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## Tevita Kinikini

Posted by SaltLakeCoug - 2008/01/10 19:00

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Is somebody the BYU coaches should look at. He will be a senior at Highland High next year. The head coach wanted him to start on the varsity squad since he was a sophomore but he wanted to keep playing with his little league friends. He has started varsity his junior year at defensive end and at fullback. My little bro is one of his best friends since kindergarten and he told me that Tevita is hoping for a scholarship from the Y or the U so that he could stay close to home since his dad died a few years ago. Rumor has it that he will be starting middle linebacker next year and starting fullback again. Right now he weighs 250 lbs but during football season he is more in the 220 range. Last year he was the rushing leader highland.

Rushing leader: Tevita Kinikini (108 carries, 832 yards, 8 TDs) and was named to the Deseret news DL second team last year. He should better then that this next year.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/01/10 19:34

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I can't imagine there's a player in Utah that BYU and the Ewets aren't aware of. If there is, someone in the recruiting department needs a kick in the butt; this isn't Texas or Southern California.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by etyotx - 2008/01/10 19:38

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Anyone can submit information on potential recruits via byucougars.com. The direct link doesn't work, but go to: <http://www.byucougars.com/football/> and click on "Referral" under the "Recruiting" tab.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by SaltLakeCoug - 2008/01/10 22:31

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etyotx wrote:

Anyone can submit information on potential recruits via byucougars.com. The direct link doesn't work, but go to: <http://www.byucougars.com/football/> and click on "Referral" under the "Recruiting" tab.

Thanks for the info. I just submitted his name.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by cougarfan87 - 2008/01/11 07:10

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This could be a great get, an ok get, or take up a roster spot that could go to someone else.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by sjcougfan - 2008/01/11 07:13

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SaltLakeCoug wrote:

Is somebody the BYU coaches should look at. He will be a senior at Highland High next year.

I fail to see why that's relevant.;) :laugh:

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

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Posted by Short\_Changed - 2008/01/11 12:20

I saw the kid play on TV and he is a bruiser. The only thing I wonder about is his speed and what position would he play in college. FB or DE? I don't think he's fast enough to play LB.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by HoosierCougar - 2008/01/11 12:38

I may be way off base here since I don't know the kid, but I would question the competitive drive of a kid who doesn't want to start varsity his sophomore year. I don't get that. Maybe he had some maturing to do.

SaltLakeCoug wrote:

The head coach wanted him to start on the varsity squad since he was a sophomore but he wanted to keep playing with his little league friends.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by Mars - 2008/01/12 17:55

What an awesome name!

The "sign/poster" possibilities are nearly endless! :laugh:

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by tru\_lds - 2008/01/18 00:52

I may be way off \_base\_ here since I don't know the kid, but I would question the competitive drive of a kid who doesn't want to start varsity his sophomore year. I don't get that. Maybe he had some maturing to do.

tru lds says: I am a past coach of his, and these are the facts about Tevita: Tevita STARTED varsity as an undersized SOPHOMORE defensive lineman. And where most linemen use their bulk, Tevita used his quickness and speed off the ball in helping the Rams reach the state title game, where he played well against future Cougar lineman Malemaleuna, among others, and Timpview, all as a SOPHOMORE.

Coach Benson wanted him to start varsity as a FRESHMAN, on a very good Ram team which reached the state title game that year as well.

Instead he opted to stay in Little League, and help his team reach the title game, where they fell short, but the kid is a winner.

As a JUNIOR, he was a starting undersized defensive end, where he gained second team all-state honors, and, on the offensive side, as a fullback, racked up 800+ yards on 100+ carries.

The untold story about his offensive exploits, is that his offensive stats were from a 1/2 season's work, he played backup to all-state fullback Liam McNally. He plays in a 3 back, option set, where the quarterback can keep as an option, so technically a 4 back set. So in an offense where he only sees 1/4th of the carries, the kid had an 8+ yards per carry average, as a Junior, and more importantly, he doesn't fumble, he takes care of the ball.

This year, barring injury, he will be the premiere running back in the state! He is working on his speed, he runs a 4.8/40 but should have that down to 4.5 - 4.6 this year. He will run you over, or go around you when needed. He knows he will not be a lineman at the next level, or linebacker, he is undersized for those positions. On the defensive side of the ball, he will be more like a Polamalu type player, a great strong safety.

BYU is where his heart is, because his dad was a die hard BYU fan, but he has taken some impromptu visits to some other schools. And the Utes are always in the running.

The true testimony to this kid is his devotion to his team, and his friends. He knows football is only a game, and that there is much more to life than the friday night lights. He is a well rounded human being.

[http://www.cougarblue.com/images/fbfiles/images/20071011\\_\\_cit\\_spt\\_pfb\\_feach\\_1012\\_1\\_Gallery.jpg](http://www.cougarblue.com/images/fbfiles/images/20071011__cit_spt_pfb_feach_1012_1_Gallery.jpg)

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by Mars - 2008/01/18 00:58

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Thanks tru\_ids, he sounds like a great kid and an awesome football player. Feel free to come back to this board anytime.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by SaltLakeCoug - 2008/01/18 01:18

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tru\_ids speaks the truth about this kid. I can vouch for him. I know Tevita personally, he is a great kid and has a ton of heart. I personally think he would be a great addition to the Y.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by cougfan1 - 2008/01/18 11:00

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Mars wrote:

What an awesome name!

The "sign/poster" possibilities are nearly endless! :laugh:

...like "We will winiwini with Kinikini" :)

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by UliUli79 - 2008/01/18 11:11

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cougfan1 wrote:

Mars wrote:

What an awesome name!

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...like "We will winiwini with Kinikini" :)

:laugh: That's just ridiculous. :laugh: Friggen' hilarious. Thanks for that cougfan.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by tru\_ids - 2008/04/19 23:51

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Here are some highlights of Tevita, posted on Youtube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hshTVV1OYas>

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by Mars - 2008/04/20 03:05

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tru\_lds wrote:

Here are some highlights of Tevita, posted on Youtube.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hshTVV1OYas>  
Do you know if BYU has been in contact with him much?

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by njcoug - 2008/04/20 09:24

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I hate to be a downer but BYU has very few scholarships open this year. DH reported a couple of weeks ago that Bronco told him there would only be 15 for this class. Five have already accepted. Four will probably remain open until they verbal somewhere (Manti Te'o #1 WLB, John Martinez #2 OG, Xavier #14 OT, and Josh Nunes #14 QB ) which leaves six remaining scholarships. Already, there are some great prospects that have not received an offer (Stan Hasiak #18 OT and Darren Markle MLB #22.) From what I've read Markle really wants to go to BYU, but the fact of the matter is, this year there is a lack of schollies and some really good BYU prospects. Players who aren't as highly ranked or as well known who in years past might have received an offer, and could make an impact on the team, probably will not this year. It's just a numbers problem

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by tru\_lds - 2008/04/20 17:29

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He's talked with some of the coaches and players at the Y, he has also talked with Oregon State, and the feeling is they may hold a scholarship for Tevita, and some other LDS players from Utah, while they serve missions.

Nowadays, many programs are catching on to the level of talent within the LDS community, and they are realizing that they will be missing out on it, unless they make some provisions to allow for missions.

This is both a good and bad thing, good because many premiere programs are beginning to, or will begin to, allow time for missions. Bad because, if all these players went to the Y, I believe the Y would be unstoppable.

I've been told that Oregon State, Arizona, and many other schools are already allowing for missions. It may be, as well, that LDS coaches, coaching in D-1 programs around the country, are doing what they can to expedite this, if so, this is great news!

All said, Tevita still has one more year of high school, he was an undersized defensive end, 5-10 200 lbs., and still made 2nd team all state d-line, lined up against much bigger opponents. This year he will play in the defensive backfield, which is a more natural position for his size.

It is so great to see so many talented LDS athletes! And not enough scholarships, for loads of talent, is a good problem for the Y to have, seems like we need to build another LDS University, to accommodate all this talent.

Why not? The catholics have Notre Dame & Boston College, among others.

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by Cougfan84 - 2008/04/20 20:49

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Sign that kid up! I'd take him on my team any day. He is more than just a rb, lb, or de, he is a football player! Great athleticism and speed. He makes Lynn Katoa look SILLY!

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## Re:Tevita Kinikini

Posted by buzzard - 2008/04/20 21:44

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tru\_lds wrote:

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There was a time when we could have shipped him off to Ricks for a couple of years, but that option has been

foreclosed. And I doubt Southern Virginia will be competing in D1 anytime soon.

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## Re: Tevita Kinikini

Posted by B-Rex - 2008/04/21 06:19

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coufan1 wrote:

Mars wrote:

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...like "We will winiwin with Kinikini" :)

So, whats the skiniskini on Kinikini?

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## Re: Tevita Kinikini

Posted by Sage - 2008/04/21 15:12

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buzzard wrote:

tru\_Ids wrote:

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I looked up SVU, and was wondering if anybody could tell us more about them. What conference are they in? What level do they play? Their web site said last year was their first winning season. I noticed their recruiting was from something like 10 different states, the majority being Utah.

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## Re: Tevita Kinikini

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/04/21 15:38

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They are an independent in the NAIA. They went 6-5 last year and had their first all-american.

[http://www.svu.edu/athletics/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=49&Itemid=29](http://www.svu.edu/athletics/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=49&Itemid=29)

Here are the teams in the NAIA. They are listed under Independents

<http://graphics.fansonly.com/schools/naia/member->

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**Re:Tevita Kinikini**

Posted by SaltLakeCoug - 2008/04/21 21:08

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Rumor has it that he is getting a lot of attention from the Oregon schools among others.

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**Re:Tevita Kinikini**

Posted by cougarfan87 - 2008/04/22 08:10

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Why not? The catholics have Notre Dame & Boston College, among others.

This may not be such a bad thing either. More kids will be able to go on missions, and some of those, who might not have considered BYU before their mission, will change their minds and come to BYU-- A la Bradley, Max Hall, etc. But then again, I am a glass half full kind of guy.

Now I don't want anyone to get upset for what I am about to say, but no unhallowed hand can stop the work. ;) I think Bronco and Collie would be proud. :lol:

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**Re:Tevita Kinikini**

Posted by tru\_lds - 2008/04/29 18:57

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Here are some more hi-lights on this prospect:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qL-u1CilfBU>

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