
Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/04/27 13:48

I hate to say it but this draft says a bit about our competition the last 2 years; especially our conference.

We did pound Oregon into submission, with Dixon and Stewart but I'm not sure what to think of those 2 guys as NFLers

Well aside from Antoine Cason (who I believe is the best football player we've played against in some time) , most of our competition has not fared well in this draft.

Matt Ryan I suppose validates our close games with BC in the past

Bruce Davis in the 3rd round is understandable considering his size- some coaches wouldn't have drafted him regardless of his speed at his size

As of the middle of the 6th round.....

No Tommie Blake or Chase Ortiz

No Spencer Larson or Louis Holmes (remember the guy we were supposed to be all afraid of after he should have been suspended by Stoops)

No Paul Smith (I'm surprised here)

No one from Air Force, Colorado State, Utah, TCU, Wyoming

(a wideout from NM, and Oconnell from SDSU to backup Brady)

Just not a good year for the MWC. I guess you could read into it that 1. Our conference doesn't get a lot of respect from the NFL 2. Our conference has a lot of young players returning 3. Our conference has good football players but not great prototypical athletes.... take your pick, probably a combo

Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by WACoug - 2008/04/27 13:58

Don't forget about Beau Bell!

But generally I agree. I was also surprised by Paul Smith and also a little by Spencer Larson.

I think having the absence of TV coverage has taken its toll. Hopefully that will start to change now that people will actually be able to watch players from the Mountain West play.

Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/04/27 14:04

4. Our conference is run by a retard. 5. The BCS bias.

If it weren't for the tv issues, I think we would have seen a couple more players drafted. Each year it seemed we had an over-achiever or two that made some noise and had enough exposure during the season to get drafted. I think most of those kinds of players are still making teams via free agency. Dan Coats is a great example of this. Pre-Crowton/Craig Thompson, he and Harline would've been drafted.

I think we'll continue to see star-ish players (Kehl, UNLV's Bell) get drafted every year, regardless of the fact they're from the MWC. The difference will be for the marginal players. 8 years ago, Kelly Poppinga would've been drafted. Now he'll likely have to go the free-agency route.

Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by gordito - 2008/04/27 14:04

You beat me to it Craig. I was disappointed when I looked at ESPN's Draftracker and saw Blake and Ortiz still on the board (and so poorly rated). The MWC certainly isn't anything to be proud of.

BTW, does anybody have an idea of what percentage of NFL players come from each conference?

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/04/27 14:06

Larsen just went to Denver in the mid 6th rd.

And yes, Colt Brennan will have a job this summer. (Redskins 6th rd) Even Colt should break through against Todd Collins and Sam Hollenbach.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by WACoug - 2008/04/27 14:11

And who could forget about Tyler Schmitt, the fabulous long snapper from San Diego State drafted by Seattle in the 6th round? That is something the conference can hang their hat on. "We sent the only long snapper drafted into the NFL."
:ohmy:

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/04/27 14:11

I don't know if our competition improves that much for next year (I expect Utah to be improved, TCU to be tough on the road, UCLA to be a cakewalk at home and Washington to hinge on the play of their QB) but based on the last 2 drafts alone,(obviously a lot more is involved in determining the quality of a schedule) I could understand why we lose some votes based primarily on our schedule, regardless of the Ws. We might have to win these games handily to get the respect we'll need for a BCS game; especially considering the egg that Hawaii laid last year (as the non BCS poster-child last year).

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/04/27 14:13

WACoug wrote:

And who could forget about Tyler Schmitt, the fabulous long snapper from San Diego State drafted by Seattle in the 6th round? That is something the conference can hang their hat on. "We sent the only long snapper drafted into the NFL."
:ohmy:

Jared Allen (formerly of the Chiefs and recently traded for a 1st rd pick and 2 3rds) was drafted as a long snapper.....for what it's worth.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by WACoug - 2008/04/27 14:40

craigscarson wrote:

WACoug wrote:

And who could forget about Tyler Schmitt, the fabulous long snapper from San Diego State drafted by Seattle in the 6th round? That is something the conference can hang their hat on. "We sent the only long snapper drafted into the NFL."
:ohmy:

Jared Allen (formerly of the Chiefs and recently traded for a 1st rd pick and 2 3rds) was drafted as a long snapper.....for what it's worth.

That's an interesting bit of trivia. I know it has happened in the past. I guess I should have specified only long snapper this year (as far as I know)
:)

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/04/27 14:42

Andre Woodson fell to the Giants in the late 6th rd. Did this guy rob a bank and I never heard about it? In the middle of the season, people were talking about him as a lock in the 1st round.

NY has Eli, Jared Lorenzon and David Carr right now so he's not guaranteed a job even holding a notebook; but from what I saw of Woodson this season; he's a good player. Quite the fall.....

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/27 15:02

Cut Blake some slack, he was a sure 1st rounder last draft, but elected to return. Given the mental problems he's faced since, it's no wonder he hasn't been drafted. He did earn the right last year, but lost it this year. I see him getting an invite to a camp going undrafted. Tis a shame.

As for now, there are no utes projected to be drafted. I think that is the first time in some time that at least one hasn't been drafted.

I wonder how many from BYU's team this coming season will be drafted. I see 3-4 of the Olinemen, 2-3 off the Dline, 1-2 LBs, a safety, the TEs and Austin Collie. Hall will be as well should he improve each season, even though he's small for a prototypical NFL qb. If Brennan can be drafted, so can Hall. I think Unga will be and then moved to FB provided he keeps getting stronger and better at blocking.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/04/27 15:32

Agreed Blake has fallen from grace...but usually teams will gamble a 6th or 7th on a guy with that much talent.

As far as our future:
Pitta definately could be the next NFL TE. George? Haven't seen enough to think NFL let alone all conference.

I do see the Olinemen drafted (Both Reynolds, Feinga, Oswald, Bright and maybe even Sorenson+ future guys like Mack, Alleto etc.)

I don't know about our Dlinemen or linebackers though (where Jorgenson would play in the NFL and what linebackers will have NFL speed and size by their draft days) Honestly, I'm not sure any are NFL prospects right now- Hola might actually be that guy based on his position and size.
(Nixon, Bauman, Doman, Leukenga, Clawson, Soto, Hooks, etc.) (So'to might actually have the best physical ability to play at the next level at linebacker)- after seeing Spencer Larsen go in the late 6th round who knows, I'm not sure any of our backers are that good-you name any of our guys and I'd trade them for Spencer Larsen.

Honestly, Bronson Kaufusi might be our 1st chance to send a Dlineman in the 1st round since Denney. He's a pretty incredible athlete for his age.

A guy like Jordan Pendleton has a chance if he can lay the wood in game situations; he has the physical skills, I'm not sure where his head is though and it's a pretty cerebral position in the NFL.

Unga, I think will project as a TB like Brandon Jacobs, Jerome Bettis, etc.

I wouldn't be shocked in the least to see Fui and Tonga drafted next year as fullbacks though.

Collie, Jacobson (should he come home healthy and get his speed back) both could play in the NFL. (Having seen my share of arena ball, Michael Reed could easily play there; although they prefer 2 way guys).

Chambers, G Pittman have a long way to go to be considered starters, let alone all conference players, (let alone NFLers) but they do make you wonder.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/27 17:13

Good analysis. I didn't mention any of the CBs because BYU doesn't produce NFL quality CBs. They have produced safeties, LBs, and DLs. I can see Jorgenson getting drafted and perhaps another as you mentioned. Of the LBs, there's Nixon and So'oto, given their athletic skills.

Pendleton and Clark might end up on a roster somewhere if as you say they show they have the mental ability.

On offense, there is alot of talent. George will have to prove himself, but he'll get two seasons without splitting time with So'oto anymore to do so. I am still not convinced Unga has NFL speed, but he is fast enough and elusive enough to be given a shot. Fui and Tonga will get some serious looks I agree.

It will be fun to see what comes of these players if the team performs as we all hope and expect.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by Hengst - 2008/04/27 17:18

Is anyone else surprised Sete didn't get picked up?

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/27 17:21

Hengst wrote:

Is anyone else surprised Sete didn't get picked up?

No, did you see him play last season? He was too inconsistent at center to get drafted. I hope he makes it somehow, but I don't think he will.

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by BYUROCKS - 2008/04/27 17:40

CougarPeasant wrote:

Hengst wrote:

Is anyone else surprised Sete didn't get picked up?

No, did you see him play last season? He was too inconsistent at center to get drafted. I hope he makes it somehow, but I don't think he will.

I know they guy to bad they don't take Character in there pick thinking

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Re:Our competition and other draft ramblings.....

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/04/27 17:44

Hengst wrote:

Is anyone else surprised Sete didn't get picked up?

He's pretty small as NFL centers go; however I guarantee you he'll get a tryout and has a chance to stick. When he played his best ball, he was easily the best center in our conference. Too bad we didn't see his best ball in our biggest games this year.

More surprising is the fact that Poppinga didn't get any love; especially considering the relative success that his brother has had. Again, he'll have a chance to stick this summer.

I really wouldn't be surprised to see Chris Bolden make an NFL roster either as a special teamer and backup linebacker. He looks like an NFLer and is mature enough to make a roster.

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