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## Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by A\_King - 2007/07/24 13:42

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NOTE: This was intended to be published on the homepage, but along with double posts and other issues with script, apparently the text editor for article publishing has some bugs when adding pictures. New lines get added spacing paragraphs out unnaturally, and lines get deleted making my lists of standings look like the ticker tape of the International Stock Exchange. My best solution, and to allow comments to be added, is to post the article here. I just have to deal with the space deficit and lack of text wrap around images.

Fans predict four MWC teams will go 7-5

Aaron King  
COUGARBLUE

[http://www.riseandshout.org/335/CB\\_MWCFanPreseasonpicks\\_logo.gif](http://www.riseandshout.org/335/CB_MWCFanPreseasonpicks_logo.gif)

Recently polled MT West fans predict what may happen for each game in 2007. Taking you through a Simulated 2007 season, the fan survey results reveal what exciting storylines may take place week after week.

If you don't have the patience to read through all the results scroll down to the bottom now and refer to the final graphic that shows the overall records for each MWC team according to 300+ MT West fans.

[http://www.riseandshout.org/335/2007preseasonpicks\\_pred2006standings.gif](http://www.riseandshout.org/335/2007preseasonpicks_pred2006standings.gif)

Last year, MT West fans predicted the results of the 2006 season. In that survey over 400 fans were polled, about 70 more than the number that participated in this years poll, and their results proved to have some pretty good perspectives although a good many of them were wrong.

TCU didn't finish first, but TCU did beat all of their out of conference (OOC) opponents. Fans didn't see TCU losing to both Utah and BYU. Nor did they see Utah losing to BYU, Wyoming, and New Mexico.

BYU went undefeated in conference play while New Mexico did not become bowl eligible by their seventh game like what last year's fans had predicted. While it would have been an amazing season for the Lobos, starting off 6-0, in reality they only got their sixth win on the last week of the season against San Diego State.

[http://www.riseandshout.org/335/2007preseasonpicks\\_final2006standings.gif](http://www.riseandshout.org/335/2007preseasonpicks_final2006standings.gif)

Fans were right, however, that UNLV would have a 2-10 season. They weren't far off when they predicted CSU would have a poor showing in 2006. The fans even gave CSU some credit predicting three conference wins, but the Rams managed to get only one.

Wyoming surprised fan prognostications by beating Utah. When only looking at conference records, and having beaten the Utes in their head-to-head contest, Wyoming really was the third best team in the MWC last year, not Utah. That extra win was a small difference from the original expectation but it shot Wyoming from a sixth place finish to a fourth or third depending on who you ask.

Will Wyoming surprise the fans again this year? Not likely, since fan predictions were mostly in favor of the Cowboys having a winning season. Wyoming success won't be a surprise to the fans at all.

After all was said and done, fans knew how to predict the best and the worst of the MWC but last year - a lot like EVERY year in the Mountain West Conference - the fourth through seventh place finishes are anybody's guess.

What did MWC fans pick for those spots this year? Well, it's about time I get to the point:

MT West Fan Survey Results of 2007

Week One

UNLV @ Utah State  
Utah @ Oregon State  
Colorado State @ Colorado  
Virginia @ Wyoming  
South Carolina State @ Air Force  
Arizona @ BYU  
Baylor @ TCU  
New Mexico @ UTEP

Games with closest margin of votes: Wyoming and Utah

Interesting Story of the Week: MWC teams start off season 7-1

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AF 1-0  
BYU 1-0  
CSU 1-0  
NM 1-0  
TCU 1-0  
UNLV 1-0  
Wyo 1-0  
Utah 0-1  
SDSU 0-0

#### Week Two

Cal @ Colorado State  
Utah State @ Wyoming  
BYU @ UCLA  
Air Force @ Utah  
SDSU @ Washington State  
TCU @ Texas  
Wisconsin @ UNLV  
New Mexico State @ New Mexico

Games with closest margin of votes: TCU and BYU  
Interesting Story of the Week: After great first week, MWC goes only 2-5 in OOC

Utah 1-0 (1-1)  
NM 0-0 (2-0)  
Wyo 0-0 (2-0)  
BYU 0-0 (1-1)  
CSU 0-0 (1-1)  
TCU 0-0 (1-1)  
UNLV 0-0 (1-1)  
SDSU 0-0 (0-1)  
AF 0-1 (1-1)

#### Week Three

TCU @ Air Force  
UCLA @ Utah  
Wyoming @ Boise State  
Hawaii @ UNLV  
SDSU @ Arizona State  
BYU @ Tulsa  
New Mexico @ Arizona

Games with closest margin of votes: Utah  
Interesting Story of the Week: Wyoming and New Mexico each get first loss of season

TCU 1-0 (2-1)  
Utah 1-0 (1-2)  
NM 0-0 (2-1)  
Wyo 0-0 (2-1)  
BYU 0-0 (2-1)  
CSU 0-0 (1-1)  
UNLV 0-0 (1-2)  
SDSU 0-0 (0-2)  
AF 0-2 (1-2)

#### Week Four

Air Force @ BYU  
Colorado State @ Houston  
Portland State @ SDSU  
Wyoming @ Ohio

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Sacramento State @ New Mexico  
Utah @ UNLV  
SMU @ TCU

Games with closest margin of votes: Colorado St.  
Interesting Story of the Week: SDSU gets first win

Utah 2-0 (2-2)  
TCU 1-0 (3-1)  
BYU 1-0 (3-1)  
NM 0-0 (3-1)  
Wyo 0-0 (3-1)  
CSU 0-0 (2-1)  
SDSU 0-0 (1-2)  
UNLV 0-1 (1-3)  
AF 0-3 (1-3)

#### Week Five

Air Force @ Navy  
Utah State @ Utah  
UNLV @ Nevada  
Colorado State @ TCU  
BYU @ New Mexico  
Cincinnati @ SDSU

Games with closest margin of votes: Air Force, SDSU, and UNLV  
Interesting Story of the Week: SDSU breaks .500 with win over OOC opponent Cinci

Utah 2-0 (3-2)  
TCU 2-0 (4-1)  
BYU 2-0 (4-1)  
Wyo 0-0 (3-1)  
SDSU 0-0 (2-2)  
NM 0-1 (3-2)  
CSU 0-1 (2-2)  
UNLV 0-1 (1-4)  
AF 0-3 (1-4)

#### Week Six

Utah @ Louisville  
TCU @ Wyoming  
SDSU @ Colorado State  
UNLV @ Air Force

Games with closest margin of votes: None were close in the polls  
Interesting Story of the Week: TCU is now 3-0 in conf. play now frontrunners for title

TCU 3-0 (5-1)  
Utah 2-0 (3-3)  
BYU 2-0 (4-1)  
CSU 1-1 (3-2)  
NM 0-1 (3-2)  
Wyo 0-1 (3-2)  
SDSU 0-1 (2-3)  
UNLV 0-2 (1-5)  
AF 1-3 (2-4)

#### Week Seven

New Mexico @ Wyoming

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SDSU @ Utah  
TCU @ Stanford  
Air Force @ Colorado State  
BYU @ UNLV

Games with closest margin of votes: Wyoming  
Interesting Story of the Week: TCU becomes bowl eligible with win at Stanford

TCU 3-0 (6-1)  
Utah 3-0 (4-3)  
BYU 3-0 (5-1)  
CSU 2-1 (4-2)  
Wyo 1-1 (4-2)  
NM 0-2 (3-3)  
SDSU 0-2 (2-4)  
UNLV 0-3 (1-6)  
AF 1-4 (2-5)

#### Week Eight

Utah @ TCU  
Wyoming @ Air Force  
E. Washington @ BYU  
New Mexico @ SDSU  
Colorado State @ UNLV

Games with closest margin of votes: None  
Interesting Story of the Week: BYU is 2nd team bowl eligible with CSU and Wyo 1 game away

TCU 4-0 (7-1)  
BYU 3-0 (6-1)  
Utah 3-1 (4-4)  
CSU 3-1 (5-2)  
Wyo 2-1 (5-2)  
NM 1-2 (4-3)  
SDSU 0-3 (2-5)  
UNLV 0-4 (1-7)  
AF 1-5 (2-6)

#### Week Nine

Air Force @ New Mexico  
UNLV @ Wyoming  
Utah @ Colorado State  
BYU @ SDSU

Games with closest margin of votes: None  
Interesting Story of the Week: Wyoming becomes third MWC team bowl eligible

TCU 4-0 (7-1)  
BYU 4-0 (7-1)  
Utah 4-1 (5-4)  
Wyo 3-1 (6-2)  
CSU 3-2 (5-3)  
NM 2-2 (5-3)  
SDSU 0-4 (2-6)  
UNLV 0-5 (1-8)  
AF 1-6 (2-7)

#### Week Ten

Colorado State @ BYU  
Army @ Air Force

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New Mexico @ TCU  
Wyoming @ SDSU

Games with closest margin of votes: Wyoming  
Interesting Story of the Week: BYU and TCU both win, should rise in polls, and now set to face each other with the record 8-1 and undefeated in conference play

TCU 5-0 (8-1)  
BYU 5-0 (8-1)  
Utah 4-1 (5-4)  
Wyo 4-1 (7-2)  
CSU 3-3 (5-4)  
NM 2-3 (5-4)  
SDSU 0-5 (2-7)  
UNLV 0-5 (1-8)  
AF 1-6 (3-7)

#### Week Eleven

TCU @ BYU  
Colorado State @ New Mexico  
Wyoming @ Utah  
Air Force @ Notre Dame  
SDSU @ UNLV

Games with closest margin of votes: TCU and SDSU  
Interesting Story of the Week: TCU topples BYU taking firm hold on championship, New Mexico and Utah become bowl eligible

TCU 6-0 (9-1)  
BYU 5-1 (8-2)  
Utah 5-1 (6-4)  
Wyo 4-2 (7-3)  
NM 3-3 (6-4)  
CSU 3-4 (5-5)  
SDSU 1-5 (3-7)  
AF 1-6 (3-8)  
UNLV 0-6 (1-9)

#### Week Twelve

BYU @ Wyoming  
Georgia Southern @ Colorado State  
SDSU @ Air Force  
New Mexico @ Utah  
UNLV @ TCU

Games with closest margin of votes: Air Force  
Interesting Story of the Week: TCU clinches share of title, BYU and Utah set to fight for 2nd in MWC, and Colorado State becomes 6th bowl eligible team

TCU 7-0 (10-1)  
BYU 6-1 (9-2)  
Utah 6-1 (7-4)  
Wyo 4-3 (7-4)  
NM 3-4 (6-5)  
CSU 3-4 (6-5)  
AF 2-6 (4-8)  
SDSU 1-6 (3-8)  
UNLV 0-7 (1-10)

#### Week Thirteen

Wyoming @ Colorado State  
Utah @ BYU  
UNLV @ New Mexico  
TCU @ SDSU

Games with closest margin of votes: Colorado State

Interesting Story of the Week: TCU clinches outright title marking 4th straight year MWC champion goes undefeated, BYU seals 2nd place with win against rivals, Colorado State claims victory in the Border War.

TCU 8-0 (11-1)  
BYU 7-1 (10-2)  
Utah 6-2 (7-5)  
Wyo 4-4 (7-5)  
NM 4-4 (7-5)  
CSU 4-4 (7-5)  
AF 2-6 (4-8)  
SDSU 1-7 (3-9)  
UNLV 0-8 (1-11)

[http://www.riseandshout.org/335/prestandings\\_poll\\_2007.gif](http://www.riseandshout.org/335/prestandings_poll_2007.gif)

With TCU only having one-loss they stand in GREAT shape to go to this years 5th BCS bowl, leaving the Las Vegas bowl and Pac-10 match-up for 10-2 BYU. New Mexico will be going to the New Mexico Bowl again to face the WAC and hopefully WIN this time. Utah will likely go to the Poinsettia Bowl or the Armed Forces Bowl with their 7-5 record. With the Armed Forces bowl being on New Years Eve and featuring a Pac-Ten tie-in, they will probably invite Utah.

The Poinsettia bowl is a question mark for me. The choices are, in this simulation, CSU or Wyoming. Wyoming played stronger all year long, while CSU was predicted to beat Wyoming in the head to head. If it was my vote, I would take Wyoming.

#### Bowl Game Summary

BCS bowl " 11-1 TCU  
Las Vegas bowl " 10-2 BYU  
Armed Forces Bowl " 7-5 Utah  
Poinsettia Bowl " 7-5 Wyoming  
New Mexico Bowl " 7-5 New Mexico

With all this consensus opinion on the 2007 season, it is easy to see where some real swing games are. Will BYU lose to TCU at home? Can Utah beat Oregon State and with one-win make their record look much nicer at 8-4? Will Wyoming lose to CSU after shutting them out last season, or will they also be 8-4? Will we have two or more teams from the MWC ranked this year?

Man, I can't wait!

This survey was supposed to help me get through the next two-week wait for fall camp!but instead I just feel that much more desperate for Football to begin!

Aaron King can be reached at [aaronking@riseandshout.org](mailto:aaronking@riseandshout.org).

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by A\_King - 2007/07/24 13:43

Sorry the graphics stretch the screen, they were set to be used in the format the text editor for articles was using. So, there has to be a compromise I guess...

Nah, it's not too bad. It lets comments have their regular screen space showing the username and everything, so it's ok.

Enjoy the read!

Post edited by: A\_King, at: 2007/07/24 13:44

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by Khinkaid - 2007/07/24 14:02

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Wow, thanks for doing this! Definitely going to be an interesting season.

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by kenj - 2007/07/24 14:06

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Thanks for taking the time and effort to do this. I can't wait to see the real results and compare. As soon as my 6 hours are up karma to you. Let's hope we again go undefeated at home. Then this will change. Go Cougs

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by Phillycougar - 2007/07/24 14:11

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A\_King wrote:

Sorry the graphics stretch the screen, they were set to be used in the format the text editor for articles was using. So, there has to be a compromise I guess...

Nah, it's not too bad. It lets comments have their regular screen space showing the username and everything, so it's ok.

Enjoy the read!<br><br>Post edited by: A\_King, at: 2007/07/24 13:44

Where did the polled fans come from?

I was suprized to see fans from the MWC predict BYU to go 10-2, I would have thought that a 10-2 would have been more of a BYU fan prediction.

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by A\_King - 2007/07/24 14:18

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Thanks for the comments guys and recognizing the time it has taken me to do all this! :P (Even more so with the homepage publisher geeking out on me...)

@Philly, yep these are the MT West fans! :cheer: They see good things for BYU and the majority think that BYU's toughest games will be UCLA and TCU. The vast majority had us winning at home against Arizona easily, and even over Utah.

If it was me, those two games are closer and we could even lose on the road to New Mexico this year.

Another team to watch is Wyoming. Karsten Sween seems to be getting plenty of expectations thrown onto his shoulders, but with their OOC, Wyoming could go 8-4 and get some respect in the top 30 polls.

Post edited by: A\_King, at: 2007/07/24 14:19

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by HuskerFan2 - 2007/07/24 14:59

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Karma for that fine review.

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I see some possible discrepancies since the talent level of the MWC is slightly improved this season (vs last)

#### TCU

I suspect TCU will drop a game against AFA, BYU and/or Utah. Those are ALL Thursday night games. (Something that BYU fans would freak out about if it happened to BYU)

The AFA game is right after the Texas game. That has emotional letdown upset written all over it.

The Utah game is right after the road game against Stanford.

The BYU game is on the road right after having to game plan for Rocky Long's 3-3-5.

TCU has a rough schedule.

#### Utah

Your analysis is right on except they'll drop a game against UNM. UNM is 4 out of 5 and it is right before the BYU game. (a la 2005) They could also drop a game against Wyoming or CSU depending on how well Brian Johnson has worked on his turnover problem.

#### BYU

The early conference opponents are the biggest possible upsets while BYU's offense finds its style in 2007. BYU could lose to UNM. (The 3-3-5 might give Hall problems) Wyoming could also be a game that gets lost between the emotions of the TCU and Utah games. Not to mention Wyoming weather in November. There are no easy games for BYU in November. If they do not have the offense running well they could lose 3 out of 4.

I wouldn't be surprised to see a tie for MWC #1. Even 3 way.

Post edited by: HuskerFan2, at: 2007/07/24 15:15

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### Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by declocoug - 2007/07/24 17:53

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Great work on the article. That's an awesome survey. BUT come on fans!!! TCU is not going to come into LES and take another one from BYU. It ain't gonna happen. by then Max is going to be a fine player and BYU should have some running game established. What it really might come down to is whose QB is going to develop quicker. I think that Max will come out on top and BYU dominates, without the second half melt down of 05. that was one loooooonnnngggggg frustrating second half.

Post edited by: declocoug, at: 2007/07/24 17:54

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### Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by A\_King - 2007/07/25 09:28

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Correction to article: A New Mexico pointed out that I was ignorant about some of the rules of the New Mexico Bowl. When I read his correction, I remembered hearing that when the New Mexico Bowl was announced but I never thought about it when hastily placing MWC teams in their respective Bowl Game possibilities.

Lobo Addict reminded me:

Here is something that Craig Thompson said:

"He noted that the Mountain West's contracts with the Las Vegas Bowl, Poinsettia Bowl in San Diego, New Mexico Bowl in Albuquerque and Fort Worth Bowl all have contracts that state hometown teams must at least have a 7-5 record and may not participate in the bowl more than once every three years." <http://www.abqtrib.com/news/2006/Oct/25/un...wl-teams-hands/>

Thus, there should be a switch between New Mexico and Wyoming:

Poinsettia Bowl - New Mexico

New Mexico Bowl - Wyoming

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by bball - 2007/07/25 10:23

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What's lacking is there are no upsets. This is a vanilla, no-brainer prediction. As every year, there will be some upsets, and surprises. If the preseason polls have never been right, then TCU will not win the conference. BYU didn't get any help from anybody last year, but I think this year the get some. Utah, Wyoming, CSU and maybe New Mexico are going to upset somebody, and the final results get juggled a bit.

BYU is in a perfect position to upset TCU at home. And I think CSU will surprise Utah at Fort Collins.

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## Re:Fan survey results: Fans predict four teams will go 7-5

Posted by A\_King - 2007/07/31 08:49

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This isn't a march madness prediction. These are the MWC fans expectations of what is going to happen. You can consider any outcome different than their "guesses" the true upsets this season. If fans saw it one way, and the opposite team wins. The consensus better team got upset.

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