY. 61 Gyo Shojima (6'3" 310 Jr). 56 Josh Wariboko-Alali (6'2" 305 Jr) PS#17. **LS** Johnny Den Bleyker (6'0" 200 Fr) PS#6. **RG** 76 KENNY LACY JR. 6-4 285 PS#37. 2 st, 4 gm 14. 10 st LY. 72 Cristian Garcia (6'3" 315 Sr) 1 st (bowl) LY. 63 Jake Tourville (6'1" 290 So) DNP LY. Francisco Perez is PS#121. 60 Jesus Moreno (6'0" 295 So). **LG** NA Jake Raulerson Jr. 6-4 295 PS#5. 5 st, 23 gm 22Y @Texas. Grad trans TY. 73 Tevita Halailo (6'4" 335 Fr) PS#38. MedRS LY, broke ankle gm 1. 69 Najee Toran (6'1" 285 So) PS#121. 1 st then MYs (14. 6 gm LY). **RT** 77 Kolton Miller So. 6-9 295 PS#60. 5 st (4RT, 1LT), 13 gm LY. 71 Poasi Moala (6'4" 290 Jr) PS#69. 7 gm L2Y. 58 Zach Bateman (6'6" 295 Sr) PS#42JC. 1 gm bkp OL LY. 78 John Lopez (6'5" 325 Jr) PS#42. DNP L2Y. **LT** 68 CONOR McDERMOTT SR. 6-9 310 2 gm rFr '13. 8 st (7LT, 1TE), 10 gm '14. 12 st, 2nd Tm P12 LY. 75 Andre James (6'4" 290 Fr) PS#29. Michael Alves (6'5" 320 Fr) PS#51. Alex Akingbulu (6'6" 255 Fr) PS#67. **K** NA JJ Molson Fr. 6-0 190 PS#4. IFS. 3-3 fgt in '16 spring game. 20 Stefan Flintoft (6'3" 180 So) PS#114. Walk-on LY that DNP. 96 Andrew Strauch (5'11" 170 rFr). 18 Ben Kreitenberg (5'10" 160 rFr) PS#151.

**OFFENSIVE LINE** - LY UCLA had 6 players back who had been full-time st'rs (131 car sts, #1 FBS). The sacks went from 41 allowed to just 15 although the rush numbers decreased (177, 5.0) with Hundley rushing for 644 at QB in '14 (Rosen 16 in '15). This year they lose 1st Tm P12 C Jake Brendel (13/52) and 2 OL who left early for the NFL in G Alex Redmond (11/32, UFA CIN) and Caleb Benenoch (13/35, #5DC TB). They have 63 car sts back including Scott Quessenberry (13 st '14, RS '15), 2nd Tm P12 LT Conor McDermott and Kolton Miller (PS#60, 5 of L7 st). They also add in Texas transfer Jake Raulerson (PS#5, 5 car st) and could be just as good.

**DEFENSIVE LINE** - In '14 UCLA had to replace 1 st'r (#4) and 2 bkps (6 st, 37 tkl). They added in JUCO Takkari McKinley late Sept and he had quite an impact as the team had just 10 sks in the first 8 but 19 over the last 5. They improved their rush D for a 3rd straight year to 148 ypg (3.8). LY they lost a #3DC DE. Their star DT Eddie Vanderdoes (PS#3) was OFY week 1 (8 tkl, 2 tfl). Kenny Clark became an ironman at DT and was surprisingly the #2 tackler (13 st, 6 sk, 5 tfl). McKinley had 4.5 sks as a full time (not just pass rusher) starter although UCLA slipped to 198 ypg rush (4.4, 28 sk). This year 1st Tm P12 Clark left early for the NFL (#1DC GB) but with Vanderdoes' return it is like having 4 st'rs back (2nd Tm P12 OLB Deon Hollins moves to DL, 11.5 sk L2Y). Eight of the top 9 and I look for an improved rush D.

**LINEDACKERS** - LY the Bruins had to replace 1st Tm AA Eric Kendrick (#2DC, career tkl leader) who became the first UCLA player to win the Butkus Award. They ret'd 2nd Tm P12 Myles Jack (#2 tkl'r) as well as their #11 and #12 tkl'r's that incl Kenny Young (PS#20, 6 st, 35 tkl as true) This unit had 8 VHT's and only lost 1 LB to the NFL as opposed to 2 in '14. Their star, Jack, was OFY after 3 games (ACL). Four LB's in the 3 man group finished in the top 7 in tackles with Jayon Brown (Jack's replacement) #1 in just 9 starts. My computer (pg 43) called for them to allow 25.4 ppg and during the reg season they allowed 25.1. TY they lose Jack (3 st, 15 tkl, #2DC JAX), 3rd Tm P12 Aaron Wallace (7 st, #6 tkl'r, 7 sk, #7DC TEN) and Kene Orjioko (19 tkl, 2.5 tfl). They have 2 st'rs ret'd to the new 3 man unit (Hollins moves to DL) and add in PS#2 Mique Juarez (IFS) so I look for improved numbers.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** - In '14 all 4 st'rs ret'd. S Randall Goforth was OFY after 2 gms (13 st, #4 tkl'r '13) but I was still surprised that UCLA slipped to #55 (61%, 22-11). LY they lost a 2nd Tm P12 S (#3 tkl'r) but ret'd their #5, #7, #9 and #10 tkl'r's incl 1st Tm P12 Ishmael Adams and 2nd Tm P12 CB Fabian Moreau, plus NB Tahaan Goodman moved to SS and Goforth ret'd. Moreau was OFY after 3 sts but they were a solid #12 (57.1%, 18-12). TY everyone returns (Adams moves to WR) and they should finish near the top of my PDR once again.

**SPECIAL TEAMS** - In '14 dangerous Ishmael Adams led in PR (9.2) and KR 591 (22.7). LY the Bruins had everyone back but Devin Fuller took over as the top PR (11.8) and KR (24.2). P Matt Mengel slipped to just 40.1 (tm net 35.7). Ka'imi Fairbairn meanwhile took home the Lou Groza Award hitting 20+ including tying the 2nd longest FG in P12 history (60 vs Cal). In his first game as a frosh he had 3 of 5 xp's blocked but leaves as the leading career scorer in P12 history! Surprisingly the unit finished in the same area (#54) and this year must replace all the top guys but Adams may return to fill the RM role.

**COACHES** - Jim Mora took over a program that topped 7 wins only once in 14 years. He set a school record with 37 wins in his first 4 seasons. He was a NFL TV analyst for 2 years and the HC for both the Seahawks ('09) and Falcons ('04-'06). First year OC Kennedy Polamalu (3Y RB cch here) was OC at USC from '10-'12. The Bruins had 3 DC's in 3 years but Tom Bradley is now in his 2nd year. He was at Penn St for 10 years (4 as a

player; DC L12) and was the interim HC for the tumultuous 2011 season (DL/asst HC at WV '14). Scott White (def quality control cch 4Y) took over the ST/LB duties in 2015.

**THIS DECADE 47-82 (59.5%) #45** - 2011 was an unusual year as UCLA made it to the P12 Title game despite losing to USC 50-0 (lost L3 by 40-15 avg) and finishing 6-8. UCLA was coming off a stretch of 4 losing seasons in 5 yrs and brought in Jim Mora. I put UCLA on my Most Improved List in '12 and rFr Brett Hundley led UCLA to a schi record 482 pts (477 in '97) in a 9-5 season. In '13 Mora delivered UCLA's first DD win season s/05 (#16 AP) despite playing Stanford & Oregon on the road. It was the first time s/97 that they beat USC and won a bowl. In '14 the Bruins had 16 ret st'rs and began #7 AP. After beating arch rival USC 38-20 (461-276 yd edge) they were #9 hosting unranked Stanford, but lost 31-10 (outgained 436-262) costing them a P12 Title gm berth. UCLA played a Jan bowl for the first time s/98 but it was the Alamo Bowl. They led K-St 31-6 at the half but barely held on to win 40-35 and finished 10-3 and #10. LY UCLA slipped to 8-5 and stands 47-32 (59.5%) for the decade.

**2015 ANALYSIS 8-5** - LY UCLA had 16 ret st'rs, was off of 5 net close wins in '14 and 5 P12 AG's. The Bruins were #13 AP to start and were 2-0 but needed a TD with 3:21 left to get by BYU 24-23. UCLA traveled to 3-0 #16 Arizona having lost 3 star def players who were all OFY but led 42-14 at half (won by 26). At #7 they were a DD home fav vs Ariz St but trailed 29-10 4Q and lost by 15. Stanford (115) beat UCLA for an 8th straight year, 56-35. UCLA rebounded to beat Cal by 16 but needed a TD with 8:28 left to get past Colorado at home 35-31. They shutout Oregon St 41-0 on a cold rainy day. Wash St got a 21 yd TD pass w/0:03 left to upset UCLA in LA (554-426 yd edge by the Bruins). UCLA scored TD's on 2 long drives to start the 1Q and 3Q and eliminated Utah from the South chase on the road, 17-9. They lost to USC 40-21 missing out on the South Title again. The Bruins led 5-7 Nebraska 21-7 in the bowl but NU rushed for 326 yards and won 37-29 (UCLA 8-5 NR).

**ALSO ON ROSTER:** FB Daniel Fields 5'9" 180 Jr. DL Jake Jones 6'4" 240 Sr. QB Eli Snyder 6'0" 175 rFr. WR Brad Schocowski 5'10" 165 So. LB Christian Pankey 6'2" 220 rFr. QB Nick Nezami 6'2" 195 rFr. WR Christian Palacios 5'0" 191 So. DB Charles Dawson 5'9" 165 Sr. QB Jeremiah Martin 5'9" 195 rFr. TE Caleb Wilson 6'2" 225 rFr. DB Jason Baker 6'1" 175 rFr. TB Zachary Byrge 5'9" 165 rFr. TE Alex Rassoul 6'2" 235 So. DB Alex Staff 5'10" 175 Jr. TB Kahlil Muhammad 5'9" 165 rFr. DL Nehemiah Abera 6'2" 235 rFr.

## PHIL'S FORECAST

**OFFENSE** - "Chosen Rosen" was surrounded by 9 ret st'rs in '15 but now has just 3 other st'rs back on offense. With a true frosh QB in '15 they slipped from 33.5 ppg to 32.2. Even with switching from the spread to more of a pro-style attack, the Bruins should be just as potent.

**DEFENSE** - When I spoke to coach Mora in the summer LY, I had 3 defensive players that I highlighted to keep an eye on but 2 of them were OFY by week 3 as both were proj'd starting CB's. A depleted UCLA defense was run over by Nebraska in the bowl (326 rush) and gave up 402 ypg on the year. This year they have 9 ret st'rs and figure to be solidly improved.

**2016** - UCLA allowed 300+ rush in the '12 bowl and bounced back with B2B 10 win sns. They are hoping for the same here. A depleted front 7 was overpowered by Nebraska in the bowl and Mora has vowed that they will be more physical this year (both offense and defense). UCLA rates a +2.0 in my Stock Market Indicator and was -3 net upsets LY, both pointing up. The best factor is the schedule. UCLA has just 4 Pac-12 road games TY and 3 come vs teams that had a losing conference record LY. Of my 5 top rated teams in the Pac-12 (UCLA is one of them) they avoid Oregon and Washington and get USC and Stanford at home. A Top 25 defense, one of the top QB's in the country and that schedule could put them back in the Pac-12 Title game.

ST BOWL	LY:
2015	....#54
2014	....#52
2013	....#6
2012	....#73
2011	....#92
2010	....#20
15 Tm Net Avg:	
ST (no kl).....#85	
K only.....#18	
TmP (37.1).....#72	
Opp (39.4).....#110	
TS (28.8).....#66	
Opp (25.0).....#19	
TOBLXPRF.....#1	



## PAC-12 - SOUTH