

# 2013 preview: Miners won't settle

By Christopher Kamrani  
Salt Lake Tribune

The Bingham Miners were one win away from a trip to the title game last season.

Even after giving up five turnovers to a Syracuse team led by a backup quarterback, Bingham worked its way to the Titans' 15, down 21-16 with less than a minute to go.

But on a 4th-and-2 play, the Miners came up inches short.

"To go to the semis, most people would be happy," said Bingham coach Dave Peck, a man accustomed to winning. "But it was a disappointment to us."

As autumn approaches, the Miners of 2013 will look a little different. Star defensive tackle Lowell Lotulelei signed with the University of Utah. Wide receiver Hayden Weichers and offensive lineman Joe Malanga signed with Utah State. In all, eight Miners signed letters to play college football.

But Peck believes his team remains poised for another title run.

Led by Aaron Amaama and Riley Culley, the Miners will have four players who either started or saw regular minutes on the offensive line coming back to make holes for Bingham's running backs and buy time for quarterbacks to find tight end Dalton Schultz.

Defensively, safety Sky Manu will be a third-year starter



**TOP:** Scott Nichols runs for a big gain in Bingham's win over Valor Christian in 2012.



**RIGHT:** Coach Dave Peck is interviewed.

for Bingham.

The Miners are feeling good about their production so far this summer. Bingham took second out of 40-plus teams at the seven-on-seven Ute Shoot competition, then turned around and won BYU's seven-on-seven tournament.

"We're knocking on the door," Peck said.

## Felt's Facts for Bingham

**ALL-TIME RECORD:** 435-360-30 (89 years)  
**REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS:** 19 (1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1946, 1960, 1963, 1991 co, 1996 co, 1999 co, 2000, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010)



**PLAYOFF APPEARANCES:** 40  
**ALL-TIME PLAYOFF RECORD:** 44-33  
**STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS:** 7 (1939, 1941, 1945, 1946, 2006, 2009, 2010)  
**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RECORD:** 7-2  
**MOST PLAYED RIVALRY:** 53 meetings with Cyprus dating back to 1926. Cyprus leads 24-21-8, but the teams haven't met since 1992.

**FELT'S FACTOID(s):** Bingham is one of just five teams in state history to have a 14-0 record (2006). ... The 2009 and 2010 Miners totaled 1,192 points in 27 contests — the most points scored by any school over two consecutive seasons. ... Dave Peck is the team's winningest coach.