

WEEK ONE  
PURDUE at NEVADA

Nevada stuns on 56-yard FG; K gets scholarship  
RENO, Nev. -- When Nevada quarterback Carson Strong and kicker Brandon Talton attended high school in Vacaville, California, neither paid close attention to the other.

They were a year apart and attended rival schools.

But last year, when they met up in Vacaville at a football game, Strong pitched Nevada to Talton.

A year later on Friday, Strong got his first start at Nevada, and he would not have won without Talton kicking a 56-yard field as time expired, booting the Wolf Pack to a 34-31 victory over Purdue and capping a 17-point comeback for the second win in program history against a Big Ten school.

Talton, a walk-on who was told Friday morning he would be the starting kicker, said his previous long in a game was 47 yards.

After playing in his first collegiate game, Talton was awarded a formal scholarship by head coach Jay Norvell in the locker room.

Strong got the nod as starter about two weeks ago and became the first freshman quarterback to start a season opener for Nevada since 1998.

Strong hadn't started a football game since 2017. He sat out his senior year at Wood High in Vacaville and again last year as a redshirt at Nevada. He completed 30 of 51 passes for 295 yards and three touchdowns on Friday.

"The first quarter was moving a little bit fast," Strong said. "I wasn't seeing my reads as well as I needed to, but as the game went on ... it was basically moving in slow motion."

Nevada went into the break trailing 24-7 and were behind 31-17 at the start of the fourth quarter. The 17-point Nevada comeback tied the program's second largest since 1996.

With the score tied and 32 seconds remaining, Purdue quarterback Elijah Sindelar threw an interception to defensive back Daniel Brown.

Nevada had tied the contest with 52 seconds left on Strong's 20-yard pass to Elijah Cooks.

"It was a pretty amazing game," Norvell said. "One of the best I have ever been a part of ... could not have been prouder of how we fought and held on there until the end of the game."

Sindelara recorded a career-high 423 passing yards and four touchdowns, but the Boilermakers lost the turnover battle 5-0, and two of those turnovers were Sindelar interceptions.

"It's more than disappointing," Purdue coach Jeff Brohm said. "I didn't like it. I got to do some things to get everything fixed."

Purdue wideout Rondale Moore displayed his big-play capability in his first half but was contained for most of the second half. He finished with 11 catches for 124 yards and one touchdown.

"We just want to show that we can play with anybody in the country," Nevada's Brown said. "I know they say, 'Power 5 this,' but the Mountain West plays some pretty good football."

**TALTON'S MIGHTY BOOT**

Talton's 56-yard field goal as time expired was the third longest in Nevada program history. The other two: Damon Fine (58 yards in 2001) and Tony Zendejas (58 in 1983).

**TUNROVER MARGIN**

When Nevada played Purdue in 2016 -- the only other time the two programs met -- the Boilermakers committed four turnovers and Nevada committed none, but Purdue still won 24-14. In two games against Nevada, Purdue has a turnover differential of 9-0.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Purdue: Purdue's five turnovers and its inability to score in the second half (seven points) opened the door for a dramatic Nevada comeback.

Nevada: Strong, the first Nevada freshman to start a season opener at quarterback, tied the school's second-largest comeback since 1996 and grabbed the program's second victory against a Big Ten team.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
PUR	10	14	7	0	31
NEV	0	7	10	17	34

**Scoring Summary -----**

	PUR	NEV
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
PUR TD 9:37 Brycen Hopkins 2 Yd pass from Elijah Sindelar (J.D. Dellinger Kick)		
12 plays, 70 yards, 5:23	7	0
PUR FG 2:05 J.D. Dellinger 32 Yd Field Goal		
8 plays, 34 yards, 3:29	10	0
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
NEV TD 4:43 Dominic Christian 38 Yd pass from Carson Strong (Brandon Talton Kick)		
7 plays, 53 yards, 2:19	10	7
PUR TD 3:15 Jackson Anthrop 38 Yd pass from Elijah Sindelar (J.D. Dellinger Kick)		
5 plays, 75 yards, 1:28	17	7
PUR TD 0:27 Rondale Moore 39 Yd pass from Elijah Sindelar (J.D. Dellinger Kick)		
10 plays, 99 yards, 2:09	24	7
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
NEV TD 6:49 Elijah Cooks 21 Yd pass from Carson Strong (Brandon Talton Kick)		
4 plays, 36 yards, 1:28	24	14
PUR TD 6:19 David Bell 49 Yd pass from Elijah Sindelar (J.D. Dellinger Kick)		
2 plays, 75 yards, 0:30	31	14
NEV FG 3:21 Brandon Talton 34 Yd Field Goal		
4 plays, -3 yards, 1:01	31	17
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
NEV TD 6:56 Toa Taua 7 Yd Run (Brandon Talton Kick)		
11 plays, 74 yards, 5:07	31	24
NEV TD 0:52 Elijah Cooks 20 Yd pass from Carson Strong (Brandon Talton Kick)		
11 plays, 87 yards, 2:40	31	31
NEV FG 0:00 Brandon Talton 56 Yd Field Goal		
6 plays, 27 yards, 0:38	31	34

Team Stats	PUR	NEV
First Downs	24	19
Passes for First	16	13
Rushes for First	8	5
Penalties for First	0	1
Third Down Efficiency	9-18	5-17
Fourth Down Efficiency	2-2	2-2
Total Yards	519	404
Total Plays	81	77
Avg Gain Per Play	6.4	5.2
Net Yards Rushing	96	109
Rushes	29	25
Yards Per Rush	3.3	4.4
Stat Name		
Net Yards Passing	423	295
Comp-Att	34-52	30-52
Yards Per Pass	8.1	5.7
Times Sacked	1	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-3	-1
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	5	10
Punt Average	42.8	47.1
Penalties	6	11
Penalty Yards	55	95
Fumbles	5	0
Fumbles Lost	3	0
Time of Poss	31:23	28:37

**Individual Stats**

<b>RUSHING</b>					
	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>PURDUE</b>					
Zander Horvath	19	66	3.5	0	13
Elijah Sindelar	7	26	3.7	0	9
Rondale Moore	2	3	1.5	0	4
King Doerue	1	1	1.0	0	1
<b>NEVADA</b>					
Toa Taua	12	56	4.7	1	8
Carson Strong	6	34	5.7	0	12
Kelton Moore	5	16	3.2	0	7
Jaxson Kincaide	2	3	1.5	0	3

<b>PASSING</b>							
	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Elijah Sindelar	34	52	423	8.1	4	2	80.4
<b>NEVADA</b>							
Carson Strong	30	51	295	5.8	3	0	58.6

<b>RECEIVING</b>					
	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>PURDUE</b>					
Rondale Moore	11	124	11.3	1	39
Brycen Hopkins	6	84	14.0	1	26
Amad Anderson Jr.	6	60	10.0	0	17
David Bell	1	49	49.0	1	49
Jackson Anthrop	1	38	38.0	1	38
Jared Sparks	3	26	8.7	0	21
Milton Wright	3	21	7.0	0	11
Zander Horvath	3	21	7.0	0	11
<b>NEVADA</b>					
Toa Taua	8	64	8.0	0	15
Elijah Cooks	7	60	8.6	2	21
Kaleb Fossum	6	58	9.7	0	21
Romeo Doubs	5	47	9.4	0	23
Dominic Christian	2	41	20.5	1	38
Ben Putman	1	21	21.0	0	21
Jaxson Kincaide	1	4	4.0	0	4