

**2011 CONFERENCE USA ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- C-USA had two teams ranked in the top 20 of the final polls for the first time. Houston finished as high as No. 14 (USA Today Coaches Poll), while Southern Miss ranked as high as No. 19 (USA Today Coaches Poll). Houston was No. 18 and Southern Miss is No. 20 in the Associated Press rankings.
- For the second straight season, C-USA had two teams nationally-ranked at the end of the season. Over the last two years, Houston, Southern Miss, Tulsa and UCF have each closed the season in the rankings. The only conferences that have had more than four different schools ranked in the final poll over the last two seasons are the Big Ten, Big 12 and SEC.
- Houston tied LSU for the most victories in the FBS this season with 13, while Southern Miss (12) was tied for third place among all teams.
- According to the computers used to determine the BCS rankings, C-USA ranked the highest among the five non-AQ Conferences this season.
- With a 4-1 bowl record, C-USA tied for the best winning percentage among all conferences at .800. Included in C-USA's postseason wins were victories over No. 22 Penn State of the Big Ten and Pittsburgh of the Big East. The win over Penn State marked the first time that C-USA has defeated a ranked team from an AQ conference in a bowl game.
- Conference USA produced its highest single-season victory total against teams from BCS AQ leagues. Included were wins over teams from the ACC, Big East, Big Ten and Pac-12.
- Houston senior QB Case Keenum won the Sammy Baugh Award, given to the nation's top passer. Keenum, who also won the award in 2009, is just the second two-time winner.
- Southern Miss senior QB Austin Davis was named the winner of the Burlesworth Trophy, which is given to the nation's most outstanding player who began his career as a walk-on.
- Six different C-USA players were named first, second or third team All-Americans, with four others earning honorable mention status.
- A total of seven different C-USA players were named either first, second or third team Freshman All-Americans.
- Five C-USA players were named first team Academic All-District, while East Carolina sophomore DE Matt Milner was named a second team Academic All-American.
- Rice and UCF were honored by the AFCA for having a graduation rate of 90 percent or better. Marshall, Memphis, SMU, Tulane and UTEP were recognized by the AFCA for having graduation rates higher than 75 percent among its football student-athletes. The seven C-USA schools honored by the AFCA were more than any other conference.
- C-USA produced three National Defensive Players of the Week: Houston senior LB Sammy Brown, Marshall senior DE Vinny Curry and SMU junior LB Ja'Gared Davis.
- Two C-USA schools were honored as the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl National Team of the Week. SMU won the award on Oct. 3 and Houston was honored on Nov. 28.
- Conference USA produced the national leader in three team and four individual statistical categories.
- C-USA had a record 68 games appear on national television this season, with contests airing on Fox Sports Net, FX, CBS Sports Network, ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, Fox College Sports and ESPN3. An additional 12 games were televised regionally. All home games not televised nationally or regionally were available on the C-USA Digital Network.

