
Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by KYCoug - 2007/12/05 14:14

We have had quite a string of impact freshman for the last few years, I'm wondering who our next impact freshman will be?

It looks to me the team has matured to the point it will be difficult to get a freshman on the field.

Any thoughts?

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2007/12/05 14:16

Di Luigi. Probably will get in at the slot receiver and some at tailback.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by snoscythe - 2007/12/05 14:16

JJ DiLuigi will be the sexy pick, perhaps bumping Mahuika out of the slot receiver position, but the biggest impact freshman will no doubt be Justin Sorenson. It's a sad self-commentary when a kicker is your top impact guy, but it's what we need.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/05 14:17

J.J. Diluigi seems like he could have a strong impact. With Tonga gone and Fui hit or miss he could step into a change-of-pace back pretty quick.

Ryan Kessman? - I am sure he won't make an impact ;)

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Pwride - 2007/12/05 14:17

Agreed. Redshirt freshman JJ DiLuigi and G Pittman both come to mind. True freshman only Sorensen will see the field, maybe Teo or Daniel Sorensen (safeties) could see the field, but very unlikely.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Pwride - 2007/12/05 14:18

bdhcougar wrote:

J.J. Diluigi seems like he could have a strong impact. With Tonga gone and Fui hit or miss he could step into a change-of-pace back pretty quick.

Ryan Kessman? - I am sure he won't make an impact ;)

Tonga is just a junior (as is Vakapuna.) Only Semanoff graduates.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/05 14:23

Oh yeah... hmm that's one of those duh moments. :S You'd think that since I was at the game and saw all the senior's I would remember that.

Anyway I still say JJ Makes a big impact as he is a different kind of back then we have already.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by KYCoug - 2007/12/05 14:25

It will indeed be exciting to see JJ but my pick is Sorensen. If he can put kickoffs consistantly into the end zone and 60+ yard field goals he may well be the biggest impact freshman and more!

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by BlueBlood75 - 2007/12/05 14:41

Sorensen--all the way! (Anyone remember Shanghai Noon?)
With Sorensen consistently hitting 50 yarders the blue zone just got much bigger. I think we'll see 6 or 9 more points per game next year because of him. Actually, make that 7 or 10 with point afters he doesn't miss.

That said, I am excited to see what JJ can do.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by BYUROCKS - 2007/12/05 14:47

Sorensen field position has killed us and with him it will kill others

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Fully_Invested_Fan - 2007/12/05 15:26

I think Justin Sorensen will. We are going to need him, and some game it will come down to the last second. I doubt you will see any kickoffs ran back next year, he is amazing.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by shakeNbake - 2007/12/05 15:31

G Pittman - he will be a RS Freshie right?

If so, he gets my vote. I think he has the ability to be a star.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Pwride - 2007/12/05 15:42

Yes.. he red-shirted this year after getting injured against UCLA.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Uncle Iroh - 2007/12/05 16:36

JJ, I think he is going to have a huge year next year. With the pounding kind of running game that Fui, Tonga, and Harvey give us, to have a quick slasher like JJ will be a good change up, and bring a ton more diversity to the offense. I am excited to see him next year.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Hengst - 2007/12/05 16:44

It seems like a freshman has stepped up on D-line just about every year because of injuries. So that's my prediction. I don't know who they have coming in as a freshman on d-line, but I think that's probably the spot where someone will most likely make a contribution. I know we have a lot of returning guys on D-line, but the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior ;-)

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by cougarfan144 - 2007/12/05 17:10

I'm already getting excited for next year reading about some of the promising young talent we have. Gotta love it. I hope Hall will look to the slot receiver more next year (I know the slot hasn't been the big target this year) but if Luigi is going to be the man, he will need to have some touches. As for Sorensen, I think he could be the biggest impact. Wouldn't it be sweet to have him be on the kickoff team by himself? Awesome.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by carolina_cougar - 2007/12/05 17:20

Sorensen! I quit counting how many times this year our kickoffs to opponents ended up with 35 even with a marginal run back. I hope a stronger leg from Sorensen drives the ball closer to the goal line every time and deeper once in a while. I've seen a few good kickers from other conferences this year who can really boom it. The MWC had a couple of great kickers this year. I miss the good old days when we had kickers that could make it past the end zone. Unless my memory fades, in today's game those kicks would still be close to the back of the end zone.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by cszjr - 2007/12/05 17:24

Sorenson = Utah Gatorade Player of the Year

When have you heard that the player of the year in a state is a kicker? The kid's going to be special.

I saw a segment on him on the mtn (too bad most of you couldn't see it). Seems like a great kid. Good attitude. BYU is his only choice.

So Sorensen is a good bet to be making an impact.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Raul - 2007/12/05 17:37

carolina_cougar wrote:

Sorensen! I quit counting how many times this year our kickoffs to opponents ended up with 35 even with a marginal run back. I hope a stronger leg from Sorensen drives the ball closer to the goal line every time and deeper once in a while. I've seen a few good kickers from other conferences this year who can really boom it. The MWC had a couple of great kickers this year. I miss the good old days when we had kickers that could make it past the end zone. Unless my memory fades, in today's game those kicks would still be close to the back of the end zone.

I am by no means a kicking expert, but I believe the two big changes have been kicking from the 30, and kicking off a 1 inch tee rather than a 2 inch tee. Still, you are probably right that those great kickers still get the ball frequently to the back of the endzone.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by cruiser - 2007/12/05 18:00

cougarfan144 wrote:

I hope Hall will look to the slot receiver more next year (I know the slot hasn't been the big target this year) but if Luigi is going to be the man, he will need to have some touches. Anae has not used the H-back formation much this year. In fact, in some games, the H-back hardly showed up at all. Will he change that with DiLuigi? Hard to say. He's got some pretty good tight ends to work with, and he has been using them in multiple sets. I know J.J. really wants to play tailback, but with Harvey's success this year, he may be rethinking that somewhat. He's getting stronger in the weight room and will be willing to play wherever Anae puts him. The question is, will Anae want to use the H-back or multiple tight end sets, or use a tight end as an H-back? Lots of possibilities.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Raul - 2007/12/05 18:13

Do you guys think that Sorensen will be our Field Goal kicker in all situations? It seems Payne came on pretty well the last 3/4ths of the season as long as it was within 40 yards. (6 of 6 from 20-29 and 2/3 from 30-39 (missed 36 yarder vs. Arizona) and 41-43 on Extra points (95.3%) missing one in the first game and one in the last game. Once he got past that first game vs. Arizona (first game as a Freshman) he was 39 of 40 on extra points, and 8 of 8 within 40 yards. Beyond 40 yards, Mitch made a 42 yarder (Air Force), had kicks of 41 and 56 blocked (Wyoming) and missed a 48 yarder (Utah).

I am not sure which kicks he missed, but Sorensen was only 15-23 on Field Goals. I am really excited about Sorensen and the "deep threat" he is, but I wonder if we will still see Mitch Payne in shorter distances. Any thoughts?

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by dYrtbYkerYder - 2007/12/05 18:25

Raul wrote:

Do you guys think that Sorensen will be our Field Goal kicker in all situations? It seems Payne came on pretty well the last 3/4ths of the season as long as it was within 40 yards. (6 of 6 from 20-29 and 2/3 from 30-39 (missed 36 yarder vs. Arizona) and 41-43 on Extra points (95.3%) missing one in the first game and one in the last game. Once he got past that first game vs. Arizona (first game as a Freshman) he was 39 of 40 on extra points, and 8 of 8 within 40 yards. Beyond 40 yards, Mitch made a 42 yarder (Air Force), had kicks of 41 and 56 blocked (Wyoming) and missed a 48 yarder (Utah).

I am not sure which kicks he missed, but Sorensen was only 15-23 on Field Goals. I am really excited about Sorensen and the "deep threat" he is, but I wonder if we will still see Mitch Payne in shorter distances. Any thoughts?

I was waiting for someone to say this... 15-23 is not very good. It is worse than Payne. Sorensen will be very useful on kickoffs, but there will still probably be a tough competition between him, Payne, and maybe Stephensen (sp?). If we

need a 60 yarder before the half, we can bring him in too for that. If none of them works out, I'll just have to walk on although my max range is only 54 yards... :)

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by bluemike - 2007/12/05 20:44

stuckinbig10country wrote:
Di Luigi. Probably will get in at the slot receiver and some at tailback.

I don't see how anybody would be an impact player at slot receiver for us. That position doesn't seem to be featured in our offense very much

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by cwmcougars - 2007/12/05 21:07

Sorensen will be the impact player. Kickers are much more important than they get credit for. Field position will be the most important thing.

And for people saying that he was only 15-23 on field goals this year, well he still has 9 months of practicing field goals before game one! I am sure he can improve by then. Practice, Practice, Practice!

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by scott715 - 2007/12/05 22:43

I am hoping that JJ turns out to be like Hall of Air Force. A shifty guy that can make things happen. If that is the case watch up opponents!!!

Sorensen will kick off and try long field goals. I think with Payne being hurt this year that you do not have a good evaluation of his ability. With a year of experience I think he would be more dependable.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by iShowsToGo.com - 2007/12/06 08:23

JJ DiLuigi will be the big surprise on Offense. G Pittman is going to be our key DB, and Sorensen, of course, will be our outstanding all MWC special teams guy. Payne and Santiago will enjoy sitting on the side line next year watching sorensen. Go Cougars!

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by Short_Changed - 2007/12/06 10:56

I think where we'll see JJ is on special teams. I don't see him getting enough touches to be called an impact player on offense. I think he'll make a big impact on returns though.

Sorensen will definitely be a big impact, IMO. Yes he was 15-23, but I'd like to know how long his misses were. I know a couple of those misses were from 55 yards or further, but I don't know about the rest. You also have to consider the talent of the holders and long-snappers in HS. Some teams don't really have players who want to fill those positions and don't execute it very well when they do. For all we know all his misses may have come from very difficult distances or botched snapps or bad holds. Just a thought.

I think G Pittman may end up being our biggest impact for a freshman. I actually met him last night at the b-ball game and he seems like a stud. He told me that he's almost at full speed again.

Wild card: Matt Reynolds. He'll be a redshirt freshman and he's the most talented Reynolds. We're stacked at O-line, so I don't know if he'll start, but I can see him at least switching in and out with someone.

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by craigoscarson - 2007/12/06 11:05

If we want to bust the BCS, we need a corner (ala Deion Sanders) that can take half the field away...G Pittman needs to be our best freshman. Honestly the only reason JJ won't be is that this offense would be fine without him, but improved with him.

I'm interested to see the kicking situation work itself out but I'm hoping that of all the freshmen that Pittman is the guy...

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by CAFB_04-12 - 2007/12/06 11:11

I saw that mtn special on J. Sorensen (recorded on DVD before the Utah game). It seemed like the long FGs he was kicking in practice (55-60 yards) were hit on a full run. Is that practical? I know he can hit from 62 with a high school rush on, but won't the college rush be more intense? Kicking long requires kicking low line drives, right? Makes them easier to block vertically, no? It will be fun to watch BYU kicking 55-60 yards field goals next year! The Blue Zone starts on the 40 in 2008!

=====

Re:Who will be our impact freshman next year?

Posted by B-Rex - 2007/12/06 11:33

Raul wrote:

carolina_cougar wrote:

Sorensen! I quit counting how many times this year our kickoffs to opponents ended up with 35 even with a marginal run back. I hope a stronger leg from Sorensen drives the ball closer to the goal line every time and deeper once in a while. I've seen a few good kickers from other conferences this year who can really boom it. The MWC had a couple of great kickers this year. I miss the good old days when we had kickers that could make it past the end zone. Unless my memory fades, in today's game those kicks would still be close to the back of the end zone.

I am by no means a kicking expert, but I believe the two big changes have been kicking from the 30, and kicking off a 1 inch tee rather than a 2 inch tee. Still, you are probably right that those great kickers still get the ball frequently to the back of the endzone.

Didn't we read that Sorensen was kicking off from the 30 from a 1in tee in High School just to be ready for next year. The kid is a stud.