



CONFERENCE USA 5201 N. O'Connor Boulevard Irving, TX 75022 (214) 774-1300 (214) 496-0055 fax

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Russell Anderson

December 9, 2008

## *C-USA ANNOUNCES FOOTBALL COACHES' ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS*

IRVING, Texas – Conference USA announced its 2008 All-Conference football teams today, as selected by the league's 12 head football coaches. Each school was once represented with at least one overall selection, with Rice, Southern Miss, Tulsa, UAB and UTEP producing three first-team honorees apiece.

The Owls three first-team selections were QB **Chase Clement**, WR **Jarett Dillard** and TE **James Casey**. In 2008, Clement set the C-USA record for career TD passes (96) and total touchdowns (120). He now holds six C-USA records and leads all C-USA signal callers with 52 total touchdowns. Dillard is the NCAA record holder for career TD catches (59) and the conference record holder for career receiving yardage (4,052). He is second on the league ledger with 284 career receptions and 59 TDs, one shy of the C-USA record. Casey is second in the NCAA FBS with a C-USA-record 104 catches this season and has also rushed for 231 yards for a total of 18 TDs. Rice has five total all-conference selections.

West Division champion Tulsa had six overall selections, led by first-teamers RB **Tarrion Adams**, OL **Justin Morsey**, and WR **Brennan Marion**. Adams leads C-USA with 1,316 rushing yards and is second in the league in TDs (11), yards per carry (5.8) and yards per game (101.2). Morsey has anchored an offensive line that has paved the way for Tulsa to lead the nation in total offense, while Marion leads Tulsa with 1,112 receiving yards, eight TDs and a 25.9 per catch average.

The Golden Eagles' first-team honorees include RB **Damion Fletcher**, WR **DeAndre Brown** and LB **Gerald McRath**. Fletcher is the school's all-time leading rusher with 4,209 yards, including 1,235 this season on 205 carries for a league-leading 112.3 per game average. Brown currently leads all NCAA FBS rookies in receiving yards (1,108), receiving yards per game (92.33) and touchdowns (12). He is also second in receptions with 66. McRath, the 2007 Defensive Player of the Year, leads the league in total tackles (126) and tackles per game (10.5). USM had the second-most overall selections with six.

C-USA Champion East Carolina garnered four overall honors with DL **C.J. Wilson** and DB **Van Eskridge** collecting first-team accolades. Wilson has started 22 consecutive games and was named the C-USA Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 15. Wilson ranks nationally and leads C-USA with 18.5 tackles for loss. Eskridge was the league's Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 8 and is tied for second on the team with 89 total tackles. Offensive lineman **Sean Allen** and LB **Pierre Bell** were both chosen to the second team.

Houston had six total selections, as OL **Sebastian Vollmer** and DL **Phillip Hunt** were named to the first team and QB **Case Keenum**, TE **Mark Hafner**, WR **Tyron Carrier** and DB **Kenneth Fontenette** are all listed on the second team.

UAB's **Swayze Waters** was named as the first-team punter and the second-team placekicker and the Blazers had five total selections, while UCF's **Joe Burnett** was also chosen to multiple positions, as he was named first-team at defensive back, punt returner and kick returner.

Marshall DL **Albert McClellan**, the 2008 preseason Defensive Player of the Year, was the Herd's lone first-team selection, but the team had five second-team honorees in RB **Darius Marshall**, OL **Brian Leggett**, WR **Darius Passmore**, LB **Maurice Kitchens** and DB **C.J. Spillman**.

UTEP had four total selections with OL **Robby Felix**, LB **Adam Vincent** and K **Jose Martinez** all garnering first-team honors, while **Josh Ferguson** was named second-team punt returner. Martinez was a Lou Groza semifinalist this season after being one of three finalists in 2007 and he hit a 64-yard field goal in 2008, the second-longest in NCAA history.

Memphis was represented by first-teamers OL **Brandon Pearce** and DL **Clinton McDonald**, as well as second-team member RB **Curtis Steele**. Tulane also had three overall sections in OL **Troy Kropog**, LS **Craig Gelhardt** and P **Ross Thevenot**.

SMU WR **Emmanuel Sanders**, the all-time school leader in TD catches with 27, was selected to the second team as the Mustangs' only representative.

The league's individual awards will be released on Wednesday, December 10. Conference USA will conclude the 2008 season by sending six teams to bowl games for the third time in four seasons.

- more -

## 2008 C-USA FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS

### FIRST TEAM

#### OFFENSE

Quarterback – Chase Clement, Sr., Rice  
Running Back- Damion Fletcher, Jr., Southern Miss  
Running Back- Tarrion Adams, Sr., Tulsa  
Offensive Lineman- Sebastian Vollmer, Sr., Houston  
Offensive Lineman- Brandon Pearce, Sr., Memphis  
Offensive Linemen- Troy Kropog, Sr., Tulane  
Offensive Lineman – Justin Morsey, Sr., Tulsa  
Offensive Lineman- Robby Felix, Jr, UTEP  
Tight End- James Casey, So., Rice  
Wide Receiver- Jarett Dillard, Sr., Rice  
Wide Receiver- DeAndre Brown, Fr., Southern Miss  
Wide Receiver- Brennan Marion, Sr., Tulsa

#### DEFENSE

Defensive Lineman- Phillip Hunt, Sr., Houston  
Defensive Lineman- C.J. Wilson, Jr., East Carolina  
Defensive Lineman- Albert McClellan, Jr., Marshall  
Defensive Lineman- Clinton McDonald, Sr., Memphis  
Linebacker- Gerald McRath, Jr., Southern Miss  
Linebacker- Joe Henderson, Sr., UAB  
Linebacker- Adam Vincent, Sr., UTEP  
Defensive Back- Van Eskridge, Jr., East Carolina  
Defensive Back- Kevin Sanders, Sr., UAB  
Defensive Back- Sha'Reff Rashad, Sr., UCF  
Defensive Back- Joe Burnett, Sr., UCF

#### SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker- Jose Martinez, Jr., UTEP  
Punter- Swayze Waters, Sr., UAB  
Kick Returner- Jor Burnett, Sr., UCF  
Punt Returner- Joe Burnett, Sr., UCF  
Long Snapper- Craig Gelhardt, Sr., Tulane

### SECOND TEAM

#### OFFENSE

Quarterback – Case Keenum, So., Houston  
Running Back- Darius Marshall, So., Marshall  
Running Back- Curtis Steele, Jr., Memphis  
Offensive Lineman- Sean Allen, Jr., East Carolina  
Offensive Lineman- Brian Leggett, Sr., Marshall  
Offensive Lineman- David Berken, Sr., Rice  
Offensive Lineman- Pat Brown, Sr., UCF  
Offensive Lineman- Ryan McKee, Sr., Southern Miss  
Tight End- Mark Hafner, Sr., Houston  
Wide Receiver- Tyron Carrier, Fr., Houston  
Wide Receiver- Darius Passmore, Sr., Marshall  
Wide Receiver- Emmanuel Sanders, Jr., SMU

#### DEFENSE

Defensive Lineman- Anthony Gray, So., Southern Miss  
Defensive Lineman- Moton Hopkins, Sr., Tulsa  
Defensive Lineman- Bruce Miller, So., UCF  
Defensive Lineman- Torrell Troup, Jr., UCF  
Linebacker- Pierre Bell, Sr., East Carolina  
Linebacker- Maurice Kitchens, Sr., Marshall  
Linebacker- Brian Raines, Sr., Rice  
Defensive Back- Kenneth Fontenette, Sr., Houston  
Defensive Back- C.J. Spillman, Sr., Marshall  
Defensive Back- James Lockett, Jr., Tulsa  
Defensive Back- Eddie Hicks, Jr., Southern Miss

#### SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker- Swayze Waters, Sr., UAB  
Punter- Ross Thevenot, Jr., Tulane  
Kick Returner – Damaris Johnson, Fr., Tulsa  
Punt Returner- Josh Ferguson, Sr., UTEP  
Long Snapper- Jeff Hamby, Sr., UAB

## HONORABLE MENTION

### OFFENSE

Quarterback – David Johnson, Sr., Tulsa  
Quarterback – Trevor Vittatoe, So., UTEP  
Running Back- Bryce Beall, Fr., Houston  
Running Back- Andre Anderson, Jr., Tulane  
Offensive Lineman- Michael Bloesch, Sr., Houston  
Offensive Lineman- Philip Beliles, Sr., Memphis  
Offensive Lineman- Ryan Hebert, Jr., Southern Miss  
Offensive Lineman- Michael Perenton, Sr., Tulane  
Offensive Lineman- Rodrick Thomas, Sr., Tulsa  
Offensive Lineman- Terence Edge, So., UAB  
Offensive Lineman- Jake Seita, So., UAB  
Offensive Lineman- Mike Aguayo, So., UTEP  
Offensive Lineman- Cameron Raschke, Jr., UTEP  
Tight End- Davon Drew, Sr., East Carolina  
Tight End- Cody Slate, Jr., Marshall  
Tight End- Shawn Nelson, Sr., Southern Miss  
Wide Receiver- Maurice Jones, Sr., Memphis  
Wide Receiver- Carlos Singleton, Jr., Memphis  
Wide Receiver- Aldrick Robinson, So., SMU  
Wide Receiver- Damaris Johnson, Fr., Tulsa  
Wide Receiver – Frantrell Forrest, So., UAB  
Wide Receiver – Kris Adams, So., UTEP  
Wide Receiver – Jeff Moturi, Jr., UTEP

### DEFENSE

Defensive Lineman- Linval Joesph, So., East Carolina  
Defensive Lineman- Jay Ross, Jr., East Carolina  
Defensive Lineman- Zack Slate, Sr., East Carolina  
Defensive Lineman- Michael Janac, So., Marshall  
Defensive Lineman- Scott Soloman, Fr., Rice  
Defensive Lineman- Chance Talbert, So., Rice  
Defensive Lineman- Reggie Scott, Sr., Tulane  
Defensive Lineman- Wilson Garrison, Jr., Tulsa  
Defensive Lineman- Bryant Turner, So., UAB  
Defensive Lineman- James Olalekan, Sr., UTEP  
Linebacker- Nick Johnson, Sr., East Carolina  
Linebacker- Cody Lubojasky, Sr., Houston  
Linebacker- Mario Harvey, Jr., Marshall  
Linebacker- Greg Jackson, Jr., Memphis  
Linebacker- Tukumbo Abanikanda, Sr., Southern Miss  
Linebacker- Mike Bryan, Jr., Tulsa  
Linebacker- Derrick Hallman, So., UCF  
Linebacker- Lawrence Young, So., UCF  
Linebacker- Adam Vincent, Jr., UTEP  
Defensive Back- D.A. Griffin, Jr., Memphis  
Defensive Back- Alton Starr, Jr., Memphis  
Defensive Back- Andrew Sendejo, Jr., Rice  
Defensive Back- Roy Roberts, Sr., Tulsa  
Defensive Back- Kenny Sims, Jr., Tulsa  
Defensive Back- Johnell Neal, Sr., UCF  
Defensive Back- Jason Venson, Sr., UCF  
Defensive Back- Cornelius Brown, Jr., UTEP  
Defensive Back- Da'Mon Cromartie-Smith, Jr., UTEP  
Defensive Back- Josh Ferguson, Sr., UTEP

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker- Jarod Tracy, Sr., Tulsa  
Punter- Chase Turner, Sr., Houston  
Punter- Brent Sutherland, Sr., Memphis  
Punter- Thomas Morstead, Sr., SMU  
Punter- Michael Such, So., Tulsa  
Punter- Kyle Peterson, So., UTEP  
Kick Returner- Darius Marshall, So., Marshall  
Kick Returner- Frantrell Forrest, So., UAB  
Kick Returner- Josh Ferguson, Sr., UTEP  
Punt Returner- Andre Watson, Fr., Southern Miss  
Long Snapper- Wilson Raynor, Jr., East Carolina  
Long Snapper- Keenan Bratcher, So., Memphis  
Long Snapper- Brandon Long, So., Rice  
Long Snapper- Cody Tawater, Jr., Southern Miss  
Long Snapper- John Warren, Sr., Tulsa  
Long Snapper- Jamar Hunt, Sr., UTEP