Brown

Former Ivy League POY James Perry took over as HC at Brown in '19. Perry spent his 2 years at Bryan where he led the Bulldogs to B2B 6-5 seasons. Brown matched or decreased their win total every year from 2011, culminating in 2018's 1-9 campaign and the resignation of Phil Estes after 21 years as HC. Last year they had 11 starters back, a new OC and OL Cch. All but 1 of Brown's 9 losses were by 14 pts or more and they finished -210 ypg and -228 ypg in Ivy League Play. Brown bottomed out last year in '19 in every statistical category, lost 15 straight Ivy League games. They had 14 returning starters including 9 on offense and improved to -36 but still only went 2-8.

 In '17 Brown slipped to just 13 ppg and 279 ypg then in '18 barely improved, avg 14.3 ppg and 286 ypg. In '19 Brown hired former star QB HC James Perry who was a Walter Peyton Finalist as a Sr here. The offense flourished under Perry, putting up 30 ppg and 455 ypg. Another huge reason for their improvement was the addition of Boston College transfer QB EJ Perry (PS#97). Perry topped 300 on 5 occasions including 420 vs Rhode Island and 412 vs Dartmouth. He finished with 2,948 (60%, 22-13) and also led with 730 (5.1). Perry returns after setting an Ivy League record for total offense with 3,678 yards. Mike McGovern, who led in '18 with 2,202 (52%, 8-10) also returns as the backup. In '18 Allen Smith was the only RB to top 100 rush yds, as he led with just 175 (4.3). Last year Smith returned, and they could only get better after an abysmal '18. Smith ran for 109 vs Princeton and 113 vs Columbia. He finished with 550 (4.7). Smith returns while Andrew Bolton (115, 3.0) departs and no other RB topped 100 in '19 so depth is a concern. In '18 Brown had 4 WR's top 300 yards. In '19 4 of their top 5 returned including their top 2 in LJ Harriot (413,13.3, 140 rush) and Jakob Prall (394, 15.8). Brown had 5 top 300 yards in '19. Prall led with 594 (12.4) while Harriot was #2 with 464 917.2) and Scott Boylan was #3 with 455 (13.4). This year All 3 are gone along with Demitiri Jackson (398, 9.7) and 1st Tm All-Ivy TE Emerson Logie (282, 10.4). Only 2 of their top 6 return and no WR/TE on the roster started a game in '19. With only 2 returning starters back in '18 Brown rushed for just dropped to an Ivy League worst 65 (2.5) rush ypg but only allowed 9 sacks. In '19 they had 4 starters back in HC Perry's first year and they jumped to 153 (4.4) but sacks jumped to 35! This year once again 2 starters return. They do get 2nd Tm All-Ivy LT Chad Broome-Webster back and while they are less experienced, they are in the 2nd year of Perry's system and had plenty of time to gel in the offseason.

In 2017 Brown allowed their most ypg since 2007 at 420. They allowed an Ivy League high 34.3 ppg and 432 ypg in conference play. In '18 they returned just 3 starters and was even worse, allowing 36.2 ppg and 495 ypg (37.6 ppg and 507 ypg in Ivy League)! In '19 HC Perry inherited a defense with 5 returning starters. For the third straight season this was the worst defense in the Ivy League, allowing 40.2 ppg and 490 ypg. Brown allowed 259 rush ypg (5.5) in '18 and produced just 9 sacks. In '19 they had just 1 starter back and made a dramatic improvement, allowing 148 rush ypg (4.1, 14 sk). This year both starting DT's depart including 1st Tm All-Ivy DT Michael Hoecht (9 st, #5 tkl'r, 4 sk). Also gone is Elijah Pierre (7 st, 13 tkl, 3 sk) and Brian Mercer (1 st, 14 tkl, 3 tfl). Both starting DE's return and they actually have 4 of their top 5 back, making this the strength of the defense. In '19 Brown returned 5 of their top 6 LB's. They did lose Kingsley Ejiogu-Dike after 3 games (11 tkl) but their LB's made up their #1, #2 and #4, #8, #13 & #15 tkl'rs. This year they return 4 of their top 7. Gone are Brendan Pyne (10 st, #1 tkl'r), Alexander Hughes (1 st, #8 tkl'r) and Jared Cutlip (5 st, #15 tkl'r). The Bears finished last in pass efficiency defense in both '17 & '18. They only had 1 starter back in '19 but also got their #7 and #12 tkl'rs back. Brown's pass defense went from 243 ypg allowed in '18 up to 343 ypg in '19 (64.4%, 32-5). This year Brown returns all 4 starters and 8 that started at least 1 game in '19. They have their #3, #6, #7 and #10 and #11 tkl'rs all back. They've finished last in the Ivy League in pass efficiency defense 3 straight years. They've got the experience to get out of the basement but will need to make dramatic improvements.

Dawson Goepferich made 7-10 fg's (L/35) in '19. He also handled P and KO duties, avg 38.1 ypp (32.1 net) and had 31 TB on 57 KO. Dan Gemmell avg'd just 4.0 PR and Scott Boylan avg'd 18.3 KR. This year they lose their do it all K/P Goepferich and will need to improve their coverage units after allowing 10.0 PR and 23.9 KR.

In James Perry's first year Brown improved dramatically on offense but the defense still lagged well behind. They return 11 starters including 7 on defense and EJ Perry is the top QB in the Ivy League. Brown only has 3 Ivy League home games and all 3 non-conf foes played in spring but they should top '19's 2 win total.