

# 2020 Nevada Football Preview



**Head Coach (Yr)**  
Jay Norvell (4)  
**Offensive Coord.**  
Matt Mumme (4)  
**Defensive Coord.**  
Brian Ward (1)  
**Conference/Div**  
MWC/West

Team Profile	#	Rk
2020 Team Power Rating	56.7	106
Power Ratings Diff vs Last Year	0.9	56
2020 Strength of Schedule	58.5	118
2020 Season Win Projection	5.9	84
Returning Starters (OFF/DEF)	17 (10/7)	8
Return Starting QB (YES/NO)	YES	
Returning Production %	69%	46
Returning Offense Production	73%	41
Returning Defense Production	65%	60
2020 Recruiting (Signees)	19	120
2020 Roster Talent Rank		91

## 2020 Offense/Defense Analysis

Nevada head coach Jay Norvell has done a solid job in Reno getting the Wolf Pack to back-to-back bowl games the last two years. However, last year's team was extremely fortunate to get to seven wins. Nevada went 5-1 in games decided by a TD or less and they were blown out four times by 26 or more points. Last year the Wolf Pack struggled on offense as they had a freshman QB in Carson Strong and they couldn't run the football (No. 122 in rushing). This year's offense is much stronger thanks to the return of 10 starters as they welcome back all five starters on the offensive line. Strong is now an experienced sophomore and the Wolf Pack return their top two rushers led by Toa T'aua (807 yards) and their top two receivers led by Elijah Cooks (926 yards and 8 TD's).

The defense also struggled last year particularly in generating some havoc plays as they were No. 122 in TFL's. This year Norvell brings in a new D.C. in Brian Ward and he inherits one of the better pass rushers in the Mountain West in DE Dom Peterson who had nine sacks and 15 TFL's last season. On special teams, kicker Brandon Talton was 21 of 25 on FG's last year including a couple of game-winners (56 yards as time expired in the upset over Purdue).

The 2020 schedule isn't overly difficult as the Wolf Pack don't play a single team in the top 60 of our power ratings. Our updated spread projections have 9 of their 12 games decided by a TD or less. Will the Wolf Pack be as fortunate as they were a year ago? Probably not, but they will still flirt with bowl eligibility.

## 2020 Schedule with BP Projected Lines

Date	Opponent	Line	Win %	Line	Total	Score	W/L/O/U
8/29	UC Davis	-6.5	67%				
9/5	at Arkansas	12.6	20%				
9/12	UTEP	-20.3	93%				
9/19	at USF	8.5	29%				
9/26	San Diego St	4.7	37%				
10/3	at Hawaii	5.2	36%				
10/10							
10/17	at New Mexico	-6.1	67%				
10/24	Fresno State	1.7	47%				
10/31	Utah State	0.1	50%				
11/7	at San Jose St	2.0	47%				
11/14	Wyoming	3.2	41%				
11/21							
11/28	at UNLV	-2.1	57%				
<b>Projected Wins</b>		<b>5.91</b>					

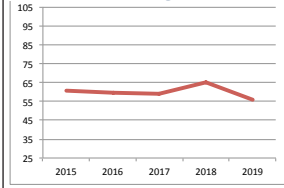
## Last 5 Year Records

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Straight Up	7-6	5-7	3-9	8-5	7-6	30-33
Home	4-2	4-2	3-3	4-2	4-2	19-11
Away	2-4	1-5	0-6	3-3	3-3	9-21
Neutral	1-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-1	2-1
Conference	5-4	3-5	3-5	5-3	4-4	20-21
Non-Conf	2-2	2-2	0-4	3-2	3-2	10-12
<b>ATS</b>	<b>8-4-1</b>	<b>4-8</b>	<b>6-6</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>31-31-1</b>
Home Fav	3-2	1-2	2-1	2-1	2-3	10-9
Home Dog	0-1	1-2	2-1	2-1	1-0	6-5
Away Fav	1-1	0-1	0-0	1-2	1-0	2-4
Away Dog	3-0-1	2-3	2-4	2-2	2-3	11-12-1
Conference	6-2-1	3-5	5-3	5-3	4-4	23-17-1
Non-Conf	2-2	1-3	1-3	2-3	2-3	8-14
<b>O/U</b>	<b>4-9</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>25-38</b>	

## ATS Stat

If you have blindly bet UNDER the total in every Nevada game the last 7 years you are 55-33 (62.5%)!

## End of Season Power Rating 2015-19



## 2019 Stats

	Nev	Rk	Opp	Rk
<b>Rushing</b>				
YPC	3.4	124	4.3	70
YPG	115.6	122	149.2	57
<b>Passing</b>				
Comp %	62.0%	47	60.4%	69
YPA	6.5	108	8.0	100
YPG	249.7	51	250.8	99
TD-INT	14-13		31-11	
<b>Total</b>				
YPP	5.0	114	6.1	94
YGP	365.3	101	400.1	75
<b>Scoring</b>				
PPG	21.3	111	31.9	98
<b>3rd Down</b>				
%	37.1%	94	35.1%	33
<b>Red Zone</b>				
TD %	44.7%	125	65.2%	95
Scoring %	78.7%	92	84.8%	78
<b>KO Ret</b>				
Avg	19.6	86	20.9	67
<b>Punt Ret</b>				
Avg	9.7	41	7.2	61
<b>Sacks</b>				
By	23	88	33	102
#				
TFL's	63	103	97	122
#				
<b>Net Punt</b>				
Avg	36.8	99		
<b>4th Down</b>				
Off	1.8	46		
Att P/Gm				
<b>Turnovers</b>				
Margin	-5	96		
<b>Penalties</b>				
Per Game	7.4	118		

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## Scoring Quarter-By-Quarter

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	OT	Total
Nev	46	83	48	97	3	277
Opp	91	154	107	57	6	415

## 2019 Stat Margins

Margins	+/-	Rk
Rush YPC	-0.9	111
Pass YPA	-1.5	111
YPP	-1.1	117
YPG	-34.8	91
Scoring	-10.6	114

## 2019 Individual Stats

	Att	Yds	%	Ratio
<b>Passing</b>				
<b>Carson Strong</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>2335</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>11-7</b>
Malik Henry	785	593	53.9	1-4
<b>Rushing</b>				
Att Yds	YPC	TD		
<b>Toa T'aua</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Devonte Lee</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Receiving</b>				
Rec Yds	YPC	TD		
<b>Elijah Cooks</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Romeo Doubs</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>4</b>
Dominic Christian	35	321	9.2	2
Ben Putman	26	297	11.4	0
<b>Defense</b>				
Tkl	Sks	TFL	Int	
<b>Tyson Williams</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EJ Muhammad</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Lawson Hall</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2</b>
Gabriel Sewell	54	0	5.5	0
<b>Austin Arnold</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Daniel Brown	41	0	3	4
<b>Kicking</b>				
FG	LG	XP		
<b>Brandon Talton</b>	<b>21-25</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>27-29</b>	
<b>Punting</b>				
Avg	Yds	50+	BLK	
Quinton Conaway	43.0	16	11	2

## 2019 Game-By-Game Recap

Teams	Open	Close	Score	ATS
Purdue	-8.5	-11	31	Over: 6.5
Nevada	58.5	58.5	34	Cover: 14
<b>Misleading Final.</b> Purdue had 24-19 first down and 519-404 yard edges but were -5 in TO's!				
-Purdue led 24-7 at halftime and 31-14 late 3Q.				
<b>-The 17-pt comeback was UN's 2nd largest since 1996.</b>				
<b>-Purdue seemed to wilt late in the elevation and when the game was being played after midnight EST.</b>				
-Nevada got a 4th&7 conversion with 1:26 left in the game and also got a 3&10 20-yard TD with :52 left.				
-Talton's 56-yard FG as time expired was the 3rd longest in school history.				
Nevada	63	61.5	6	Over: 21.5
Oregon	-21.5	-24	77	Cover: 47
-Oregon had 28-12 first down and 623-192 yard edges and were also +3 in TO's.				
Remarkably it was only a 7-6 Oregon lead with 10 minutes left in the 2Q. <b>In the final 40 minutes of the game, Oregon outscored Nevada 70-0!</b>				
Weber State	51.5	51.5	13	Cover: 1.5
Nevada	-7.5	19		Under: 19.5
-Nevada dominated more than the final as the Wolf Pack had 25-10 first down and 453-137 yard edges but were -2 in TO's. Weber went three-and-out on each of its three fourth-quarter possessions.				
Nevada	-16.5	-14	37	Cover: 2
UTEP	59	51.5	21	Cover: 6.5
-Nevada had a 403-278 yard edge. The game was tied 21-21 late in the 3Q.				
Hawaii	66.5	64	54	Cover: 53.5
Nevada	-2.5	-2.5	3	Under: 7
-There were snowflakes at kickoff. Hawaii had 26-16 FD & 512-203 yard edges and were also +3 in TO's.				
San Jose State	59.5	60	38	Over: 19
Nevada	-5	-2.5	41	Cover: 0.5
-Nevada had 25-16 FD and 541-420 yd edges including 189-15 on the ground but nearly blew a 3-TD 2H lead.				
-The Wolf Pack had the ball for 39:16 and kicked a 40-yard FG on the final play for the win.				
-Nev QB Malik Henry threw for 352 yds in his 1st start.				
Nevada	63	58.5	10	Under: 12.5
Utah State	-19	-21	36	Cover: 5
-Utah St had 22-15 first down and 418-326 yard edges including 244-113 on the ground.				
Nevada	47	44	3	Under: 10
Wyoming	-11.5	-13.5	31	Cover: 14.5
-WY had a 479-335 yd edge including 258-81 rushing.				
-Nevada did get stopped on downs at the Wyoming 5-yard line and missed a 30-yard FG in the second half.				
New Mexico	56	58	10	Under: 27
Nevada	-6.5	-3.5	21	Cover: 7.5
-Nevada had a 21-17 first down and 369-346 yard edge.				
Nevada	40	39	17	Cover: 21
San Diego State	-15	-17	13	Under: 9
-San Diego St had 18-12 first down and 309-226 yard edges including 113-29 on the ground.				
-The Wolf Pack's go-ahead score came after SDSU converted on 4th-Dn that was nullified by a holding call.				
Nevada	51.5	51	35	Cover: 20.5
Nevada	-14	-13.5	28	Over: 12
-First downs were even at 18-18 but Nevada had a 408-331 yard edge including 254-53 on the ground.				
-Fresno blew a 28-14 lead in the second half.				
-Nevada scored a TD with :12 left for the win.				
UNLV	52.5	51.5	33	Cover: 10
Nevada	-6.5	-7	30	Over: 11.5
-Nevada had 28-15 first down and 459-412 yard edges.				
-Nevada rallied from a 27-13 2H deficit to force OT.				
Ohio	-7	-8.5	30	Cover: 0.5
Nevada	54.5	59.5	21	Under: 8.5
-Ohio had a 25-24 FD edge but Nev a 430-429 yd edge.				
-Ohio did have a 285-29 rushing yard edge.				
-Nevada QB Strong threw for 402 yards.				
Nevada dismissed DC Jeff Casteel and two other defensive coaches at the end of the regular season. The Wolf-pack also were missing 3 defensive starters, suspended for their participation in a fight in a loss to rival UNLV.				

2015 (SU: 7-6, ATS: 8-4-1, O/U: 4-9)					2016 (SU: 5-7, ATS: 4-8, O/U: 5-7)					2017 (SU: 3-9, ATS: 6-6, O/U: 5-7)					2018 (SU: 8-5, ATS: 7-6, O/U: 5-8)					2019 (SU: 7-6, ATS: 6-7, O/U: 6-7)									
Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U					
9/3	UC Davis	-24	31-17	L	u59	9/2	Cal Poly-ot	-20	30-27	L	u65	9/2	at Northwestern	+24	20-31	W	u60	8/31	Portland St	-28	72-19	W	o71	8/30	Purdue	-8	11-34	W	o58
9/12	Arizona	+10	20-44	L	u63	9/10	at Notre Dame	+27	10-39	L	u62	9/9	Toledo	+10	24-37	L	u69	9/18	at Vanderbilt	+10	10-41	L	u60	9/7	at Oregon	-7	6-77	L	o61
9/19	at Texas A&M	+33	27-44	W	o65	9/17	Buffalo	-11	38-14	W	o50	9/16	Idaho St	-34	28-30	L	u58	9/15	Oregon St	-3	37-35	L	o68						
9/26	at Buffalo	+2	24-21	W	u54	9/24	at Purdue	+3	14-24	L	u59	9/23	at Washington St	+28	7-45	L	u66	9/22	at Toledo	+10	44-63	L	o67						
10/3	UNLV	-6	17-23	L	u57	10/1	at Hawaii	-3	17-38	L	u56	9/30	at Fresno St	+9	21-41	L	o59	9/29	at Air Force	+3	28-25	W	u64						
10/10	New Mexico	-4	35-17	W	u53	10/8	Fresno St	-7	27-22	L	u55	10/7	Hawaii	+3	35-21	W	u63	10/6	Fresno State	+14	3-21	L	u58						
10/17	at Wyoming	-6	21-28	L	u54	10/15	at San Jose St	+2	10-14	L	u56	10/14	at Colorado St	+24	42-44	W	o65	10/13	Boise State	+16	27-31	W	u59						