

NORTH CAROLINA TAR HEELS



CB MJ STEWART

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2016

QUARTERBACKS - HC Larry Fedora's offense is at its best with a mobile QB. North Carolina began '12 with pro style Bryn Renner, and installed a package for bkp Marquise Williams (#4 rush, 186, 6.4, 10-17-127) in the shotgun. Renner was OFY after gm 7 in '13 and Williams became the first QB to lead NC in rushing (536, 4.8) s/68 (1698 pass, 58%, 15-6). In '14 the Tar Heels added in rFr Mitch Trubisky (PS#25). Fedora rotated the QB's over the first 5, (Trubisky's pass att's decreased from 16 to 11 to 4 in gms 3-5). He had just 7 att over the next 6 gms but that included a 16 yd GW td pass on 386 w/4:05 left vs Virginia. Williams threw for 303 vs Notre Dame and 390 vs GT (3068, 63%, 21-9, #1 rush w/788, 4.1). Trubisky threw for 459 (54%, 5-4). Williams was the starter LY but Trubisky hit 17-20-312-4-0 vs Delaware (ACC Off Back of Week). He had just 18 more passes the rest of the ssn. Williams threw for 3,072 (61.3%, 24-10, 948 rush). TY Williams moves on and Trubisky will battle Caleb Henderson (PS#10), who has the best arm and rFr Nathan Elliott (PS#64). Trubisky should do fine but will likely have a drop off from Williams' fine '15 season.

RUNNING BACKS - In '13 true frosh TJ Logan (PS#26, tm's fastest) missed the first 4 but led the RB's in 6 of the last 8 (533, 5.7). In '14 NC got the large addition of PS#8 Elijah Hood (220 lbs, speed, punishing runner) and Fedora said Hood grasped the offense better than any frosh RB he'd had. In the first 4, Hood had 163 (#1) but missed 4 full gms and parts of others (#4, 259, 3.9). Logan led the RB's w/582 (4.9, 110 bowl). LY they added true frosh Ty Son Williams (PS#36, IFS) who runs like a Mack Truck. My final sentence here LY was "Hood could have a breakout year". Hood had 138 in the opener vs SC and topped 100 eight times including 220 vs NCSt & led with 1,463 (6.7). QB Williams was #2 and Logan #3 (400, 6.1). The unit not only returns their top 2, but they also have solid depth in Williams (6'0" 220 So), Khrist Francis (5'9" 210 Sr, PS#77) and true frosh Jordon Brown (PS#25) who was IFS (leading rusher in spg gm). I look for another year of improved numbers.

RECEIVERS - In '12 Quinshad Davis (PS#50) set an NC frosh record with 61 rec's (#1, 776, 12.7). In '13 Eric Ebron set the ACC record for rec yds by a TE and was #1 (973, 15.7). Davis was #2 (730, 15.2) and dynamic RM true frosh Ryan Switzer had 341 (10.7). True frosh Bug Howard, who ironically is 6'5", was #4 (278, 12.6). In '14 Ebron was a #1DC. Switzer concentrated at WR (5 ret'd to 0) and led w/757 (12.4). Walk-on Mack Hollins had a 91 yd td rec and was #2 (613, 17.5) while Davis was #3 (470, 11.5). Howard, who put on 16 lbs, improved to 455 (10.8). Last year Davis finished #3 with 638 (11.6) and set the NC TD record with 25 while his 4 career TD passes incl a key one vs GT in '15. Switzer (697, 12.7) tied with Davis for the lead in receptions w/55 and the explosive Hollins was #1 in yds

(745, 24.8). Howard added 488 (16.8). This year they lose Davis (14 st, UFA DET), Damien Washington (8 rec) and TE Kendrick Singleton (142, 11.8). While they have 3 of the top 4 back instead of all 4 like LY, this unit should be even stronger.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In '14 NC had to replace their top 2 OL's in a 1st Tm ACC LT and a #4DC C (car sts ret drop to 44). NC's numbers were similar (152, 4.0, 28 sk). LY they had all 5 st's back (105 car sts ret). My computer (pg 43) called for them to top 200 ypg rush (209) for the first time in over 20 yrs and they rushed for 224 (6.0, 16 sk). TY they lose their star in AA RG Landon Turner (14/42, UFA NO) but they have 9 of the top 10 back and return 131 car sts. It will be tough to improve on '15's numbers (no QB Williams, 948 rush) but even without Turner (ACC OL POW, 4 times) they are one of the ACC's best.

DEFENSIVE LINE - In '14 North Carolina had to replace 2 DL st's (#3DC). The unit was less exp'd and allowed 240 ypg rush (5.2, 22 sk), their worst s/1975. Last year they had to replace 2 st's and a bkp. They added in PS#13 Jalen Dalton (IFS) who took off his RS week 5. The '15 draft was the first time North Carolina hadn't had a DL drafted s/09. The rush D numbers improved to 199.2 ypg over the first 11 however they imploded allowing 1,272 (424 ypg) over the final 3 (247, 5.1, 23 sk). This year they lose DT Justin Thomason (12 st, 42 tkl, 3.5 sk), DE Junior Gnonkonde (3 st, 34 tkl, 3.5 sk) and Jessie Rogers (30 tkl, 1 sk). I would expect much improved overall numbers in '16 after a 2nd consec slide in the rush ypg.

LINEBACKERS - In '14 the Tar Heels ret'd all 3 LB st's but went from allowing 24.5 ppg to 39.0 ppg. LY they lost their #4 & #11 tk'l's. They moved from the 4-2-5 to a 4-3 (but played nickel or dime over 50% of the time) and had 6 VHT's to work with. My computer projected big improvements to 29.8 ppg and 394 ypg. They outdid the ppg at 24.5 but allowed 436 ypg. Joe Jackson began the year at SLB but was OFY in the opener. True frosh Andre Smith & Soph Cayson Collins split that spot (#6, #13 tk'l's). TY they lose run stuffing MLB Jeff Schoettner (14 st, #3 tk'l'r, 6.5 tfl, UFA NO), 3rd Tm ACC Shakeel Rashad (14 st, #2 tk'l'r 126, 8.5 tfl, UFA HOU) and NB Brian Walker (4 st, 12 tkl). While they add in JB Copeland (43 tkl at NMSt '14), they may be down a notch with their top 2 gone.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - In '14 NC had to replace 2 NFL DC's but it still surprised me that they dropped all the way down to #108 in my PDR (58.7%, 31-12). LY they lost their FS (#1 tk'l'r) but ret'd 7 of their top 8 and I said "after LY's unexpectedly low finish, they should make a good sized rebound in the PDR." They did better than I expected at #23 (54.5%, 16-17). TY they lose SS Sam Smiley (12 st, #7 tk'l'r, 1 int) and CB Malik Simmons (7 st, #15 tk'l'r, 7 pbu). They return their #1 (128), #4, & #5 tk'l's including 2nd Tm ACC CB's MJ Stewart and Desmond Lawrence, making this one of the ACC's top secondaries.

SPECIAL TEAMS - North Carolina was at #9 in '12 in my ST rankings & #13 in '13 with PR Ryan Switzer earning 1st Tm AA (tie NCAA rec 5 td). In '14 everyone ret'd so the results were shocking (#98). NC was last in my K ratings. Last year they lost their P and while normally you would expect a drop, I expected a large rise and they moved all the way up to #22. After hitting just 1-8 from 40+ in '13 & '14, K Nick Weiler hit 4-6 and 20-23 overall (long 48). Switzer ret'd to form and had a NC rec 168 PR yds vs Illinois (302, 13.7, 2 td) while TJ Logan avg 23.4 on KR's. Joey Mangili and Corbin Daly combined for a 39.8 avg on punts (35.9 net, only allowed 5 PR's all year). With everyone back they could improve again.

COACHES - After Larry Fedora took over as HC here in '12 and posted an 8-4 mark, the best record in Chapel Hill since Mack Brown's (10-1) final season in '97, the 'Heels rolled to an 11 win campaign in '15, equaling the 11 win seasons of former

HC's Bill Dooley (1972) & Dick Crum (1980). Fedora was previously the HC at SMISS (school record 12 wins '11). The co-OC's are 3rd yr Gunter Brewer (WR's cch) & 1st yr Chris Kapilovic (assoc HC/OL). Second year DC Gene Chizik had a big impact in '15. Chizik won a National Title at Auburn ('11) and has a comb'd 6Y as a HC (Iowa St '07-'08, Aub '09-'12). He also was a great DC at Texas ('05-'06), Aub ('02-'04) and UCF '98-'01). Larry Porter serves as the ST and RB cch. He was the HC at Memphis from '10-'11.

THIS DECADE 47-31(60.3%) #43 - In '12 Fedora's first year, I called for them to win the Coastal and had they been bowl eligible, they would have been in the ACC Title game at 8-4. That team set more than 35 records incl tfl pts, ppg and tfl offense. In '13 they stumbled to a 1-5 start but won their next 5 before dropping the ssn finale vs a ranked (#24) Duke tm. They got a bowl win vs Cincy 39-17 to finish 7-6. In 2014 UNC had 15 ret st's incl QB Williams, their top RB Logan, dangerous RM/WR Switzer and 9 of their top 12 tk'l's. It was clearly a disappointing year. They had 4 embarrassing losses including the bowl where they trailed Rutgers 40-7 before a couple of late gbg td's. LY they got as high as #8 at 11-1 before dropping their last two.

2015 ANALYSIS 11-3 - LY NC had 17 ret st's (most in ACC). My Stock Market Indicator rated them a +1.5. They avoided Florida St, Clemson & L'ville out of the Atlantic. NC outplayed South Carolina in the opener but were int'd in the EZ and lost by 4. Their next 6 opp's were 4 FBS tms that finished with losing records and 2 FCS foes and they won by 26 ppg. They did trail Georgia Tech 28-17 before winning by 7. They had a Coastal showdown game on a Thurs night vs 6-1 Pitt and led 20-3 at half, winning by 7. Duke was another showdown but it was 38-10 at half and never a game nor was Miami (led 31-0 at half). They got past VT in OT in Beamer's FHG and then got revenge vs NCSt (blown out '14). They trailed Clemson 42-23 in the ACC Title game but then were on the verge of a miracle comeback. They rec'd the onside kick down 7 but were ruled offside (they were not). In the bowl they allowed Baylor (down to #3QB) to rush for an all-time bowl record 645 yds (7.7) and lost by 11. They still finished 11-3 (#15) their first DD win ssn s/97.

ALSO ON ROSTER: WR Jared Worley 6'3" 200 So DB Jaye Stackhouse 6'1" 200 So QB Manny Miles 6'0" 185 Jr WR Thomas Jackson 5'11" 195 Jr DB Chris Ripberger 5'11" 190 Jr WR Dante DiMaggio 6'2" 195 Jr

PHIL'S FORECAST

OFFENSE - LY's 40.7 ppg set a NC record (just topped Fedora's 1st yr at 40.6). Their 486.9 ypg also set a NC record. NC was just 1 of 12 teams to avg over 200 ypg rush and 250 ypg pass. They have my #1 rated O-line in the ACC, RB Hood, 5 of their top 6 rec's along with QB Trubisky who got plenty of experience the last 2 years. They could top 500 ypg this year.

DEFENSE - The defense was in the bottom 10 of overall D and scoring D in '14 and Fedora convinced Gene Chizik to abandon the broadcast booth. Now starting his 2nd ssn here, Chizik's D showed a 'plus' 14.5 ppg allowed turnaround, (24.5 '15 from 39.0 '14). NC was #1 in the ACC in passes defended (79). They have 7 st's back and should improve again.

2016 - NC had a great first yr under Fedora then 2 straight underachieving years. LY they went undefeated at home and in ACC reg season play, to get to their first ACC Title game. They gave Clemson a scare. NC faces 7 tms w/new cch's TY. NC has my #2 rated offense and tied for 3rd ST's in the ACC. They do rate a Stock Market Indicator of -4.5. While they draw Georgia in the opener, they once again face two FCS foes. I do not think they will match LY's 11-1 record in regular season play but they could be favored in as many as 10 games this year and while they face Miami on the road, they did beat them 59-21 in '15. NC has a great shot at a 2nd straight ACC Title game.

OFFENSE

JERSEY #
IN BLUE

2016 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

JERSEY #
IN BLUE

DEFENSE

QB 10 Mitch Trubisky Jr. 6-3 220 PS#25 12.6 gm, 459 (54%, 5-4) '14 9 gm, 555 (85%, 6-0), 101 rush (6.3) LY. **6 Caleb Henderson** (6'3" 215 So) PS#10 2.0 gm, 53 rush (10.6) LY. Chazz Surratt is PS#18. Nathan Elliott (6'1" 195 Jr).
TB 34 ELIJAH HOOD JR. 6-0 220 PS#8 1. st, 259 (3.9) as true. 14 st, 1463 (6.7), 1st Tm ACC LY. **8 TJ Logan** (5'10" 190 Sr) PS#26 5 st, 533 (5.7) as true. 9 st, 582 (4.9), 405 KR (25.3) '14 3 st, 400 (6.1), 492 KR (23.4) LY.
WR 84 Bug Howard Sr. 6-2 210 PS#71 3 st, 455 (10.8) '14 F/8 st, 488 (16.8) LY. 15 Jordon Cunningham (6'2" 190 Jr) PS#41 6 st, 123 (8.2) '13 3 gm RS '14 w/Vandy. Trans LY. **85 Devin Perry** (6'2" 205 So) PS#143.
WR 13 MACK HOLLINS SR. 6-4 210 13 gm def' 13.9 st, 613 (17.5), HMACC '14.5 st, 745 (24.8), 2nd Tm ACC LY. **88 Jordan Fieulleteau** (6'3" 210 Jr) PS#98 4 gm, 2 rec '14 6 gm, 100 (16.7) LY. Anthony Ratliff-Williams (6'1" 200 Jr).
WR 3 RYAN SWITZER SR. 5-10 185 PS#45 13 gm, 341 (10.7), 502 PR (20.9) as true. 9 st, 757 (12.4) '14 9 st, 697 (12.7), 1st Tm ACC LY. **7 Austin Proehl** (5'10" 175 Jr) PS#185. Juval Mollette (6'4" 210 Jr) PS#43.
TE 82 Brandon Fritts So. 6-4 245 PS#37 1 st, 203 (12.7) LY. **86 Carl Tucker** (6'2" 240 Jr) PS#19.
8 Jake Lucas (6'4" 230 Jr) PS#34. Garrett Walston (6'4" 225 Fr) PS#23. **WR 18 Josh Cabrera** (6'3" 205 So) PS#115.
CB CECIL CROWLEY SR. 6-3 190 PS#120 1 st LG as true. 12 st C '14 14 st, 3rd Tm ACC LY. **52 Tommy Hatton** (6'3" 285 Jr) PS#22. **62 Mark Uptegraft** (6'2" 300 Jr) 1 gm LY. **LS 41 Kyle Murphy** (6'2" 225 Jr) PS#22 13 gm LY.
RG 77 John Ferranto Sr. 6-6 300 PS#212 10 gm bkp OT '13 13 st LT '14 4 st LT LY. **73 Brad Henson** (6'5" 290 Jr) PS#65 8 gm bkp '14 14 gm LY. **72 Mason Veal** (6'5" 300 Jr) PS#34. **LS 83 Charlie Heck** (6'7" 265 Fr).
LG 70 CALEB PETERSON SR. 6-5 300 PS#63 12 st LG, 2nd Tm Fr AA '13 1 st '14 14 st, 2nd Tm ACC LY. **74 Will Dancy** (6'4" 310 Sr) PS#41 11C 10 gm '13 2 st LG, 14 OFY LY (inj). Nick Polino (6'4" 275 Fr) PS#122.
RT 71 JON HECK SR. 6-7 300 PS#186 13 st RT Jr '11 st '14 14 st, 2nd Tm ACC LY. **76 RJ Prince** (6'6" 325 Jr) PS#58 7 gm bkp '14 13 gm LY. Jay-Jay McCargo is PS#62. Jonathan Trull (6'4" 310 Jr). Layton Barber (6'4" 275 So).
LT 75 BENTLEY SPAIN JR. 6-6 300 PS#24 10 gm bkp '14 10 st LY. **51 William Sweet** (6'7" 300 Fr) PS#41.
Luke Elder (6'4" 290 Jr) PS#98. Tyler Pritchett (6'4" 300 Fr) PS#103. **LS 61 Tommy Bancroft** (6'4" 215 So) PS#62.
K 24 NICK WEILER SR. 6-0 190 PS#240 13 gm, 5-8 fg, L/23, 35-37 PAT '14 14 st, 20-23 fg's, L/48, 67-67 PAT, 55 TB/103 KO LY, 3rd Tm ACC LY. **98 Freeman Jones** (6'0" 200 So) PS#2 3 gm LY. Tolson Jeffrey (6'0" 190 So).

DE 17 DAJUAN DRENNON JR. 6-4 255 PS#50 13 st, 36 tkl, 5.5 tfl '14 11 st, 39 tkl, 5 tfl LY. **95 Tyler Powell** (6'4" 290 Jr) PS#126 12 gm, 12 tkl as true. 11 gm, 23 tkl LY. Tomon Fox is PS#80. Josh Strickland (6'2" 220 So).
DT 30 NAZAIR JONES SO. 6-5 295 PS#65 13 gm, 35 tkl, 7.5 tfl, 5 pd '14 10 st, 40 tkl, 4 tfl, 3 pbu LY.
49 Jeremiah Clarke (6'3" 315 So) PS#79 2 st, 44 tkl LY. **92 Aaron Crawford** (6'1" 310 So) PS#91 2 gm, 6 tkl as true LY.
DT 97 Jalen Dalton So. 6-6 280 PS#13 1 st, 15 tkl as true LY. **93 Robert Dinkins** (6'1" 270 So) PS#106 3 st, 21 tkl, 1 sk LY. Kyree Campbell (6'4" 305 Fr) PS#71. Marlon Dunlap (6'4" 300 Fr) PS#171. Matt Gampe (6'5" 225 So).
DE 45 MIKEY BART SR. 6-3 270 PS#153 2 st, 8 tkl, 1 sk '13 13 gm, 12 tkl, 1 sk '14 14 st, 29 tkl, 6.5 tfl, 9 qbh LY. **53 Malik Carney** (6'3" 230 So) PS#135 3 gm, 12 tkl LY. Jason Strowbridge (6'4" 250 Jr) PS#98.
WLB 41 JB Copeland Jr. 6-3 225 PS#260 1 st, 43 tkl, 3 tfl at NMSt as true '14. JC LY. IFS. **36 Cole Holcomb** (6'1" 215 So) 14 gm, 15 tkl LY. **47 Dan Mastromatteo** (6'2" 235 Sr) PS#85 19 gm, 7 tkl F2Y 14 gm, 2 tkl LY.
WLB 10 ANDRE SMITH SO. 6-0 235 PS#67 3 st, 53 tkl, 2 tfl as true LY. **7 Jonathan Smith** (6'1" 230 Fr) PS#70. Dominique Ross is PS#92. **52 Kemmi Pettway** (6'2" 240 Jr). Tyrone Hopper is PS#103. Keith Beasley (6'1" 210 So).
SLB 23 Cayson Collins Jr. 6-1 235 PS#72 1 st, 36 tkl as true. 2 st, 38 tkl, 3 tfl LY. Johnathon Sutton (5'11" 220 Jr) PS#42. **25 Ayden Bonilla** (6'2" 220 So) PS#251 14 gm, 6 tkl LY. **57 Marlon Petty** (6'5" 190 So).
CB 6 MJ STEWART JR. 5-11 200 PS#77 12 gm, 26 tkl, 4 pbu, 2 int as true. 12 st, 62 tkl, 2 tfl, 14 pbu, 4 int, 2nd Tm ACC LY. **18 Corey Bell** (5'9" 170 So) PS#113 2 gm LY. **NB Patrice Rene** is PS#37. Hunter Crawford (6'2" 225 Jr).
CB 2 DESMOND LAWRENCE SR. 6-1 185 PS#101 12 st, 71 tkl, 3.5 tfl '14 14 st, 59 tkl, 2.5 tfl, 14 pbu, 2 int, 2nd Tm ACC LY. **11 Myles Wolfolk** is PS#109. IFS. **1 Mike Hughes** (5'11" 185 So) PS#59 12 gm, 11 tkl LY. ? '16.
SS 15 DONNIE MILES JR. 5-11 200 PS#103 6 st, 53 tkl '14 14 st, 128 tkl, 2 tfl LY. **4 Allen Artis** (6'1" 205 Jr) PS#82 1 st, 14 tkl as true. 12 gm, 5 tkl LY. **31 Cameron Albright** (6'1" 210 So) PS#98. Stephen Albright (6'2" 195 So).
FS 26 Dominique Green Sr. 5-11 190 13 st, 59 tkl, 5 pbu, 3 int as true. 9 st, 41 tkl, 2 pbu '14 14 gm, 41 tkl, 2 int LY. **29 JK Britt** (6'0" 195 So) PS#104 10 gm, 8 tkl, 2 pbu LY. **21 Myles Dorn** (6'2" 185 Fr) PS#76.
P 14 JAY JOY MANGILI SR. 6-3 210 2 punts (41.5) rFr. 2 punts (24.5) '14 14 gm, 24 punts (40.8), L/41, tm net 135.0 LY. Corbin Daly (6'3" 200 So) PS#12 13 gm, L/56, tm net 35.9 LY. Hunter Lent (6'5" 230 So) 6 punts (37.5) LY.

