

## Colgate

In '18 the Raiders brought back 18 starters and 17 of their top 20 tacklers were back on defense. Colgate won their first 9 games, and over an 8 game stretch, the Raiders allowed just 12 points including a 2 game stretch where they allowed 64 total yards! In '19 they had just 7 starters back and faced much stiffer competition in league play. They lost 7 All-Patriot defensive players and naturally they took a big step back. They allowed 34+ points in each of their first 5 games and started 0-7 before winning 4 of their last 5 (-76 ypg). They went 0-2 in spring with both games on the road then HC Dan Hunt surprisingly resigned in May. Longtime Asst HC/DB Cch Stan Dakotsy takes over as Interim HC.

In '17 avg'd 341 ypg and 28 ppg then basically matched those numbers in '18 with 9 starters back, putting up 344 ypg and 27 ppg. Only 4 starters were back in '19 and they dipped to 293 ypg and just 14.8 ppg then they put up just 9 ppg and 305 ypg in their 2 spring games. QB Grant Breneman was the Patriot League Frosh POY in '17 when he threw for 1,594 (57%, 18-5) and rushed for 401 (3.0) in 9 starts. In '18 he threw for 1,605 (62%) but his ratio was only 6-4 and he dipped to 307 (2.3) rush. In '19 Breneman started 10 and threw for 1,593 (60.8%) but his ratio again dipped to 5-5 and he dipped to 212 rush (1.8). He also started both games in spring, throwing for 419 (54.7%) with a 0-5 ratio (90 rush, 3.9). Breneman returns as a 5 year starter but his numbers have progressively gotten worse each season. Jake Froschauer (189, 55.3%, 1-2) started 1 game in '19 and if Breneman doesn't show improvement he could have a short leash. In '19 Colgate lost a 2<sup>nd</sup> Tm AA RB. Alex Mathews led with 495 (4.2). Malik Twyman was #2 with 461 (4.5, 153 rec). Twyman added 31 (2.4) in the spring. Both Mathews and Twyman departed. Max Hurleman is their only experienced RB after picking up 46 (3.8, 48 rec) in spring. Colgate lost their top 3 WR's and a starting TE in '19. Garrett Oakey led with 736 (12.7). TE Nick Diaco was #2 with 366 (14.1). Nick Gill added 288 (10.3) and Nick Draught had 261 (10.4). Oakey also led in spring with 128 (16.0). Three of their top 4 from '19 are gone but Oakey is returning. Myles Bradley (71, 11.8) and Joshua Szott (65, 10.8) got valuable experience in spring. They are actually more experienced than they were entering '19. Colgate lost two 1<sup>st</sup> Tm All Patriot OL in '19. They fell to just 123 rush ypg (3.2) and sacks went from 30 in '18 to 49 in '19! Jovaughn Woolford transferred to Rice and they fell to 93 (2.6) in spring (3 sk). This year Colgate also loses LG Jack Badovinac and bkp LT Charlie Holsopple. They do get 3 starters back and 6 return with starting experience.

In 2018 the Rams had 9 defensive starters returning in their 3-4 defense. They gave up 282 yards and 17 pts in the opener vs Holy Cross then went on a historical run over their next 8 games, allowing just 12 total points and 181 ypg. Colgate posted a ridiculous 5 shutouts in a 6 game stretch. They held Army to 286 yds (115 yds below their avg) before nearly giving up as many points in their final 2 games (55) as they had allowed in the first 10! In '19 only 4 starters returned but all 4 were All-Patriot. They allowed 34 points or more in each of their first 5 games but did allow 20 or less in 4 of their L/5. The Raiders fell to 27 ppg and 369 ypg allowed. They gave up 32 ppg and 347 ypg in the spring. Colgate 7 of their first 9 foes under 100 rush yds in '18 then were gashed for 233 (4.9) in the L/3 vs Army/JMU/NDSU. Their struggles continued in '19, allowing 306 rush (6.1) in their F/3 before leveling out, allowing just 128 (3.7) in Patriot League play (176, 4.7, 21 sk overall). This year Colgate loses NT Jacob Esarco (12 st, #12 tk'l'r, 3 tfl), 1<sup>st</sup> Tm All Patriot DE Nick Wheeler (13 st, #9 tk'l'r, 9.5 sk, 8.5 tfl) and NT Cam Rohr (3 st, 3 tkl). Two starters are gone but DE Abdoul Koyate returns from injury (2 st & OFY in '19) and they gained experience in spring. Colgate lost 4 of their top 5 LB's heading into '19 including the Patriot League Def POY. Their only returning starter, Nicholas Ioanilli was their top tackler in '19 (6.5 tfl) but didn't return for spring. This year they also lose #2 tk'l'r Milton Braasch (8 st), Hayden Howren (2 st, #13 tk'l'r) and Prince Ekwughalu (1 st, 6 tkl spg). Two starters return and they get back their #6, #8 and #11 tk'l'rs so they are in much better shape. In '19 Colgate lost 3 starters from a unit that allowed just 137 pass ypg (50.5%, 5-15) and finished #1 in Patriot League pass efficiency D. They still only allowed 53.2% but jumped to 193 pass ypg and the ratio flipped to 16-4 and they dropped to #4 in pass efficiency. This year they lose 2x 1<sup>st</sup> Tm All-Patriot CB Abu Daramy-Swaray (13 st, #4 tk'l'r, 10 pbu), FS Aidan Gaertner (12 st, #3 tk'l'r), SS Jordan Jefferson (8 st, #14 tk'l'r) and Marques Bruce (4 st, #10 tk'l'r). Only 1 starter returns and they are actually even younger than they were in '19.

Chris Puzzi made 6-9 fg's in '19. Barney Armor avg'd 42.1 ypg (39.6 net). Abu Daramy Swaray avg'd 8.7 PR and William Gruber had 799 KR yds (22.2). Puzzi and Armor were both gone in spring and their replacements didn't fare well (1-3 fg's) so this unit is down a couple notches.

Only 8 starters return for Colgate but they did gain valuable experience in the spring with many young guys seeing action. The big question is if Grant Breneman can finally turn around a once promising career. The Raiders only play 5 home games and have a new head coach so they could be taking another step back.