



Mountain West Conference NEWS

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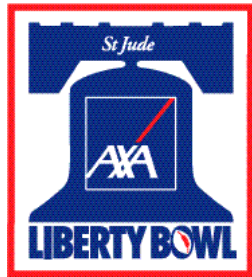
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For Immediate Use:
2000 Bowl Release

MWC Football Contact:
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2000 Mountain West Conference Football Standings

Team	Conference			Points			Hm	Rd	Pct	Overall			Points			Hm	Rd	Nu	Pct	Streak
	W	L	For	Opp	W	L				For	Opp	Hm	Rd	Nu						
Colorado State	6	1	217	150	4-0	2-1	.857	9	2	341	208	4-0	4-2	1-0	.819	Won 1				
Air Force	5	2	230	198	3-1	2-1	.714	8	3	384	279	5-1	3-2	0-0	.727	Won 3				
UNLV	4	3	166	142	3-0	1-3	.571	7	5	339	261	5-0	2-5	0-0	.583	Won 3				
BYU	4	3	159	142	3-1	1-2	.571	6	6	270	310	4-2	2-3	0-1	.500	Won 2				
New Mexico	3	4	141	125	2-1	1-3	.428	5	7	229	249	3-3	2-4	0-0	.416	Lost 3				
Utah	3	4	154	114	1-3	2-1	.428	4	7	234	210	1-5	3-2	0-0	.362	Lost 1				
San Diego State	3	4	144	162	0-3	3-1	.428	3	8	170	272	0-5	3-3	0-0	.272	Lost 2				
Wyoming	0	7	87	262	0-3	0-4	.000	1	10	170	393	1-4	0-6	0-0	.091	Lost 8				



VS.



42nd Annual AXA Liberty Bowl
December 29, 2000
12:30 p.m. CT

Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium (63,917)
Memphis, Tenn.

Teams: #22/23 Colorado State (9-2, 6-1)
Mountain West Champions
#23/22 Louisville (9-2, 6-1)
Conference USA Champions

Television: ESPN
Rich Waltz (Play-by-Play)
Don McPhearson (Analysis)
Holly Rowe (Sideline)
Radio: Nevada Sports Network
Alex Shelton (Play-by-Play)



VS.



9th Annual Las Vegas Bowl
December 21, 2000
5:00 p.m. PT

Sam Boyd Stadium (36,800)
Las Vegas, Nev.

Teams: UNLV (7-5, 4-3)
Mountain West No. 2
Arkansas (6-5, 3-5)
At-Large - SEC

Television: ESPN2
Steve Levy (Play-by-Play)
Todd Christensen (Analysis)
Heather Cox (Sideline)
Radio: Pacific West Radio Sports
John Rooney (Play-by-Play)



VS.



Inaugural Silicon Valley Football Classic
December 31, 2000
3:30 p.m. PT

Spartan Stadium (30,456)
San Jose, Calif.

Teams: Air Force (8-3, 5-2)
Mountain West No. 3
Fresno State (7-4, 6-2)
WAC No. 3

Television: Fox Sports Net
Steve Physioc (Play-by-Play)
Tom Ramsey (Analysis)
James Lofton (Analysis)
Eric Clemons (Sideline)
Radio: Nevada Sports Network



2000 Bowl Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Bowl</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Match-up</u>	<u>TV/Time (MT)</u>
Dec. 20	Mobile Alabama	Mobile, AL	TCU (10-1) vs. Southern Miss. (7-4)	ESPN2/6 pm
Dec. 21	Las Vegas	Las Vegas, Nev.	UNLV (7-5) vs. Arkansas (6-5)	ESPN2/6 p.m.
Dec. 24	O'ahu	Honolulu, HI	Georgia (7-4) vs. Virginia (6-5)	ESPN/6:30 p.m.
Dec. 24	Aloha	Honolulu, HI	Boston College (6-5) vs. Arizona State (6-5)	ABC/1:30 p.m.
Dec. 27	Motor City	Pontiac, MI	Marshall (7-5) vs. Cincinnati (7-4)	ESPN/2 p.m.
Dec. 27	Galleryfurniture.com	Houston, TX	Texas Tech (7-5) vs. East Carolina (7-4)	ESPN2/6 p.m.
Dec. 28	Humanitarian	Boise, ID	Boise State (9-2) vs. UTEP (7-4)	ESPN2/11:30 p.
Dec. 28	Music City	Nashville, TN	Mississippi (7-4) vs. West Virginia (6-5)	ESPN/2 p.m.
Dec. 28	Micron PC	Miami, FL	Minnesota (6-5) vs. North Carolina State (7-4)	TBS/5 p.m.
Dec. 28	Insight.com	Tucson, AZ	Pittsburgh (7-4) vs. Iowa State (8-3)	ESPN/5:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	Liberty	Memphis, TN	Colorado State (9-2) vs. Louisville (9-2)	ESPN/11:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	Sun	El Paso, TX	UCLA (6-5) vs. Wisconsin (8-4)	CBS/12 p.m.
Dec. 29	Peach	Atlanta, GA	Georgia Tech (9-2) vs. LSU (7-4)	ESPN/3 p.m.
Dec. 29	Holiday	San Diego, CA	Texas (9-2) vs. Oregon (9-2)	ESPN/6:30 p.m.
Dec. 30	Alamo	San Antonio, TX	Nebraska (9-2) vs. Northwestern (8-3)	ESPN/6 p.m.
Dec. 31	Silicon Valley	San Jose, CA	Air Force (8-3) vs. Fresno State (7-4)	FSN/4:30 p.m.
Dec. 31	Independence	Shreveport, LA	Mississippi State (7-4) vs. Texas A&M (7-4)	ESPN/6 p.m.
Jan. 1	Outback	Tampa, FL	Ohio State (8-3) vs. South Carolina (7-4)	ESPN/9 a.m.
Jan. 1	Cotton	Dallas, TX	Tennessee (8-3) vs. Kansas State (9-3)	FOX/9 a.m.
Jan. 1	Gator	Jacksonville, FL	Virginia Tech (10-1) vs. Clemson (9-2)	NBC/10:30 a.m.
Jan. 1	Citrus	Orlando, FL	Michigan (8-3) vs. Auburn (9-3)	ABC/11 a.m.
Jan. 1	Rose	Pasadena, CA	Purdue (8-3) vs. Washington (10-1)	ABC/2:30 p.m.
Jan. 1	Fiesta	Tempe, AZ	Notre Dame (9-2) vs. Oregon State (10-1)	ABC/6 p.m.
Jan. 2	Sugar	New Orleans, LA	Florida (10-2) vs. Miami (10-1)	ABC/6 p.m.
Jan. 3	Orange	Miami, FL	Oklahoma (12-0) vs. Florida State (11-1)	ABC/6 p.m.

Bowl and Team Headquarters

AXA Liberty Bowl

(Dec. 29, 2000, 1:30 p.m. ET, ESPN)
Mountain West #1 (Colorado State) vs. Conference USA #1 (Louisville)

Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium (capacity 63,917)

Executive Director: Steve Ehrhart

Special Assistant to Director: Richard Green

Media Relations Director: Harold Graeter

Office phone: (901) 795-7700

Media Headquarters - Embassy Suites, 1022 S. Shady Grove, Memphis, Tenn. 38120. Phone: (901) 312-2122. Fax: (901) 685-8185.

Team/MWC Headquarters - Peabody Hotel, 149 Union Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38103. Phone: (901) 529-4000. Fax: (901) 529-3600.

Las Vegas Bowl

(Dec. 21, 2000, 8 p.m. ET, ESPN2)
Mountain West #2 (UNLV) vs. At-Large (Arkansas)
Sam Boyd Stadium (capacity 36,800)

Executive Director: Rossi Ralenkotter

Managing Director: Tina Kunzer-Murphy

Media Relations Director: Michael Mack

Office Phone: (702) 869-1212 or (702) 228-0222

Media Headquarters - MGM Grand, 3799 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. Phone: (702) 891-1111. Fax: (702) 891-3036.

Team/MWC Headquarters - Golden Nugget, 129 E. Fremont, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. Phone: (702) 386-8121. Fax: (702) 386-8327.

Silicon Valley Football Classic

(Dec. 31, 2000, 7:00 p.m. ET, Fox Sports Net)
MWC #3 (Air Force) vs. WAC #2 (Fresno State)

Executive Director: Chuck Shelton

Media Relations Director: Ken Berry

Office phone: (408) 924-3300

Media Headquarters - Fairmont Hotel, 170 South Market Street, San Jose, CA 95113. Phone: (408) 998-3900. Fax: (408) 287-1648.

Team/MWC Headquarters - San Jose Hilton Hotel, 300 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, CA 95110. Phone: (408) 287-2100. Fax: (408) 947-4489.

Mountain West Football Media Contact

Bob Burda, Assistant Commissioner, Communications

Office: (719) 533-9506. Home: (719) 487-7555.

Staffing: Las Vegas Bowl (Dec. 18-22); AXALiberty Bowl (Dec. 26-29); Silicon Valley Football Classic (Dec. 30-Jan. 1)



MOUNTAIN WEST COMPOSITE BOWL GAME RECORDS

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct., Last Appearance. Rows include Air Force, BYU, Colorado State, New Mexico, San Diego State, UNLV, Utah, Wyoming, and Totals.

MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE BOWL HISTORY

1999 (1-2)
AXA Liberty Bowl
Southern Miss. 23, COLORADO STATE 17 (54,866 attn.)
Motor City Bowl
Marshall 21, BYU 3 (52,449 attn.)
EA Sports Las Vegas Bowl
UTAH 17, Fresno State 16 (28,227 attn.)

All-Time Bowl Appearances

AIR FORCE (7-7-1)

Jan 1, 1959 Cotton TCU T 0-0
Dec. 28, 1963 Gator North Carolina L 0-35
Jan. 1, 1971 Sugar Tennessee L 13-34
Dec. 31, 1982 Hall of Fame Vanderbilt W 36-28
Dec. 10, 1983 Independence Mississippi W 9-3
Dec. 15, 1984 Independence Virginia Tech W 23-7
Dec. 31, 1985 Bluebonnet Texas W 24-16
Dec. 30, 1987 Freedom Arizona St. L 28-33
Dec. 28, 1989 Liberty Mississippi L 29-42
Dec. 27, 1990 Liberty Ohio State W 23-11
Dec. 29, 1991 Liberty Mississippi St. W 38-15
Dec. 31, 1992 Liberty Mississippi L 0-13
Dec. 27, 1995 Copper Texas Tech L 41-55
Dec. 20, 1997 Las Vegas Oregon L 13-41
Dec. 25, 1998 O'ahu Washington W 45-25

BYU (7-14-1)

Dec. 28, 1974 Fiesta Oklahoma St. L 6-16
Dec. 18, 1976 Tangerine Oklahoma St. L 21-49
Dec. 22, 1978 Holiday Navy L 16-23
Dec. 21, 1979 Holiday Indiana L 37-38
Dec. 19, 1980 Holiday SMU W 46-45
Dec. 18, 1981 Holiday Washington St. W 38-36
Dec. 17, 1982 Holiday Ohio St. L 17-41
Dec. 28, 1983 Holiday Missouri W 21-17
Dec. 21, 1984 Holiday Michigan W 24-17
Dec. 28, 1985 Florida Citrus Ohio St. L 7-10
Dec. 30, 1986 Freedom UCLA L 10-31
Dec. 22, 1987 All-American Virginia L 16-22
Dec. 29, 1988 Freedom Colorado W 20-17
Dec. 29, 1989 Holiday Penn St. L 39-50
Dec. 29, 1990 Holiday Texas A&M L 14-65
Dec. 30, 1991 Holiday Iowa T 13-13
Dec. 25, 1992 Aloha Kansas L 20-23
Dec. 30, 1993 Holiday Ohio St. L 21-28
Dec. 29, 1994 Copper Oklahoma W 31-6
Jan. 1, 1997 Cotton Kansas St. W 19-15
Dec. 31, 1998 Liberty Tulane L 27-41
Dec. 27, 1999 Motor City Marshall L 3-21

COLORADO STATE (2-4)

Jan. 1, 1949 Raisin Occidental L 20-21
Dec. 24, 1990 Freedom Oregon W 32-31
Dec. 30, 1994 Holiday Michigan L 14-24
Dec. 29, 1995 Holiday Kansas St. L 21-54
Dec. 29, 1997 Holiday Missouri W 35-24
Dec. 31, 1999 Liberty So. Mississippi L 17-23

NEW MEXICO (2-3-1)

Jan. 2, 1939 Sun Utah L 0-26
Jan. 1, 1944 Sun Southwestern L 0-7
Jan. 1, 1946 Sun Denver W 34-24
Jan. 1, 1947 Harbor Montana St. T 13-13
Dec. 9, 1961 Aviation Western Michigan W 28-12
Dec. 27, 1997 Insight.com Arizona L 14-20

SAN DIEGO STATE (1-4)

Jan. 1, 1948 Harbor Hardin-Simmons L 0-53
Dec. 6, 1969 Pasadena Boston University W 28-7
Dec. 30, 1986 Holiday Iowa L 38-39
Dec. 30, 1991 Freedom Tulsa L 17-28
Dec. 19, 1998 Las Vegas North Carolina L 13-20

UNLV (2-0)

Dec. 15, 1984 California Toledo W 30-13
Dec. 15, 1994 Las Vegas Central Michigan W 52-24

UTAH (4-4)

Jan. 2, 1939 Sun New Mexico W 26-0
Jan. 1, 1946 Pineapple Hawai'i L 16-19
Dec. 19, 1964 Liberty West Virginia W 32-6
Dec. 29, 1992 Copper Washington St. L 28-31
Dec. 30, 1993 Freedom Southern California L 21-28
Dec. 27, 1994 Freedom Arizona W 16-13
Dec. 27, 1996 Copper Wisconsin L 10-38
Dec. 18, 1999 Las Vegas Fresno State W 17-16

WYOMING (4-6)

Jan. 1, 1951 Gator Washington & Lee W 20-7
Jan. 2, 1956 Sun Texas Tech W 21-14
Dec. 31, 1958 Sun Hardin-Simmons W 14-6
Dec. 24, 1966 Sun Florida St. W 28-20
Jan. 1, 1968 Sugar LSU L 13-20
Dec. 25, 1976 Fiesta Oklahoma L 7-41
Dec. 30, 1987 Holiday Iowa L 19-20
Dec. 30, 1988 Holiday Oklahoma St. L 14-62
Dec. 31, 1990 Copper California L 15-17
Dec. 29, 1993 Copper Kansas St. L 17-52



2000 Mountain West Conference Honors

Offensive Player of the Year
 Matt Newton, Sr., QB, Colorado State
 Mike Thiessen, Sr., QB, Air Force

Defensive Player of the Year
 Rick Crowell, Sr., LB, Colorado State

Freshman of the Year
 Jason Kaufusi, DL, Utah
 Brandon Ratcliff, DB, New Mexico

Coach of the Year
 Sonny Lubick, Colorado State
 John Robinson, UNLV

All-Mountain West First-Team

All-Mountain West Second-Team

Offense

Pos.	Player	Cl.	School
WR	Ryan Fleming	Jr.	Air Force
WR	Pete Rebstock	Jr.	Colorado State
OL	John Greer**	Sr.	UNLV
OL	Tim Stuber	Sr.	Colorado State
OL	Doug Kaufusi	Jr.	Utah
OL	David Heldebrand	Sr.	Air Force
OL	Justin Borvansky	Sr.	Colorado State
TE	Jose Ochoa	Jr.	Colorado State
QB	Matt Newton	Sr.	Colorado State
QB	Mike Thiessen	Sr.	Air Force
RB	Jeremi Rudolph	Sr.	UNLV
RB	Cecil Sapp	So.	Colorado State
PK	Owen Pochman	Sr.	BYU
PR/KR	Pete Rebstock	Jr.	Colorado State

Defense

DL	Patrick Chukwurah	Sr.	Wyoming
DL	Setema Gali	Sr.	BYU
DL	Brian Johnson	Jr.	New Mexico
DL	Anton Palepoi	Jr.	UNLV
LB	Rick Crowell**	Sr.	Colorado State
LB	Kautai Olevao	Sr.	Utah
LB	Justin Ena	Jr.	BYU
DB	Andre Dyson**	Sr.	Utah
DB	Kevin Thomas	Jr.	UNLV
DB	John Howell	Sr.	Colorado State
DB	Will Demps	Jr.	San Diego State
P	Aaron Edmonds	Jr.	BYU

Offense

Pos.	Player	Cl.	School
WR	Steve Smith	Sr.	Utah
WR	J.R. Tolver	So.	San Diego State
OL	Jon Samuelson	Sr.	New Mexico
OL	Adam Goldberg	So.	Wyoming
OL	David Moreno	Jr.	San Diego State
OL	Jason Scukanec	Jr.	BYU
OL	Matt Dayoc	Sr.	Air Force
TE	Tevita Ofahengaue	Sr.	BYU
RB	Adam Tate	Jr.	Utah
RB	Luke Staley	So.	BYU
PK	Dave Adams	Sr.	Air Force
PR/KR	Steve Smith	Sr.	Utah

Defense

DL	Chris Hoke	Sr.	BYU
DL	Hans Olsen	Sr.	BYU
DL	Jerome Haywood	Jr.	San Diego State
DL	Pete Hogan	So.	Colorado State
LB	Mike Barnett	Sr.	New Mexico
LB	Jomar Butler	Jr.	San Diego State
LB	C.J. Zanotti	Sr.	Air Force
DB	Jared Lee	Sr.	BYU
DB	Ricky Sharpe	So.	San Diego State
DB	Justin Gallimore	Jr.	Colorado State
DB	Stephen Persley	Jr.	New Mexico
P	Brian Simjanovski	So.	San Diego State

*Because of a tie for first-team quarterback, there is no second-team quarterback.

**--Unanimous Selection

Honorable Mention

Air Force: Terrance Barreau, OL; Qualario Brown, RB; Wes Glisson, DB; Chris Jessop, TE; Scotty McKay RB; Ben Miller, OL; Corey Nelson, LB; Justin Pendry, DL; Matt Pommer, LB. BYU: Ben Archibald, OL; Margin Hooks, WR; Aaron McCubbins, OL; Ford Poston, OL; Dustin Rykert, OL. Colorado State: Jamie Bennett, DL; Broc Finlaysaon, OL; Joey Huber, P; C.W. Hurst, PK; Broderick Lancaster, OL; Mike Mackenzie, DL; Frank Rice, WR; David Shohet, OL; Aaron Sprague, DB; David Vickers, LB. New Mexico: Jarrod Baxter, RB; Walter Bernard, DB; Rantie Harper, DB; David Mauer, LB; Cort Moffitt, P; Brandon Ratcliff, DB; Henry Stephens, DL; Holmon Wiggins, RB. San Diego State: Brian Berg, LB; Mike Houghton, OL; Johnathan Ingram, OL; Chester Pitts, OL; Brian Russell, DB; Lon Sheriff, QB. UNLV: Randy Black, DB; Sam Brandon, DB; Kevin Brown, RB; Ray Cheetany, P; Troy Mason, PR/KR; Tony Terrell, OL; Nate Turner, WR. Utah: Andy Bowers, DL; Brandon Dart, DB; Patrick Dyson, DB; Jordan Gross, OL; Jason Kaufusi, DL; Ma'ake Kemoeatu, DL; Steve McKane, OL; Matt Nickel, TE; Jason Potter, DB; Michael Richardson, OL/TE; Cliff Russell, WR; Garrett Smith, DL; Ed Ta'amu, OL; Wes Tufaga, LB. Wyoming: Aaron Elling, PK; Lamar James, DB; Ryan McGuffey, WR; Kwabena Peprah, LB, Jay Stoner, QB.



Post-Season Honors

LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL ALL-MWC TEAM

First-Team Offense
QB-Matt Newton, Colorado State.
RB-Jeremi Rudolph, UNLV; Adam Tate, Utah.
WR-Ryan Fleming, Air Force; Steve Smith, Utah.
TE-Jose Ochoa, Colorado State.
OL-David Hildebrand, Air Force; Tim Stuber, Colorado State; Justin Borvansky, Colorado State; John Greer, UNLV; Jon Samuelson, New Mexico.
PK-Dave Adams, Air Force.
KR-Patrick Dyson, Utah.
PR-Troy Mason, UNLV.

First-Team Defense
DL-Brian Johnson, New Mexico; Garrett Smith, Utah; Jerome Haywood, San Diego State; Jamie Bennett, Colorado State.
LB-Rick Crowell, Colorado State; Patrick Chukwurah, Wyoming; Mike Barnett, New Mexico.
DB-Andre Dyson, Utah; Kevin Thomas, UNLV; Jared Lee, BYU; John Howell, Colorado State.
P-Aaron Edmonds, BYU, junior.

Offensive Player of the Year-Mike Thiessen, Air Force.

Defensive Player of the Year-Rick Crowell, Colorado State.

Coach of the Year-Sonny Lubick, Colorado State.

Offensive Newcomer of the Year-Jason Thomas, UNLV.

Defensive Newcomer of the Year-Jason Kaufusi, Utah.

Second-Team Offense

QB-Mike Thiessen, Air Force.
RB-Cecil Sapp, Colorado State; Nate Beard, Air Force.
WR-Pete Rebstock, Colorado State; Nate Turner, UNLV.
TE-Tevita Ofahengaue, BYU.

OL-Ben Miller, Air Force; Doug Kaufusi, Utah; Aaron McCubbins, BYU; Broc Finlayson, Colorado State; David Moreno, San Diego State.

K-Owen Pochman, BYU.

KR-Pete Rebstock, Colorado State.

PR-Pete Rebstock, Colorado State.

Second-Team Defense

DL-Jason Kaufusi, Utah; Andy Bowers, Utah; Setema Gali, BYU; Hans Olsen, BYU.

LB-Jomar Butler, San Diego State; Justin Ena, BYU; Kautai Olevao, Utah.

DB-Stephen Persley, New Mexico; Randy Black, UNLV; Justin Gallimore, Colorado State; Will Demps, San Diego State.

P-Brian Simnjanovski, San Diego State.

FOOTBALL NEWS ALL-MWC TEAM

Offense

QB-Mike Thiessen, Air Force.
RB-Jeremi Rudolph, UNLV; Cecil Sapp, Colorado State.
WR-Steve Smith, Utah; Nate Turner, UNLV; Ryan Fleming, Air Force.
OL-Doug Kaufusi, Utah; Jan Samuelson, New Mexico; John Greer, UNLV; Tim Stuber, Colorado State; David Hildebrand, Air Force.
PK-Dave Adams, Air Force.

Defense

DL-Jason Kaufusi, Utah; Patrick Chukwurah,

Wyoming; Setema Gali, BYU; Brian Johnson, New Mexico.
LB-Mike Barnett, New Mexico; C.J. Zanotti, Air Force; Rick Crowell, Colorado State.
DB-Andre Dyson, Utah; Kevin Thomas, UNLV; Justin Gallimore, Colorado State; Will Demps, San Diego State.
P-Aaron Edmonds, BYU.
Player of the Year-Mike Thiessen, Air Force.

THE SPORTING NEWS ALL-MWC TEAM

First-Team Offense

QB-Matt Newton, Colorado State.
RB-Jeremi Rudolph, UNLV; Adam Tate, Utah.
WR-Ryan Fleming, Air Force; Steve Smith, Utah.
TE-Jose Ocha, Colorado State.
OL-John Greer, UNLV; David Hildebrand, Air Force; Tim Stuber, Colorado State; Doug Kaufusi, Utah; Jon Samuelson, New Mexico.

K-Dave Adams, Air Force.
RS-Pete Rebstock, Colorado State.

First-Team Defense

DL-Brian Johnson, New Mexico; Hans Olsen, BYU; Garrett Smith, Utah; Chris Hoke, BYU.
LB-Jomar Butler, San Diego State; Patrick Chukwurah, Wyoming; Rick Crowell, Colorado State.
DB-Andre Dyson, Utah; Kevin Thomas, UNLV; John Howell, Colorado State; Jared Lee, BYU.
P-Aaron Edmonds, BYU.

Player of the Year-Rick Crowell, LB, Colorado State.

Coach of the Year-John Robinson, UNLV.

Second-Team Offense

QB-Mike Thiessen, Air Force.
RB-Kevin Brown, UNLV; Cecil Sapp, Colorado State.
WR-Nate Turner, UNLV; Pete Rebstock, Colorado State.
TE-Tevita Ofahengaue, BYU
OL-Justin Borvansky, Colorado State; Johnathan Ingram, San Diego State; David Shohet, Colorado State; Broc Finlayson, Colorado State; Jordan Gross, Utah.
K-Aaron Elling, Wyoming.
RS-Troy Mason, UNLV.

Second-Team Defense

DL-Andy Bowers, Utah; Jason Kaufusi, Utah; Jerome Haywood, San Diego State; Jamie Bennett, Colorado State.
LB-Mike Barnett, New Mexico; C.J. Zanotti, Air Force; Kwabena Peprah, Wyoming.
DB-Randy Black, UNLV; Will Demps, San Diego State; Justin Gallimore, Colorado State; Stephen Persley, New Mexico.
P-Brian Simnjanovski, San Diego State.

RIVAL.COM ALL-MWC TEAM

Offense

QB-Matt Newton, Colorado State.
RB-Jeremi Rudolph, UNLV; Cecil Sapp, Colorado State.
WR-Ryan Fleming, Air Force; Steve Smith, Utah.

TE-Jose Ochoa, Colorado State.
OL-Justin Borvansky, Colorado State; David Hildebrand, Air Force; Doug Kafusi, Utah; Jon Samuelson, New Mexico; Tim Stuber, Colorado State.
PK-Owen Pochman, BYU.

Defense

DL-Setema Gali, BYU; Hans Olsen, BYU; Brian Johnson, New Mexico; Garrett Smith, Utah.
LB-Jomar Butler, San Diego State; Rick Crowell, Colorado State, Justin Ena, BYU.
DB-Andre Dyson, Utah; John Howell, Colorado State, Justin Gallimore, Colorado State; Kevin Thomas, UNLV.
P-Aaron Edmonds, BYU.
Offensive Player of the Year-Matt Newton, Colorado State.
Defensive Player of the Year-Rick Crowell, Colorado State.
Coach of the Year-Sonny Lubick, Colorado State.

THE SPORTING NEWS FRESHMAN ALL-AMERICAN TEAM

(MWC players only)
Third-Team

WR-Ryan McGuffey, Wyoming.
DL-Jason Kaufusi, Utah.

VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA TEAM

(MWC players only)
First-Team

DB-Jared Lee, BYU.
Second-Team
DB-Kemball Christianson, Utah.

VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT VII TEAM

(MWC players only)
QB-Jay Stoner, Wyoming.
RB-Scotty McKay, Air Force.
DL-Jamie Bennett, Colorado State.
P-Dallas Thompson, Air Force.

VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT VIII TEAM

(MWC players only)
First-Team

RB-Nick Morgan, Utah.
OL-John Greer, UNLV.
DB-Kimball Christianson, Utah; Jared Lee, BYU.
DL-Ryan Denney, BYU.
Second-Team
DB-Brain Russell, San Diego State.



Liberty Bowl Preview



Colorado State vs. Louisville
Friday, December 29
Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium (63,917)
Memphis, Tenn.
12:30 p.m. (CT), ESPN



GAME NOTES

The 42nd Annual AXA Liberty Bowl is one of five bowl games pitting conference champions against one another -- Orange (Oklahoma/Florida State); Sugar (Miami/Florida); Rose (Washington/Purdue); Humanitarian (Boise State/UTEP) ... Colorado State makes its second consecutive Liberty Bowl appearance -- first as outright league champs -- as the Rams faced Southern Miss. last season as tri-champs of the Mountain West Conference ... CSU nearly swept the league's top honors, claiming three of four spots in a vote of league coaches as quarterback Matt Newton shared Offensive Player of the Year with Mike Thiessen of Air Force, linebacker Rick Crowell was named Defensive Player of the Year, while Sonny Lubick and UNLV's John Robinson were tabbed Coach of the Year ... A league-high nine Rams were named to the All-Mountain West first-team, and two to the second-team ... In eight seasons under head coach Sonny Lubick, the Rams have won or shared five league titles and earned five bowl berths ... since 1990, Colorado State is 2-3 in bowl games, but is 2-1 in games played on December 29th ... The CSU defense allowed opponents a league-low 23 trips inside the red zone ... Quarterback Matt Newton leads the Mountain West Conference, passing for over 200 yards in nine games this season and posting four multiple passing touchdown games ... Newton set a MWC record with five touchdown passes at Air Force (11/11) ... Wide receiver Pete Rebstock established a Mountain West Conference record with 168 receiving yards in the snow at Air Force (11/11), the game-time temperature of 17 degrees is the coldest in Falcon Stadium history ... Freshman Dexter Wynn took is first career kick return 100 yards (the longest return in MWC history) at San Diego State (10/28), for the game he totalled a Mountain West Conference record 166 kickoff return yards on three returns ... A near unanimous choice for Defensive Player of the Year, linebacker Rick Crowell posted a league-high 123 tackles despite missing the season-opener vs. Colorado ... First-team All-MWC running back Cecil Sapp posted the second-longest run in league history with an 89-yard scamper at Air Force (11/11) ... Sapp was the only sophomore named first-team All-Mountain West, as the team consisted of 14 seniors, 11 juniors and one sophomore ... Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich held the same post at Colorado State prior to coming to Louisville in 1997.

Colorado State National Ranks

Scoring Offense	.....31st	31.0 ppg
Scoring Defense	.....19th	18.9 ppg
Passing Offense	.....28th	247.0 ypg
Total Offense	.....48th	384.3 ypg
Pass Defense	.....16th	182.3 ypg
Total Defense	.....31st	328.1 ypg
Kickoff Returns	.....16th	22.9 ypr
Punt Returns	.....7th	16.0 ypr
Punting	.....45th	35.1 ypp
Pass Efficiency	.....18th	135.3
Pass Defense Efficiency	..44th	113.1

Rams in the NCAA Rankings

Matt Newton	... .Pass Efficiency	17th	136.9
Matt Newton	... .Total Offense	35th	223.5 ypg
Pete Rebstock	... .Punt Returns	6th	16.8 ypr
Pete Rebstock	... .Receiving Yards	36th	76.8 ypg
Pete Rebstock	... .All Purpose Yards	16th	153.8 ypg

THE SERIES

First Meeting.

THE COACHES

Sonny Lubick is 87-48 overall in 12 years as a head coach and 66-29 during his eight year tenure at Colorado State. His teams have posted a 1-3 bowl record. Lubick is 3-0 vs. John L. Smith. Nearing the end of his third season at Louisville, John L. Smith's record stands at 23-12. He has guided the Cardinals to bowl trips in each of his three years in Louisville. In 12 seasons, Smith's career coaching record stands at 92-51. This marks the fifth time a John L. Smith led team has faced Colorado State. Smith's record vs. CSU is 1-3, having gone 0-3 while head coach at Utah State (1994-97) and 1-0 while at Idaho (1989-94).

Players to Watch - Colorado State (9-2, 6-1 MWC)

- Passer: Matt Newton (11 GP, 334-198-13, 59.3 Pct, 2,609 Yds, 20 TD, Longest Pass - 69 Yds)
- Rusher: Cecil Sapp (11 GP, 151 Att., 841 Yds, 5.6 Avg Per Rush., 10 TD, Longest Rush - 89 Yds)
- Receiver: Pete Rebstock (10 GP, 46 Rec., 768 Yds, 16.7 Avg Per Rec., 6 TD, Longest Rec. - 69 Yds)
- Tackler: Rick Crowell (10 GP, 81-42-123, 1 Sack, 5 TFL, 3 INT, 4 PBU, 1 Caused Fumble)

Players to Watch - Louisville (9-2, 6-1 C-USA)

- Passer: Dave Ragone (11 GP, 354-216-11, 61.0 Pct, 2,621 Yds, 27 TD, Longest Pass - 69 Yds)
- Rusher: Tony Stallings (11 GP, 181 Att., 810 Yds, 4.5 Avg Per Rush, 6 TD, Longest Rush - 58 Yds)
- Receiver: Deion Branch (11 GP, 71 Rec., 1,016 Yds, 14.3 Avg Per Rec., 9 TD, Longest Rec. - 69 Yds)



Las Vegas Bowl Preview



UNLV vs. Arkansas
Thursday, December 21
Sam Boyd Stadium (36,800)
Las Vegas, Nev.
5 p.m. (PT), ESPN2



GAME NOTES

UNLV makes its third bowl appearance and first under John Robinson ... The Rebels became the third bowl eligible Mountain West Conference team by winning its last three games, the final two on the road ... In winning their last three games, the Rebels picked up their first road victory in seven tries and won consecutive road games for the first time since Weeks 1 and 2 of the 1999 season ... Half of UNLV's games (6) were decided by seven or less points, three were victories (the last three games of the regular season) ... UNLV and Arkansas open the 2001 season against one another with the Rebels travelling to Fayetteville ... Four Rebels were named first-team All-Mountain West Conference in a vote of league coaches -- John Greer-OL; Jeremi Rudolph-RB; Anton Palepoi-DL; Kevin Thomas-DB ... Jeremi Rudolph became the second running back in Mountain West Conference history, and the only back this year, to rush for over 1,000 yards ... In the regular-season finale at Hawaii, UNLV became the first MWC team to have three players rush for over 100 yards in the same game -- Jeremi Rudolph-159; Kevin Brown-139; Jason Thomas-126 ... Jeremi Rudolph leads the Mountain West Conference with six 100-yard rushing games, teammate Kevin Brown is second with four ... UNLV scored 86.6 percent of the time it entered the red zone (39-45) ... 79.4 percent of the Rebels red zone penetrations resulted in touchdowns (31-39) ... UNLV and Arkansas had one common opponent this season -- Ole Miss -- with both teams suffering a loss at the hands of the Rebels on successive weeks, UNLV dropped a 43-40 overtime decision to Ole Miss on October 28, while Arkansas lost 38-24 on November 4 ... The Rebels enter the Las Vegas Bowl on a three-game win streak, their first since 1994 ... Their last four-game win streak occurred during the 1984 campaign when the Rebels won seven in a row ... UNLV has won five straight games at Sam Boyd Stadium ... Eight of the eleven offensive positions for the Rebels have had the same starter for every game, including the entire offensive line corps ... Amar Brisco's game-winning, 72-yard interception return with 52 seconds left in UNLV's 31-24 win at San Diego State was the second longest return in Mountain West Conference history.

UNLV National Ranks

Scoring Offense	.....45th	28.2 ppg
Rushing Offense	.....13th	227.8 ypg
Scoring Defense	.....41st	21.8 ppg
Rushing Defense	.....49th	141.2 ypg
Total Offense	.....44th	387.1 ypg
Total Defense	.....47th	351.2 ypg
Kickoff Returns	.....28th	20.7 ypr
Punt Returns	.....8th	15.4 ypr
Punting	.....32nd	36.1 ypp
Pass Efficiency	.....24th	131.6

Rebels in the NCAA Rankings

Jeremi Rudolph	...Rushing	48th	83.8 ypg
Jason Thomas	...Pass Efficiency	15th	138.1
Jason Thomas	...Total Offense	45th	209.7 ypg
Troy Mason	...Punt Return Yards	7th	16.4 ypr
Nate Turner	...Receptions	37th	5.50 rpg
Nate Turner	...Receiving Yards	35th	78.9 ypg
Ray Cheetany	...Punting	30th	41.3 ypp

THE SERIES

First Meeting.

THE COACHES

John Robinson is in his second season at UNLV and is 10-13 overall. Prior to UNLV, Robinson coached at Southern California for 12 years (1976-82, '93-97) and the NFL's Los Angeles Rams for nine years (1983-91). His college coaching record stands at 114-48-4, while his NFL record was 79-74. This is the Rebels first bowl trip under Robinson, who has a 7-1 all-time bowl record. Arkansas head coach Houston Nutt is in his third year with the Razorback program. His record stands at 16-11. He has guided the Razorbacks to bowls in each of his three years. Over eight years as a head coach his overall record is 42-21.

Players to Watch - UNLV (7-5, 4-3 MWC)

- Passer: Jason Thomas (11 GP, 201-106-9, 52.7 Pct, 1,708 Yds, 14 TD, Longest Pass - 57 Yds)
- Rushing (11 GP, 138 Att., 599 Yds, 4.3 Avg Per Rush., 11 TD, Longest Rush - 72 Yds)
- Rusher: Jeremi Rudolph (12 GP, 178 Att., 1,005 Yds, 5.6 Avg Per Rush., 9 TD, Longest Rush - 45 Yds)
- Receiver: Nate Turner (12 GP, 66 Rec., 947 Yds, 14.3 Avg Per Rec., 10 TD, Longest Rec. - 57 Yds)
- Tackler: Sam Brandon (12 GP, 52-30-82, 1 TFL, 1 INT, 7 PBU, 2 Blocked Kicks)

Players to Watch - Arkansas (6-5, 3-5 SEC)

- Passer: Bobby Hampton (10 GP, 261-145-8, 55.6 Pct, 1,548 Yds, 13 TD, Longest Pass - 79 Yds)
- Rusher: Fred Talley (8 GP, 137 Att., 768 Yds, 5.6 Avg Per Rush, 5 TD, Longest Rush - 80 Yds)
- Receiver: Boo Williams (11 GP, 52 Rec., 739 Yds, 14.2 Avg Per Rec., 7 TD, Longest Rec. - 79 Yds)
- Tackler: Ken Hamlin (11 GP, 49-30-79, 1 TFL, 2 INT, 8 PBU)



Silicon Valley Football Classic Preview



Air Force vs. Fresno State
Sunday, December 31
Spartan Stadium (30,456)
San Jose, Calif.
3:30 p.m. (PT), Fox Sports Net



GAME NOTES

Air Force is making its 16th bowl appearance, 11th under head coach Fisher DeBerry ... Air Force and Fresno State have met five times prior, with all games occurring when the Falcons were members of the Western Athletic Conference ... Senior halfback Scotty McKay returns to San Jose's Spartan Stadium where he plays his last collegiate game in the same stadium he played his last high school game in ... quarterback Mike Thiessen shared Mountain West Conference Offensive Player of the Year honors with Colorado State quarterback Matt Newton ... both Thiessen and wide receiver Ryan Fleming were named to first-team All-Conference in a vote of league coaches ... Air Force leads the Mountain West Conference in seven-of-eight offensive categories -- scoring offense (34.9 ppg), rushing offense (294.6 ypg), total offense (451.9 ypg), pass efficiency (142.4), first downs (280), third-down conversions (44.7 pct) and fourth-down conversions (85.7 pct) ... Mike Thiessen leads the conference with a pass efficiency rating of 147.0 ... Ryan Fleming is averaging a MWC leading 84.5 receiving yards per game ... second-team All-Conference selection Dave Adams leads the Mountain West Conference in field goals made (19) and field goal percentage (79.2) ... Ryan Fleming is tied for the league lead with four 100-yard receiving games ... Air Force had a pair of 600-yard total offense games this season, racking up a MWC best 698 yards of total offense against Cal State-Northridge, and 625 yards at Wyoming -- good for second place on the MWC all-time charts ... The Falcons turned in three rushing performances this season that rank in the Top 4 all-time in the Mountain West Conference -- 583 yards vs. Cal State-Northridge (first place), 432 yards at Wyoming (second place), and 418 yards vs. San Diego State (tied for fourth place) ... The Falcons also claimed the top two spots for rushing touchdowns in a game with seven vs. Cal State-Northridge and six at Wyoming ... Air Force led the Mountain West Conference in red zone penetrations (46), times scoring from inside the red zone (41), touchdowns from inside the red zone (29), rushing touchdowns from inside the red zone (23), field goals from inside the red zone (12), and red zone scoring percentage (89.1) ... Mike Thiessen connected with Scotty McKay on an 81-yard pass play at Wyoming, the second longest pass play in MWC history ... Ryan Fleming's 163 receiving yards at Notre Dame ranks second on the MWC record book ... The Air Force roster is dotted with 13 players from California, tying Colorado as the state with the most players on the Falcons roster.

Air Force National Ranks

Scoring Offense	.....16th	34.9 ppg
Rushing Offense	.....3rd	294.9 ypg
Total Offense	.....9th	451.9 ypg
Kickoff Returns	.....23rd	21.4 ypr
Pass Efficiency	.....10th	142.4
Turnover Margin	.....23rd	+7

Falcons in the NCAA Rankings

Mike Thiessen	...Pass Efficiency	9th	147.0
Mike Thiessen	...Total Offense	40th	218.2 ypg
Ryan Fleming	...Receiving Yards	26th	84.5 ypg
Dallas Thompson	.Punting	41st	40.8 ypp
Dave Adams	...Scoring	22nd	8.5 ppg
Dave Adams	...Field Goals	4th	1.73 fgpg

THE SERIES

Air Force leads 3-2. Last Meeting: Fresno State 20-17, October 18, 1997, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

THE COACHES

Fisher DeBerry has compiled a 134-72-1 overall record in 17 seasons at Air Force. His teams are 5-5 in post-season action. This is DeBerry's sixth meeting with Fresno State, first in a bowl game. Pat Hill is in his fourth season at Fresno State, posting a 26-21 record. Fresno State is making its second bowl appearance in as many years under Hill, losing to Utah, 16-17, in last season's Las Vegas Bowl. Hill is facing Air Force for the first time.

Players to Watch – Air Force (8-3, 5-2 MWC)

- Passer: Mike Thiessen (11 GP, 195-112-5, 57.4 Pct, 1,687 Yds, 13 TDs, Longest Pass - 81 Yds)
- Rusher: Mike Thiessen (11 GP, 179 Att., 713 Yds, 4.0 Avg Per Rush., 10 TD, Longest Rush - 34 Yds)
- Receiver: Ryan Fleming (11 GP, 52 Rec., 930 Yds, 17.9 Avg Per Rec., 5 TD, Longest Rec. - 61 Yds)
- Tackler: C.J. Zanotti (11 GP, 32-52-84, 4 Sack, 13 TFL, 3 PBU, 2 Fumble Recovery)

Players to Watch – Fresno State (7-4, 6-2 WAC)

- Passer: David Carr (11 GP, 316-194-11, 61.4 Pct, 2,338 Yds, 18 TDs, Longest Pass - 71 Yds)
- Rusher: Josh Levi (9 GP, 92 Att., 397 Yds, 4.3 Avg Per Rush., 2 TD, Longest Rush - 23 Yds)
- Receiver: Bernard Berrian (9 GP, 36 Rec., 543 Yds, 15.1 Avg Per Rec., 4 TD, Longest Rec. - 71 Yds)
- Tackler: Orlando Huff (11 GP, 39-52-91, 9 Sack, 16 TFL, 2 PBU, 10 QB Hurries, 2 Fumble Recoveries, 2 Forced Fumbles)



AIR FORCE FALCONS 8-3, 5-2 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ The Falcons are bowl eligible and will be making their fourth bowl trip in the last six years.
- ★ Air Force has totalled over 500 yards total offense and rushed for more than 400 yards in each of its last two games.
- ★ Mike Thiessen established an Air Force single-season passing yardage record for option quarterbacks. With 1,687 yards this season, Thiessen finishes his career ranked third on the Falcons all-time passing yards list.
- ★ Air Force has won 10 straight games when the fullback position rushes for over 100 yards. Since 1990, the Falcons are 32-6 when its fullbacks combine to total over 100 yards in a game.
- ★ Air Force leads the MWC in seven-of-eight offensive categories. The Falcons sit atop the league in scoring offense (34.9 ppg), rushing offense (294.6 ypg), total offense (451.9 ypg), pass efficiency (142.4), first downs (280), third-down conversions (44.7 pct) and fourth-down conversions (85.7 pct).
- ★ With 19 field goals, place kicker Dave Adams tied for the top spot on the Air Force single-season chart.

Key Stat: Air Force is third in the nation in rushing offense (294.9 ypg).



BYU COUGARS 6-6, 4-3 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ Cougars head coach LaVell Edwards retires after 29 years at the helm of the BYU program. His career coaching record stands at 257-101-3. He ranks as the sixth winningest college football coach of all-time. The University re-named Cougar Stadium, LaVell Edwards Stadium in a pre-game ceremony prior to the Cougars last home game on November 18th against New Mexico.
- ★ Owen Pochman set a BYU and Mountain West Conference record with a 56-yard field goal against New Mexico.
- ★ Senior safety Tyson Smith established a Mountain West Conference record with three interceptions during the Cougars win over Wyoming.
- ★ With 2,841 career receiving yards, senior Margin Hooks ends his career in second place on the Cougars' all-time receiving yards list.
- ★ The Cougars have gone an NCAA-record 324 games without being shutout. They were last shutout on September 27, 1975 at Arizona State, 20-0.
- ★ Quarterback Charlie Peterson broke Jim McMahon's school record of 154 consecutive pass attempts without an interception. Peterson threw 164 passes before being intercepted.

Key Stat: BYU leads the MWC in passing offense, averaging 274.6 ypg.



COLORADO STATE RAMS 9-2, 6-1 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ Colorado State won its second straight Mountain West title (first outright) and will be making its second consecutive Liberty Bowl appearance.
- ★ In four of Colorado State's victories this season the Rams rallied from fourth quarter deficits. It marks the first time under Sonny Lubick CSU has won more than one game in the same season when trailing after three quarters.
- ★ Quarterback Matt Newton and wide receiver Pete Rebstock had career performances against Air Force. Both players established Mountain West Conference records vs. the Falcons. Newton threw for 334 yards and a MWC record five touchdowns. Rebstock caught a career-best nine passes for a MWC record 168 yards and three touchdowns.
- ★ Linebacker Rick Crowell leads the Mountain West Conference with 123 tackles, averaging 12.3 tackles per game.
- ★ Matt Newton became CSU's all-time leader in touchdown passes with his TD toss against Wyoming. Newton has tossed 41 career touchdown passes.
- ★ Quarterback Matt Newton has started every game since the 1999 season opener, throwing touchdown pass in 21 of his 23 starts.
- ★ Six of CSU's games this season have been decided by seven points or less -- the Rams have won four of them.

Key Stat: The Rams are averaging 39 points over the last four games.



NEW MEXICO LOBOS 5-7, 3-4 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ The Lobos first three conference losses were by a combined eight points.
- ★ New Mexico's defense created a red zone turnover in five of the last six games to close out the season.
- ★ New Mexico beat Air Force, Wyoming and Utah in the same season for the first time since 1982.
- ★ The Lobos set a school record with five blocked kicks this season.
- ★ New Mexico tallied a Mountain West Conference best 46 sacks this season, totalling 341 yards. The total is the second-highest in school history, seven short of the school record of 53 set in 1982.
- ★ The Lobos created 25 of their opponent's 27 turnovers over the final nine games of the season.
- ★ New Mexico leads the MWC in rushing defense, holding opponents to an average of 115.3 yards per game. However, in their seven league games, the Lobos have held their MWC brethren to an average of 93.7 yards per game on the ground. Three conference teams -- BYU (163), Air Force (145) and UNLV (81) -- rushed for over 100 yards against the Lobos
- ★ Over the final nine games the Lobos were +14 on takeaways. UNM forced 25 turnovers (14 INTs, 11 fumbles) during this span, while turning the ball over 11 times.
- ★ Brian Johnson and Mike Barnett were the Mountain West Conference's top pass rushers. Johnson led the MWC with 9.5 sacks and Barnett was second with 8.

Key Stat: New Mexico was second in scoring defense, allowing 17.9 points per Mountain West Conference league game.



SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS 3-8, 3-4 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ Two of San Diego State's victories were decided by one point.
- ★ All of the Aztecs victories were on the road.
- ★ Two of the Aztecs three victories were fourth quarter comebacks.
- ★ San Diego State started one senior on offense (Bill Hammett - HB) and two on defense (Brian Berg - MLB and Brian Russell - FS).
- ★ In his nine starts this season, sophomore quarterback Lon Sherrif threw for 2,163 yards and six touchdowns. He ranked second in the MWC with 216.3 passing yards per game
- ★ The Aztec defense registered scores in two consecutive games. Will Demp's returned an INT 43 yards for a touchdown at New Mexico and Ricky Sharpe took a pick 57 yards for a score against CSU.
- ★ Quarterback Lon Sheriff lead the Mountain West Conference in 300-yard passing games. The sophomore signal-caller surpassed the 300-yard mark three times.
- ★ The Aztecs were stung by the injury bug this season, losing five starters for the year (OL Chris Williams and Zach LaMonda, TE Gray McNeill, DE Akbar Gbaja-Biamila and QB Jack Hawley).
- ★ Wide receiver Derrick Lewis closed out the season by surpassing the century mark in four of the last five games. He averaged 113.2 receiving yards per game over the last five contests.

Key Stat: The Aztecs averaged 264.4 passing yards per game against MWC foes.



UNLV REBELS 7-5, 4-3 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ UNLV's win at San Diego State (11/28) was its first road victory in seven games.
- ★ Playing a 12-game schedule, the Rebels needed to win seven games to become bowl eligible.
- ★ The Rebels have gone undefeated at home for the first time since 1977.
- ★ Kevin Thomas leads the Mountain West Conference with 14 pass break ups. He has also tallied two interceptions.
- ★ UNLV has held 11 of its 12 opponents to less than 200 yards rushing. Only Air Force surpassed 200 yards rushing against the Rebels, totalling 219 yards.
- ★ The 24 rushing touchdowns scored by the Rebels offense is more than the total for the last two seasons combined.
- ★ The Rebels have had four players rush for over 100 yards in a game this season. Jeremi Rudolph has rushed for over 100 yards in six games. Kevin Brown accomplished the feat four times, Jason Thomas turned the trick twice, while James Wofford surpassed the century mark once.
- ★ Jeremi Rudolph has surpassed the century mark in rushing a MWC leading six times.

Key Stat: The Rebels' are sporting their first three-game win streak since the 1994 season.



UTAH UTES 4-7, 3-4 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ The Utes are third in the nation in pass defense, holding opponents to an average of 160.1 yards per game through the air.
- ★ Utah also leads the Mountain West Conference in total defense, allowing 288.3 yards per game to rank 10th nationally; and scoring defense (18.8 points per game) ranking 18th in the nation.
- ★ Place kicker Golden Whetman hit a career-long 55-yard field goal at Wyoming. It ranks as the second longest field goal in Utah and Mountain West Conference history.
- ★ Freshman quarterback Lance Rice started the last three games -- going 2-1. He combined to throw for 440 yards and four TDs, with one interception, completing 29-of-57 attempts.
- ★ Andre Dyson leads the Mountain West Conference with four interceptions.
- ★ Patrick Dyson and Steve Smith both rank 19th in the country in kickoff returns and all purpose yards, respectively. Dyson averaged 24.3 yards per return, while Smith averaged 147.5 all purpose yards per contest.

Key Stat: After making 2-of-12 field goal attempts through the first seven games, Utah placekickers converted 6-of-7 attempts over the last four games of the season.



WYOMING COWBOYS 1-10, 0-7 MWC

What You Should Know:

- ★ Freshman wide receiver Ryan McGuffy shattered the Wyoming freshman receiving record of 25 catches for 456 yards set by Wendell Montgomery in 1996. McGuffy finished his freshman campaign with 63 catches for 696 yards. He averaged 5.73 grabs a game to lead the Mountain West Conference.
- ★ Nate Scott rushed for a Mountain West Conference record 192 yards in the Cowboys win over Central Michigan.
- ★ Punter Tom Waring ranks 18th in the nation in punting, averaging 42.4 yards per punt.
- ★ Senior quarterback Jay Stoner finished his career ranking second on Wyoming's all-time passing yards list with 7,668 career yards.
- ★ Place kicker Aaron Elling made 10-of-14 field goal attempts this season, including a career-long 52 yarder. He also converted all 15 PAT's.
- ★ Linebackers Kwabena Pephrah and Patrick Chukwurah rank second and fifth, respectively, in the MWC for tackles. Pephrah tallied 115 for the season, while Chukwurah posted 100.
- ★ Wyoming was the least penalized team in league games. The Cowboys were flagged for 171 penalty yards in their seven MWC games.

Key Stat: The Cowboys held opponents to a MWC leading average of 15.2 yards per kickoff return.



MWC Players of the Week

Offense

- Aug. 28 HOLMON WIGGINS (Jr., RB, UNM)
- Sept. 4 BRET ENGEMANN (So., QB, BYU)
- MATT NEWTON (Sr., QB, CSU)
- Sept. 11 MIKE THIESSEN (Sr., QB, AFA)
- Sept. 18 NATE SCOTT (Jr., RB, Wyo)
- Sept. 25 LUKE STALEY (So., RB, BYU)
- Oct. 2 JASON THOMAS (So., QB, UNLV)
- Oct. 9 LON SHERIFF (So., QB, SDSU)
- Oct. 16 MIKE THIESSEN (Sr., QB, AFA)
- Oct. 23 DERRICK LEWIS (Jr., WR, SDSU)
- Oct. 30 JARROD BAXTER (Jr., FB, UNM)
- Nov. 4 MATT NEWTON (Sr., QB, CSU)
- Nov. 11 NATE BEARD (Sr., FB, AFA)
- Nov. 18 QUALARIO BROWN (Sr., RB, AFA)
- Nov. 25 NATE TURNER (Sr., WR, UNLV)

Defense

- Aug. 28 JUSTIN ENA (Jr., LB, BYU)
- Sept. 4 WILL DEMPS (Jr., SS, SDSU)
- Sept. 11 ANDRE DYSON (Sr., DB, Utah)
- Sept. 18 RICK CROWELL (Sr., LB, CSU)
- Sept. 25 COREY NELSON (Sr., OLB, AFA)
- Oct. 2 KEVIN THOMAS (Jr., CB, UNLV)
- Oct. 9 C.J. ZANOTTI (Sr., LB, AFA)
- Oct. 16 RICK CROWELL (Sr., LB, CSU)
- Oct. 23 JOMAR BUTLER (Jr., LB, SDSU)
- Oct. 30 TYSON SMITH (Sr., DB, BYU)
- Nov. 4 DYLAN ROBLES (Jr., LB, SDSU)
- Nov. 11 ANDY BOWERS (Sr., LB, Utah)
- Nov. 18 JUSTIN GALLIMORE (Jr., DB, CSU)
- Nov. 25 AMAR BRISCO (Sr., CB, UNLV)

Special Teams

- Aug. 28 VLADIMIR BOROMBOZIN (Jr., PK, UNM)
- Sept. 4 DALLAS THOMPSON (Sr., PK/P, AFA)
- Sept. 11 PETE REBSTOCK (KR/PR, CSU)
- Sept. 18 HOLMON WIGGINS (Jr., PR, UNM)
- Sept. 25 PATRICK DYSON (Sr., KR, Utah)
- Oct. 2 PETE REBSTOCK (Jr., PR/KR, CSU)
- Oct. 9 RAY CHEETANY (Sr., PK/P, UNLV)
- Oct. 16 RHETT NELSON (So., CB, CSU)
- Oct. 23 NATE TANDBERG (Sr., PK, SDSU)
- Oct. 30 DERRICK WYNN (Fr., KR, CSU)
- Nov. 4 DAVE ADAMS (Sr., PK, AFA)
- Nov. 11 TROY MASON (So., PR, UNLV)
- Nov. 18 OWEN POCHMAN (Sr., PK, BYU)
- Nov. 25 OWEN POCHMAN (Sr., PK, BYU)

MOUNTAIN WEST LEADER BOARD

200-Yard Passing Games		
	No.	High
Bret Engemann, So., BYU	2	416 (Virginia)
Lon Sheriff, So., San Diego State	5	393 (Colorado State)
Charlie Peterson, Jr., BYU	5	376 (San Diego State)
Brandon Doman, Fr., BYU	2	349 (New Mexico)
Jay Stoner, Sr., Wyoming	4	339 (Air Force)
Matt Newton, Sr., Colorado State	9	334 (Air Force)
Jason Thomas, So., UNLV	3	277 (San Diego State)
Mike Thiessen, Sr., Air Force	2	265 (Notre Dame)
Darnell Arceneaux, Sr., Utah	2	230 (San Diego State)
Jack Hawley, Sr., San Diego State	1	219 (Arizona State)
300-Yard Passing Games		
Bret Engemann, So., BYU	1	416 (Virginia)
Lon Sheriff, So., San Diego State	3	393 (Colorado State)
Charlie Peterson, Jr., BYU	2	376 (San Diego State)
Brandon Doman, Fr., BYU	1	349 (New Mexico)
Jay Stoner, Sr., Wyoming	1	339 (Air Force)
Matt Newton, Sr., Colorado State	2	334 (Air Force)
100-Yard Rushing Games		
Nate Scott, Jr., RB, Wyoming	1	192 (Central Mich.)
Holmon Wiggins, Jr., RB, New Mexico	1	168 (Wyoming)
Luke Staley, So., BYU	1	167 (UNLV)
Cecil Sapp, So., RB, Colorado State	3	158 (Air Force)
Nate Beard, Sr., FB, Air Force	1	149 (Colorado State)
Qualario Brown, Sr., RB, Air Force	1	140 (San Diego State)
James Wofford, Sr., FB, UNLV	1	138 (Mississippi)
Jarrold Baxter, Jr., FB, New Mexico	1	135 (Utah)
Kevin Brown, Sr., RB, UNLV	3	134 (Colorado State)
Adam Tate, Jr., RB, Utah	4	133 (Utah State)
Mike Thiessen, Sr., QB, Air Force	2	126 (Wyoming)
Rashaan Sanders, So., RB, Colorado State	1	116 (Nevada)
Jeremi Rudolph, Sr., UNLV	5	112 (UNLV)
Jason Thomas, So., QB, UNLV	1	107 (Iowa State)
Duan Ruff, Jr., RB, Colorado State	1	106 (Nevada)
Scotty McKay, Sr., RB, Air Force	1	100 (Army)
100-Yard Receiving Games		
Pete Rebstock, Jr., Colorado State	4	168 (Air Force)
Ryan Fleming, Jr., Air Force	4	163 (Notre Dame)
Jonathan Pittman, Sr., BYU	3	161 (Virginia)
Nate Turner, Sr., UNLV	3	158 (San Diego State)
Derrick Lewis, Sr., San Diego State	4	153 (UNLV)
Chris Christensen, Sr., Utah	1	147 (BYU)
J.R. Tolver, So., San Diego State	2	146 (Colorado State)
Steve Smith, Sr., Utah	1	143 (San Diego State)
Cliff Russell, Jr., Utah	2	141 (Arizona)
Margin Hooks, Sr., BYU	1	124 (San Diego State)
Troy Mason, So., UNLV	2	122 (BYU)
Frank Rice, Sr., Colorado State	2	113 (Colorado)
Ryan McGuffey, Fr., Wyoming	1	101 (New Mexico)
Scotty McKay, Sr., Air Force	1	101 (Wyoming)
Will Layne, Sr., Colorado State	1	100 (Wyoming)
Multiple Touchdown Games - Rushing		
Mike Thiessen, Sr., Air Force	2	4 (Wyoming)
Nate Beard, Sr., Air Force	2	3 (Colorado State)
Adam Tate, Jr., Utah	2	3 (Utah State)
Luke Staley, So., BYU	2	3 (Utah State)
Qualario Brown, Sr., Air Force	1	3 (San Diego State)
Brian McDonald, Jr., BYU	1	3 (Virginia)
Jeremi Rudolph, Sr., UNLV	2	2 (N. Texas, Air Force)
Larry Ned, Sr., San Diego State	2	2 (Wyoming, BYU)
Jason Thomas, So., UNLV	2	2 (Nevada, Mississippi)
Cecil Sapp, So., Colorado State	2	2 (E. Tenn. St., BYU)
Duan Ruff, Jr., Colorado State	1	2 (Nevada)
Nate Scott, Jr., Wyoming	1	2 (Central Mich.)
Jason Van, Fr., San Diego State	1	2 (UNLV)
Multiple Touchdown Games - Passing		
Matt Newton, Sr., Colorado State	4	5 (Air Force)
Mike Thiessen, Sr., Air Force	3	4 (BYU)
Jay Stoner, Sr., Wyoming	4	3 (Nevada)
Rudy Caamano, So., New Mexico	3	3 (3x)
Darnell Arceneaux, Sr., Utah	1	3 (San Diego State)
Lance Rice, Fr., Utah	1	3 (UNLV)
Jason Thomas, So., UNLV	4	2 (4x)
Charlie Peterson, Jr., BYU	2	2 (Miss. State, Syracuse)
Lon Sheriff, So., San Diego State	2	2 (Wyoming, Air Force)
Bret Engemann, So., BYU	1	2 (Virginia)
Multiple Touchdown Games - Receiving		
Pete Rebstock, Jr., WR, Colorado State	1	3 (Air Force)
Jonathan Pittman, Sr., WR, BYU	2	2 (Miss. State, Syracuse)
Nate Turner, Sr., WR, UNLV	2	2 (Iowa State, Nevada)
Steve Smith, Sr., WR, Utah	2	2 (San Diego State, UNLV)
Ryan McGuffey, Fr., WR, Wyoming	1	2 (Arizona)
Frank Rice, Sr., WR, Colorado State	1	2 (Colorado)
Ryan Fleming, Jr., WR, Air Force	1	2 (BYU)
Qualario Brown, Sr., RB, Air Force	1	2 (BYU)
Cliff Russell, Jr., WR, Utah	1	2 (Washington State)



2000 NATIONAL POLLS

Associated Press Top 25

(Dec. 3)

Rk	School	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1.	Oklahoma (67)	(12-0)	1,768	1
2.	Miami, Fla (3)	(10-1)	1,693	2
3.	Florida St. (1)	(11-1)	1,640	3
4.	Washington	(10-1)	1,571	4
5.	Oregon St.	(10-1)	1,473	5
6.	Virginia Tech	(10-1)	1,396	6
7.	Florida	(10-2)	1,349	7
8.	Oregon	(9-2)	1,207	9
9.	Nebraska	(9-2)	1,160	10
10.	Notre Dame	(9-2)	1,086	11
11.	Kansas St.	(10-3)	1,084	8
12.	Texas	(9-2)	941	12
13.	TCU	(10-1)	867	13
14.	Purdue	(8-3)	810	14
15.	Georgia Tech	(9-2)	803	17
16.	Clemson	(9-2)	776	15
17.	Michigan	(8-3)	754	16
18.	Northwestern	(8-3)	553	19
19.	Ohio St.	(0-0)	481	20
20.	Auburn	(9-3)	450	18
21.	Tennessee	(8-3)	366	21
22.	Louisville	(9-2)	232	22
23.	Colorado St.	(9-2)	198	23
24.	Georgia	(7-4)	110	24
25.	Toledo	(10-1)	84	25

MWC teams receiving votes: Air Force - 10 (33rd).

ESPN/USA Today Top 25

(Dec. 3)

Rk	School	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1.	Oklahoma (56)	(12-0)	1,471	1
2.	Miami, Fla (2)	(10-1)	1,400	2
3.	Florida St. (1)	(11-1)	1,366	3
4.	Washington	(10-1)	1,284	4
5.	Virginia Tech	(10-1)	1,200	5
6.	Oregon St.	(10-1)	1,192	6
7.	Florida	(10-2)	1,119	8
8.	Nebraska	(9-2)	1,005	9
9.	Kansas St.	(10-3)	938	7
10.	Notre Dame	(9-2)	894	10
11.	Oregon	(9-2)	888	11
12.	Texas	(9-2)	822	12
13.	Clemson	(9-2)	708	13
14.	Purdue	(8-3)	686	14
15.	Michigan	(8-3)	632	16
16.	TCU	(10-1)	628	15
17.	Georgia Tech	(9-2)	540	18
18.	Ohio St.	(8-3)	427	19
19.	Northwestern	(8-3)	411	20
20.	Auburn	(9-3)	345	17
21.	Tennessee	(8-3)	304	21
22.	Colorado St.	(9-2)	267	22
23.	Louisville	(9-2)	159	23
24.	Georgia	(7-4)	90	24
25.	Toledo	(10-1)	76	25

MWC teams receiving votes: Air Force - 7 (36th).

MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE WEEKLY RADIO SHOW

The Mountain West Conference has forged a partnership with Nevada Sports Network, Las Vegas, for a weekly radio show, dubbed "This Week in the Mountain West." The show is being produced through a joint effort by the Nevada Sports Network, formerly Elmore Sports Network, Las Vegas, and the Talk America Radio Network, also of Las Vegas. The Talk America Radio Network spans more than 400 affiliates nationwide.

Program content will showcase football and basketball, highlighting the latest news from around the conference. The weekly show will also feature interviews with coaches, student-athletes and special guests, and provide updates on each of the 19 sports and 18 championships sponsored by the Mountain West Conference.

"This Week in the Mountain West" will join the Big Ten, SEC and Big 12 conferences as weekly national radio shows dedicated to highlighting the latest news throughout their respective conferences. The 30-minute show will discuss the past week in football and basketball throughout the season, and feature in-depth analysis of upcoming games in the conference.

"This Week in the Mountain West" will be picked up by radio stations across the country, including Armed Forces Radio and Cable Radio Network. The broadcast will be fed on CD-Rom and ISDN in a 30-minute format. Parties interested in broadcasting the show should contact Alex Shelton at the Nevada Sports Network (702-269-6518) or Dan Butterly at the Mountain West Conference (719-533-9513). The following is a list of current clearances:

<u>Radio Station (city)</u>	<u>*Potential Listeners</u>	<u>^Time of broadcast (local)</u>
Armed Forces Radio	1 million homes	
Cable Radio Network	2 million homes	
KALL 910 AM (Salt Lake City)	1 million homes	
KATD 990 AM (San Francisco)	2.8 million homes	
KCBL 1340 AM (Fresno)	870,478 homes	
KFBC 1240 AM (Cheyenne)	77,000 homes	
KGME 1360 AM (Phoenix)	2,931,004 homes	
KGU - The Ball (Honolulu)	872,478 homes	
KIIX 600 AM (Fort Collins)	300,000 homes	6 p.m. Friday
#KKOB 770 AM (Albuquerque)	678,633	3:30 p.m. Saturday
KOGO 600 AM (San Diego)	2,780,592 homes	12:30 p.m. Saturday
KPLY 1270 AM (Reno)	750,000 homes	
KRLV 1340 AM (Las Vegas)	1.1 million homes	
KVET 98.1 FM (Austin)	1,105,909 homes	
KVOR 740 AM (Colo. Springs)	490,378 homes	6 a.m. Saturday
KBAD 920 AM (Las Vegas)	1.1 million homes	Saturday mornings
KOWB (Laramie)	30,000 homes	
WJOX 690 AM (Birmingham)	908,508 homes	
WBOB 1160 AM (Cincinnati)	1,948,264 homes	
WHEN 620 AM (Syracuse)	734,640 homes	
WHBQ 506 AM (Memphis)	1,093,427 homes	

* source: Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C. 20233

#Reaches Los Angeles, Montana, Arizona, Wyoming, New Mexico, Colorado
 ^Broadcast times yet to be determined by radio station at time of release. Check local listings or call the radio station for broadcast time. Times may vary week to week depending on game times.



Regular Season Home

Attendance Figures

Team	G	Total	Avg.	High
Air Force	6	255,339	42,557	50,324
BYU	6	363,711	60,619	63,318
Colorado State	5	137,663	27,523	31,700
New Mexico	6	141,935	23,656	30,830
San Diego State	5	117,244	23,449	30,931
UNLV	5	103,491	20,699	27,578
Utah	6	234,728	37,933	45,064
Wyoming	5	74,112	14,823	19,050
Total	44	1,428,223	32,460	63,318

Regular Season Road/Neutral Sites

Attendance Figures

Team	G	Total	Avg.	High
Air Force	5	196,393	39,279	80,232
BYU	6	273,538	45,590	60,435
Colorado State	6	235,888	39,315	67,466
New Mexico	6	212,667	35,445	42,238
San Diego State	6	208,837	34,807	44,973
UNLV	7	288,455	36,923	60,191
Utah	5	123,777	24,756	45,300
Wyoming	6	272,801	45,467	76,128
Total	46	1,782,356	38,747	80,232

MWC vs. Nonconference Opponents

Conference	W	L	Pct.
ACC	1	1	.500
Big 12	1	3	.250
Big East	0	1	.000
Big Ten	0	1	.000
Big Sky	2	0	1.000
Big West	4	1	.800
Conference USA	1	0	1.000
Independents	1	1	1.000
MAC	1	0	1.000
Mid-American	0	0	.000
Pac-10	0	8	.000
SEC	0	3	.000
WAC	3	1	.750
Other	1	0	1.000
Total	15	20	.428

Nonconference Records

Team	Ranked Opp.	BCS	Div I	Overall
Air Force	0-1	0-1	4-1	4-1
BYU	0-1	1-3	2-3	2-3
CSU	1-0	1-1	2-1	3-1
New Mexico	0-0	0-2	1-3	1-3
SDSU	0-1	0-4	0-4	0-4
UNLV	0-0	0-2	3-2	3-2
Utah	0-0	0-3	1-3	1-3
Wyoming	0-0	0-2	1-3	1-3
Totals	1-3	2-18	13-20	15-20

MWC RED ZONE NUMBERS

Team	Times Inside 20	Total Scores	TDs (Rush/Pass)	FGs	Opponents Inside 20	Scores	TDs (Rush/Pass)	FG
Air Force	46	41	29 (23/6)	12	30	25	20 (12/8)	5
BYU	42	36	26 (20/6)	10	37	28	22 (15/7)	6
Colorado State	40	30	23 (16/7)	7	23	20	13 (7/6)	7
New Mexico	32	24	18 (11/7)	6	35	28	21 (12/9)	7
San Diego State	29	22	13 (10/3)	9	41	33	25 (15/10)	8
UNLV	45	39	31 (21/10)	8	34	27	18 (12/6)	6
Utah	33	22	17 (13/4)	5	25	20	11 (8/3)	9
Wyoming	19	13	10 (4/6)	3	44	38	32 (24/8)	6

Mountain West Conference Teams in the Weekly Polls

USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll

	CSU	Air Force	Utah	SDSU	BYU
PS	rv	--	rv	rv	rv
8/27	rv	--	rv	rv	rv
9/3	rv	rv	rv	--	rv
9/10	25	rv	rv	--	--
9/17	rv	rv	--	--	--
9/24	rv	rv	--	--	--
10/1	rv	--	--	--	--
10/8	rv	rv	--	--	--
10/15	rv	rv	--	--	--
10/22	24	rv	--	--	--
10/29	21	--	--	--	--
11/5	20	--	--	--	--
11/12	rv	rv	--	--	--
11/19	25	--	--	--	--
11/26	22	rv	--	--	--
12/3	22	rv	--	--	--

Associated Press Media Poll

	CSU	Air Force	Utah	BYU
PS	rv	--	rv	rv
8/27	rv	--	rv	--
9/3	rv	--	rv	rv
9/10	rv	rv	--	--
9/17	rv	rv	--	--
9/24	rv	rv	--	--
10/1	rv	--	--	--
10/8	rv	rv	--	--
10/15	rv	rv	--	--
10/22	rv	--	--	--
10/29	rv	--	--	--
11/5	rv	--	--	--
11/12	rv	rv	--	--
11/19	rv	rv	--	--
11/26	23	rv	--	--
12/3	23	rv	--	--

Mountain West Conference Pre-Season Polls

MWC Coaches

-Utah
-Colorado State
-BYU
-Air Force
-San Deigo State
-Wyoming
-UNLV
-New Mexico

MWC Media

-Utah
-Colorado State
-BYU
-Air Force
-Wyoming
-UNLV
-San Deigo State
-New Mexico



CROWTON NAMED BYU HEAD COACH

Gary Crowton, Chicago Bears' offensive coordinator and former head coach at Louisiana Tech became BYU's 13th head football coach on December 6th. Crowton takes over a BYU program that has been under the direction of college football's sixth all-time winningest coach, LaVell Edwards. Edwards guided the Cougars for 29 seasons, taking over the program in 1972, compiling a 257-101-3 (.716) record. A native of Orem, Utah, the 43-year old Crowton spent the past two seasons as the offensive coordinator with the NFL's Chicago Bears, where his offense ranked third in the NFL in passing yardage last season. Crowton was the head coach at Louisiana Tech from 1996-98, guiding the Bulldogs to a 21-13 record over three seasons.

THREE IN TWO

A relative infant on the I-A college football scene, the Mountain West Conference has become a regular in the post-season during its two-year history. The eight-team league has qualified three teams for bowls in each of its first two seasons. With tie-ins to the Liberty and Las Vegas Bowls, the MWC entered into a one-year agreement with the Silicon Valley Football Classic. In its inaugural year, the MWC went 1-2 in the post-season, sending teams to the Liberty (Colorado State), Las Vegas (Utah) and Motor City (BYU) Bowls.

HEAD OF THE CLASS

The National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame announced its 2000 class of National College Scholar-Athletes. Mountain West Conference players claimed two of the six Division I-A postgraduate scholarships awarded. Air Force fullback Scott Becker and BYU safety Jared Lee were awarded \$18,000 postgraduate scholarships at the Foundation's 43rd Annual Awards Dinner held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City, December 12th. The selection criteria is based upon superior academic performance, outstanding football ability, strong leadership, and citizenship.

LIVE STATS

Live in-game stats from each of the three bowl games involving Mountain West Conference teams (Las Vegas, Liberty, Silicon Valley) will be available through the MWC website: www.mountainwestconf.com. Click on the "Bowl Central" icon at the top of the main page for live in-game stats and audio play-by-play from all three bowl games.

OH SO CLOSE

Mountain West Conference teams concluded the nonconference portion of their schedules vs. BCS teams. Although this season's record against BCS teams was 2-18, with a few breaks in the closing seconds of some of the games, the final record could have a different complexion. Consider:

- San Diego State loses to Arizona State, 7-10, after having a field goal blocked on the game's last play.
- Colorado State loses at Arizona State, 10-13, on a field goal on the game's last play.
- Air Force loses in overtime at Notre Dame after having the game-winning field goal blocked at the end of regulation.
- UNLV loses in overtime at Ole Miss after rallying to tie the game at the end of regulation.
- Utah misses a field goal with 0:02 left in regulation for a 21-24 loss at Cal. It should also be noted that 14 of the 20 games against BCS opponents were played away from home.

HOLD ONTO YOUR SEAT

One thing is becoming clear in the first two years of Mountain West Conference football; MWC games go down to the wire. Nearly half of the 56 league games played during the Conference's first two years have been decided by seven or less points. During the 2000 season, 12 games played between MWC foes were of the "nail biter" variety. Also, last year, two of the three bowl games featuring MWC teams made for dramatic finishes with Colorado State losing to Southern Miss by six (17-23) and Utah squeezing by Fresno State, 17-16.

EXPERIENCE COMING BACK

A perusal of the Mountain West Conference's depth charts reveals why many of the league coaches are looking forward to next season. All total the MWC returns 103 of 176 starters from the 2000 season. Below are the number of returning starters for the 2001 season by school:

San Diego State	.....19
Wyoming	.....15
UNLV	.....14
BYU	.....14
Colorado State	.....12
New Mexico	.....12
Utah	.....10
Air Force	.....7

MWC ROOKIES

A pair of Mountain West Conference alumni have burst onto the scene in the NFL. Utah's Mike Anderson ranks among the league leaders in rushing and is the leading ground gainer for the Denver Broncos. Anderson set a NFL single-game rookie rushing record with a 251-yard effort against New Orleans. New Mexico alum Brian Urlacher is listed among the leading tacklers in the NFL and leads the Chicago Bears in tackles. Both players are leading candidates for NFL Rookie of the Year Offensive and Defensive honors.

DOUBLE VISION

Colorado State identical twins Justin and Jason Gallimore became the Mountain West Conference's second pair of brothers from the defensive side of the ball to score this season, joining Utah's Patrick and Andre Dyson. The Gallimore's each posted returns for touchdowns in CSU's regular-season finale victory over Wyoming. Jason put the Rams on the board with a second-quarter, 52-yard fumble return. Justin got into the act with a third-quarter, 63-yard interception return, ranking as the fourth-longest in Mountain West Conference history.

REEL 'EM IN

The Mountain West Conference record for receiving yards in a game has been broken three times this season. BYU senior Jonathan Pittman turned in a record-setting performance in the Cougars' overtime win at Virginia with 161 yards. His record stood for almost two months until Air Force wide out Ryan Fleming set a new mark with a 163-yard effort at Notre Dame. Two weeks later, Colorado State junior Pete Rebstock put his name atop the MWC record book with a 168-yard outing at Air Force.

STAFF CHANGES AT UTAH

Utah head coach Ron McBride announced the following staff departures: offensive coordinator Tommy Lee, defensive coach Fred Whittingham, and special teams coach Sean McNabb. Replacements have not been announced.



**Mountain West Conference Record Book Update
Individual Single Game**

Total Offense - Most Plays

2. 65 (58-7), Charlie Peterson, Jr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Total Offense - Yards Gained

2. 422, Bret Engeman, So., (BYU) at Virginia (9/2/00)
4. 366, Charlie Peterson, Jr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Rushing - Attempts

t-1. 32, Adam Tate, Jr., (Utah) at Utah State (9/30/00)

Rushing - Yards Gained

4. 192, Nate Scott, Jr., (Wyoming) vs. Central Mich. (9/16/00)

Rushing - Touchdowns

t-1. 4, Mike Thiessen, Sr., (Air Force) vs. Wyoming (10/14/00)

Longest Rushing Play

1. 95, Nate Scott, Jr., (Wyoming) vs. Cent. Mich. (9/16/00)
2. 89, Cecil Sapp, So., (Colorado State) at Air Force (11/11/00)

Passing - Attempts

2. 58, Charlie Peterson, Jr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)
3. 57, Jack Hawley, Sr., (San Diego St.) vs. Arizona St. (8/31/00)

Passing - Completions

2. 34, Bret Engeman, So., (BYU) at Virginia (9/2/00)
34, Charlie Peterson, Jr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Passing - Yards

2. 447, Bret Engeman, So., (BYU) at Virginia (9/2/00)
4. 376, Charlie Peterson, Jr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Passing - Touchdowns

1. 5, Matt Newton, Jr., (Colorado State) at Air Force (11/11/00)
t-2. 4, Matt Newton, Jr., (Colorado State) vs. Colorado (9/2/00)
4, Mike Thiessen, Sr., (Air Force) vs. BYU (9/9/00)

Longest Pass Play

2. 81, Mike Thiessen, Sr., to Scotty McKay, Sr., (Air Force) at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Receiving - Receptions

t-1. 11, Nate Turner, Sr., (UNLV) at San Diego State (11/25/00)
t-2. 10, Cliff Russell, Jr., (Utah) vs. Arizona (9/2/00)
10, Ryan Fleming, Jr., (Air Force) vs. New Mexico (10/21/00)
t-5. 9, Margin Hooks, Sr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Receiving - Yards

1. 168, Pete Rebstock, Jr., (Colorado State) at Air Force (11/11/00)
2. 163, Ryan Fleming, Sr., (Air Force) at Notre Dame (10/28/00)
3. 161, Jonathon Pittman, Sr., (BYU) at Virginia (9/2/00)
5. 158, Nate Turner (UNLV) at San Diego State (11/25/00)

Scoring - Total Points

t-1. 24, Mike Thiessen, Sr., (Air Force) at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Scoring - Touchdowns

t-1. 4, Mike Thiessen, Sr., (Air Force) at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Longest Field Goal

t-1. 56, Owen Pochman, Sr., (BYU) vs. New Mexico (11/18/00)
t-3. 55, Golden Whetman, Jr., (Utah) at Wyoming (11/11/00)
t-5. 54, Dave Adams, Sr., (Air Force) at Army (11/4/00)

Longest Punt

1. 78, Cort Moffitt, So., (New Mexico) vs. Texas Tech (8/26/00)

Punt Return Yards

3. 143, Pete Rebstock, Jr., (CSU) at Nevada (9/30/00)

Longest Punt Return

2. 84, Troy Mason, So., (UNLV) vs. New Mexico (11/11/00)
t-3. 77, Holmon Wiggins, Jr., (New Mexico) at New Mexico St. (9/16/00)

Kick Return Yards

1. 166, Dexter Wynn, Fr., (CSU) at San Diego State (10/28/00)
3. 152, Larry Davis, Sr., (New Mexico) at BYU (11/18/00)

Longest Kick Return

1. 100, Dexter Wynn, Fr., (CSU) at San Diego State (10/28/00)
2. 98, Patrick Dyson, Sr., (Utah) vs. Air Force (9/23/00)
5. 66, Dexter Wynn, Fr., (CSU) at San Diego State (10/28/00)

Interceptions

1. 3, Tyson Smith, Sr., (BYU) vs. Wyoming (10/26/00)

Longest Interception Return

2. 72, Amar Brisco, Sr., (UNLV) at San Diego State (11/25/00)
3. 68, Corey Nelson, Sr., (Air Force) at Army (11/4/00)
4. 63, Justin Gallimore, Jr., (CSU) vs. Wyoming (11/16/00)

Most Punts

1. 11, Cort Moffitt, So., (New Mexico) vs. Oregon St. (9/9/00)

Field Goals Attempted

1. 6, Owen Pochman, Sr., (BYU) vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Single Game Team Records

Total Offense - Plays

1. 94, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
2. 92, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)
t-3. 90, by Air Force vs. San Diego State (11/18/00)

Total Offense - Yards

1. 698, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
2. 625, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Total Offense - Points

1. 55, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
4. 51, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Total Offense - First Downs

1. 38, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
3. 33, by Air Force vs. Colorado State (11/11/00)
4. 32, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)
5. 31, by Air Force vs. San Diego State (11/18/00)

Total Offense - First Downs Rushing

1. 30, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
2. 26, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)
t-4. 24, by Air Force vs. Colorado State (11/11/00)
24, by Air Force vs. San Diego State (11/18/00)

Total Offense - First Downs Passing

2. 21, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)
5. 16, by Wyoming vs. Air Force (10/14/00)
16, by Colorado State at Air Force (11/11/00)
16, by BYU vs. New Mexico (11/18/00)

Rushing - Attempts

t-1. 74, by Air Force vs. Colorado State (11/11/00)
3. 73, by Air Force vs. San Diego State (11/18/00)
5. 71, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Rushing - Yards

1. 583, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
2. 432, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)
3. 431, by UNLV at Hawaii (12/2/00)

Rushing - Touchdowns

1. 7, by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge (9/2/00)
2. 6, by Air Force at Wyoming (10/14/00)

Passing - Attempts

2. 58, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)
3. 57, by San Diego State vs. Arizona State (8/31/00)

Passing - Completions

2. 34, by BYU at Virginia (9/2/00)
34, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Passing - Yards

2. 447, by BYU at Virginia (9/2/00)
4. 376, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Passing - Touchdowns

1. 5, by Colorado State at Air Force (11/11/00)

Field Goal Attempts

1. 6, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Punt Return Yards

3. 150, by Colorado State at Nevada (9/30/00)

Kick Off Return Yards

1. 233, by Colorado State at San Diego State (10/28/00)
2. 172, by UNLV at Hawaii (12/2/00)
3. 166, by Utah vs. Air Force (9/23/00)

Interception Return Yards

1. 129, by Colorado State vs. Wyoming (11/16/00)
4. 83, by Colorado State at Utah (10/21/00)

Fewest Yards Allowed

4. 146, by Utah at Arizona (9/2/00)

Fewest Passing Yards Allowed

2. 11, by Utah at Arizona (9/2/00)

Most Penalty Yardage

1. 159, by BYU vs. San Diego State (10/21/00)

Margin of Victory

49 points by Air Force vs. Cal State-Northridge



2000 MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TELEVISION SCHEDULE

(National and regional broadcasts as of November 3, 2000)

Table with 5 columns: Date, Game, Time/Result, TV, Nat./Reg. Includes games like BYU vs. Florida State, New Mexico at Texas Tech, etc.

% - Appearance as part of opponent conference TV package.

Additional appearances took place via local TV packages (e.g., SportsWest Productions, KJZZ-TV) and nonconference opponent TV exposures.

2000 MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE FOOTBALL ON ESPN+PLUS

Table with 4 columns: Market, Affiliate, Market, Affiliate. Lists stations like KRQE-TV, KTRV-TV, etc.



2000 Mountain West Conference Schedule/Results

AIR FORCE FALCONS (8-3, 5-2 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
9/2	W 55-6	Cal State-Northridge (KXRM/KXTU)	50,166
9/9	W 31-23	BYU* (KXRM/KXTU, KSL)	45,277
9/23	W 23-14	at Utah* (ABC Regional)	37,151
9/30	L 13-34	at UNLV* (ABC Regional)	22,321
10/7	W 27-13	Navy (KXRM/KXTU)	50,324
10/14	W 51-34	at Wyoming*	15,452
10/21	L 23-29	New Mexico* (KXRM/KXTU, KRQE)	40,446
10/28	L 31-34(OT)	at Notre Dame (NBC)	80,232
11/4	W 41-27	at Army	41,287
11/11	W 44-40	Colorado State* (ESPN2)	35,151
11/18	W 45-24	San Diego State* (ESPN+)	33,975

SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS (3-8, 3-4 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
8/31	L 7-10	Arizona State (ESPN2)	30,931
9/9	L 13-49	Illinois (ESPN2)	26,779
9/16	L 3-17	at Arizona	44,973
9/23	L 3-35	at Oregon State (Fox Sports NW)	32,027
10/7	W 34-0	at Wyoming* (ABC Regional)	15,661
10/14	L 7-21	Utah* (ESPN+)	17,498
10/21	W 16-15	at BYU* (ESPN+)	61,194
10/28	L 22-34	Colorado State*	24,852
11/4	W 17-16	at New Mexico* (4 San Diego, KRQE)	21,007
11/18	L 24-45	at Air Force* (ESPN+)	33,975
11/25	L 24-31	UNLV* (KLAS, 4 San Diego)	17,184

BYU COUGARS (6-6, 4-3 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
8/26	L 3-29	vs. Florida State (ABC)	54,260
9/2	W 38-35(OT)	at Virginia (ABC Regional)	60,435
9/9	L 23-31	at Air Force* (KXRM/KXTU, KSL)	45,277
9/14	L 28-44	Mississippi State (ESPN)	60,278
9/23	W 10-7	UNLV* (ESPN+)	60,191
9/30	L 14-42	at Syracuse (ESPN2)	43,090
10/6	W 38-14	Utah State (KSL)	63,318
10/21	L 15-16	San Diego State* (ESPN+)	61,194
10/26	W 19-7	Wyoming* (ESPN)	56,422
11/2	L 21-45	at Colorado State* (ESPN)	27,412
11/18	W 37-13	New Mexico* (KSL, KRQE)	62,308
11/24	W 34-27	at Utah* (ESPN)	45,064

UNLV REBELS (7-5, 4-3 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
9/9	L 22-37	at Iowa State (KFBT)	35,408
9/16	W 38-0	North Texas	16,544
9/23	L 7-10	at BYU* (ESPN+)	60,191
9/30	W 34-23	Air Force* (ABC Regional)	22,321
10/7	W 38-7	Nevada (Cox Cable)	27,578
10/14	L 19-20	at Colorado State* (ESPN2)	31,700
10/21	W 42-23	Wyoming* (Cox Cable, KGWN)	19,967
10/28	L 40-43(OT)	at Ole Miss	40,338
11/4	L 16-38	at Utah* (ESPN+)	34,842
11/11	W 18-14	New Mexico* (ESPN+)	17,081
11/25	W 31-24	at San Diego State* (KLAS, 4 San Diego)	17,184
12/2	W 34-32	at Hawai'i	34,792

COLORADO STATE RAMS (9-2, 6-1 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
9/2	W 28-24	vs. Colorado (ESPN2)	67,466
9/9	W 41-7	East Tennessee State (KTVD/KTVS)	25,122
9/16	L 10-13	at Arizona State (KTVD)	51,911
9/30	W 45-14	at Nevada (KTVD/KTVS)	19,003
10/7	W 17-14	New Mexico* (ESPN+)	27,507
10/14	W 20-19	UNLV* (ESPN2)	31,700
10/21	W 24-17	at Utah* (KTVD, KJZZ)	37,505
10/28	W 34-22	at San Diego State*	24,852
11/2	W 45-21	BYU* (ESPN)	27,412
11/11	L 40-44	at Air Force* (ESPN2)	35,151
11/16	W 37-13	Wyoming* (ESPN)	25,922

UTAH UTES (4-7, 3-4 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
9/2	L 3-17	Arizona (ESPN2)	41,352
9/9	L 21-24	at California (Fox Sports Bay Area)	43,500
9/16	L 21-38	Washington State (KJZZ)	38,814
9/23	L 14-23	Air Force* (ABC Regional)	37,151
9/30	W 35-14	at Utah State (KSL)	29,814
10/14	W 21-7	at San Diego State* (ESPN+)	17,498
10/21	L 17-24	Colorado State* (KTVD, KJZZ)	37,505
10/28	L 3-10	at New Mexico* (ESPN+)	21,366
11/4	W 38-16	UNLV* (ESPN+)	34,842
11/11	W 34-0	at Wyoming* (KJZZ)	10,195
11/24	L 27-34	BYU* (ESPN)	45,064

NEW MEXICO LOBOS (5-7, 3-4 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
8/26	L 3-24	at Texas Tech (Fox Sports SW/KRQE)	42,238
9/2	L 14-31	Boise State	22,090
9/9	L 20-28	Oregon State	30,830
9/16	W 16-13	at New Mexico State	23,087
9/23	W 35-28	Northern Arizona	21,553
9/30	W 45-10	Wyoming* (KRQE, KGWN)	25,089
10/7	L 14-17	at Colorado State* (ESPN+)	27,507
10/21	W 29-23	at Air Force* (KXRM/KXTU, KRQE)	40,446
10/28	W 10-3	Utah* (ESPN+)	21,366
11/4	L 16-17	San Diego State* (KRQE, 4 San Diego)	21,007
11/11	L 14-18	at UNLV* (ESPN+)	17,081
11/18	L 13-37	at BYU* (KSL, KRQE)	62,308

WYOMING COWBOYS (1-10, 0-7 MWC)

Date	Score	Opponent	Attn
8/31	L 21-35	at Auburn (ESPN)	76,128
9/9	L 3-51	at Texas A&M (Fox Sports Net)	69,273
9/16	W 31-10	Central Michigan	19,050
9/23	L 28-35	Nevada (KGWN)	13,754
9/30	L 10-45	at New Mexico* (KRQE, KGWN)	25,089
10/7	L 0-34	San Diego State* (ABC Regional)	15,661
10/14	L 34-51	Air Force*	15,452
10/21	L 23-42	at UNLV* (Cox Cable, KGWN)	19,967
10/26	L 7-19	at BYU* (ESPN)	56,422
11/11	L 0-34	Utah*	10,195
11/16	L 13-37	at Colorado State* (ESPN)	25,922

*Denotes Mountain West Conference game