
Kav coming our way?

Posted by cruiser - 2008/02/06 00:39

I'm hearing rumors that kaveinga is Cougar bound. I know I shouldn't be posting speculation like this, but the source has been pretty good in the past. Now, if we can just get Manti next year---what a linebacking corp we'll have in '12 and '13!

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/02/06 01:01

This reminds me more and more of the Ngata signing day (I know it a lot of ways it's different but maybe the tension is what's getting me; or maybe it's the sinking feeling you get when you expect the worst).

I hope your source is good.....

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by cruiser - 2008/02/06 01:08

craigoscarson wrote:

This reminds me more and more of the Ngata signing day (I know it a lot of ways it's different but maybe the tension is what's getting me; or maybe it's the sinking feeling you get when you expect the worst).

I hope your source is good.....

So do I. Even if Uona told someone he decided on BYU, he could still change his mind. But one thing has remained consistent. After committing to BYU, he never officially changed his position. His father said Uona was undecided for a time, but even then Uona never said he was decommitting. I know that some USC fans think they have him tonight, but (and it's big but), if my source is right, he should be announcing for BYU tonorrow. I'll be crossing my fingers along with the rest of you.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/02/06 01:10

cruiser wrote:

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Between you and the article on TBS tonight, sounds like there is good reason to believe he just might be in BYU blue this fall. One thing, he's 100% committed to serving a mission and the atmosphere at BYU would be great to help him prepare. Fingers are crossed in anticipation he's still fully invested in his commitment to Bronco and BYU.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Boilermaker - 2008/02/06 01:12

It is really early in the morning (or late at night) to be posting....i just got out of the emergency room with four stitches in my forehead from Tues. night Bball.....and THIS IS GREAT NEWS!!!

the only question I have for you guys is.... Is it ok to fervently pray tonight for Kaveinga to be swayed our way? Serious have any of you guys ever prayed for BYU football in the past? I am a first timer here... And if you have what came of it?

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You just got four stitches from playing basketball? You might want to consider praying for yourself too.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/02/06 02:24

For what its worth:

<http://recruiting.scout.com/3/2008CommitmentTracker.html>

Just some guys' opinions. Also, there is a new TBS article up about Uona. First contact any reporter has had with him in awhile. But still no leak as to what his decision is or which way he's leaning.

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Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by McGregor - 2008/02/06 04:42

cruiser wrote:

I'm hearing rumors that kaveinga is Cougar bound. I know I shouldn't be posting speculation like this, but the source has been pretty good in the past. Now, if we can just get Manti next year---what a linebacking corp we'll have in '12 and '13!

Heard the same thing about both Kav and Manti. Hope it's true.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Hengst - 2008/02/06 05:29

The fact that he is even considering BYU says a lot about the direction that BYU's program is headed in. Either way, I hope he is a great college player.

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Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by craigoscarsen - 2008/02/06 05:45

Boilermaker wrote:

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the only question I have for you guys is.... Is it ok to fervently pray tonight for Kaveinga to be swayed our way? Serious have any of you guys ever prayed for BYU football in the past? I am a first timer here... And if you have what came of it?

When I was in the MTC, they were working on the gym and they bussed us all over Provo for exercise. We (the Bulgarian and Russian Missionaries) were playing with the Greeks in volleyball. One of my buddies set the ball to me and while I was in he process of killing that ball, a Greek missionary (on my side) jumped in front of me and his head took 10 stitches

from my elbow. (The ball still was fair but the Greeks didn't like the Bulgarians much for the remainder of time we were there). I never thought I'd see so much blood in the MTC. Other than an ankle or two in church softball or hoops, I don't think I've seen many injuries. Although I refused to play on any courts with carpet on them.

If Kaveinga guts it out and sticks with us, I'm buying his jersey the moment he picks a #. I'll add Manti's next year. I'll be on pins and needles all day (in 5 inches of ice and snow in Kansas City).

To answer your other question, I don't pray for BYU sports anymore; but when I was a kid, I prayed for Michael Smith, Jeff Chatman and the gang more times than I could count. That was supposed to be my team of destiny-that didn't quite get there. (on another note, I'll personally fly to Utah and toilet paper Marty Haws place if his kid doesn't chose the Y)

Now in 1983, I was living in South Dakota (Via Sihakema served his mission in my area)- and I grew up a huge Dallas Cowboys fan (in fact the 1st picture I ever drew was a football kicker with a star in his helmet at age 3). To this day no one in my family knows how or why the Cowboys, but I was 9 years old when Dallas was playing the Vikings. Dallas wasn't playing well and I was so sad, that my parents said I ran into my bedroom and said a prayer for the Cowboys. The second I walked out of my room, Tony Dorsett ran for 99 1/2 yards for the longest TD from scrimmage in NFL history. I was a praying machine for the next few years after that. (Dallas lost that game, but it didn't matter to a nine year old).(even though the Cowboys had only 10 men on the field, not the required 11)

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Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/02/06 06:38

When I was in the MTC we had that awful rubber floor that blew out two knees a day. They replaced it while I was there and so we had to play in the parking lot at the chapel next to the MTC. The day after they finished the floor we had a meeting in there and they put hundreds of chairs on the floor. Gym was closed for another two days as they resurfaced the gym floor. But at least they got rid of the rubber floor! :)

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/02/06 06:42

imuakahuku wrote:

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I was packed and ready to leave the MTC Day 2 of a 45 day stay. It's a very spiritual insane asylum.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by AF_Puma - 2008/02/06 06:57

Interesting the chronological history of gym floors in Church owned venues as when I was at the MTC it was a regular wooden floor, then they went to rubber and then it sounds like they went back to wood. I've seen that happen in the cultural halls at the churches where they went for awhile with the indoor/outdoor carpeting and now they seem to be back to the wooden floors again.

We received news about 3 weeks before we were to leave the MTC for Chile that our mission president was going to be in Brazil for the week we were to arrive and so we were told to stay put an extra week. They weren't set up for such a thing as far as teachers when as our two instructors were already assigned to a group that would arrive and so we were given the week off. This was the early years of the MTC and we were free to go to the University Mall and BYU and so we spent the week on vacation with no one really checking up on us to see what we were up to. Funny thing was that at the end of my mission I had a similar situation where as I arrived to the mission home to leave the next morning, problems arose with my ticket and I wouldn't be able to leave for an extra week. That's kind of hard news when you're expecting to leave the next day. I had already arranged for some ex-companions to meet me in Santiago the next day so the mission president let me go on my own and I spent a week roaming the country with a couple of ex-companions.

Anyhow, I don't know how we got on this conversation on a string about Kaveinga, but I'm just glad this will be put to bed today one way or the other. I was leaning toward him signing with USC, but now I think he's going to be a Cougar.

Talking about delays...Interesting note in Jay Drew's recruiting article about Kuhuka HS's Benji Kemoeatu, who committed to Utah on his trip, but uncommitted directly after and has since tripped to WVU and Oregon State. He is saying that he might not sign today. I can't imagine schools being forced to hold open a scholarship for a guy that can't decide by now. What more info does the guy need?

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/02/06 07:01

One of the negatives is that it will be 3pm before they make the announcement. It is going to be a long day, (especially after yesterday- nothing super about that day!).

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/02/06 07:02

AF_Puma wrote:

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The ultimate on delays is Tyrelle Pryor - the guy has already announced that he's not signing today.

<http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/recruiting/football/news/story?id=3233143>

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by cszjr - 2008/02/06 07:04

Hey Af_Puma - where and when did you go on your mission??? I went to Osorno 81-83.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Hengst - 2008/02/06 07:05

craigoscarson wrote:

imuakahuku wrote:

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I was packed and ready to leave the MTC Day 2 of a 45 day stay. It's a very spiritual insane asylum.

indeed, just thinking about that place makes me a little claustrophobic

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by B-Rex - 2008/02/06 07:15

imuakahuku wrote:

One of the negatives is that it will be 3pm before they make the announcement. It is going to be a long day, (especially after yesterday- nothing super about that day!).

Hey! Try living on the East Coast! We have to wait till 5:00!

If my hair wasn't so fancy, I'd be pulling it out now...

PS: Have it your way!

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by rambo - 2008/02/06 13:36

craigoscarson said:

(on another note, I'll personally fly to Utah and toilet paper Marty Haws place if his kid doesn't chose the Y)

I'm not old enough to remember Marty Haws. But, I do remember that he is apparently one of only three athletes to graduate from my Alma Mater (Hillcrest High in Midvale, UT) who was considered good enough to get a plaque in the front hallway. Great for him. But, only three great athletes?! - how sad for Hillcrest.

Not that I really care as much about my high school as I used to. GO COUGARS!! Get Kaveinga!

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Florwood - 2008/02/11 14:43

So Cruiser, just wondering how you rate your source now. Since he whiffed on the Kavienga prediction, does he go from 4 stars to 3 stars as a source, or do you just chalk it up to being misled big time.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by cruiser - 2008/02/13 02:06

Florwood wrote:

So Cruiser, just wondering how you rate your source now. Since he whiffed on the Kavienga prediction, does he go from 4 stars to 3 stars as a source, or do you just chalk it up to being misled big time.

Three and a half. I have since learned that Kaveinga's entire family expected him to announce for BYU. One of them was

even wearing a BYU cap behind him when he announced. Uona actually told Shiloah Te'o that he was committed to BYU the night before the announcement. Here's part of Shiloah's quote from TBS:

"<http://byu.scout.com/2/728719.html>

I figure if his friends and family were misled, I'll cut my source a break. The reason I only give him three and a half stars is because he's been wrong on a couple of smaller things before too. But he's right about 98% of the time. We all take our lumps sometimes.

As I said in a post three or four weeks ago, I was concerned about Uona Kaveinga coming to BYU for other reasons. Although he was cleared by the NCAA Clearinghouse, I wonder how well he would have adjusted to the increasingly competitive academics at BYU. Maybe USC is really where he belongs. Although USC and BYU are similarly ranked in several fields, Pete Carroll is a magician at getting his lower-performing players to remain eligible. How does he do it? When all else fails, he signs them up for correspondence classes and hires tutors to "help" them with their papers for those classes. Where do those correspondence courses come from?

BYU.

According to a recent book, BYU's Independent Study courses "have become the worst-kept secret in college sports" (Meat Market, Bruce Feldman, ESPN Books, 2007, 171). I have written more about this in my article for Cougar Legion this morning. <http://cougarlegion.com/>

Overall, I'm happy with our recruiting this year and feel that they will continue the upward growth of our program. I think several of them are underrated, and more importantly, I think Bronco and Co. are able to get more out of their athletes than most coaches are able to. I look for great things in the future--even without Uona Kaveinga.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by TimO - 2008/02/13 08:24

i'm guessing you had a concussion

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by jbar1221 - 2008/02/13 12:37

cruiser wrote:

How does he do it? When all else fails, he signs them up for correspondence classes and hires tutors to "help" them with their papers for those classes. Where do those correspondence courses come from?

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I didnt read your Cougarlegion artile but it is against BYU and Im pretty sure NCAA policy for student athletes who attend schools other then BYU to take independent study classe.

College athletes from schools other than BYU are not allowed to enroll in BYU Independent Study university-level courses. This restriction applies to students who are currently eligible as well as those seeking eligibility to participate in any collegiate athletic program (e.g. NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA).

That is from BYU's website. I actually have a friend who works for Independent Study and she spent all summer tracking down athletes who were taking Independent Study classes but were not BYU students. If Pete really does this and its common knowledge its just more evidence that the NCAA has favorites and is VERY selctive in who they go after.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by cruiser - 2008/02/13 12:58

jbar1221 wrote:

cruiser wrote:

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jbar, thank you for this clarification. Two recent books have documented this scandal: "Meat Market" and "Blind Side," and both mention Pete Carroll and USC. According to "Meat Market," BYU changed its policies in 2006 to make it more difficult for other athletic programs to use our Independent Study classes. But it also implies that some schools, even USC, continue to use these classes as a "last resort." Here is the quote:

"Still, so long as it was within NCAA rules, USC had no qualms about accepting courses from BYU. If a student-athlete was one course short, the Trojans used BYU as a last resort" (Meat Market, ESPN Books, 2007, p. 172).

I'm not sure how they continue to cheat, but it may be that the athlete does not identify his affiliation with another school when he enrolls for the classes. Also, Carroll sometimes enrolls his high school recruits in these classes to help them qualify at the NCAA Clearinghouse. The problem in this case, as I understand it, is not that a high school senior or a recent graduate is taking these classes to help him qualify for another university, it is that the tutors who "help" him with these classes may actually be doing much of the work for him. Although the students still need to pass tests under observation at an LDS Institute or in another controlled environment, they still get high marks on their papers, which helps to pull their overall grade up.

Although BYU has done about all it can to prevent this kind of abuse, some coaches will always find a way to circumvent the rules if it helps them get an advantage.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by BoiseBYU - 2008/02/13 13:50

cruiser wrote:

jbar1221 wrote:

cruiser wrote:

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Although BYU has done about all it can to prevent this kind of abuse, some coaches will always find a way to circumvent the rules if it helps them get an advantage.

I'm in a conundrum: If Carrol gets Kaveinga to take, for USC credit, an Independent Course from BYU and it is a missionary prep class, should I be happy or upset?:)

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by scott715 - 2008/02/13 14:28

Hey I still hope he serves a mission and then comes to BYU when there is no pressure on him to go back to USC.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by jbar1221 - 2008/02/13 15:13

scott715 wrote:

Hey I still hope he serves a mission and then comes to BYU when there is no pressure on him to go back to USC.

Ive heard that sentiment a bit lately and I dont know if I agree. Ben Olsen is one of the most despised players on this board for doing what some BYU fans are hoping Kaveinga will do, going to a new school post mission. Why is it acceptable when we gain a player through a post mission transfer but if we lose a player in teh same way we feel justified calling him Benedict?

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Pwride - 2008/02/13 15:32

Because BYU fans can be hypocrites.

We love Brandon Bradley/Tom Sorensen then say Olsen is a traitor.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Detmer Forever - 2008/02/13 17:27

jbar1221 wrote:

scott715 wrote:

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Because we're BYU fans not USC fans.

But I see your point, I had similar thoughts when he broke his UCLA commitment to commit to BYU instead only, to break his BYU commitment to switch to USC.

Also...sorry to answer a rhetorical question.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Mars - 2008/02/13 17:39

Pwride wrote:

Because BYU fans can be hypocrites. We love Brandon Bradley/Tom Sorensen then say Olsen is a traitor.

Kind of like those dang hypocritical Mormons, who like to baptize people of all sorts of backgrounds into their Church but hate to see their ward members go inactive and join other congregations (TIC).

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Pwride - 2008/02/13 19:20

Good call Mars.

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by njcoug - 2008/02/13 19:52

jbar1221 wrote:

scott715 wrote:

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Ive heard that sentiment a bit lately and I dont know if I agree. Ben Olsen is one of the most despised players on this board for doing what some BYU fans are hoping Kaveinga will do, going to a new school post mission. Why is it acceptable when we gain a player through a post mission transfer but if we lose a player in teh same way we feel justified calling him Benedict?

I wasn't upset that Benedict transfered, it was the manner in which he did it. While he was busy doing an interview for ESPN on his mission and telling them he was coming back to BYU, somehow players on the team knew he was gone and going to UCLA. When he came back from the mission early to do the recruiting, he still publicly said he was coming back to BYU, even though the players I talked to all said they knew he was gone. Even before he left some of the players said he said he would transfer, but publicly he always lied and said he would go to BYU.

I could really understand him wanting to transfer after Crowton ran the program into the ground, plus for some people BYU isn't a good fit. What I couldn't understand were his public lies, when I kept hearing he wasn't coming back. With Uona, I had dim hopes for the kid. C'mon, BYU wasn't in the running when he first committed to UCLA. Then he de-commits, and we expect he'll all of the sudden be loyal to BYU. Now I want my kids to all go to BYU, and I don't think there is a better place to go to school, but if we weren't his #1 pick to start out with, it's not hard to imagine that he de-

commits again when another LA school came a calling. Oh well happy with the class.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Yndian - 2008/02/13 22:17

njcoug wrote:

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Ben didn't come home early, did he? I thought I remembered leaving and coming home at the same time as him, and I served a full mission.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by aegis47 - 2008/02/13 22:52

I think you're right--he did serve a full mission. He left after the 2002 season, when apparently Crowton almost started him against Utah State, and returned right after the 2004 season, when Crowton got canned. For whatever reason, he didn't like what he saw and decided to go to UCLA. Sadly for him, it hasn't really worked out (at least for his athletic career). However, there will still be a sense of justice if we take down UCLA this fall--beating Olsen and Chow in one fell swoop will certainly be satisfying, although if they win they'll feel the same way about BYU.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by Yzzazz - 2008/02/14 09:15

I wonder what Ben will look like in his first visit back to Provo? Here's hoping the '08 defense won't make him look good.

Seriously, if there was any smidgin of disappointment that this guy jumped ship it should be LOOOOOONG gone after last game. Scoreboard I know, but my eyes could see who the better QB was--not to mention the attendance record in the bowl game.

It's hard to see it now, but if this kid who left to USC didn't have the deep down commitment to the school, then he won't have what it takes to outplay superior talent at other schools.

Hey hey hey... good bye.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by BYZoo - 2008/02/14 10:48

I figure BYU isn't out of the picture for these recruits until they return from a mission and enroll in another school. If guys like Kaveinga never go on a mission, so be it. They aren't BYU material anyway. But, if they go, they may mature and decide that BYU is the best place for all of the right reasons. Time will tell, but there is no sense in losing sleep over them. We seem to get pretty good recruits who want to be here from the beginning. Props to Bronco and the staff for landing another solid recruiting class. Here's to another for '09.

=====

Re:Kav coming our way?

Posted by etyotx - 2008/02/14 12:13

I still believe in you, Cruiser.

=====