

CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conference USA was the No. 5 ranked baseball conference in 2009, trailing only the SEC, ACC, Big 12 and Pac-10.
- Southern Miss advanced to its first-ever College World Series. It was the fifth consecutive year that C-USA placed a team in the CWS (Rice in 2006, 2007 and 2008; Tulane in 2005).
- Conference USA advanced three teams (East Carolina, Rice and Southern Miss) to NCAA Super Regional play for the first time. C-USA has had at least one team in the Super Regionals for 10 consecutive seasons.
- For the first time ever, two Conference USA teams hosted NCAA Regionals, as East Carolina hosted the Greenville Regional and Rice hosted the Houston Regional.
- Rice and Southern Miss finished the season ranked in the top 10, giving C-USA two top 10 teams in the final poll for the first time. East Carolina finished as high as No. 15 in the final rankings, marking the first time the league has produced three top 15 teams in the final polls.
- Six Conference USA teams won at least one game against a nationally-ranked, non-conference opponent.
- C-USA teams posted a total of 28 wins over nationally-ranked, non-conference opponents during the regular season, including 10 against Top 10 foes.
- Among the NCAA top 50 RPI teams that C-USA defeated in 2009 were: LSU (Tulane), Texas (Rice), North Carolina (East Carolina), Georgia Tech (Southern Miss), Florida (Southern Miss), Mississippi (Southern Miss), UC Irvine (Tulane), Texas A&M, (Houston, Rice), South Carolina (East Carolina), Oklahoma State (East Carolina), Ohio State (Marshall), Dallas Baptist (Rice) and Kansas (Memphis).
- Three Conference USA teams won at least 40 games for the second year in a row and the fifth time in league history.
- Seven different Conference USA players were honored as All-Americans, including East Carolina second baseman **Ryan Wood** and Rice third baseman **Anthony Rendon**, who each were on nearly every All-American team.
- Six C-USA players earned Freshman All-American honors, including Rice third baseman **Anthony Rendon**, who was named National Freshman of the Year by Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball. Rendon is the fifth C-USA player since 1999 to be named National Freshman of the Year.
- Conference USA had four players that earned National Player of the Week honors.
- Three C-USA players were named to the 2009 *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-District teams, while Southern Miss second baseman **James Ewing** was named an Academic All-American, marking the ninth time in 12 years that C-USA has produced at least one Baseball Academic All-American.
- Conference USA had 27 players chosen in the June Major League Baseball Draft. Eight of the nine C-USA schools had at least one player selected.
- Fifteen players from C-USA schools appeared on the opening day rosters of Major League Baseball teams, with five more players being called up in the first half of the season.
- Four Conference USA schools averaged at least 2,940 fans per game and two other schools topped the 1,000 mark in average home attendance.
- Two C-USA players (Rice's **Rick Hague** and Tulane's **Nick Pepitone**) were named to the USA Baseball National Team, a squad that was coached by Tulane head coach **Rick Jones**.

CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL SCHOOLS

The nine schools that currently comprise Conference USA Baseball have enjoyed a great deal of success. Here are some of their accomplishments:

- 12 College World Series Appearances
- 2003 National Champions - Rice
- At least one College World Series team in nine of the last 11 seasons.
- 102 NCAA Appearances in Baseball (63 since 1995)
- 5 National Players of the Year since 1995
- 7 National Freshmen of the Year since 1995
- 114 players have been All-Americans since 1995
- Schools have combined to win 40 or more games 54 times in the last 13 years
- Has had a team ranked No. 1 in the nation in four of the last six regular seasons



EAST CAROLINA
HOUSTON
MARSHALL
MEMPHIS
RICE
SOUTHERN MISS
TULANE
UAB
UCF