

## UNIVERSITY OF UTAH FAST FACTS

Location: Salt Lake City  
 Metro Population: 1,333,914  
 Elevation: 4,657 feet  
 President: Michael K. Young  
 Director of Athletics: Dr. Chris Hill  
 Governing Body: Board of Trustees & Board of Regents  
 Founded: 1850  
 Enrollment: 29,012  
 Nickname: Utes  
 Colors: Crimson and White  
 Mascot: Swoop (red-tailed hawk)  
 Stadium: Rice-Eccles: 45,017  
 Surface: FieldTurf  
 Indoor Facility: Spence Eccles Field House  
 Web Site: [www.UtahUtes.com](http://www.UtahUtes.com)  
 Conference: Mountain West Conference  
 Affiliation: NCAA Division I-A

## DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Athletics Department: (801) 581-8171  
 Football Office: (801) 581-7684  
 Sports Information: (801) 581-3511/3510/3771  
 Stadium Press Box: (801) 581-8210/585-6934  
 Ticket Office: (801) 581-8849  
 SID Fax: 581-4358  
 Football Fax: 585-3808

## REVIEWING 2005

Overall Record: 7-5  
 Mountain West Conference Record: 4-4  
 Mountain West Conference Finish: 4th-tie  
 Postseason: Emerald Bowl  
 Bowl Result: Beat Georgia Tech 38-10  
 MWC Defensive Player of the Year: Eric Weddle  
 Emerald Bowl Defensive MVP: Eric Weddle  
 Emerald Bowl Offensive MVP: Travis LaTendresse

## UTAH FOOTBALL FACTS

Offense: Spread  
 Defense: 4-3  
 Starters Returning: 15  
 Offense: 6  
 Defense: 8  
 Kicker: 1  
 Lettermen Returning: 36  
 Offense: 16  
 Defense: 18  
 Specialists: 2  
 Specialist: 1  
 Starters Lost: 11  
 Lettermen Lost: 29

## ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Administration	Office	Home	Cell	Email
Athletics Director, Dr. Chris Hill	801-581-5605	Call SID		<a href="mailto:chill@huntsman.utah.edu">chill@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate AD/Sports Information Director, Liz Abel	801-581-3511	596-1650	209-6346	<a href="mailto:label@huntsman.utah.edu">label@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate AD/ Compliance, Doug Archie	801-585-1629			<a href="mailto:darchie@huntsman.utah.edu">darchie@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate AD/SWA, Mary Bowman	801-585-6850			<a href="mailto:mbowman@huntsman.utah.edu">mbowman@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate AD/Internal Operations, Pete Oliszcak	801-587-7629		560-7648	<a href="mailto:poliszcak@huntsman.utah.edu">poliszcak@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate AD/Development, Chris Ritrievi	801-585-6493			<a href="mailto:critrievi@huntsman.utah.edu">critrievi@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Ticket Manager, Zack Lassiter	801-581-6632			<a href="mailto:zlassiter@huntsman.utah.edu">zlassiter@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Director of Athletic Relations, Manny Hendrix	801-585-7233			<a href="mailto:mhendrix@huntsman.utah.edu">mhendrix@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Events Coordinator, Steve Pyne	801-585-5054		554-9078	<a href="mailto:spyne@huntsman.utah.edu">spyne@huntsman.utah.edu</a>

Sports Information Staff	Office	Home	Cell	Email
Director, Liz Abel (football SID)	801-581-3511	596-1650	209-6346	<a href="mailto:label@huntsman.utah.edu">label@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Associate Director, Lageschulte, Mike	801-587-9162	582-7181	557-2322	<a href="mailto:mlageschulte@huntsman.utah.edu">mlageschulte@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Assistant Director, Andy Seeley (asst. football SID)	801-581-3771		580-4411	<a href="mailto:aseeley@huntsman.utah.edu">aseeley@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Assistant Director, Scott Pettett	801-581-8302		580-4502	<a href="mailto:spettett@huntsman.utah.edu">spettett@huntsman.utah.edu</a>
Office Manger, Sally Anderson	801-581-3510			<a href="mailto:sanderson@huntsman.utah.edu">sanderson@huntsman.utah.edu</a>

## UTAH FOOTBALL COACHES AND STAFF (AREA CODE 801)

Head Coach: Kyle Whittingham (Brigham Young, 1984).....581-7684/3516  
 Record at Utah: 7-5 (1 year)  
 Career Record: 7-5 (1 year)  
 Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Line: Gary Andersen (Utah 1986).....581-3515  
 Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks: Andy Ludwig (Portland State, 1988) .....581-3520  
 Tight Ends/Co-Special Teams: Jay Boulware (Texas, 1996).....581-3518  
 Offensive Line: Charlie Dickey (Arizona, 1987).....581-3932  
 Cornerbacks/Co-Special Teams: Jay Hill (Utah 1999) .....581-3521  
 Safeties: Derrick Odum (Utah 1993) .....581-3522  
 Wide Receivers: Aaron Roderick (Brigham Young, 1998).....581-3517  
 Running Backs/Recruiting Coord.: Dave Schramm (San Diego State, 1988).....581-3519  
 Inside Linebackers: Kalani Sitake (Brigham Young, 2000).....581-6122

## UTAH FOOTBALL STAFF (AREA CODE 801)

Football Secretary: Helen Buchanan.....581-7684  
 Director of Football Operations: Shane Schut.....581-8563  
 Administrative Assistant: Mark Andersen .....587-7848  
 Director of Sports Medicine: Bill Bean.....581-6630  
 Strength Coach: Doug Elisaia .....581-4548

## INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

Player and coach interviews are conducted after practice. Head Coach Kyle Whittingham and players are available at select other times with prior arrangements made through Associate Athletics Director Liz Abel (801-581-3511) or Assistant SID Andy Seeley (581-3771).

## PRACTICE POLICIES

Spring practices are open to the media and public. Starting in August, practices will remain open to the media and will be closed to the public. Television cameras may shoot only the first 30 minutes of practice but may return for post-practice interviews.

## PRACTICE LOCATIONS

### McCarthy Practice Fields (weather permitting)

March 25, 27, 28, 30  
 April 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 21

### Rice-Eccles Stadium (scrimmages)

April 8, 15, 22 (spring game)

# UTAH PLAYER PERSONNEL

## STARTERS RETURNING (15)

### Offensive Starters Returning (6\*)

Jason Boone, OL (6-4, 294, Jr.); \*Brent Casteel, WR (5-10, 193, So.); Robert Conley, OL (6-1, 311, So.); Brian Hernandez, WR (6-0, 175, Sr.); Brian Johnson, QB (6-1, 199, Jr.); \*Derrek Richards, WR (5-11, 175, Jr.); Tavo Tupola, OL (6-3, 300, Sr.).

\*WRs Casteel and Richards each started 5 games in 2005

### Defensive Starters Returning (8)

Kyle Brady, LB (6-1, 232, Jr.); Martail Burnett, DE (6-3, 248, Jr.); Casey Evans, DB (6-0, 202, Sr.); Joe Jiannoni, LB (6-1, 230, Jr.); Soli Lefiti, DL (6-4, 265, Sr.); Kelly Talavou, DL (6-2, 307, Sr.); Steve Tate, DB (5-11, 197, Jr.); Eric Weddle, DB (6-0, 200, Sr.).

### Specialist Starters Returning (1)

Louie Sakoda, P (5-10, 175, So.)

## LETTERMEN RETURNING (36)

### Offense (16):

Jason Boone, OL; Freddie Brown, WR; Brent Casteel, WR; Robert Conley, OL; Brian Hernandez, WR; Thomas Huff (2004), WR; Brian Johnson, QB; Mike Liti, RB; Darrell Mack, RB; Eric Pettit, OL; Darryl Poston, RB; Brett Ratliff, QB; Derrek Richards, WR; Tavo Tupola, OL; Jason Voss, TE; Marquis Wilson, WR.

### Defense (18):

Derek Beardall, DL; Kyle Brady, LB; Martail Burnett, DE; Casey Evans, DB; Shaun Harper, DB; Joe Jiannoni, LB; Soli Lefiti, DL; Brice McCain, DB; Taylor Miller, LB; Malakai Mokofisi (2004), LB; Loma Olevao, LB; Alex Puccinelli, DE; Eric Shyne, DB; Ryan Smith, DB; Paul Soliai, DT; Kelly Talavou, DT; Steve Tate, DB; Eric Weddle, DB.

### Specialists (2):

Brent Rawlings, P; Louie Sakoda, P.

## REDSHIRTS & TRANSFERS RETURNING (21)

Zane Beadles, OL; Lance Bordeleau, TE; Kevin Dunn, QB; Kenape Eliapo, DL; Bart-Jonah Gaison, K; Joe Giuliani, DB; Tommy Grady, QB; Jeremy Inferrera, OL; Chris Joppru, TE; Semisi Livai, DL; Greg Newman, DE; Kyler Rushton, DB; Colt Sampson, TE; Andrew Smart, DL; Sean Smith, WR; Aaron Smith, LB; Casey Sutera, DL; JJ Williams, LB; Tyler Williams, OL; Jarrell Woods, RB; Josh Woods, DB.

## STARTERS LOST (11)

### Offensive Starters Lost (6)

Jesse Boone, OL (6-5, 305); David Dirkmaat, OL (6-7, 310); Quinton Ganther, RB (5-10, 214); Chad Jacobsen, TE (6-4, 250); Travis LaTendresse (6-1, 200); John Madsen, WR (6-5, 220).

### Defensive Starters Lost (3)

Steve Fifita, DT (6-0, 322, Sr.); Eugene Oates (5-11, 183); Spencer Toone, LB (6-2, 235, Sr.).

### Specialist Starters Lost (2)

Dan Beardall, PK (6-1, 193), Brock Condie, SN (5-10, 220).

## LETTERMEN LOST (29)

### Offense (12):

Mitch Arquette, OL; Jesse Boone, OL; David Dirkmaat, OL; Quinton Ganther, RB; Chad Jacobsen, TE; Andrew Johnson, OL; Jordan Johnson, WR; Travis LaTendresse, WR; John Madsen, WR; Willie Sao, TE; Ameen Shaheen, TE; Fano Tagovailoa, WR.

### Defense (14):

Kite Afeaki, DL; Kawika Casco, DB; Steve Fifita, DL; Afa Garrigan, LB; Stephen Gordon, DB; Tim Harris, DB; Marquess Ledbetter, DL; Grady Marshall, LB; Brady Nielson, LB; Eugene Oates, DB; Charlie TeGantvoort, LB; Spencer Toone, LB; Dymond Unutoa, DB; Antonio Young, DB.

### Specialists (3):

Dan Beardall, PK, Brian Borreson, PK; Brock Condie, SN.

## 2006 RECRUITS (25)

Neli A'asa, DT; @Nick Binks, DE; Chet Blasucci, LB; Joe Dale, DB; Joe Faifili, DT; @Sean Fitzgerald, WR; Dustin Hensel, OL; Justin Jones, DB; Pauli Latu, DT; George Molifua, HB; Mookie Murphy, DB; Caleb Schlauderaff, OL; Corey Seiuli, OL; Matt Sims, HB; Tony Smith, WR; R.J. Stanford, RB; Stevenson Sylvester, LB; Zane Taylor, DT; Kenton Thomas, RB; Aaron Tonga, DT; Bubba Tuinei, DE; @Peter Tuitupou, TE; Mombroso Washington, DB; Walter Watts, OL; Zeke Wily, DT.  
#Returning from LDS Church Mission  
@Going on LDS Church Mission in 2006.

## ALL-AMERICA CANDIDATE

Eric Weddle, DB



All-America candidate Eric Weddle.

## ALL-MWC CANDIDATES

Eric Weddle, DB  
Tavo Tupola, OL  
Casey Evans, DB  
Brian Hernandez, WR  
Jason Boone, OL  
Robert Conley, OL  
Martail Burnett, DE  
Kelly Talavou, DL  
Joe Jiannoni, LB  
Steve Tate, DB

## ALL-MWC UTES RETURNING

**Defensive Player of the Year**  
Eric Weddle, DB

**First Team**  
Eric Weddle, DB

**Second Team**  
Casey Evans, DB  
Brian Johnson, QB  
Tavo Tupola, OL

## ALL-MWC UTES LOST

**First Team**  
Dan Beardall, PK  
Jesse Boone, OL  
Steve Fifita, DL  
Spencer Toone, LB

**Second Team**  
Quinton Ganther, RB

## OFFENSE

### Left Tackle

- 78 Tavo Tupola (6-3 300, Sr., 3VL)  
60 Terrence Apted (6-3, 317, So., SQ)

### Left Guard

- 75 Eric Pettit (6-4, 306, Sr., 2VL)  
68 Zane Beadles (6-4, 308, Fr., RS)

### Center

- 63 Kyle Gunther (6-4, 302, Jr., SQ)  
70 Jeremy Inferrera (6-3, 292, Jr., RS)

### Right Guard

- 66 Robert Conley (6-1, 311, So., 1VL)  
74 Corey Seiuli (6-3, 326, So., JC)

### Right Tackle

- 69 Jason Boone (6-4, 294, Jr., 2VL)  
65 Dustin Hensel (6-7, 322, So., JC)

### Wide Receiver

- 26 Derrek Richards (5-11, 175, Jr., 2VL)  
88 Freddie Brown (6-3, 217, So., 1VL)

### Wide Receiver

- 5 Brent Casteel (5-10, 193, So., 1VL)  
27 Sean Smith (6-3, 207, Fr., RS)

### Wide Receiver

- 2 Marquis Wilson (5-11, 173, So., 1VL)  
81 Bradon Godfrey (6-3, 198, So., RS)

### Wide Receiver

- 16 Brian Hernandez\* (6-0, 175, Sr., 1VL)  
17 Fano Tagovailoa (6-1, 202, Sr., 2VL)  
82 John Peel (6-2, 196, So., SQ)

### Quarterback

- 15 Brett Ratliff (6-4, 224, Sr., 1VL) OR  
3 Brian Johnson\* (6-1, 199, Jr., 2VL)  
8 Tommy Grady (6-7, 233, Jr., RS)  
14 Kevin Dunn (6-3, 220, Fr., RS)

### Running Back

- 12 Darrell Mack (6-0, 216, So., 1VL)  
10 Darryl Poston (5-11, 197, Sr., 1VL)  
20 Mike Liti (5-10, 215, Jr., 2VL)

\*Injured for spring

## DEFENSE

### Open End

- 93 Martail Burnett (6-3, 248, Jr., 2VL)  
45 Alex Puccinelli (6-1, 236, Jr., 1VL)

### Tackle

- 98 Kelly Talavou (6-2, 307, Sr., 1VL)  
95 Bryce Scanlon (6-2, 274, So., SQ)

### Nose Guard

- 90 Paul Soliai (6-4, 318, Sr., 1VL)  
92 Kenape Eliapo (6-0, 290, Fr., RS)  
Pauli Latu (6-0, 295, Fr., HS)

### Defensive End

- 97 Soli Lefiti\* (6-4, 265, Sr., 1VL)  
91 Casey Sutera (6-3, 262, Jr., RS)

### Rover Linebacker

- 44 Joe Giannoni (6-1, 230, Jr., 1VL)  
54 Taylor Miller (6-1, 222, Jr., 2VL)

### Middle Linebacker

- 37 Loma Olevao (6-1, 232, Jr., 1VL) OR  
47 Chet Blasucci (6-1, 241, Jr., JC)  
13 JJ Williams (6-0, 222, Fr., RS)

### Stud Linebacker

- 14 Kyle Brady (6-1, 232, Jr., 2VL)  
22 Malakai Mokofisi (6-2, 228, Jr., 1VL)

### Right Corner

- 32 Eric Weddle (6-0, 200, Sr., 3VL)  
29 Eric Shyne (5-10, 178, Sr., 1VL)

### Left Corner

- 21 Shaun Harper (5-9, 180, Sr., 3VL) OR  
6 Brice McCain (5-9, 178, So., 1VL)  
7 Mombroso Washington (6-0, 173, Jr., JC)

### Nickel Back

- 32 Eric Weddle (6-0, 200, Sr., 3VL)  
10 Ryan Smith (5-10, 165, Jr., 2VL)

### Free Safety

- 28 Steve Tate\* (5-11, 197, Jr., 1VL)  
36 Joe Giuliani (6-1, 201, Fr., RS)

### Strong Safety

- 31 Casey Evans (6-0, 202, Sr., 3VL)  
24 Kyler Rushton (6-0, 203, Fr., RS)

\*Injured for spring

## SPECIAL TEAMS

### Punter

- 35 Louie Sakoda (5-10, 175, So., 1VL)  
59 Brent Rawlings (5-7, 171, Jr., 1VL) OR  
62 Bart-Jonah Gaison (6-0, 232, Fr., RS)

### Place Kicker

- 35 Louie Sakoda (5-10, 175, So., 1VL)  
30 Ben Vroman (5-11, 187, So., SQ)

### Long Snapper

- 61 Pete Aneiro (6-0, 193, Sr., SQ)  
64 Clint Mower (6-0, 192, So., JC)

### Holder

- 32 Eric Weddle (6-0, 200, Sr., 3VL)  
59 Brent Rawlings (5-7, 171, Jr., 1VL)

### Punt Returns

TBA

### Kickoff Returns

TBA

# 2006 UTAH ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Yr.	Exp.	B-Date	Age	Hometown/Previous School
61	Pete Aneiro	SN	6-0	193	Sr.	SQ	8-28-84	22	Alta Loma, Calif./Mt. San Antonio CC
60	Terrence Apted	OL	6-3	317	So.	SQ	4-6-86	20	Pago Pago, American Samoa/Fagatuio HS
68	Zane Beadles	OL	6-4	308	Fr.	RS	11-19-86	19	Sandy, Utah/Hillcrest HS
96	Derek Beardall	DL	6-1	293	Sr.	1VL	9-2-82	24	Highland, Utah/Snow College
51	Matt Binks	LB	5-11	210	So.	TR	10-17-84	21	Bountiful, Utah/Southern Utah
47	Chet Blasucci	LB	6-1	241	Jr.	JC	4-10-82	24	La Canada, Calif./Snow College
69	Jason Boone	OL	6-4	294	Jr.	2VL	4-20-84	22	Fillmore, Utah/Millard HS
84	Lance Bordeleau	TE	6-4	253	Fr.	RS	9-17-86	19	Simi Valley, Calif./Royal HS
14	Kyle Brady	LB	6-1	232	Jr.	2VL	11-7-84	21	Tooele, Utah/Tooele HS
88	Freddie Brown	WR	6-3	217	So.	1VL	6-24-86	20	La Verne, Calif./Citrus JC
93	Martail Burnett	DE	6-3	248	Jr.	2VL	1-10-85	21	Los Angeles, Calif./David Starr Jordan HS
5	Brent Casteel	WR	5-10	193	So.	1VL	7-12-85	21	San Francisco, Calif./Antioch HS
41	Jim Christensen	DB	6-1	185	Fr.	HS	10-10-84	22	Alpine, Utah/Lone Peak HS
91	Nate Clark	TE	6-3	231	So.	SQ	3-11-84	22	Centerville, Utah/Weber State
34	Tysen Clements	DB	6-0	190	Fr.	HS	11-10-84	21	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
66	Robert Conley	OL	6-1	311	So.	1VL	4-17-86	20	La Marque, Texas/La Marque HS
19	Danny Copinga	DB	6-1	197	Fr.	TR	9-14-84	21	Salt Lake City/Brigham Young
14	Kevin Dunn	QB	6-3	220	Fr.	RS	1-24-87	19	Santa Barbara, Calif./Santa Barbara HS
92	Kenape Eliapo	DL	6-0	290	Fr.	RS	3-22-86	20	San Francisco, Calif./So. San Francisco HS
31	Casey Evans	DB	6-0	202	Sr.	3VL	4-26-84	22	Salt Lake City/Olympus HS
62	Bart-Jonah Gaison	K/P	6-0	232	Fr.	RS	3-20-87	19	Kaneohe, Hawaii/The Kamehameha School
36	Joe Giuliani	DB	6-1	201	Fr.	RS	3-7-86	20	Simi Valley, Calif./Oaks Christian HS
81	Bradon Godfrey	WR	6-3	198	So.	RS	10-17-85	20	Layton, Utah/Southern Utah
8	Tommy Grady	QB	6-7	233	Jr.	RS	3-13-84	22	Huntington Beach, Calif./Edison HS
63	Kyle Gunther	OL	6-4	302	Jr.	SQ	6-26-85	21	Camarillo, Calif./Adolfo Camarillo HS
85	Drew Hackett	WR	6-3	196	Sr.	SQ	9-12-84	21	Boise, Idaho/Boise State
21	Shaun Harper	DB	5-9	180	Sr.	3VL	8-12-84	21	San Diego, Calif./Mission Bay HS
65	Dustin Hensel	OL	6-7	322	So.	JC	11-22-85	20	La Palma, Calif./Golden West CC
16	Brian Hernandez	WR	6-0	175	Sr.	1VL	4-13-84	22	Phoenix, Ariz./Pima CC
1	Thomas Huff	WR	6-4	208	Jr.	1VL	3-25-85	21	Phoenix, Ariz./Camelback HS
70	Jeremy Infrerra	OL	6-3	292	Jr.	RS	7-30-85	21	Honolulu, Hawaii/Hawaii
43	Mike James	DB	5-10	185	So.	JC	7-4-85	21	Thousand Oaks, Calif./Moorpark College
44	Joe Jiannoni	LB	6-1	230	Jr.	1VL	12-27-84	21	La Quinta, Calif./La Quinta HS
3	Brian Johnson	QB	6-2	205	Jr.	2VL	2-16-87	19	Baytown, Texas/Robert E. Lee HS
80	Chris Joppru	TE	6-6	241	Fr.	RS	2-6-87	19	Minnetonka, Minn./Minnetonka HS
97	Soli Lefti	DL	6-4	265	Sr.	1VL	4-2-85	21	Kaneohe, Hawaii/Palomar CC
20	Mike Liti	RB	5-10	215	Jr.	2VL	5-7-84	22	Santa Ana, Calif./Foothill HS
58	Semisi Livai	DL	6-0	284	Fr.	RS	9-28-82	23	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
12	Darrell Mack	RB	6-0	216	So.	1VL	10-10-86	19	Spring Valley, Calif./Monte Vista HS
13	Derek McAllister	QB	6-2	194	Jr.	JC	5-26-82	24	Washington, Utah/Dixie State College
6	Brice McCain	DB	5-9	178	So.	1VL	12-10-86	19	Terrell, Texas/Terrell HS
87	Taj Mecham	WR	6-1	199	Fr.	HS	1-5-85	21	Salt Lake City/Lone Peak HS
54	Taylor Miller	LB	6-1	222	Jr.	2VL	7-8-81	25	Las Vegas, Nev./Cimarron HS
22	Malakai Mokofisi	LB	6-2	228	Jr.	1VL	6-24-85	21	Laie, Hawaii/Kailua HS
42	Pate Moleni	TE	6-3	264	So.	SQ	10-29-82	23	West Valley City, Utah/Hunter HS
46	George Molifua	HB	5-10	220	Fr.	HS	1-25-84	22	Oceanside, Calif./Carlsbad HS
53	Ryan Morrow	LB	6-1	239	So.	TR	9-25-86	19	Salt Lake City/Alabama
64	Clint Mower	DB/LS	6-0	192	So.	JC	11-2-84	21	Alpine, Utah/Dixie State College
56	Greg Newman	DL	6-4	256	So.	RS	4-27-85	21	Thousand Oaks, Calif./Westlake HS
37	Loma Olevao	LB	6-1	232	Jr.	1VL	12-24-81	24	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
82	John Peel	WR	6-2	196	So.	SQ	5-9-86	20	Scottsdale, Ariz./Chaparral HS
75	Eric Pettit	OL	6-4	306	Sr.	2VL	3-31-83	23	West Jordan, Utah/West Jordan HS
33	Brady Phillips	DB	5-10	192	Fr.	HS	2-14-84	22	Provo, Utah/Utah Valley State College
10	Darryl Poston	RB	5-11	197	Sr.	1VL	8-8-83	23	Huntington Beach, Calif./USC
45	Alex Puccinelli	DE	6-1	236	Jr.	1VL	3-26-85	21	Toluca Lake, Calif./Notre Dame HS
15	Brett Ratliff	QB	6-4	224	Sr.	1VL	8-8-85	21	Chico, Calif./Butte College
59	Brent Rawlings	P	5-7	171	Jr.	1VL	3-17-85	21	Sandy, Utah/Alta HS
83	R.J. Rice	WR	5-8	187	So.	TR	9-14-84	21	Salt Lake City/Southern Utah
26	Derrek Richards	WR	5-11	175	Jr.	2VL	12-12-83	22	American Fork, Utah/American Fork HS
24	Kyler Rushton	DB	6-0	203	Fr.	RS	10-14-82	23	Las Vegas, Nev./Cimarron HS
35	Louie Sakoda	K/P	5-10	175	So.	1VL	10-28-86	19	San Jose, Calif./Branham HS
48	Colt Sampson	TE	6-4	240	So.	SQ	3-18-83	23	Pleasant Grove, Utah/Pleasant Grove HS
95	Bryce Scanlon	DL	6-2	274	So.	SQ	9-5-84	21	Evanston, Wyo./Evanston HS
74	Corey Seili	OL	6-3	326	So.	JC	8-19-84	22	Provo, Utah/Dixie State College

# 2006 UTAH ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

29	Eric Shyne	DB	5-10	178	Sr.	1VL	7-6-82	24	Pomona, Calif./Reedley CC
40	Andrew Smart	DL	6-3	238	Fr.	RS	12-20-83	22	Salt Lake City/Brighton HS
52	Aaron Smith	LB	5-11	218	Jr.	RS	4-15-83	23	Draper, Utah/Northern State
10	Ryan Smith	DB	5-10	165	Jr.	2VL	7-17-85	21	Diamond Bar, Calif./Bishop Amat Mem. HS
27	Sean Smith	WR	6-3	207	Fr.	RS	7-14-87	19	Pasadena, Calif./Blair HS
90	Paul Soliai	DT	6-4	318	Sr.	1VL	12-30-83	22	Pago Pago, American Samoa/Coffeyville CC
25	Nate Stevens	DB	5-10	199	So.	JC	9-1-83	22	Salt Lake City/Golden West CC
39	Ray Stowers	RB	6-1	224	So.	SQ	2-2-85	21	Honolulu, Hawaii/Iolani HS
91	Casey Sutura	DL	6-3	262	Jr.	RS	7-17-84	22	Murray, Utah/Southern Utah
98	Kelly Talavou	DL	6-2	307	Sr.	1VL	10-4-84	21	Santa Ana, Calif./Idaho
28	Steve Tate	DB	5-11	197	Jr.	1VL	1-11-83	23	Salt Lake City/Utah State
86	Judd Tolman	WR	6-3	194	Fr.	HS	5-2-87	19	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
78	Tavo Tupola	OL	6-3	300	Sr.	3VL	12-23-80	25	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
38	Reggie Turner	RB	6-1	239	Sr.	SQ	6-23-84	22	Culver City, Calif./West Los Angeles CC
18	Jason Voss	TE	6-3	268	Sr.	2VL	2-17-84	21	Tempe, Ariz./Valley Christian HS
30	Ben Vroman	K	5-11	187	So.	SQ	4-22-87	19	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
7	Mombroso Washington	DB	6-0	173	Jr.	JC	11-10-81	24	Bloomington, Calif./San Bernardino Valley CC
32	Eric Weddle	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	3VL	1-4-85	211	Alta Loma, Calif./Alta Loma HS
13	JJ Williams	DB	6-0	222	Fr.	RS	2-26-86	20	Aurora, Colo./Grandview HS
57	Tyler Williams	OL	6-1	292	Fr.	RS	2-28-87	19	Mililani, Hawaii/Kamehameha HS
89	Russ Willison	TE	6-3	235	Jr.	JC	7-13-84	22	Irvine, Calif./Orange Coast CC
2	Marquis Wilson	WR	5-11	173	So.	1VL	11-11-86	19	Salt Lake City/Juan Diego HS
23	Jarrell Woods	RB	5-10	195	Fr.	RS	9-3-86	19	Northville, Mich./Novi HS
8	Josh Woods	DB	5-10	190	Fr.	RS	9-3-86	19	Northville, Mich./Novi HS
49	Mike Wright	LB	5-11	214	Jr.	TR	6-6-86	20	Bountiful, Utah/Southern Utah

## NEW IN THE FALL OF 2006

Neli A'asa	DT	6-2	290	Fr.	HS	2-16-88	18	Big Rapids, Mich./Big Rapids HS
Joe Dale	DB	5-11	190	Fr.	HS	12-18-86	19	Irving, Texas/Nimitz HS
Joe Faifili	DT	6-2	296	Fr.	HS	5-16-88	18	Laie, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
Justin Jones	DB	5-10	169	Fr.	HS	6-6-88	18	Marshall, Texas/Marshall HS
Pauli Latu	DT	6-0	295	Fr.	HS	4-2-88	18	West Valley City, Utah/Hunter HS
Mookie Murphy	DB	5-10	172	Fr.	HS	11-10-87	18	Salt Lake City, Utah/Juan Diego Catholic HS
Caleb Schlauderaff	OL	6-5	270	Fr.	HS	11-7-87	18	Shelton, Wash./Shelton HS
Matt Sims	HB	6-1	259	Jr.	JC	10-30-85	20	Lompoc, Calif./Allan Hancock College
Tony Smith	WR	6-0	176	Fr.	HS	3-3-85	21	Pleasanton, Calif./Foothill HS
R.J. Stanford	RB	5-11	180	Fr.	HS	5-6-88	18	Chino, Calif./Chino HS
Stevenson Sylvester	LB	6-2	212	Fr.	HS	7-18-88	18	Las Vegas, Nev./Valley HS
Zane Taylor	DT	6-3	295	Fr.	HS	4-23-88	18	Moab, Utah/Grand County HS
Kenton Thomas	RB	6-1	198	Fr.	HS	8-10-88	18	Phoenix, Ariz./Greenway HS
Aaron Tonga	DT	6-2	280	Jr.	JC	10-10-83	22	Pomona, Calif./Mt. San Antonio College
Bubba Tuinei	DE	6-4	228	Fr.	HS	10-13-88	17	Salt Lake City/Cottonwood HS
Walter Watts	OL	6-2	329	Fr.	HS	10-11-88	17	Los Banos, Calif./Los Banos HS
Zeke Wily	DT	6-4	300	Fr.	HS	1-31-88	18	Orem, Utah/Orem HS

Please Note: "Year" is year of eligibility starting in Fall 2006. "Age" calculated from Sept. 1, 2006.

# 2006 UTAH NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Yr.	Exp.	B-Date	Age	Hometown/Previous School
1	Thomas Huff	WR	6-4	208	Jr.	1VL	3-25-85	21	Phoenix, Ariz./Camelback HS
2	Marquis Wilson	WR	5-11	173	So.	1VL	11-11-86	19	Salt Lake City/Juan Diego HS
3	Brian Johnson	QB	6-2	205	Jr.	2VL	2-16-87	19	Baytown, Texas/Robert E. Lee HS
5	Brent Casteel	WR	5-10	193	So.	1VL	7-12-85	21	San Francisco, Calif./Antioch HS
6	Brice McCain	DB	5-9	178	So.	1VL	12-10-86	19	Terrell, Texas/Terrell HS
7	Mombroso Washington	DB	6-0	173	Jr.	JC	11-10-81	24	Bloomington, Calif./San Bernardino Valley CC
8	Tommy Grady	QB	6-7	233	Jr.	RS	3-13-84	22	Huntington Beach, Calif./Edison HS
8	Josh Woods	DB	5-10	190	Fr.	RS	9-3-86	19	Northville, Mich./Novi HS
10	Darryl Poston	RB	5-11	197	Sr.	1VL	8-8-83	23	Huntington Beach, Calif./USC
10	Ryan Smith	DB	5-10	165	Jr.	2VL	7-17-85	21	Diamond Bar, Calif./Bishop Amat Mem. HS
12	Darrell Mack	RB	6-0	216	So.	1VL	10-10-86	19	Spring Valley, Calif./Monte Vista HS
13	Derek McAllister	QB	6-2	194	Jr.	JC	5-26-82	24	Washington, Utah/Dixie State College
13	JJ Williams	DB	6-0	222	Fr.	RS	2-26-86	20	Aurora, Colo./Grandview HS
14	Kyle Brady	LB	6-1	232	Jr.	2VL	11-7-84	21	Tooele, Utah/Tooele HS
14	Kevin Dunn	QB	6-3	220	Fr.	RS	1-24-87	19	Santa Barbara, Calif./Santa Barbara HS
15	Brett Ratliff	QB	6-4	224	Sr.	1VL	8-8-85	21	Chico, Calif./Butte College
16	Brian Hernandez	WR	6-0	175	Sr.	1VL	4-13-84	22	Phoenix, Ariz./Pima CC
18	Jason Voss	TE	6-3	268	Sr.	2VL	2-17-84	21	Tempe, Ariz./Valley Christian HS
19	Danny Copinga	DB	6-1	197	Fr.	TR	9-14-84	21	Salt Lake City/Brigham Young
20	Mike Liti	RB	5-10	215	Jr.	2VL	5-7-84	22	Santa Ana, Calif./Foothill HS
21	Shaun Harper	DB	5-9	180	Sr.	3VL	8-12-84	21	San Diego, Calif./Mission Bay HS
22	Malakai Mokofisi	LB	6-2	228	Jr.	1VL	6-24-85	21	Laie, Hawaii/Kailua HS
23	Jarrell Woods	RB	5-10	195	Fr.	RS	9-3-86	19	Northville, Mich./Novi HS
24	Kyler Rushton	DB	6-0	203	Fr.	RS	10-14-82	23	Las Vegas, Nev./Cimarron HS
25	Nate Stevens	DB	5-10	199	So.	JC	9-1-83	22	Salt Lake City/Golden West CC
26	Derrek Richards	WR	5-11	175	Jr.	2VL	12-12-83	22	American Fork, Utah/American Fork HS
27	Sean Smith	WR	6-3	207	Fr.	RS	7-14-87	19	Pasadena, Calif./Blair HS
28	Steve Tate	DB	5-11	197	Jr.	1VL	1-11-83	23	Salt Lake City/Utah State
29	Eric Shyne	DB	5-10	178	Sr.	1VL	7-6-82	24	Pomona, Calif./Reedley CC
30	Ben Vroman	K	5-11	187	So.	SQ	4-22-87	19	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
31	Casey Evans	DB	6-0	202	Sr.	3VL	4-26-84	22	Salt Lake City/Olympus HS
32	Eric Weddle	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	3VL	1-4-85	21	Alta Loma, Calif./Alta Loma HS
33	Brady Phillips	DB	5-10	192	Fr.	HS	2-14-84	22	Provo, Utah/Utah Valley State College
34	Tysen Clements	DB	6-0	190	Fr.	HS	11-10-84	21	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
35	Louie Sakoda	K/P	5-10	175	So.	1VL	10-28-86	19	San Jose, Calif./Branham HS
36	Joe Giuliani	DB	6-1	201	Fr.	RS	3-7-86	20	Simi Valley, Calif./Oaks Christian HS
37	Loma Olevalo	LB	6-1	232	Jr.	1VL	12-24-81	24	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
38	Reggie Turner	RB	6-1	239	Sr.	SQ	6-23-84	22	Culver City, Calif./West Los Angeles CC
39	Ray Stowers	RB	6-1	224	So.	SQ	2-2-85	21	Honolulu, Hawaii/Iolani HS
40	Andrew Smart	DL	6-3	238	Fr.	RS	12-20-83	22	Salt Lake City/Brighton HS
41	Jim Christensen	DB	6-1	185	Fr.	HS	10-10-84	22	Alpine, Utah/Lone Peak HS
42	Pate Moleni	TE	6-3	264	So.	SQ	10-29-82	23	West Valley City, Utah/Hunter HS
43	Mike James	DB	5-10	185	So.	JC	7-4-85	21	Thousand Oaks, Calif./Moorpark College
44	Joe Jiannoni	LB	6-1	230	Jr.	1VL	12-27-84	21	La Quinta, Calif./La Quinta HS
45	Alex Puccinelli	DE	6-1	236	Jr.	1VL	3-26-85	21	Toluca Lake, Calif./Notre Dame HS
46	George Molifua	HB	5-10	220	Fr.	HS	1-25-84	22	Oceanside, Calif./Carlsbad HS
47	Chet Blasucci	LB	6-1	241	Jr.	JC	4-10-82	24	La Canada, Calif./Snow College
48	Colt Sampson	TE	6-4	240	So.	SQ	3-18-83	23	Pleasant Grove, Utah/Pleasant Grove HS
49	Mike Wright	LB	5-11	214	Jr.	TR	6-6-86	20	Bountiful, Utah/Southern Utah
51	Matt Binks	LB	5-11	210	So.	TR	10-17-84	21	Bountiful, Utah/Southern Utah
52	Aaron Smith	LB	5-11	218	Jr.	RS	4-15-83	23	Draper, Utah/Northern State
53	Ryan Morrow	LB	6-1	239	So.	TR	9-25-86	19	Salt Lake City/Alabama
54	Taylor Miller	LB	6-1	222	Jr.	2VL	7-8-81	25	Las Vegas, Nev./Cimarron HS
56	Greg Newman	DL	6-4	256	So.	RS	4-27-85	21	Thousand Oaks, Calif./Westlake HS
57	Tyler Williams	OL	6-1	292	Fr.	RS	2-28-87	19	Mililani, Hawaii/Kamehameha HS
58	Semisi Livai	DL	6-0	284	Fr.	RS	9-28-82	23	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
59	Brent Rawlings	P	5-7	171	Jr.	1VL	3-17-85	21	Sandy, Utah/Alta HS
60	Terrence Apted	OL	6-3	317	So.	SQ	4-6-86	20	Pago Pago, American Samoa/Fagatuio HS
61	Pete Aneiro	SN	6-0	193	Sr.	SQ	8-28-84	22	Alta Loma, Calif./Mt. San Antonio CC
62	Bart-Jonah Gaison	K/P	6-0	232	Fr.	RS	3-20-87	19	Kaneohe, Hawaii/The Kamehameha School
63	Kyle Gunther	OL	6-4	302	Jr.	SQ	6-26-85	21	Camarillo, Calif./Adolfo Camarillo HS
64	Clint Mower	DB/LS	6-0	192	So.	JC	11-2-84	21	Alpine, Utah/Dixie State College
65	Dustin Hensel	OL	6-7	322	So.	JC	11-22-85	20	La Palma, Calif./Golden West CC
66	Robert Conley	OL	6-1	311	So.	1VL	4-17-86	20	La Marque, Texas/La Marque HS

# 2006 UTAH NUMERICAL ROSTER

68	Zane Beadles	OL	6-4	308	Fr	RS	11-19-86	19	Sandy, Utah/Hillcrest HS
69	Jason Boone	OL	6-4	294	Jr	2VL	4-20-84	22	Fillmore, Utah/Millard HS
70	Jeremy Infererra	OL	6-3	292	Jr	RS	7-30-85	21	Honolulu, Hawaii/Hawaii
74	Corey Seiuli	OL	6-3	326	So	JC	8-19-84	22	Provo, Utah/Dixie State College
75	Eric Pettit	OL	6-4	306	Sr	2VL	3-31-83	23	West Jordan, Utah/West Jordan HS
78	Tavo Tupola	OL	6-3	300	Sr	3VL	12-23-80	25	Kahuku, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
80	Chris Joppru	TE	6-6	241	Fr	RS	2-6-87	19	Minnetonka, Minn./Minnetonka HS
81	Bradon Godfrey	WR	6-3	198	So	RS	10-17-85	20	Layton, Utah/Southern Utah
82	John Peel	WR	6-2	196	So	SQ	5-9-86	20	Scottsdale, Ariz./Chaparral HS
83	R.J. Rice	WR	5-8	187	So	TR	9-14-84	21	Salt Lake City/Southern Utah
84	Lance Bordeleau	TE	6-4	253	Fr	RS	9-17-86	19	Simi Valley, Calif./Royal HS
85	Drew Hackett	WR	6-3	196	Sr	SQ	9-12-84	21	Boise, Idaho/Boise State
86	Judd Tolman	WR	6-3	194	Fr	HS	5-2-87	19	Salt Lake City/Skyline HS
87	Taj Mecham	WR	6-1	199	Fr	HS	1-5-85	21	Salt Lake City/Lone Peak HS
88	Freddie Brown	WR	6-3	217	So	1VL	6-24-86	20	La Verne, Calif./Citrus JC
89	Russ Willison	TE	6-3	235	Jr	JC	7-13-84	22	Irvine, Calif./Orange Coast CC
90	Paul Soliai	DT	6-4	318	Sr	1VL	12-30-83	22	Pago Pago, American Samoa/Coffeyville CC
91	Nate Clark	TE	6-3	231	So	SQ	3-11-84	22	Centerville, Utah/Weber State
91	Casey Sutura	DL	6-3	262	Jr	RS	7-17-84	22	Murray, Utah/Southern Utah
92	Kenape Eliapo	DL	6-0	290	Fr	RS	3-22-86	20	San Francisco, Calif./So. San Francisco HS
93	Martail Burnett	DE	6-3	248	Jr	2VL	1-10-85	21	Los Angeles, Calif./David Starr Jordan HS
95	Bryce Scanlon	DL	6-2	274	So	SQ	9-5-84	21	Evanston, Wyo./Evanston HS
96	Derek Beardall	DL	6-1	293	Sr	1VL	9-2-82	24	Highland, Utah/Snow College
97	Soli Lefti	DL	6-4	265	Sr	1VL	4-2-85	21	Kaneohe, Hawaii/Palomar CC
98	Kelly Talavou	DL	6-2	307	Sr	1VL	10-4-84	21	Santa Ana, Calif./Idaho

## NEW IN THE FALL OF 2006

Neli A'asa	DT	6-2	290	Fr	HS	2-16-88	18	Big Rapids, Mich./Big Rapids HS
Joe Dale	DB	5-11	190	Fr	HS	12-18-86	19	Irving, Texas/Nimitz HS
Joe Faifili	DT	6-2	296	Fr	HS	5-16-88	18	Laie, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
Justin Jones	DB	5-10	169	Fr	HS	6-6-88	18	Marshall, Texas/Marshall HS
Pauli Latu	DT	6-0	295	Fr	HS	4-2-88	18	West Valley City, Utah/Hunter HS
Mookie Murphy	DB	5-10	172	Fr	HS	11-10-87	18	Salt Lake City, Utah/Juan Diego Catholic HS
Caleb Schlauderaff	OL	6-5	270	Fr	HS	11-7-87	18	Shelton, Wash./Shelton HS
Matt Sims	HB	6-1	259	Jr	JC	10-30-85	20	Lompoc, Calif./Allan Hancock College
Tony Smith	WR	6-0	176	Fr	HS	3-3-85	21	Pleasanton, Calif./Foothill HS
R.J. Stanford	RB	5-11	180	Fr	HS	5-6-88	18	Chino, Calif./Chino HS
Stevenson Sylvester	LB	6-2	212	Fr	HS	7-18-88	18	Las Vegas, Nev./Valley HS
Zane Taylor	DT	6-3	295	Fr	HS	4-23-88	18	Moab, Utah/Grand County HS
Kenton Thomas	RB	6-1	198	Fr	HS	8-10-88	18	Phoenix, Ariz./Greenway HS
Aaron Tonga	DT	6-2	280	Jr	JC	10-10-83	22	Pomona, Calif./Mt. San Antonio College
Bubba Tuinei	DE	6-4	228	Fr	HS	10-13-88	17	Salt Lake City/Cottonwood HS
Walter Watts	OL	6-2	329	Fr	HS	10-11-88	17	Los Banos, Calif./Los Banos HS
Zeke Wily	DT	6-4	300	Fr	HS	1-31-88	18	Orem, Utah/Orem HS

Please Note: "Year" is year of eligibility starting in Fall 2006. "Age" calculated from Sept. 1, 2006.

## OFFENSE

**Strengths:** Quarterback, Receiver

**Question Marks:** Offensive Line, Running Back

As a first-time head coach last spring, Kyle Whittingham chose to retain the spread offense that had vaulted Utah to a spectacular season just a few months earlier. Given the fact that Utah had lost three first-team all-conference players from its 2004 offense—including a quarterback who became the No. 1 pick of the NFL draft—some wondered whether “spread-thin” offense might better describe Whittingham’s plan for 2005.

Since Utah proceeded to lead the Mountain West Conference in total offense again last fall, no one is questioning his choice now. And with far more play-makers returning than a year ago, watch for the Utes to spread it on even thicker in 2006.

After turning a mostly green group into a 30.0 point-per-game scorer that averaged 473.0 yards in total offense, offensive coordinator Andy Ludwig plans to spread his wings even more in 2006. For instance, while Utah’s standard set will feature four receivers, Ludwig will reintroduce the tight end into the playbook as a big-play threat.

But Ludwig’s biggest call won’t be what plays Utah will run this year, but who will run them. With three extremely talented and experienced quarterbacks vying for the starting job, the Utes are loaded behind center. To some degree, the game plan will revolve around who wins that starting job.

On-the-job training for several new receivers a year ago should translate into some good games of pitch and catch in 2006, regardless of the quarterback selection. Question marks are at running back, where very little in terms of numbers returns, and offensive line, where an all-league center and a starting guard must be replaced.

Here’s a look at Utah’s offensive personnel. Years listed are the eligibility status starting in the fall:

### Quarterback

All eyes will be focused on the quarterback derby in the spring since perhaps no school in the country is as deep at this position as Utah. **Brian Johnson** (6-2, 205, Jr.) won second-team all-MWC honors as a first-year starter in 2005 after leading the league in total offense and passing efficiency. Johnson threw for 2,892 yards while completing nearly 64-percent of his passes, and also rushed

for 478 yards as Utah’s second-leading rusher.

The 18-year-old was already situated in the top-10 of several Utah all-time single-season records when he injured his knee late in the second-to-last game of the regular season. Enter junior college transfer **Brett Ratliff** (6-4, 224, Sr.), whose stunning NCAA debut gave Utah an upset win over Brigham Young in Provo. He proved his Mountain West Conference Player-of-the-Week performance against BYU was no fluke at the Emerald Bowl, where he shredded one of the nation’s best defenses to lead Utah to a 38-10 victory over Georgia Tech.

Ratliff’s rise from obscurity to hero saw him pass for 621 yards and 8 touchdowns in his two games as the starter. He also displayed great running skills—pounding out 112 yards against BYU alone.

The much-anticipated Johnson-Ratliff showdown will have to wait until the fall since Johnson won’t be able to do much in spring camp while recovering from surgery to repair his torn ACL. But forgive the ever-confident Ratliff if he still sneaks a peek over his shoulder at contender **Tommy Grady** (6-7, 233, Jr.)—a tall, big-armed transfer from Oklahoma who impressed observers while working with the scout teams last year.

Grady has two years of eligibility remaining after playing in five games for Oklahoma in 2004 as Heisman Trophy winner Jason White’s backup and sitting out as a transfer last fall. He completed 12-of-14 (92%) pass attempts for 63 yards and a touchdown as a Sooner freshman.

Ute coaches will also take a hard look at talented redshirt freshman **Kevin Dunn** (6-3, 220, Fr.). Inopportune shoulder problems in camp last fall cost Dunn a shot at the backup job, but those troubles are behind him.

### Receiver

Rarely does a team lose its two leading receivers and still consider the position a strength. That’s the case this year with Utah, though, which lost top receivers Travis LaTendresse and John Madsen to graduation but has plenty in reserve.



Brett Ratliff is listed as the co-favorite to start at QB for the fall, along with returning starter Brian Johnson. Ratliff was phenomenal as the starter in wins over BYU and Georgia Tech (in the Emerald Bowl) after Johnson got injured.





WR Brian Hernandez is primed for an all-MWC season.

**Brian Hernandez** (6-0, 175, Sr.), Utah's third-leading receiver, played on a badly injured ankle for most of 2005 and successful off-season surgery should be all it takes for him to emerge as a league leader. Hernandez conjures up memories of former Ute Steve Smith—now an all-pro receiver for Carolina—with his incredible toughness and ability to win the jump ball and take off with it. He was Utah's best after the catch a year ago as a first-year junior college transfer—averaging 18.2 yards per catch.

Ankle injuries to starters LaTendresse, Madsen and Hernandez had one bonus: underclassmen played a lot more than expected a year ago. They'll be old hands by fall.

**Brent Casteel** (5-10, 193, So.), a redshirt freshman a year ago, is slotted for one of the four starting positions. He tied Hernandez for the third-most catches a year ago (39) and showed some dazzling moves. **Marquis Wilson** (5-11, 173, So.), pulled out of a redshirt year in midseason after injuries to the upper-class starters, is ready for a full-time role. Wilson, like Casteel, cannot only catch, but is also a threat to run off the pitch, reverse and an assorted bag of tricks. Junior **Derrek Richards** (5-11, 175) started the last six games of 2006 and his blazing (4.4 40) speed makes him dangerous in the open field.

**Freddie Brown** (6-3, 217, So.), a late scholarship addition to the team last August, was pressed into duty midway through the season after injuries struck the position. Brown's tall, lanky frame gives Utah a different component and his role should increase as a sophomore.

An interesting addition to the mix is redshirt freshman **Sean Smith** (6-3, 207). Smith came to Utah as a running back, but moved to receiver in the off-season. He'll push the starters with his size and power.

### Running Back

Without question, the biggest unknown in this year's offense—and maybe in the entire team—is running back. Gone is second-team all-conference runner Quinton Ganther, who became just the eighth Ute ever to rush for 1,000 yards (1,120) in a season. His trio of backups combined for just 194 total yards and no touchdowns.

Those three are back to fight for the starting post in the spring, and two highly-touted freshmen will join the fray in August. The early favorite to start is sophomore **Darrell Mack** (6-0, 216). Utah's main backup as a true freshman last year, he rushed 39 times for 147 yards (3.8 average). The coaches love his ability, which they hope will translate into yards now that he has a handle on the pass protection schemes.

The wild card could be speedy senior **Daryl Poston** (5-11, 197)—recipient of an extra year of eligibility from the NCAA due to past injuries. A USC transfer and former prep All-American, Poston has never hit his stride as a collegian due to a series of knee injuries. If he can stay on the field, he'll bring the talent that won him playing time as a true freshman at USC in 2002.

Another runner hoping to put injuries behind him is junior **Mike Liti** (5-10, 215). Liti played in nine games and started three as a true freshman in 2003—averaging 4.9 yards per carry. But injuries resulted in a redshirt year in 2004 and slowed his progress again in 2005.

The Ute coaches had enough confidence in their three returners to sign two freshmen, as opposed to a junior college transfer, in February. Although they won't arrive on campus until August,

freshmen **R.J. Stanford** (5-11, 180) and **Kenton Thomas** (6-1, 198) could impress their way into playing time at this wide-open position.

### Offensive Line

Center is the central question on the offensive line, where Utah lost not only an all-conference player, but his backup as well. Spring ball will prove an important training ground for hopefuls **Kyle Gunther** (6-4, 302, Jr.) and **Jeremy Inferrera** (6-3, 292, Jr.). Gunther saw only spot duty with special teams last year and Inferrera practiced but could not play upon transferring from Hawaii.

The rest of the line is much more proven, at least from a starting standpoint. Returning at tackle are two all-conference candidates. Senior **Tavo Tupola** (6-3, 300) was second-team all-MWC a year ago and **Jason Boone** (6-4, 294, Jr.) led the line in total plays. Two part-time starters are back at guard. **Robert Conley** (6-1, 311, So.) improved by leaps and bounds during his redshirt freshman season and eventually took the starting right guard job away from **Eric Pettit** (6-4, 306, Sr.). Pettit will resume a starting role this spring—now at left guard. Once again, he'll need to defend his turf against a highly-touted redshirt freshman—this time **Zane Beadles** (6-4, 308). Two mid-year junior college transfers will participate in spring ball and could make some noise as well. They are **Dustin Hensel** (6-7, 322, So.) and **Corey Seiuli** (6-3, 326, So.).

### Tight End

Ludwig put his own spin on the spread offense he inherited last season and he'll infuse yet another element in 2006. While the Utes will typically start the game with a four-receiver set, count on the tight ends making more than a cameo blocking appearance this fall.

Two recruited tight ends, along with three converted defensive linemen, make this position a bit of a melting pot. **Chris Joppru** (6-6, 241, Fr.) and **Lance Bordeleau** (6-4, 253, Fr.) spent last season as redshirts. Onetime defensive linemen **Jason Voss** (6-3, 268, Sr.), **Pate Moleni** (6-3, 264, So.) and **Colt Sampson** (6-4, 240, So.) are also contenders now at tight end.

## DEFENSE

**Strengths:** Defensive Line, Defensive Backs

**Question Mark:** Linebacker

The Utes finished second in the Mountain West Conference in total defense and scoring defense last season, even while adjusting to the loss of two linemen to the NFL draft and a projected all-conference candidate to a season-ending injury. First-year defensive coordinator Gary Andersen had to replace seven starters from 2004's rugged defense—including four linemen and safety Morgan Scalley, the MWC Defensive Player of the Year.

Since Utah's 4-3 defense hinges on pressure up front, the young line's growing pains rippled all the way back to the secondary. Two things happened that reasserted Utah's defensive dominance and helped the Utes win four of their last five games: The line matured and **Eric Weddle** (6-0, 200, Sr.) gave the pass defense a shot in the arm by moving from safety to corner. A byproduct of those developments is that the 2006 defense should pick up where it left off last year—which was holding No. 24-ranked Georgia Tech to 10 points in the Emerald Bowl.

All-conference caliber returners on the line will make everyone's job behind them easier. Weddle, a bonafide All-America candidate and the 2005 MWC Defensive Player of the Year, will anchor a deep backfield. Only at linebacker are there some questions, but even there, experience is the rule rather than the exception.

### Defensive Line

With the graduation of Steve Fifita, Utah lost the league's best tackle, but playing in his shadow might have been the second best. **Kelly Talavou** (6-2, 307, Sr.) started all 12 games at nose guard last year and possesses many of Fifita's traits in a taller frame. Talavou will slide over to Fifita's spot at tackle, although he'll still play some nose guard depending on Andersen's rotation schedule.

Ready to compete for a starting job at nose guard is big **Paul Soliai** (6-4, 318, Sr.), a former junior college All-America offensive lineman who crossed the line last season when the defense got in a pinch. Bigger than most of the linemen



Kelly Talavou might be the best returning defensive tackle in the Mountain West Conference this season. He anchors an experienced Utah defensive line.

he now faces—and also more agile—Soliai can create some real match-up problems.

Though his upside is tantalizing, Soliai has no guarantee he'll win the job over **Derek Beardall** (6-1, 293, Sr.) and redshirt freshman **Kenapi Eliapo** (6-0, 290). Since Andersen likes to rotate four players between the two tackle positions, all three of them will play alongside Talavou unless one gets bumped out by promising freshman **Pauli Latu** (6-0, 295) when he joins the team in August.

Perhaps the most improved area of this year's defense will be the ends. A year ago, junior **Martail Burnett** (6-3, 248) had planned on apprenticing for returning starter Marquess Ledbetter while transitioning from safety to open end. Plans changed when Ledbetter suffered a season-ending injury in the summer and Burnett found himself thrown into the fire. He shared time with **Alex Puccinelli** (6-1, 236, Jr.)—as he will again

this year—but Burnett pulled away and secured the starting job by the season's midway point. He finished with 53 total tackles, 7 tackles for loss and three-and-a-half sacks. Now that he understands the position, Burnett's athleticism, speed and bigger body (he is 30 pounds heavier than his freshman year) could translate into all-league honors.

Replacing NFL draft pick Jonathan Fanene required a little more ingenuity on Andersen's part. He eventually started junior college transfer **Soli Lefti** (6-4, 265, Sr.) after he got up to speed, but Andersen's stop-gap measure was to alternate tackles at end. Once Lefti claimed the job, the problem was solved not only for 2005, but 2006 as well. As a bonus, there's depth now at end. Junior **Casey Sutera** (6-3, 262), a transfer from Southern Utah a year ago, will start in the spring while Lefti recovers from off-season shoulder surgery.

### Linebacker

Utah has a ton of tackles to replace here since 2005 Mountain West Conference tackle leader Spencer Toone has graduated. **Joe Jiannoni** (6-1, 230, Jr.) looks like the best man for the job. Jiannoni totaled 73 tackles as a first-year starting middle linebacker and his numbers should rise with his move to rover.

The biggest question is who will replace Jiannoni. Going into spring ball, **Loma Olevao** (6-1, 232, Jr.) and junior college transfer **Chet Blasucci** (6-1, 241,



Top LB Joe Jiannoni should make even more plays in his move to rover in 2006.

Jr.) are the favorites. Olevao played some last year while Blasucci is a member of the latest signing class who has already enrolled.

The deepest position is probably “stud” linebacker, where two part-time starters return in **Kyle Brady** (6-1, 232, Jr.) and **Malakai Mokofisi** (6-2, 228, Jr.). This could shape up into one of the most interesting starting battles on the defense.

## Secondary

Reigning MWC Defensive Player of the Year **Eric Weddle** (6-0, 200, Sr.) just might be the best defender at any position in the nation. Certainly, wherever Weddle plays—and whomever Utah plays—he is the best defender on the field. When Utah’s corners struggled in coverage last season, Weddle moved over from safety to fix the problem. After the change, the Utes won three of their last four games. Last seen in action, Weddle was earning Emerald Bowl Defensive MVP honors for his smothering coverage of Georgia Tech All-America receiver Calvin Johnson (who caught just two passes for 19 yards). His numbers last year provide a snapshot of his impact: 78 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, four sacks, four interceptions (one for a touchdown) and 12 pass breakups. His ability to totally disrupt the opposing passing game when he plays corner is why Weddle will likely spend most of this time there this season.

Minimizing the impact of Weddle’s move from safety is the return of second-team all-conference selection **Casey Evans** (6-0, 202, Sr.) and rising star **Steve Tate** (5-11, 197, Jr.). Evans, a former walk-on and fiery competitor, ranked second on the team in tackles as a first-year starter—accounting for 89 stops. He led Utah with five interceptions and his aptitude for making big plays altered the course of several games. Like Evans, Tate went from walk-on to starter—in the latter’s case for the final four games. Tate led everyone with 10 tackles and an interception in the Emerald Bowl, and finished the season with 46 stops. They’ll

be interchangeable, but on paper, Evans will move from free to strong safety and vice versa for Tate.

Corner is much deeper this year—and for more reasons than the addition of Weddle. Steady senior **Shawn Harper** (5-9, 180) is neck-and-neck with sophomore **Brice McCain** (5-9, 178) for the starting job at left corner. Mid-year junior college transfer **Mombroso Washington** (6-0, 173, Jr.) is expected to challenge and would give Utah better-than-average size at the corners. **Ryan Smith** (5-10,



Eric Weddle (32) and Casey Evans (31) are both all-conference defensive backs. Weddle was the 2005 MWC Defensive Player of the Year.

165, Jr.) will play if he returns to his freshman form, when he started all 12 games at right corner and was named a second-team Freshman All-American. Talented **Eric Shyne** (5-10, 178, Sr.) also plans to see a lot more game action after finishing strong last year.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

**Strengths:** Return Teams

**Question Marks:** Place Kicking, Punting

For the third time in as many years, someone new will be handling the field goal and PAT duties for the Utes. Special teams co-coach Jay Hill hopes for similar results as the last two times around, when a first-year starting place kicker exceeded all expectations. Last year, in his first and only season as the starter, Dan Beardall became Utah’s first all-conference place-kicker since 1981. Beardall’s record-setting season limited true freshman **Louie**

**Sakoda**’s duties to kickoffs and punts. With the graduation of Beardall, Sakoda moves up to the first string in all three areas.

While Sakoda did a decent job punting—pinning opponents inside their own 20-yard-line 22 times and averaging 37.1 yards per punt—he struggled to boot the ball in the end zone on kickoffs (13 touchbacks on 63 kickoffs). Those numbers more reflect the fact that Sakoda was playing out of position as the punter, than the strength of his leg. In fact, his booming kicks in practice last year give the coaching staff confidence in his kicking abilities as a sophomore. Field goal kicking remains a question mark for the simple fact that 100-percent of Utah’s kick scoring points left with Beardall, who led the team in scoring (88 points), while making 16-of-19 field goals and 40-of-42 extra points. The backup field goal kicker for spring camp is sophomore **Ben Vroman**.

Both Hill and Whittingham would prefer someone else take over the punting so that Sakoda can concentrate on place kicking, and the two leading candidates in the spring are

last year’s backup **Brent Rawlings** and redshirt freshman **Bart-Jonah Gaison**.

Senior **Eric Weddle** will hold and senior **Pete Aneiro** is favored to win the starting job at snapper after playing for the scout teams last year.

Although the return teams are typically not finalized until August camp, Utah has no shortage of competitors. **Weddle** accounted for 77-percent of Utah’s punt returns a year ago, averaging 6.4 yards per return, and the position could be his again if the all-conference defensive back is not too busy at other positions. Sophomore **Marquis Wilson** began grooming for the job last year as a true freshman and **Brian Hernandez** is another potential option.

Sophomore **Brent Casteel** averaged 23.2 yards on a team-high 20 kickoff returns last year but has competition breathing down his neck from speedy **Derrek Richards** (21.6 average on 7 returns).



## KYLE WHITTINGHAM

**Record at Utah: 7-5 (1 year)**

**Career Record: 7-5 (1 year)**

### EDUCATION

Brigham Young, 1984

Bachelor's in educational psychology

Brigham Young, 1987

Master's in athletic administration

### PERSONAL DATA

Birthdate: Nov. 21, 1959

Hometown: Provo, Utah

Family: Married to the former Jamie Daniels. Four children: Tyler, Melissa, Alex, Kylie.



In reviewing Kyle Whittingham's first year as Utah's head coach, one axiom comes to mind: "The more things change, the more they stay the same." Faced with a youthful, mostly inexperienced team, and assisted by a largely new staff, Whittingham steered the 2005 Utes to a 7-5 record and a bowl victory over Georgia Tech. It marked the third bowl victory in as many years for Utah and Whittingham, but the first for him as the head coach. He became just the second Utah football coach ever to go to a bowl

game in his first year at the helm, and he is the only one to accomplish that feat without any previous head coaching experience.

Whittingham's steady demeanor and background as a longtime Ute defensive coordinator proved invaluable to a team lacking most of the big guns behind the 12-0, Fiesta Bowl championship season in 2004. Five players from that team were selected in the NFL draft, including No. 1 pick Alex Smith.

Immediately upon accepting the top post on Dec. 8, 2004, Whittingham went in search of solutions rather than excuses. Despite an almost entirely new starting lineup, the 2005 Utes succeeded both offensively and defensively—leading the Mountain West Conference in total offense (12th in the nation) and finishing second in total defense. By season's end, they resembled their No. 4-ranked predecessor when they pummeled No. 24 Georgia Tech 38-10 in the Emerald Bowl.

Taking the Utes to a bowl game as a first-year head coach wasn't Whittingham's first contribution to the record books. That milestone came in a season-opening win over Arizona, when Utah won its 17th-straight game to break a 75-year-old school record. He ran the streak to 18 games with a win over Utah State before the Utes fell in overtime to eventual league champion TCU.

The fact is that Whittingham has been part of more big wins than perhaps any other single person in Utah football history. During his tenure as an assistant coach—the last 10 as the defensive coordinator—the program



compiled an 86-41 record, played in six bowl games (winning five), won or tied for four conference titles, finished with a top-10 ranking twice, became the only non-BCS school ever to play in a BCS bowl game (the 2005 Fiesta Bowl) and unseated BYU as the preeminent football power in the state. In his new position, Whittingham coached the 2005 Emerald Bowl champs and extended Utah's win streak against BYU to four—ensuring that his seniors graduated without ever losing to their arch-rival.

As the Mountain West Conference's longest-tenured and most successful defensive coordinator from 1995-2004, Whittingham's units were always ranked at or near the top of the league. In 2002, the Las Vegas Review recognized his efforts by naming him the MWC Co-Defensive Coordinator of the Year.

Whittingham stood out from the start. In 1994, he coached a defensive line anchored by consensus All-American Luther Elliss. That team led the league in every defensive category and ranked 18th in the nation in total defense. Utah beat Arizona in the Freedom Bowl and finished the 1994 season with a 10-2 mark and ranked in the top 10 in both polls.

In 1995, he stepped in as the coordinator—replacing his father Fred, who took a job in the NFL—and the program didn't miss a beat. Utah led the conference in total defense three times under his direction (2000, 2001 and 2002). In 2002, Utah ranked No. 1 in the MWC in total defense, scoring defense

and rushing defense—finishing No. 12 in the nation in the latter. The Ute defense recorded 14 top-20 statistical rankings from 1995-2004. But Whittingham's defenses were best known for keeping opponents off the scoreboard. Utah led the league in scoring defense four times from 1999-2005 (ranking No. 2 in 2003 and 2004) and finished No. 13, 18, 13, 29, 19 and 22 in the nation during that span.

In his final year as Utah's defensive coordinator, the 2004 Utes finished 12-0 and ranked No. 4 in the nation. On January 1, 2005, with Whittingham serving as co-head coach, Utah became the first non-BCS team to play in—and to win—a Bowl Championship Series game, beating Pittsburgh 35-7.

While the Ute offense, behind Heisman Trophy finalist Smith, gathered most of the pre-game attention, Whittingham's defense earned equal accolades on the field. The Utes set a Fiesta Bowl record with nine quarterback sacks and held the Big East co-champion Panthers to just 17 rushing yards and a single third-quarter touchdown.

Whittingham began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater Brigham Young (1985-86). In 1987, he was both the defensive coordinator at College of Eastern Utah and a player for the Los Angeles Rams' replacement squad. His first full-time NCAA coaching job was at Idaho State, where he spent six years (1988-93), his last two as defensive coordinator.

## KYLE STYLE

Discipline and productivity form the cornerstones of Whittingham's coaching and personal philosophy. Quietly intense, Whittingham lets his offense and defense do the talking. He has embraced the spread offense and its multitude of options. Defensively, he has never deviated from the 4-3 formation he employed as Utah's defensive coordinator—one that emphasizes constant pressure from the line and man coverage in the secondary.



## IT'S ACADEMIC

Whittingham insists that his team perform academically, as well as athletically. The team's grade point average for the 2005 spring and fall semesters combined was a 2.621. In addition, 16 players were named to the 2005 Mountain West Conference All-Academic team, two earned

ESPN The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-District honors (Spencer Toone and Jesse Boone) and one was an Academic All-American (Toone).

## KYLE'S WILES

Whittingham has been mentored by some of the best coaching minds in the business, including the legendary LaVell Edwards of BYU. Perhaps the biggest influence on his coaching style was his father Fred—a former Utah and NFL defensive coordinator. Others who have contributed to Whittingham's coaching methodology include former Utah head coaches Urban Meyer (now with Florida) and Ron McBride (now at Weber State).

## WHITTINGHAM'S PLAYING CAREER

A linebacker for Brigham Young from 1978-81, Whittingham earned first-team all-WAC and WAC Defensive Player of the Year honors in 1981. He played in the Hula and Japan Bowls after his senior year, then launched a professional career that included stints with the Denver Gold and New Orleans Breakers in the U.S. Football League (USFL) from 1983-85. He played on the Los Angeles Rams' replacement squad in 1987.

## WHITTINGHAM'S HEAD COACHING RECORD

Year	School	Overall Record	Conference Record	Bowl Game
2005	Utah	7-5	4-4	Emerald

## WHITTINGHAM'S ASSISTANT COACHING CHRONOLOGY

Year	School	Assignment	Bowl Game
1985	Brigham Young	Graduate Assistant	Citrus
1986	Brigham Young	Graduate Assistant	Freedom
1987	College of Eastern Utah	Defensive Coordinator	
1988-91	Idaho State	Linebackers/Special Teams	
1992-93	Idaho State	Defensive Coordinator	
1994	Utah	Defensive Line	Freedom
1995	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	
1996	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	Copper
1997	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers	
1998	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	
1999	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	Las Vegas
2000	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	
2001	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers	Las Vegas
2002	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers	
2003	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers	Liberty
2004	Utah	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	Fiesta (2005)*

\*Co-head coach at the 2005 Fiesta Bowl

# ASSISTANT COACHES



**GARY ANDERSEN**  
Defensive  
Coordinator/DL  
3rd/9th Year

Second-year defensive coordinator Gary Andersen is in his ninth year on the staff and his third straight. He coached the Utah defensive line from 1997-2002 and again in 2004—spending the 2003 season as the head coach at Southern Utah. Along with his duties as defensive coordinator, he is the assistant head coach and defensive line coach.



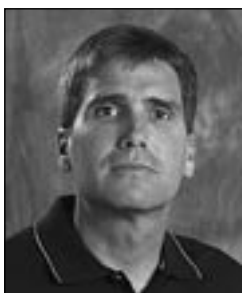
**CHARLIE DICKEY**  
Offensive Line  
2nd Year

Offensive line coach Charlie Dickey is in his second year at Utah after spending 13 years as an assistant coach in the Pacific-10 conference. Dickey was the offensive line coach at Arizona from 1992-2002 and its tight ends coach in 2003. He coached the offensive line at Washington in 2004.



**AARON RODERICK**  
Wide Receivers  
2nd Year

Aaron Roderick is in his second year coaching the Ute receivers. From 2003-04, he served as the offensive coordinator, quarterbacks coach and recruiting coordinator at Southern Utah. He was also a graduate assistant at Brigham Young (1999-2001) and the running backs coach at Snow College (2002).



**ANDY LUDWIG**  
Offensive  
Coordinator/QB  
2nd Year

Andy Ludwig, a 19-year veteran of college coaching, is in his second year as Utah's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. He served in the same capacity at Fresno State (1998-01) and Oregon (2002-04). While at Fresno, Ludwig was selected as a finalist for the 2001 Broyles Award, which is awarded to the nation's top collegiate assistant coach.



**JAY HILL**  
Cornerbacks/  
Co-Special Teams  
Coordinator  
2nd Year

Jay Hill is in his second year as cornerbacks coach and co-special teams coordinator—with responsibility for the coverage teams. A former Ute defensive back, he has worked in some capacity with the football program since 2001 (graduate assistant, administrative assistant, full-time assistant).



**DAVE SCHRAMM**  
Running Backs/  
Recruiting  
Coordinator  
2nd Year

Veteran assistant Dave Schramm begins his second year as Utah's running backs coach and recruiting coordinator. He has spent most of his 18-year college coaching career on offensive side of the ball—including eight years as a running backs coach. His longest assistantship was for San Diego State (1990-2001).



**JAY BOULWARE**  
Tight Ends/  
Co-Special Teams  
Coordinator  
2nd Year

Jay Boulware, in his second year as Utah's tight ends coach, also serves as the co-special teams coordinator. His primary special teams responsibility is Utah's return teams. In over a decade of coaching, Boulware has worked at Texas (1994-96 as a student/graduate assistant), Northern Illinois (1997-2000), Arizona (2001-03) and Stanford (2004).



**DERRICK ODUM**  
Safeties  
2nd Year

Former Ute defensive back and graduate assistant Derrick Odum returned to his alma mater last year to coach the safeties. Odum spent the 2003-04 seasons overseeing the defensive backs at Houston. Before that, he coached the secondary at Montana (1998-99) and Utah State (2000-02).



**KALANI SITAKE**  
Inside Linebackers  
2nd Year

For the second year, Kalani Sitake will coach Utah's inside linebackers. Sitake joined the Ute staff after a two-year stint as an offensive assistant at Southern Utah (2003-04). His other coaching experience was at Eastern Arizona (2001) and as a BYU graduate assistant (2002).





**69**  
**JASON BOONE**  
Offensive Line  
6-4, 294, Jr.  
2VL  
Fillmore, Utah  
Millard HS

**UTAH**—All-conference candidate will start at right tackle for the second year ... signed with Utah in 2002 but did not join the team until spring 2003.

**2005**—Started in all 12 games ... 916 total plays led the Ute offensive linemen ... ranked second in pancake blocks (10) and knockdowns (26) ... totaled 8 knockdowns and a 94% grade on 79 plays against Wyoming ... 4 knockdowns and an 85% grade in both the New Mexico and Arizona games ... 3 knockdowns and an 86% grade in 81 plays at BYU.

**2004**—Appeared in the last 11 games ... 7 knockdowns during the regular season ... 100% grade against UNLV with 3 knockdowns in 14 plays ... 1 knockdown and an 89% grade in 9 plays versus San Diego State ... named Academic all-MWC and to the Utah Athletics Academic Honor Roll.

**2003**—Redshirt.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** All-state offensive and defensive tackle ... played for Millard High's (Utah) 2001 state championship team ... also wrestled for Millard's 2002 state champion team ... honor roll.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Coley Boone and Sherry Peterson ... both parents attended BYU ... father played football for BYU ... from family of 10 children (five boys, five girls) ... brother Jesse was an all-conference center for Utah ... brother Aaron played wide receiver for Kentucky ... sister Amy played basketball and volleyball at George Mason University and played semi-pro ball for the San Diego Waves of the NWBL ... enjoys hunting and camping ... economics major ... full name is Jason Rostenbach Boone ... born April 20, 1984.



**93**  
**MARTAIL BURNETT**  
Defensive End  
6-3, 248, Jr.  
2VL  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
David Starr Jordan HS

**UTAH**—All-conference candidate and returning starter at open end ... outstanding athlete began his career at safety, moving to defensive end in spring of 2004 ... gained 13 pounds in the last year without losing any speed.

**2005**—Played in all 12 games and started 8, including the last 6, at open end ... 53 total tackles ranked fifth on the team and was the most of the Ute defensive linemen ... recorded 7 tackles for a loss and 3.5 sacks ... also had a fumble recovery and 2 pass break-ups ... career-high 8 tackles vs. Air Force ... 7 tackles, including a sack, and 1 pass breakup against Georgia Tech in Emerald Bowl win ... 6 tackles against both Wyoming and Brigham Young ... 5-tackle, 2-sack outing versus UNLV ... also blocked a kick.

**2004**—Played in 9 games, mostly for special teams ... 5 tackles (3 solo) ... QB sack for 5 yards against Utah State ... tallied 3 tackles vs. USU ... also had a pair of tackles vs. UNLV.

**2003**—Redshirt.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** All-conference and all-area ... David Starr Jordan High (Calif.) team captain ... lettered in three sports ... first person from his high school in 18 years to qualify for state track and field meet ... student vice president of athletics.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Willie Burnett, Jr. and Kristy Brewer ... three brothers ... married to the former Misty Eby ... political science major ... full name is Martail Marta Burnett ... first name is pronounced mar-tell ... born Jan. 10, 1985.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	SACK
2004	9/0	3	2	5	1.0-5	1.0-5
2005	12/8	22	31	53	7.0-28	3.5-18
Total	21/8	25	33	58	8.0-33	4.5-23



**66**  
**ROBERT CONLEY**  
Offensive Line  
6-1, 311, So.  
1VL  
La Marque, Texas  
La Marque HS

**UTAH**—Strong, athletic player has enormous potential ... only thing he lacked was experience, which he got last year ... could be one of the conference's best offensive guards as just a sophomore ... slated to start at right guard.

**2005**—Freshman played in all 12 games, starting the last 5 at right guard ... most of his 523 total plays came in the games he started ... 9 pancake blocks and 7 knockdowns ... led Utes with 3 pancake blocks against Georgia Tech in Emerald Bowl victory ... posted 2 knockdowns against New Mexico and BYU.

**2004**—Redshirt was named to the Utah Athletics Academic Honor Roll.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** First-team all-state, all-district and all-county as a senior in 2003 ... helped La Marque HS (Texas) win 2003 23-4A Division II State Championship ... 68 pancake blocks in 2003 ... also lettered in power-lifting (465-pound bench and 700-pound squat) ... *Who's Who Among Young Americans*.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Ezzard Conley and April Williams ... two sisters (Christina and Chasmine) ... undergraduate studies major ... full name is Robert Blake Conley ... born April 17, 1986.



**31**  
**CASEY EVANS**  
Defensive Back  
6-0, 202, Sr.  
3VL  
Salt Lake City  
Olympus HS

**UTAH**—Looks to improve on his second-team all-MWC showing as a first-year starter last season ... will start at strong safety this year, although he will still see time at free safety ... originally joined Utah as a walk-on (he has since earned a scholarship).

**2005**—Second-team all-MWC defensive back started all 12 games at free safety ... 5 interceptions was tied for league lead ... 0.42 interceptions per game ranked second in the MWC and 16th in the nation ... 8 passes defended (5 picks, 3 pass breakups) was second on the team ... 89 total tackles ranked second on the team and eighth in the MWC ... also record 4.0 tackles for a loss and 2.0 sacks ... earned MWC Defensive Player of the Week honors twice: against Air Force (12 tackles, 1 interception, 0.5 tackles for loss) and BYU (career-high 13 tackles, forced fumble, fumble recovery) ... against BYU, he set up a critical score by forcing a fumble, recovering the ball and returning it 30 yards to the BYU 7-yard line ... 9 tackles and an interception against UNLV ... 8 stops and an interception vs. Arizona ... 7 tackles at TCU and 6 vs. New Mexico.

**2004**—Played in all 12 games ... 36 total tackles ... 2.5 tackles for loss ... season-high 6 tackles against Arizona and Colorado State ... 5 solo tackles and 1 forced fumble vs. Arizona ... 5 tackles in season-opener vs. Texas A&M ... 4 tackles against North Carolina, including 1.5 tackles for a loss of 3 yards ... 4 stops versus Wyoming (3 unsisted) ... elected to the 2004 Utah Football Leadership Committee.

**2003**—Special teams star played in 11 games ... fumble recovery against BYU allowed Utes to run out the clock in a 3-0 victory ... 5 total tackles included 4 solo.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** First-team all-state in 2000-01 ... region 5 MVP as senior in 2001 ... 1,002 rushing yards, 22 touchdowns (16 rushing, 4 receiving), 69 tackles and 9 interceptions in 2001 ... returned 2 interceptions for touchdowns ... played for Olympus High's (Utah) 2001 region 5 championship team ... also lettered in basketball and la-

crosse ... all-region in basketball in 2002 ... Olympus was region hoop champ in 2000 ... honor roll ... Rice Athletic Scholarship.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Terry and Kathy Evans ... three brothers and two sisters ... behavioral science and health major ... full name is Casey Matthews Evans ... born April 26, 1984.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	INT	FR
2003	11/0	4	1	5	0-0	0	1
2004	12/1	17	19	36	2.5-6	0	0
2005	12/12	43	46	89	4.0-16	5	1
Totals	35/13	64	66	130	6.5-22	5	2



**16**  
**BRIAN HERNANDEZ**  
Wide Receiver  
6-0, 175, Sr.  
1VL  
Phoenix, Ariz.  
Pima CC

**UTAH:** Team's top returning receiver is extremely competitive, fast and sure-handed ... runs great routes and is very tough to defend one-on-one ... makes big gains after the catch ... ankle surgery on Jan. 5 should allow him to play at full strength in the fall ... will miss spring ball.

**2005**—Overcame serious ankle injury to play in 11 games and start in 5 ... 39 receptions for 709 yards and 3 TDs ... 39 receptions ranked third on the team, while 709 yards was second ... averaged a team-best 18.2 yards per catch ... 100-yard games came against San Diego State (career high 148 yards on 7 catches) and Colorado State (112 yards on 3 catches) ... 81 yards and 2 TDs vs. Brigham Young ... 79 yards and a TD against Air Force ... 8 receptions for 75 yards on bum ankle in Emerald Bowl win over Georgia Tech ... had the two longest receptions of the year by a Ute, making a 60-yard catch vs. Air Force and a 56-yard grab vs. Colorado State ... returned 1 punt for 7 yards against UNLV ... Academic All-MWC.

**PRIOR TO UTAH:** Began his college career at Georgia Tech in fall of 2002—leaving for family medical reasons after the fall semester ... walked on at Arizona State in spring of 2003 ... transferred to Pima Community College in spring of 2004 and made first-team all-region, first-team all-conference and honorable mention *JC Gridwire* All-American ... 50 receptions for

767 yards and 8 touchdowns in the regular season ... prepped at Mountain Pointe High School (Ariz.), where he was the four-time Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year ... first-team all-region as a senior and second-team his junior year ... all-around MVP at the University of Miami football camp following his junior year ... Mountain Pointe's team captain as a senior in 2002 ... first-team all-region receiver and returner in 2002 and the Central Region Offensive Player of the Year ... also made the all-city, all-South-east Valley and all-*Tribune* teams as a senior ... 5A state all-star team ... set Mountain Pointe records for receptions in a season (49), receiving yards in a season (699), career receptions (75) and career receiving yards (1,233) ... College Football Hall of Fame Scholar Athlete ... competed for 2002 5A state champion track team ... on state champion 4x400 relay and runner-up 4x100 relay team ... Tempe City Outstanding Athlete of the Year ... National Honor Society ... graduated 18th out of a class of 516

**PERSONAL:** Son of Julio and Karen Hernandez ... oldest of six children ... sister Katie attends Arizona State and brother Scott plays football at Mesa Community College ... business major ... full name is Brian Julio Hernandez ... born April 13, 1984.

YEAR	G/GS	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2005	11/5	39	709	18.2	3	60



**44**  
**JOE GIANNONI**  
Linebacker  
6-1, 230, Jr.  
1VL  
La Quinta, Calif.  
La Quinta HS

**UTAH:** Made tremendous improvement throughout last season and could emerge as an all-conference candidate in 2006 ... will start at rover this fall after playing middle linebacker last season ... aggressive, active player.

**2005**—Played in all 12 games, starting the last 11 at middle linebacker ... finished fourth on the team in total tackles with 73 ... 2.5 tackles for a loss ... assisted on 1 sack ... career-high 9 tackles at TCU (8 solo) ... had 8-tackle games against UNLV, New Mexico and BYU ... turned in 7-tackle games against Utah State and San Diego State ... recovered a fumble vs. Arizona.



**2004**—Saw action in 8 games ... 17 tackles, 4 solo and 13 assisted ... 1.5 tackles for losses 4 yards ... season-best 8 tackles vs. UNLV, including 1.5 for a loss of 4 yards ... 3 tackles each against Texas A&M and Utah State.

**2003**—Redshirt.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Three-time all-Desert Valley League (first-team in 2001) ... 2001 all-CIF ... La Quinta High School (Calif.) Most Valuable Linebacker in 2001, Most Valuable Offensive Back in 2002 and team MVP in 2002 ... La Quinta won Division VIII CIF and Desert Valley League championships in 2000 and 2001 ... also wrestled ... National Honor Society ... President's Award.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Michael and Tracey Giannoni (pronounced jee-a-no-nee) ... three brothers and one sister ... sociology major ... full name is Joseph Michael Giannoni ... born Dec. 27, 1984.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	INT
2004	8/0	4	13	17	1.5-4	0
2005	12/11	34	39	73	2.5-12	0.5-5
Total	20/11	38	52	90	4.0-16	0



**3**  
**BRIAN JOHNSON**  
Quarterback  
6-1, 199, Jr.  
2VL  
Baytown, Texas  
Robert E. Lee HS

**UTAH:** Returning starter hopes to be completely recovered from last December's knee surgery by fall camp ... will likely be limited to throwing drills in the spring ... extremely efficient passer has a strong, accurate arm and good running ability ... demonstrated leadership and poise as a first-year starter ... 3,604 passing yards ranks 11th in Utah's career record books and his four career 300-yard games is tied for fifth ... 149.73 career passing efficiency currently ranks second..

**2005**—Second-team all-conference quarterback started in the first 10 games before suffering a season-ending knee injury against New Mexico on Nov. 12 (had surgery to repair torn ACL on Dec. 1) ... finished No. 1 in the MWC and No. 4 in the nation in total offense (337.0 yards per game) ... also No. 1 in the MWC (11th in the nation) in pass efficiency (151.0) ... No. 2 in the MWC in

passing yards per game (289.2 average) ... completed 63.6% of his passes (210-of-330) for 2,892 yards and 18 touchdowns ... 7 interceptions was tied for the fewest of any MWC QB ... four 300-yard passing games: 417 yards vs. San Diego State, 384 yards vs. Wyoming, 370 vs. New Mexico and 305 yards vs. Air Force ... 4 TD passes against Wyoming and New Mexico tied the Mountain West Conference sophomore record also held by former Utes Brett Elliott (2002) and Alex Smith (2003) ... broke the school and tied the MWC single-game record for completion percentage in just his second career start, completing 85.7% of his pass attempts (18-of-21) against Utah State on Sept. 10 ... made Utah's single-season top 10 in these categories: 200-yard passing games (10, tied for second), 300-yard passing games (4, No. 4T), total offense per game (337.0, No. 2), total yards (3,370, No. 4), total plays (482, No. 4), pass efficiency (151.01, No. 5), yards per completion (8.76, No. 5), yards per play (6.99, No. 6), completions (210, No. 6), completion percentage (63.6, No. 6), touchdown passes (18, No. 7T), passing yards (2,892, No. 7), passing yards per game (289.2, No. 5) ... team's second-leading rusher carried the ball 152 times for 478 yards (3.1 yards per rush) ... averaged 47.8 rushing yards per game and led the Utes in rushing TDs (8) ... rushed for 70-plus yards 3 times: 98 vs. North Carolina, 73 vs. UNLV and 70 vs. Utah State ... MWC Offensive Player of the Week against Wyoming completed 32-of-45 passes for 384 yards and 4 touchdowns, and also led Utah in rushing with 67 yards and a TD.... tossed 3 TDs and passed for 264 yards in a 20-of-29 performance against UNLV ... completed 21-of-29 passes for 305 yards and 2 scores against Air Force (also rushed for 3 scores) ... rushed for a career-high 98 yards, scoring 1 TD, on 22 carries against North Carolina ... 5-5 as the starter ... Academic All-MWC.

**2004**—True freshman appeared in 10 games as the backup to 2005 No. 1 NFL draft pick and Heisman Trophy finalist Alex Smith ... 4.4 yards per (1 rushing, 1 one passing) ... pass efficiency of 129.7 ... passed for a career-best 53 yards and 1 touchdown on 5-of-8 passing vs. Utah State ... 2-for-2 vs. San Diego State with a season-long 33-yard pass ... 2-for-2 for 40 yards and a 20-yard completion vs. North Carolina ... rushed for a season-best 55 yards and a TD vs. Colorado State ... Academic All-MWC ... also named to the Utah Athletics Academic Honor Roll.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** First-team all-district and second-team all-state quarterback for Robert E. Lee High (Texas) ... District MVP ... passed for 2,900 yards and 33 touchdowns and rushed for 540 yards and 12 touchdowns in 2003 ... completed 71.6% of his pass attempts ... also lettered in basketball.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Stacey and Shonna Johnson ... father played football for UTEP ... two sisters, Bianca and Britteny, play basketball ... mass communication major ... full name is Brian Delance Johnson ... born Feb. 16, 1987.

YEAR	G/GS	ATT	CMP	IT	PCT	YDS	TD	LONG
2004	10/0	21	14	1	66.7	142	1	33
2005	10/10	330	210	7	63.6	2892	18	60
Total	20/10	351	224	8	63.8	3034	19	60

YEAR	G/GS	RUSH	YARDS	AVG.	TD	LONG
2004	10/0	21	92	4.4	1	16
2005	10/10	152	478	3.1	8	26
Total	20/10	173	570	3.3	9	26



**15**  
**BRETT RATLIFF**  
Quarterback  
6-4, 224, Sr.  
1VL  
Chico, Calif.  
Butte College

**UTAH:** Positioned himself as a strong contender for the 2006 starting job with his amazing showing against BYU and Georgia Tech in the final two games of last season ... 2-0 as the starter ... saw only spot duty in three of the first 10 games as Brian Johnson's backup ... strong arm, good downfield thrower and great decision maker ... good runner has deceptive speed ... extremely confident and poised under pressure.

**2005**—Led Utah to its two biggest victories of the season after assuming the starting job in game 11 ... in his first game as the starter, he led Utah to an upset victory over BYU in overtime ... second win came against Georgia Tech in the Emerald Bowl ... named MWC Offensive Player of the Week for his performance against BYU, completing 17-of-32 passes for 240 yards and 4 TDs, while rushing for 112 yards (5.9 average) and a score ... set Emerald Bowl and Utah bowl records for completions (30), passing yards (381) and touchdowns (4) against Georgia Tech ... completed 73% of his passes against Georgia Tech (30-41) ... in his two

games as the starter, he was 47-73 (64.4%) for 621 yards (310.5 average), 8 touchdowns and just 1 turnover (an interception) ... season passing stats for five games: 48-of-77 for 642 yards and 8 TDs (2 interceptions) ... season rushing stats: 22 carries for 101 yards (4.6 average) and 1 TD ... in the 3 games he saw action as the backup, he was 1-of-4 passing for 21 yards and an interception (0-1 vs. Utah State, 0-0 vs. Wyoming, 1-3 for 21 yards and 1 interception vs. New Mexico).

**PRIOR TO UTAH**-All-conference in 2004 ... set Butte College career touchdown record (41) ... MVP of 2003 Tri-Counties Bank Holiday Bowl, which Butte won ... also played in 2004 bowl game ... attended high school at Chico High (Calif.) ... all-conference ... Chico HS team captain and Offensive Player of the Year ... set school records for average passing yards per game (249.0) and single-game attempts (56) and completions (36) ... Chico High was conference champ in 1999 and 2000 ... son of Gaylon and Karen Ratliff ... father played football and ran track for Cal Poly Pomona ... sociology major ... nickname is Ratty ... born Aug. 8, 1985.

YEAR	G/GS	ATT	CMP	IT	PCT	YDS	TD	LONG
2005	5/2	77	48	2	62.3	642	8	48



**98**  
**KELLY TALAVOU**  
Defensive Line  
6-2, 307, Sr.  
1VL  
Santa Ana, Calif.  
Idaho

**UTAH:** Big, strong and difficult to solo-block, he will vie for all-conference honors in 2006 ... starter at nose guard last year also took turns at tackle, where he is slated to start this fall.

**2005**-Started all 12 games at nose guard ... 31 total tackles, 2 for a loss, and 1.5 sacks ... 2 pass breakups ... made a season-high 5 tackles, including an assisted tackle for loss against San Diego State ... 4 tackles against Utah State ... had 3 games with 3 tackles, including 3 stops and a pass breakup against Brigham Young ... 2 tackles and a pass breakup at North Carolina.

**2004**-Transfer from Idaho enrolled at the U. in spring 2004 ... could practice but not play per NCAA transfer rules ... sidelined

by shoulder injury and subsequent surgery in mid-October.

**PRIOR TO UTAH:** Lettered as a true freshman for Idaho in 2002 and again in 2003 ... played in all 11 games as a freshman and had 23 tackles, 2 tackles for loss and a sack ... played in all 11 games as a sophomore in 2003 and had 30 total tackles, 4 tackles for loss and a sack ... career-high 9 tackles against Montana ... spent his senior year of high school at Fountain Valley High (Calif.), where he was a two-way starter ... 2001 Sunset League MVP ... all-county defensive tackle ... Fountain Valley's Offensive Lineman of the Year as a senior, he had 36 solo tackles and 6 tackles for loss ... MVP of the Los Angeles/Orange County all-star game.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Kelemete and Puaula Talavou ... one of six children ... younger brother Fulio plays football for Arizona State ... sociology major ... full name is Kelly Simone Talavou ... born Oct. 4, 1984.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	SACK
2002*	11/1	10	13	23	2-1	1.0-0
2003*	11/9	15	15	30	4-16	1.0-8
2005	12/12	7	24	31	2-12	1.5-10
Totals	34/22	32	52	84	8-29	3.5-18

\*at Idaho



**28**  
**STEVE TATE**  
Defensive Back  
5-11, 197, Jr.  
1VL  
Salt Lake City  
Utah State

**UTAH:** Scheduled to start at free safety this fall, but will also see action at strong safety ... off-season shoulder surgery will limit him to running drills in the spring ... one-time walk-on transfer from Utah State is now on scholarship.

**2005**-Played in all 12 games, making 5 starts (the last 4 at strong safety) ... 46 total tackles, 2 tackles for a loss and an interception ... 42 of his 46 tackles came in the games he started ... career-high 10 tackles against both New Mexico and Georgia Tech ... 10 tackles (8 solo) against Georgia Tech in the Emerald Bowl led all tacklers for both teams ... first career interception also came against Georgia Tech (return of 45 yards) ... 9 tackles against Air Force included 6 solo stops ... 7 tackles against BYU (6 solo) ...

Academic All-MWC.

**2004**-Redshirt made the Dean's List and was named to the Utah Athletics Academic Honor Roll.

**PRIOR TO UTAH:** Transfer from Utah State played in 10 games at safety and for special teams in 2001 ... 26 total tackles, 2 tackles for loss, 1 sack and 1 fumble ... left for LDS church mission after 2001 season ... 2000 5A MVP and all-state quarterback while playing for Skyline High (Utah) ... state's Mr. Football led 5A in rushing yards (1,660), rushing touchdowns (24) and yards per carry ... also passed for 664 yards and 2 TDs as a senior ... played for state championship teams in 1998 and 1999 ... high honor roll.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Wynn and Chris Tate ... both parents graduated from Utah ... one brother and two sisters ... grandfather, Hal, played football for Utah ... brother-in-law plays football for Utah State ... married to the former Savanna Thompson ... served a LDS church mission from 2002-04 ... business major ... full name is Stephen Tate ... born Jan. 11, 1983.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	SACK
2001*	10/0	15	11	26	2.0-5	1-3
2005	12/5	26	20	46	2.0-4	0-0
Totals	22/5	41	31	72	4.0-9	1-3

\*at Utah State



**78**  
**TAVO TUPOLA**  
Offensive Line  
6-3, 300, Sr.  
3VL  
Kahuku, Hawaii  
Kahuku HS

**UTAH:** Could be the best offensive tackle in the Mountain West Conference ... has started at left tackle since his freshman year ... athletic, mobile player was a safety in high school who grew into offensive line stature while on an LDS church mission to Tucson, Ariz. (2000-02) ... quickness creates match-up problems for opposing defenses.

**2005**-Second-team all-conference offensive lineman started all 12 games at left tackle ... participated in 832 plays ... 27 knockdowns and 5 pancake blocks ... led Utes with 7 knockdowns vs. Georgia Tech in the Emerald Bowl ... also had 3 cuts vs. the Yellow Jackets ... 8 cuts vs. New Mexico

was the most by a Ute all season ... 6 cuts vs. UNLV and 5 cuts against both BYU (in just 40 plays) and Utah State ... 4 knock-downs against Arizona.

**2004**—Started all 12 games at left tackle ... in regular season games, participated in 760 plays (third most among Utah's offensive linemen) ... averaged 69.1 plays per game ... 32 total knockdowns ... season-best 10 knockdowns against BYU ... 4 knockdowns against CSU and North Carolina ... elected to the Utah Football Leadership Committee.

**2003**—Played in 11 games and started last nine at left tackle ... despite not playing against Texas A&M, led the team with 47 knockdowns in the regular season ... average grade was 80% ... 9 knockdowns vs. UNLV was the best for a Ute offensive lineman all season ... 8 knockdowns against Cal ... named team's co-offensive line player of the game vs. Air Force and Wyoming ... graded out at 94% vs. AFA.

**2002**—Redshirt.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** First-team all-state as a senior in 1998 ... Kahuku High was 1998 state runner-up ... lettered four years in football and basketball ... honor roll.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Vaenuku and Saineha Tupola ... married (Andria) ... sociology major ... full name is Tavo Tupola-Toatai ... name is pronounced tah-vo too-poll-a ... born Dec. 23, 1980.



**32**  
**ERIC WEDDLE**  
**Defensive Back**  
**6-0, 200, Sr.**  
**3VL**  
**Alta Loma, Calif.**  
**Alta Loma HS**

**UTAH:** All-America candidate is one of the top defensive backs in the nation ... 2005 MWC Defensive Player of the Year is versatile enough to play virtually any skill position ... during his career, he has played strong safety, nickel back, cornerback, quarterback, returned punts, punted, held for the field goal kicker and played safety on the kickoff coverage teams ... has started in the defensive secondary since he was a true freshman ... after playing corner as a freshman, he moved to strong safety for 2004 and most of 2005 before moving back to corner to finish last season ... expected to play mostly corner in 2006 ... has the ability

and athleticism to single-cover just about anybody ... 11 career interceptions is tied for the sixth-most ever at Utah.

**2005**—MWC Defensive Player of the Year, first-team all-conference defensive back and Emerald Bowl Defensive MVP ... started all 12 games ... led the MWC in passes defended with 16 (4 interceptions, 12 pass breakups) ... 11 tackles for loss ranked second on the team and seventh in the MWC ... 78 total tackles was third on the team ... had 3 of Utah's 5 total forced fumbles ... held All-America receiver Calvin Johnson of Georgia Tech to 2 receptions for 19 yards in an incredible Emerald Bowl performance ... 4 pass breakups against New Mexico tied a Utah single-game record ... career-best 12 tackles against North Carolina ... named MWC Defensive Player of the Week twice—against Arizona and Wyoming ... led Utah with 10 tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, a forced fumble and a 24-yard interception return for a touchdown in win over Arizona ... recorded 9 tackles, 3 pass breakups and 1.5 TFL against Wyoming ... leading punt returner finished with 24 returns for 154 yards (6.4 average) ... career-long 44-yard punt return against Utah State.

**2004**—Second-team all-MWC choice played and started in 11 games (missed Arizona game with a knee injury) ... despite missing one game and all but a few games of another, he was Utah's third-leading tackler (75) and led the secondary in tackles ... 4 interceptions was second on the team and 5 pass breakups ranked third ... tied for the team lead with 4 double-digit tackles games ... led all tacklers in the Fiesta Bowl with career-high 11 stops ... also had a sack, tackle for loss and pass breakup against Pittsburgh in the bowl game ... tied season tackle high with 11 in back-to-back games against North Carolina and UNLV ... 2 pass break-ups and an interception vs. North Carolina ... 10 tackles against Air Force ... returned an interception for 34 yards to go along with 6 tackles and a pass breakup against San Diego State ... recovered a fumble for 31 yards and had an interception against Colorado State ... 1 interception and 8 tackles against BYU ... elected to the Utah Football Leadership Committee ... made the Athletics Honor Roll and the Dean's List with his 3.50 GPA fall semester.

**2003**—Named a first-team Freshman All-American by Scripps/FWAA (Football Writers of America Association) and College Sports Report.com ... second-team Freshman All-American by *The Sporting News* and *College Football News* ... honorable mention all-MWC ... played in all 12 games

and started the last nine at right corner ... tied for league lead with 4 forced fumbles ... led Utes in interceptions (3) ... 4 sacks ranked second on team ... 60 total tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss, 4 pass breakups and 1 fumble recovery ... part of some of the biggest plays of the season ... in closing minutes of Utah's upset win over No. 19 Oregon, he forced, then recovered, a fumble while sacking Oregon's QB on Utah's 38-yard ... helped preserve Utah's 3-0 victory over BYU by forcing a fumble on the BYU 22 that was recovered by Utah, which then ran out the clock ... season-best 10 tackles vs. Wyoming ... academic all-MWC.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Two-time league offensive and defensive MVP ... three-time all-league ... two-time all-CIF ... first-team *L.A. Times* and *Daily Bulletin* ... second-team all-Southern Section CIF ... *Rival & Student Sport Magazine* all-region team ... Alta Loma High (Calif.) Best Receiver and MVP ... team captain and rookie of the year ... senior year had 129 tackles, 5 interceptions, 4 forced fumbles, 5 recovered fumbles, 587 yards rushing, 22 touchdowns, 965 yards passing and 5 TD passes ... Alta Loma HS was 2000 Mt. Baldy League champion ... also lettered in basketball and baseball.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Steven and Deborah Weddle ... one sister ... married to the former Chanel Blaquiere ... Chanel played soccer for Utah State ... special education major ... full name is Eric Steven Weddle ... born Jan. 4, 1985.

YEAR	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	SACK
2003	12/9	29	31	60	4.5-33	4-30
2004	11/11	47	28	75	4.5-21	1-3
2005	12/12	49	29	78	11.0-46	4-29
Totals	35/32	125	88	213	20.0-100	9-62

# HOW THE UTES WERE BUILT

SCHOLARSHIP PLAYERS			WALK-ONS	
<b>2002</b> Shaun Harper Eric Pettit Tavo Tupola (RM) Jason Voss	Darryl Poston (TR) Colt Sampson (RM) Bryce Scanlon Paul Soliai (JC) Ray Stowers Kelly Talavou (W/O, TR) Steve Tate (TR, RM, W/O)	Tyler Williams Marquis Wilson	<b>2003</b> Brent Rawlings	<b>2006</b> Jim Christensen (RM) Tysen Clements (RM) Danny Copinga (TR, RM) Mike James (JC) Derek McAllister (JC, RM) Taj Mecham Ryan Morrow (TR) Clint Mower (JC, RM) Brady Phillips (JC, RM) R.J. Rice (TR, RM) Nate Stevens (JC, RM) Judd Tolman Russ Willison (JC) Mike Wright (TR, RM)
	<b>2003</b> Jason Boone Kyle Brady Martail Burnett Casey Evans (W/O) Kyle Gunther Thomas Huff Joe Giannoni Mike Liti Taylor Miller (RM) Malakai Mokofisi (W/O) Loma Olevao (RM) Alex Puccinelli Derrek Richards (W/O) Ryan Smith Eric Weddle	<b>2004</b> Terrence Apted Brent Casteel Robert Conley Brian Johnson Pate Moleni (RM) John Peel	<b>2005</b> Pete Aneiro (JC) Derek Beardall (JC, RM) Nate Clark (TR, RM) Drew Hackett (TR) Bart-Jonah Gaison Bradon Godfrey (TR) Greg Newman (TR) Aaron Smith (TR, RM) Casey Sutera (TR) Ben Vroman JJ Williams Jarrell Woods Josh Woods	
	<b>2005</b> Zane Beadles Lance Bordeleau Freddie Brown (JC) Kevin Dunn Kenape Eliapo Joe Giuliani Tommy Grady (TR) Brian Hernandez (JC) Jeremy Inferrera (TR) Chris Joppru Soli Lefiti (JC) Semisi Livai (RM) Darrell Mack Brice McCain Brett Ratliff (JC) Kyler Rushton (RM) Louie Sakoda (W/O) Eric Shyne (JC) Andrew Smart (RM) Sean Smith Reggie Turner	<b>2006</b> Neli A'asa Nick Binks Chet Blasucci (JC) Joe Dale Joe Faifili Sean Fitzgerald Dustin Hensel (JC) Justin Jones Pauli Latu George Molifua (RM) Mookie Murphy Caleb Schlauderaff Corey Seiuli (JC) Matt Sims (JC) Tony Smith R.J. Stanford Stevenson Sylvester Zane Taylor Kenton Thomas Aaron Tonga (JC) Bubba Tuinei Peter Tuitupou Mombroso Washington (JC) Walter Watts Zeke Wily		
				<b>Legend</b> TR=Transfer JC=Junior College Transfer W/O=Walk-on awarded scholarship NQ=Non-qualifier RM=Returned Missionary

## 2006 UTAH FOOTBALL RECRUITING CLASS ROSTER

Junior College.....	Pos. ....	Hgt. ....	Wgt. ....	Cl.....	Exp.....	Hometown/Last School
Neli A'asa.....	DT .....	6-2 .....	290 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Big Rapids, Mich./Big Rapids HS
Nick Binks.....	DE .....	6-5 .....	209 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Bountiful, Utah/Bountiful HS
Chet Blasucci.....	LB .....	6-1 .....	241 .....	Jr .....	JC .....	La Canada, Calif./Snow College
Joe Dale .....	DB .....	5-11 .....	190 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Irving, Texas/Nimitz HS
Joe Faifili .....	DT .....	6-2 .....	296 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Laie, Hawaii/Kahuku HS
Sean Fitzgerald .....	WR .....	6-3 .....	177 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Mission Viejo, Calif./Mission Viejo HS
Dustin Hensel .....	OL .....	6-7 .....	331 .....	So .....	JC .....	La Palma, Calif./Golden West CC
Justin Jones.....	DB .....	5-10 .....	169 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Marshall, Texas/Marshall HS
Pauli Latu.....	DT .....	6-0 .....	295 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	West Valley City, Utah/Hunter HS
George Molifua .....	HB .....	5-10 .....	230 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Oceanside, Calif./Carlsbad HS
Mookie Murphy .....	DB .....	5-10 .....	172 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Salt Lake City, Utah/Juan Diego Catholic HS
Caleb Schlauderaff .....	OL .....	6-5 .....	270 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Shelton, Wash./Shelton HS
Corey Seiuli .....	OL .....	6-3 .....	333 .....	So .....	JC .....	Provo, Utah/Dixie State College
Matt Sims.....	HB .....	6-1 .....	259 .....	Jr .....	JC .....	Lompoc, Calif./Allan Hancock College
Tony Smith.....	WR .....	6-0 .....	176 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Pleasanton, Calif./Foothill HS
R.J. Stanford.....	RB .....	5-11 .....	180 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Chino, Calif./Chino HS
Stevenson Sylvester.....	LB .....	6-2 .....	205 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Las Vegas, Nev./Valley HS
Zane Taylor.....	DT .....	6-3 .....	285 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Moab, Utah/Grand County HS
Kenton Thomas .....	RB .....	6-1 .....	198 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Phoenix, Ariz./Greenway HS
Aaron Tonga .....	DT .....	6-2 .....	274 .....	Jr .....	JC .....	Pomona, Calif./Mt. San Antonio College
Bubba Tuinei.....	DE .....	6-4 .....	206 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Salt Lake City/Cottonwood HS
Peter Tuitupou .....	TE .....	6-4 .....	223 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Orem, Utah/Mountain View HS
Mombroso Washington.....	DB .....	6-0 .....	173 .....	Jr .....	JC .....	Bloomington, Calif./San Bernardino Valley College
Walter Watts .....	OL .....	6-2 .....	329 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Los Banos, Calif./Los Banos HS
Zeke Wily.....	DT .....	6-4 .....	325 .....	Fr .....	HS .....	Orem, Utah/Orem HS

**NELI A'ASA**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-2, 290, Fr**  
**HS**  
**Big Rapids, Mich.**  
**Big Rapids HS**

All-conference and all-region as a senior ... Rivals.com Top 50 defensive tackle ... first freshman in Big Rapids High (Michigan) history ever to play for the varsity ... started all four years ... set school records in career tackles, tackles for loss and sacks ... averaged 12 tackles and 2 sacks a game in 2005 ... Big Rapids won 2003 regional, district and conference championships ... son of John and Laloasi A'asa ... both parents graduated from Hawaii, where his father played football ... one brother and one sister ... speaks Samoan ... name is pronounced Nelly Ah-ah-sa ... full name is Neli Suameli A'asa ... born Feb. 16, 1988 in Pago Pago, Samoa and grew up in the villages of Leone and Futina.

**NICK BINKS**  
**Defensive End**  
**6-5, 209, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Bountiful, Utah**  
**Bountiful HS**

All-state in 2005 and region Defensive MVP ... Bountiful High (Utah) Defensive MVP in 2004-05 and team MVP in 2005 ... team captain ... Bountiful won 2003 Utah state championship ... lettered three years in football and basketball and one year in baseball ... plans to serve an LDS church mission before enrolling ... son of John and Christie Binks ... father is a Utah graduate ... full name is Nicholas Binks ... born Sept. 11, 1987.

**CHET BLASUCCI**  
**Linebacker**  
**6-1, 241, Jr.**  
**JC**  
**La Canada, Calif.**  
**Snow College**

Mid-year junior college transfer is already enrolled in classes at Utah ... went to Pasadena City College in spring 2005 before transferring to Snow College for fall semester ... prepped at La Canada High (Calif.) where he made the all-C.I.F. first team ... first-team all-conference player was the Glendale News Press MVP ... all-Rio Hondo offensive MVP ... won four letters in football, and two in track and volleyball ... son of David and Loa Blasucci ... father has an LDS Church music CD out ... two brothers and one sister ... enjoys art ... served an LDS church mission to Jacksonville, Fla. ... name is pronounced Blass-oo-chee ... full name is Cheston Blasucci ... born April 10, 1982.

**JOE DALE**  
**Defensive Back**  
**5-11, 190, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Irving, Texas**  
**Nimitz HS**

First-team all-district ... lettered three years in both football and basketball at Nimitz High School (Texas) ... son of Joe and Shirley Dale ... two brothers and one sister ... born Dec. 18, 1986 in St. Louis, Mo.

**JOE FAIFILI**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-2, 296, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Laie, Hawaii**  
**Kahuku HS**

U.S. Army All-American ... Rivals.com Top 50 defensive tackle ... Kahuku High (Hawaii) team captain ... Kahuku won the state championship in 2003-04 ... lettered in football and track and field ... played the first three games of his senior year at Granger High in Salt Lake City before transferring back to Kahuku HS for the remainder of the 2005 season ... son of Samuela and Thelma Faifili ... parents live in West Valley City but he considers Laie, Hawaii, his home ... last name is pronounced fy-feely ... one of eight children ... enjoys singing, playing the piano and dancing ... full name is Joseph Samson Samuelu Faifili ... born May 16, 1988.

**SEAN FITZGERALD**  
**Wide Receiver**  
**6-3, 177, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Mission Viejo, Calif.**  
**Mission Viejo HS**

All-league, all-county and all-C.I.F. Division 2 ... Mission Viejo High (Calif.) Offensive Player of the Year ... Mission Viejo was the No. 2 ranked team in the nation in 2004 and ranked first in California ... 2004-05 South Coast League champions ... 2004 C.I.F. Southern Section champs ... 39 catches in 2005 for 826 yards and 11 touchdowns ... National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete ... honor roll ... plans to serve an LDS church mission before enrolling at Utah ... son of Patrick and Lori Fitzgerald ... one sister and one brother ... enjoys beach volleyball and photography ... full name is Sean Patrick Fitzgerald ... born April 28, 1988.

**DUSTIN HENSEL**  
**Offensive Line**  
**6-7, 331, So.**  
**JC**  
**La Palma, Calif.**  
**Golden West CC**

Mid-year junior college transfer is already enrolled in classes at Utah ... second-team all-Mission Conference in 2004 while playing for Golden West JC ... one of his junior college coaches was former Ute player and assistant coach Alex Gerke ... first-team all-Empire League in 2003 as a senior at John F. Kennedy High (California) ... earned three letters in football and two in basketball ... son of Mitch Hensel and Linda Fleming ... youngest of four children ... sister Kristy played softball at San Diego State and sister Traci played softball at Long Beach State ... full name is Dustin Jon Hensel ... born Nov. 22, 1985.

**JUSTIN JONES**  
**Defensive Back**  
**5-10, 169, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Marshall, Texas**  
**Marshall HS**

All-district cornerback in 2004-05 and all-district kick returner and punter in 2005 ... honorable mention all-state as a senior ... Marshall High (Texas) team captain ... set school records for career interceptions (9) and kickoff returns for a touchdown (5) ... had 51 tackles, 23 pass breakups and 4 interceptions in 2005 ... Marshall HS was a state finalist in 2004-05 and the district champion in 2005 ... son of Leonard and Doris Jones ... father played football for Jackson State ... one brother ... full name is Justin Leonard Jones ... nickname is J.J. ... born June 6, 1988.

**PAULI LATU**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-1, 295, Fr**  
**HS**  
**West Valley City, Utah**  
**Hunter HS**

All-American was also a two-time all-state and three-time all-region player for Hunter High (Utah) ... Rivals.com Top 50 defensive tackle ... team captain started as a sophomore ... son of Matt and Salote Latu ... two brothers and two sisters ... name is pronounced pow-lee la-too ... full name is Pauli Ma'afu Latu ... born April 2, 1988.

# 2006 UTAH RECRUITING CLASS

## GEORGE MOLIFUA

**H-Back**

**5-10, 230, Fr.**

**HS**

**Oceanside, Calif.**

**Carlsbad HS**

Originally signed with Utah in 2002 but went on an LDS church mission ... mid-year freshman is currently enrolled in school ... first-team all-county as a senior in 2001 ... Carlsbad High (Calif.) Offensive MVP ... set school single-game records for touchdowns (5), rushing yards (313) and carries (20) ... Carlsbad made the C.I.F. North County Division I finals from 1999-01 ... son of George and Sue Molifua ... father played football at Southern Utah ... three sisters ... interested in music production ... last name is pronounced mo-lee-foo-a ... full name is George Taaga Molifua ... born Jan. 25, 1984 in Oceanside, Calif.

## MOOKIE MURPHY

**Defensive Back**

**5-10, 172, Fr.**

**HS**

**Salt Lake City**

**Juan Diego Catholic HS**

First-team all-state as a junior and senior and honorable mention all-state as a sophomore ... Juan Diego Catholic High School (Utah) team captain ... Juan Diego won the 2004 2A state championship and was the 2003 2A runner-up ... on three regional champion teams (2003-04 2A, 2005 3A) ... four letters in football and three in track ... led Juan Diego to the 2004 2A state track championship ... 2004 state 200 meter champion was also on the victorious 4 x 100 meter relay team ... 4 x 100 relay team broke the state record in 2005 ... son of B. Murphy and Cheryl Harris ... has eight siblings ... enjoys playing Xbox ... full name is TreVon Nurell Murphy ... born Nov. 10, 1987.

## CALEB SCHLAUDERAFF

**Offensive Line**

**6-5, 270, Fr.**

**HS**

**Shelton, Wash.**

**Shelton HS**

All-stater in 2005 was a three-time all-conference and two-time all-region selection ... played in the all-state game ... ranked in the top 25 recruits in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska by the News Tribune and in the top 15 juniors in Washington by the Seattle Times ... two-year Shelton High (Wash.) team captain ... Shelton won the Narrows League championship in 2004 ... won three letters in football and one in basketball ... set 15 school records in the weight room ... grew four inches and gained 50 pounds his

freshman year ... member of National Honor Society ... son of Mark and Pam Schlauder-aff ... father graduated from Minnesota and mother from Washington ... dad is a doctor and mom is a nurse ... two brothers ... oldest brother plays football for Eastern Oregon ... name is pronounced kay-leb schlah-der-off ... full name is Caleb Hunter Schlauderaff.

## COREY SEIULI

**Offensive Line**

**6-3, 333, So.**

**JC**

**Provo, Utah**

**Dixie State College**

Mid-year junior college transfer is already enrolled in classes at Utah ... came to Utes off LDS church mission ... 2002 all-conference player for Dixie State College ... Dixie won the 2002 conference title and Rotary Bowl ... prepped at Timpview High (Utah) ... second-team all-region ... won three letters in football, two in track and one in wrestling ... made the honor roll as a junior and senior ... aunt Peti and uncle Brad Taylor are his guardians ... two siblings ... last name is pronounced say-oo-lee ... full name is Corey Ifi Seiuli ... born Aug. 19, 1984 in Los Angeles.

## MATT SIMS

**Fullback**

**6-1, 259, Jr.**

**JC**

**Lompoc, Calif.**

**Allan Hancock College**

First-team all-conference tight end at Allan Hancock College ... played in 2005 American Bowl ... prepped at Lompoc High (Calif.), where he was an all-league offensive lineman and all C.I.F. in 2003 ... won three letters in football and baseball ... set Lompoc High records for bench press, squat and power clean ... honor roll ... son of Barbara Sims ... one brother ... enjoys surfing and fishing ... full name is Mathew Earl Sims ... born Oct. 30, 1985.

## TONY SMITH

**Wide Receiver**

**6-0, 176, Fr.**

**HS**

**Pleasanton, Calif.**

**Foothill HS**

Played quarterback at Foothill High (Calif.) ... 1,570 passing yards ranked fifth in the area ... 17 touchdown passes to 3 interceptions ... set a Foothill High record for quarterbacks by rushing for 125 yards in a game ... won two letters in football and baseball and three in track ... qualified for the North Coast Section and made all-league in the 200 meters ... made honor roll twice ... won the National Punt, Pass and Kick contest ... played for

the runner-up team in the Babe Ruth World Series ... son of Ted and Janice Smith ... father played baseball for Chabot CC and the Modesto A's ... one sister and one brother ... sister is a competitive dancer ... full name is Anthony Michael Smith ... born Mar. 3, 1985.

## R.J. STANFORD

**Running Back**

**5-11, 180, Fr.**

**HS**

**Chino, Calif.**

**Chino HS**

First-team all C.I.F. and all-league ... conference offensive player of the year in 2004-05 ... Chino High (Calif.) MVP ... carried the ball 233 times without a fumble as a senior, when he rushed for 1,800 yards and 28 touchdowns ... Chino HS was the Sierra League champion in 2003-04 ... won three letters in football and track ... 2004 league 100, 200 and 400 meter champion ... son of La Shawn Stanford ... one sister ... full name is Raymond Perry Stanford Jr. ... born May 6, 1988.

## STEVENSON SYLVESTER

**Linebacker**

**6-2, 205, Fr.**

**HS**

**Las Vegas, Nev.**

**Valley HS**

First-team all-state and all-league linebacker and tight end in 2005 ... Valley High (Nevada) MVP and team captain ... recorded 67 tackles (44 solo) in 2005 ... also had 22 tackles for loss, 5 sacks, 4 caused fumbles and 5 pass breakups ... as a senior tight end, had over 400 receiving yards and 6 touchdowns ... won three letters in football and two in basketball ... hoops team won the 2004 conference and region titles ... also played in the band for two years ... son of Worrel Sylvester and Angela Levi ... mother played basketball for Southern Utah for four years ... raised with his two brothers and four cousins from age four to 15 before moving to Las Vegas ... brother Jason plays basketball for Santa Rosa JC, cousin Geno will be a freshman football player at Utah State in the fall and cousin Jennifer played basketball for Cerro Coso CC ... coached in basketball by his mother, who critiqued him after every football, basketball, baseball and soccer game he ever played ... played the saxophone from fifth through 10th grade ... full name is Stevenson Ellis Sylvester ... born July 18, 1988.

**ZANE TAYLOR**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-3, 285, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Moab, Utah**  
**Grand County HS**

All-state and state MVP as a junior and senior ... Rivals.com Top 70 defensive tackle ... led Grand County High (Utah) to the 2005 2A state championship ... 2A state wrestling champion as a sophomore and junior ... won four letters in football, wrestling and track and field ... senior class president participated in student government all four years of high school ... National Honor Society ... son of Tom Taylor and Kristin Millis ... both parents graduated from Utah State ... three sisters and a brother ... grandfather (Sam Taylor) played football for Westminster College (Utah) ... enjoys hiking, river rafting, acting and movie trivia ... full name is Zane Charles Taylor ... born April 23, 1988.

**KENTON THOMAS**  
**Running Back**  
**6-1, 198, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Phoenix, Ariz.**  
**Greenway HS**

All-state and first-team all-Arizona as a senior ... will play in the Arizona All-Star game in June ... three-years first-team all-region ... set Greenway High School season records for yards per carry (11.6) and points (344) in 2005 ... career rushing totals: 393 carries for 3,093 yards (7.9 average) and 22 touchdowns ... career receiving totals: 78 catches for 1,733 yards (22.2 average) and 19 touchdowns ... career defensive statistics: 95 tackles, 6 interceptions, 4 fumble recoveries and 3 blocked kicks ... 428 yards in returns for his career ... Greenway was the state runner-up in 2002 and made the state playoffs in 2002, '03 and '05 ... region champs in 2002-03 ... won four letters in football and track and two in basketball ... qualified for the state track meet all four years ... son of Kenny and Kira Thomas ... father played football for UC-Davis ... born Aug. 10, 1988 in Sacramento, Calif.

**AARON TONGA**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-2, 274, Jr.**  
**JC**  
**Pomona, Calif.**  
**Mt. San Antonio College**

All-Mission Conference and juco preseason All-American in 2005 ... Mt. San Antonio College team captain had 8 sacks as a sophomore and 5 sacks and 12 tackles for loss as a freshman ... Mt. Sac was the 2004 Mission Conference champion ... hometown

is Pomona, Calif., but prepped at Taylorsville High (Utah) where he was all-state as a senior and all-region twice ... Taylorsville team captain ... played in the 5A state championship game as a sophomore ... participated in the Tonga Bowl in Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu in 2002 ... son of Iki and Okaneti Tonga ... six brothers and four sisters ... brother Joe is an offensive tackle at Mt. Sac ... brother Iki is an artist, mechanic and barber ... full name is Aaron David Tonga ... born Oct. 10, 1983 in Salt Lake City.

**BUBBA TUINEI**  
**Defensive End**  
**6-4, 206, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Salt Lake City**  
**Cottonwood HS**

All-state ... Cottonwood High (Utah) team captain ... won letters in football and basketball ... son of Paloma Tuinei and Alex Samuel Tuinei ... one of eight children ... last name is pronounced too-ee-nay ... full name is Tereinga Poasa Tuinei ... born Oct. 13, 1988 in Aitutaki—one of the Cook Islands.

**PETER TUITUPOU**  
**Tight End**  
**6-4, 223, Fr.**  
**HS**  
**Orem, Utah**  
**Mountain View HS**

Second-team all-state and first-team all-valley as a senior in 2005 ... Mountain View High (Utah) team captain ... 28 catches for 391 yards his senior year ... won two letters in football and three in basketball ... honor roll ... plans to serve an LDS church mission before enrolling at Utah ... son of Paul and Carolyn Tuitupou ... both parents graduated from BYU-Hawaii, where his father played tennis and rugby ... mother is assistant dean of undergraduate education at BYU ... youngest of seven children ... name is pronounced too-ee-too-po ... born Feb. 21, 1988.

**MOMBROSO WASHINGTON**  
**Defensive Back**  
**6-0, 173, Jr.**  
**JC**

**Bloomington, Calif.**  
**San Bernardino Valley College**  
 Mid-year junior college transfer is already enrolled in classes at Utah ... played for San Bernardino Valley College in 2004-05 and was an all-conference cornerback in 2005 ... team captain had 60 tackles and 3 interceptions his sophomore year ... enlisted in the U.S. Army and took part in Operation Iraqi Freedom ... prepped at Bloomington High (Calif.), where he was an all-conference cornerback in 1998 ... 80 tackles and 6

interceptions his senior year ... Bloomington won three straight conference championships (1996-98) ... son of Arnell and Deborah Washington ... first name is pronounced how it looks (mom-bro-so) ... one of four children ... married to the former Tiffany Brooks ... daughter Bayani ... full name is Mombroso Arnell Washington ... born Nov. 10, 1981.

**WALTER WATTS**  
**Offensive Line**  
**6-2, 329, Fr.**  
**HS**

**Los Banos, Calif.**  
**Los Banos HS**

All-conference ... "Best in Bay Area" ... Los Banos High (Calif.) MVP ... won two letters in football and basketball ... October Student of the Month ... son of Walter III and Lanette Watts ... father played basketball at Utah from 1989-91 and started for Utah's 1990-91 team that finished 30-4 and made the NCAA Sweet 16 (he was the team's second-leading scorer and rebounder that year) ... full name is Walter Watts IV ... born Oct. 11, 1988.

**ZEKE WILY**  
**Defensive Tackle**  
**6-4, 325, Fr.**  
**HS**

**Orem, Utah**  
**Orem HS**

All-state and all-region in 2005 ... Orem High (Utah) team captain ... won three letters in football and one in basketball ... spent his junior year in Samoa and was named the Samoan Islands defensive player of the year ... son of Sefo and Ipo Hemaloto ... both parents are graduates of BYU-Hawaii, where his mother played volleyball ... one of five children ... full name is Ezekiel Wily ... born Jan. 31, 1988 in Hawaii.

# 2005 UTAH STATISTICS

## 2005 UTAH FOOTBALL RESULTS

7-5, 4-4 MWC/4th tie

Emerald Bowl Champion

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend	TV
9-2	Arizona	W/27-24	45,528	ESPN
9-10	Utah State	W/31-7	44,639	KJZZ
9-15	at TCU*	L/23-20 (OT)	22,250	ESPN
9-22	Air Force*	W/38-35	41,935	ESPN
10-1	at North Carolina	L/31-17	50,000	KJZZ
10-8	at Colorado State*	L/21-17	37,713	KJZZ
10-15	San Diego State*#	L/28-19	41,341	ABC
10-22	at UNLV*	W/42-32	19,108	ABC
11-5	Wyoming*	W/43-13	39,026	
11-12	New Mexico*	L/31-27	36,746	KJZZ
11-19	at Brigham Young*	W/41-34 (OT)	64,312	ESPN+Plus
12-29	Georgia Tech^	W/38-10	25,742	ESPN

#Homecoming; \*MWC game; ^Emerald Bowl

## TEAM STATISTICS

	UTAH	OPP
Points Per Game	30.0	24.1
FIRST DOWNS	274	235
Rushing	112	87
Passing	150	128
Penalty	12	20
RUSHING ATTEMPTS-YARDS	494-2142	454-1817
Rushing Average Per Game	178.5	151.4
PASSING ATT-COMP-INT	415-258-10	392-213-15
Passing Yards	3534	2669
Passing Avg Per Game	294.5	222.4
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	909-5676	846-4486
Total Offense Per Game	473.0	373.8
Fumbles-Lost	25-14	16-8
Penalties-Yards	92-762	68-541
Punting No.-Yds-Avg	63-2300-36.5	76-2950-38.8
Sacks-Yards	29-184	29-185
Third Down Conversions	76/186	73/184
Third Down Conversions Pct	41%	40%
Fourth Down Conversions	12/20	7/18
Fourth Down Conversions Pct	60%	39%
Time of Possession Avg.	31:13	28:47
Attendance Avg	41536	38271

## SCORE BY QUARTER

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total
Utah	72	132	102	44	10	360
Opponents	47	76	72	88	6	289

RUSHING	GP	ATT	GAIN	LOSS	NET	AVG	TD	LONG	AVG/G
GANTHER, Quinton	11	205	1168	48	1120	5.5	7	63	101.8
JOHNSON, Brian	10	152	690	212	478	3.1	8	26	47.8
CASTEEL, Brent	12	35	212	4	208	5.9	1	59	17.3
MACK, Darrell	9	39	150	3	147	3.8	0	18	16.3
RATLIFF, Brett	5	22	131	30	101	4.6	1	24	20.2
WEDDLE, Eric	12	7	36	1	35	5.0	1	16	2.9
LITI, Mike	7	12	29	1	28	2.3	0	6	4.0
WILSON, Marquis	7	3	21	1	20	6.7	0	14	2.9
POSTON, Darryl	7	6	19	0	19	3.2	0	9	2.7
MADSEN, John	10	1	3	0	3	3.0	0	3	0.3
TAGOVAILOA, Fano	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
WALKER, Justin	1	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-1.0
TEAM	9	10	0	16	-16	-1.6	0	0	-1.8
Total	12	494	2459	317	2142	4.3	18	63	178.5
Opponents	12	454	2155	338	1817	4.0	16	64	151.4

PASSING	G	EFFIC	ATT-CMP-INT	PCT	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/G
JOHNSON, Brian	10	151.01	330-210-7	63.6	2892	18	60	289.2
RATLIFF, Brett	5	161.46	77-48-2	62.3	642	8	48	128.4
WEDDLE, Eric	12	-100.00	2-0-1	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
TAGOVAILOA, Fano	12	0.00	1-0-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
GANTHER, Quinton	11	0.00	1-0-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
TEAM	9	0.00	4-0-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	12	149.56	415-258-10	62.2	3534	26	60	294.5
Opponents	12	119.87	392-213-15	54.3	2669	19	65	222.4

RECEIVING	G	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG	AVG/G
LATENDRESSE, Travis	9	55	810	14.7	8	51	90.0
MADSEN, John	10	55	672	12.2	6	47	67.2
HERNANDEZ, Brian	11	39	709	18.2	3	60	64.5
CASTEEL, Brent	12	39	426	10.9	2	41	35.5
GANTHER, Quinton	11	25	314	12.6	1	47	28.5
RICHARDS, Derrek	12	16	239	14.9	4	52	19.9
WILSON, Marquis	7	9	149	16.6	0	25	21.3
TAGOVAILOA, Fano	12	6	66	11.0	0	24	5.5
JACOBSEN, Chad	12	4	69	17.2	1	34	5.8
SHAHEEN, Ameen	12	3	20	6.7	1	12	1.7
MACK, Darrell	9	3	13	4.3	0	6	1.4
BROWN, Freddie	4	2	43	21.5	0	37	10.8
LITI, Mike	7	2	4	2.0	0	6	0.6
Total	12	258	3534	13.7	26	60	294.5
Opponents	12	213	2669	12.5	19	65	222.4

FIELD GOALS	FGM-FGA	PCT	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	LG	BLK
BEARDALL, Dan	16-19	84.2	0-0	5-6	6-6	5-6	0-1	47	1

SCORING	TD	FG	PAT	RUSH	RCV	PASS	SAF	PTS
BEARDALL, Dan	0	16-19	40-42	0-0	0	0-0	0	88
LATENDRESSE, Trav	8	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0	0	50
JOHNSON, Brian	8	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0-0	0	48
GANTHER, Quinton	8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	48
MADSEN, John	6	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	36
RICHARDS, Derrek	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	24
HERNANDEZ, Brian	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	18
CASTEEL, Brent	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	18
WEDDLE, Eric	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	12
JACOBSEN, Chad	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	6
SHAHEEN, Ameen	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	6
RATLIFF, Brett	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1-1	0	6
TEAM	0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0	0-0	0	0
Total	45	16-19	40-43	0-1	1	1-1	0	360
Opponents	38	11-14	28-30	0-3	0	0-4	0	289

## RED ZONE OFFENSE

Times at or inside 20: 45

Scores: 38

Touchdowns: 27

Field Goals: 11

Scoring percentage: 84%

TD percentage: 60%

TOTAL OFFENSE	G	PLAYS	RUSH	PASS	TOTAL	AVG
JOHNSON, Brian	10	482	478	2892	3370	337.0
GANTHER, Quinton	11	206	1120	0	1120	101.8
RATLIFF, Brett	5	99	101	642	743	148.6
CASTEEL, Brent	12	35	208	0	208	17.3
MACK, Darrell	9	39	147	0	147	16.3
WEDDLE, Eric	12	9	35	0	35	2.9
LITI, Mike	7	12	28	0	28	4.0
WILSON, Marquis	7	3	20	0	20	2.9
POSTON, Darryl	7	6	19	0	19	2.7
MADSEN, John	10	1	3	0	3	0.3
WALKER, Justin	1	1	-1	0	-1	-1.0
TEAM	9	14	-16	0	-16	-1.8
Total	12	909	2142	3534	5676	473.0
Opponents	12	846	1817	2669	4486	373.8

PUNTING	NO.	YDS	AVG	LONG	TB	FC	I20	BLK
SAKODA, Louie	54	2002	37.1	52	5	14	22	0
RAWLINGS, Brent	7	252	36.0	47	1	3	2	0
WEDDLE, Eric	2	46	23.0	34	0	0	0	0
Total	63	2300	36.5	52	6	17	24	0
Opponents	76	2950	38.8	61	7	18	21	2



# 2005 UTAH STATISTICS

ALL PURPOSE	G	RUSH	REC	PR	KOR	IR	TOT	AVG	KICK RETURNS	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
GANTHER, Quinton	11	1120	314	0	0	0	1434	130.4	CASTEEL, Brent	20	464	23.2	0	47
CASTEEL, Brent	12	208	426	0	464	0	1098	91.5	RICHARDS, Derrek	7	151	21.6	0	28
LATENDRESSE, Trav	9	0	810	0	0	0	810	90.0	TAGOVAILOA, Fano	4	107	26.8	0	40
HERNANDEZ, Brian	11	0	709	7	0	0	716	65.1	WALKER, Justin	2	36	18.0	0	22
MADSEN, John	10	3	672	0	0	0	675	67.5	WEDDLE, Eric	1	0	0.0	0	0
JOHNSON, Brian	10	478	0	0	0	0	478	47.8	TATE, Steve	1	11	11.0	0	11
RICHARDS, Derrek	12	0	239	0	151	0	390	32.5	TOONE, Spencer	1	0	0.0	0	0
WILSON, Marquis	7	20	149	25	44	0	238	34.0	SAO, Willie	1	4	4.0	0	0
WEDDLE, Eric	12	35	0	154	0	34	223	18.6	WILSON, Marquis	0	44	0.0	0	44
TAGOVAILOA, Fano	12	0	66	0	107	0	173	14.4	Total	37	817	22.1	0	47
MACK, Darrell	9	147	13	0	0	0	160	17.8	Opponents	52	1236	23.8	1	96
RATLIFF, Brett	5	101	0	0	0	0	101	20.2						
JACOBSEN, Chad	12	0	69	0	0	0	69	5.8						
TATE, Steve	12	0	0	0	11	45	56	4.7						
BROWN, Freddie	4	0	43	0	0	0	43	10.8						
WALKER, Justin	1	-1	0	0	36	0	35	35.0						
LITI, Mike	7	28	4	0	0	0	32	4.6						
SHAHEEN, Ameen	12	0	20	0	0	0	20	1.7						
TEAM	9	-16	0	0	0	0	-16	-1.8						
Total	12	2142	3534	202	817	138	6833	569.4						
Opponents	12	1817	2669	120	1236	92	5934	494.5						

PUNT RETURNS	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
WEDDLE, Eric	24	154	6.4	0	22
WILSON, Marquis	5	25	5.0	0	7
HERNANDEZ, Brian	1	7	7.0	0	7
MARSHALL, Grady	1	16	16.0	0	0
Total	31	202	6.5	0	22
Opponents	23	120	5.2	0	20

DEFENSE	GP	SOLO	AST	TOTAL	TFL/YDS	SACK-YARDS	INT-YDS	BRUP	QBH	FR-YDS	FF	BLK KICK	SAF
9 TOONE, Spencer	12	52	61	113	5.0-17	2.5-15	.	.	.	1-0	1	.	.
31 EVANS, Casey	12	43	46	89	4.0-16	2.0-7	5-19	3	.	1-30	1	.	.
32 WEDDLE, Eric	12	49	29	78	11.0-46	4.0-29	4-34	12	1	1-0	3	.	.
44 JIANNONI, Joe	12	34	39	73	2.5-12	0.5-5	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
93 BURNETT, Martail	12	22	31	53	7.0-28	3.5-18	.	2	.	1-0	.	1	.
28 TATE, Steve	12	26	20	46	2.0-4	.	1-45	.	.	.	.	.	.
94 FIFITA, Steve	12	21	23	44	14.0-59	6.0-38	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
8 OATES, Eugene	12	33	10	43	2.0-8	1.0-7	.	3	.	.	.	.	.
41 MARSHALL, Grady	12	19	23	42	3.0-16	2.0-13	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
24 HARRIS, Tim	12	22	18	40	.	.	1-12	.	.	.	.	.	.
98 TALAVOU, Kelly	12	7	24	31	2.0-12	1.5-10	.	2	1	.	.	.	.
5 SMITH, Ryan	9	19	8	27	1.5-3	.	1-6	2	.	.	.	.	.
14 BRADY, Kyle	12	8	18	26	1.5-8	0.5-5	1-12	.	.	.	.	.	.
97 LEFITI, Soli	11	10	14	24	3.5-15	1.0-10	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
2 YOUNG, Antonio	11	7	2	19	1.0-1	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
21 HARPER, Shaun	12	12	7	19	1.0-1	.	2-10	2	.	.	.	.	.
22 MOKOFISI, Malakai	4	5	10	15	2.0-6	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
99 AFEAKI, Kite	11	6	8	14	3.0-12	1.5-7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3A MCCAIN, Brice	10	10	2	12	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
11 CASCO, Kawika	8	4	7	11	1.5-9	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
29 SHYNE, Eric	10	2	7	9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45 PUCCINELLI, Alex	12	4	3	7	1.0-5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
83 JOHNSON, Jordan	12	4	2	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
76 SOLIAI, Paul	12	1	4	5	1.5-12	1.0-10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50 CONDIE, Brock	12	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
54 MILLER, Taylor	8	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
82 PEEL, John	6	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
37 OLEAVO, Loma	9	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35 SAKODA, Louie	12	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
96 BEARDALL, Derek	5	.	2	2	1.0-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TM TEAM	9	2	.	2	1.0-6	1.0-6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
33 GARRIGAN, Afa	6	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10 POSTON, Darryl	7	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
69 BOONE, Jason	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
38 TURNER, Reggie	3	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
81 SAO, Willie	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20 LITI, Mike	7	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
74 DIRKMAAT, David	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
26 RICHARDS, Derrek	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3 JOHNSON, Brian	10	.	1	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
72 VOSS, Jason	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
88 LATENDRESSE, Travis	9	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51 NIELSON, Brady	11	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13 GANTHER, Quinton	11	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
Total	12	440	441	881	72-298	29-184	15-138	32	2	8-30	5	2	.
Opponents	12	-	-	-	-	29-185	10-92	38	2	14-9	15	2	.

## RED ZONE DEFENSE

Times opponent at or inside 20: 42

Scores: 35

Touchdowns: 26

Field Goals: 9

Scoring percentage: 83%

TD percentage: 62%

## 2005 EMERALD BOWL STARTERS

### OFFENSE

LT	LG	C	RG	RT	QB	RB	X-WR	Z-WR	H-WR	Y-WR
Tavo Tupola	David Dirkmaat	Jesse Boone	Robert Conley	Jason Boone	Brett Ratliff	Quinton Ganther	Derrek Richards	Brian Hernandez	Marquis Wilson	Travis LaTendresse

### OFFENSE

DE	T	NG	E	RLB	MLB	SLB	RC	LC	FS	SS
Martail Burnett	Steve Fifita	Kelly Talavou	Soli Lefiti	Spencer Toone	Joe Jiannoni	Kyle Brady	Eugene Oates	Eric Weddle	Casey Evans	Steve Tate

## OFFENSE • REGULAR SEASON STARTERS

POS.	ARIZ	USU	TCU	AFA	UNC	CSU	SDSU	UNLV	WYO	UNM	BYU
LT	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola	Tavo Tupola
LG	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat	David Dirkmaat
C	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone	Jesse Boone
RG	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Eric Pettit	Robert Conley	Robert Conley	Robert Conley	Robert Conley
RT	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone	Jason Boone
QB	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brian Johnson	Brett Ratliff
RB	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther	Mike Liti	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther	Mike Liti	Quinton Ganther	Quinton Ganther
X-WR	Travis LaTendresse	Travis LaTendresse	Travis LaTendresse	John Madsen	Travis LaTendresse	John Madsen	Derrek Richards	Derrek Richards	Derrek Richards	Derrek Richards	Derrek Richards
Z-WR		John Madsen	John Madsen	Brian Hernandez	John Madsen	Brian Hernandez	John Madsen	John Madsen	John Madsen	John Madsen	Brian Hernandez
H-WR	Brent Casteel	Brent Casteel		Brent Casteel	Brent Casteel	Brent Casteel	Marquis Wilson		Marquis Wilson		
Y-WR	Fano Tagovailoa	Fano Tagovailoa	Fano Tagovailoa	Travis LaTendresse		Travis LaTendresse	Brian Hernandez	Marquis Wilson	Travis LaTendresse		
TE	Chad Jacobsen		Ameen Shaheen		Chad Jacobsen			Chad Jacobsen	Chad Jacobsen		Chad Jacobsen
TE								Willie Sao			Willie Sao

## DEFENSE • REGULAR SEASON STARTERS

POS.	ARIZ	USU	TCU	AFA	UNC	CSU	SDSU	UNLV	WYO	UNM	BYU
OE	Martail Burnett	Martail Burnett	Alex Puccinelli	Alex Puccinelli	Alex Puccinelli	Soli Lefiti	Martail Burnett	Martail Burnett	Martail Burnett	Martail Burnett	Martail Burnett
T	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Kite Afeaki	Kite Afeaki	Kite Afeaki	Kite Afeaki	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita
NG	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou	Kelly Talavou
E	Kite Afeaki	Kite Afeaki	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Steve Fifita	Soli Lefiti	Soli Lefiti	Soli Lefiti	Soli Lefiti	Soli Lefiti	Soli Lefiti
RLB	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone	Spencer Toone
MLB	Grady Marshall	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni	Joe Jiannoni
SLB	Malakai Mokofisi	Malakai Mokofisi	Malakai Mokofisi	Kyle Brady	Kyle Brady		Kyle Brady			Kyle Brady	
RC	Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates				Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates	Eugene Oates
LC	Ryan Smith	Ryan Smith	Ryan Smith	Ryan Smith	Ryan Smith	Brice McCain	Ryan Smith	Shaun Harper	Eric Weddle	Eric Weddle	Eric Weddle
FS	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans	Casey Evans
SS	Eric Weddle	Eric Weddle	Tim Harris	Eric Weddle	Tim Harris	Tim Harris	Eric Weddle	Eric Weddle	Steve Tate	Steve Tate	Steve Tate
NB/S			Eric Weddle	Steve Tate	Eric Weddle	Eric Weddle		Shaun Harper	Shaun Harper	Shaun Harper	

## GAME 1 SEPT. 2

Utah 27 Arizona 24

Salt Lake City

Rice-Eccles Stadium [45,419]

SALT LAKE CITY—Sophomore Brian Johnson passed for 220 yards and a touchdown in his first start, and coach Kyle Whittingham won in his Utah head coaching debut as the Utes beat Arizona 27-24 and extended their winning streak to a school-record 17 straight games. Quinton Ganther ran for a career-high 127 yards and took a shovel pass from Johnson 47 yards for Utah's first touchdown of the season. Other TDs came on a dazzling 59-yard run by freshman Brent Casteel, playing in his first college game, and a 24-yard interception return by Eric Weddle. Johnson shook off some first-quarter nerves to lead Utah to 446 yards of total offense split nearly evenly between rushing (226 yards) and passing (220 yards). The Utes led 27-10 after scoring 17 points in the third quarter, but had to fend off a late charge by Arizona. Two big rushing first downs by Ganther took time off the clock and a punt by freshman Louie Sakoda was downed at the Arizona 9-yard-line with 28 seconds remaining. Casey Evans sealed the win for Utah with an interception.

Arizona ..... 0 ..... 3 ..... 14 ..... 7 ..... 24  
Utah..... 0 ..... 10 ..... 17 ..... 0 ..... 27

### Scoring Summary

UA - Folk 35 field goal 14:16, 2nd  
UU - Beardall 36 field goal 10:37, 2nd  
UU - Ganther 47 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick) 4:29, 2nd  
UA - Thomas 13 pass from Kovalcheck (Folk kick) 11:50, 3rd  
UU - Casteel 59 run (Beardall kick) 10:48, 3rd  
UU - Beardall 45 field goal 8:44, 3rd  
UU - Weddle 24 interception return (Beardall kick) 3:46, 3rd  
UA - Wood 21 pass from Kovalcheck (Folk kick) 0:03, 3rd  
UA - Harris 1 run (Folk kick) 9:23, 4th

Team Statistics	UA	UU
First Downs	25	19
Net Rushing	33-104	38-226
Passing	24-42-2	31-19-0
Passing Yards	287	220
Total Offense	75-391	69-446
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	1-1
Penalties	7-50	7-64
Interceptions-Yds	0-0	2-24
Punting	6-42.5	7-36.4
Punt Returns	1-0	3-29
Kickoff Returns	3-70	2-36
Time of Possession	28:51	31:09
Third Down Conversions	6-14	5-16
Fourth Down Conversions	1-1	1-2
Sacks By	0-0	2-15

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 24-127-0, Casteel 4-74-1. **UA:** Bell 18-99-0, Kovalcheck 3-23-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 30-19-0-220-1. **UA:** Kovalcheck 37-21-2-255-2, Austin 5-3-0-32-0.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** LaTendresse 5-69-0, Ganther 2-50-1. **UA:** Thomas 7-92-1, Steptoe 6-90-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Walker 2-36. **UA:** Steptoe 3-70.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 3-29. **UA:** Steptoe 1-0.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Weddle 10 **Sacks:** Afeaki 1-5, Soliai 1-10.

**TFL:** Afeaki 2-9, Weddle 1.5-5. **Interceptions:** Weddle 1-24, Evans 1-0.

## GAME 2 SEPT. 10

Utah 31, Utah State 7

Salt Lake City

Rice-Eccles Stadium [44,639]

SALT LAKE CITY—Brian Johnson passed for 268 yards and threw two TD passes to John Madsen, and Utah ran its school-record winning streak to 18 straight games with a 31-7 victory over Utah State. Madsen finished with eight catches for 155 yards—a career best. Quinton Ganther ran for 104 yards in his second 100-yard game of the season and the Utes (2-0) won the in-state rivalry for the eighth straight time. Utah remained unbeaten under new coach Kyle Whittingham and held Utah State to 258 total yards. Utah State drew first blood in the second quarter and led 7-0 through much of the half. But Johnson led Utah on a 6-play, 79-yard touchdown scoring drive, tying things up on a 2-yard keeper with 3:03 left in the half. He struck again less than two minutes later with a 30-yard TD pass to Madsen, giving Utah a lead it never relinquished. Johnson was brilliant overall, completing 18 of 21 passes for a new school and conference (tie) completion rate of 85.7 percent. The Utes tacked on two more touchdowns and a field goal in the second half.

Utah State..... 0 ..... 7 ..... 0 ..... 0 ..... 7  
Utah..... 0 ..... 14 ..... 7 ..... 10 ..... 31

### Scoring Summary

USU - Bohm 3 run (Jakubiak kick), 13:45, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 2 run (Beardall kick), 3:03, 2nd  
UU - Madsen 30 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 1:27, 2nd  
UU - Ganther 2 run (Beardall kick), 12:18, 3rd  
UU - Madsen 2 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 13:10, 4th  
UU - Beardall 29 field goal, 9:44, 4th

Team Statistics	USU	UU
First Downs	16	26
Net Rushing	38-163	49-242
Passing	12-25-1	18-22-0
Passing Yards	95	268
Total Offense	63-258	71-510
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties	5-35	5-45
Interceptions-Yds	0-0	1-0
Punting	8-34.8	4-30.0
Punt Returns	2-8	5-44
Kickoff Returns	4-100	1-32
Time of Possession	29:15	30:45
Third Down Conversions	4-14	3-10
Fourth Down Conversions	1-2	1-1
Sacks By	2-16	2-9

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 15-104-1, Johnson 18-70-1. **USU:** Jackson 18-87-0, Bohm 11-56-1.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 21-18-0-268-2. **USU:** Jackson 25-12-1-95-0.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Madsen 8-155-2, LaTendresse 3-29-0. **USU:** Bohm 5-41-0, Richards 2-22-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Tagovailoa 1-32. **USU:** Robinson 4-100.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 5-44. **USU:** Robinson 2-8.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Toone 12 **Sacks:** Fifita 1-8, Evans 1-1.

**TFL:** Fifita 1-8, Evans 1-1, Weddle 1-1. **Interceptions:** Weddle 1-0.

# 2005 GAME SUMMARIES

## GAME 3 SEPT. 15

TCU 23, Utah 20 - OT

Fort Worth, Texas

Amon G. Carter Stadium [25,220]

FT. WORTH, TEXAS—Utah's school-record 18-game win streak was snapped in overtime against TCU, 23-20, in Ft. Worth. The loss was Utah's first since dropping a 47-35 decision to New Mexico on Oct. 25, 2003. The Utes entered the game with the nation's second-longest winning streak. Utah appeared on its way to another win after a 1-yard keeper by Brian Johnson put the Utes up 17-7 at the 10:10 mark in the third quarter. But the offense stalled after that, going scoreless in the fourth quarter and settling for a 34-yard Dan Beardall field goal in overtime. TCU, which tied the score with a 10-point third quarter, won the game on a 4-yard touchdown pass in overtime. Utah running back Quinton Ganther was held to 47 rushing yards—68 below his average. Quarterback Brian Johnson also had mixed results—connecting with freshman Brent Casteel for 77 yards—but throwing his first pick of the year and finishing the night 15 of 30 passing for 208 yards. Linebacker Joe Jiannoni had a big night for the defense, making nine tackles, including one for a loss

Utah..... 7 ..... 3 ..... 7 ..... 0 ..... 3 ..... 20  
TCU ..... 0 ..... 3 ..... 10 ..... 0 ..... 6 ..... 23

### Scoring Summary

UU - Ganther 5 run (Beardall kick), 7:05, 1st  
TCU - Merrill 3 run (Manfredini kick), 14:57, 2nd  
UU - Beardall 39 field goal, 8:23, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 1 run (Beardall kick), 10:10, 3rd  
TCU - Merrill 4 run (Manfredini kick), 8:10, 3rd  
TCU - Manfredini 30 field goal, 2:05, 3rd  
UU - Beardall 34 field goal, OT  
TCU - DePriest 4 pass from Gunn, OT

Team Statistics	UU	TCU
First Downs	14	14
Net Rushing	50-109	46-228
Passing	31-15-1	17-8-0
Passing Yards	208	88
Total Offense	81-317	63-316
Fumbles-Lost	4-1	3-1
Penalties	6-40	5-30
Interceptions-Yds	0-0	1-12
Punting	9-37.4	9-37.0
Punt Returns	2-12	5-23
Kickoff Returns	4-34.2	4-34.2
Time of Possession	34:44	25:16
Third Down Conversions	8-23	4-14
Fourth Down Conversions	2-2	0-0
Sacks By	2-6	3-16

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 22-47-1, Johnson 22-42-1. **TCU:** Brown 17-163-0, Merrill 16-58-2.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 30-15-1-208-0. **TCU:** Gunn 17-8-0-88-1.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Casteel 4-77-0, Hernandez 3-60-0. **TCU:** Rodgers 4-52-0, DePriest 2-19-1.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel 3-89. **TCU:** Rodgers 3-87.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 2-12. **TCU:** Coleman 2-15, Rodgers 3-8.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Jiannoni 9 **Sacks:** Fifita 1-3, Toone 0.5-2, Soliai 0.5-1. **TFL:** Jiannoni 1, Weddle 1, Fifita 1, Smith 1, Burnett 1, Puccinelli 1. **Interceptions:** none.

## GAME 4 SEPT. 22

Utah 38, Air Force 35

Salt Lake City

Rice-Eccles Stadium [41,935]

SALT LAKE CITY—Brian Johnson passed for 305 yards on 21-of-29 passing, and assisted in five touchdowns, and Utah downed Air Force 38-35. Johnson threw two touchdown passes, including a 60-yard bomb to Brian Hernandez that put the Utes up 38-21 in the third quarter, and ran for three more. Trailing 14-7 in the second quarter, the Utes scored three unanswered touchdowns (two in seven seconds), and led the rest of the way. Travis LaTendresse caught 10 passes for 139 yards and a touchdown. Defensive career games came from Spencer Toone (14 tackles) and Casey Evans (12 tackles). After Air Force gained 242 first half yards, Utah gave up just 42 yards in the third quarter. But the Falcons roared back in the last four minutes of the game, scoring twice to pull within three (38-35). Their onside kick attempt with less than a minute left failed and Utah escaped with the victory.

Air Force..... 7 ..... 14 ..... 0 ..... 14 ..... 35  
Utah..... 7 ..... 24 ..... 7 ..... 0 ..... 38

### Scoring Summary

AF - Williams 1 run (Eberle kick), 12:38, 1st  
UU - Johnson 1 run (Beardall kick), 7:52, 1st  
AF - Williams 1 run (Eberle kick), 14:15, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 1 run (Beardall kick), 11:22, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 1 run (Beardall kick), 5:05, 2nd  
UU - LaTendresse 12 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 4:48, 2nd  
AF - Kirkwood 10 run (Eberle kick), 1:09, 2nd  
UU - Beardall 46 field goal, 0:03, 2nd  
UU - Hernandez 60 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 11:17, 3rd  
AF - Brown 15 pass from Fitch (Eberle kick), 3:15, 4th  
AF - Fitch 4 run (Eberle kick), 1:08, 4th

Team Statistics	AFA	UU
First Downs	26	23
Net Rushing	50-251	43-152
Passing	27-13-2	30-21-1
Passing Yards	234	305
Total Offense	77-485	73-457
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties	3-25	5-45
Interceptions-Yds	1-0	2-10
Punting	6-34.8	6-41.0
Punt Returns	2-9.5	2-11.0
Kickoff Returns	4-20.8	4-20.5
Time of Possession	27:51	32:09
Third Down Conversions	7-14	7-16
Fourth Down Conversions	1-1	1-1
Sacks By	2-10	2-15

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 20-78-0, Johnson 14-39-3. **AFA:** Williams 11-68-2, Kendrick 9-43-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 29-21-1-305-2. **AFA:** Carney 16-9-1-145-0, Fitch 9-4-0-89-1.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** LaTendresse 10-139-1, Hernandez 3-79-1. **AFA:** Brown 9-184-1, Kirkwood 3-42-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel 2-41. **AFA:** Kirkwood 2-43.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 1-6. **AFA:** Sutton 2-19.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Toone 14, **Sacks:** Toone 0.5, Jiannoni 0.5, Burnett 0.5, Brady 0.5. **TFL:** Toone 0.5, Jiannoni 0.5, Burnett 0.5, Brady 0.5, Fifita 0.5, Evans 0.5. **Interceptions:** Weddle 1-10, Evans 1-0.

## GAME 5 OCT. 1

**North Carolina 31, Utah 17**  
**Chapel Hill, N.C.**  
**Kenan Stadium [50,000]**

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.—Utah fumbled away the chance to beat North Carolina, losing 31-17 in a mistake-filled afternoon. The Utes turned the ball over five times and were slapped with 12 penalties—one that negated an interception for a touchdown. Quarterback Brian Johnson epitomized Utah's day. Johnson threw for 211 yards and a touchdown, and rushed for a career-high 98 yards and another score. But he also threw an interception and had two of Utah's three fourth-quarter fumbles. Utah's defense allowed just one touchdown and a field goal in the first half, despite being pinned inside its 30 five times (the first UNC touchdown came on the game's opening kickoff). But in the third quarter, a roughing the passer penalty overruled Eric Weddle's interception for a touchdown and gave the ball, and the momentum, back to UNC. The Tarheels scored two touchdowns in the fourth quarter and three fumbles prevented the Utes from gaining ground. Weddle led Utah with a career-high 12 tackles (3 for a loss).

Utah.....0 .....7 .....7 .....3 ..... 17  
 North Carolina.....7 .....3 .....7 .....14 ..... 31

### Scoring Summary

NC - Tate 96 kickoff return (Barth kick), 14:47, 1st  
 UU - Johnson 2 run (Beardall kick), 12:14, 2nd  
 NC - Barth 32 field goal, 4:21, 2nd  
 UU - LaTendresse 15 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 10:25, 3rd  
 NC - Wright 23 pass from Baker (Barth kick), 3:54, 3rd  
 NC - Edwards 1 run (Barth kick), 14:02, 4th  
 UU - Beardall 35 field goal, 10:41, 4th  
 NC - Holley 43 pass from Baker (Barth kick), 5:11, 4th

Team Statistics	UU	UNC
First Downs	22	20
Net Rushing	38-167	39-85
Passing	34-22-1	31-16-2
Passing Yards	211	267
Total Offense	72-378	70-352
Fumbles-Lost	4-4	1-0
Penalties	12-101	6-65
Interceptions-Yds	2-12	1-0
Punting	5-38.4	5-39.8
Punt Returns	0-0	1-3.0
Kickoff Returns	4-27.2	3-49.7
Time of Possession	30:25	29:35
Third Down Conversions	4-13	7-16
Fourth Down Conversions	0-1	0-1
Sacks By	2-9	4-23

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 22-98-1, Ganther 11-55-0. **UNC:** Edwards 23-44-1, Arnold 8-28-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 34-22-1-211-1. **UNC:** Baker 31-16-2-267-2.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Madsen 8-97-0, Casteel 5-55-0. **UNC:** Mason 4-82-0, Hamlett 4-61-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel-3-96. **UNC:** Tate 3-149-1.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** N/A. **UNC:** Tate 1-3.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Weddle 12, **Sacks:** Fifita 1.0. **TFL:** Weddle 3.0, Fifita 3.0, Evans 1.0. **Interceptions:** Harris 1-12, Evans 1-0.

## GAME 6 OCT. 8

**Colorado State 21, Utah 17**  
**Fort Collins, Colo.**  
**Hughes Stadium [32,713]**

FT. COLLINS, COLO.—A goal-line stand by Colorado State sent Utah to its second straight loss, 21-17. The Utes, who led 14-3 entering the fourth quarter, had three chances from inside the CSU 1-yard line with under a minute left, but couldn't punch home the game-winning touchdown. Quinton Ganther's 20-yard rush on fourth down with two minutes remaining, gave the Utes first and goal on CSU's 4-yard line. His next carry brought Utah to the 1-yard line, where its drive then stalled. Ganther finished with 112 rushing yards. Brian Hernandez had the first 100-yard receiving game of his career, catching 3 balls for 112 yards, an average of 37.3 yards per catch. Brian Johnson completed 15 of 27 passes for 255 yards and a touchdown (2 interceptions) in a game where Utah out-gained CSU in total offense (425-377 yards) and ran 16 more plays. Spencer Toone's 11 tackles (1 for a loss) led the defense.

Utah.....7 .....0 .....7 .....3 ..... 17  
 Colorado St.....0 .....3 .....0 .....18 ..... 21

### Scoring Summary

UU - Weddle 2 run (Beardall kick), 7:12, 1st  
 CS - Mark 24 field goal, 12:22, 2nd  
 UU - Richards 13 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 10:01, 3rd  
 CS - Bartz 6 pass from Holland (pass failed), 14:56, 4th  
 CS - Anderson 2 pass from Holland (pass failed), 11:16, 4th  
 UU - Beardall 24 field goal, 7:54, 4th  
 CS - Bell 49 run (pass failed), 5:05, 4th

Team Statistics	UU	CSU
First Downs	18	18
Net Rushing	45-170	30-151
Passing	27-15-2	26-18-1
Passing Yards	255	226
Total Offense	72-425	56-377
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	1-0
Penalties	9-48	4-29
Interceptions-Yds	1-6	2-8
Punting	3-42.3	4-47.2
Punt Returns	2-10	2-18
Kickoff Returns	0-0	2-21.5
Time of Possession	33:23	26:37
Third Down Conversions	9-17	4-11
Fourth Down Conversions	2-3	1-1
Sacks By	0-0	2-13

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 18-112-0, Johnson 19-48-0. **CSU:** Bell 25-140-1, Anderson 1-8-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 27-15-2-255-1. **CSU:** Holland 25-18-1-226-2.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Hernandez 3-112-0, Madsen 4-46-0. **CSU:** Anderson 8-120-1, Sperry 4-63-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** none. **CSU:** Herbert 1-23, Hill 1-20.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 2-10. **CSU:** Walker 2-18.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Toone 11, **Sacks:** none. **TFL:** Toone 1.0, Fifita 1.0. **Interceptions:** none.

# 2005 GAME SUMMARIES

## GAME 7 OCT. 15

San Diego State 28, Utah 19

Salt Lake City

Rice-Eccles Stadium [41,341]

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah piled up a season-high 592 yards of total offense but came up short on the scoreboard, losing 28-19 to San Diego State. The Aztecs stunned Utah by scoring on their first two possessions to jump to a 14-0 lead. Utah was poised to cut the lead in half at the start of the second quarter, moving inside the SDSU 10-yard line, but came away with just three points on a 24-yard field goal by Dan Beardall. He later booted a career-long 47-yarder. The Aztecs weren't out of danger until they recovered a Quinton Ganther fumble in the end zone late in fourth quarter for a touchback. Brian Johnson passed for a career-high 417 yards (10th-best in school history) and rolled up 483 yards of total offense (fourth all-time at Utah). Brian Hernandez had a career-high 148 receiving yards, while Ganther finished with 93 yards rushing (1 TD) and 98 yards receiving.

Utah..... 0 ..... 13..... 6..... 0 ..... 19  
SDSU..... 14 ..... 7 ..... 0..... 7 ..... 28

### Scoring Summary

SD - Webb 60 pass from O'Connell (Palmer kick), 12:34, 1st  
SD - O'Connell 1 run (Palmer kick), 8:52, 1st  
UU - Beardall 24 field goal, 10:12, 2nd  
SD - Ortiz 5 pass from O'Connell (Palmer kick), 8:03, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 3 run (Beardall kick), 5:02, 2nd  
UU - Beardall 47 field goal, 0:07, 2nd  
UU - Ganther 3 run (rush failed), 2:42, 3rd  
SD - Webb 10 pass from O'Connell (Palmer kick), 12:18, 4th

Team Statistics	SDSU	UU
First Downs	17	30
Net Rushing	166	175
Passing	23-17-0	48-31-1
Passing Yards	219	417
Total Offense	57-385	91-592
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-1
Penalties	2-10	6-34
Interceptions-Yds	1-21	0-0
Punting	6-46.3	2-33.5
Punt Returns	0-0	6-5.8
Kickoff Returns	2-17.5	4-25.5
Time of Possession	26:48	33:12
Third Down Conversions	6-12	10-18
Fourth Down Conversions	0-0	1-3
Sacks By	3-15	1-11

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 22-93-1, Johnson 16-66-1. **SDSU:** O'Connell 9-88-1, Bomes 25-78-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 47-31-1-417-0. **SDSU:** O'Connell 23-17-0-219-3.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Hernandez 7-148-0, Madsen 8-71-0. **SDSU:** Webb 9-142-2, Schilens 4-42-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel 4-102. **SDSU:** Amaral 1-17, Franklin 1-18.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 6-35. **SDSU:** none.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Toone 8, **Sacks:** Weddle 1-11. **TFL:** Fifita 2.5, Weddle 1.0. **Interceptions:** none.

## GAME 8 OCT. 22

Utah 42, UNLV 32

Las Vegas, Nev.

Sam Boyd Stadium [19,108]

LAS VEGAS—Quinton Ganther rushed for a career-high 155 yards and 3 touchdowns to lead Utah past UNLV, 42-32, in Las Vegas on Oct. 22. Ganther, who averaged 10.3 yards per rush, had touchdown runs of 63 and 40 yards in a 21-point Utah third quarter. Quarterback Brian Johnson also posted dazzling numbers, completing 20-of-29 passes for 264 yards and 3 touchdowns. He rushed for 73 yards to finish with 337 yards of total offense. John Madsen had 114 receiving yards and Utah's first two touchdowns of the game. His second TD grab gave Utah a 14-10 lead and the Utes never trailed again. Utah's lead ballooned to 42-20 after the second of Ganther's long TD runs, but UNLV struck twice in the final five minutes to close within 10 points. Spencer Toone (12 tackles) and Eugene Oates (10 tackles, 2 tackles for loss and a sack) led the defense. Casey Evans and Shaun Harper each had an interception.

Utah..... 7 ..... 14..... 21..... 0 ..... 42  
UNLV ..... 3 ..... 10..... 7..... 12 ..... 32

### Scoring Summary

LV - Aguayo 32 field goal, 9:01, 1st  
UU - Madsen 24 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 3:15, 1st  
LV - Estandia 2 pass from J. Jackson (Aguayo kick), 14:33, 2nd  
UU - Madsen 21 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 11:37, 2nd  
LV - Aguayo 36 field goal, 9:44, 2nd  
UU - Ganther 1 run (Beardall kick), 1:39, 2nd  
UU - Casteel 4 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 11:12, 3rd  
UU - Ganther 63 run (Beardall kick), 6:40, 3rd  
LV - Anderson 10 pass from J. Jackson (Aguayo kick), 4:17, 3rd  
UU - Ganther 40 run (Beardall kick), 1:58, 3rd  
LV - E. Jackson 1 run (pass failed), 5:00, 4th  
LV - Estandia 7 pass from J. Jackson (run failed), 1:07, 4th

Team Statistics	UU	UNLV
First Downs	23	28
Net Rushing	242	117
Passing	29-20-0	56-30-2
Passing Yards	264	371
Total Offense	65-506	95-488
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-0
Penalties	10-93	10-70
Interceptions-Yds	2-0	0-0
Punting	6-40.7	5-42.0
Punt Returns	2-3.0	2-4.0
Kickoff Returns	5-10.6	6-25.5
Time of Possession	26:27	33:33
Third Down Conversions	5-11	11-22
Fourth Down Conversions	0-0	2-4
Sacks By	4-25	0-0

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 15-155-3, Johnson 13-73-0. **UNLV:** Smith 1-61-0, E. Jackson 18-52-1.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 29-20-0-264-3. **UNLV:** J. Jackson 54-29-2-356-3.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Madsen 7-114-2, Casteel 7-46-1. **UNLV:** Estandia 10-120-2, Anderson 4-92-1.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel 2-49. **UNLV:** E. Jackson 4-114.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Hernandez 1-7. **UNLV:** Kirkland 2-8.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Toone 12, **Sacks:** Oates 1-7, Burnett 1-3, Fifita 1-10, Afeaki 0.5-2, Weddle 0.5-3. **TFL:** Oates 2.0, Burnett 2.0. **Interceptions:** Evans 1-0, Harper 1-0.

## GAME 9 NOV. 5 Utah 43, Wyoming 13 Salt Lake City Rice-Eccles Stadium [39,026]

SALT LAKE CITY—Brian Johnson and Eric Weddle starred in a 43-13 Utah blowout against Wyoming in Rice-Eccles Stadium. Johnson completed 32-of-45 passes for 384 yards and 4 touchdowns and also led Utah in rushing with 67 yards and a TD. Weddle moved from safety to cornerback to cover the league's leading receiver and held Jovon Bouknight to 4 receptions for 43 yards—well below his season average of 105.4 yards per game. Weddle also had a team-best 9 tackles, a sack, 1.5 tackles for loss and 3 pass breakups. Wyoming took a 6-3 first-quarter lead, but the Utes erupted for a 17 unanswered points to take a 20-6 lead into halftime. John Madsen, whose 12 catches was a career-high, had 117 receiving yards and 2 touchdowns. Dan Beardall made all three field goal attempts and tied a school record by improving his string of field goals without a miss to 11. Utah compiled 563 total yards against the MWC's leading defense and allowed just 279.

Wyoming .....6 .....0 .....7 .....0 .....13  
Utah.....3 .....17 .....13.....10 .....43

### Scoring Summary

WY - Yaussi 39 field goal, 7:32, 1st  
UU - Beardall 37 field goal, 4:15, 1st  
WY - Yaussi 47 field goal, 0:54, 1st  
UU - Beardall 45 field goal, 7:15, 2nd  
UU - Madsen 11 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 2:13, 2nd  
UU - Madsen 12 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 0:11, 2nd  
UU - Johnson 3 run (Beardall kick), 11:28, 3rd  
UU - Richards 3 pass from Johnson (kick failed), 5:59, 3rd  
WY - Brewer 14 pass from Bramlet (Yaussi kick), 0:52, 3rd  
UU - Shaheen 1 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 11:40, 4th  
UU - Beardall 22 field goal, 8:01, 4th

Team Statistics	WYO	UTAH
First Downs	15	25
Net Rushing	146	179
Passing	30-15-1	45-32-0
Passing Yards	133	384
Total Offense	62-279	86-563
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	0-0
Penalties	5-39	5-45
Interceptions-Yds	0-0	1-19
Punting	5-34.6	3-32.0
Punt Returns	2-1.5	2-4.5
Kickoff Returns	9-24.3	3-28.7
Time of Possession	24:55	35:05
Third Down Conversions	6-15	9-18
Fourth Down Conversions	0-1	2-3
Sacks By	0-0	3-15

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 10-67-1, Mack 16-65-0. **WYO:** Seldon 17-82-0, Moore 5-45-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 45-32-0-384-4. **WYO:** Bramlet 30-15-1-133-1.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Madsen 12-117-2, Hernandez 2-79-0. **WYO:** Bouknight 4-43-0, Wadkowski 2-30-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Wilson 0-44. **WYO:** Bouknight 8-219.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Wilson 2-9. **WYO:** Marsh 2-3.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Weddle 9, **Sacks:** Weddle 1.0, Burnett 1.0, Fifita 0.5, Talavou 0.5. **TFL:** Weddle 1.5, Fifita 1.5, Toone 1.0, Burnett 10.0, Brady 1.0, Tate 0.5, Talavou 0.5. **Interceptions:** Evans 1-19.

## GAME 9 NOV. 12 New Mexico 31, Utah 27 Salt Lake City Rice-Eccles Stadium [36,746]

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah held a 27-19 halftime lead, but lost the game and its starting quarterback in a disastrous second half against New Mexico. Brian Johnson, who finished the game with 360 passing yards and 4 touchdowns, suffered a season-ending knee injury after a 12-yard run on Utah's final drive. New Mexico was called for a personal foul on the play, moving Utah into UNM territory. Second-string quarterback Brett Ratliff completed a 21-yard pass on his first play to move Utah to the Lobo 19, but three plays later he threw an interception to end the comeback try. Travis LaTendresse, in his first game back from an ankle injury, had a career receiving game with 192 yards and Quinton Ganther rushed for 98 yards in his return from the disabled list. Utah lost John Madsen, its leading receiver on the season, to a broken ankle in the first quarter. Soli Lefti and Steve Tate had 10 tackles—a career-best for both—to lead the defense.

New Mexico .....7 .....12 .....6 .....6 .....31  
Utah.....14 .....13 .....0 .....0 .....27

### Scoring Summary

UU - Richards 26 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 13:27, 1st  
NM - Black 31 yard INT return (Byrd kick), 6:40, 1st  
UU - Richards 52 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 5:34, 1st  
NM - Nelson 8 run (kick failed), 13:38, 2nd  
NM - Moore 2 run (kick failed), 10:56, 2nd  
UU - LaTendresse 51 pass from Johnson (Beardall kick), 3:05, 2nd  
UU - Casteel 41 pass from Johnson (kick blocked), 3:05, 2nd  
NM - Baskett 50 pass from Nelson (rush failed), 3:58, 3rd  
NM - Kase 2 run (rush failed), 7:07, 4th

Team Statistics	NM	UTAH
First Downs	16	19
Net Rushing	88	60
Passing	30-16-2	41-18-2
Passing Yards	197	381
Total Offense	74-285	73-441
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	5-3
Penalties	8-75	8-97
Interceptions-Yds	2-44	2-12
Punting	9-40.1	7-31.9
Punt Returns	2-9.5	3-5.3
Kickoff Returns	4-16.2	5-20.6
Time of Possession	35:20	24:40
Third Down Conversions	4-17	4-15
Fourth Down Conversions	1-2	0-2
Sacks By	9-62	6-42

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 15-98-0, Mack 1-3-0. **NM:** Moore 25-70-1, Nelson 16-30-1.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Johnson 38-17-1-360-4, Ratliff 1-3-1-21-0. **NM:** Nelson 30-16-2-197-1.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** LaTendresse 9-192-1, Richards 3-87-2. **NM:** Baskett 8-135-1, Brown 4-24-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Casteel 2-41. **NM:** Fulbright 4-65.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Wilson 3-16. **NM:** Fulbright 2-19.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Tate, Lefti 10, **Sacks:** Marshall 2.0, Toone 1.5, Lefti 1.0, Evans 1, Fifita 0.5. **TFL:** Marshall 2.0, Toone 1.5, Lefti 1.0, Tate 1.0, Weddle 1.0, Evans 1.0, Casco 1.0, Jiannoni 0.5, Fifita 0.5, Burnett 0.5.

**Interceptions:** Weddle 1-0, Brady 1-12.

# 2005 GAME SUMMARIES

## GAME 11 NOV. 19

Utah 41, Brigham Young 34 (OT)

Provo, Utah

Lavell Edwards Stadium [64,312]

PROVO, UTAH—In his NCAA debut as a starting quarterback, Brett Ratliff guided Utah to a thrilling 41-34 overtime win against rival Brigham Young before a sellout crowd of 64,312 in LaVell Edwards Stadium. Ratliff, who had seen only spot duty prior to the game, was masterful—passing for 240 yards and 4 TDs, and rushing for 112 yards and a score. Ratliff stunned BYU time and again with his big arm and gutsy running in leading Utah to a 24-3 halftime lead. The Cougars charged back with a 31-point second half but couldn't score in overtime. Quinton Ganther rushed for 131 yards and receivers Travis LaTendresse and Brian Hernandez contributed 88- and 81-yard games, respectively. Casey Evans totaled a career-high 13 tackles and set up a Ute score by forcing a fumble, which he recovered and returned 30 yards to the BYU 7-yard line. Dan Beardall set a school record by making his 12th-consecutive field goal before missing a 49-yard attempt.

Utah.....14 ..... 10..... 7.....3 .....7 .....41  
BYU.....3 ..... 0..... 21.....10 ..... 0 ..... 34

### Scoring Summary

UU - Hernandez 3 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick), 11:51, 1st  
UU - Jacobsen 15 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick), 5:25, 1st  
BY - McLaughlin 31 field goal, 0:19, 1st  
UU - Beardall 35 field goal, 8:05, 2nd  
UU - Ratliff 4 run (Beardall kick), 4:37, 2nd  
BY - Brown 5 run (McLaughlin kick), 11:37, 3rd  
BY - Brown 64 run (McLaughlin kick), 10:04, 3rd  
UU - Hernandez 48 pass from Ratliff, 5:47, 3rd  
BY - Watkins 13 pass from Beck (McLaughlin kick), 1:32, 3rd  
UU - Beardall 44 field goal, 10:35, 4th  
BY - Allen 28 pass from Beck (McLaughlin kick), 8:31, 4th  
BY - McLaughlin 37 field goal, 4:50, 4th  
UU - LaTendresse 25 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick), OT

Team Statistics	UTAH	BYU
First Downs	24	20
Net Rushing	251	176
Passing	35-17-0	48-27-0
Passing Yards	240	309
Total Offense	79-491	79-485
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties	12-86	9-74
Interceptions-Yds	0-0	0-0
Punting	6-31.7	5-39.8
Punt Returns	3-4.7	3-7.0
Kickoff Returns	5-21.0	6-19.5
Time of Possession	31:55	28:05
Third Down Conversions	7-16	7-17
Fourth Down Conversions	0-0	0-3
Sacks By	1-9	2-17

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ganther 21-131-0, Ratliff 19-112-1. **BYU:** Brown 20-153-2, Tahi 5-15-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ratliff 32-17-0-240-4. **BYU:** Beck 47-27-0-309-2.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** LaTendresse 6-88-1, Hernandez 4-81-2. **BYU:** Brown 7-84-0, Harline 4-46-0.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Richards 2-50. **BYU:** Jones 6-117.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 3-14. **BYU:** Meikle 3-21.

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Evans 13, **Sacks:** Talavou 1.0. **TFL:** Burnett 1.0, Talavou 1.0, Beardall 0.5, Puccinelli 0.5. **Interceptions:** None.

## GAME 12 DEC. 29 • EMERALD BOWL

Utah 38, Georgia Tech 10

San Francisco, Calif.

SBC Park [25,742]

SAN FRANCISCO—Brett Ratliff and Travis LaTendresse roasted the nation's No. 12-ranked defense and led Utah to a 38-10 upset win over No. 24 Georgia Tech in the Emerald Bowl. The Utes jumped out to a 20-0 lead just minutes into the second quarter before Georgia Tech made a little run by scoring all 10 of its points. A field goal with 0:03 left in the first half would mark the end of Tech's scoring for the night, however. Ratliff's 30 completions, 381 passing yards and four touchdowns shattered the Emerald Bowl records, as well as setting new school and Mountain West Conference bowl records. LaTendresse, the game's offensive MVP, burned the Georgia Tech secondary with a bowl-record 16 receptions for 214 yards and four scores. On the ground, Quinton Ganther rushed for 120 yards and a touchdown in his final game as a Ute. Utah's defense—every bit as dominating as the offense—was spearheaded by defensive MVP Eric Weddle's superb performance against Tech's All-America receiver Calvin Johnson. Weddle hounded Johnson into a two-catch, 19-yard game. Weddle rarely left the field—also playing quarterback and on special teams. Steve Tate led Utah with 10 tackles and picked off his first career interception, which he returned 45 yards.

Georgia Tech...0 ..... 10..... 0.....0 ..... 10  
Utah.....13 ..... 7..... 3.....15 ..... 38

### Scoring Summary

UU - LaTendresse 14 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick failed) 12:26, 1st  
UU - LaTendresse 23 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick) 3:59, 1st  
UU - LaTendresse 25 pass from Ratliff (Beardall kick) 14:30, 2nd  
GT - Cooper 31 pass from Ball (Bell kick) 9:25, 2nd  
GT - Bell 29 field goal, 0:03, 2nd  
UU - Beardall 23 field goal, 2:11, 3rd  
UU - LaTendresse 16 pass from Ratliff (Ratliff-LaTendresse pass), 11:44, 4th  
UU - Ganther 41 run (Beardall kick) 8:34, 4th

Team Statistics	GT	UU
First Downs	20	31
Net Rushing	37-127	35-169
Passing	38-18-2	42-30-2
Passing Yards	258	381
Total Offense	75-385	77-550
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties	4-39	7-64
Interceptions-Yds	2-7	2-55
Punting	8-33.2	5-40.6
Punt Returns	2-(-2)	1-5
Kickoff Returns	6-115	3-61
Time of Possession	29:20	30:40
Third Down Conversions	7-18	5-13
Fourth Down Conversions	0-2	2-2
Sacks By	2-13	2-18

### Individual Leaders

**Rushing (Att-Yds-TD)—Utah:** 22-120-1, Weddle 3-23-0. **GT:** Daniels 20-109-0.

**Passing (Att-Comp-I-Yds-TD)—Utah:** Ratliff 41-30-1-381-4. **GT:** Ball 38-18-2-258-1.

**Receiving (No-Yds-TD)—Utah:** LaTendresse 16-214-4, Hernandez 8-75-0. **GT:** Bilbo 4-103-0, Cooper 3-45-1.

**Kickoff Returns—Utah:** Richards 3-61. **GT:** Grant 5-104.

**Punt Returns—Utah:** Weddle 1-5. **GT:** Houston 2-(-2).

**Utah Defensive Leaders—Tackles:** Tate 10, Burnett 7, Toone 7. **Sacks:** Burnett 1-10, Fifita 1-7. **TFL:** Fifita 2-12. **Interceptions:** Tate 1-45, Harper 1-10.