
Spring Game Activities

Posted by TimO - 2008/04/08 18:14

Blue-White Scrimmage Set for Saturday
by Jeff Reynolds, BYU Athletic Communications

PROVO, Utah (April 8, 2008) -- In what will be an exciting and entertaining conclusion to the spring season, the BYU football team will participate in the 35th Annual Blue-White Spring Scrimmage on Saturday, April 12 at Edwards Stadium. The scrimmage is free and is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. (MT).

Grade-school youth between the ages of 5 and 12 will be able to participate in a free football clinic at Edwards Stadium, beginning at 12 p.m. (MT). Members of the BYU football team will be on hand to teach basic fundamentals.

Stadium gates will open at 11:00 a.m. A promotional football poster will be available to the first 2,500 fans.

Concessions will open by 11:30 a.m. on the west (upper & lower level) and east sides (lower level) of the stadium.

Parking is free for the spring scrimmage

My brother and I are going early just so we can play football on the field before and after the game

byucougars.com/Filing.jsp?ID=10626

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by BYUROCKS - 2008/04/08 19:06

TimO wrote:
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dang I wish I could go my sisters wedding reception is that day :(

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/04/08 19:35

BYUROCKS wrote:
TimO wrote:
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dang I wish I could go my sisters wedding reception is that day :(
I'm sorry, man. Some people just don't plan well around Cougar fans' schedules. At least it's not during the season. There aren't many things I would miss a BYU game for.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by bluesista - 2008/04/08 21:49

Is the promotional football poster the new one for 2008 (Like 2007's Cougars Reloaded: Raise the Bar)?

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by TimO - 2008/04/08 23:26

bluesista wrote:

Is the promotional football poster the new one for 2008 (Like 2007's Cougars Reloaded: Raise the Bar)?

Possibly-I didn't think they came out that early-but that'll be neat if they do...hopefully the tv adverts will come on soon as well

Bronco Mendenhall Presents: A Max Hall production, Staring: Collie, Unga, Nixon, and Jorgensen
"QUEST FOR PERFECTION"

==2008==

"GO COUGARS"

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by NikeFootball - 2008/04/09 00:28

Should be a fun game. Let's just hope for no injuries. Man, I can't wait for fall.

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by CougarPokes - 2008/04/09 08:55

NikeFootball wrote:

Should be a fun game. Let's just hope for no injuries. Man, I can't wait for fall.

I doubt there will be many injuries to key players. I think this will be the JV blue and white game. The game will be young guys and no hits on the QB...but man, it will be nice to see some football.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Sage - 2008/04/09 09:10

According to the news last night, Bronco said he thot that they had pretty much seen and done every thing they needed to do for the spring. So to preserve the health of the team, almost all starters or even regulars (I think that is how they said it) were not going to be participating. Last year I saw a few names prominently in the BW game that I hardly ever saw during the season like Tervort. I sat behind his family at the game and they told me quite a bit about him, but I never hardly even saw anything of him the rest of the season.

As much as I love football, it won't be quite the same with all subs running the show for the whole scrimmage.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/04/09 19:59

This is certainly speculation, but with the Athletic pubs department asking Cruiser to stop posting at Cougar Legion and the starters not expected to play much at the B&W game, it seems like Bronco's trying to keep information about his team very much under wraps. Having made his intentions and expectations for the BCS very clear, he knows that he's marked his team as a target for everyone they play and handing opponents less information would be a sound strategy. Injury concerns, while valid, are also a great cover for keeping tape from getting to other teams.

Gives me some hope that just maybe we might see some new plays, not to mention significant progress among key players.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Yndian - 2008/04/12 11:42

bluesista wrote:

Is the promotional football poster the new one for 2008 (Like 2007's Cougars Reloaded: Raise the Bar)?

It's actually a bunch of smaller posters. Some of them highlight one player, another has people doing the haka, one with a picture of the field, another has the team running out at the beginning of the game.

Blue & White game

Posted by Yndian - 2008/04/12 11:44

Who's all going to the game (that hasn't left yet)?

I actually don't mind that none of the big names will play, because I'm excited to see players like G Pittman and JJ DiLuigi. Anyone know if Vic So'oto is playing?

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by MrRoboto - 2008/04/12 12:28

Will anyone be posting updates of the game?

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/04/12 14:50

Not much to say. I went to the scrimmage. There was a lot of situational practices before the scrimmage started. The scrimmage itself lasted maybe 45 minutes or so. First teamers were held out. J.J. DiLuigi had a few nice plays. Pretty sloppy and boring overall. Oh well, that's about what I expected.

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/04/12 15:19

I thought DiLuigi looked good as well. Other than that, not much to say. It was fun to go down and see some football though, even if it was really just a practice for the 2nd teamers.

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/12 15:44

What's the word on Gaskins and McEuen (sp?)??? Did they look good today?

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by MrRoboto - 2008/04/12 15:53

There has to be more to say then that, give us some details at what you saw today. Who will the upcoming stars be?

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by detmer4prez - 2008/04/12 16:00

CougarPeasant wrote:

What's the word on Gaskins and McEuen (sp?)??? Did they look good today?

Not really. They threw a lot of dangerous passes and got away with most of them. I hope Max doesn't get hurt. J.J. looked great. I was looking to see more of So'oto but he didn't play much.

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Getback - 2008/04/12 16:20

Gaskins and McEuen both had their moments. Both threw some a couple poor passes but both of them moved the ball. McEuen has more zip on the ball then Gaskins. I hadn't seen McEuen play before and I thought between the practice plays and scrimmage that he showed some promise. Both Gaskins and McEuen seem to have a command of the offensive.

One thing is for sure Covey won't be playing any time soon. He didn't look like a D-I QB at all. In fact, he looked like a

little kid out there. He doesn't have a D-I arm and quite frankly if promises hadn't been made to him that he would get a chance at QB I can't imagine that BYU would have wasted a scholarship on him. I hope he can play DB or some other position because he sure won't be playing QB. Anybody that tells you other wise either is related to him or works for Franklin Covey.

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:27

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We'll see, remember the kid just got off of a mission so it'll take some time for him to get the arm strength. I'm not ready to give up on him just yet.

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:28

Diluigi was definitely the most exciting part. Other than that Latu had a nice run or two, and Fui looks fast again which is nice (he didn't play in the live portion of the scrimmage but the 1's had a thud only scrimmage and Fui had some nice runs)

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:31

One other thing of note. Payne looks light years ahead of where he was last year. He almost hit a 60 yard field goal (went off the cross bar, but he almost got it over). I think he'll be hitting from the 35 and in this year, I really don't think we'll see sorensen unless it's for kickoffs.

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Getback - 2008/04/12 16:33

Whether he's just coming off his mission or not, the kid does not have the physical attributes to play D-1 ball. I'll forgive a kid all day long who looks like he has the physical ability to play but if this had been a full contact scrimmage I would have been worried about the kids safety. Please get him off the field.

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:35

Getback wrote:

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kid all day long who looks like he has the physical ability to play but if this had been a full contact scrimmage I would have been worried about the kids safety. Please get him off the field.

He's the fastest qb we've had at BYU since brandon doman. He's short, but other than that I think he has a shot. He may not end up playing at qb, but we'll see, I wouldn't be surprised if he does, or at least plays in a sort of tim tebowish fashion where he comes in for a running play every now and then.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/04/12 16:37

Yeah it was funny, after he kicked it, everybody around me was cheering for the ball to make it. It was a line drive and didn't look like it would even make it to the endzone but it just kind of hung on a line and then hit the cross bar (bouncing up so if it was another inch higher it would have glanced through). Everybody jumped up and started cheering. Then one guy said, "I've never seen so much excitement over a missed field goal." But hopefully that's the story; that he's healed and can pretty much kick from anywhere inside the 45 or so.

I really don't think Sorensen will wind up taking the field goal kicking duties but will almost asuredly take over kickoffs. Payne still doesn't look as good as his brother but I can see improvement.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/12 16:39

Hengst wrote:

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Overall, it sounds like if they weren't playing, they are penciled in to start, like So'oto. It also sounds like BYU should have a soung back up this season in either QB. Covey will switch to DB once he sees he can't compete as the QB, but I think Doman likes his moxie and sees himself in Covey to an extent.

Thanks for the info on Payne. If he nearly made a 60 yarder in scrimmage, then BYU will have a good, perhaps great, kicking game this season. I hope to see Sorenson kicking off for BYU at times. He'll be unreturnable hopefully. That means the opposing offenses will have go to an extra 17 yards on average to score this season over last! :blush:

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:44

CougarPeasant wrote:

Hengst wrote:

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I don't know about great, but he should be at least reliable this year. All of his kicks (minus the 60 yarder of course) looked like they would have been great from 20 to 15 yards further away. They were all dead on too, not wobbly and weak like last year. It was mostly just a relief to know that I won't have to worry about him missing extra points next year

:-).

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Getback - 2008/04/12 16:44

As the 4th stringer all we've haven't seen much of him in practice. I saw him play at Timpview and thought he was a heady little ball player, but I also thought that he would be playing DB in college. Personally, I don't think that he'll be playing QB come fall camp because I don't think his speed (from what I've seen) is good enough to have him run in a game. I think he's smart enough to realize that he needs to play else where if he ever hopes to see the field. Gaskins and McEuen are clearly better and we'll be next year as well. Truth is, I'll bet if you lined him up against Hall and McEuen (Gaskins is slowwww!) that he would not beat them by that much in the 40. I know the Provo folks want him to pan out but lets face it, if his last name isn't Covey, and if he hadn't come from Timpview he's probably struggling to make it as a walk on.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:48

Getback wrote:

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to be honest I never watched him play in high school, but I do know what it's like to come off of a mission and not be in shape. All I'm saying is give him a year or two and who knows, I just don't think what we saw today can give us any idea about his potential. He did complete 2 passes :-). We'll see what happens. Either way we got Unga and Ashworth out of the deal so I'm happy with it.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Getback - 2008/04/12 16:51

Thanks Hengst--your exactly right! Unga alone makes me feel better about Covey's scholarship, and the Ashworth kid looks like a real player. I just hope that Max doesn't get hurt, because from what I can see we have one all conference QB, two guys that look the part, and nothing after that!

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/12 16:53

Its gonna be a fun season for sure. And I didn't see the game but I remember Beck really struggling the first year or so off his mission, so don't count covey out just yet. The kid has heart and talent, He needs sometime in the weightroom. I think a redshirt year (or did he use that already?)of Lifting weights and running the scout team and then riding the pine for 2 years behind Max will help. Plus we have Lark and Munns that will be around when Max leaves so we will have plenty of competition for the spot. Ya know what intrigues me? Thunder and Lightning with Harvey and J.J. then use Fui and Manase as batter rams to either block for thunder and lightning or just to beat up the opposing linebacking cores! The line will be better, I have faith in their God given talent and the expertise of Coach Weber. Then have a large surplus of great wide receivers, so redshirt the ones you can. I love our TE's, Hardnosed security blankets to help keep Max outta trouble with their blocking or receiving skills Im also not opposed to redshirting Justin Sorenson if he has mission plans...Why have he and payne using elgibility? Though field position is huge and Sorenson would help with that, but I

trust Bronco to do whats be. I also think Mendenhall and Hill will have the D ready. We have more talent on this defense than i've seen in a long time, they are just lacking experience and that will improve dramatically in Fall camp and in the early weeks of the season. I have not been this excited about a season since 2001...That was a way fun year, but top to bottom I think this team may have more talent.

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 16:55

Getback wrote:

Thanks Hengst--your exactly right! Unga alone makes me feel better about Covey's scholarship, and the Ashworth kid looks like a real player. I just hope that Max doesn't get hurt, because from what I can see we have one all conference QB, two guys that look the part, and nothing after that!

Yeah I don't have a lot of confidence in either Gaskins or Mcquen at this point. Neither one was incredibly impressive. It's a good thing we have lots of good running backs! Maybe we can just have jj run the triple option for us if Hall gets hurt :-).

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Getback - 2008/04/12 17:06

Actually, if we were going to run the triple option, I'd want Brandon Doman to run it, he was he best I ever saw at running the triple option in the state of Utah.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by cougarsincebirth - 2008/04/12 19:47

I heard Dave Rose attended spring practices, hoping to recruit Fui for intimidation purposes!:woohoo: Maybe he'll play point gaurd?:P

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 19:50

cougarsincebirth wrote:

I heard Dave Rose attended spring practices, hoping to recruit Fui for intimidation purposes!:woohoo: Maybe he'll play point gaurd?:P

They should just have Fui come do the Haka facing the other basketball team with his shirt off, they'd run screaming out of the marriot center before tipoff :-)

=====

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by TimO - 2008/04/12 20:12

just to answer a previous question the posters were pretty cool-not the new ones we're all expecting to see soon, but similar to the media guide in ways, my sister tried to grab the last collie poster but a heavier mid-aged man had a tug-of-war with her and won...perv...but nevertheless, you have to love collie...my bro and i played football on the field for almost an hour after practice ended and had to re-create the magical plays.

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Re:Blue & White game

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/04/12 20:30

Regarding Covey....

I was sitting in the southeast part of the stands. Right when the scrimmage ended (just following a covey interception i believe) he just made a beeline for the exit, keeping his helmet on and brushing by everybody. All the other players took off their helmets, mingled with fans, and slowly (or not so slowly) exited.

It's just one thing I saw and could mean nothing, but it left me unimpressed with him.

As for his play on the field... I don't care if he is just off a mission, I can assure everyone on this board he will never even come close to competing for the backup slot at BYU. Just aint gonna happen.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/12 20:56

Hypercoug...You are jealous that hes playing college ball and you aren't. Covey is a good athlete and i've seen him play before, he is a competitor. He was just mad at himself so he ran out of the game. Hes a down to earth kid who will usually stay and chat with fans, sometimes you are just mad at yourself and so its better to just leave and cool off. That just pisses me off that everyone counts out a kid who hasn't played Quarterback since the 2004 season. Leave him alone, he will work hard. And if he doesn't prove himself at QB then he won't be the QB...its that simple. But I wont count him out if he has a solid work ethic and the will to succeed.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/04/12 21:02

You're probably one of the ones who was calling for John Beck's head his first two years weren't you?

The kid was a pretty good baller in high school. He may get back to that form, he may not, but that's the risk we take when we send these kids off on missions. Regardless, why don't you give him more than three months of being back off his mission before you write him off altogether.

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/12 21:44

gmj81 wrote:

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That's all I've been trying to say. No one thought Steve Young was ever going to be the starter at BYU and he turned out to be the best all time qb at BYU imo. He was an option qb that didn't know how to throw. As I recall they wanted him to play DB as well.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/04/12 21:45

Cougfan84 wrote:

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He looked better than McEuen did in the 06 and 07 spring games, but that's not saying much. (My apologies to the CB'er that is McEuen's relative. Kurt has indeed come a long way-I'm not sure if he's the #2, but I never thought he'd make it past #4.)

Re:Blue & White game

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/04/12 21:46

Hengst wrote:

gmj81 wrote:

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Did Steve Young look as bad early on as Covey did today? Honest question. It should be noted that he had a couple really nice throws on out routes and that McEuen and Gaskins didn't look a whole lot better.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Yndian - 2008/04/12 21:48

I went to the scrimmage too (all 30 minutes of it). I don't really have anything new to add, but I'll second some things that have been said.

DiLuigi looked really good, and Fui did too. Spencer Hafoka also had some nice grabs. And I didn't see if anyone mentioned it, but there were two interceptions; one by Andrew Rich and one by Jameson Frazier (who I'd never heard of before today), and there were three or four almost-interceptions.

I was also really excited about Payne's visible improvement. The 60-yarder was maybe the ugliest kick I've ever seen, but he almost got it. And the rest of his kicks were picture-perfect.

I can't wait for August!!

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by harlinestilopen - 2008/04/12 21:57

I was dissapointed not to see the number ones play in the full contact, I guess its a good thing though.

I thought Gaskins looked really good. I'm confident in him as a back up, if, heaven forbid, Hall gets hurt. Gaskins is, in my mind, way ahead McEuen.

DiLuigi is FAST! I was VERY impressed with his speed in the open field. He had a couple of good runs, and a couple of really good grabs. FUI looked faster than he has in the past, probably just because he's healthy now.

When the Defense came out on the field, they looked really small.... probably doesn' mean anything, but just a thought I had.

Payne's kicks were ok. They were wobeling (sp?) as usual. I was impressed with his leg strength though, on that 62 yarder or what ever it was. When they called out the kick team, I thought "HA, are you freaking kidding me". I had to clap after though, it was impressive.

Is it just me, or are the Blue White games getting less and less enjoyable to go to? its like a hyped up practice. I just want to see a scrimmage! lol, I guess I should just take my BYU football fix any way I can get it.

I think thats all I have, not really much to report

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by cougs_dawgs - 2008/04/12 22:17

harlinestillopen wrote:

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I would agree with you on this. I just can't understand why Florida and Nebraska and all those other big schools will hold an actual game, but BYU cannot. It is just a little annoying. It was great to see the players but I wanted to see someone break tackles and some kind of hits out there. Oh well.

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by WACoug - 2008/04/12 22:35

cougs_dawgs wrote:

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Florida's Spring game was even on ESPN this morning. Ridiculous.

=====

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by cougfan1 - 2008/04/12 22:37

cougs_dawgs wrote:

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I think the difference is those bigger schools can risk players getting injured because they have more depth.If we lost Hall, Unga, & Collie, due to a spring game I would be PO'd and people would be talking about how the coaches were

crazy to allow those players to participate in full contact drills. I am not saying I like the format, but I can totally understand where the coaches are coming from...especially with how many key players have gotten hurt in Spring.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/12 22:44

I agree...Though it would be more exciting for us to see a live game, It is definitely not worth losing a key player over a meaningless exhibition...

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by cougarfan144 - 2008/04/12 23:42

From Harmon's blog April 9th:

Don't look for an key players to mix it up at all come Saturday in the Blue and White scrimmage. Note, in promotions, it's no longer referred to as the Blue and White game. It is a scrimmage.

While I miss the traditional game atmosphere, I'm not going to fault the coaches for changing things up to avoid senseless injuries.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/04/13 01:25

BYUROCKS wrote:

TimO wrote:

Blue-White Scrimmage Set for Saturday

by Jeff Reynolds, BYU Athletic Communications

PROVO, Utah (April 8, 2008) -- In what will be an exciting and entertaining conclusion to the spring season, the BYU football team will participate in the 35th Annual Blue-White Spring Scrimmage on Saturday, April 12 at Edwards Stadium. The scrimmage is free and is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. (MT).

Grade-school youth between the ages of 5 and 12 will be able to participate in a free football clinic at Edwards Stadium, beginning at 12 p.m. (MT). Members of the BYU football team will be on hand to teach basic fundamentals.

Stadium gates will open at 11:00 a.m. A promotional football poster will be available to the first 2,500 fans.

Concessions will open by 11:30 a.m. on the west (upper & lower level) and east sides (lower level) of the stadium.

Parking is free for the spring scrimmage

My brother and I are going early just so we can play football on the field before and after the game

byucougars.com/Filing.jsp?ID=10626

dang I wish I could go my sisters wedding reception is that day :(

Better get your priorities in line. Hey it's not like it's YOUR wedding reception! ;)

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Short_Changed - 2008/04/13 01:27

Is Mahuika injured? I never saw him at all. Collie, Ashworth, and I think either White or Kozlowski were "returning" punts.

Di Luigi did look really good as did Hafoka and Ashworth (he made a tough catch on a way late throw by McCuen and got open deep a few times although our back-ups didn't seem to see him). Pittman seemed solid and had a nice break-up on a deep pass. Rich looked pretty good.

I'm really worried about our back-up QB, whoever it turns out to be. I thought both Gaskins and McCuen looked very shaky.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/13 09:02

Short_Changed wrote:

Is Mahuika injured? I never saw him at all. Collie, Ashworth, and I think either White or Kozlowski were "returning" punts.

Di Luigi did look really good as did Hafoka and Ashworth (he made a tough catch on a way late throw by McCuen and got open deep a few times although our back-ups didn't seem to see him). Pittman seemed solid and had a nice break-up on a deep pass. Rich looked pretty good.

I'm really worried about our back-up QB, whoever it turns out to be. I thought both Gaskins and McCuen looked very shaky.

yeah, he tore a ligament in the lv bowl. Minor tear though, he'll be back for fall camp.

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by mountaincougar - 2008/04/14 10:43

I guess I must have been watching a different game on Sat. One poster said that McEuen and Gaskins looked "shaky"? But I have always thought that Gaskins was shaky and didn't look it. McEuen has been my choice for quite awhile. Having watched practices alot this spring, he has outperformed Gaskins day in and day out. His throws are downfield with something on them. To play at this level, some of your passes are going to be dangerous. Watch Max sometime. You shake your head sometime at who he throws it to and danger of it. But he pulls it off. You have to have that kind of arm and mentality. IMO Gaskins doesn't have the arm or the heart to do it. Most of his were his normal 3 yard over the line with a longer run attached to it. Covey is not going to make it. Completed 2 passes for 6 yards or soemthing? He didn't look all that different in high school. He doesn't have the arm for D1 ball. Maybe he will donate his scholie to McEuen, who is much more deserving of one IMO again. Maybe McEuen would consider a name change? :)

But I thought the scrimmage was great. The light finally came on in the coaches heads that the younger guys need reps and what better place. Does Max have to prove anything? No. So why waste reps on him at this game? Give them to other guys who don't get looks and the experience. John B's last spring he got so many reps at the Blue/White game. Were they unsure about him? Wasted opportunity for other guys. We will need those other guys to be better prepared than in the past if something happens to Max (and whoever else). The more reps they get, the better prepared they will be. Remember what Coach Doman said about them being potential starters. If theya ren't ready, we are in a world of hurt. I, personally, think we will be in good shape if something happens. We have to build our depth (besides praying fervently nothing happens). :)

Go Cougars!!!!!!

Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/04/14 12:38

Considering our relative lack of depth at QB and Covey's life long dream to play QB, I don't see how it can hurt for him to sit this year and attempt to learn the position. It's not like he won't be conditioning and lifiting weight should he be asked

to play special teams or db in the future.

We all know the Steve Young 8th string QB story.....while I pray that Max stays healthy for the remainder of his playing days, you can never completely remove the potential for disaster of getting a couple QBs hurt in a season. Honestly, I don't see how BYU football is hurt in any way by getting Covey snaps at QB in practices right now.

BTW - anyone that balked at playing Northern Iowa in Provo next fall needs to start thinking about what Bronco is doing. Our starters are not getting a lot of snaps and I don't expect them to get a ton in the fall either. The absolute beauty of playing a solid but very beatable (and small) team like UNI, is that it achieves several purposes, not the least of these is solid real gametime experience for the starters and avoiding the risk of injuries to experienced starters in fall camp.(obviously the game is an opportunity for injury, but there's also a 'W' in the balance while fall camp offers nothing but cohesion, timing, and sorting out the depth chart). Guys like Clawson, Chambers, Tuitama, Rich, Hafoka, Pittman, etc. need fall camp but honestly the risk of getting a Jorgenson, Unga, etc. is too much considering we already know where they are on the depth chart.

Our losses to UCLA and Tulsa were so close that I can see what Bronco is thinking. Imagine a healthy Tialevea, etc. going into those games. A few tackles more, 10 yards better field position, a missed 3rd down by those teams, and we may honestly have been taking about BCS last year. An injury or two may have made all the difference. These are the things you have to consider when you're striving for perfection.

If and when we go undefeated this year and challenge for a BCS bowl game, I hope we can look back to the Northern Iowa game as an asset.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by CougarBandit - 2008/04/14 13:25

mountaincougar wrote:

Covey is not going to make it. Completed 2 passes for 6 yards or soemthing? He didn't look all that different in high school. He doesn't have the arm for D1 ball. Maybe he will donate his scholie to McEuen, who is much more deserving of one IMO again. Maybe McEuen would consider a name change? :)

While I'm not claiming omniscience concerning Covey's future, I have the opposite impression than you of his potential. Considering that the last time Covey played QB was in high school, your observation "He didn't look all that different in high school" should be expected. Covey was recruited as an athlete and was set to fill-in depleted depth in the secondary during his freshman year. Mendenhall agreed that Covey would be given a shot as a QB after his mission. He has had 6 weeks to not only shave off two years of mission rust but to refine QB skills he hasn't touched for over three years, and apply them in an offense he has never worked with before, at a level that must be instinctive to be effective. He's also competing against two QB's who've had a full year of workouts, drills and learning the offense, as well as actual practice repetitions.

Given all that, and not having seen him play before, I was not expecting to see much when he came on the field during Saturday's scrimmage. What I observed, however, was not a guy "who's not going to make it". I saw a guy who will benefit by learning more of the offensive system. I also saw a guy with athleticism who showed poise and threw a very clean looking ball. A guy who, despite the shortcomings, may have more of "IT" than the other two. The same kind of "IT" that pushed Brandon Doman into a starting job with two games left in his junior year after struggling his entire collegiate career to persuade the coaches that he was not a backup DB. Covey's may have been just a glimmer, but I think "IT" was there.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/04/14 13:57

cougfan1 wrote:

cougs_dawgs wrote:

harlinestillopen wrote:

Is it just me, or are the Blue White games getting less and less enjoyable to go to? its like a hyped up practice. I just want to see a scrimmage! lol, I guess I should just take my BYU football fix any way I can get it.

I think thats all I have, not really much to report

I would agree with you on this. I just can't understand why Florida and Nebraska and all those other big schools will hold an actual game, but BYU cannot. It is just a little annoying. It was great to see the players but I wanted to see someone break tackles and some kind of hits out there. Oh well.

I think the difference is those bigger schools can risk players getting injured because they have more depth. If we lost Hall, Unga, & Collie, due to a spring game I would be PO'd and people would be talking about how the coaches were crazy to allow those players to participate in full contact drills. I am not saying I like the format, but I can totally understand where the coaches are coming from...especially with how many key players have gotten hurt in Spring.

I agree. The conventional wisdom is that D1 schools and D2 schools are roughly the same for their starters, but that the difference comes as you move down the depth chart. I think the same thing applies to a degree when making a comparison between BCS/non-BCS schools. Some will argue, but I think BYU's top to bottom is not equivalent with the top BCS programs. However, our healthy 2-deep can game with anyone. If that's right, then I understand that Bronco doesn't want to risk having to dip too deep in the depth chart.

STILL, not allowing the two-deep to have contact is saying that the risk and cost of injury is greater than the risk and benefit of players improving their skills (or avoiding skill deterioration). Living in SoCal, I haven't seen any Spring workouts, so I'm not going to call out the coaches. Maybe the starters really are as good as they can get relative to the risk and cost of injury. But it does seem strange to me that in a "quest for perfection" the coaches are removing a significant opportunity for the starters to improve.

I do like craigoscarson's post on UNI. I've had the same thought that I'm glad we break in our new defense on a good D2 team at home before taking the show on the road. Still, going at home vs. Arizona last year was a better preparation for the team going into UCLA.

What are others' thoughts?

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by x_rugger - 2008/04/14 14:01

here is my impression over all. hall is better then all the other qb's combined. if he gets hurt, say goodbye to a bcs bowl. still i expect him to stay relitively healthy, or to tough it out if he is not. that is the impression i get from him.

jj, hafoka, ashworth all looked to be future starts for sure. so did rich and pittman. those i expected. the player that i noticed, that i didn't expect, was k. freil at tight-end. i thought the kid was big, fast, and caught everything near him. he also looks to have the ability to block as well. i don't know what year he is, or mission status, but i expect it will be hard to keep him off the field at some point in the future.

while i was disappointed at how short the "game" was, i have four boys, and they were able to fill white t-shirts with autographs, and get group pictures with hall, collie, unga, and b kehl. they could have cared less about the length of the "game". i think there is a method to bronco's madness here. my boys will be fans for life.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by Short_Changed - 2008/04/14 22:38

mountaincougar wrote:

Covey is not going to make it. Completed 2 passes for 6 yards or soemthing? He didn't look all that different in high school. He doesn't have the arm for D1 ball. Maybe he will donate his scholie to McEuen, who is much more deserving of one IMO again. Maybe McEuen would consider a name change? :)

Maybe you should watch Covey's High School highlights. I have a copy if you'd like to see for yourself. He's not near the form he was his senior year of HS, but he'll get in the groove again. Plus, if we put Covey in at QB you're going to see a much different style of play. He's very quick and was very fast in HS and he'll get that speed back soon. That

opens up a whole new game and something that's tough to gameplan for.

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by bluesista - 2008/04/15 10:11

I was bored (a natural reaction to finals' time) and decided to photoshop some of the pictures I took at the spring game. I hope you guys like them. Just looking at them gets me all excited for August 30th! You can click on them to make them bigger.

http://i66.photobucket.com/albums/h260/clazyrachy/th_P1000502copy.jpg

http://i66.photobucket.com/albums/h260/clazyrachy/th_P1000508.jpg

http://i66.photobucket.com/albums/h260/clazyrachy/th_P1000480.jpg

http://i66.photobucket.com/albums/h260/clazyrachy/th_P1000520.jpg

http://i66.photobucket.com/albums/h260/clazyrachy/th_P1000548.jpg

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by harlinestillopen - 2008/04/15 10:27

Nice photo's blue, I like the black and white one where Hall and Collie and the Ball are in color. How do you do that? I've always liked that look in pics.

I'm actually in one of your pics! I don't know how to make it smaller, so I hope its not huge when I put it on here

http://i91.photobucket.com/albums/k316/vote_quimby/springgame1.jpg

I'm circled in blue. Comical

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Re:Spring Game Activities

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/04/22 00:01

Nice pics!

I noticed the last one shows Fui with his fro again like he had in '06. Maybe he just had Sampsonitis last year!

...hey, that's my 100th post. GO COUGS.

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