



UTAH FOOTBALL



28 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS • 736 WINS • 11, 10-WIN SEASONS
27 BOWL APPEARANCES • 96 CONSECUTIVE SELLOUTS AT RICE-ECCLES STADIUM

GAME INFORMATION

TV ESPN
Talent Justin Kutcher, Roddy Jones, Quint Kessenich
Local Radio ESPN 700 AM & 92.1 FM
Talent Bill Riley, Steven Sylvester, Zack Moss
Sirius XM Channel Ch. 174 or 238
Live Stats UtahUtes.com

UTAH SCHEDULE (1-0, 0-0 BIG 12)

9/3 (Thu.)	Idaho	W, 66-14	ESPNU
9/12	Arkansas	8:15 p.m.	ESPN
9/19	Utah State	1:30 p.m.	FOX
9/26	at Iowa State*	TBA	TBA
10/10	Kansas*	TBA	TBA
10/17	at Colorado*	TBA	TBA
10/24	Houston*	TBA	TBA
10/31	at Cincinnati*	TBA	TBA
11/7	BYU*	TBA	TBA
11/14	at Arizona*	TBA	TBA
11/21	at TCU*	TBA	TBA
11/27 (Fri.)	West Virginia*	7 p.m.	FOX

All Times MT | *Big 12 Regular Season

ARKANSAS SCHEDULE (1-0, 0-0 SEC)

9/5	North Alabama	W, 31-14	SECN
9/12	at Utah	8:15 p.m.	ESPN
9/19	Georgia*	10 a.m.	ABC
9/26	Tulsa	6 p.m.	SECN+
10/3	at Texas A&M*	TBA	TBA
10/10	Tennessee*	TBA	TBA
10/17	at Vanderbilt*	TBA	TBA
10/31	Missouri*	TBA	TBA
11/7	at Auburn*	TBA	TBA
11/14	South Carolina*	TBA	TBA
11/21	at Texas*	TBA	TBA
11/28	LSU*	TBA	TBA

All Times MT | *SEC Regular Season

SERIES HISTORY

First meeting

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

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GAME 2

No. 21 UTAH (1-0, 0-0 Big 12) **vs. ARKANSAS** (1-0, 0-0 SEC)
Saturday, Sept. 12 • 8:15 p.m. MT • Salt Lake City, Utah • Rice-Eccles Stadium (51,444)



UTAH UTES

Head Coach: Morgan Scalley
Year at Utah: 1st as HC
Record at Utah: 2-0
Career Record: Same



ARKANSAS RAZORBACKS

Head Coach: Ryan Silverfield
Year at Arkansas: 1st
Record at Arkansas: 1-0
Career Record: 51-25

THE UTAH MAN

Utah head coach Morgan Scalley made his regular season debut leading the Utes in week one vs. Idaho, a dominant 66-14 triumph over the Vandals. That came after a 44-22 victory over Nebraska in the Las Vegas Bowl on Dec. 31 in his first time as the head man on the sideline. Scalley, a Salt Lake City native and U alum who has been on the coaching staff since 2008, has served as safeties coach that entire time and was tabbed defensive coordinator in 2016.

Regarded as one of the brightest defensive minds in the business, Scalley was a finalist for the 2019 Broyles Award. He played for the Utes from 2001-04 and was part of Utah's 2004 team which went 12-0 and defeated Pittsburgh in the Fiesta Bowl as the first "BCS Busters".

HOME COOKING

The Utes open the 2026 season with three straight home games at Rice-Eccles Stadium, having sold out 96 consecutive contests in Salt Lake City. Home has been a great place to be for the Utah football team over the last five+ years, ranking atop the Big 12 Conference and No. 14 in the nation in home winning percentage during that time (.26-6, .812).

FOLLOW ALONG

Fans can get behind the scenes views and live updates on social media and online at www.UtahUtes.com throughout the 2026 season. The Utes are active on Twitter (@Utah_Football), Instagram (@UtahFootball), Facebook (search Utah Football) and TikTok (@Utah_Football).

UTAH FOOTBALL: NEED TO KNOWS

- Quarterback Devon Dampier is back after starting 12 of Utah's games in 2025, throwing for 2,490 yards and 24 touchdowns, while rushing for 835 yards and 10 scores. He has been named to preseason watch lists for the Maxwell, Walter Camp and Davey O'Brien Awards among others.
- Wayshawn Parker is also returning at running back for the Utes following a 2025 season where he played in all 13 games, rushing for 981 yards and six touchdowns on 149 carries.
- On the defensive side, 2025 team-leading tackler (67, 6.0 TFL) at linebacker Johnathan Hall returns along with safety and second-leading tackler (64, 4.0 TFL) Jackson Bennee.
- Utah has won 10 of its last 11 season openers with the lone loss coming in a 29-26 defeat in The Swamp against Florida on Sept. 3, 2022.
- The Utes have won 17 straight home openers at Rice-Eccles Stadium (not counting truncated 2020 season due to COVID-19).

BIG 12 STANDINGS

Team	Big 12	Overall
Utah	0-0	1-0
Arizona	0-0	1-0
Arizona State	0-0	1-0
BYU	0-0	1-0
UCF	0-0	1-0
Cincinnati	0-0	1-0
Colorado	0-0	1-0
Houston	0-0	1-0
Iowa State	0-0	1-0
Kansas	0-0	1-0
Kansas State	0-0	1-0
Texas Tech	0-0	1-0
West Virginia	0-0	1-0
Baylor	0-0	0-1
Oklahoma State	0-0	0-1
TCU	0-0	0-1

WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE: SEPTEMBER 6-12

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
No Media Availability	- Noon MT: Morgan Scalley Press Conference - Post Practice (4:15 p.m.): Offensive players TE coach Luke Wells	- Post Practice (time TBA): Defensive players, Morgan Scalley, S coach Derrick Odum - 6-7 p.m.: Coaches' Show ESPN 700 AM / 92.1 FM	No Media Availability	No Media Availability	No Media Availability	GAME DAY! vs. Arkansas 8:15 p.m. MT • ESPN Postgame Press Conference

QUICK FACTS

Location	Salt Lake City, Utah
Founded	1850
Enrollment	38,261
President	Taylor R. Randall
Director of Athletics	Mark Harlan
Conference	Big 12
Nickname	Utes
Mascot	Swoop
Colors	Red & White
Stadium	Rice-Eccles Stadium (51,444)
Website	UtahUtes.com

TEAM INFORMATION

2026 Record	1-0
2026 Big 12 Record	0-0
Offense	Spread
Defense	4-2
Lettermen Returning in 2026	60
Lettermen Lost from 2025	55
Total Starters Returning in 2026	12 (4 O, 5 D, 3 Spec.)
Total Starters Lost from 2025	13 (7 O, 6 D)

HISTORY

First Year of Football	1892
All-Time Record	736-491-31 (.597)
Home	444-199-16 (.686)
Rice-Eccles Stadium (1998-present)	126-42 (.750)
Road	266-268-12 (.498)
Neutral	26-24-3 (.518)
Conference	454-269-19 (.625)
Big 12 Conference (2024-present)	9-9
Bowl Games	18-9 (.666)
Homecoming	65-35-4 (.644)
Conference Championships	28

COACHING STAFF

	POSITION
Morgan Scalley	Head Coach
Kevin McGiven	Offensive Coordinator (Booth)
Colton Swan	Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers
Sharrieff Shah	Assoc. HC/Cornerbacks/ST Coordinator
Mark Atuaia	Asst. HC/Running Backs
Ryan Gunderson	Quarterbacks
Jordan Gross	Offensive Line
Chad Bumphis	Wide Receivers
Luke Wells	Tight Ends
Luther Elliss	Defensive Tackles
Inoke Breckterfield	Defensive Ends
Derrick Odum	Safeties

NCAA/CONFERENCE STATISTICAL COMPARISONS

Category (134 ranked in NCAA FBS)	FBS Rank	Utah		Arkansas		
		Big 12	Value	FBS Rank	SEC	Value
3rd Down Conversion Pct (129 ranked)	8	3	66.7%	23	6	58.8%
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (130 ranked)	26	5	23.1%	8	3	10%
4th Down Conversion Pct (91 ranked)	58	10	50%	58	11	50%
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (99 ranked)	71	9	50%	1	1	0%
Fewest Penalties (128 ranked)	1	1	1	82	11	8
Fewest Penalties Per Game (130 ranked)	1	1	1.0	90	11	8
First Downs Defense (130 ranked)	38	7	13	6	3	7
First Downs Offense (130 ranked)	18	2	33	32	8	29
Kickoff Return Defense (130 ranked)	71	9	17.0	1	1	0
Kickoff Returns (96 ranked)						
Net Punting (125 ranked)	17	7	47	17	2	47
Passing Offense (130 ranked)	49	7	269	51	11	267
Passing Yards Allowed (130 ranked)	34	5	119	30	8	113
Passing Yards per Completion (130 ranked)	17	4	15.82	87	13	11.13
Punt Return Defense (130 ranked)	8	4	0.0	85	13	3
Punt Returns (130 ranked)	19	5	16.50	23	4	14
Red Zone Defense (69 ranked)	69	10	100%	39	8	66.7%
Red Zone Offense (122 ranked)	66	10	88.9%	76	14	83.3%
Rushing Defense (130 ranked)	63	12	106.0	15	4	40
Rushing Offense (130 ranked)	6	1	364.0	79	14	148
Scoring Defense (130 ranked)	54	10	14.0	54	12	14
Scoring Offense (123 ranked)	6	4	66.0	68	13	31
Team Passing Efficiency (130 ranked)	14	2	215.75	52	10	155.22
Team Passing Efficiency Defense (130 ranked)	9	2	63.32	29	4	89.55
Team Sacks (78 ranked)	78	13	1.0	46	7	2
Team Tackles for Loss (128 ranked)	82	11	4.0	63	11	5
Time of Possession (130 ranked)	26	1	34:20	3	2	41:25
Total Defense (130 ranked)	41	9	225.0	16	4	153
Total Offense (130 ranked)	13	2	633.0	59	12	415
Turnover Margin (128 ranked)	11	2	2.0	110	14	-2

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MEDIA NOTES

- Practices are closed to media and public.
- Morgan Scalley will hold his weekly press conference on Monday at noon in the press room located in the Spence and Cleone Eccles Football Center.
- Interviews will be conducted after practices on Mondays and Tuesdays for regular weeks with Saturday games.
- Media may not directly contact student-athletes, their families, coaches, staff, administration or other associated Athletics personnel, including team physicians, directly. Please work with the Athletics Communications staff for all Utah Athletics-related media inquiries.
- All Utah game notes, quotes, statistics and a variety of media resources are available free at UtahUtes.com/FBMedia

**MORGAN SCALLEY****Season at Utah:** First as Head Coach (19th overall)**Career Record:** 2-0**Alma Mater:** Utah (2004, bachelor's; 2006, master's)**Hometown:** Salt Lake City, Utah**Family:** Wife, Liz; daughters, Madeline and Emma; son, Andrew

2019 Broyles Award Finalist



Morgan Scalley enters his first full season as head coach of the Utah football program in 2026, taking the reins with a 44-22 victory over Nebraska in the Las Vegas Bowl in his head coaching debut on Dec. 31 2025.

Scalley is in his 19th year overall as a member of the Utah coaching staff after spending 18 years as assistant coach, including 10 seasons as Utah's defensive coordinator (2016-25). He also coached the safeties from 2008-25.

He previously served as Utah's recruiting coordinator from 2009-15 and special teams' coordinator in 2015. The former Ute All-America safety began his coaching career as an administrative assistant with the Utes in 2006, moving into a graduate assistant role in 2007.

Scalley, who owns a reputation as one of the brightest defensive minds in the business, was a finalist for the Broyles Award in 2019 when the Utes ranked second in the FBS in total defense. He has instilled the culture and identity of the Utah Defense known as RSNB – standing for Relentless, Smart, Nasty, Ballhawks.

- Utah's total defense has finished in the top-half of its conference nine times in the past 10 seasons, ranking second nationally and first in the league in 2019.
- Scalley directed the Pac-12's top rushing defense five times as coordinator (2016 and 2018-21) —including top-five national rankings in 2018, '19 and '23.
- The Utes have finished atop the conference in sacks and tackles for loss three times under Scalley, most recently back-to-back in 2021 and '22. The team also finished the 2018 season ranked 11th nationally and first in the Pac-12 in sacks.
- Since 2019, Scalley's defense has held opponents to 15 points or fewer in 36 games; it ranks eighth-most by a Power Conference program.

His ability to develop talent has propelled 33 Utes to the NFL ranks. In 2022, Scalley saw Devin Lloyd become the highest-drafted linebacker in school history, going in the first round (27th overall) to Jacksonville.

- After leaving Utah as a second-round draft pick, Eric Rowe played in three Super Bowls with the New England Patriots (2016-18). Scalley has four other second-round draft picks to date: safety Marcus Williams (New Orleans) in 2017, safety Marquise Blair (Seattle) in 2019, cornerback Jaylon Johnson (Chicago) in 2020 and safety Cole Bishop (Buffalo) in 2024.
- Third-rounders include linebacker Cody Barton (Seattle) in 2019, safeties Julian Blackmon (Indianapolis) and Terrell Burgess (L.A. Rams) in 2020, along with defensive end Jonah Elliss in 2024.
- Sione Vaki was a fourth-round choice by Detroit in 2024 after starring at Utah as a safety while also contributing on offense later in his career.
- Defensive tackle Leki Fotu was a fourth-round choice (Arizona) in 2020 and defensive end Bradlee Anae (Dallas) a fifth-rounder. Safety Robert Johnson played three seasons in the league after being selected in the fifth round in 2010.
- Scalley sent a trio of sixth-round draft picks to the NFL in defensive linemen Pita Taumoepeenu in 2017, Kylie Fitts in 2018 and John Penisini in 2020.
- Jaylon Johnson was selected to the NFC roster for the Pro Bowl Games in 2023.

Scalley has coached 14 All-Americans (four consensus or unanimous), 21 All-Conference First Team selections and five Freshman All-Americans.

- His defensive All-Americans are headlined by Jonah Elliss (consensus in 2023), Clark Phillips III (unanimous in 2022), Devin Lloyd (consensus in 2021) and Bradlee Anae (consensus in 2019).
- Additional Utes to collect All-America on his watch include John Henry Daley (2025), Cole Bishop (2023), Sione Vaki (2023), Mika Tafua (2021), Jaylon Johnson (2019), Leki Fotu (2019), Julian Blackmon (2019), Chase Hansen (2018) and Hunter Dimick (2016) with Tom Hackett also being named a unanimous All-American in 2015 when Scalley served as special teams coordinator.
- Bradlee Anae (2019) and Mika Tafua (2021) were named Pac-12 Morris Trophy recipients, awarded to the league's top offensive and defensive linemen and voted on by the opposite side of the ball. Lloyd also became Utah's first Pac-12 Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year, taking the accolade in 2021.
- Linebacker Lander Barton was named the Pac-12 Freshman Defensive Player of the Year in 2022, highlighting a pair of Freshmen All-Americans for the Utes in Barton and defensive tackle Simote Pepa.
- In 2019 Utah placed five defensive players on the All-Pac-12 first team (Anae, Blackmon, Fotu, Johnson and Francis Bernard) and one on second team, with four more garnering honorable mention. That marked the second year in a row with 10 players honored, with 2018's haul including first-team picks Hansen, Anae, Fotu and Jaylon Johnson.
- Scalley's other First Team All-Conference players include Daley, Van Fillingner, Hackett, Dimick and Marcus Williams. In addition, Robert Johnson was first-team All-Mountain West and Eric Rowe and Brian Blechen were both Freshman All-Americans.

Scalley also owns a long-standing track record as a widely respected recruiter. Utah's 2023 recruiting class was ranked No. 21 nationally by 247Sports, while Rivals.com rated Utah's 2012 recruiting class as the country's 25th best. In 2011, Rivals described Scalley as one of the top recruiters in the Pac-12 and a "recruiting coordinator on the rise."

He was Rivals' non-BCS recruiter of the year in 2010 and one of the top 25 recruiters in the nation overall. Rivals ranked Utah's 2010 recruiting class as the best by a school from a non-automatic qualifying conference and 32nd overall.

--Visit UtahUtes.com for a full Coach Scalley bio--

2026 UTAH FOOTBALL ROSTER

NUMERICAL		No.	Name	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Previous School	
0	Cyrus Polu	LB	75	Roger Alderman	Sr.	OL	6' 4"	302	Sonora, Calif. / Sonora HS
0	Kyri Shoels	WR	10	Hunter Andrews	Jr.	TE	6' 3"	230	Magnolia, Texas / Magnolia HS
1	Rabbit Evans	S	12	Davis Andrews	Fr.	S	6' 3"	200	Highland, Utah / American Fork HS
1	Wayshawn Parker	RB	9	Kane Archer	Fr.	QB	6' 1"	200	Greenwood, Ark. / Greenwood HS
2	Rock Caldwell	CB	54	Milz Asiata	Fr.	OL	6' 5"	331	Melbourne, Australia / Aquinas HS
2	Creed Whittemore	WR	82	Max Ausmus	So.	WR	6' 1"	185	Redondo Beach, Calif. / Redondo Union HS
3	Nate Johnson	ATH	80	Bryson Baker	So.	WR	6' 1"	185	Fresno, Calif. / Sanger HS
4	Devon Dampier	QB	96	Dilan Battle	So.	DT	6' 2"	320	Arlington, Texas / LSU
4	JC Hart	CB	26	LaMarcus Bell	Fr.	RB	6' 0"	200	Portland, Ore. / Lake Oswego HS
5	Daniel Bray	RB	70	Mataalii Benjamin	Fr.	OL	6' 7"	340	Lehi, Utah / Lehi HS
5	James Chenault Jr.	CB	23	Jackson Bennee	Jr.	S	6' 2"	190	Holladay, Utah / Olympus HS
6	Nate Ritchie	S	89	Noah Bennee	Sr.	TE	6' 4"	240	Holladay, Utah / Weber State
6	Daidren Zipperer	WR	46	Mauka Bernard	Fr.	DE	6' 4"	215	Salt Lake City, Utah / Granger HS
7	Johnathan Hall	LB	5	Daniel Bray	So.	RB	5' 10"	180	Fort Worth, Texas / North Crowley HS
7	Braden Pegan	WR	13	Nick Brown	So.	CB	6' 0"	170	Cypress, Texas / Lamar
8	Mana Carvalho	WR	28	Luke Bryant	Fr.	S	6' 2"	200	Holladay, Utah / Olympus HS
8	Ethan Day	DE	2	Rock Caldwell	5th	CB	6' 3"	190	Ypsilanti, Mich. / Garden City CC
9	Elijah Davis	CB	8	Mana Carvalho	So.	WR	5' 9"	175	Laie, Hawaii / Kahuku HS
9	Kane Archer	QB	65	Logan Castor	5th	SN	6' 6"	240	Cottonwood Heights, Utah / Brighton HS
10	Hunter Andrews	TE	25	Steve Chavez-Soto	So.	RB	6' 0"	205	Chino, Calif. / San Jose State
10	Trey Reynolds	LB	5	James Chenault Jr.	Jr.	CB	6' 0"	180	Orlando, Fla. / South Florida
11	Ricky Johnson	WR	30	Matt Clark	Jr.	WR	5' 11"	181	Mesa, Ariz. / Mountain View HS
11	Elijah Reed	CB	48	Alex Cloward	Fr.	DE	6' 3"	247	Salem, Utah / Salem Hills HS
12	Larry Simmons	WR	39	Junior Coughlin	So.	WR	6' 0"	176	Lehi, Utah / Skyridge HS
12	Davis Andrews	S	88	Tanner Cragun	Jr.	K	6' 2"	205	Frisco, Texas / UTEP
13	Michael Johnson	QB	17	Dillon Curtis	So.	K	6' 2"	190	Murray, Utah / Murray HS
13	Nick Brown	CB	4	Devon Dampier	Sr.	QB	5' 11"	210	Phoenix, Ariz. / New Mexico
14	Cole Standage	S	9	Elijah Davis	5th	CB	6' 0"	185	Winter Haven, Fla. / Auburndale Senior HS
14	Brandon Rose	QB	8	Ethan Day	Jr.	DE	6' 4"	250	Ripon, Calif. / North Texas
15	Byrd Ficklin	QB	93	Kash Dillon	Jr.	DE	6' 5"	252	Draper, Utah / Corner Canyon HS
15	Lance Holtzclaw	DE	83	Elijah Elliss	Jr.	LB	6' 2"	225	Farmington, Utah / Layton Christian HS
16	PJ Takitaki	DE	63	Devin Entsminger	Fr.	OL	6' 4"	300	Las Vegas, Nev. / Bishop Gorman HS
17	Dillon Curtis	K	1	Rabbit Evans	5th	S	6' 1"	205	Jacksonville, Fla. / Blinn College
18	Tobias Merriweather	WR	31	Jack Evans	So.	S	6' 0"	192	Salt Lake City, Utah / Olympus HS
18	Earl Parker	CB	15	Byrd Ficklin	So.	QB	6' 1"	200	Muskogee, Okla. / Muskogee HS
19	Dylan Waters	CB	81	Bear Fisher	Fr.	TE	6' 5"	240	Queen Creek, Ariz. / Queen Creek HS
20	Mateaki Helu	RB	40	Paul Fitzgerald	5th	DE	6' 4"	256	Idaho Falls, Idaho / Utah State
20	King Long	CB	53	Brock Fonoimoana	So.	LB	6' 1"	200	Laie, Hawaii / Kahuku HS
21	Nate Tilmon	S	47	Jared Fredrick	Fr.	DE	6' 3"	220	Salt Lake City, Utah / East HS
23	Jackson Bennee	S	66	Will Fry	Fr.	OL	6' 4"	315	Fairview, Texas / Lovejoy HS
24	Marcus Wimberly	S	25	Manny Fuller	So.	S	6' 0"	190	El Paso, Texas / Del Valle HS
25	Manny Fuller	S	72	Isaiah Garcia	Jr.	OL	6' 5"	310	Magna, Utah / Corner Canyon HS
25	Steve Chavez-Soto	RB	7	Johnathan Hall	Sr.	LB	6' 1"	226	Katy, Texas / Katy HS
26	LaMarcus Bell	RB	77	Nick Hallock	So.	OL	6' 4"	275	South Jordan, Utah / Bingham HS
27	Brandon Holmes	CB	79	Alex Harrison	5th	OL	6' 5"	309	Bountiful, Utah / Viewmont HS
28	Anthony Hernandez	RB	4	JC Hart	Sr.	CB	6' 2"	202	Loachapoka, Ala. / Auburn
28	Luke Bryant	S	20	Mateaki Helu	So.	RB	6' 1"	224	Tooele, Utah / Stansbury HS
29	Major Hinch	CB	28	Anthony Hernandez	Jr.	RB	5' 10"	192	Park City, Utah / Northern Colorado
30	Matt Clark	WR	29	Major Hinch	Fr.	CB	6' 2"	175	La Quinta, Calif. / La Quinta HS
31	Jack Evans	S	27	Brandon Holmes	So.	CB	6' 1"	180	San Diego, Calif. / Fresno City College
32	Josh Sovereign	S	15	Lance Holtzclaw	5th	DE	6' 3"	245	Boston, Mass. / Washington
33	Kana'i Lopes	TE	92	Nicholas Igwe	So.	DE	6' 4"	255	Houston, Texas / Cypress Creek HS
34	Ashton Olevao	S	73	Cedric Jefferson	Jr.	OL	6' 5"	300	Temecula, Calif. / Montana State
35	Preston Pitts	LB	3	Nate Johnson	5th	ATH	6' 1"	200	Clovis, Calif. / Clovis HS
37	Peyton Rice	WR	11	Ricky Johnson	So.	WR	6' 2"	185	Warner Robins, Ga. / Mississippi State
38	Tommy Nelson	S	13	Michael Johnson	Fr.	QB	6' 0"	175	Ellenwood, Ga. / Douglas County HS
39	Junior Coughlin	WR	52	Jed Judkins	Fr.	LB	6' 2"	215	
40	Paul Fitzgerald	DE	51	Karson Kaufusi	So.	DT	6' 6"	305	Holladay, Utah / Skyline HS
41	LaGary Mitchell	LB	56	Isaiah Kema	Fr.	OL	6' 3"	312	Lubbock, Texas / Ohio State
43	Grady Mareko	LB	20	King Long	Fr.	CB	5' 9"	180	
44	Sione Motuapuaka	TE	33	Kana'i Lopes	Jr.	TE	6' 3"	228	Las Vegas, Nev. / St. John Bosco HS
45	Pupu Sepulona	DT	43	Grady Mareko	Jr.	LB	6' 1"	231	Leone, American Samoa / Leone HS
			46	Teague Matthews	Fr.	TE	6' 6"	240	Rockland, Idaho / Rockland HS
			18	Tobias Merriweather	Sr.	WR	6' 5"	200	West Camas, Wash. / California

2026 UTAH FOOTBALL ROSTER

			No.	Name	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Previous School
46	Mauka Bernard	DE	41	LaGary Mitchell	Fr.	LB	6' 2"	212	Meridian, Idaho / Meridian HS
46	Teague Matthews	TE	90	Jireh Moe	So.	DT	6' 0"	280	Westminster, Calif. / San Jose State
47	Jared Fredrick	DE	62	Solatoa Moea'i	Sr.	OL	6' 4"	325	Laie, Hawaii / Punahou School
48	Alex Cloward	DE	86	Will Monney	Jr.	TE	6' 4"	230	Springville, Utah / Oklahoma State
51	Karson Kaufusi	DT	44	Sione Motuapuaka	So.	TE	5' 11"	276	Las Vegas, Nev. / Bishop Gorman HS
52	Jed Judkins	LB	38	Tommy Nelson	So.	S	6' 3"	193	Salt Lake City, Utah / Olympus HS
53	Brock Fonoimoana	LB	61	Cyrus Nielsen	Fr.	OL	6' 5"	315	Sandy, Utah / Hillcrest HS
54	Milz Asiata	OL	55	Kelvin Obot	Fr.	OL	6' 5"	295	Fruitland, Idaho / Fruitland HS
54	Tayson Reid	LB	34	Ashton Olevao	So.	S	6' 0"	200	Salt Lake City, Utah / Highland HS
55	Kelvin Obot	OL	74	Keith Olson	5th	OL	6' 6"	307	Napavine, Wash. / Napavine HS
56	Isaiah Kema	OL	1	Wayshawn Parker	Jr.	RB	5' 10"	205	Richmond, Calif. / Washington State
57	Moses Sparks	OL	18	Earl Parker	Jr.	CB	6' 2"	186	Fairbanks, Alaska / Hutchinson CC
57	Stanley Raass	DT	64	Reece Parmenter	Jr.	OL	6' 5"	319	St. George, Utah / Crimson Cliffs HS
58	Fa Siale	DE	71	Rowdy Pearce	Fr.	OL	6' 3"	295	Midland, Texas / Midland Christian School
61	Cyrus Nielsen	OL	7	Braden Pegan	Sr.	WR	6' 3"	210	San Juan Capistrano, Calif. / Utah State
62	Solatoa Moea'i	OL	92	Orion Phillips	Jr.	P	6' 3"	180	Sandringham, Australia / Missouri
63	Devin Entsminger	OL	35	Preston Pitts	Fr.	LB	6' 4"	225	League City, Texas / Clear Falls HS
64	Reece Parmenter	OL	0	Cyrus Polu	So.	LB	6' 1"	225	St. George, Utah / Desert Hills HS
65	Logan Castor	SN	57	Stanley Raass	Fr.	DT	6' 0"	290	Laie, Hawaii / Kahuku HS
66	Will Fry	OL	85	Broderick Redden	So.	TE	6' 4"	233	San Clemente, Calif. / San Clemente HS
67	Soren Shinofield	OL	11	Elijah Reed	Sr.	CB	6' 3"	200	Louisville, Ky. / Akron
69	Gage Victor	SN	54	Tayson Reid	So.	LB	6' 0"	230	Spanish Fork, Utah / Snow College
70	Mataalii Benjamin	OL	10	Trey Reynolds	Sr.	LB	6' 1"	231	Queen Creek, Ariz. / Queen Creek HS
71	Rowdy Pearce	OL	37	Peyton Rice	Sr.	WR	5' 10"	180	Salt Lake City, Utah / Olympus HS
72	Isaiah Garcia	OL	6	Nate Ritchie	Sr.	S	6' 2"	207	Cedar Hills, Utah / Lone Peak HS
73	Cedric Jefferson	OL	14	Brandon Rose	5th	QB	6' 2"	212	Temecula, Calif. / UMass
74	Keith Olson	OL	97	Lucas Samsula	So.	DT	6' 4"	306	Plano, Texas / Wyoming
75	Roger Alderman	OL	45	Pupu Sepulona	So.	DT	6' 2"	298	Kalihi, Hawaii / St. Louis HS
76	Zereoue Williams	OL	67	Soren Shinofield	So.	OL	6' 6"	304	Greenwood Village, Colo. / Cherry Creek HS
77	Nick Hallock	OL	0	Kyri Shoels	Sr.	WR	6' 0"	182	Las Vegas, Nev. / San Jose State
79	Alex Harrison	OL	58	Fa Siale	Fr.	DE	6' 3"	265	Seattle, Wash. / O'Dea
80	Bryson Baker	WR	12	Larry Simmons	Sr.	WR	6' 1"	190	Moss Point, Miss. / Southern Miss
81	Bear Fisher	TE	32	Josh Sovereign	So.	S	5' 11"	198	Chandler, Ariz. / Williams Field HS
82	Max Ausmus	WR	57	Moses Sparks	Fr.	OL	6' 4"	305	Rio Rancho, N.M. / Cleveland HS
83	Elijah Elliss	LB	14	Cole Standage	So.	S	6' 2"	200	Mesa, Ariz. / Mountain View HS
84	Jojo Ward	RB	16	PJ Takitaki	Fr.	DE	6' 3"	223	Lehi, Utah / Lehi HS
85	Broderick Redden	TE	99	Semi Taulanga	So.	TE	5' 11"	317	Santa Ana, Calif. / Mater Dei HS
86	Will Monney	TE	94	Mike Tauteoli	Jr.	DT	6' 4"	300	Midvale, Utah / Brighton HS
88	Tanner Cragun	K	21	Nate Tilton	So.	S	6' 1"	196	Arlington, Texas / Mansfield Timberview HS
89	Noah Bennee	TE	69	Gage Victor	So.	SN	6' 1"	215	Rio Rancho, N.M. / Rio Rancho HS
90	Jireh Moe	DT	98	Jamal Wallace	Sr.	DT	6' 3"	313	Kansas City, Mo. / Tennessee
92	Orion Phillips	P	84	Jojo Ward	Fr.	RB	6' 2"	225	
92	Nicholas Igwe	DE	19	Dylan Waters	Fr.	CB	6' 0"	185	Missouri City, Texas / Fort Bend Marshall HS
93	Kash Dillon	DE	2	Creed Whittemore	Sr.	WR	5' 11"	182	Gainesville, Fla. / Mississippi State
94	Mike Tauteoli	DT	76	Zereoue Williams	5th	OL	6' 8"	305	Phoenix, Ariz. / Mountain Pointe HS
96	Dilan Battle	DT	24	Marcus Wimberly	Fr.	S	6' 1"	185	Bauxite, Ark. / Oklahoma
97	Lucas Samsula	DT	6	Daidren Zipperer	Sr.	WR	6' 0"	175	Lakeland, Fla. / Lakeland Senior HS
98	Jamal Wallace	DT							
99	Semi Taulanga	TE							

Noah/Jackson **Bennee**.....benny
Mauka Bernard.....MOW-kuh
Mana Carvalho.....mah-nah car-vall-yo
James **Chenault**.....sha-nalt
Alex **Cloward**.....CLOW-erd
.....(similar to Colin Cowherd)
Devon Dampier.....devin dam-peer
Byrd Ficklin.....bird
Brock **Fonoimoana**.....fah-noy-mo-ah-na
Mateaki Helu.....mah-tee-ah-kee hel-ou
Nicholas **Igwe**.....eeg-way
Karson **Kaufusi**.....kah-fu-see
Isaiah **Kema**.....kemm-uh

Kana'i Lopes.....kuh-nye lopes (rhymes with ropes)
Grady **Mareko**.....mar-uh-koe
Tobias **Merriweather**.....merry-weather
Jireh Moe.....jye-ruh moy
Solatoa Moea'i.....sole-uh-toe-uh moe-ee-eye
Sione Motuapuaka.....see-oh-nay
.....mo-tua-pu-ah-kah
Kelvin **Obot**.....oh-bot
Ashton **Olevao**.....oh-luh-vow
Braden **Pegan**.....pay-gan
Orion Phillips.....oh-ryan
Cyrus **Polu**.....poe-lou
Stanley **Raass**.....ross

Lucas **Samsula**.....sam-sue-luh
Pupu **Sepulona**.....sep-ooo-loe-nuh
Soren Shinofield.....sore-in shin-oh-field
Kyri Shoels.....ky-ree
Semi **Taulanga**.....tau-lon-guh
Mike **Tauteoli**.....tau-tee-oh-lee
Zereoue Williams.....zare-away
Daidren Zipperer.....day-dren zipper-er

TEAM NOTES

PRESEASON AWARDS TRACKER

Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Watch List

Kelvin Obot.....OL

Bednarik Award Watch List

(outstanding defensive player)

Johnathan Hall.....LB

Comeback Player of the Year Watch List

Hunter Andrews.....TE

Davey O'Brien Award Watch List

(nation's best collegiate quarterback)

Devon Dampier.....QB

Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Watch List

Karson Kaufusi.....DT

Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List

(quarterback who demonstrates excellence on and off the field)

Devon Dampier.....QB

Biletnikoff Award Watch List

(most outstanding receiver)

Braden Pegan.....WR

Walter Camp Player of the Year Watch List

(most outstanding player)

Devon Dampier.....QB

Allstate Wuerffel Trophy

(commitment to community service, excellence in the classroom, and success on the field)

Lance Holtzclaw.....DE

Paul Hornung Award Watch List

(most versatile player)

Jackson Bennee.....S

Maxwell Award Watch List

(overall most outstanding player in college football)

Devon Dampier.....QB

Wayshawn Parker.....RB

Shriners Children's East-West Bowl 1,000 Watch List

Jackson Bennee.....S

Devon Dampier.....QB

Elijah Davis.....CB

Johnathan Hall.....LB

Lance Holtzclaw.....DE

Keith Olson.....OL

Wayshawn Parker.....RB

Braden Pegan.....WR

Elijah Reed.....CB

Kyri Shoels.....WR

Allstate AFCA Good Words Team Nominee

Lance Holtzclaw.....DE

Preseason All-Big 12 Team

Mana Carvalho.....PR/KR

THE NUMBERS

- Utah's margin of victory was among the best in the FBS last season. The Utes had six wins by 30+ points, tying for second-most in the country (Indiana led with eight wins by 30+ points). During the 2025 regular season, Utah's 493 total points scored were the sixth-most in the FBS.
- Utah's offensive line, the Wasatch Front, paved the way to yards and points throughout the season. The Utes led the Power Conferences in rushing offense (266.3 ypg) and were ninth in the nation in sacks allowed (1.08 spg). The team led the Big 12 and was third in FBS in third-down offense (52.6%).
- A testament to owning both sides of the trenches, Utah was the only Big 12 program to rank top-40 in the country both in most defensive sacks (23rd; 2.62 per game) and fewest sacks allowed (9th; 1.08 per game).
- With Morgan Scalley running the defense last season, the Utes allowed just 18.7 ppg during the regular season to place third in the Big 12 and 16th in the nation. The team had particular success defending the passing game; opposing quarterbacks tallied a 101.46 efficiency to place Utah fifth FBS-wide.
- The Utes ranked in the Top 17 of the FBS in both scoring offense and scoring defense, standing fourth in scoring offense (41.2 ppg) and 17th in scoring defense (18.9 ppg).

THE LEADERS

Utah team captains and the leadership council are voted on by the team during fall camp. The Utes picked three offensive and three defensive captains, along with an 18-person leadership council.

- Devon Dampier (QB), Johnathan Hall (LB), Alex Harrison (OL), Wayshawn Parker (RB), Trey Reynolds (LB) and Nate Ritchie (S) were voted as captains.
- Utah's leadership council includes Dampier, Hall, Harrison, Parker, Reynolds, Ritchie, Jackson Bennee (S), Noah Bennee (TE), Logan Castor (LS), Ethan Day (DE), Rabbit Evans (S), Byrd Ficklin (QB), Lance Holtzclaw (DE), Karson Kaufusi (DT), Tobias Merriweather (WR), Braden Pegan (WR), Cyrus Polu (LB) and Zereoue Williams (OL).

GRADUATE U

Utah Football has a storied tradition on the field, but it is also known for its strong success off the field. On the 2026 roster, 13 players have already received their degree.

- Cornerbacks (1): JC Hart (Financial Planning and Counseling)
- Defensive Line (2): Lance Holtzclaw (Sociology), Jamal Wallace (Sociology)
- Linebackers (1): Trey Reynolds (Finance)
- Offensive Line (2): Alex Harrison (Communication), Zereoue Williams (Games)
- Quarterbacks (1): Brandon Rose (Communication)
- Safeties (2): Rabbit Evans (Human Development and Family Studies), Nate Ritchie (Health and Kinesiology)
- Specialists (1): Logan Castor (Emergency Medical Services)
- Tight Ends (1): Noah Bennee (Financial Planning and Counseling)
- Wide Receivers (2): Nate Johnson (Communication), Tobias Merriweather (Legal Studies)

HOME SWEET HOME

Utah is 126-42 (.750) in Rice-Eccles Stadium (1998-present) and has won 34 of its last 41 home games, which which included a streak of 18 straight wins from Dec. 5, 2020 – Oct. 14, 2023. .

- It was the second-longest streak in the RES era with the longest streak taking place Sept. 15, 2007 – Oct. 23, 2010 (21 games).
- Utah has seven undefeated home seasons inside Rice-Eccles Stadium (2001, '04, '08, '09, '19, '21, '22).
- Utah has sold out Rice-Eccles Stadium in 96 consecutive games, dating back to the 2010 season opener.

RECORD WHEN...

Utah scores first.....	1-0
Opponent scores first.....	0-0
Utah has more rushing yards.....	1-0
Opponent has more rushing yards.....	0-0
Rushing Yards Tied.....	0-0

Utah has more passing yards.....	1-0
Opponent has more passing yards.....	0-0

Utah plays at home.....	1-0
Utah plays on the road.....	0-0
Game is at a neutral site.....	0-0

Utah plays on grass.....	0-0
Utah plays on artificial turf.....	1-0

Utah plays a day game.....	0-0
Utah plays a night game.....	1-0

Utah leads at halftime.....	1-0
Utah trails at halftime.....	0-0
Utah is tied at halftime.....	0-0

Utah leads after three quarters.....	1-0
Utah trails after three quarters.....	0-0
Utah is tied after three quarters.....	0-0

Outcome is 10 or more points.....	1-0
Outcome is 7 or less points.....	0-0

Game goes into overtime.....	0-0
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RICE-ECCLES STADIUM BIGGEST CROWDS

1.	54,383	2024	BYU
2.	53,644	2023	Florida
3.	53,609	2022	USC
4.	53,586	2023	Oregon
5.	53,299	2024	TCU
6.	52,919	2023	UCLA
7.	52,898	2024	Arizona
8.	52,827	2024	Baylor
9.	52,724	2021	Oregon
10.	52,236	2025	Texas Tech

RICE-ECCLES SEASON ATTENDANCE AVG.

1.	52,962	2024
2.	52,499	2023
3.	52,057	2022
4.	51,817	2021
5.	51,701	2025
6.	46,533	2015
7.	46,506	2016
8.	46,462	2019
9.	46,436	2014
10.	46,332	2018

Capacity: 45,017, 1998-2013; 45,807, 2014-2019; 51,444, 2021-Present

TEAM NOTES**NEW CONFERENCE, NEW CHALLENGE**

Utah enters its third season in the Big 12 Conference in 2026. The Utes have also been a part of the Rocky Mountain Conference (1910-1937), the Big Seven (1938-1947), the Skyline (1948-1961), the Western Athletic Conference (1962-1998), the Mountain West (1999-2010) and the Pac-12 (2011-2023).

- Utah is 454-269-19 all-time in conference games (.625), including its first win in the Big 12 against Oklahoma State (Sept. 21, 2024, W, 22-19).
- Utah is 40-19 in conference games since 2019.
- The Utes brought 28 conference championships with them to the Big 12.

WINNING PROGRAM

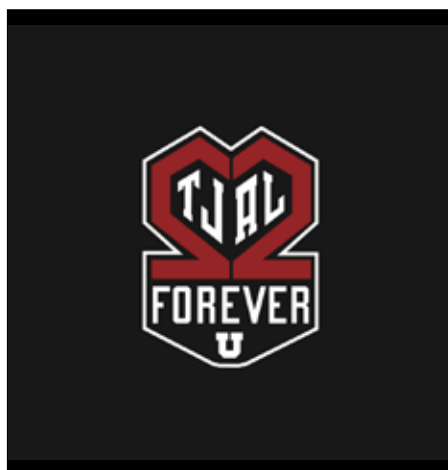
- Since 2003, Utah has piled up ten 10-win seasons; 10-2 in 2003, 12-0 in 2004, 13-0 in 2008, 10-3 in 2009, 10-3 in 2010, 10-3 in 2015, 11-3 in 2019, 10-4 in both 2021 and 2022, and 11-2 in 2025.
- The Utes have 11 finishes in the AP Top 25 poll since 2003: No. 21 in 2003, No. 4 in 2004, No. 2 in 2008, No. 18 in 2009, No. 21 in 2014, No. 17 in 2015, No. 23 in 2016, No. 16 in 2019, No. 12 in 2021, No. 7 in 2022 and No. 14 in 2025. Utah was also ranked No. 23 in the final 2010 Coaches Poll.

BOWL ROLL

- Utah is 18-9 all-time in bowl games, coming off a win over Nebraska in the 2025 SRS Distribution Las Vegas Bowl.
- The Utes have punched four appearances to what is now the College Football Playoff New Year's Six, defeating Pittsburgh in the 2005 Fiesta Bowl and Alabama in the 2009 Sugar Bowl, also reaching the 2022 and '23 Rose Bowl.
- Utah won nine consecutive bowl games from 1999-2009 to tie for the second-longest bowl win streak in NCAA history.
- In the Mountain West Conference at the time, five of Utah's nine consecutive bowl wins were against Power Conference teams: Alabama, California, Georgia Tech, Pittsburgh and USC.

THE MOMENT OF LOUDNESS

In 2021, the Utah Football program started a tradition to honor the legacy of Aaron Lowe and Ty Jordan with The Moment of Loudness, which takes place during the third quarter break of each home game. It is a tradition that has now turned into a way of life for the Utah family. To live the way that they did - to smile, to be infectiously optimistic, and to be 22-percent better every day.

**UTES IN THE NFL (35)**

as of August 27

Offensive Line (6)

Garett Bolles	Denver
Spencer Fano	Cleveland
Caleb Lomu	New England
Tanoa Togiai	Washington

Quarterbacks (1)

Tyler Huntley	Baltimore
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Running Backs (1)

Sione Vaki	Detroit
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Wide Receivers (3)

Britain Covey	Philadelphia (PS)
Tim Patrick	NY Jets
Devaughn Vele	New Orleans

Tight Ends (3)

Dallen Bentley	Denver
Dalton Kincaid	Buffalo
Caleb Lohner	Denver (IR)

Defensive Line (2)

Logan Fano	Cleveland (PS)
Junior Tafuna	Houston (PS)

Linebackers (8)

Cody Barton	Tennessee
Lander Barton	LA Chargers (PS)
Mohamoud Diabate	Tennessee (PS)
Jonah Elliss	Denver
Devin Lloyd	Carolina
Connor O'Toole	Seattle
Karene Reid	Denver
Nephi Sewell	Chicago (IR)

Defensive Backs (6)

Cole Bishop	Buffalo
Julian Blackmon	New Orleans
Terrell Burgess	Tennessee
Jaylon Johnson	Chicago
Clark Phillips III	Chicago
Zemaiah Vaughn	Minnesota

Special Teams (2)

Matt Gay (K)	Las Vegas
Mitch Wishnowsky (P)	NE (PS)

Key

PS	Practice Squad
IR	Reserve/Injured

Coaches

Brian Johnson	LA Rams (Sr. Off. Asst.)
Mike McCoy	Las Vegas (Asst. HC)

OFFENSIVE NOTES

MAPPED OUT BY MCGIVEN

Head coach Morgan Scalley tabbed Kevin McGiven to lead the Utah offense heading into 2026. McGiven has 25 seasons of collegiate coaching experience, including 17 seasons coordinating Division I offenses and mentoring quarterbacks. He spent the 2025 season directing the offense at Utah State and now takes the reins of a unit that put up 6,278 total yards last year—the second-most in Utah history.

- The debut of McGiven's offense vs. Idaho netted 633 total yards, the seventh-highest for a game in program history. It broke down to 269 passing yards and 364 rushing yards, each more than Idaho produced in total offense (225).
- Since 2015, McGiven's offenses have netted three 1,000-yard receivers, a 1,000-yard rusher and two quarterbacks to throw for 3,000-plus yards. Both his 2025 (Utah State) and 2024 (San Jose State) units surpassed 5,300 total yards, averaging 409 per game.
- McGiven mentored former Utah quarterback Bryson Barnes during his season at Utah State as Barnes became one of just six FBS players in 2025 to eclipse both 2,500 passing yards and 700 rushing yards. Current Utes signal-caller Devon Dampier accomplished that feat in 2024 while at New Mexico and came up 10 passing yards short in 2025.
- McGiven spent 2018-24 in the Mountain West at San Jose State, serving as the Spartans' offensive coordinator for six seasons. San José State was fourth nationally in passing offense in 2019 and 19th during its 2020 championship season.
- He is a Utah native raised in Orem and is well-known in football circles around the state, having coached three different stints at Utah State along with time at Weber State, Southern Utah and BYU.

SPID4

- Utah's offense was among the nation's best last year with quarterback and Big 12 Offensive Newcomer of the Year Devon Dampier at the helm. Already named to the 2026 watchlists for the Davey O'Brien Award, Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, Walter Camp Player of the Year and the Maxwell Award, it did not take long for QB1 to introduce himself to the Utah faithful.
- Entering Week 2, Dampier ranks sixth among all Big 12 quarterbacks with 5,959 career passing yards. Dampier, however, has made his mark as a true dual-threat with 2,360 career rushing yards—leading all FBS quarterbacks and placing 10th overall. None of the five Big 12 QBs ahead of him in passing yards have more than 2,000 rushing yards and just one has more than 1,400 rushing yards.
- Despite battling injuries a year ago, Dampier accounted for 34 total touchdowns in 12 games last season (24 passing, 10 rushing). It was the second-most by a Utah quarterback since at least 1996, trailing only Heisman finalist and No. 1 overall NFL Draft Pick Alex Smith (42 in 2004 – 32 passing, 10 rushing).
- He was one of five FBS quarterbacks in 2025 with 2,400-plus passing yards and 800-plus rushing yards. No other Big 12 QB accomplished that feat during the 2025 season.
- Dampier had seven games with both 200 passing yards and 50 rushing yards, becoming the first Utah QB since at least 1996 to accomplish that feat. Alex Smith had six such games during the 2004 season.
- He had a pair of games with three rushing touchdowns, doing it in a ranked win over No. 21 Arizona State before matching the feat in the Las Vegas Bowl vs. Nebraska. Dampier finished with 458 total yards in the bowl game, combining for five touchdowns as he was named MVP of the game.
- Dampier went off in the 2025 season opener at UCLA, completing 21-of-25 passes to eight different receivers for 206 yards and 2 touchdowns while rushing for 87 yards and a score on 16 carries. His 84% completion rate that night in the Rose Bowl was a program record for a quarterback making their Utah debut and fourth-highest overall in Utah single-game history.
- He anchored a comeback for the ages in the home finale vs. Kansas State, becoming the first Utah signal caller since 2022 to rush for and pass for multiple touchdowns in the same game. Dampier set up four total touchdowns in the win over the Wildcats either through the air or himself on the ground.

- Another stellar performance came on the road at West Virginia, connecting on 21-of-26 passes for 237 yards and a career-high four touchdowns while rushing for 33 yards and another score.
- Dampier arrived at Utah after becoming the first New Mexico quarterback to ever earn All-Mountain West First Team honors (2024). He led the MWC in total offense by piling up 3,934 yards, including 2,768 passing yards, the league's second highest total.
- He was just the fifth QB since 2016 with at least 2,500 passing yards and 1,000 rushing yards in a season, joining Lamar Jackson, Kyler Murray, Jalen Hurts and Jayden Daniels.
- A true dual threat at the quarterback position, Dampier rushed for 1,166 yards which ranked third in the MWC. He finished second in the league with 19 touchdowns and averaged a conference-best 7.52 yards per carry.
- Dampier was the first Lobo QB to ever eclipse 1,000 yards rushing and he rushed for 100 yards in a game six times in 2024.

Dampier vs. Recent Heisman QBs (career numbers)

Year	Winner	College Seasons	Rush Yds	Rush TD
Dampier	(N/A)	4	2,360	33
2025	Fernando Mendoza, Indiana	4	473	11
2023	Jayden Daniels, LSU	5	3,307	34
2022	Caleb Williams, USC	3	966	27
2021	Bryce Young, Alabama	3	162	7

BYRD IS THE WYRD

Though Dampier is Utah's starting quarterback, backup Byrd Ficklin has proven himself to be one of the nation's most electrifying players. The now-sophomore was one of three Utah players last season to rush for 10-plus touchdowns and averaged a team-leading 8.4 yards per carry to go with three passing scores.

- He picked up where he left off in Utah's season opener, completing 4-of-8 passes for 93 yards and two touchdowns while keeping the ball eight times for 70 rushing yards.
- Ficklin was honored as Big 12 Freshman of the Week twice last year and picked up an Offensive Player of the Week nod. He played in 12 games, earning a start against Colorado. His start (and win) against Colorado made Ficklin the sixth true freshman in recorded Utah history to start a game at QB.
- His debut season netted 61 carries for 513 yards (10 TD) as well as a 23-for-35 passing line for 301 yards (3 TD) and no interceptions.
- Ficklin became the first Utah freshman since at least 1996 to rush for a touchdown in four consecutive games, combining for seven rushing scores in wins over Colorado, No. 17 Cincinnati, Baylor and Kansas State.
- The Oklahoma native sports the two highest single-game rushing yard totals by Utah quarterbacks - 166 yards at Baylor and 151 yards vs. Colorado.
- His 8.4 yards per carry ranked first among all Power Conference QBs nationally (min. 30 carries) and are the most by a Big 12 quarterback since Vince Young averaged 7.4 in 2003.

OFF AND RUNNING

Behind the offensive line and with the Utes' electric QB duo running the offense, Utah's rushing attack was the second-best in the country last year with 266.3 yards per game—trailing only Navy (285.6) for the FBS lead.

- Utah rushed for a Big 12-leading 364 yards during Week 1 and scored four touchdowns on the ground as well. The team averaged 7.4 yards per carry, second-best in the league.
- The victory over Idaho truly was a group effort in the running backs room as five different players saw time at the position. Returner and captain Wayshawn Parker turned in 71 yards and a touchdown, along with two receiving touchdowns. Freshman LaMarcus Bell impressed in his collegiate debut with seven carries for 87 yards (12.4 ypc) and a score.
- The Utes scored a Big 12-leading 41 touchdowns on the ground during 2025, tying for the

OFFENSIVE NOTES

second-most nationally and setting a school record.

- Utah also set a program-best with 3,462 yards on the ground, surpassing a record that had stood since the 1984 season (3,262). The team's 266.3 rushing yards average a year ago went down as the second-best in program history.
- In five of 13 games in 2025, Utah rushed for more yards than its opponent gained total yards.
- Utah's 3,462 rushing yards ranked as the third-most by a Big 12 Conference team since 2015, trailing only Baylor (2015 – 4,253 yards) and Oklahoma (2018 – 3,470 yards).
- The Utes rushed for 225-plus yards in 11 of 13 games, eclipsing the 300-yard mark three times and the 400-yard mark once.
- Utah had at least one player rush for 100 yards in seven of its final eight games. The Utes had two 100-yard rushers in the same game in two of the last six outings of 2025, while Parker eclipsed the 100-yard mark in four of his final six games of the season.
- Parker was complemented in the backfield by Daniel Bray, who emerged as a freshman as the 2025 season went on. Bray turned in a career-best 121 rushing yards during the game at BYU and reeled in three catches for 41 yards during the win over Cincinnati.

AERIAL ATTACK

Utah bolstered an experienced wide receivers room that returns seniors Tobias Merriweather, Larry Simmons and Creed Whittemore. In addition, the tight ends room returns Hunter Andrews and Semi Taulanga, plus Noah Bennee who is back with the Utes after spending two years at Weber State.

- The Utes added Utah State transfer Braden Pegan, who followed OC Kevin McGiven down the road from Logan after an All-Mountain West season for Pegan. Pegan had 34 catches for 530 yards (15.6 ypc) last year and is on the preseason Biletnikoff Award Watch List.
- Pegan left his mark in his Utah debut with two receptions of 30-plus yards, totaling 81 yards on four catches (1 TD) in addition to a 12-yard rushing touchdown.
- Simmons played in all 13 games last season, contributing a touchdown on six of his 15 total catches for 280 yards. His role grew down the stretch of the season, totaling eight catches and 160 yards (3 TD) during the final three games.
- Andrews highlights the tight end room after coming back from a season-ending injury he sustained just four games into 2025. A versatile rusher, pass catcher and blocker, Andrews racked up 13 carries for 113 yards (1 TD) and 10 receptions for 65 yards before his injury. He reeled in his first collegiate touchdown reception vs. Idaho.
- Nicknamed the Semi Truck, the 5-foot-11, 317-pound Semi Taulanga brings size and physicality at tight end after appearing in 10 games as a freshman last year. He had two catches in the game at BYU, including a 10-yard grab.

OBLOCK EXPERIENCE

After losing all five starters from 2025 (including sending four to the NFL), Utah will be looking for some new faces to step up in 2026 along the offensive line—also known as the Wasatch Front. They'll be tutored in the trenches by one of the best to ever do it at Utah—former Outland Trophy finalist, first-team All-American and NFL All-Pro Jordan Gross.

- Right tackle Spencer Fano was taken ninth overall by the Cleveland Browns after concluding a decorated career as Utah's first Outland Trophy recipient, a unanimous first-team All-American, the 2025 Big 12 Offensive Lineman of the Year and 2025 Polynesian College Football Player of the Year. He was a four-star high school recruit out of Timpview High School.
- Opposite him was left tackle Caleb Lomu, picked 28th overall by the New England Patriots. The duo of Fano and Lomu marked the first time in program history Utah has had two first round selections in the same draft. Lomu was a first-team All-Big 12 pick in 2025 and came to the Utes as a four-star recruit.
- The Utes also lost center Jaren Kump and left guard Tanoa Togiai, who signed as UDFA's with Chicago and Washington, respectively.
- Importantly, in the 2026 season opener, the Wasatch Front neither allowed a sack nor committed a penalty. Meanwhile, the group opened holes for the Utes to rush for 364 yards.

- Despite the NFL departures, Utah returns an experienced group that has seen valuable game action in addition to adding talented newcomers into the fold.

Returning Offensive Linemen – Games Played at Utah

Name	Year	GP	GS
Solatoa Moea'i	Sr.	38	9
Zereoue Williams	5th	38	2
Keith Olson	5th	25	3
Alex Harrison	5th	26	2
Reece Parmenter	Jr.	14	0
Roger Alderman	Sr.	14	1
Isaiah Garcia	Jr.	2	0
Soren Shinofield	So.	1	0
Nick Hallock	So.	1	0

- Utah signed freshman Kelvin Obot out of Fruitland HS, ranked as the top player in Idaho and No. 4 offensive tackle in his class. He is the program's first-ever five-star recruit and was coached in high school by Jordan Gross. The MaxPreps Idaho Player of the Year was lauded by ESPN as the No. 74 player in his class as well as a Polynesian Bowl All-Star.
- The Utes also added collegiate experience out of the transfer portal in Cedric Jefferson, who won an FCS Championship with Montana State as well as Ohio State transfer Isaiah Kema.
- The 2025 edition of the Wasatch Front was recognized as semifinalists for the Joe Moore Award, presented annually to college football's best offensive front. The group blocked for an offense that averaged 482.9 yards per game, fourth-best in the nation and tops in the Big 12.
- Utah scored on 91.5% of its red zone trips last year, tabbing No. 14 in FBS. The Utes also finished third in third-down offense and 23rd in fourth-down success.
- Another testament to the prowess of the offensive line, Utah quarterbacks were sacked just 14 times last year—third-fewest of teams in the Big 12 Conference. The offensive line allowed just three sacks in the first six games.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE QUARTERBACKS



4

DEVON DAMPIER
QB | 5-11, 210 | SR.
PHOENIX, ARIZ. (NEW MEXICO)

Career Highs

Pass Yards.....	*338 vs. Fresno State (2024)
Completions.....	*33 vs. Fresno State (2024)
Long Pass.....	60 vs. Kansas State (2025)
Pass TDs.....	4 at West Virginia (2025)
Rush Yards.....	*207 vs. Wyoming (2024)
Long Rush.....	*85 vs. Wyoming (2024)
Rush TDs.....	*3 (6x), Last vs. Nebraska (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Pass Yards.....	176 vs. Idaho
Completions.....	13 vs. Idaho
Long Pass.....	31 vs. Idaho
Pass TDs.....	3 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....	31 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....	10 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....	--

Dampier Career Passing

Year	GP	Cmp	Att	Int	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/G
2023*	9	40	64	0	525	6	59	58.3
2024*	12	226	390	12	2768	12	55	230.7
2025	12	212	334	5	2490	24	60	207.5
2026	1	13	18	0	176	3	31	176.0
TOTAL	34	491	806	17	5959	45	60	175.3

*denotes at New Mexico

Dampier Career Rushing

Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2023*	9	59	328	4	37	5.6	36.4
2024*	12	155	1166	19	85	7.5	97.2
2025	12	146	835	10	59	5.7	69.6
2026	1	6	31	0	10	5.2	31.0
TOTAL	34	366	2360	33	85	6.4	69.4

*denotes at New Mexico

Dampier Game-By-Game Passing

Game	Cmp	Att	Int	%	Yds	TD	Long
Idaho	13	18	0	72.2	176	3	31
TOTAL	13	18	0	72.2	176	3	31

Dampier Game-By-Game Rushing

Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	6	31	5.2	0	10
TOTAL	6	31	5.2	0	10

- Named to the 2026 preseason watch lists for the Davey O'Brien Award, Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, Walter Camp Player of the Year and Maxwell Award.
- Voted a team captain (2026) as well as to the Leadership Council (2025 and 2026).

- 2025 Big 12 Offensive Newcomer of the Year and all-conference third team selection.
- Top-20 passing efficiency across FBS through Week 1 (209.4).
- Started 12 games in 2025, accounting for 34 touchdowns (24 passing, 10 rushing).
- Ranks fifth among Big 12 quarterbacks with 5,959 career passing yards.
- One of five FBS quarterbacks last season with 2,400-plus passing yards and 800-plus rushing yards (only one in Big 12).
- Led Big 12 QBs in 2025 with 69.6 rushing yards per game (2nd in Power Conferences).
- First Utah quarterback since Alex Smith in 2004 with six games of 200-plus passing yards and 50-plus rushing yards.
- Named Las Vegas Bowl MVP after going 19-of-31 for 310 yards (2 TD) and rushing 19 times for 148 yards (3 TD).
- His 84% completion rate in the 2025 season opener tied for the fourth-best in Utah single-game history and was a record for a Utah debut.
- Began his collegiate career at New Mexico, where he played in 21 total games in 2023-24, making 13 starts.
- Became the first UNM quarterback to ever earn All-Mountain West First Team honors in 2024.
- Led the MWC in total offense by piling up 3,934 yards, including 2,768 passing yards, the league's second-highest total.
- Rushed for 1,166 yards, which ranked third in the MWC, finished second in the circuit with 19 touchdowns and averaged a league-best 7.52 yards per carry.
- Fifth FBS QB since 2016 with 2,500+ passing and 1,000+ rushing yards in a single season; the other four are all in the NFL.
- Was the first Lobo QB to ever eclipse 1,000 yards rushing and rushed for 100 yards in a game six times in 2024.
- Rated as a three-star recruit after a career at Saguaro HS.
- Named the 2022 MaxPreps Arizona Player of the Year.
- Led Saguaro to a state runner-up finish in 2022.
- Name is pronounced "devin dam-peer".



15

BYRD FICKLIN
QB | 6-1, 200 | SO.
MUSKOGEE, OKLA. (MUSKOGEE HS)

Career Highs

Pass Yards.....	140 vs. Colorado (2025)
Completions.....	10 vs. Colorado (2025)
Long Pass.....	41 at West Virginia (2025)
Pass TDs.....	2 (2x), Last vs. Idaho (2026)
Rush Yards.....	166 at Baylor (2025)
Long Rush.....	74 at Baylor (2025)
Rush TDs.....	3 vs. Kansas State (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Pass Yards.....	93 vs. Idaho
Completions.....	4 vs. Idaho
Long Pass.....	35 vs. Idaho
Pass TDs.....	2 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....	70 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....	32 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....	--

Ficklin Career Passing

Year	GP	Cmp	Att	Int	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/G
2025	12	21	35	0	301	3	41	25.0
2026	1	4	8	0	93	2	35	93.0
TOTAL	13	25	43	0	394	5	41	30.3

Ficklin Career Rushing

Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2025	12	61	513	10	74	8.4	42.8
2026	1	8	70	0	32	8.8	70.0
TOTAL	13	69	583	10	74	8.4	44.8

Ficklin Game-By-Game Passing

Game	Cmp	Att	Int	%	Yds	TD	Long
Idaho	4	8	0	50%	93	2	35
TOTAL	4	8	0	50%	93	2	35

Ficklin Game-By-Game Rushing

Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	8	70	8.7	0	32
TOTAL	8	70	8.7	0	32

- Played in 12 games during his freshman season, scoring 13 total touchdowns.
- Named Big 12 Conference Offensive Player of the Week and two-time Big 12 Conference Freshman of the Week during 2025.
- Third among freshmen QBs last season with 10 rushing TD.
- In his first start, broke the Utah quarterback rushing record with 151 yards against Colorado.
- Reset his own program QB record with 166 rushing yards on just six carries against Baylor (2 TD).
- Became the sixth known true freshman to start a game in program history.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE QUARTERBACKS / OFFENSIVE LINE

- Ran for a career-high three scores against K-State.
- Threw his first career touchdown pass against West Virginia.
- Completed the first nine passes of his collegiate career.
- Made his collegiate debut in the final drive of the 2025 season opener at UCLA, orchestrating Utah's final possession that burned the last 4:28 off the clock, rushing twice for 20 yards.
- Rated a three-star recruit out of Muskogee HS.
- Named The Oklahoman's All-State Offensive Player of the Year and SBLive Oklahoma's Offensive Player of the Year in 2023.
- Holds the Muskogee record for career passing yards and TD.
- Led Muskogee to its first undefeated regular season since 1980 and a return to the state title game after winning District 6A-II.
- Threw for over 10,700 yards and 119 touchdowns and rushed for nearly 2,000 yards and 42 scores during his prep career.
- 2022 Tulsa World and The Oklahoman all-state selection.
- Full name is Jamarian Ficklin; goes by Byrd.

**55****KELVIN OBOT**

OL | 6-5, 295 | FR.

FRUITLAND, IDAHO (FRUITLAND HS)

- Made his college debut vs. Idaho as a reserve.
- Five-star prospect out of Fruitland HS was named the 2025 MaxPreps Idaho Player of the Year.
- Listed as the top player in Idaho and No. 4 offensive tackle nationally.
- Was coached at Fruitland by current Utah OL coach (and Utah alum) Jordan Gross.
- Slotted in the 2026 ESPN 300 database as the No. 74 player in his class.
- 2026 Polynesian Bowl All-Star.
- Part of a 2025 Fruitland team that finished 10-1, won a Snake River Valley Conference.
- Named first-team All-Idaho as a junior in 2024 on both the offensive and defensive lines.
- Also a track and field standout, winning Idaho's 4A state titles in the shot put and discus as a junior.

**56****ISAIAH KEMA**

OL | 6-3, 312 | FR.

LUBBOCK, TEXAS (OHIO STATE)

- Played as a reserve in the season opener vs. Idaho.
- Appeared in four games last season with Ohio State, after returning from a church mission.
- Played at Frenship HS for coach Jay Northcutt.
- Considered one of the top interior offensive linemen in Texas as a senior.
- Was ranked as the No. 48 interior offensive lineman in his class and No. 83 overall recruit in Texas for the 2023 class, according to 247Sports.
- Named a Texas District 2-6A first-team selection at center as a senior and Class 6A first-team all-state selection by the Texas Sportswriters Association at right guard as a junior.
- Selected to play in the 2023 Polynesian Bowl and the U.S. Army All-Star Bowl.
- Originally signed with Oklahoma State prior to his mission.

**62****SOLATOA MOEA'I**

OL | 6-4, 325 | SR.

LAIE, HAWAII (PUNAHOU SCHOOL)

- Has played in 38 career games (9 starts), including 12 games last season where he primarily lined up at tight end.
- Started at LG vs. Idaho.
- Helped the Utes tally 6,278 total yards of offense last year, the second-most in program history.
- Appeared in all 12 games during 2024, starting the final three at RG.
- Played in all 13 games as a true freshman in 2023, contributing on special teams and as a reserve offensive lineman.
- Three-star recruit originally signed with Utah in 2019 before serving a church mission.
- Two-time ILH all-star first-team selection.
- All-State selection as a senior.
- 2019 Polynesian Bowl participant.
- Name is pronounced "sole-uh-toe-uh moe-ee-eye"

**64****REECE PARMENTER**

OL | 6-5, 319 | JR.

ST. GEORGE, UTAH (CRIMSON CLIFFS HS)

- Played as a reserve vs. Idaho.
- Played in all 13 games last season on special teams and as a reserve offensive lineman.
- Took 83 snaps at left guard across eight games.
- PFF noted 65 of his snaps were run blocking opportunities.
- Did not see game action in 2024.
- First-team All-Region pick and team captain played at Crimson Cliffs HS, where he was also the Student Body President.

**67****SOREN SHINOFIELD**

OL | 6-6, 304 | SO.

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, COLO. (CHERRY CREEK HS)

- Made his collegiate debut as a reserve vs. Idaho; did not see game action in 2025.
- Three-star recruit out of Cherry Creek HS, rated the No. 1 prospect in Colorado.
- Helped Cherry Creek to a state championship game appearance in 2023.
- Part of an offensive line group that was named 2023 Playmaker's Corner Offensive Player of the Year.
- Blocked for an offense that produced 2,278 rushing yards (31 TD) and 1,862 passing yards (21 TD) during his junior season.
- Name is pronounced "sore-in shin-oh-field"

**72****CEDRIC JEFFERSON**

OL | 6-5, 300 | JR.

TEMECULA, CALIF. (MONTANA STATE)

- Started at right tackle vs. Idaho.
- Played in 30 career games (19 starts) at Montana State from 2023-25.
- Started all 16 games at right tackle last season on the way to an FCS National Championship for the Bobcats.
- 2025 All-Big Sky Honorable Mention.
- Played at Chaparral HS.
- Earned second-team All-Big West Upper Division honors as a senior of high school.
- Blocked for two 1,000-yard rushers in high school.

**74****KEITH OLSON**

OL | 6-6, 307 | 5TH YEAR

NAPAVINE, WASH. (NAPAVINE HS)

- 25 career games played (4 starts), all at Utah.
- Played in all 13 games during 2025, contributing at RG, LG, RT and on special teams.
- Allowed two pressures and two hurries in 98 pass blocking opportunities and did not allow a sack, per PFF.
- 194 of his 295 snaps on the offensive line were run blocking opportunities.
- Academic All-Big 12 Team.
- Three-star recruit out of Napavine HS was the No. 20-ranked player in Washington for his class.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE OFFENSIVE LINE / RUNNING BACKS



75

ROGER ALDERMAN
OL | 6-4, 302 | SR.
SONORA, CALIF. (SONORA HS)

- 14 career games played, primarily at right guard or on special teams.
- Earned his first college start vs. Idaho at RG.
- Beginning his third year at Utah.
- Three-star recruit by 247Sports out of Sonora HS.
- Back-to-back Mother Lode League MVP.
- MLL All-League first-team as an offensive lineman his senior season.
- Part of a Wildcats squad that reached the 2022 CIF Division V championship.
- Nominated for the 2023 Bay Area Cali Classic.



76

ZEREOUE WILLIAMS
OL | 6-8, 305 | 5TH YEAR
PHOENIX, ARIZ. (MOUNTAIN POINTE HS)

- 38 games played, all at Utah.
- Started at LT vs. Idaho, earning his first start with Utah.
- Primarily played left tackle and on special teams in 2025, appearing in all 13 games.
- 101 of his 156 snaps last year were run blocking opportunities.
- Played in eight games during 2024 before a season-ending injury.
- Part of the 2022 Pac-12 Championship team that played in the Rose Bowl Game.
- Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN out of Mountain Pointe HS.
- Didn't play football between seventh grade and his high school senior season.



79

ALEX HARRISON
OL | 6-5, 309 | 5TH YEAR
BOUNTIFUL, UTAH (VIEWMONT HS)

- Twenty-six games played (two starts), all at Utah.
- Started at center vs. Idaho.
- Appeared in 10 games last season, earning a start at center vs. Cal Poly.
- Did not allow a sack on 47 pass blocking opportunities last season.
- Contributed on both the offensive line and special teams in 2023, playing in all 13 games.
- Three-star high school recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN, rated the No. 4 recruit in the state of Utah out of Viewmont HS.
- Three-time all-state selection, earning first-team honors as a junior and senior.



1

WAYSHAWN PARKER
RB | 5-10, 205 | JR.
RICHMOND, CALIF. (WASHINGTON ST.)

- Career Highs**
- Carries.....*22 vs. San Jose State (2024)
Rush Yards.....*149 vs. Utah State (2024)
Long Rush.....*75 vs. Utah State (2024)
Rush TDs.....*2 vs. Utah State (2024)

- 2026 Season Highs**
- Carries.....12 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....71 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....21 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....1 vs. Idaho

Parker Career Rushing							
Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2024*	12	137	735	4	75	5.4	61.3
2025	13	149	981	6	64	6.6	75.5
2026	1	12	71	1	21	5.9	71.0
TOTAL	26	298	1787	11	75	5.9	68.7

**denotes at Washington State*

Parker Game-By-Game Rushing					
Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	12	71	5.9	1	21
TOTAL	12	71	5.9	1	21

- 2026 Maxwell Award Watch List.
- One of two Big 12 RBs with multiple receiving touchdowns in Week 1 (3 total receptions, 23 yards, 2 TD).
- Named a captain as well as to the team's 2026 Leadership Council.
- Played in all 13 games last season, rushing for 981 yards and six touchdowns on 149 carries.
- Led Utah with 89.6 all-purpose yards per game.
- His 6.6 yards per carry ranked sixth nationally and led the Big 12.
- Sixth in the Big 12 with 75.5 rushing yards per game.
- Had four straight 100-yard rushing games (Colorado, Cincinnati, Baylor, K-State).
- Rushed 10 times for a season-high 145 yards against Colorado, his first 100-yard game as a Ute.
- Ran for 129 yards and a TD on 15 carries and added a receiving touchdown at Baylor.
- Scored a 52-yard touchdown on his first Utah reception against Cal Poly.



5

DANIEL BRAY
RB | 5-10, 180 | SO.
FT. WORTH, TEXAS (NORTH CROWLEY HS)

- Career Highs**
- Carries.....10 at BYU (2025)
Rush Yards.....121 at BYU (2025)
Long Rush.....49 at BYU (2025)
Rush TDs.....1 at BYU (2025)

- 2026 Season Highs**
- Carries.....2 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....13 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....9 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....--

Bray Career Rushing							
Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2025	9	40	272	1	49	6.8	30.2
2026	1	2	13	0	9	6.5	13.0
TOTAL	10	42	285	1	49	6.8	28.5

Bray Game-By-Game Rushing					
Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	2	13	6.5	0	9
TOTAL	2	13	6.5	0	9

- Played in nine games last year with his first start coming against Colorado.
- Shined at BYU, rushing 10 times for 121 yards and his first collegiate touchdown; averaged 12.1 yards per carry.
- Career-high three catches for 41 yards vs. Cincinnati.
- Three-star recruit out of North Crowley HS after playing three seasons at Abilene Cooper HS.
- Led North Crowley to an undefeated 2024 season with a Class 6A Division I championship.
- First-team all-district in 2023 at Cooper HS.
- Tallied 84 carries as a senior, ranking second on the team with 728 rushing yards (8.7 ypc) and 13 touchdowns.
- Rushed for 1,359 yards and 22 touchdowns as a junior.
- Averaged 8.8 yards per carry his junior season.
- Also had 84 carries for 587 yards (8 TD) as a sophomore, adding 219 receiving yards (1 TD).
- Also competed in track and field, running a 10.38 in the 100 meters.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE RUNNING BACKS / WIDE RECEIVERS



21

LaMARCUS BELL
RB | 6-0, 200 | FR.
PORTLAND, ORE. (LAKE OSWEGO HS)

Career Highs	
Carries.....	7 vs. Idaho (2026)
Rush Yards.....	87 vs. Idaho (2026)
Long Rush.....	34 vs. Idaho (2026)
Rush TDs.....	1 vs. Idaho (2026)

2026 Season Highs	
Carries.....	7 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....	87 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....	34 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....	1 vs. Idaho

Bell Career Rushing							
Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2026	1	7	87	1	34	12.4	87.0
TOTAL	1	7	87	1	34	12.4	87.0

Bell Game-By-Game Rushing					
Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	7	87	12.4	1	34
TOTAL	7	87	12.4	1	34

- His 87 rushing yards vs. Idaho led both teams; included his first college touchdown.
- Graded a three-star recruit and the No. 2 player out of the state of Oregon.
- Named The Oregonian's Class 6A Player of the Year in 2024.
- MaxPreps Junior All-America second team selection.
- Part of a Lake Oswego squad that won the Oregon 6A state title in 2025.
- Nickname is "Bam", given by his mother.



25

STEVE CHAVEZ-SOTO
RB | 6-0, 205 | SO.
CHINO, CALIF. (SAN JOSE STATE)

Career Highs	
Carries.....	*14 (2x), Last at San Diego State (2025)
Rush Yards.....	*102 at Utah State (2025)
Long Rush.....	*66 at Utah State (2025)
Rush TDs.....	*3 vs. Hawaii (2025)

2026 Season Highs	
Carries.....	6 vs. Idaho
Rush Yards.....	35 vs. Idaho
Long Rush.....	15 vs. Idaho
Rush TDs.....	1 vs. Idaho

Chavez-Soto Career Rushing							
Year	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/A	Avg/G
2025*	8	87	448	7	66	5.1	56.0\
2026	1	6	35	1	15	5.8	35.0
TOTAL	9	93	483	8	66	5.2	53.6
*denotes at San Jose State							

Chavez-Soto Game-By-Game Rushing					
Game	Att	Yds	Ypr	TD	Long
Idaho	6	35	5.8	1	15
TOTAL	6	35	5.8	1	15

- Began his collegiate career at San Jose State, playing in eight games (two starts) as a freshman in 2025.
- Finished with 448 yards on 87 carries with seven touchdowns.
- His seven rushing touchdowns in 2025 were eighth-best in the regular season for an FBS freshman.
- Had a season-high three touchdowns with 53 rushing yards on 10 carries vs. Hawai'i.
- Prepped in California at Orange Lutheran HS and Damien HS.
- Had 300 carries for 1,629 yards and 22 touchdowns in his last two seasons in 19 games played.
- Two-time First-Team Baseline League.
- Two-time First-Team Trinity League.



0

KYRI SHOELS
WR | 6-0, 182 | SR.
LAS VEGAS, NEV. (SAN JOSE STATE)

Career Highs	
Carries.....	*10 at Stanford (2025)
Receiving Yards.....	*147 at Stanford (2025)
Long Reception.....	*43 vs. Hawaii (2025)
Receiving TDs.....	*1 (2x), Last at Stanford (2025)

2026 Season Highs	
Carries.....	--
Receiving Yards.....	--
Long Reception.....	--
Receiving TDs.....	--

Shoels Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2025*	12	59	768	2	43	13.0	64.0
2026	1	0	0	0	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	59	768	2	43	13.0	59.0
*denotes at San Jose State							

Whittemore Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	0	0	0.0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0.0	0	0

- Was at San Jose State for the 2024-25 seasons, after beginning his collegiate career at Palomar College (2022-23).
- Named All-Mountain West honorable mention in 2025.
- Made FBS debut in 2025 and finished the season with 59 catches for 768 yards and two touchdowns, playing in all 12 games.
- His 59 receptions were fourth in the Mountain West and 768 receiving yards were fifth.
- Had five catches for 109 yards with a career-long of 43 yards vs. Hawai'i.
- Played in 15 games with 24 receptions and four touchdowns at Palomar College (2022-23).
- Prepped at Arbor View HS, where he was the first All-American WR at his school.
- All three brothers played college football.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE WIDE RECEIVERS



2

CREED WHITTEMORE
WR | 5-11, 182 | SR.
GAINESVILLE, FLA. (MISSISSIPPI STATE)

Career Highs

Receptions	6 vs. Kansas State (2025)
Receiving Yards	*59 vs. SE Louisiana (2023)
Long Reception	*33 vs. SE Louisiana (2023)
Receiving TDs	*1 (3x), Last vs. Cincinnati (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Receptions	2 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards	27 vs. Idaho
Long Reception	14 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs	--

Whittemore Career Receiving

Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2023*	12	11	102	2	33	9.3	8.5
2024*	4	4	65	0	26	16.3	16.3
2025	9	12	92	1	11	7.7	11.5
2026	1	2	27	0	14	13.5	27.0
TOTAL	26	29	286	3	33	9.8	11.0

*at Mississippi State

Whittemore Game-By-Game Receiving

Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	2	27	13.5	0	14
TOTAL	2	27	13.5	0	14

- Ten games played at Utah over the last two seasons after transferring from Mississippi State (2023-24).
- 26 career games played (six starts).
- Career-high six catches for a season-best 51 yards against Kansas State last season.
- Tallied first catch at Utah against Colorado, totaling two receptions for 10 yards.
- Nabbed first Utah TD reception against Cincinnati.
- Played at Mississippi State in 2023 and '24, appearing in 16 games with five starts.
- Totaled 15 receptions for 167 yards (2 TD), averaging 11.1 yards per catch as a Bulldog.
- Also had five carries for 101 yards at State, with two touchdowns coming on the ground.
- Scored two touchdowns in his collegiate debut, one on a 33-yard reception and another via a 53-yard scamper.
- Four-star recruit played in Florida at F.W. Buchholz HS, under his father, head coach Mark Whittemore.
- Played quarterback in high school with some time on defense.



7

BRADEN PEGAN
WR | 6-3, 210 | SR.
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIF. (UTAH STATE)

Career Highs

Receptions	**8 (2x), Last at Fresno State (2025)
Receiving Yards	**147 vs. Air Force (2025)
Long Reception	**54 vs. Air Force (2025)
Receiving TDs	**2 vs. Air Force (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Receptions	4 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards	81 vs. Idaho
Long Reception	31 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs	1 vs. Idaho

Pegan Career Receiving

Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2022*	4	0	0	0	--	--	--
2023*	9	1	7	0	7	7.0	0.8
2025**	12	60	926	5	54	15.4	77.0
2026	1	4	81	1	31	20.2	81.0
TOTAL	26	61	933	5	54	15.3	49.1

*at UCLA // **at Utah State

Pegan Game-By-Game Receiving

Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	4	81	20.2	1	31
TOTAL	4	81	20.2	1	31

- 2026 Biletnikoff Award Preseason Watch List.
- His 81 yards vs. Idaho led all receivers for both teams.
- Was at Utah for the 2025 season, after beginning his collegiate career at UCLA (2022-24).
- 26 career games played (13 starts)
- Earned first-team All-Mountain West honors during the 2025 season at Utah State, becoming just the third Aggies wide receiver to earn first-team All-Mountain West.
- Started 11 of the 12 games he played in and lead the team with 60 receptions for 926 yards.
- His five touchdown receptions were the second-most on the team.
- Recorded three 100-yard receiving games, tied for the fourth-most in the MW.
- Appeared in 13 games with one start at UCLA from 2022-24.
- Prepped at San Juan Hills HS in California, where he was a three-star recruit.
- Was the No. 42 prospect in state of California and the No. 76 wide receiver in the nation by 247Sports.
- Named All-South Coast League First Team following his senior season in 2021.
- Had 72 receptions for 971 yards and 14 touchdowns.
- Played defensive back, logging 15 tackles, two pass breakups and one interception.



11

RICKY JOHNSON
WR | 6-2, 185 | SO.
WARNER ROBINS, GA. (MISSISSIPPI ST.)

Career Highs

Receptions	2 (2x), Last vs. Idaho (2026)
Receiving Yards	25 vs. Idaho (2026)
Long Reception	13 vs. Idaho (2026)
Receiving TDs	--

2026 Season Highs

Receptions	2 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards	25 vs. Idaho
Long Reception	13 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs	--

Johnson Career Receiving

Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2024*	4	2	9	0	5	4.5	2.2
2025*	13	3	17	0	12	5.7	1.3
2026	1	2	25	0	13	12.5	25.0
TOTAL	18	7	51	0	13	7.3	2.8

*at Mississippi State

Johnson Game-By-Game Receiving

Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	2	25	12.5	0	13
TOTAL	2	25	12.5	0	13

- Began his collegiate career at Mississippi State (2024-25), appearing in 17 games (one start).
- Suited up in all 13 games last year on the way to a bowl berth for the Bulldogs.
- SEC Academic Honor Roll member.
- Played at Houston County High school under head coach Jeremy Edwards.
- Finished his senior year with the second most receiving yards in school history (1,213).
- Had 65 receptions and 16 touchdowns in high school, averaging 18.7 yards per reception.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE WIDE RECEIVERS / TIGHT ENDS



12

LARRY SIMMONS

WR | 6-1, 190 | SR.

MOSS POINT, MISS. (SOUTHERN MISS)

Career Highs	
Receptions	**5 vs. SE Louisiana (2024)
Receiving Yards	**100 vs. SE Louisiana (2024)
Long Reception	**75 at Troy (2024)
Receiving TDs	2 at Kansas (2025)

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions	2 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards	41 vs. Idaho
Long Reception	26 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs	--

Simmons Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2022*	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2024**	12	27	421	1	75	15.6	35.1
2025	13	15	280	6	48	18.7	21.5
2026	1	2	41	0	26	20.5	41.0
TOTAL	27	44	742	7	75	16.8	27.4
*at Ole Miss // **at Southern Miss							

Simmons Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	2	41	20.5	0	26
TOTAL	2	41	20.5	0	26

- Played in all 13 games last season with Utah after one season at Southern Miss and two years at Ole Miss.
- 27 career games played; did not see game action with Ole Miss during 2023.
- Top performances of the 2025 season came in the wins vs. Kansas State (4 rec, 54 yards, 1 TD) and at Kansas (3 rec, 97 yards, 2 TD)
- Logged back-to-back games with a TD for the first time in his career vs. BYU and Colorado.
- First reception at Utah came at Wyoming, reeling in a touchdown reception after a fumble recovery before the pass.
- Caught four passes at Troy in 2024, totaling 90 yards and a 75-yard touchdown.
- Three-star high school recruit out of Moss Point HS.
- Rated the No. 2 receiver and No. 10 prospect out of Mississippi by 247Sports.
- Named to the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Game.



18

TOBIAS MERRIWEATHER

WR | 6-5, 200 | SR.

WEST CAMAS, WASH. (CALIFORNIA)

Career Highs	
Receptions	**6 at Wake Forest (2024)
Receiving Yards	*91 vs. Central Michigan (2023)
Long Reception	*75 vs. Central Michigan (2023)
Receiving TDs	**1 (4x), Last at Wake Forest (2024)

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions	--
Receiving Yards	--
Long Reception	--
Receiving TDs	--

Merriweather Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2022*	7	1	41	1	41	41.0	5.9
2023*	12	14	284	2	75	20.3	23.7
2024**	5	11	125	1	37	11.4	25.0
2025	7	8	130	0	36	16.3	18.6
2026	1	0	0	0	--	--	--
TOTAL	32	34	580	4	75	17.1	18.1
*at Notre Dame // **at California							

Merriweather Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	0	0	-	0	-
TOTAL	0	0	-	0	-

- Played as a reserve in the season opener vs. Idaho, plus in the Utes' first seven games last year.
- All three catches against Cal Poly came in the first half.
- Caught the lone pass thrown his way in last year's season opener at UCLA, a 36-yard bomb that set up a Utah TD on the next play.
- His 36-yard reception was the longest of the season opener.
- Was at California for the 2024 season, after beginning his collegiate career at Notre Dame (2022-23).
- Twenty-four career games played, making six starts in 2023 while at Notre Dame.
- Saw action in five games during his year at Cal, totaling 11 receptions for 125 yards (1 TD).
- Career-long reception was a 75-yard grab against Central Michigan in 2023.
- Set single-season bests in 2023, including 14 receptions, 284 yards and two touchdowns.
- Played at Union HS, where Merriweather was ranked as a four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN.
- Ranked by 247Sports as the No. 79 player nationally, No. 11 wide receiver nationally and the No. 2 player from Washington.



10

HUNTER ANDREWS

TE | 6-3, 230 | JR.

MAGNOLIA, TEXAS (MAGNOLIA HS)

Career Highs	
Receptions	5 at Wyoming (2025)
Receiving Yards	44 at Wyoming (2025)
Long Reception	14 at Wyoming (2025)
Receiving TDs	1 vs. Idaho (2026)

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions	2 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards	14 vs. Idaho
Long Reception	9 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs	1 vs. Idaho

Andrews Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2024	4	0	0	0	--	--	--
2025	4	10	65	0	14	6.5	16.2
2026	1	2	14	1	9	7.0	14.0
TOTAL	9	12	79	1	14	6.6	15.8

Andrews Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	2	14	7.0	1	9
TOTAL	2	14	7.0	1	9

- Recorded his first career receiving touchdown vs. Idaho in the season opener.
- Is returning from an injury-shortened 2025 season, played in four games last year with one start.
- Nine career games played at Utah.
- Totaled 15 rushing attempts for 130 yards (8.7 ypc) and one touchdown.
- Came to Utah as a linebacker (spring 2024) before playing running back that season and moving to tight end in 2025.
- Three-star recruit out of Magnolia HS, where he was ranked by 247Sports as the No. 49 athlete nationally in his class.
- Unanimously named 10-5A MVP as a senior in 2023 and voted All-District first-team as a running back.
- Rushed for 2,307 yards and 29 touchdowns over his final two high school seasons.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE TIGHT ENDS



86

WILL MONNEY
TE | 6-4, 230 | JR.
SPRINGVILLE, UTAH (OKLAHOMA STATE)

Career Highs	
Receptions.....	*4 vs. Hawaii (2024)
Receiving Yards.....	*55 vs. Hawaii (2024)
Long Reception.....	*31 vs. Robert Morris (2024)
Receiving TDs.....	*1 vs. Hawaii (2024)

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions.....	--
Receiving Yards.....	--
Long Reception.....	--
Receiving TDs.....	--

Monney Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2023*	12	1	3	0	3	3.0	0.2
2024*	10	11	138	1	31	12.5	13.8
2025**	4	3	39	0	23	13.0	9.7
2026	1	0	0	0	-	-	-
TOTAL	27	15	180	1	31	12.0	6.6
*at Utah State // **at Oklahoma State							

Monney Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	0	0	-	0	-
TOTAL	0	0	-	0	-

- Has played in 27 collegiate games; first career start came vs. Idaho State in 2023.
- Played in four games with Oklahoma State last season before transferring to Utah.
- Appeared in the first 10 games during the 2024 season with Utah State.
- Earned Academic All-Mountain West both years at Utah State.
- Prepped at Springville HS in Utah, earning all-region as a senior after he caught 31 passes for 443 yards and three touchdowns.
- Had a career-high eight receptions for a career-best 110 yards and one touchdown against Maple Mountain.
- Rated as the No. 24 prospect in the state of Utah and 86th-best tight end in the nation according to 247Sports.



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NOAH BENNEE
TE | 6-4, 240 | SR.
HOLLADAY, UTAH (WEBER STATE)

Career Highs	
Receptions.....	*6 vs. Montana (2025)
Receiving Yards.....	*43 at UC Davis (2025)
Long Reception.....	35 vs. Idaho (2026)
Receiving TDs.....	1 (2x), Last vs. Idaho (2026)

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions.....	1 vs. Idaho
Receiving Yards.....	35 vs. Idaho
Long Reception.....	35 vs. Idaho
Receiving TDs.....	1 vs. Idaho

Bennee Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2023	7	0	0	0	--	--	--
2024*	11	6	44	1	17	7.3	4.0
2025*	11	23	264	0	30	11.5	24.0
2026	1	1	35	1	35	35.0	35.0
TOTAL	30	30	343	2	35	11.4	11.4
*at Weber State							

Bennee Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	1	35	35.0	1	35
TOTAL	1	35	35.0	1	35

- Returned to Utah after playing 2024-25 at Weber State; previously was with the Utes from 2021-23.
- 30 career games played (14 starts). All 14 starts were at Weber State.
- Has caught at least one pass in 13 of his last 14 games played, dating back to the 2024 season.
- Earned Big Sky Academic All-Conference at Weber State.
- Did not play during the 2021 or '22 seasons at Utah.
- Three-year letter winner at Olympus HS, earning All-State at both safety and receiver, as well as Utah 5A Defensive Player of the Year.
- Last name is pronounced "benny".
- Several family members have Utah ties; brother, Jackson is currently a safety with the Utes.



99

SEMI TAULANGA
TE | 5-11, 317 | SO.
SANTA ANA, CALIF. (MATER DEI HS)

Career Highs	
Receptions.....	2 at BYU (2025)
Receiving Yards.....	3 at BYU (2025)
Long Reception.....	10 at BYU (2025)
Receiving TDs.....	--

2026 Season Highs	
Receptions.....	--
Receiving Yards.....	--
Long Reception.....	--
Receiving TDs.....	--

Taulanga Career Receiving							
Year	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2025	10	2	3	0	10	1.5	0.3
2026	1	0	0	0	--	--	--
TOTAL	11	2	3	0	10	1.5	0.2

Taulanga Game-By-Game Receiving					
Game	Rec	Yds	Ypc	TD	Long
Idaho	0	0	--	0	--
TOTAL	0	0	--	0	--

- Saw action in all three phases vs. Idaho, making a tackle on defense.
- Played in 10 games as a freshman last season, starting at BYU.
- Came to Utah as a defensive tackle before moving to offense midway through the 2025 season.
- Had two catches in the BYU game last year, including a 10-yard grab.
- Three-star recruit out of Mater Dei HS.
- Part of a Mater Dei squad that won the CIF-SS Division I title in 2024.
- Helped Mater Dei to a CIF Open Division state title in 2023 and was the MVP of the 2023 state title game.
- Last name is pronounced "tau-lon-guh".

DEFENSIVE NOTES

RED SWAN

After seven seasons as the program's linebackers coach, Colton Swan was named Utah's defensive coordinator on Jan. 2, 2026. This means Swan is serving as Utah's defensive play-caller and he's also continued to coach the team's linebackers. During his time at the U, Swan's players have been some of the most productive linebackers in the nation, earning seven First Team All-Conference selections and sending six Utes to the NFL. In 2025, two of Swan's pupils, Lander Barton and Johnathan Hall, earned All-Big 12 Honorable Mention nods.

- He helped Devin Lloyd become a finalist for the Butkus Award both in 2020 and '21, with Lloyd ultimately being selected by the Jacksonville Jaguars with the 27th pick in the 2022 NFL Draft. A consensus All-American at Utah, Lloyd is now in his third NFL season in 2024. Lander Barton (Tennessee), Karene Reid (Denver), Mohamoud Diabate (Cleveland) and Nephi Sewell (New Orleans) signed free agent contracts after working with Swan, while Francis Bernard spent two seasons in the NFL.

- A man of many talents, Swan initially attended Weber State on a rodeo scholarship before walking on to the football team and transforming into an All-Big Sky linebacker. Nevertheless, Swan maintains a passion for the sport of rodeo to this day and occasionally competes during the football offseason.

R.S.N.B. - RELENTLESS, SMART, NASTY, BALLHAWKS

The term R.S.N.B., meaning relentless, smart, nasty, ballhawks, has become the overarching mission statement that sums up the culture of the entire Utah program, but it originated on defense during Morgan Scalley's 10-year tenure as defensive coordinator. The 2026 unit consists of a slew of experienced veterans who are back in the fold, as well as a talented and accomplished group of newcomers, all of whom will be counted on to maintain the high standard that's been established by Utah's immovable defense.

- Since Swan and Scalley's first season working together in 2018, the Utes have averaged 323.4 total yards allowed per game. That figure is the best in the Big 12 and puts the Utes 13th among Power Conference programs. Utah has also held opponents under 250 yards in 28 games and under 200 yards 16 times. Only two teams have more games in which they've limited the opposition to 200 yards or less over the last eight years.
- Utah is 27-1 since the start of 2018 when allowing 250 or less yards (won 16 straight) and 16-0 when holding an opponent to 200 or under. The former figure includes a 17-0 mark against Power Conference teams. The Utes started 2026 limiting Idaho to 225 yards.
- Since 2018, the Utes have also limited 41 opponents to 15 first downs or fewer, the highest total the Big 12 and tied for sixth-best in the Power Four. Utah is 37-4 in those games, including their season-opening win over Idaho, when the Vandals were limited to 13 first downs.

Utah's Year-by-Year Rankings - Total Defense

Year	YPG	Conf. Rk.	FBS Rk.
2026	225.0	2	10
2025	359.0	8	60
2024	329.7	3	29
2023	307.2	2	13
2022	334.1	2	26
2021	341.6	3	27
2020	365.0	2	37
2019	269.2	1	2
2018	315.6	2	14
2017	338.4	3	25

POINT TAKEN

- Over the last nine seasons, Utah's defense has been among the stingiest in the country when it comes to allowing points. Opponents generally struggled to score against the Utes, averaging just 19.9 points per game. The Utes are the only Big 12 program to hold opponents under 20 points per game during that span and their average places ninth in Power Football.
- By holding the Vandals to 14 points, the Utes prevented an opponent from reaching 20 on the scoreboard for the 50th time since Swan came aboard, which also places them ninth in the Power Four. It also marked the fourth consecutive year Utah has opened the season by limiting its first foe to 14 points or less.
- Since Swan came aboard in 2018, the shortened 2020 campaign is the only season in which Utah's defense has permitted more than 23 points per game. In 2025, 2023 and 2019, the Utes owned an average of fewer than 20 points per game allowed.

QUIET QUARTERS

Utah's success was in part helped by strong defensive starts to halves. The team allowed just 41 points overall in the first quarter and 41 points in the third quarter.

- Per Stats Perform, Utah was the only FBS team during the 2025 regular season not to allow a point in the first quarter in true road games. Excluding the pandemic-altered 2020 season, Utah is the first FBS team to shutout road opponents in the first quarter since Georgia and Wisconsin did it in 2011.
- Texas Tech (Week 4 at home) and Nebraska (Las Vegas Bowl) were the only teams in 2025 to score a touchdown against Utah on a game-opening drive, while just five squads have put up points against the Utes on a second-half opening drive.

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

The Utes started the 2026 campaign by living up to the program's reputation of causing havoc for opposing passing attacks. Idaho managed just 11 completions in 30 passing attempts, making them the seventh team in Utah's last 10 games to be limited to a completion percentage below 50 percent.

- Since the beginning of the 2021 season, Utah's challengers have completed just 56.6 percent of their throws. Among Power Conference schools, only Texas A&M can claim to have stifled opponents to a lower mark in that statistic.
- Idaho's second pass of the game was intercepted by linebacker Trey Reynolds, setting up the Utes' first touchdown of the season. For Reynolds, it was his third career theft, all of which have set up TDs.
- The Vandals also became the ninth opponent Utah has prevented from topping 170 passing yards (119) in the team's last 14 games, sixth-most in the FBS.
- In 2025, the Utes were the only FBS team and just the second Power Conference squad since 2018 to hold opponents to a completion percentage of less than 50 percent. The last group to accomplish that was Florida State in 2023. Utah's foes managed to connect on only 49.4 percent of their throws in 2025.
- Defensively in 2025, Utah ranked fourth in the conference with 15 interceptions and led the league with 364 interception return yards. The return tally was more than 100 yards ahead of the next-closest team (BYU with 251).
- Fifth year cornerback Elijah Davis, who has returned to the starting lineup in 2026, was responsible for nearly half of those return yards thanks to pair of long-distance pick-sixes and he's joined on the list of returners by Rock Caldwell, who snared his first Utah interception in the Las Vegas Bowl victory, and JC Hart, who didn't miss a game in 2025 while contributing on defense and special teams.
- The collection of new additions to the cornerback room includes senior and fellow starter Elijah Reed, who had a breakout 2025 at Akron, junior James Chenault Jr., who's fresh off helping South Florida to one of their best seasons ever and Earl Parker, who assisted Hutchinson Community College to an 11-1 mark a year ago.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

Four familiar faces help populate the safety group for Utah, with team captain Nate Ritchie, Rabbit Evans, Jackson Bennee and Nate Tilmon providing the team with plenty of depth and a wealth of experience. Bennee led the Utes with five tackles against Idaho, while Evans claimed his first fumble recovery as a Ute. Ritchie is back at full strength and Tilmon saw action in 11 games on defense and special teams in 2025.

RUSH HOUR SHUTDOWN

Rushing defense has long been a high point for Utah under Morgan Scalley and Colton Swan. Utah led the Pac-12 five times in that stat five times (2016, '18, '19, '20 and '21) and that includes ranking third in the nation in 2019 when Scalley was a Broyles Award finalist.

In the team's 2026 opener, the programs' suffocating run defense was again on display, as evidenced by Idaho's average of just 3.4 yards per carry. The Vandals' total of 106 net yards on the ground fell well short of their 2025 average of 175.4.

Since Swan arrived in 2019, the Utes have averaged 114.3 rushing yards allowed per game, ranking sixth among Power Conference teams. Utah's 105 rushing touchdowns allowed since 2016 place the team in a tie for the 10th-fewest allowed by a Power Conference defense.

In 2025, Utah held UCLA (84), Cal Poly (65) and Colorado (38) each under 100 rushing yards.

Among those helping uphold Utah's run-stuffing reputation is an assemblage of linebackers that includes team captains Johnathan Hall and Trey Reynolds. Reynolds got Utah's defense off to a fast start in 2026, intercepting Idaho's second pass of the game to set up a touchdown. Hall, a former safety, led the team in tackles in 2025, piled up a team-high 10.5 third-down stops and was an All-Big 12 Honorable Mention pick.

Junior Elijah Elliss and sophomore Cyrus Polu figure to see an increase in snaps in 2026 after both played in all 13 games a season ago. Both players assisted on a TFL in the 66-14 win over Idaho.

Fewest Rushing Yards Allowed Per Game
(Power Conference teams, since 2016)

1. Georgia	95.8
...	
5. Michigan	113.2
6. Clemson	113.2
7. Utah	114.3

NO THIRD CHANCES

Utah has built a reputation over the years as one of the toughest teams in the nation to convert against in third-down situations. The Utes started 2026 by allowing just three conversions in 13 tries after finishing 2025 with a 34.6% opponent conversion rate, fourth in the Big 12 Conference and 28th across FBS.

Those third-down successes helped the Utes establish a 34:20 to 25:40 edge in time of possession over Idaho.

The Utes held the ball in excess of 35 minutes in three games in 2025: the season opener at UCLA (37:28), in Week 3 at Wyoming (35:30) and in Week 10 vs. Cincinnati (40:02). The Cincinnati total was the team's highest possession time since Week 4 at Oklahoma State last season (42:26).

Since the start of 2018, Utah's opponents have converted 32.2 percent of their third-down opportunities, which ranks third among Power Conference teams. Seven of those seasons saw the Utes hold the opposition under 35 percent, including back-to-back season in 2023 and 2024 where opponents converted at less than 30 percent.

Utah's Year-by-Year Rankings - Third-Down Defense

Year	%	Conf. Rk.	FBS Rk.
2025	34.6	4	28
2024	27.4	1	3
2023	29.5	1	8
2022	31.5	1	14
2021	37.4	3	49
2020	34.3	2	20
2019	30.1	1	9
2018	33.3	1	11

SACK LAKE CITY

The moniker "Sack Lake City" has often been used over the years to describe the physicality and grit of the Utah defensive line. The Utes are coming off a 2025 season in which they amassed 34 sacks, second-most in the Big 12 and tied for 23rd in the nation.

A testament to owning both sides of the trenches, Utah was the only Big 12 program to rank top-30 in the country both in most defensive sacks (23rd; 2.62 per game) and fewest sacks allowed (9th; 1.08 per game).

The list of edge players looking to uphold Utah's tradition of causing chaos in the offensive backfield includes fifth-year defensive end Lance Holtzclaw, who set a career-high in TFLs a season ago and collected a sack in his team's Las Vegas Bowl victory. Holtzclaw will be joined on the line and on Utah's leadership council by Ethan Day, who piled up seven TFLs last year at North Texas while helping the Mean Green to one of their best seasons in school history.

One of the unit's strongest finishers in 2025 was Kash Dillon, who recorded three TFLs and two sacks over Utah's final six games and added his first career forced fumble in Utah's win over No. 17 Cincinnati.

Utah's defensive tackle room includes plenty of youth, led by sophomores Pupu Sepulona, Karson Kaufusi and Jireh Moe. Kaufusi wasted no time making his presence known in the season opener, picking up a sack and logging a career-best 1.5 TFLs.

PICK-SIX CITY

Jackson Bennee's 46-yard interception return touchdown vs. Cal Poly on Sept. 6, 2026 extended Utah's nation-leading streak to 22 consecutive seasons with a pick-six. The streak dates back to 2004, when current defensive coordinator Morgan Scalley was a senior and played safety on the Utes' Fiesta Bowl-winning team.

Cornerback Elijah Davis added two more pick-sixes for the Utes, doing so in the road wins over Baylor (65 yards) and Kansas (97 yards).

This run of annual pick-sixes is the longest known streak in FBS history, surpassing Arizona State (20 seasons from 2000-19) for the longest. Within the 22-season pick-six streak, Utah also now has multiple interception return touchdowns in each of the last five seasons.

During the 22-season span since 2004, Utah has totaled 51 interception return touchdowns, the most in FBS.

Jonathan Fanene and Steve Fifita scored Utah's pick-sixes in 2004 to begin the streak.

FBS Active Streaks - Consecutive Seasons with a Pick-Six

Team	Seasons	Year Started
Utah	22	2004
Iowa	18	2008

*denotes team had a pick-six this season

DEFENSIVE NOTES

Most Pick-Sixes – FBS Football (since 2004)

1. Utah	51
2. Alabama	49
3. LA Tech	46
T-4. Ohio State/Tennessee	44

NEXT STOP: SUNDAYS

The Utah defense has sent 14 players to the NFL over the last four seasons, breaking down to five draft selections and nine more Pro Utes reaching the league as undrafted free agents. At least one defensive player from Utah was selected in the top four rounds of each NFL Draft from 2022 through '24.

- In 2022, Devin Lloyd become the highest-drafted linebacker in school history when he was taken in Round 1 (No. 27 overall) by Jacksonville. A consensus all-America selection in 2021, Lloyd was a Butkus Award finalist in both of his final two seasons at Utah.
- 2025 Utah defensive captains Lander Barton (Chargers) and Logan Fano (Browns) both earned contracts as undrafted free agents following the 2026 draft.
- After the 2024 season, rookie DE-turned-LB Connor O'Toole (Seattle) and LB Karene Reid (Denver) each made their clubs' respective rosters after signing as undrafted free agents. O'Toole was active for all of Seattle's playoff run, including their Super Bowl LX victory.
- Safety Cole Bishop started all 17 games for the Bills in 2025 and locked up their road playoff win over Jacksonville with a final-minute interception.
- Fellow 2024 draft pick Sione Vaki is in his third season with the Lions as a running back after playing both ways at Utah.
- Cornerback Jaylon Johnson, who was with the Utes from 2017-19 as an all-American and two-time all-conference pick, is now in his seventh season with the Chicago Bears and is a two-time Pro Bowl selection.

DEFENSIVE NOTES														
QUICK HITS ON THE DEFENSIVE LINE														
			8 ETHAN DAY DE 6-4, 250 JUNIOR RIPON, CALIF. (NORTH TEXAS)											
Career Highs														
Tackles.....7 at Army (2025)														
TFL.....2.0 vs. UTSA (2025)														
Sacks.....1.0 (4x), Last vs. Charlotte (2025)														
Pass Breakups.....--														
2026 Season Highs														
Tackles.....3 vs. Idaho														
TFL.....0.5 vs. Idaho														
Sacks.....--														
Pass Breakups.....--														
Day Career Defense														
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk			
2023*	2	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2024*	12	9	10	19	1.0	0.5	0	0	1	1	0	0		
2025**	14	23	30	53	7.0	4.5	0	0	0	1	0	0		
2026	1	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	29	33	42	75	8.5	5.0	0	0	1	2	0	0		
**denotes at North Texas // *denotes at Wyoming														
Day 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk				
Idaho	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Started and logged three tackles, including an assisted TFL against Idaho. Spent 2025 at North Texas after beginning his collegiate career at Wyoming (2023-24). Started all 13 games at DE for the Mean Green in 2025. Finished the season with 48 tackles, 7.0 TFL, 4.5 sacks and a fumble recovery. Posted a season-best seven tackles in the win at Army and recovered a fumble vs. USF. Recorded four tackles and a TFL in the American Championship game against Tulane. Saw action in 14 games in two seasons with the Cowboys, appearing in 12 games in 2024. Finished the season with 19 tackles, a TFL, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery. Started his career at Modesto Community College in Modesto, California in 2022, playing in nine games.														
			15 LANCE HOLTZCLAW DE 6-3, 245 FIFTH YEAR BOSTON, MASS. (WASHINGTON)											
Career Highs														
Tackles.....5 (2x), Last at Kansas (2025)														
TFL.....2.0 at West Virginia (2025)														
Sacks.....1.0 (3x), Last vs. Nebraska (2025)														
Pass Breakups.....1 (3x), Last vs. Nebraska (2025)														
2026 Season Highs														
Tackles.....3 vs. Idaho														
TFL.....--														
Sacks.....--														
Pass Breakups.....--														
Holtzclaw Career Defense														
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk			
2022*	3	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2023*	11	4	1	5	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2024*	12	5	3	8	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
2025	13	17	9	26	4.0	1.5	0	3	0	0	0	0		
2026	1	2	1	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	40	28	14	42	6.0	3.5	0	3	0	1	0	0		
*denotes at Washington														
Holtzclaw 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk				
Idaho	2	1	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
TOTAL	2	1	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Forty career games played, including 26 at Washington where he spent the 2022-24 seasons. Breakout game with Utah came in the win over West Virginia, contributing 5 tackles including 2.0 TFL for five yards. Made another five stops, all solo, in the regular season finale at Kansas. First career sack came in the 2023 Apple Cup win, clinching a spot for Washington in the Pac-12 title game. Part of the Huskies teams that won the 2022 Alamo Bowl, 2023 Pac-12 Championship and 2023 Sugar Bowl. Named the team's 2022 Defensive Scout MVP. Three-star recruit out of Desert Ridge HS in Arizona. Named All-Conference and All-State in high school both as a DE and WR. Is the third known player in Utah Football history with a Massachusetts hometown, and 11th from New England.														

THIRD DOWN STOPS	
The Utah Athletic Communications staff tracks Third Down Stops (TDS) as an unofficial player statistic. A TDS is earned with a tackle, pass breakup, interception, forced fumble and/or fumble recovery that results in a failed third-down conversion for the opponent.	
Third-down stops can be shared (0.5) with an assisted tackle, TFL or sack, or when two different players force and recover a fumble on a play.	
Player	2026 TDS
Jackson Bennee	1.5
Trey Reynolds	1.0
Rabbit Evans	0.5
Pupu Sepulona	0.5
James Chenault	0.5
Kash Dillon	0.5
Cyrus Polu	0.5
(team)	6.0

THIRD DOWN STOPS

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Player	2026 TDS
Jackson Bennee	1.5
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James Chenault	0.5
Kash Dillon	0.5
Cyrus Polu	0.5
(team)	6.0

DEFENSIVE NOTES														
QUICK HITS ON THE DEFENSIVE LINE														
			40 PAUL FITZGERALD			DE 6-4, 256 FIFTH YEAR			IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO (UTAH STATE)					
						93 KASH DILLON			DE 6-5, 252 JR.			DRAPER, UTAH (CORNER CANYON HS)		
														
												45 PUPU SEPULONA		
												DT 6-2, 298 SO.		
												KALIHI, HAWAI'I (ST. LOUIS HS)		
Career Highs														
Tackles.....*7 vs. Nevada (2023)														
TFL.....*3.0 vs. Georgia State (2023)														
Sacks.....*3.0 vs. Georgia State (2023)														
Pass Breakups.....*1 vs. Boise State (2023)														
2026 Season Highs														
Tackles.....2 vs. Idaho														
TFL.....--														
Sacks.....--														
Pass Breakups.....--														
Fitzgerald Career Defense														
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Year	GP	UA
2022*	2	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	2024	2	1
2023*	13	23	23	46	9.0	8.0	0	1	1	0	0	2025	13	20
2024	9	3	1	4	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	2026	1	1
2025	4	5	6	11	1.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	16	22
2026	1	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0		18	37
TOTAL	29	31	32	63	10.5	8.5	0	1	1	0	0		4.5	3.5
*denotes at Utah State													0	0
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon Career Defense														
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Year	GP	UA
2024	2	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	2025	11	7
2025	13	20	15	35	4.5	3.5	0	0	1	0	0	2026	1	0
2026	1	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	12	7
TOTAL	16	22	18	37	4.5	3.5	0	0	1	0	0		8	15
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona Career Defense														
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Year	GP	UA
2025	11	7	6	13	1.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	2026	1	0
2026	1	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	12	7
TOTAL	12	7	8	15	1.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0		8	15
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Sepulona 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Fitzgerald 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	Tot
Idaho	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	Idaho	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	0	2	2
Dillon 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	Game	UA	Ast	

DEFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE DEFENSIVE TACKLES



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KARSON KAUFUSI

DT | 6-6, 305 | SO.
HOLLADAY, UTAH (SKYLINE HS)

Career Highs

Tackles.....3 (2x), Last vs. Idaho (2026)
TFL.....1.5 vs. Idaho (2026)
Sacks.....1.0 vs. Idaho (2026)
Pass Breakups.....--

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....3 vs. Idaho
TFL.....1.5 vs. Idaho
Sacks.....1.0 vs. Idaho
Pass Breakups.....--

Kaufusi Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2025	12	5	8	13	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	2	3	1.5	1.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	13	6	10	16	2.0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0

Kaufusi 2026 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	1	2	3	1.5	1.5	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	2	3	1.5	1.5	0	0	0	0	0

- Set a new career-high vs. Idaho with 1.5 TFLs to go with his first career full sack.
- Played in 12 games on defense and special teams and totaled 13 tackles (0.5 TFL, 0.5 sack).
- Four-star recruit out of Skyline HS, rated the No. 1 defensive tackle and the No. 6 overall prospect in Utah.
- Collected 26 total tackles (3.0 TFL, 1.0 sack) and a fumble recovery as a junior.
- Also played basketball and lacrosse in high school.
- Both parents, numerous cousins and other family members are Utah alumni--several of whom were student-athletes.



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JIREH MOE

DT | 6-0, 280 | SO.
WESTMINSTER, CALIF. (SAN JOSE STATE)

Career Highs

Tackles.....4 (2x), Last vs. Colorado (2025)
TFL.....0.5 (2x), Last vs. Colorado (2025)
Sacks.....--
Pass Breakups.....--

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....--
TFL.....--
Sacks.....--
Pass Breakups.....--

Moe Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2025*	11	16	12	28	2.0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	12	28	16	12	2.0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0

**denotes at San Jose State*

Moe 2026 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

- Made his first start as a Ute in the win over Idaho.
- Played for San Jose State in 2025, finishing season with 28 tackles, two tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks in 11 games.
- Had five tackles with 0.5 sacks and 0.5 tackles for loss vs. Fresno St.
- Played three years at Orange Lutheran HS and one at Reed HS. Was a three-star recruit on 24/7 Sports.
- Recorded 91 tackles, 15 sacks, and nine tackles for a loss in his career.
- Blocked three field goals in his senior season.
- Top performer at the 2024 Polynesian Bowl combine.



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MIKE TAUTEOLI

DT | 6-4, 300 | JR.
MIDVALE, UTAH (BRIGHTON HS)

Career Highs

Tackles.....3 at UCLA (2025)
TFL.....0.5 at UCLA (2025)
Sacks.....0.5 at UCLA (2025)
Pass Breakups.....--

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....1 vs. Idaho
TFL.....--
Sacks.....--
Pass Breakups.....--

Tauteoli Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2025	5	0	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	6	0	3	3	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0

Tauteoli 2026 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0

- Appeared in five games in 2025 on defense and special teams.
- Did not appear in a game in 2024
- Played football, rugby and competed in track and field at Brighton HS.
- Recorded 32 total tackles his senior season.
- Played forward on his rugby team as a team captain and competed in the javelin, 100-meter dash and 4x100 meter relay.
- Father played football at Utah in 1989
- Brother, Zach, played football at Snow College.

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DEFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE LINEBACKERS



0

CYRUS POLU
LB | 6-1, 225 | SO.
ST. GEORGE, UTAH (DESERT HILLS HS)

Career Highs	
Tackles.....	4 (2x), vs. Idaho (2026)
TFL.....	0.5 vs. Idaho (2026)
Sacks.....	--
Pass Breakups.....	--
2026 Season Highs	
Tackles.....	4 vs. Idaho
TFL.....	0.5 vs. Idaho
Sacks.....	--
Pass Breakups.....	--

Polu Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2025	13	7	7	14	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	3	4	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	14	8	10	18	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Polu 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	1	3	4	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	3	4	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Matched his career-high with four stops as well as an assisted TFL in the 2026 opener vs. Idaho.
- Contributed on both defense and special teams across all 13 games in 2025, making 14 tackles.
- Four-star and All-State standout from Desert Hills HS was ranked by 247Sports as the No. 3 prospect in Utah.
- Played in 10 games with the Thunder his senior season, finishing with 46 tackles, two interceptions and a forced fumble.
- Invited to the 2024 Under Armour Next Camp Series, where he was named the Linebacker MVP.
- Was a All-State sophomore on the 2022 Thunder squad that won the Utah 4A state championship.



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JOHNATHAN HALL
LB | 6-1, 226 | SR.
KATY, TEXAS (KATY HS)

Career Highs	
Tackles.....	10 vs. Texas Tech (2025)
TFL.....	2.0 (3x), Last vs. Colorado (2025)
Sacks.....	2.0 vs. Colorado (2025)
Pass Breakups.....	1 (7x), Last vs. Kansas State (2025)
2026 Season Highs	
Tackles.....	1 vs. Idaho
TFL.....	--
Sacks.....	--
Pass Breakups.....	--

Hall Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2023	13	12	7	19	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	12	20	18	38	9.0	1.0	1	4	0	0	0	0
2025	13	43	24	67	6.0	2.5	1	5	1	0	0	0
2026	1	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	39	75	50	125	16.0	4.5	2	9	1	0	0	0

Hall 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 2025 All-Big 12 Honorable Mention
- Led the team with 67 total tackles, averaging six stops over Utah's last four games.
- His 6.0 TFLs tied for third-most on the roster.
- His 10.5 third-down stops lead the team; made 2.5 TDS in the comeback win over K-State.
- Set a new career-high with 10 tackles against Texas Tech.
- Led the team in tackles, TFL, sacks and third-down stops (3) in the Colorado win.
- Moved to LB from safety in 2024, totaling 37 games played (16 starts) as a Utah Ute.
- Tied for the team lead in 2024 with 9.0 TFL.
- Three-star recruit out of Katy HS in Texas, where he was named 19-6A District Defensive Player of the Year.
- Tabbed first-team All-State as a senior.



10

TREY REYNOLDS
LB | 6-1, 231 | SR.
QUEEN CREEK, ARIZ. (QUEEN CREEK HS)

Career Highs	
Tackles.....	5 vs. Nebraska (2025)
TFL.....	2.0 (2x) Last vs. Nebraska (2025)
Sacks.....	1.0 vs. Colorado (2025)
Pass Breakups.....	--
2026 Season Highs	
Tackles.....	2 vs. Idaho
TFL.....	--
Sacks.....	--
Pass Breakups.....	--

Reynolds Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2021	14	2	4	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	12	3	10	13	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	13	14	14	28	6.0	1.5	2	2	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	40	20	29	49	6.0	1.5	3	3	0	0	0	0

Reynolds 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

- Set up Utah's first touchdown of 2026 with his third career interception against Idaho.
- Set a career-high with five stops and added two TFLs in Utah's Las Vegas Bowl win over Nebraska.
- Four starts in 2025, including in the win over Kansas.
- Both of his interceptions in 2025 were returned 20+ yards and set up touchdown drives for the Utes.
- Returned to Utah in 2024 after serving a two-year church mission in Nashville.
- Played in all 12 games last season both on defense and special teams.
- Named CSC Academic All-District in 2024.
- Six tackles as a freshman in 2021, each coming as part of the kickoff team.
- Three-star recruit on 247Sports and Rivals, rated the No. 9 recruit in the state of Arizona out of Queen Creek HS.
- Two-time All-Arizona selection and Arizona Cardinals Defensive Player of the Year as a senior.
- Father was a linebacker at Arizona State (1996-97).

DEFENSIVE NOTES																																												
QUICK HITS ON THE LINEBACKERS / SECONDARY																																												
		42		TAYSON REID		LB 6-0, 230 SO.		SPANISH FORK, UTAH (SNOW COLLEGE)				83		ELIJAH ELLISS		LB 6-2, 225 JR.		FARMINGTON, UTAH (LAYTON CHRISTIAN HS)				2		ROCK CALDWELL		CB 6-3, 190 FIFTH YEAR		YPSILANTI, MICH. (GARDEN CITY CC)																
Career Highs															Career Highs															Career Highs														
Tackles.....1 vs. Idaho (2026)															Tackles.....4 (2x) vs. Idaho (2026)															Tackles.....**5 at Miami (Fla.) (2023)														
TFL.....--															TFL.....0.5 vs. Idaho (2026)															TFL.....1.0 vs. Colorado (2025)														
Sacks.....--															Sacks.....--															Sacks.....--														
Pass Breakups.....--															Pass Breakups.....--															Pass Breakups.....1 (2x), Last vs. Cal Poly (2025)														
2026 Season Highs															2026 Season Highs															2026 Season Highs														
Tackles.....1 vs. Idaho															Tackles.....4 vs. Idaho															Tackles.....1 vs. Idaho														
TFL.....--															TFL.....0.5 vs. Idaho															TFL.....--														
Sacks.....--															Sacks.....--															Sacks.....--														
Pass Breakups.....--															Pass Breakups.....--															Pass Breakups.....--														
Reid Career Defense															Elliss Career Defense															Caldwell Career Defense														
Year GP UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk															Year GP UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk															Year GP UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk														
2026 1 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															2025 13 10 8 18 3.0 2.0 0 0 0 0 0															2022* 1 0 0 0 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0														
TOTAL 1 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															2026 1 1 3 4 0.5 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															2023** 5 6 0 6 0.0 0.0 0 1 0 0 0														
TOTAL 1 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															TOTAL 14 11 11 22 3.5 2.0 0 0 0 0 0															2025 12 7 2 9 1.0 0.0 1 2 0 0 0														
Reid 2026 Game-by-Game															Elliss 2026 Game-by-Game															Caldwell 2026 Game-by-Game														
Game UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk															Game UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk															Game UA Ast Tot TFL Sacks Int PD FF FR Blk														
Idaho 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															Idaho 1 3 4 0.5 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															Idaho 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0														
TOTAL 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															TOTAL 1 3 4 0.5 0.0 0 0 0 0 0															TOTAL 1 0 1 0.0 0.0 0 0 0 0 0														
• Ranked by 247Sports as a three-star JUCO prospect and the No. 4 linebacker in the country for his signing class after a freshman season at Snow College															• Started, matched his career-high with four tackles and recorded an assisted TFL in the 2026 opener vs. Idaho															• Contributed nine tackles (1.0 TFL) in 2025, along with one PBU.														
• Finished with a team-leading 80 tackles (6.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks) despite missing two games.															• Played in all 13 games a year ago, both on defense and special teams and totaled 18 tackles (3.0 TFL, 2.0 sack).															• Hauled in his first career interception to help seal the Las Vegas Bowl win over Nebraska.														
• Defended three passes (2 INT, 1 PBU) including a pick-six and recovered a fumble as well.															• Career-best five tackles against Colorado included 2.0 TFL and 1.0 sack.															• Spent the 2024 season at Garden City CC in Kansas, after beginning his college career at Louisville and Miami (Ohio).														
• Played scholastically at Spanish Fork HS before serving a two-year church mission in New Zealand.															• Three tackles during the Las Vegas Bowl win over Nebraska included a seven-yard sack.															• Played in all 11 games last year with Garden City CC, making 32 tackles (2.0 TFL, 1.0 sack) with along with team-bests of seven PBU and six interceptions.														
• Two-way contributor with Spanish Fork HS, rushing for 1,347 yards (15 TD) while making 271 tackles (62.5 TFL, 19.5 sacks).															• Played in four games in 2024, contributing on special teams against Arizona State, TCU, Colorado and Iowa State.															• Four-star recruit played wide receiver at Belleville HS in Michigan.														
• Cousin of Utah Football alumni Gabe Reid and Karene Reid.															• Played football and wrestled at Layton Christian HS.															• Rated the No. 13 player in Michigan for his recruiting class.														
															• Father, Luther, was a first-team all-conference and All-American for Utah from 1991-94, going on to play in the NFL for 10 years, and is currently Utah's defensive tackles coach.															• Helped his team to a 13-1 record and state championship as a senior.														
															• Brother, Jonah, was a consensus All-American at Utah and is currently with the Denver Broncos.															• Full name is Jeremiah Caldwell; goes by "Rock".														
															• Brother, Kaden, played football at Idaho and is now with the New Orleans Saints.																													

DEFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE SECONDARY



4

JC HART

CB | 6-2, 202 | SR.

LOACHAPOKA, ALA. (AUBURN)

Career Highs

Tackles..... *4 vs. Alabama A&M (2024)

TFL.....--

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

2026 Season Highs

Tackles..... 1 vs. Idaho

TFL.....--

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Hart Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2023*	3	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2024*	12	3	2	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	13	5	1	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	29	8	4	12	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

*denotes at Auburn

Hart 2026 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

- Contributed on defense and special teams, appearing in all 13 games for the Utes in 2025, making six tackles.
- Began his collegiate career at Auburn, playing in 15 games over two seasons.
- Earned a spot on the SEC Academic Honor Roll.
- All-State First Team pick was a three-star recruit out of Loachapoka HS.
- Helped Loachapoka and Coach Reco Newton post a 9-2 record and reach the Class 1A playoffs second round.
- Played in the 2022 Alabama-Mississippi All-Star Game.
- Part of a state championship-winning squad in track & field.
- Valedictorian of his high school class.
- Father, Corey Hart, played football at Marshall and Alabama A&M.



5

JAMES CHENAULT JR.

CB | 6-0, 180 | JUNIOR

ORLANDO, FLA. (SOUTH FLORIDA)

Career Highs

Tackles..... 9 vs. Fla. Atlantic (2025)

TFL..... 0.5 (3x), Last vs. Idaho (2026)

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups..... 1 (2x), Last vs. UTSA (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles..... 3 vs. Idaho

TFL..... 0.5 vs. Idaho

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Chenault Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2024*	12	11	1	12	0.0	0.0	1	3	0	0	0
2025*	9	20	12	32	1.0	0.0	2	4	0	0	0
2026	1	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	32	15	47	1.5	0.0	3	7	0	0	0

*denotes at South Florida

Chenault 2026 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

- Contributed three tackles and an assisted TFL to Utah's win over Idaho.
- Started his collegiate career at South Florida (2024-25).
- Played in nine games during the 2025 season with the Bulls, recording 32 tackles, 1 TFL, 2 interceptions and 4 passes defended.
- Made a season-best nine tackles vs. Florida Atlantic.
- Intercepted a pass at No. 5 Miami and vs. Florida.
- Saw action in all 13 games in his first season at USF, totaling 12 tackles, 1 interception and two passes defended.
- Played at Jones HS, where he was ranked as a three-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals.



9

ELIJAH DAVIS

CB | 6-0, 185 | FIFTH YEAR

WINTER HAVEN, FLA. (AUBURNDALE SR. HS)

Career Highs

Tackles..... 6 (2x), Last at Wyoming (2025)

TFL..... 1.0 (2x), Last at BYU (2025)

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups..... 1 (2x), Last vs. Cincinnati (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....--

TFL.....--

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Davis Career Defense

Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
2022	3	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	12	3	0	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	12	21	8	29	1.0	0.0	2	2	0	0	0
2025	13	25	9	34	1.5	0.0	2	4	0	0	0
2026	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	41	49	17	66	2.5	0.0	4	6	0	0	0

Davis 2025 Game-by-Game

Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk
Idaho	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

- Played in 41 games (21 starts) during his career at Utah.
- Two pick-sixes in 2025, coming during the road wins at Baylor (65 yards) and at Kansas (97 yards).
- Led the Big 12 and finished third in FBS with 162 INT return yards.
- His interception return at Kansas was the fourth-longest in Utah history and longest by a Utah player since 2018.
- Six tackles at Wyoming were double that of his season total (entered the game with three).
- Was a three-star recruit out of Auburndale Senior HS, earning all-county as a junior.
- Also competed in track & field in high school.
- Nickname is "Scooby" which was given by his grandmother.

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DEFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE SECONDARY



11

ELIJAH REED

CB | 6-3, 200 | SENIOR

LOUISVILLE, KY. (AKRON)

Career Highs

Tackles.....7 at Kent State (2024)

TFL.....1.0 (3x), Last at Bowling Green (2025)

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....2 vs. Eastern Michigan (2024)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....2 vs. Idaho

TFL.....--

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Reed Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2023*	12	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024**	9	13	19	32	1.5	0.0	1	5	0	0	1	1
2025**	12	30	17	47	2.0	1.0	2	6	1	0	0	0
2026	1	2	0	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	34	45	37	82	3.5	1.0	3	11	1	0	1	1
*denotes at Kentucky **denotes at Akron												

Reed 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	2	0	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	0	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- In the starting lineup for his Utah debut vs. Idaho and contributed two solo tackles.
- Was at Akron for the 2024-25 seasons, after beginning his collegiate career at Kentucky (2022-23).
- Started all 12 games for the Zips during the 2025 season, recording 47 tackles, 2.0 TFL, 1 sack, 1 forced fumble, 2 interceptions and four passes defended.
- Appeared in nine games with six starts in 2024, recording 32 tackles, 1.5 TFL, 1 interception and four passes defended.
- Saw action in all 12 games on special teams in 2023 at Kentucky, got his first career tackle in a win over Louisville.
- Played at Pleasure Ridge Park HS in Class 6A, the largest classification in Kentucky.
- Rated as of the top-10 prospects in Kentucky by all three services.



18

EARL PARKER

CB | 6-2, 186 | JUNIOR

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA (HUTCHINSON CC)

- Began his collegiate career at Hutchinson CC (2024-25).
- 17 career games played, including 11 in 2025.
- Recorded 28 tackles, 2.5 TFL, 1 interception and 2 passes broken up during the 2025 season at Hutchinson.
- Helped team to 11-1 record in 2025.
- Played at Lathrop HS in Fairbanks, Alaska.



1

RABBIT EVANS

S | 6-1, 205 | FIFTH YEAR

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. (BLINN COLLEGE)

Career Highs

Tackles.....12 vs. Iowa State (2024)

TFL.....2.0 at UCF (2024)

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....1 at Colorado (2024)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....2 vs. Idaho

TFL.....--

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Evans Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2024	11	20	14	34	2.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2025	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	13	21	15	36	2.0	0.0	0	1	0	1	0	0

Evans 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

- Returned to the lineup and recovered a fumble against Idaho.
- Played at Wyoming in 2026, but exited the game due to injury.
- Third season with the Utes after the three-star recruit appeared in 18 games with Blinn College from 2022-23.
- Two games in 2024 with nine-plus tackles (12 vs. Iowa State, 9 at Arizona State).
- Totaled 4.0 third-down stops during his first Utah season.
- Four tackles at Utah State, after entering the game with one stop as a Ute.
- No. 6-ranked JUCO safety was named All-America and All-Conference in 2023.
- All-District selection played at Jersey Village HS in Texas.



6

NATE RITCHIE

S | 6-2, 207 | SR.

CEDAR HILLS, UTAH (LONE PEAK)

Career Highs

Tackles.....13 vs. Texas Tech (2025)

TFL.....2.5 vs. Texas Tech (2025)

Sacks.....1.0 (2x), Last vs. California (2023)

Pass Breakups.....1 (2x), Last vs. Texas Tech (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....3 vs. Idaho

TFL.....0.5 vs. Idaho

Sacks.....--

Pass Breakups.....--

Ritchie Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2020	5	18	10	28	3.5	1.0	0	1	0	1	0	0
2023	13	11	11	22	1.5	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	11	12	7	19	2.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	5	16	9	25	3.5	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	35	58	39	97	11.0	2.0	0	2	0	1	0	0

Ritchie 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	2	3	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Named a team captain in 2026.
- Voted to the team's Leadership Council for 2025.
- Exited the West Virginia game due to injury.
- Ritchie's 13 tackles against Texas Tech were the most by a Utah player since 2021.
- Has played in 33 career games with the Utes (13 starts) both on defense and special teams.
- Started all five games in 2020 and led the secondary with 28 total tackles, before serving a two-year church mission in New Hampshire.
- His nine tackles vs. Baylor last season included 1.5 third-down stops.
- Three-star recruit out of HS, rated the No. 4 recruit in the state of Utah.
- Played on offense, defense and special teams in HS as a two-time all-state selection.
- Had 51 tackles and eight interceptions as a high school senior, also going 44-of-47 on PATs and 11-of-16 on field goals (career-long 51-yarder) along with 15 carries for 82 yards (4 TDs), three catches for 44 yards (1 TD) and 75 kick return yards.
- Father played football at BYU.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

QUICK HITS ON THE SECONDARY



21

NATE TILMON

S | 6-1, 196 | SO.
ARLINGTON, TX (MANSFIELD TIMBERVIEW)

Career Highs

Tackles.....7 at West Virginia (2025)
TFL.....1.0 vs. Arizona State (2025)
Sacks.....1.0 vs. Arizona State (2025)
Pass Breakups.....--

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....2 vs. Idaho
TFL.....--
Sacks.....--
Pass Breakups.....--

Tilmon Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2025	11	6	11	17	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	1	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	12	7	12	19	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Tilmon 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Played in 11 games in 2025, both on defense and special teams.
- 17 tackles (1.0 sack) on the season, with seven stops coming in the win at West Virginia.
- Saw extended time at West Virginia, making the first seven tackles of his career.
- First collegiate sack came during the win over Arizona State.
- Four-star recruit out of Mansfield Timberview HS.
- Finished his senior year with 53 tackles, 7 TFLs, 2 PBU, 2 FR and 1 INT.
- Recorded 34 tackles, six pass breakups and a fumble recovery his junior year.
- Had 44 stops (3.0 TFL) as a sophomore, adding an interception and a fumble recovery.
- Also competed in track and field, running a 10.71 in the 100 meters.



23

JACKSON BENNEE

S | 6-2, 190 | JR.
HOLLADAY, UTAH (OLYMPUS HS)

Career Highs

Tackles.....10 at Kansas (2025)
TFL.....1.5 at Kansas (2025)
Sacks.....0.5 vs. Colorado (2025)
Pass Breakups.....3 vs. Cal Poly (2025)

2026 Season Highs

Tackles.....5 vs. Idaho
TFL.....--
Sacks.....--
Pass Breakups.....1 vs. Idaho

Bennee Career Defense												
Year	GP	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk	
2024	12	2	4	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2025	13	43	21	64	4.0	0.5	4	9	0	0	2	2
2026	1	4	1	5	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	26	49	26	75	4.0	0.5	4	10	0	0	3	3

Bennee 2026 Game-by-Game												
Game	UA	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	PD	FF	FR	Blk		
Idaho	4	1	5	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	1	5	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

- Started and led the Utes in tackles in their 2026 opener vs. Idaho.
- 2025 All-Big 12 Honorable Mention
- Burlsworth Trophy nominee played both ways in 2025, starting 11 games on defense (of the 11, three were also on offense).
- Led the secondary and ranked second on the team with 64 tackles (4.0 TFL, 0.5 sack).
- T-4th in the Big 12 with four interceptions; his 103 return yards ranked second in the league.
- One of 15 FBS players in 2025 with two or more blocked kicks.
- Credited with three blocks in his career (punt vs. Iowa State 2024; FG vs. ASU 2025; punt vs. Colorado 2025).
- Three pass breakups vs. Cal Poly was one short of tying the Utah single-game record.
- First Utah player since 2022 with an interception in three straight games (vs. Cal Poly, at Wyoming, vs. TTU).
- Offensive totals include three receptions for 18 yards along with two carries for 15 yards.
- Played in all 12 games last season, primarily on special teams.
- Four-sport standout at Olympus HS was named first-team All-State in football.
- Recorded 10 tackles and three interceptions as a senior, adding a fumble recovery.
- Played both ways his senior year, making 15 catches for 247 yards and a touchdown.

SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

SAME FACES, NEW ERA

The Utes and Special Teams Coordinator Sharrieff Shah return several pieces across the board in the specialist room. Starting kicker Dillon Curtis returns for his sophomore season and he's joined by addition Tanner Cragun, who's back with the Utes after spending 2025 at UTEP. Orion Phillips is also back for his second season at Utah and will look to continue the Utes' strong lineage of punters. Fifth-year Logan Castor returns to man the long snapping duties.

2025 Notes

- Curtis went 7-for-7 on PATs against Kansas State, including his program-record 57th made extra point of the season, breaking the previous record of 56, previously shared by Louie Sakoda (in 2008) and Jadon Redding (in 2019).
- Curtis led the team in scoring with 101 points, the fifth-most in the Big 12.
- His 68 extra points led the conference and are the third-most in the nation.
- The Murray native was a perfect 9-for-9 on PATs against Cal Poly, which tied for the third-most in a single game in program history and the most since 2022.
- Curtis connected on three field goals, including a 53-yarder, and six PATs for a career-high 15 points against Colorado.
- Curtis made an immediate impression in his first collegiate game, connecting from 54 yards on his first field goal try, the longest in program history by a freshman.
- He also became the first Utah kicker with multiple 50-plus-yard field goals in a season since Matt Gay in 2018 when he connected from 53 against Colorado.
- The freshman recorded 63 touchbacks on 91 kickoffs in 2025, the third-most in the conference.
- Phillips averaged 42.3 yards per punt in 2025.
- He pinned opponents inside the 20-yard line 15 times on 38 total punts.
- Eight of his punts covered 50-plus yards, including a season-long 67-yarder against Colorado.
- Phillips allowed just three returns for positive yardage and opponents averaged just 4.5 yards on six runbacks.
- Logan Castor provided the Utes with 123 total snaps in 2025 after providing two in his three prior collegiate seasons.
- He snapped for Curtis' nine PATs and Phillips' three punts against Cal Poly.
- Against Cincinnati, Mana Carvalho took a punt back 75 yards for his first collegiate touchdown, Utah's first punt return TD since Britain Covey in 2021.
- Carvalho logged five punt returns for 60 yards against Colorado.
- Carvalho did not qualify for the national or conference leaderboard, but his average of 12.5 yards per runback would have tied for second in the Big 12 and put him in the top 10 nationally.
- Carvalho was named to the 2026 Preseason All-Big 12 Team as a returner.
- Jackson Bennee was a standout on special teams for the Utes in 2025, blocking a field goal against Arizona State and a punt in Utah's win over Colorado.

- Bennee's two blocked kicks ranked second in the NCAA and first in the Big 12 Conference. Showing his versatility, Bennee also intercepted four passes on defense (23rd NCAA, 4th Big 12) and recorded two rushing attempts on offense for 15 yards, along with three catches for 18 yards.

THE STANDARD IS THE STANDARD

Special teams have long been a focal point within the Utah program. From national award winners to record-setting performances, the Utes' prowess in the third phase of the game has been a defining trait of the Utes for decades.

- No school has won the Ray Guy Award, given annually to the nation's most collegiate punter, more than Utah. Utah is the only program to win the award three times, while Baylor, Georgia Tech and Louisiana Tech have each had two winners.
- Two Utes have taken home the award - Tom Hackett won in both 2014 and 2015 and Mitch Wishnowsky followed him by lifting the trophy in 2016. Hackett is one of only three punters to claim the accolade multiple times.
- Utah is one of only two programs, alongside Iowa, to have produced both a Lou Groza and Ray Guy Award winner after Matt Gay was selected as the nation's best kicker in 2017.



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DILLON CURTIS

K | 6-2, 190 | SO.

MURRAY, UTAH (MURRAY HS)

Career Highs

FG Made 3 vs. Colorado (2025)
 Long FG 54 at UCLA (2025)
 PAT Made 9 vs. Cal Poly (2025)
 Kickoffs 10 vs. Cal Poly (2025)

2026 Season Highs

FG Made 1 vs. Idaho
 Long FG 24 vs. Idaho
 PAT Made 7 vs. Idaho
 Kickoffs 8 vs. Idaho

Curtis Career Kickoffs

Year	GP	Att	Yds	Avg.	TB	OB
2025	13	91	5798	63.7	63	0
2026	1	8	504	63.0	7	0
TOTAL	14	99	6302	63.4	70	0

Curtis Career Field Goals/PAT

Year	GP	FGM	FGA	Long	PATM	PATA	Pts
2025	13	11	15	54	68	71	101
2026	1	1	1	24	7	7	10
TOTAL	14	12	16	54	75	78	111

Curtis Game-by-Game

Game	FGM	FGA	Long	PATM	KO	Avg.	TB
Idaho	1	1	24	7	8	63.0	7
TOTAL	1	1	24	7	8	63.0	7

- Set a new Utah record for PATs in the 2025 season with his fifth extra point against KSU. His 63 surpassed the previous record of 56, previously shared by Louie Sakoda (in 2008) and Jadon Redding (in 2019).
- Made 9-of-10 field goal tries over Utah's last 10 games.
- First Utah kicker with multiple 50-yard field goals in a season since Matt Gay in 2018.
- Nailed his first collegiate field goal try from 54 yards in Utah's season opening win at UCLA, the longest in program history for a freshman.
- Connected on a 53-yard attempt against Colorado, his second 50-plus-yard field goal in his career.
- Logged a career-high 15 points (3 FG, 6 PAT) against CU.
- His nine PATs against Cal Poly tied for the third-most in a game in program history.
- Leads the Big 12 with 63 extra points.
- Tops the squad and is tied for fourth in the conference with 93 points.
- Has recorded 60 touchbacks on 83 kickoffs.
- Rated a six-star kicker and a five-star punter by Chris Sailer Kicking out of Murray HS.
- Invited to the 2025 Navy All-American Bowl.
- Two-time all-region and all-state first-team selection.
- Two-time Region Special Teams MVP.
- Holds the Utah state records for longest field goal (63) and most field goals made in a season (21).
- Set another state record with six field goals in a game against Payson in 2024.
- Was 39-of-39 on PATs and 21-of-27 on field goals as a senior, knocking in a career-long 63-yarder in 2024.
- Averaged 59.1 yards per kickoff his senior season.

SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES



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ORION PHILLIPS
P | 6-3, 180 | Jr.
SANDRINGHAM, AUSTRALIA (MISSOURI)

Career Highs
Punts.....*10 at Louisville (2023)
Average*49.3 at Missouri State (2023)
Long Punt.....*71 at Missouri State (2023)

2026 Season Highs
Punts.....1 vs. Idaho
Average47 vs. Idaho
Long Punt.....47 vs. Idaho

Phillips Career Punting									
Year	GP	Att	Yds	Long	Avg	TB	FC	i20	50+
2023	11	54	2328	71	43.1	3	15	17	11
2025	13	38	1609	67	42.3	3	19	15	8
2026	1	1	47	47	47	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	25	93	3984	71	42.8	6	34	32	19
*denotes at Murray State									

Phillips Game-by-Game Punting								
Game	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TB	FC	i20	50+
Idaho	1	47	47.0	47	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	47	47.0	47	0	0	0	0

- Launched three punts of over 50 yards against Texas Tech; logged two more of 50-plus against Colorado, including a season-long 67-yard boot - the longest by a Ute since 2018.
- Completed his first collegiate pass, a 25-yard ball to Dallen Bentley for the first down off a fake punt.
- On his only punt of the night against UCLA, pinned the Bruins at the six-yard line.
- Hit a pair of 50-yarders against Baylor.
- Spent 2024 at Missouri and the 2023 season at Murray State
- Did not see action in 2024 at Missouri.
- In 11 career games, punted 54 times for 2,328 yards (43.1) with 17 boots downed inside the opponent 20-yard line against three touchdowns.
- Punted a career-best 10 times for 437 yards (43.70) against Louisville in 2023.
- Secured 11 punts of 50+ yards, including a season-long of 71 yards against Missouri State in 2023, which marked the second-longest punt in the history of the MVFC.



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LOGAN CASTOR
SN | 6-6, 240 | 5th
COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS, UTAH (BRIGHTON HS)

- Served as the primary long snapper in 2026 opener vs. Idaho, on the field for 11 snaps.
- Served as the primary long snapper in all 13 games in 2025, on the field for 123 total snaps (15 field goals, 70 PATs and 38 punts.)
- Fired off snaps for six PATs and two field goals in Utah's road triumph at West Virginia.
- Snapped for six PATs, five punts and four field goals against Colorado.
- Snapped for all nine PATs and all three punts in Utah's win over Cal Poly.
- On the field for seven snaps in Utah's season opener at UCLA, snapping for five PATs, one punt and one field goal.
- Made his Utah debut against Southern Utah in 2024, providing two PAT snaps.
- Team member in 2023 and 2022 but did not see action.
- Snapped a Brighton HS, lettering his senior year.
- Also played baseball in high school, lettering four times as a catcher.
- Father, Adam, played football at Snow College.



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MANA CARVALHO
PR | 5-9, 175 | SO.
LAIE, HAWAII (KAHUKU HS)

Career Highs
Punt Returns.....5 vs. Colorado (2025)
Punt Return Yards.....94 vs. Cincinnati (2025)
Long Return.....75 vs. Cincinnati (2025)

2026 Season Highs
Punt Returns.....2 vs. Idaho
Punt Return Yards.....33 vs. Idaho
Long Return.....25 vs. Idaho

Carvalho Career Punt Returns						
Year	GP	PR	Yds	Long	TD	Avg/R
2025	9	17	212	75	1	12.5
2026	1	2	33	25	0	16.5
TOTAL	10	19	245	75	1	12.8

Carvalho Game-By-Game Punt Returns				
Game	Att	Yds	TD	Long
Idaho	2	33	0	25
TOTAL	2	33	0	25

- Started handling 2025 punt return duties for Utah against West Virginia.
- Took a punt back 75 yards for his first collegiate touchdown against Cincinnati.
- Broke a return for 24 yards in Utah's win over Arizona State on Oct. 11.
- Returned five punts for 60 yards against Colorado.
- His average of 15.4 yards per runback would lead the Big 12 and put him seventh nationally.
- Three-star recruit played on both sides at Kahuku HS, rated the No. 10 prospect in Hawaii.
- Made 48 receptions as a senior for 365 yards (3 TD), averaging 7.6 yards per catch.
- Selected as 2023 All-Hawaii Defensive Player of the Year, Manti Te'o Award winner and All-OIA Open Division First Team.
- Scored touchdowns during his prep career via rushing, receiving, kick return, punt return and interception returns.

LAST TIME...

Scored 40-plus points

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (W, 66-14)
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State (W, 51-47)

Scored 50-plus points

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (W, 66-14)
Opp: Nov. 8, 2014 vs. Oregon (L, 51-27)

Scored 60-plus points

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (W, 66-14)
Opp: Nov. 3, 1990 at San Diego State (L, 66-14)

Scored 70-plus points

Utah: Sept. 10, 2022 vs. Southern Utah (W, 73-7)
Opp: Nov. 18, 1989 at BYU (L, 70-31)

Rushed for 200-plus yards

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (364 yds)
Opp: Nov. 28, 2025 at Kansas (290 yds)

Rushed for 300-plus yards

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (364 yds)
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State (472 yds)

Rushed for 400-plus yards

Utah: Oct. 25, 2025 vs. Colorado (422 yds)
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State (472 yds)

Rushed for 500-plus yards

Utah: Never
Opp: Not since at least 1996

Rushed for less than 100 yards

Utah: Nov. 29, 2024 at UCF (85 yds)
Opp: Oct. 25, 2025 vs. Colorado (38 yds)

Rushed for 4-plus TDs

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State (5)

Rushed for 5-plus TDs

Utah: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State

Rushed for 6-plus TDs

Utah: Oct. 11, 2025 vs. Arizona State
Opp: Not since at least 1996

Passed for 300-plus yards

Utah: Dec. 31, 2025 vs. Nebraska (310 yds)
Opp: Nov. 15, 2025 at Baylor (430 yds)

Passed for 400-plus yards

Utah: Oct. 15, 2022 vs. USC (424 yds)
Opp: Nov. 15, 2025 at Baylor (430 yds)

Passed for 500-plus yards

Utah: Sept. 10, 1988 vs. Idaho State (520 yds)
Opp: Jan. 1, 2022 vs. Ohio State (573 yds)

Passed for less than 100 yards

Utah: Dec. 23, 2023 vs. Northwestern (73 yds)
Opp: Sept. 27, 2025 at West Virginia (85 yds)

Passed for 4-plus TDs

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (5)
Opp: Nov. 18, 2023 at Arizona

Passed for 5-plus TDs

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho
Opp: Oct. 15, 2022 vs. USC

Passed for 6 TDs

Utah: Aug. 29, 2024 vs. Southern Utah
Opp: Jan. 1, 2022 vs. Ohio State

Gained 400-plus yards total offense

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (633 yds)
Opp: Nov. 28, 2025 at Kansas (477 yds)

Gained 500-plus yards total offense

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (633 yds)
Opp: Nov. 22, 2025 vs. Kansas State (574 yds)

Gained 600-plus yards total offense

Utah: Sept. 3, 2026 vs. Idaho (633 yds)
Opp: Jan. 1, 2022 vs. Ohio State (683 yds)

Held under 100 total yards

Utah: Not since at least 1996
Opp: Nov. 4, 2023 vs. Arizona State (83 yds)

Held under 200 total yards

Utah: Sept. 29, 2023 at Oregon State (198 yds)
Opp: Oct. 25, 2025 vs. Colorado (140 yds)

Utah Shut Out an Opponent

Aug. 29, 2024 vs. Southern Utah (W, 49-0)

Utah Was Shut Out

Sept. 22, 2007 vs. UNLV (L, 27-0)

Utah Held an Opponent Without an Offensive TD

Sept. 6, 2025 vs. Cal Poly (W, 63-9)

Utah was held without a touchdown

Oct. 28, 2023 vs. Oregon (L, 35-6)

Utah played an overtime game

Sept. 18, 2021 at San Diego State (3 OT | L, 33-31)

Utah won an overtime game

Nov. 15, 2014 at Stanford (2 OT | W, 20-17)

Utah lost an overtime game

Sept. 18, 2021 at San Diego State (3OT | L, 33-31)

An interception was returned for a TD

Utah: Nov. 28, 2025 at Kansas (E. Davis, 97 yds)
Opp: Oct. 21, 2023 at USC (C. Bullock, 30 yds)

A kickoff was returned for a TD

Utah: Jan. 1, 2022 vs. Ohio State (Britain Covey, 97 yds)
Opp: Nov. 9, 2024 vs. BYU (K. Marion, 96 yds)

A punt was returned for a TD

Utah: Nov. 1, 2025 vs. Cincinnati (Mana Carvalho, 75 yds)
Opp: Nov. 16, 2024 at Colorado (LaJohntay Wester, 76 yds)

A fumble was returned for a TD

Utah: Nov. 19, 2022 at Oregon (Karene Reid, 11 yds)
Opp: Dec. 31, 2018 vs. Northwestern (Jared McGee, 82 yds)

A blocked field goal was returned for a TD

Utah: Sept. 7, 2024 vs. Baylor (Tao Johnson, 77 yds)
Opp: Sept. 10, 2011 at USC (Torin Harris, 68 yds)

Blocked a punt

Utah: Oct. 25, 2025 vs. Colorado (Jackson Bennee)
Opp: Oct. 19, 2024 vs. TCU (Shad Banks Jr.)

A blocked punt was returned for a TD

Utah: Nov. 23, 2024 vs. Iowa State (David Washington)
Opp: Nov. 18, 2023 at Arizona (Anthony Ward, 2 yds)

A safety was scored

Utah: Oct. 25, 2025 vs. Colorado
Opp: Nov. 11, 2023 at Washington

A successful on-side kick

Utah: Nov. 18, 2017 at Washington (Mitch Wishnowsky)
Opp: Dec. 5, 2020 vs. Oregon State (Caleb Lightbourn)

LAST TIME...

Rushed 30 times

Zack Moss at Washington State, Sept. 29, 2018 (30 att)

Rushed 40 times

John White vs. Washington State, Nov. 19, 2011 (42 att)

Rushed for 100 yards

Devon Dampier vs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025 (148 yds)

Quarterback rushed for 100 yards

Devon Dampier vs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025 (148 yds)

Rushed for 200 yards

Zack Moss at Arizona, Nov. 23, 2019 (203 yds)

Rushed for 300 yards

Joe Williams at UCLA, Oct. 22, 2016 (332 yds)

Two 100-yard rushersNov. 15, 2025 at Baylor
Byrd Ficklin (166 yds) and Wayshawn Parker (129 yds)**Three 100-yard rushers**Nov. 5, 2021 at Stanford
(Tavion Thomas, 177 yds; Micah Bernard, 110 yds, TJ Pledger, 107 yds)**Had a 70-plus-yard run from scrimmage**

Byrd Ficklin at Baylor, Nov. 15, 2025 (74 yds)

Had an 80-plus-yard run from scrimmage

TJ Pledger at Stanford, Nov. 5, 2021 (96 yds)

Had a 90-plus-yard run from scrimmage

TJ Pledger at Stanford, Nov. 5, 2021 (96 yds)

Rushed for three-plus touchdowns

Devon Dampier vs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025 (3 TD)

Rushed for four-plus touchdowns

Tavion Thomas at Stanford, Nov. 5, 2021 (4 TD)

Passed for 300-plus yards

Devon Dampier vs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025 (310 yds)

Passed for 400-plus yards

Cameron Rising vs. USC, Oct. 15, 2022 (415 yds)

Passed for 500-plus yards

Scott Mitchell vs. Air Force, Oct. 15, 1988 (620 yds)

Passed for 600-plus yards

Scott Mitchell vs. Air Force, Oct. 15, 1988 (620 yds)

Threw three-plus touchdown passes

Devon Dampier vs. Idaho, Sept. 3, 2026 (3 TD)

Threw four-plus touchdown passes

Devon Dampier at West Virginia, Sept. 27, 2025 (4 TD)

Threw five-plus touchdown passes

Cameron Rising vs. Southern Utah, Aug. 29, 2024 (5 TD)

Threw six touchdown passes

Scott Mitchell at UTEP, Oct. 7, 1989

Non-quarterback touchdown pass

Britain Covey at UCLA, Oct. 26, 2018 (7 yds to Cole Fotheringham)

Caught 10-plus passes

Ryan Davis vs. Texas Tech, Sept. 20, 2025 (10)

Had 100 yards receiving

Dallen Bentley (TE) vs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025 (106 yds)

Two 100-yard receiversNov. 8, 2014 vs. Oregon
(Kaelin Clay, 152 yards; Devontae Booker, 110 yards)**Had 150 yards receiving**

Dorian Singer vs. Arizona, Sept. 28, 2024 (155 yards)

Had 200 yards receiving

Dalton Kincaid (TE) vs. USC, Oct. 15, 2022 (234 yards)

Had a 70-plus-yard pass completionIsaac Wilson at Houston, Oct. 26, 2024
(71 yds to Brant Kuithe)**Had an 80-plus-yard pass completion**Jake Bentley vs. Washington State, Dec. 19, 2020
(91 yds to Britain Covey)**Had a 90-plus-yard pass completion**Jake Bentley vs. Washington State, Dec. 19, 2020
(91 yds to Britain Covey)**Caught two touchdown passes**

Wayshawn Parker vs. Idaho, Sept. 3, 2026

Caught three touchdown passes

Brant Kuithe (TE) vs. Southern Utah, Aug. 29, 2024

Caught four touchdown passes

Travis LaTendresse vs. Georgia Tech, Dec. 29, 2005*

100-yard rusher and 100-yard receivervs. Nebraska, Dec. 31, 2025
(QB Devon Dampier, 148 rush; TE Dallen Bentley, 106 rec.)**Had 10+ tackles**Jackson Bennee (10) and Logan Fano (10)
at Kansas, Nov. 28, 2025**Had 20+ tackles**

Cody Barton vs. Oregon, Nov. 19, 2016 (20)

Had multiple interceptions

Clark Phillips III vs. Oregon State, Oct. 1, 2022 (3)

Had at least 2.0 sacks

John Henry Daley vs. Kansas State, Nov. 22, 2025 (2.0)

Blocked a field goal

Jackson Bennee vs. Arizona State, Oct. 11, 2025

Made 3+ field goals

Dillon Curtis vs. Colorado, Oct. 25, 2025 (3 FGs)

Made a 50-yard field goal

Dillon Curtis vs. Colorado, Oct. 25, 2025 (53 yds)

Converted a two-point conversion

Micah Bernard at UCF, Nov. 29, 2024

Defensive Two-Point PAT Return

Tao Johnson vs. Kansas State, Nov. 22, 2025

GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

OFFENSE	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	QB	RB	WR	WR	WR/TE/RB	TE
Idaho	Williams	Moea'i	Harrison	Alderman	Jefferson	Dampier	Parker	Johnson	Pegan	Bray (RB)	Taulanga
Arkansas											
Utah State											
at Iowa State											
Kansas											
at Colorado											
Houston											
at Cincinnati											
BYU											
at Arizona											
at TCU											
West Virginia											

DEFENSE	DE	DT	DT	DE	LB	LB	NB/LB/S	LC	RC	S	S
Idaho	Holtzclaw	Kaufusi	Moe	Day	Reynolds	Hall	Elliss (LB)	Davis	Reed	Bennee	Evans
Arkansas											
Utah State											
at Iowa State											
Kansas											
at Colorado											
Houston											
at Cincinnati											
BYU											
at Arizona											
at TCU											
West Virginia											

SEASON RESULTS (1-0, 0-0 BIG 12)

Date	Opponent	Location	Attendance	Result
Thursday, Sept. 3	Idaho	Salt Lake City, Utah	51,444 (sellout)	W, 66-14
Saturday, Sept. 12	Arkansas	Salt Lake City, Utah		
Saturday, Sept. 19	Utah State	Salt Lake City, Utah		
Saturday, Sept. 26	at Iowa State	Ames, Iowa (Jack Trice Stadium)		
Saturday, Oct. 10	Kansas	Salt Lake City, Utah		
Saturday, Oct. 17	at Colorado	Boulder, Colo. (Folsom Field)		
Saturday, Oct. 24	Houston	Salt Lake City, Utah		
Saturday, Oct. 31	at Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio (Nippert Stadium)		
Saturday, Nov. 7	BYU	Salt Lake City, Utah		
Saturday, Nov. 14	at Arizona	Tucson, Ariz. (Casino Del Sol Stadium)		
Saturday, Nov. 21	at TCU	Fort Worth, Texas (Amon G. Carter Stadium)		
Friday, Nov. 27	West Virginia	Salt Lake City, Utah		

GAME PARTICIPATION

##	Player	GP-GS	UI
0	Kyri Shoels	1/0	XXX
0	Cyrus Polu	1/0	XXX
1	Rabbit Evans	1/1	START
1	Wayshawn Parker	1/1	START
2	Rock Caldwell	1/0	XXX
2	Creed Whittemore	1/0	XXX
3	Nate Johnson	0/0	...
4	JC Hart	1/0	XXX
4	Devon Dampier	1/1	START
5	James Chenault Jr.	1/0	XXX
5	Daniel Bray	1/1	START
6	Nate Ritchie	1/0	XXX
6	Daidren Zipperer	0/0	...
7	Braden Pegan	1/1	START
7	Johnathan Hall	1/1	START
8	Ethan Day	1/1	START
8	Mana Carvalho	1/0	XXX
9	Elijah Davis	1/1	START
9	Kane Archer	0/0	...
10	Trey Reynolds	1/1	START
10	Hunter Andrews	1/0	XXX
11	Elijah Reed	1/1	START
11	Ricky Johnson	1/1	START
12	Larry Simmons	1/0	XXX
12	Davis Andrews	0/0	...
13	Nick Brown	1/0	XXX
13	Michael Johnson	0/0	...
14	Brandon Rose	1/0	XXX
14	Cole Standage	1/0	XXX
15	Lance Holtzclaw	1/1	START
15	Byrd Ficklin	1/0	XXX
16	PJ Takitaki	1/0	XXX
17	Dillon Curtis	1/0	XXX
18	Tobias Merriweather	1/0	XXX
18	Earl Parker	0/0	...
19	Dylan Waters	0/0	...
20	Mateaki Helu	1/0	XXX
20	King Long	0/0	...
21	Nate Tilmon	1/0	XXX
23	Jackson Bennee	1/1	START
24	Marcus Wimberly	1/0	XXX
25	Steve Chavez-Soto	1/0	XXX
25	Manny Fuller	1/0	XXX
26	LaMarcus Bell	1/0	XXX
27	Brandon Holmes	0/0	...
28	Anthony Hernandez	0/0	...
28	Luke Bryant	1/0	XXX
29	Major Hinchin	0/0	...
30	Matt Clark	1/0	XXX
31	Jack Evans	0/0	...
32	Josh Sovereign	1/0	XXX
33	Kana'i Lopes	0/0	...
34	Ashton Olevao	0/0	...
35	Preston Pitts	1/0	XXX
37	Peyton Rice	0/0	...
38	Tommy Nelson	1/0	XXX
39	Junior Coughlin	1/0	XXX
40	Paul Fitzgerald	1/0	XXX
41	LaGary Mitchell	0/0	...
43	Grady Mareko	0/0	...

##	Player	GP-GS	UI
44	Sione Motuapuaka	1/0	XXX
45	Pupu Sepulona	1/0	XXX
46	Mauka Bernard	0/0	...
46	Teague Matthews	0/0	...
47	Jared Fredrick	0/0	...
48	Alex Cloward	1/0	XXX
51	Karson Kaufusi	1/1	START
52	Jed Judkins	0/0	...
53	Brock Fonoimoana	1/0	XXX
54	Milz Asiata	0/0	...
54	Tayson Reid	1/0	XXX
55	Kelvin Obot	1/0	XXX
56	Isaiah Kema	1/0	XXX
57	Stanley Raass	0/0	...
57	Moses Sparks	0/0	...
58	Fa Siale	0/0	...
61	Cyrus Nielsen	0/0	...
62	Solatoa Moea'i	1/1	START
63	Devin Entsminger	0/0	...
64	Reece Parmenter	1/0	XXX
65	Logan Castor	1/0	XXX
66	Will Fry	0/0	...
67	Soren Shinofield	1/0	XXX
69	Gage Victor	0/0	...
70	Mataalii Benjamin	0/0	...
71	Rowdy Pearce	0/0	...
72	Isaiah Garcia	0/0	...
73	Cedric Jefferson	1/1	START
74	Keith Olson	0/0	...
75	Roger Alderman	1/1	START
76	Zereoue Williams	1/1	START
77	Nick Hallock	1/0	XXX
79	Alex Harrison	1/1	START
80	Bryson Baker	1/0	XXX
81	Bear Fisher	0/0	...
82	Max Ausmus	0/0	...
83	Elijah Elliss	1/1	START
84	Jojo Ward	0/0	...
85	Broderick Redden	0/0	...
86	Will Monney	1/0	XXX
88	Tanner Cragun	1/0	XXX
89	Noah Bennee	1/0	XXX
90	Jireh Moe	1/1	START
92	Orion Phillips	1/0	XXX
92	Nicholas Igwe	0/0	...
93	Kash Dillon	1/0	XXX
94	Mike Tauteoli	1/0	XXX
96	Dilan Battle	0/0	...
97	Lucas Samsula	1/0	XXX
98	Jamal Wallace	1/0	XXX
99	Semi Taulanga	1/1	START

SEASON STATISTICS

	UTAH	OPP
Scoring	66	14
Points per game	66.0	14.0
Points Off Turnovers	10	0
First Downs	33	13
Rushing	17	7
Passing	15	6
Penalty	1	0
Rushing Yardage	364	106
Yards gained rushing	368	126
Yards lost rushing	4	20
Rushing attempts	49	31
Average per rush	7.4	3.4
Average per game	364.0	106.0
TDs Rushing	4	2
Passing Yardage	269	119
Comp-Att-Int	17-26-0	11-30-1
Average per pass	10.3	4.0
Average per catch	15.8	10.8
Average per game	269.0	119.0
TDs Passing	5	0
Total offense	633	225
Total plays	75	61
Average per play	8.4	3.7
Average per game	633.0	225.0
Kick returns: #-Yards	0-0	1-17
Punt returns: #-Yards	2-33	0-0
Int returns: #-Yards	1-2	0-0
Kick return average	0.0	17.0
Punt return average	16.5	0.0
Int return average	2.0	0.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	1-10	5-35
Average per game	10.0	35.0
Punts-Yards	1-47	7-324
Average per punt	47.0	46.3
Net punt average	47.0	41.6
Kickoffs-Yards	11-699	3-195
Average per kick	63.5	65.0
Net kick average	39.3	40.0
Time of possession / game	34:20	25:40
3rd-down conversion	8/12	3/13
3rd-down pct	67%	23%
4th-down conversion	1/2	1/2
4th-down pct	50%	50%
Sacks by-Yards	1-6	0-0
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	9	2
Field goals - attempts	1-1	0-0
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-0
Red-zone scores	(8-9) 89%	(1-1) 100%

UTAH GAME-BY-GAME

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
09/03/2026	Idaho	49	364	4	34	17	269	5	35	17-26-0	269	5	35	0	0	0	0	2	33	0	25	633
Utah		49	364	4	34	17	269	5	35	17-26-0	269	5	35	0	0	0	0	2	33	0	25	633
Opponents		31	106	2	22	11	119	0	44	11-30-1	119	0	44	1	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	225

Utah Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
1	7.4	15.8	215.8	0.0	16.5	668.0	633.0

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT attempts			off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
09/03/2026	Idaho	24	32	56	4.0-12	1-6	0	1-0	1-2	0	2	0	9-9	0	0	0	10	66
Utah		24	32	56	4.0-12	1-6	0	1-0	1-2	0	2	0	9-9	0	0	0	10	66
Opponents		33	48	81	2.0-3	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	
09/03/2026	Idaho	1	47	47.0	47	0	0	1	0	0	1-1	24	0	11	699	63.5	10	0	
Utah		1	47	47.0	47	0	0	1	0	0	1-1	24	0	11	699	63.5	10	0	
Opponents		7	324	46.3	54	0	0	3	2	2	0-0	0	0	3	195	65.0	3	0	

OPPONENT GAME-BY-GAME

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
09/03/2026	Idaho	31	106	2	22	11	119	0	44	11-30-1	119	0	44	1	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	225
Opponents		31	106	2	22	11	119	0	44	11-30-1	119	0	44	1	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	225
Utah		49	364	4	34	17	269	5	35	17-26-0	269	5	35	0	0	0	0	2	33	0	25	633

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
1	3.4	10.8	63.3	17.0	0.0	242.0	225.0

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble	Pass Defense			blkd	PAT attempts			off			
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
09/03/2026	Idaho	33	48	81	2.0-3	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
Opponents		33	48	81	2.0-3	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
Utah		24	32	56	4.0-12	1-6	0	1-0	1-2	0	2	0	9-9	0	0	0	10	66

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	
09/03/2026	Idaho	7	324	46.3	54	0	0	3	2	2	0-0	0	0	3	195	65.0	3	0	
Opponents		7	324	46.3	54	0	0	3	2	2	0-0	0	0	3	195	65.0	3	0	
Utah		1	47	47.0	47	0	0	1	0	0	1-1	24	0	11	699	63.5	10	0	

GAME-OPENING DRIVES								
Date	Home/Away	Opponent	Pts	Utah FD	Yds	Pts	Opponent FD	Yds
9/3	Home	Idaho	7	2	29	0	0	0
9/12	Home	Arkansas						
9/19	Home	Utah State						
9/26	Away	Iowa State						
10/10	Home	Kansas						
10/17	Away	Colorado						
10/24	Home	Houston						
10/31	Away	Cincinnati						
11/7	Home	BYU						
11/14	Away	Arizona						
11/21	Away	TCU						
11/27	Home	West Virginia						
TOTALS			7	2	29	0	0	0

SECOND HALF-OPENING DRIVES								
Date	Home/Away	Opponent	Pts	Utah FD	Yds	Pts	Opponent FD	Yds
9/3	Home	Idaho	7	4	75	0	0	-1
9/12	Home	Arkansas						
9/19	Home	Utah State						
9/26	Away	Iowa State						
10/10	Home	Kansas						
10/17	Away	Colorado						
10/24	Home	Houston						
10/31	Away	Cincinnati						
11/7	Home	BYU						
11/14	Away	Arizona						
11/21	Away	TCU						
11/27	Home	West Virginia						
TOTALS			7	4	75	0	0	-1

LONGEST AND SHORTEST DRIVES							
Utah		Utah		Opponent		Opponent	
Most Plays		Fewest Plays		Most Plays		Fewest Plays	
11	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (75 yards; 5:01)	1	vs. Idaho, 9/3 End of half (-1 yard, 0:03)	13	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (75 yards, 6:27)	2	2x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 End of half (23 yards, 1:04)
8	2x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (87 yards; 5:25)	4	3x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (44 yards, 2:23)	7	3x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 Downs (19 yards, 2:09)	3	6x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 Punt (1 yard, 1:01)
Most Yards		Fewest Yards		Most Yards		Fewest Yards	
87	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (8 plays; 5:25)	-1	vs. Idaho, 9/3 End of half (1 play, 0:03)	75	2x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (7 plays, 3:24)	-13	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Fumble (2 plays, 0:10)
75	3x, Last vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (5 plays; 1:45)	6	vs. Idaho, 9/3 FG (4 plays, 1:50)	25	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Punt (7 plays, 3:38)	-7	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Punt (3 plays, 1:04)
Most Time		Least Time		Most Time		Least Time	
5:25	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (8 plays, 87 yards)	0:03	vs. Idaho, 9/3 End of half (1 play, -1 yard)	6:27	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (13 plays, 75 yards)	0:10	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Fumble (2 plays, -13 yards)
5:01	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (11 plays, 75 yards)	1:33	vs. Idaho, 9/3 TD (4 plays, 29 yards)	3:38	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Punt (7 plays, 25 yards)	0:29	vs. Idaho, 9/3 Punt (3 plays, 6 yards)

GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS BY QUARTER

3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
09/03/2026	Idaho	W	66-14	8-12	66.7	1-3	33.3	2-2	100.0	1-3	33.3	4-4	100.0	0-0	0.0
Utah				8-12	66.7	1-3	33.3	2-2	100.0	1-3	33.3	4-4	100.0	0-0	0.0
Opponents				3-13	23.1	0-3	0.0	1-4	25.0	1-3	33.3	1-3	33.3	0-0	0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
09/03/2026	Idaho	W	66-14	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
Utah				1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
Opponents				1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
09/03/2026	Idaho	W	66-14	34:20	08:09	08:07	07:40	10:24	00:00
Utah				Total	08:09	08:07	07:40	10:24	00:00
				Avg.	08:09	08:07	07:40	10:24	00:00
Opponents				Total	05:44	08:00	05:59	05:57	00:00
				Avg.	05:44	08:00	05:59	05:57	00:00

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
LaMarcus Bell	1	7	89	2	87	12.4	1	34	87.0
Wayshawn Parker	1	12	72	1	71	5.9	1	21	71.0
Byrd Ficklin	1	8	70	0	70	8.8	0	32	70.0
Steve Chavez-Soto	1	6	35	0	35	5.8	1	15	35.0
Devon Dampier	1	6	31	0	31	5.2	0	10	31.0
Mateaki Helu	1	3	25	0	25	8.3	0	14	25.0
Hunter Andrews	1	1	13	0	13	13.0	0	13	13.0
Daniel Bray	1	2	13	0	13	6.5	0	9	13.0
Braden Pegan	1	1	12	0	12	12.0	1	12	12.0
Brandon Rose	1	2	8	0	8	4.0	0	7	8.0
Team	1	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-1.0
Total	1	49	368	4	364	7.4	4	34	364.0
Opponents	1	31	126	20	106	3.4	2	22	106.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Devon Dampier	1	209.4	13-18-0	72.2	176	3	31	176.0
Byrd Ficklin	1	230.2	4-8-0	50.0	93	2	35	93.0
Total	1	215.8	17-26-0	65.4	269	5	35	269.0
Opponents	1	63.3	11-30-1	36.7	119	0	44	119.0

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Braden Pegan	1	4	81	20.3	1	31	81.0
Wayshawn Parker	1	3	23	7.7	2	11	23.0
Larry Simmons	1	2	41	20.5	0	26	41.0
Creed Whittemore	1	2	27	13.5	0	14	27.0
Ricky Johnson	1	2	25	12.5	0	13	25.0
Hunter Andrews	1	2	14	7.0	1	9	14.0
Noah Bennee	1	1	35	35.0	1	35	35.0
Mana Carvalho	1	1	23	23.0	0	23	23.0
Total	1	17	269	15.8	5	35	269.0
Opponents	1	11	119	10.8	0	44	119.0

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Mana Carvalho	2	33	16.5	0	25
Total	2	33	16.5	0	25
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Trey Reynolds	1	2	2.0	0	2
Total	1	2	2.0	0	2
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Total	0	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	1	17	17.0	0	17

Fumbles Recovered

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Rabbit Evans	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	1	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Scoring

Player			PAT						
	td	fg	kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	pts
Wayshawn Parker	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Braden Pegan	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Dillon Curtis	-	1-1	7-7	-	-	-	-	-	10
Noah Bennee	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Hunter Andrews	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Steve Chavez-Soto	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
LaMarcus Bell	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tanner Cragun	-	-	2-2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total	9	1-1	9-9	0	0	0	0	0	66
Opponents	2	0-0	2-2	0	0	0	0	0	14

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Devon Dampier	1	24	31	176	207	207.0
Byrd Ficklin	1	16	70	93	163	163.0
LaMarcus Bell	1	7	87	0	87	87.0
Wayshawn Parker	1	12	71	0	71	71.0
Steve Chavez-Soto	1	6	35	0	35	35.0
Mateaki Helu	1	3	25	0	25	25.0
Hunter Andrews	1	1	13	0	13	13.0
Daniel Bray	1	2	13	0	13	13.0
Braden Pegan	1	1	12	0	12	12.0
Brandon Rose	1	2	8	0	8	8.0
Team	1	0	-1	0	-1	-1.0
Total	1	75	364	269	633	633.0
Opponents	1	61	106	119	225	225.0

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Dillon Curtis	1-1	100.0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	24	0
Opponents	0-0	0.0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Orion Phillips	1	47	47.0	47	0	1	0	0	0
Total	1	47	47.0	47	0	1	0	0	0
Opponents	7	324	46.3	54	0	3	2	2	0

FG Sequence

Team Name	Utah	Opponents
Idaho	(24)	

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
Dillon Curtis	8	504	63.0	7	0			
Tanner Cragun	3	195	65.0	3	0			
Total	11	699	63.5	10	0	1	39.3	25
Opponents	3	195	65.0	3	0	0	40	25

OFFENSIVE EXPLOSIVE PLAYS CHART

Yards	Type	Players(s)	Opponent
35*	Pass	Byrd Ficklin to Noah Bennee	Idaho
34	Rush	LaMarcus Bell	Idaho
32	Rush	Byrd Ficklin	Idaho
31	Pass	Devon Dampier to Braden Pegan	Idaho
30	Pass	Devon Dampier to Braden Pegan	Idaho
26	Pass	Byrd Ficklin to Larry Simmons	Idaho
25	Rush	LaMarcus Bell	Idaho
21	Rush	Wayshawn Parker	Idaho
20	Rush	LaMarcus Bell	Idaho

*Touchdown on the play | Explosive Plays: 20+ yards

EXPLOSIVE PLAYS BREAKDOWN			
By Player.....#	Totals.....#		
Byrd Ficklin, QB.....3 (2 pass, 1 rush)	Total Plays 20+.....9		
LaMarcus Bell, RB.....3 (3 rush)	Rush.....5		
Devon Dampier, QB.....2 (2 pass)	Longest Rush.....34		
Wayshawn Parker, RB.....1 (1 rush)	Pass.....4		
	Longest Pass.....35		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

ALL-PURPOSE

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Wayshawn Parker	1	71	23	0	0	0	94	94.0
Braden Pegan	1	12	81	0	0	0	93	93.0
LaMarcus Bell	1	87	0	0	0	0	87	87.0
Byrd Ficklin	1	70	0	0	0	0	70	70.0
Mana Carvalho	1	0	23	33	0	0	56	56.0
Larry Simmons	1	0	41	0	0	0	41	41.0
Noah Bennee	1	0	35	0	0	0	35	35.0
Steve Chavez-Soto	1	35	0	0	0	0	35	35.0
Devon Dampier	1	31	0	0	0	0	31	31.0
Creed Whittlemore	1	0	27	0	0	0	27	27.0
Hunter Andrews	1	13	14	0	0	0	27	27.0
Ricky Johnson	1	0	25	0	0	0	25	25.0
Mateaki Helu	1	25	0	0	0	0	25	25.0
Daniel Bray	1	13	0	0	0	0	13	13.0
Brandon Rose	1	8	0	0	0	0	8	8.0
Trey Reynolds	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	2.0
Team	1	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1.0
Total	1	364	269	33	0	2	668	668.0
Opponents	1	106	119	0	17	0	242	242.0

TAKEAWAY ANALYSIS

Date	Home/Away	Opponent	UTAH			OPPONENT		
			Int	FR	Tot	Int	FR	Tot
9/3	Home	Idaho	1	1	2	0	0	0
9/12	Home	Arkansas						
9/19	Home	Utah State						
9/26	Away	Iowa State						
10/10	Home	Kansas						
10/17	Away	Colorado						
10/24	Home	Houston						
10/31	Away	Cincinnati						
11/7	Home	BYU						
11/14	Away	Arizona						
11/21	Away	TCU						
11/27	Home	West Virginia						
TOTALS			1	1	2	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

##	Player	gp	Tackles				Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	tfl/yds		int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
23	Jackson Bennee	1	4	1	5	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
83	Elijah Elliss	1	1	3	4	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0	Cyrus Polu	1	1	3	4	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25	Manny Fuller	1	1	3	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	Ethan Day	1	1	2	3	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
6	Nate Ritchie	1	1	2	3	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	Karson Kaufusi	1	1	2	3	1.5-7	1-6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
93	Kash Dillon	1	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5	James Chenault Jr.	1	1	2	3	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15	Lance Holtzclaw	1	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40	Paul Fitzgerald	1	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
11	Elijah Reed	1	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	Rabbit Evans	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
53	Brock Fonoimoana	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45	Pupu Sepulona	1	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Nate Tilmon	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10	Trey Reynolds	1	1	1	2	.	.	1-2	.	.	.	.	.	.
24	Marcus Wimberly	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
99	Semi Taulanga	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
54	Tayson Reid	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
94	Mike Tauteoli	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
7	Johnathan Hall	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	JC Hart	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	Rock Caldwell	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Totals		1	24	32	56	4-12	1-6	1-2	2	0	1-0	0	0	0
Opponents		1	33	48	81	2-3	0-0	0-0	3	0	0-0	0	0	0

AP POLL (PRESEASON)			
Rank	Team (FPV)	Record	Pts
1	Ohio State (40)	0-0	1672
2	Oregon (14)	0-0	1597
3	Georgia	0-0	1513
4	Notre Dame (6)	0-0	1510
5	Texas	0-0	1483
6	Indiana (8)	0-0	1440
7	Miami (1)	0-0	1379
8	Texas A&M	0-0	1131
9	Ole Miss	0-0	1102
10	Oklahoma	0-0	1047
11	LSU	0-0	988
12	Texas Tech	0-0	983
13	Alabama	0-0	904
14	USC	0-0	839
14	*BYU	0-0	839
16	Michigan	0-0	718
17	Washington	0-0	501
18	Penn State	0-0	482
19	SMU	0-0	434
20	Tennessee	0-0	394
21	UTAH	0-0	304
22	Iowa	0-0	260
23	*Houston	0-0	252
24	Louisville	0-0	194
25	Missouri	0-0	117

RV: Clemson 112, Florida 51, Boise State 43, *Arizona 32, *TCU 11, South Carolina 10, Navy 10, Illinois 9, Vanderbilt 8, Oklahoma State 8, Pittsburgh 7, Virginia Tech 6, Minnesota 5, UNLV 4, Louisiana 4, New Mexico 4, Georgia Tech 4, James Madison 3, Auburn 3, Memphis 2, California 2, Western Michigan 1, Tulane 1, Liberty 1, Virginia 1.

**Notes 2026 Opponent*

***Next polls released Tuesday, Sept. 8*

AFCA COACHES POLL (PRESEASON)			
Rank	Team (FPV)	Record	Pts
1	Ohio State (38)	0-0	1741
2	Oregon (6)	0-0	1637
3	Georgia (7)	0-0	1591
4	Texas (2)	0-0	1544
5	Notre Dame (5)	0-0	1524
6	Indiana(14)	0-0	1522
7	Miami	0-0	1409
8	Texas A&M	0-0	1174
9	Oklahoma	0-0	1104
10	Ole Miss	0-0	1096
11	Alabama	0-0	1050
12	Texas Tech	0-0	1034
13	LSU	0-0	951
14	USC	0-0	838
15	*BYU	0-0	781
16	Michigan	0-0	719
17	Penn State	0-0	463
18	Tennessee	0-0	428
19	Washington	0-0	406
20	SMU	0-0	378
21	UTAH	0-0	313
22	Iowa	0-0	291
23	Clemson	0-0	235
24	*Houston	0-0	194
25	Missouri	0-0	158

RV: Louisville 153, Florida 147, *TCU 63, Illinois 62, South Carolina 50, *Arizona 50, Virginia 40, Vanderbilt 37, Auburn 29, Georgia Tech 26, Boise State 24, Oklahoma State 22, UNLV 17, NC State 13, Florida State 13, Virginia Tech 12, Nebraska 12, Memphis 9, Arizona State 8, James Madison 6, Duke 6, Pittsburgh 4, New Mexico 4, Western Michigan 3, Navy 3, San Diego State 2, Kansas State 1, Hawai'i 1, Jacksonville State 1, California 1.

**Notes 2026 Opponent*

FINAL 2025 CFP RANKINGS		
Rank	Team (Seed)	Record
1	Indiana (1)	13-0
2	Ohio State (2)	12-1
3	Georgia (3)	12-1
4	*Texas Tech (4)	12-1
5	Oregon (5)	11-1
6	Ole Miss (6)	11-1
7	Texas A&M (7)	11-1
8	Oklahoma (8)	10-2
9	Alabama (9)	10-3
10	Miami (10)	10-2
11	Notre Dame	10-2
12	*BYU	11-2
13	Texas	9-3
14	Vanderbilt	10-2
15	UTAH	10-2
16	USC	9-3
17	Arizona	9-3
18	Michigan	9-3
19	Virginia	10-3
20	Tulane (11)	11-2
21	Houston	9-3
22	Georgia Tech	9-3
23	Iowa	8-4
24	James Madison (12)	12-1
25	North Texas	11-2

**Notes 2025 Opponent*