

Rocky Mountain Grizzlies

SCOUTING REPORT

OFFENSE

Rocky Mountain lost the lion's share of its offensive firepower from a year ago, including Boise State receiver Dallas Burroughs and Linfield College quarterback Levi Altringer. The good news is the Grizzlies return three powerful linemen — seniors Taylor Thompson (6-3, 280) and Alex Homer (6-0, 260) and junior Andrew Belnap (5-10, 235) — as well as tight end Tanner Kauffman (6-2, 210).

DEFENSE

Only five lettermen return for a defense that ranked first in the 5A Southern Idaho Conference during last year's regular season in points allowed (12.7) and second in yards (254). All but one of those five returners, however, was a starter.

OVERVIEW

With the help of an experienced squad, the Grizzlies advanced to their second consecutive playoff appearance last season in the school's third year of existence. In order to keep that postseason streak alive, Rocky Mountain will need its talented but inexperienced group of newcomers to adjust to the speed and physicality of varsity play.



TEAM FACTS

Coach: Jason Warr, fourth season, 15-15

Last year: 9-2 overall, 4-0 5A SIC Division 2

Postseason: Defeated Borah 44-0 in District

Three playoffs; defeated Eagle 70-42 in state quarterfinals; lost 35-33 to Centennial in state semifinals.

Stadium: Brighton Stadium, Meridian

Tough start: Unlike most teams in the 5A SIC,

the Grizzlies play 10 games during the regular season. Rocky Mountain opens with a visit from Coeur d'Alene, the defending state champion.



Jason Warr

PLAYERS TO WATCH

TANNER KAUFFMAN, TE/WR/RB/DE

Kauffman will be a four-year letterman and was an honorable mention pick at tight end in 2010. Coach Jason Warr plans to expand the 6-foot-2, 210-pound senior's offensive role in 2011. "I think that he can offer a little bit of a physical nature that goes in line with our O-line returning," Warr said.

TAYLOR THOMPSON, OL/DL

The three-year starter helped the Grizzlies' offense rank second in points (41.8) and yards (462) per game last year. The 6-3, 280-pound senior is drawing the attention of Division I teams. "He's really aggressive and kind of has a little bit of a nasty streak in him," Warr said.

DEMETRIUS OLIVER, CB/WR

The 5-11, 175-pound senior will be tough to keep up with, as he finished third (10.86) in the 100 and 200 (22.11) state finals last year. "Speedwise he and David Trompke allow us to lock down on the outside and be a little more aggressive with our defensive pressures," Warr said.

DAVID TROMPKE, CB/WR

The 6-0, 180-pound senior, who is the younger brother of 2010 All-Idaho first team linebacker JT Trompke, had 56 tackles and four interceptions last year. "We haven't had to play a lot of kids both ways, so if we're playing kids both ways, they're pretty good," Warr said.