



Vol. 3, Issue 18 – Mar. 6, 2010
USU vs. New Mexico State
ReSpectrum: 175-13

"A Cold-Blooded Wrecking Machine Since 2007"

The Hit List

#	Name	Ht	Pos	Yr
13	Hernst Laroche	6-1	G	So.
22	Jonathan Gibson	6-1	G	Sr.
1	Jahmar Young	6-5	G	Jr.
31	Wendell McKines	6-6	F	Jr.
32	Hamidu Rahman	6-11	C	So.
0	Tray Britt	6-3	G	Sr.
3	Da'Shawn Gomez	6-1	G	Fr.
10	Bandja Sy	6-8	F	Fr.
15	Kelly Merker	6-4	F	Sr.
21	Makhtar Diop	6-6	G	So.
24	Robert Lumpkins	6-7	F	Jr.
33	Troy Gillenwater	6-8	F	So.
34	Gordo Castillo	6-5	G	Jr.
35	B.J. West	6-11	F	Fr.
45	Tyrone Watson	6-5	F	Fr.
55	Abdoulaye N'doye	7-0	C	Fr.
RS	Jacoby Patton	6-3	G	Fr.

Coach: Marvin Menzies

In All Honesty: A game preview

New Mexico State is a team much like Fresno State in that they are tremendously talented, but have almost no structure to what they do as a team. The difference is that New Mexico State is much more talented than Fresno, despite having lost to the Bulldogs once this year. They are a team that can beat just about anybody if they catch fire from deep, and a team that can be beaten by anybody if they get cold from there. One guarantee is that they will be firing the deep-ball, despite having solid post players in Wendell McKines, Troy Gillenwater and Hamidu Rahman. All three of them are strong and physical bodies with decent skill. In the backcourt, NMSU has two elite scorers in Jonathan Gibson and Jahmar Young who combine to score nearly 40 points per game. Point guard Hernst Laroche runs the show for the other Aggies of the WAC. New Mexico State lost out on their bid for a share of the WAC title with Thursday's loss at Nevada, and in the process likely wore themselves out quite a bit as four of their five starters played 33 minutes or more in that game. With the high elevation, tired legs and lack of discipline, New Mexico State has everything working against them while a fresh USU is looking to avenge its 55-52 loss to NMSU from this season's WAC opener between these two.

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2010 WAC Champion Utah State Aggies!!!

The stage WAS set for an epic battle tonight for the WAC tournament's No. 1 seed, but New Mexico State dropped the ball by losing to Nevada on Thursday. Now, at 13-2 in WAC play, Utah State has clinched the outright WAC regular season championship, regardless of tonight's outcome. Still, knocking New Mexico State down another peg is crucial, if nothing else for the sake of reminding them who runs the show in the WAC, but also for being the low-integrity program that they are.

The 2010 All-Refractation Awards

Honoring this year's players who were most rattled by The Spectrum, the Aggies, and Bill.

All-Refractation First Team

Roderick Flemings - Hawaii - 3-14 FG, 2-6 3-pt, 8 pts, 3 PF

Flemings, a potential NBA talent player, was one of many victims of the defense of Pooh Williams this season. Not only that, but Flemings was abused so badly by Williams and The Spectrum crowd that he reportedly took himself out of the game with 13 minutes left to play and would not return... In a nutshell, we drove him to quit on himself and his team.

Anthony Thomas - Boise State - 2-8 FG, 1-5 3-pt, 7pts, 8 TO, 2 PF

Last year's Refraction Player of the Year nearly claimed the title again with his staggering EIGHT turnovers to go along with just one assist. Thomas kept on doing his same routine of being a douche-bag during games, and his team kept on doing their same routine of losing to USU. This particular loss was by 22 points, and was worse than that margin indicates.

Steffan Johnson - Idaho - 0-5 FG, 0-3 3-pt, 3 TO, 0pts, 2PF

Pooh went to work again against Idaho's second leading scorer, this time holding Johnson to a grand total of ZERO points with the nation watching on ESPN. Even with top-scorer Mac Hopson suspended, opening the door for Johnson to be the team's go-to-guy for just one night, he blew it, and we here at The Refraction couldn't be more proud of him for that.

Greg Smith - Fresno State - 0-6 FG, 2 TO, 1 pt, 3 PF

In typical form for a freshman, The Spectrum was a baptism by fire for Smith. It was a baptism that proved to be too much to take for the highly-recruited big man who got taken to school by the less highly-recruited big men of Tai Wesley, Nate Bendall and Brady Jardine. Smith also had a missed dunk that was rather epic. All-around a bad performance, even for a freshman.

Toure' Murry - Wichita State - 1-8 FG, 0-2 3-pt, 1 TO, 2 pts, 1 PF

Again, a shutting down of a team's second best scoring threat on national TV. Murry let down the shockers through all 25 minutes he played of this year's Bracketbuster weekend, and in the process pretty much evaporated any hopes for an at-large bid to the NCAA for his team. He also coincidentally was guarded by Pooh Williams.

2010 Refraction Player of the Year

Jonathan Tavernari - BYU - 1-11 FG, 1-5 3-pt, 1 TO, 4 pts

MVP!!! MVP!!! MVP!!! We're not sure we could be happier about giving this award to a player like Tavernari. This feels just as good and just as accomplished as awarding Anthony Thomas last year. Tavernari typifies the stereotype of arrogant, cookie-cutter, BYU douche-bag, and in a game where BYU had everything to prove, Tavernari sunk just 1-11 shots. It was the big game for both schools, whether BYU will admit it or not. They were the cowards who tucked and ran after the last time we smacked them around in The Spectrum and we picked up right where we left off when they finally begrudgingly returned to get punched in the mouth again. Tavernari was dominated so badly that he was removed from BYU's starting line-up after this game. His choke-job in a game as big as this one was so epic that we even kicked around the idea of naming this award after him, but decided that would be nothing short of an honor for him, and the true spirit of this award is not to honor its recipients, but rather belittle them. Great work JT!

2010 Coach of the Year - Dave Rose - BYU

A year ago we honored Mark Fox for picking the wrong battles with the wrong people. We, the student section at Utah State, are those wrong people. Dave Rose was so terrified of us after his 2005 beating in Logan that he refused to come here for three full seasons. That was a dick-move on his part, and the end result was an improved Aggie team and an improved Aggie crowd from Rose's last visit, both of which mercilessly stuck it to Rose on Dec. 2. While Rose brought a much better team than he brought on the trip that scared him away for three years, it was still not enough for a win, and for the look of helplessness, hopelessness, fear, cowardice, and just about every other negative emotion that was revealed on Rose's face during the most epic of "winning team/losing team" chants, that is why he is this year's coach of the year.

All-Refractation Second Team

Matt Hodgson - Southern Utah - 3-4 FG, 1 Reb, 2 TO, 6 pts, fouled out... in 11 minutes

6'11 freshman got just one rebound, fouled out quickly, and cried on the bench.

Marvin Jefferson - Idaho - 8-11 FG, 1-5 FT, 1 TO, 17 pts, 3 PF

Played a solid game, but infamously missed back-to-back free throws against Cupid Bill.

Brandon Fields - Nevada - 2-8 FG, 1-6 3-pt, 1 TO, 5 pts

Nevada's No. 3 scoring option was a solid disappointment for 33 minutes.

Hiram Thompson - Hawaii - 1-6 FG, 0-2 3-pt, 4 TO, 2 pts, 2 PF

It's too bad that we had to abuse him like this since he seems like an alright dude.

Sylvester Seay - Fresno State - 2-11, FG, 1-6 3-pt, 4 TO, 7 pts, 3 PF

It's too bad we didn't abuse him more than we did since he doesn't seem like an alright dude.

Honorable Mentions

Steve Panos and Trevor Morris from Weber State for getting ABUSED by Modou, and Steve Cleveland for taking his entire career off from actually coaching while in a head coaching job.

THE BACK PAGE

The bigger the game, the bigger The Refraction

This is not the greatest page in the world... This is just a tribute

Jared Quayle senior night tribute

Jared Quayle came to USU with the impossible task of replacing the school's all-time scoring leader, Jaycee Carroll. Halfway through his first season in an Aggie uniform, Quayle had carved out his own legacy as an Aggie rather than just filling the shoes of a past one. Quayle brought a hard-nosed, gutsy performance to every game to go along with the best rebounding any of us have ever seen from a guard. On top of all that, he has been the guy to most often step late in a game, put on the Superman cape, and take over whenever the Aggies have needed it.

For his career he is currently shooting 41.2 percent from behind the 3-point line, which is No. 10 all time at USU. He's averaged 6.1 rebounds per game throughout his career, which is basically unheard of from a point guard, but that is just the way Jared Quayle does things. At this point in his career, Quayle has a 54-11 record as an Aggie and has been at the helm of two outright WAC Championships for Utah State.

Staff Picks: Our favorite Jared Quayle moments

Kraig - My favorite JQ moment has to be in the NCAA tournament last March. Quayle almost single handedly carried the Aggies past Marquette. He had a team-high 18 points, and in true Quayle fashion had a game-high eight rebounds, and also led the Aggies in assists and steals. Had he not fouled out on a ticky-tack call with a few minutes remaining I still believe we would have won that game, but for the two or three minutes that we lead, Quayle was the best player on the court.

Fafner - Nothing for me will top the time that Jared threw down a hammer-dunk in the closing seconds against New Mexico State last year in Las Cruces. The hated Aggies from down south were trying to press USU in a game that was obviously over, and so for the sake of teaching them a bit of a lesson, and probably a little bit out of spite, Jared broke the press and threw down a dunk to twist the knife against New Mexico State last year.

Thanks to everyone from "The Refraction"

Kirk and Darla Williams. John, Dave, and Dan Sonnenberg. Raquel Lindaas. Scott Barnes. Scott Randall. Jeremy Winn. Braydan Bunce. Matt Christensen. Chad Wilson. Bart Bowen. Isaac Higham. Pat Tebbs. Sean O'Sullivan. Ry Bay. Cami Jones. Tessa Taylor. Alexis Lopez. Nick Ballam. Shaun Chatelain. Kyle Whelliston. Chris Murray. Daniel Lyght, and Kevin McCarthy. All the local beat writers who were nice to Kraig during his live blog games. The girls at the TSC copy center. Jed Palmer and Village Inn. Everyone that bought a shirt or gave a donation to us. All the people that know us from handing out copies that say "Hi" that we don't know as well as we should. And lastly, Stew Morrill and The Aggies!!!

Our season ending rant - (as if anyone cares)

"Holy hell" is about all we can say about this season! Last year we simply dominated nearly everything in our path. This year was a little different. From the start, we had our backs against the wall after starting 1-2. The crowd responded in scary ways, ramping up to new levels of noise and rowdiness never seen before on such a consistent basis. After we stood at 10-6 halfway through the year, we looked to have a fight on our hands. The result was both the team and the crowd elevating their game, and here we are 14 wins in a row later, 24-6 and WAC Champions once again!!! Season three of The Refraction is officially in the books. The crowd keeps getting more and more rowdy each year, and the team keeps getting better too. Something tells us that this train isn't slowing down anytime soon....

Quickies - Short and not so sweet.

- New Mexico State athletic department to hold charity auction for old paper shredder that helped cover up scandals, arrests and teacher bribes.
- Pistol Pete still too big of a pansy to take down Big Blue
- Menzies now lying about being TV's Al Roaker, just to try and feel a little successful.



The 2010 Golden-Handcuffs Award

Wendell McKines - New Mexico State

This year at The Refraction we're introducing a new post-season award to be given to the opposing player who got into the most trouble off the court. While it's not an award exclusive to New Mexico State, it's essentially theirs for the taking given their reputation. Due to his academic ineligibility, his hateful call-out of NMSU fans on his blog, an arrest for unpaid fines, a night in jail, and subsequent bailout to play in a game the same day he woke up incarcerated, this year's award goes to New Mexico State's very own Wendell McKines. Every day is Wen's Day, right?

The Petri Dish - Thrilled these guys could get out of jail long enough to grace us with their presence

Head coach Marvin Menzies - Looks a lot like TV weatherman Al Roaker. Also isn't much of a coach. Just kind of stands there and says, "Do your job" to his players.

#1 Jahmar Young - Won the inaugural Refraction Player Of The Year honor in 2008. Young shot 2-12 in that game for a measly 4 points, which in part can be contributed to his indecent exposure charges days before and the subsequent "Keep Your Pants On" chant from the Aggies student section. Young was so cocky about the chant that he even mimed that he was being frisked when introduced as a starter for that game. Major is theater arts. Also had to be stopped by police this past summer for getting into a heated verbal exchange with a cafeteria worker at New Mexico State because he did not want to pay for his meal... or something.

#10 Bandja Sy - From France.

#13 Hernst Laroche - Refers to himself on Facebook as "Draft Pick"... not exactly sure what he thinks he'll be drafted into.

#15 Kelly Merker - Has been a member of the practice squad for both the men's and women's basketball team at New Mexico State.

#21 Makhtar Diop - From Senegal. Isn't as cool as Modou, nor has a bad ass nickname (to our knowledge) like "Mo-Diesel"

#24 Robert Lumpkins - Looks an awful lot like a woman, which prompted the nickname of "Princess Lumpkins" a year ago. Recently updated his Myspace to say "Nothing to Lose, but a whole lot to gain". 1) He might be the only person alive still using Myspace, and 2) We're glad he won't be upset when he loses nothing tonight.

#31 Wendell McKines - Started out this season academically ineligible, and after final grades were released from the Fall semester, was still ineligible, but magically was declared eligible a few days later after an appeals process... We assume it is the Las Cruces version of "Spectrum Magic". Was arrested this year for unpaid fines while trying to steal a stop sign. In a show of NMSU's institutional control, he spent the night in jail, was bailed out in the morning, and played in a basketball game that night.

Has a blog called "Every Day Is Wens Day" where earlier this season he called out his own fans saying "It has taken me 2 and a half years to come to the conclusion that our fans are a bunch of frontrunners. Only coming when we are winning is horrible and in a way disrespectful." and "What's even more horrible is that we are in a city where our biggest competition is Buffalo wild wings. HORRIBLE." Here is another recent post about their upcoming road trip. "This road trip is going to go down in history and the way we lose is if Wendell McKines goes out on a stretcher. I am with Troy every day and he diffidently feel the same way. THE WHOLE TEAM FEEL THAT WAY!!! So it's time for us to put up or shut up. Everybody on this team came to Las Cruces for a reason and a part of the reason was to sweep this road trip. I love everyone that read my blog and bleeds crimson like I do". Ironically, despite all those horrible grammar errors, is majoring in Journalism. Also, no stretchers were to be found during New Mexico State's loss to Nevada on Thursday.

#32 Hamidu Rahman - Myspace name is "Big Horn"

#33 Troy Gillenwater - Like McKines, was academically ineligible to start the season and then magically had his grades changed after an appeal.

#34 Gordo Castillo - Gordo is Spanish for "fat". Real name is Aaron. All but 25 of his 130 shots this season have been 3-pointers.

#55 Abdoulave N'dove - Also from Senegal. Also not as awesome as Modou.

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