
Preseason Ranking?

Posted by CougarPokes - 2008/04/08 09:13

So, I am sitting here reading the article on espn.com and then looking over at CFN.com and seeing that they have BYU playing Mizzou in a BCS game. I can't help but wonder what kind of preseason ranking BYU will pull in with this kind of hype? I haven't seen BYU getting this type of preseason attention since 1991 when they were their preseason ranking was 12. I am thinking/predicting that BYU will be around 20-15. Basing that on two very successful past seasons and a returning cast of good core players. However, it is pure speculation. I sincerely hope they will end up in the 15-10 range, but I just don't think people have seen the Y on TV enough in the past three seasons to justify a high ranking. I welcome any other predictions and reasons.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by dlcoug - 2008/04/08 09:17

Your reasoning is sound and your rankings accurate. BYU is getting some nice hype which will put them somewhere between 13-19 (probably closer to 19). Without all the BCS hype they would probably have come in between 17-23.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by MtnRadio - 2008/04/08 11:56

Your reasoning does make sense. Fortunately they have a good schedule this year, which (strange as it may sound) I think will raise the preseason ranking. The team finished last season well ... I believe they'll be ranked near 15 in the preseason.

Go Cougs!

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/04/08 12:00

MtnRadio wrote:

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Go Cougs!

I'd rank BYU in the 10-15 preseason range but I suspect the pollsters will have them in the 18-25 range due to BCS prejudice and the MTN.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by j2b03 - 2008/04/08 12:16

I'm currently reading a book called "Bowls, Polls, and Tattered Souls: Tackling the chaos and coontroversy that reign in college football" really interesting book. One thing that I learned that I didn't know but most of you probably already knew is that the pollsters are supposed to rank the team at the beginning where they think they will end up at the end of the season. So I would say that BYU will end up at 7th in the nation by January after they win their bowl game, thus I put them 7th on August 29th. I think the pundents will put them at 18th at the start of the season (thus assuming that is where they will end up by the end of the season). I know my preseason position is a little lofty but if BYU does go undefeated and wins their bowl game. This is where I think they would be. But I don't think the prognosticators would agree with me.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/08 12:33

Don't be surprised if they give us a top 10 ranking. I could see them doing this, but though we are good and deserve it, they really want to see the cougars flop. They see all of this buzz and they are interpreting our "Quest for Perfection" literally (Which I kind of do as well). I see three possible scenarios:

- 1- they start us high (top ten) and we go undefeated the regular season and make it into the top 5, heck maybe even #1...but the BCS is so flawed that they decide they would rather see 2 loss Boise State in the BCS and they keep us out.
- 2- We lose an early game (Washington because of Pac 10 officiating) and are kept out of the BCS because of it.
- 3- They put us in the BCS after going undefeated, but they try to find the most difficult match-up for us in hopes we don't win.

Trust me, I love the cougars, but nationally we are hated. I don't understand what is the big deal with Mormons, but many people despise us for our beliefs. Especially the south, and look who has the most pull among the BCS...Three letters "SEC." They say we are weird, polygamists, too full of ourselves or we aren't christians and don't believe the bible... I really don't understand the hatred, because if we are truly following the church leaders and living our beliefs, we are upstanding individuals who are humble and don't boast and are christians and we do believe the bible along with the Book of Mormon.

I've gotten into a whole new topic, but the south doesn't like us much (See Mitt Romney's Presidential Run). He didn't do very well in the states with the most BCS pull. So even if we are undefeated, it is 100% out of our hands (See 2001 byu football team, #6 in the nation was told before the hawaii game that they wouldn't be in the bcs despite being undefeated...With the wind let out of their sails and the loss of luke staley, they were destroyed by Hawaii and then had no desire to play louisville in the liberty bowl and lost).

I'm not saying i'm pulling against our cougars because more than anything I want them to go undefeated (hence the screen name "Cougfan84" I want another undefeated season like 1984). They just need a fire lit under them and destroy their opponents and if that BCS invite comes, they must capitalize! MAKE A STATEMENT should be their locker room slogan, inflict pain into their opponents. The BCS is out of their hands, go out there and play ball boys, Make a statement and if they keep you out of the BCS this year thats one more tanker filled with gasoline that will be poured on the bcs fire for a catalyst for change. I believe if they are humble and tear through the rankings as Silent Assassins, they will be given more respect than if they go out and boast about how good they are...

I am officially off my soap box, I don't know am I completely out of line with this post? Or am i somewhat lukewarm with what i'm saying. What do you all think?

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by ProV1 - 2008/04/08 13:03

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by j2b03 - 2008/04/08 13:10

I don't really buy the whole conspiracy theory against BYU I think it more has to do with being in a "Mid-Major" and SOS. If we go undefeated in 08 we will NOT go to the NC even if know one else is. They will choose an 11-1 TX or LSU over a 12-0 BYU easily. But if we ran the table again in 09 then it would really difficult to keep us out but I honestly wouldn't be surprised unless we beat every team by 20 points. But I think it really comes down to the conference we are in NOT because we are Mormon. Voting for someone to lead the country is MUCH different than putting them in a NC game. Let's not take ourselves back to the 1800's those days are past.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/04/08 13:30

The only way BYU could play in the NC game this season is if BYU gets a decent preseason ranking, moves steadily up during the season, is undefeated at the end of the regular season, and there are not at least two BCS teams with one of fewer losses. It can happen but is unlikely, look at last season.

Just remember that the BCS is structured to prevent that scenario if at all possible, hence the "coaches" poll with a majority of BCS coaches.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/08 14:21

lol sorry i guess i was wrong in many peoples eyes...I always like stirring up a little controversy though. These forums would be no fun if everyone agreed with every comment that every person had.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/08 14:22

Oh and im not talking about the National Championship Game...Im saying they will keep us out of the BCS even if we had the #1 Ranking. haha

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by jaga97 - 2008/04/08 14:32

We will start the season around 20. Ranking BYU at 20 assures the BCS that they will not have to deal with BYU as a contender for the NC. If they rank us 13 then only 12 teams have to lose 2 games and they would have to consider BYU. Ranking BYU 20 will give them a cushion of 19 teams having to lose at least 2 games. They also will take pleasure in helping any suprise BCS team jump BYU in the rankings with only 1 lose.

I will be happy with any game we get if we run the table. I will start to get excited if we get the out-of-conference road game monkey off our back.

Does anyone remember the last time we won a road game out of conference?

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/04/08 14:38

Cougfan84 wrote:

2- We lose an early game (Washington because of Pac 10 officiating) and are kept out of the BCS because of it.

If we get screwed again by Pac-10 officiating, I sure hope Bronco raises a stink about it and calls for a serious investigation into homerism on the part of the Pac-10 officials. Everyone knows their is mounds of evidence. Maybe then something could finally be done about the Pac-10 home games being officiated by their own refs.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/04/08 14:50

jaga97 wrote:

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Actually if ranked 13 we would only need 11 teams to lose twice and at 20 we would need 18 to lose twice. After all, someone else is going to be in the game too and they can be undefeated.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/04/08 14:58

jaga97 wrote:

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This mostly the way I see it too. They'll say that we don't warrant a better ranking since we are replacing our whole defensive backfield. But I say that our D-line is going to be so solid that it won't matter how young and inexperienced our DBs are. I would not be surprised to see the team get in the neighborhood of 40-45 sacks this year. You better believe that opposing QB's are going to feel a little pressure to get the ball out of there early so as to avoid getting drilled, thus making their reads and accuracy less than perfect.

Anyway, BYU will start around 19-22 and will move into the top 10 if they go undefeated but really won't have a chance at the NC this year unless there is a perfect storm of there not being a single two loss BCS team and every MWC team beating their non-conference opponents and finishing .500 or better.

I was actually surprised to see that of the 60 coaches represented in the coaches poll, 24 were non-BCS. I was expecting far less. Still that's less than half when of the 119 FBS teams only half are BCS. But it's alot more representation that I thought they'd give to the 'mid-majors'.

Regardless, the coaches poll is the biggest crock of the whole BCS. The fact that a significant part of the formula lies in the hands of the very men who have no time to watch other teams and will do everything possible to move their own team up another notch is absolutely ridiculous.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/04/08 15:22

I'll tell you one thing... I'm going to pitch an absolute fit if they put Michigan ahead of us.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Isola - 2008/04/08 15:30

Last year TCU, Hawaii, and Boise State started the season ranked 22, 23, and 24. I think this year's BYU team has more pieces in place than those teams. The question marks on defense will hurt our initial ranking, but last year we proved that we can reload and so I would think we are in the high teens at best and the low twenties at worst.

As for our final ranking if we run the table, a lot of it has to do with how other BCS teams fare, but it may have more to do with how the rest of our conference and our OOC teams do. Imagine if just half of the following happen: UCLA beats Tennessee, Utah beats Michigan, TCU beats Oklahoma, Washington beats Oklahoma, UNLV beats Wisconsin, New Mexico beats Texas A&M, or Wyoming beats Tennessee. And then we beat those teams. It would be hard for pundits to dog on our conference schedule if our fellow MWC school can win some big games.

That's why when I play NCAA Football 2008, I coach all the MWC teams in OOC play.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by jaga97 - 2008/04/08 15:36

Good point. Imahauka. spelling?

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by blue eyes - 2008/04/08 15:44

jaga97 wrote:

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Does anyone remember the last time we won a road game out of conference?

I am definitely excited to get that monkey off. I did a little looking. The last non conf. road win we have is Utah State in '02. The last non-conf road win against a BCS opponent? Cal, in '01, who won exactly one game that year. The last time we beat a BCS team on the road that finished above .500? That would be ASU in '97, who actually finished 9-3, around 14 in the polls, and won their sun bowl game. Quite a respectable game that one, considering we finished 6-5, coming off that awesome '96 year, and who was the QB that year? Feterik...Shoemak..something..Anyway, we have got to win non-conf road games if we want to play in the post season with the "big boys" This is the year baby-GO COUGS!

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by jaga97 - 2008/04/08 15:49

blue eyes wrote:

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When was the Mississippi State road win? I think it was 2001 after the Cal game.

Thank goodness for Utah State.

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Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by blue eyes - 2008/04/08 15:50

Yeah, but they only finished 6-6 that year. Better than Cal, I suppose.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by CougarPokes - 2008/04/09 09:04

Washington shouldn't be that good. I think they will finish with a sub-par record and BYU will teach them a lesson...at least I hope. I still have a bad taste in my mouth from the last time we played in Washington...1995. If BYU would have won that game...well, wishful thinking.

At any rate, I still think BYU has a good chance at being undefeated in out of conf. play.

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/09 09:23

Boston College was soooo close grrrrr . . .

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/09 09:24

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it was 1996

Re:Preseason Ranking?

Posted by CougarPokes - 2008/04/09 16:48

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You are right, sorry, it was 1996.
