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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**2009 WAC FOOTBALL PRESEASON MEDIA POLL AND PLAYERS OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED**

**SALT LAKE CITY** – For the second year in a row, Boise State has been named the favorite in the Western Athletic Conference football media poll announced today at the conference’s Football Preview being held in Salt Lake City. The Broncos were 12-1 last year and finished with a perfect 8-0 mark in conference play. It was their sixth WAC title in the last seven years.

Boise State received 519 points and 55 first-place votes from media members around the WAC and the nation. Nevada was picked second after garnering 444 points and the other three first-place votes. Fresno State finished third with 365 points followed closely by Louisiana Tech with 360 points. Hawai’i was selected fifth with 275 points followed by San Jose State (263), Utah State (170), Idaho (110) and New Mexico State (104).

The media also voted on preseason players of the year. Nevada quarterback Colin Kaepernick was voted the Offensive Player of the Year, while Boise State cornerback Kyle Wilson was picked as the Defensive Player of the Year.

Kaepernick, a junior from Turlock, Calif. (Pittman HS), became the fifth quarterback in NCAA FBS history to throw for more than 2,000 yards and rush for more than 1,000 yards in the same season. Kaepernick threw for 2,849 yards and 22 touchdowns last year and added 1,130 yards and 17 touchdowns on the ground. He was named the 2008 WAC Offensive Player of the Year following his 2007 season where he was voted the WAC Freshman of the Year.

Wilson, a senior from Piscataway, N.J. (Piscataway HS), was a first-team all-WAC performer last year after leading the Broncos with five interceptions. He had a total of 15 passes defended and 35 tackles in 2008. As a punt returner, Wilson also was named second-team all-WAC after averaging 14.2 yards per return and scoring three touchdowns.

The following is the complete 2009 WAC football media poll with first-place votes in parentheses:

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Team (1st place votes)</b>	<b>Points</b>
1.	Boise State (55)	519
2.	Nevada (3)	444
3.	Fresno State	365
4.	Louisiana Tech	360
5.	Hawai’i	275
6.	San Jose State	263
7.	Utah State	170
8.	Idaho	110
9.	New Mexico State	104

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Boise State • Fresno State • Hawai’i • Idaho • Louisiana Tech • Nevada • New Mexico State • San Jose State • Utah State

