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2008 CONFERENCE USA FOOTBALL

East Carolina • Houston • Marshall • Memphis • Rice • SMU
Southern Miss • Tulane • Tulsa • UAB • UCF • UTEP

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Preseason Notebook
August 28, 2008

2008 STANDINGS

EAST DIVISION

	C-USA						
	W-L	Pct.	H	A	Div.	Pts	Opp
EAST CAROLINA	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
MARSHALL	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
MEMPHIS	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
SOUTHERN MISS	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
UAB	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
UCF	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-

ALL GAMES

W-L	Pct.	H	A	Pts	Opp
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-

WEST DIVISION

	C-USA						
	W-L	Pct.	H	A	Div.	Pts	Opp
TULSA	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
HOUSTON	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
RICE	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
SMU	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
TULANE	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-
UTEP	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-	-

ALL GAMES

W-L	Pct.	H	A	Pts	Opp
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-
0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	17	42

RECENT RESULTS

Thursday, August 28

Buffalo 42, UTEP 17

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, August 29

SMU at Rice (ESPN) 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 30

(15) Virginia Tech vs. East Carolina (Charlotte/ESPN) 11:00 a.m.
Tulsa at UAB 3:00 p.m.
Illinois State at Marshall (WOWK) 3:30 p.m.
Memphis at Mississippi 5:00 p.m.
South Carolina State at UCF 5:00 p.m.
Southern at Houston 6:00 p.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette at Southern Miss 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 6

Marshall at (12) Wisconsin (Big Ten Network) 11:00 a.m.
Southern Miss at (10) Auburn (Raycom) 11:30 a.m.
UAB at Florida Atlantic 3:00 p.m.
(8) West Virginia at East Carolina (ESPN) 3:30 p.m.
Houston at Oklahoma State 6:00 p.m.
Tulane at (24) Alabama 6:00 p.m.
Tulsa at North Texas 6:00 p.m.
(19) South Florida at UCF (ESPN 2) 6:00 p.m.
Rice at Memphis (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.
Texas State at SMU 7:00 p.m.
(10) Texas at UTEP (ESPN 2) 9:15 p.m.

Saturday, September 13

UAB at (18) Tennessee (Raycom) 11:30 a.m.
East Carolina at Tulane (WITN-TV) 2:00 p.m.
Air Force at Houston (CBS C) 2:30 p.m.
Memphis at Marshall (CSS) 6:00 p.m.
Rice at Vanderbilt 6:00 p.m.
SMU at (12) Texas Tech 6:00 p.m.
Southern Miss at Arkansas State 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 20

Louisiana-Monroe at Tulane (CST) 2:00 p.m.
Houston at Colorado State 2:30 p.m.
Marshall at Southern Miss (CSS) 2:30 p.m.
Alabama State at UAB 3:00 p.m.
New Mexico at Tulsa 6:00 p.m.
Nicholls State at Memphis 7:00 p.m.
TCU at SMU (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.
New Mexico State at UTEP 8:05 p.m.
East Carolina at N.C. State TBA
Rice at (10) Texas TBA
UCF at Boston College TBA

Thursday, September 25

SMU at Tulane (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

Conference Games in Bold
All Times Central

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Conference USA will name an Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Player of the Week each Monday during the season. The awards are selected by a panel of media members with one representative in each league city.

The conference office will also produce a weekly football release on Mondays during the season. It will be distributed directly to members of the media upon request and available on ConferenceUSA.com.



Conference USA's 2008 Football Championship Game will take place on Saturday, December 6.

POLLING PLACE

Here's a look at the preseason Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today Coaches' Polls.

Associated Press USA Today Coaches'

1 - Georgia (22)	1 - Georgia (22)
2 - Ohio State (21)	2 - USC (14)
3 - USC (12)	3 - Ohio State
4 - Oklahoma (4)	4 - Oklahoma
5 - Florida (6)	5 - Florida
6 - Missouri	6 - LSU
7 - LSU	7 - Missouri
8 - West Virginia	8 - West Virginia
9 - Clemson	9 - Clemson
10 - Auburn	10 - Texas
11 - Texas	11 - Auburn
12 - Texas Tech	12 - Wisconsin
13 - Wisconsin	13 - Kansas
14 - Kansas	14 - Texas Tech
15 - Arizona State	15 - Virginia Tech
16 - BYU	16 - Arizona State
17 - Virginia Tech	17 - BYU
18 - Tennessee	18 - Tennessee
19 - South Florida	19 - Illinois
20 - Illinois	20 - Oregon
21 - Oregon	21 - South Florida
22 - Penn State	22 - Penn State
23 - Wake Forest	23 - Wake Forest
24 - Alabama	24 - Michigan
25 - Pittsburgh	25 - Fresno State

ARV:	ARV:
40 - Tulsa	51 - UCF
	52 - Tulsa

STRONG SLATE

Conference USA schools will play a total of 11 games against nine different teams that are ranked in the preseason Top 25. Nine C-USA schools face at least one preseason Top 25 team, with East Carolina and Marshall facing two. Here's a look at who C-USA plays:

Rk. Opponent	C-USA School
8. West Virginia	East Carolina, Marshall
10. Auburn	Southern Miss
11. Texas	UTEP, Rice
12. Texas Tech	SMU
13. Wisconsin	Marshall
15. Virginia Tech	East Carolina
18. Tennessee	UAB
19. South Florida	UCF
20. Alabama	Tulane

TOUGH OPENING ACT

Conference USA faces a very challenging opening two weeks of the season. C-USA will face at least one team from five of the six BCS AQ conferences during that stretch.

East Carolina will face No. 15 Virginia Tech on a neutral field in Charlotte this Saturday and then on September 6 C-USA teams will face six different nationally-ranked teams, three at home and three on the road. East Carolina will host No. 8 West Virginia, UTEP will welcome No. 11 Texas to El Paso for the first time ever and UCF will be at home for No. 19 South Florida. Marshall will battle No. 13 Wisconsin for the first time, Southern Miss will go to No. 10 Auburn and Alabama plays at No. 24 Alabama.

RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

Here's a look at the returning All-Conference performers this fall:

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

- OL - Pat Brown, Sr., UCF
- TE - Cody Slate, Jr., Marshall
- WR - Jarett Dillard, Sr., Rice
- WR - Jeff Moturi, Jr., UTEP

DEFENSE

- DL - Phillip Hunt, Sr., Houston
- LB - Gerald McRath, Jr., Southern Miss
- DB - Joe Burnett, Sr., UCF
- DB - Will Dunbar, Sr., UAB

SPECIAL TEAMS

- PR - Joe Burnett, Jr., UCF

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

- QB - Chase Clement, Sr., Rice
- RB - Damion Fletcher, Jr., Southern Miss
- TE - Shawn Nelson, Sr., Southern Miss
- WR - Duke Calhoun, Jr., Memphis
- WR - Trae Johnson, So., Tulsa
- WR - Brennan Marion, Jr., Tulsa

DEFENSE

- DL - Moton Hopkins, Sr., Tulsa
- DL - Bruce Miller, Jr., UCF
- DL - Zack Slate, Sr., East Carolina
- LB - Joe Henderon, Sr., UAB
- LB - Brian Raines, Sr., Rice
- DB - Kenneth Fontenette, Sr., Houston
- DB - Andrew Sendejo, Jr., Rice
- DB - C.J. Spillman, Sr., Marshall

SPECIAL TEAMS

- PK - Jose Martinez, Sr., UTEP
- P - Britt Barefoot, Sr., Southern Miss
- LS - John Warren, Sr., Tulsa

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

- LB - Gerald McRath, Jr., Southern Miss

NEWCOMER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

- WR - Brennan Marion, Jr., Tulsa

RETURNING STARTERS

Here's a look at the returning starters on offense, defense and special teams (including punt and kick returners) for each Conference USA school:

School	Off.	Def.	ST
East Carolina	6	9	3
Houston	6	7	1
Marshall	8	8	2
Memphis	7	9	4
Rice	8	6	2
SMU	7	6	2
Southern Miss	6	4	2
Tulane	8	7	4
Tulsa	9	5	1
UAB	8	9	2
UCF	5	9	2
UTEP	5	8	2

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS

Here's a look at the number of lettermen returning and lost for each C-USA school:

School	Ret.	Lost
East Carolina	50	19
Houston	56	19
Marshall	45	15
Memphis	52	18
Rice	53	18
SMU	40	19
Southern Miss	41	22
Tulane	49	15
Tulsa	40	13
UAB	43	24
UCF	36	24
UTEP	47	19

PRESEASON ALL-C-USA

The 2007 Conference USA Football Championship game featured Tulsa and UCF battling for the league title and the two squads are favored once again for a title shot in 2008, according to the league's 12 head coaches. The defending champion Knights were picked to win the East Division crown, garnering 67 of a possible 72 points. The Golden Hurricane was unanimously picked to win the West, grabbing all 72 available points.

UCF was picked to finish third in the East Division in last year's poll, but behind record-setting running back Kevin Smith, the Knights finished the year 7-1 in the league and advanced to host the third annual C-USA Football Championship game. UCF rolled to the league championship with a 44-25 win over TU and went on to play in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl, just the second bowl appearance in program history. The team returns nine starters in 2008 to a defensive unit that picked off a school record 24 passes in 2007.

Despite falling in the C-USA Championship game, Tulsa represented the league in the GMAC Bowl and routed Bowling Green, 63-7, to finish the season at 10-4. The 10 wins were the most for the program since 1991 and along the way TU became the first team in NCAA history to have a 5,000-yard passer, three 1,000-yard receivers and a 1,000-yard rusher. More importantly, nine starters return in 2008 to an offensive unit that led the nation in total offense a season ago.



PRESEASON ALL-C-USA SELECTIONS

Offensive Player of the Year
Damion Fletcher, RB, Southern Miss

Defensive Player of the Year
Gerald McRath, LB, Southern Miss

Special Teams Player of the Year
Joe Burnett, PR, UCF

First Team Offense

QB Chase Clement, Sr., Rice
RB Damion Fletcher, So., Southern Miss
RB Tarrion Adams, Sr., Tulsa
OL Patrick Brown, Sr., UCF
OL Robby Felix, Sr., UTEP
OL Ryan McKee, Sr., Southern Miss
OL Doug Palmer, Jr., East Carolina
OL Brandon Pearce, Sr., Memphis
WR Jarett Dillard, Jr., Rice
WR Duke Calhoun, Jr., Memphis
WR Brennan Marion, Sr., Tulsa
WR Jeff Moturi, Sr., UTEP
TE Cody Slate, Jr., Marshall

First Team Defense

DL Albert McClellan, Jr., Marshall
DL Moton Hopkins, Sr., Tulsa
DL Phillip Hunt, Sr., Houston
DL Zach Slate, Sr., East Carolina
DL C.J. Wilson, Jr., East Carolina
LB Joe Henderson, Sr., UAB
LB Gerald McRath, Jr., Southern Miss
LB Brian Raines, Sr., Rice
DB Will Dunbar, Sr., UAB
DB Kenneth Fontenette, Sr., Houston
DB Andrew Sendejo, Jr., Rice
DB C.J. Spillman, Sr., Marshall

First Team Special Teams

K Jose Martinez, Sr., UTEP
P Thomas Morstead, Sr., SMU
KR Darius Marshall, So., Marshall
PR Joe Burnett, Sr., UCF

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

C-USA names Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week each Monday during the season. The awards are voted on by a media panel with one representative in each league city. The first awards will be announced on September 2.

Offense
S2

Defense
S2

Special Teams
S2

PRESEASON HONORS

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICANS

Athlon Sports
Third Team
Joe Burnett, PR, UCF

CBSSportsLine.com

First Team
Jarett Dillard, WR, Rice

CollegeFootballNews.com

Second Team
Damion Fletcher, RB, Southern Miss
Gerald McRath, LB, Southern Miss

Honorable Mention

Jarett Dillard, WR, Rice
Shawn Nelson, TE, Southern Miss
Cody Slate, TE, Marshall
Pat Brown, OL, UCF
Robby Felix, OL, UTEP
Albert McClellan, DE, Marshall
Joe Burnett, CB, UCF
Sha'reff Rashad, S, UCF
Will Dunbar, S, UAB
C.J. Spillman, S, Marshall
Thomas Morstead, P, SMU
Britt Barefoot, P, Southern Miss
Swayze Water, K, UAB
Jose Martinez, K, UTEP
Joe Burnett, PR, UCF
Darius Marshall, KR, Marshall

NationalChamps.net

Third Team
Jarett Dillard, WR, Rice
Cody Slate, TE, Marshall
Phillip Hunt, DL, Houston
Joe Burnett, DB/PR, UCF
Jose Martinez, K, UTEP

Phil Steele's

First Team
Jose Martinez, K, UTEP

Fourth Team

Jarett Dillard, WR, Rice

Pro Football Weekly

Second Team Offense
Damion Fletcher, RB, Southern Miss

Second Team Defense

Albert McClellan, DL, Marshall
Gerald McRath, LB, Southern Miss

Sporting News

Second Team
Jarett Dillard, WR, Rice

Third Team

Gerald McRath, LB, Southern Miss
Thomas Morstead, P, SMU

Honorable Mention

Damion Fletcher, RB, Southern Miss
Brennan Marion, WR, Tulsa
Jeff Moturi, WR, UTEP
Shawn Nelson, TE, Southern Miss
Cody Slate, TE, Marshall

Pat Brown, OL, UCF
Swayze Waters, K, UAB
Joe Henderson, LB, UAB
Kenneth Fontenette, DB, Houston
Andrew Sendejo, DB, Rice
C.J. Spillman, DB, Marshall

PRESEASON NATIONAL UNIT AND PLAYER RANKINGS

Athlon Sports

Top Defensive Line Units
10 - East Carolina

Top Defensive Backs Units
5 - UCF

Lindy's

Top Wide Receiver Units
3 - Tulsa

Top Quarterbacks

21 - Chase Clement, Rice

Top Running Backs

10 - Damion Fletcher, Southern Miss

Top Receivers

5 - Jarett Dillard, Rice

Top Linebackers

6 - Gerald McRath, Southern Miss

Top Cornerbacks

7 - Joe Burnett, UCF

Top Kickers

5 - Jose Martinez, UTEP

Top Punters

7 - Thomas Morstead, SMU

Phil Steele's

Top Quarterback Units
17 - Rice

Top Wide Receiver Units

4 - Tulsa
8 - Memphis
25 - Marshall
27 - Rice

Top Defensive Back Units

10 - UCF

Top Special Teams Units

7 - UAB
9 - SMU
26 - UCF



WATCH OUT

Several C-USA players have been named to official award watch lists. Here's a look at those players (as of Aug. 25):

BEDNARIK (Top Defensive Player)
Joe Burnett, UCF
Gerald McRath, Southern Miss

BILETNIKOFF (Top Wide Receiver)
Jarett Dillard, Rice

BUTKUS (Top Linebacker)
Will Bonilla, SMU
Joe Henderson, UAB
Gerald McRath, Southern Miss
Brian Raines, Rice

DAVEY O'BRIEN (Top Quarterback)
Chase Clement, Rice

DOAK WALKER (Top Running Back)
TBA

HENDRICKS (Top Defensive End)
Phillip Hunt, Houston
Albert McClellan, Marshall

LOMBARDI (Top Down Lineman/TE)
Phillip Hunt, Houston
Gerald McRath, Southern Miss

LOU GROZA (Top Kicker)
TBA

JOHN MACKEY (Top Tight End)
Shawn Nelson, Southern Miss
Cody Slate, Marshall

MANNING (Top Quarterback)
TBA

MAXWELL (Top Player)
Jarett Dillard, Rice
Damion Fletcher, Southern Miss

NAGURSKI (Top Defensive Player)
Joe Burnett, UCF
Will Dunbar, UAB
Albert McClellan, Marshall
Gerald McRath, Southern Miss

RIMINGTON (Top Center)
Carl Barnett, Houston
Phillip Bellies, Memphis
Mitch Enright, SMU
Robby Felix, UTEP

THORPE (Top Defensive Back)
Joe Burnett, UCF

WALTER CAMP (Top Player)
Joe Burnett, UCF
Jarett Dillard, Rice

UNITAS (Top Quarterback)
Chase Clement, Rice
Will Hudgens, Memphis

C-USA ON NATIONAL TV

Conference USA has announced its television schedule for the 2008 football season. The current confirmed schedule features nearly 50 games to air nationally or regionally. National games will be televised on CBS College Sports Network, ESPN, ESPN 2, the NFL Network and the Big Ten Network. Included are a number of unopposed windows that provide tremendous exposure to C-USA, as well as several exciting league match-ups, and many challenging non-conference contests. Additionally, at least seven other games will be regionally-televised throughout the southeast on CSS.

This season marks the fourth year of C-USA's partnership with CBS College Sports Network (formerly CSTV). In 2005, Conference USA signed a six-year initial term that includes significant national and regional exposure for football, men's and women's basketball and other C-USA sports. CBS College Sports Network is widely available on cable systems across the country and via satellite on DIRECTV Channel 613 (Premier Package and Sports Pack) and Dish Network Channel 152 (America's Top 200 Package).

Conference USA will also be featured on ESPN and its family of networks with at least 10 regular season contests televised this fall as part of its contract with the network. Additional non-conference games may be selected by the network through agreements with other conferences. The fourth annual Conference USA Football Championship Game will be televised by ESPN or ESPN 2 on Saturday, December 6.

Listed below is a complete schedule of C-USA games to be aired on national television:

CBS COLLEGE SPORTS SCHEDULE



Sat. Sept. 6	Rice at Memphis	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 13	Air Force at Houston	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 20	TCU at SMU	7:00 p.m.
Thur. Sept. 25	SMU at Tulane	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 27	Houston at East Carolina	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 27	UCF at UTEP	7:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct. 2	Memphis at UAB	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 4	SMU at UCF	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 4	Rice at Tulsa	7:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct. 9	UAB at Houston	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 11	Boise State at Southern Miss	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 18	UTEP at Tulsa	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 25	SMU at Navy	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 25	Southern Miss at Memphis	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 8	Marshall at East Carolina	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 8	TBA (12 day advance)	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 15	TBA (12 day advance)	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 22	TBA (12 day advance)	2:30 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 28	UTEP at East Carolina	Noon
Sat. Nov. 29	TBA (12 day advance)	2:30 p.m.

ESPN SCHEDULE



Fri. Aug. 29	SMU at Rice	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Aug. 30	Virginia Tech at East Carolina	11:00 a.m.
Sat. Sept. 6	West Virginia at East Carolina	3:30 p.m.
Fri. Oct. 3	Cincinnati at Marshall	7:00 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 10	Louisville at Memphis	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Oct. 26	UCF at Tulsa	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Nov. 2	East Carolina at UCF	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 21	R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl	7:00 p.m.
Wed. Dec. 31	Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl	11:00 a.m.
Fri. Jan. 2	AutoZone Liberty Bowl	4:00 p.m.
Tues. Jan. 6	GMAC Bowl	7:00 p.m.

ESPN2 SCHEDULE



Sat. Sept. 6	South Florida at UCF	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 6	Texas at UTEP	9:15 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 28	Houston at Marshall	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 20	St. Petersburg Bowl	3:30 p.m.

ESPN or ESPN2 SCHEDULE

Sat. Dec. 6	C-USA Championship Game	TBA
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ESPN REGIONAL SCHEDULE



Sat. Sept. 13	Marshall at West Virginia	2:30 p.m.
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CSS SCHEDULE



Sat. Sept. 13	Memphis at Marshall	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 20	Marshall at Southern Miss	2:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 18	Memphis at East Carolina	11:00 a.m.
Sat. Nov. 1	UAB at Southern Miss	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 15	UCF at Marshall	3:30 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 22	TBA (12 day advance)	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 29	TBA (12 day advance)	2:30 p.m.

BIG TEN NETWORK SCHEDULE



Sat. Sept. 6	Marshall at Wisconsin	11:00 a.m.
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NFL NETWORK SCHEDULE



Tues., Dec. 30	Texas Bowl	7:00 p.m.
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RAYCOM REGIONAL SCHEDULE



Sat., Sept. 6	Southern Miss at Auburn	11:30 a.m.
Sat., Sept. 13	UAB at Tennessee	11:30 a.m.

All Game Times Central

C-USA ON SIRIUS RADIO

Conference USA will once again have games broadcast live on Sirius Satellite Radio this season. Check this section during the season to see a complete list of the broadcast schedule.

SIRIUS RADIO SCHEDULE



2007 RETURNING STATISTICAL LEADERS

The leader or runner-up in eight of the 13 major statistical categories listed below is set to return this fall. Here's a look at the top returnees:

Rushing

4. Jr., RB, Damion Fletcher, USM
2007: 295-for-1,586 yards; 5.4 avg; 15 TD; 122.0 ypg.

Passing Yardage

3. Sr., QB, Chase Clement, Rice
2007: 300-for-508; 3,377 yds.; 29 TD; 281.4 ypg.

Passing Efficiency

2. So., QB, Case Keenum, HOU
2007: 147.6; 187-273-10; 68.5; 2,259 yards; 14 TD

Receptions

2. Sr., WR, Jarett Dillard, Rice
2007: 79-for-1,057 yards; 13.4 apc.; 14 TD; 6.58 rpg.

Receiving Yards

2. Sr., WR, Brennan Marion, TLS
2007: 39-for-1,244 yards; 31.9 apc.; 88.9 ypg.; 11 TD

All-Purpose Yards

6. Jr., RB, Damion Fletcher, USM
2007: 1,860 total yards; 1,586 rushing; 227 receiving
0 punt return yards; 47 kick return yards; 143.1 ypg

Total Offense

2. Sr., QB, Chase Clement, Rice
2007: 3,912 total yards; 535 rushing; 3,912 passing
(652 plays), 326.0 ypg

Scoring

7. Sr., PK, Jose Martinez, UTEP
2007: 95 points; 0 TD; 44 XPT; 17 FG; 7.9 ppg.

Field Goals

1. Sr., PK, Swayze Waters, UAB
2007: 1.83 FG per game; 22-28 (78.6%)

Punting

1. Sr., P, Thomas Morstead, SMU
2007: 57 for 2,545 yards; 72 long; 44.6 avg

Tackles

3. Sr., DB, C.J. Spillman, Marshall
2007: 131 (64 solo, 67 assist); 10.9 avg.

4. Jr., LB, Gerald McRath, Southern Miss
2007: 139 (71 solo, 68 assist); 10.7 avg.

Sacks

1. Sr., DL, Phillip Hunt, HOU
2007: 10.5 (8 solo, 5 assist)

Interceptions

1. Sr., DB, Johnell Neal, UCF
2007: 6

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Conference USA teams never shy away from playing challenging non-conference competition and this season is no exception. Included are 23 non-conference games against teams that played in bowl games last season. Among the teams on C-USA's non-conference slate in 2008 are Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Boise State, Boston College, Louisville, LSU, Miami (Fla.), South Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Texas Tech, TCU, Virginia Tech and West Virginia.

Conference USA will face at least one opponent from all 10 of the other I-A conferences, with the exception of the Pac-10 Conference.

Here's a look at C-USA's non-league opponents by conference:

- ACC:** Boston College, Miami (Fla.), N.C. State, Virginia, Virginia Tech
- Big East:** Cincinnati, West Virginia(2), Louisville, USF
- Big Ten:** Wisconsin
- Big 12:** Oklahoma State, Texas (2), Texas Tech
- Mtn. West:** Air Force, Colorado State, New Mexico, TCU
- MAC:** Buffalo
- SEC:** Alabama, Arkansas, LSU, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vanderbilt
- Sun Belt:** Arkansas State (2), Florida Atlantic, Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana-Monroe, North Texas (2)
- WAC:** Boise State, New Mexico State
- Independent:** Army, Navy

SUMLIN TABBED TO LEAD UH

University of Houston Director of Athletics Dave Maggard announced on Dec. 14 that **Kevin Sumlin** was hired as the Cougar football head coach. Sumlin becomes the 11th head coach in UH history, but more importantly, he becomes the first African-American to lead the prestigious Cougar program.

Sumlin is the first African-American to be hired to lead a Division I-Football Bowl Subdivision program in the state of Texas. Former North Texas head coach Matt Simon was first hired in 1993 when the UNT program was a Division I-Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) school, later moving up a division and coaching the North Texas program from 1994-97 as a member of the Division I-FBS.

The 43-year-old Sumlin arrives on Cullen Boulevard after spending the past five seasons at the University of Oklahoma, where he has served as both the co-offensive coordinator/wide receivers coach (2006-07) and special teams coordinator/tight end coach (2003-05).

JONES TO GUIDE MUSTANGS

Director of Athletics Steve Orsini announced **June Jones** as the head football coach at SMU on January 7. Jones arrives on the Hilltop after nine years at Hawai'i, where he resurrected a downtrodden Warrior football program to make it one of the most exciting and competitive squads in the country.

Jones led his Hawai'i teams to 76 wins -- the most by any Hawai'i coach -- two Western Athletic Conference Championships and six bowl-game appearances. He developed six All-Americans and produced 16 NFL draft picks, with a school-record five in 2007. In the five years before Jones' arrival, Hawai'i combined for 12 wins and not a single draft pick or bowl game berth. In 1998, Hawai'i suffered its first-ever winless season. The following year, the first under Jones, the Warriors went 9-4, marking the biggest turnaround in NCAA history.

Jones catapulted the Warrior program into the national rankings in his nine seasons, with Hawai'i ranking in the top 40 in seven of his nine years, including a top-10 ranking in 2007.

SOUTHERN MISS CALLS ON FEDORA

University of Southern Mississippi President Martha Saunders and Director of Athletics Richard Giannini announced the hiring of **Larry Fedora** as the 18th head football coach in the 91-year history of the program on Dec. 12.

Fedora, 45, comes to Southern Miss after spending the last three seasons as the offensive coordinator at Oklahoma State where the Cowboys have been in the top 10 in rushing yards per game and in the top 20 in total offense per game in each of the last two seasons. During Fedora's three-year tenure at OSU, the Cowboys have raised their rushing, passing and total offensive yards in each year that he has been there. In 2006, the Cowboys were one of just two teams - the other being Boise State - to average over 200 yards both rushing and passing.

The offense has averaged over 30 points per contest over the last two seasons as well. The Cowboys made the biggest improvement in the country in scoring following his second season of running the offense, jumping from 96th nationally in 2005 to seventh in 2006.

TULSA TRIO

Tulsa WRs **Brennan Marion** (1,244 yards), **Trae Johnson** (1,088 yards) and **Charles Clay** (1,024 yards) all finished the season with over 1,000 yards receiving.

Tulsa became only the third team in NCAA history to have three receivers over 1,000 yards in a single season. Texas Tech did it 2003 and Hawaii did it this season (Ryan Grice-Mullen, Davone Bess and Jason Rivers).



COUGAR HIGHLIGHTS

Houston's appearance in the Texas Bowl last December marked the third consecutive season that the Cougars competed in a bowl game. It was the first time that the Cougars competed in three straight bowl games since UH competed in four straight from 1978 to 1981. It was also the fourth time in the last five seasons that the Cougars played in a bowl game.

TOP TURNAROUNDS

East Division champion UCF and Memphis were a part of two of the top turnarounds in the FBS last season. Here is a look at teams that have improved at least five games from 2006 to 2007:

Team	2007	2006	Improvement
Illinois	9-4	2-10	+7
UCF	10-4	4-8	+6
Kansas	12-1	6-6	+6
Memphis	7-6	2-10	+5
UConn	9-4	4-8	+5
Air Force	9-4	4-8	+5

CALHOUN EXTENDS STREAK

Memphis sophomore WR **Duke Calhoun** caught a three-yard pass in the second quarter of the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl to extend his receiving streak to 24 games. He has caught a pass in each of his 24 career games. The 24-game streak ties for third all-time in the Memphis record book. The Memphis school record is 27 games by Russell Copeland (1989-92). Calhoun finished the season with 62 catches for 890 yards and five touchdowns.

WINNING WAYS

In 2007, Southern Miss clinched its 14th-straight winning season. Only four programs have longer active winning season streaks in the FBS. Florida State has the longest with 31 straight, followed by Michigan (23), Florida (20) and Virginia Tech (15).

BOWL STREAK

After participating in the 2007 Papajohns.com Bowl, the Golden Eagles have now played in a bowl game six straight seasons and 10 times in 11 seasons.

CAN'T CATCH FLETCH

Southern Miss junior RB **Damion Fletcher** carried 29 times for 155 yards in the Papajohns.com Bowl to finish the season with a single-season best 1,586 yards and 15 rushing scores. He has recorded a total of 16, 100-yard rushing games in his first two seasons at USM, along with seven multi-touchdown games on the ground and 26 career scores. Fletcher already ranks fourth on the school's all-time rushing list with 2,974 yards and needs just 622 yards to become the all-time leader.

DILLARD EIGHTH ALL-TIME

Rice WR **Jarett Dillard** became the eighth receiver in NCAA history to reach 40 career TD catches with his 25-yarder in the second quarter against Tulsa to end the 2007 regular season. Dillard enters the 2008 season as the active NCAA leader in catches, yardage and touchdowns. He has now scored a touchdown in 17 of his last 18 conference games and in 23 of his last 27 overall. Dillard is 10 TD catches away from tying the NCAA career mark.

Dillard extended his streak of catching at least two passes in a game to 36. With his 89 receiving yards, he reached the 1,000 yard receiving plateau for the second straight year. He finished the 2007 season with 1,056 receiving yards.

BIG PLAYS

C-USA had three of the top seven schools in the FBS in number of offensive scoring plays from scrimmage that went for 25 yards or longer in 2007. Here is a look at the leaders:

School	Plays
Oklahoma	25
Nevada	22
Arkansas	21
Houston	20
Tulsa	19
Oklahoma State	19
East Carolina	18

QUICK STRIKES

C-USA had three of the top six schools in the FBS last season in number of offensive scoring drives that took one minute or less off the clock. Here is a look at the leaders:

School	Drives (TDs)
East Carolina	23 (20)
Tulsa	16 (16)
Navy	13 (11)
Missouri	13 (9)
Texas Tech	13 (11)
Houston	12 (12)

QUICK STRIKES II

C-USA had three of the top ten schools in the FBS last season in number of offensive scoring drives that took 2:00 minute or less off the clock. Here is a look at the leaders:

School	Drives (TDs)
Tulsa	41 (38)
East Carolina	38 (33)
Texas Tech	37 (32)
Kansas	36 (34)
Central Michigan	34 (32)
Arkansas	32 (28)
Missouri	30 (21)
Cincinnati	29 (25)
Kentucky	28 (22)
Houston	25 (24)

GETTING DEFENSIVE

Nine starters return to a UCF defensive unit that picked off a school-record 24 passes in 2007. Seniors-to-be **Joe Burnett** and **Johnell Neal** were the first teammates in school history to pick off at least six passes in the same season. Burnett ranks second on the UCF career charts with 12 picks, which is tied for second among active returning players in the NCAA FBS.

ANOTHER NEW CHAMP

With UCF capturing the 2007 Conference USA Championship, the Knights became the seventh different team to win the C-USA title since 2002. Houston won it in 2006, Tulsa in 2005, Louisville in 2004, Southern Miss in 2003 and Cincinnati and TCU shared the crown in 2002.

Year	Champion (Record)
2007	UCF (7-1)
2006	Houston (7-1)
2005	Tulsa (6-2)
2004	Louisville (8-0)
2003	Southern Miss (8-0)
2002	TCU (6-2) Cincinnati (6-2)
2001	Louisville (6-1)
2000	Louisville (6-1)
1999	Southern Miss (6-0)
1998	Tulane (6-0)
1997	Southern Miss (6-0)
1996	Houston (4-1) Southern Miss (4-1)

WORKING OVERTIME

Here's a look at C-USA overtime games last season and all-time:

2007 C-USA Overtimes

N24	Memphis 55, SMU 52 (3 OT)
O20	Tulane 41, SMU 34 (1 OT)
O13	East Carolina 45, UTEP 42 (1 OT)
O6	Army 20, Tulane 17 (1 OT)
S29	UTEP 48, SMU 45 (1 OT)

Overtime Records - 1996-2007

Teams	All Games	C-USA Games
East Carolina	3-2	3-1
Houston	4-5	4-3
Marshall	2-1	1-1
Memphis	1-4	1-4
Rice	4-3	1-0
SMU	1-7	0-4
Southern Miss	3-3	3-2
Tulane	2-2	1-1
Tulsa	2-3	1-1
UAB	2-3	2-1
UCF	0-2	0-0
UTEP	3-3	2-1



CUT TO THE CHASE

Rice senior quarterback **Chase Clement** broke a total of 18 school records last season. He finished the year with 3,377 yards passing and 6,741 career total offensive yards. He threw 29 touchdowns and ran for eight more scores. Clement became the first player in NCAA history to record consecutive games with over 300 yards passing and 100 yards rushing, accomplishing the feat against both UTEP and SMU.

In addition, Clement needs 32 touchdowns to become the third player in C-USA history with 100 touchdowns responsible for in his career. Paul Smith (109) and Kevin Kolb (106) are the others. Clement totaled 37 touchdowns in 2007.

CAREER CATCHES

Rice's **Jarett Dillard** enters 2008 sitting in eighth place on the all-time C-USA reception list. Here is a look at the career catch leaders. Check this section throughout the season to monitor his progress.

- 300 Arnold Jackson, Louisville, 1997-00 (3,670 yards)
- 272 Vincent Marshall, Houston, 2003-06 (3,770 yards)
- 236 JaJuan Dawson, Tulane, 1996-98 (3,048 yards)
- 222 Orlando Iglesias, Houston, 1997-01 (2,810 yards)
- 217 Ibn Green, Louisville, 1996-99 (2,830 yards)
- 215 Roydell Williams, Tulane, 2000-04 (3,207 yards)
- 215 Donnie Avery, Houston, 2004-2007 (2,390 yards)
- 205 Jarett Dillard, Rice, 2005-present (2,524 yards)

RECEIVING YARDS GAINED

Rice's **Jarett Dillard** also enters 2008 in 10th place on the all-time receiving yards gained chart. Here is a look at the all-time leaders. Check this section throughout the season to monitor his progress.

- 3,770 Vincent Marshall, Houston, 2003-06 (272 catches)
- 3,670 Arnold Jackson, Louisville, 1997-00 (300 catches)
- 3,289 Donnie Avery, Houston, 2004-2007 (286 catches)
- 3,207 Roydell Williams, Tulane, 2001-04 (215 catches)
- 3,115 Sherrod Gideon, Southern Miss, 1996-99 (193 catches)
- 3,112 Roddy White, UAB, 2001-04 (163 catches)
- 3,048 JaJuan Dawson, Tulane, 1996-98 (236 catches)
- 2,873 Brandon Middleton, Houston, 1999-03 (137 catches)
- 2,830 Ibn Green, Louisville, 1996-99 (217 catches)
- 2,828 Jarett Dillard, Rice, 2005-present (196 catches)

TOUCHDOWN CATCHES

With his TD catch against Tulsa to close out the 2007 regular season, Rice's **Jarett Dillard** extended his own C-USA record for career touchdown catches. The senior enters 2008 with 40 and is one of two active players with 40 career TD receptions. Here is a look at the career touchdown catch leaders:

- 40 Jarett Dillard, Rice, 2005-present
- 35 Roydell Williams, Tulane, 2001-04
- 33 Ibn Green, Louisville, 1996-99
- 31 JaJuan Dawson, Tulane, 1996-98
- 31 Arnold Jackson, Louisville, 1997-00
- 30 Sherrod Gideon, Southern Miss, 1996-99
- 27 Corey White, UAB, 2003-06
- 26 Vincent Marshall, Houston, 2003-06
- 26 Roddy White, UAB, 2001-04
- 24 Brandon Middleton, Houston, 1999-03
- 24 Adrian Burnette, Tulane, 1997-00
- 22 Todd Pinkston, Southern Miss, 1996-99
- 19 Donnie Avery, Houston, 2004-2007
- 19 Tavares Gideon, Memphis, 2002, 04
- 19 J.R. Russell, Louisville, 2001-04

MOST TOUCHDOWNS

Rice's **Jarett Dillard** enters his senior season with 40 career touchdowns, and needs just seven to move into second place all-time on the C-USA career TD list. Here is a look at the C-USA leaders. Check this section throughout the season to monitor his progress.

- 1. 60 DeAngelo Williams, Memphis, 2002-05
- 2. 46 Kevin Smith, UCF, 2005-07
- 3. 44 Chris Johnson, East Carolina, 2004-07
- 4. 44 Matt Forté, Tulane, 2004-07
- 5. 41 DeMarco McCleskey, Cincinnati, 1998, 00-02
- 6. 40 Jarett Dillard, Rice, 2005-present

TOUCHDOWN PASSES

Rice quarterback **Chase Clement** needs 25 TD passes to become the fifth player in C-USA history with 80 TD passes. Clement tossed 29 TDs a year ago. Check this section throughout the season to monitor his progress.

- 1. 85 Kevin Kolb, Houston, 2003-06
- 2. 84 Chris Redman, Louisville, 1996-99
- 3. 82 Paul Smith, Tulsa, 2005-07
- 4. 81 Danny Wimprine, Memphis, 2001-04
- 5. 78 Gino Guidugli, Cincinnati, 2001-04
- 12. 55 Chase Clement, Rice, 2005-present

MCRATH IS BACK

Southern Miss junior linebacker **Gerald McRath** is a preseason candidate for the Butkus, Lombardi and Nagurski Awards. McRath, the reigning Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year, led the Golden Eagles with 139 tackles last season to go along with 12 tackles for loss, 4.5 sacks, three passes broken up and one forced fumble. For his career, he has tallied 249 career stops, including 23 TFLs and 6.5 sacks. Last season, he tallied seven games in which he recorded 10 or more tackles including a career-best 21 at home against UCF.

SLATE THE GREAT

The tight end position has been a strong position for Marshall for the past two seasons and looks to be as potent as ever in 2008 with the return of the All-Conference USA and Mackey Award candidate **Cody Slate**. He led the Herd with 818 receiving yards and five touchdowns in 2007.

IN THE HUNT

Senior DE **Phillip Hunt** is a member of the Hendricks Award and the Lombardi Award watch lists. Hunt was a one-man wrecking crew on the Cougar defense, as his 10.5 sacks were tops in Conference USA and his 18 tackles for loss ranked second. Hunt was a first-team All-Conference selection and finished with 49 total tackles and a nation's best 10 pass breakups for a defensive lineman.

C-USA QUICK HITS

➤ East Carolina will once again face one of the most challenging schedules in the nation. The Pirates will "host" ACC Champion Virginia Tech in Charlotte to open the season and then welcome Big East Champion West Virginia to Greenville the following week. ECU will visit rival N.C. State on Sept. 20 and travel to Virginia, which is coming off a New Year's Day bowl appearance, on Oct. 11.

➤ Houston sophomore quarterback **Case Keenum** was chosen as the league's Freshman of the Year by both the media and coaches in 2007. Keenum completed 69 percent of his passes for 2,259 yards and 14 touchdowns. He threw for a career high 335 yards in the Texas Bowl. Keenum was named the starter once again for the 2008 season on August 17.

➤ SMU head coach **June Jones** announced that **Bo Levi Mitchell** and **Braden Smith**, both true freshmen, would be the top two quarterbacks on the depth chart to begin the season. **Justin Willis**, a junior who has started 22 of the last 23 games and holds the school record with 51 career touchdown passes, is the third-stringer.

➤ Tulane senior S **David Skehan** returns to the Green Wave in 2008 after finishing 2007 with 66 tackles (39 solo, 27 assist). He led the team with four interceptions and was second on the squad with 10 pass break-ups.

➤ UAB senior PK **Swayze Waters** was a first team All-C-USA selection after finishing the season 22-of-28 on field goal attempts, setting a new UAB single-season record for field goals. Waters was a 2007 Lou Groza Award semifinalist. He also served as the Blazers punter, ranking fourth in C-USA with a 41.4 yards average of 69 kicks.

➤ UTEP sophomore QB **Trevor Vittatoe** had the second-most passing yards among NCAA FBS freshmen, trailing only Oklahoma's Sam Bradford (3,121). Vittatoe was 32nd in passing efficiency (135.87) and 43rd in total offense (247.4).



EAST CAROLINA PIRATES

East Carolina will once again face one of the most challenging schedules in the nation as the Pirates open the season Saturday, Aug. 30 when they "host" ACC Champion No. 15 Virginia Tech in Charlotte. The game will be televised live from Bank of America Stadium by ESPN at Noon ET. ECU is coming off an 8-5 season in which they posted a school-best 6-2 record in C-USA play and capped the season with a thrilling 41-38 win over No. 22 Boise State in the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl. The Pirates closed the year by scoring 30 or more points in six of its last seven C-USA games, and they hope to continue that trend in 2008. Led by QBs **Patrick Pinkney** and **Rob Kass**, the ECU offense will have two signal callers that bring a combination of mobility, speed and arm strength. While Pinkney earned the starting nod at the completion of spring drills, even the thought of possibly forcing opponents to prepare for a two-pronged attack again should be advantageous for ECU. With two winning seasons and a bowl victory in tow, a C-USA title is the ECU's main focus in 2008.

HOUSTON COUGARS

The Cougars will open the **Kevin Sumlin** era at home on Saturday against Southern University. Houston has won its last five home openers at Robertson Stadium. Sophomore QB **Case Keenum** has won the battle to be UH's starting QB. The 2007 C-USA Freshman of the Year went into preseason camp in a battle with junior **Blake Joseph** for the starting nod behind center. The two players split time at QB last season, with Keenum completing 69 percent of his passes for 2,259 yards and 14 touchdowns. Senior DE **Phillip Hunt** is a preseason All-Conference selection and appears on several preseason watch lists for national awards. He led C-USA with 10.5 sacks last season and ranked second in tackles for loss with 18. He added 49 total tackles and a nation's best 10 pass breakups for a defensive lineman. Hunt is one of eight starters that are returning to a unit that is switching from a 3-4 to a 4-3 scheme.

MARSHALL THUNDERING HERD

The Thundering Herd will begin the 2008 campaign at Joan C. Edwards when they host Illinois State Saturday. The contest will be broadcast locally on WOWK at 4:30 p.m. ET. Head coach **Mark Snyder** added new coordinators for both offense and defense for 2008 as **John Shannon** and **Rick Minter** will call the plays on offense and defense, respectively. On offense, Shannon will have the use of nearly all of the team's skill players from 2007, including a stable of running backs led by 2007 C-USA All-Freshman selection **Darius Marshall**. Veterans also abound on the outside as well as Marshall brings back a number of vertical threats including TE **Cody Slate** and WRs **Darius Passmore** and **Emmanuel Spann**. For Minter, the defense defensive line should get a huge boost from the return of 2006 Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year **Albert McClellan** and senior defensive lineman **Montel Glasco**, who were sidelined a year ago with injuries. A stable of talented young players that benefited from significant playing time a year ago, and the return of impact players like All-C-USA selection **C.J. Spillman** at safety and **Maurice Kitchens** at linebacker give the Marshall faithful plenty to be excited about on the defensive side of the ball.

MEMPHIS TIGERS

Memphis opens the season on the road against SEC foe Mississippi on Saturday. In 2008, the Tigers will be looking for their fifth postseason appearance in the last six years and will have some new faces on the sidelines. Head coach **Tommy West** added two new assistant coaches for the 2008 season as **Tim Walton** returns to Memphis as the defensive coordinator and **Lytrell Pollard** joins the squad from C-USA rival Southern Miss to coach Tiger corners. Walton previously coached Tiger DBs from 2000-01 and came to Memphis after serving four seasons on the staff at the University of Miami. Offensive lineman **Brandon Pearce** and WR **Duke Calhoun** were selected to the preseason All-Conference USA Team, as selected by the league coaches. Calhoun, who was named to both the Coaches and Media All-C-USA teams in 2007, led the Tigers with 890 yards on 62 receptions. He enters the 2008 season with an active 24-game receiving streak. **Michael Grandberry** also returns in 2008 as a kick returning threat. Grandberry holds the school record with 1,826 yards on 81 returns.

RICE OWLS

The Owls will host SMU in a nationally-televised season opener on Friday night (7 p.m. CT on ESPN). Rice has won the last two meetings between the schools, by one point last year in Dallas and by four points in Houston in 2006, a postseason showdown game that sent the Owls to its first bowl game in 45 years (the R-L Carriers New Orleans). Rice returns players who accounted for 92% of their school-record offensive explosion in 2007, including all but six of the school-record 377 points they scored last year. Over their last seven games of 2007, Rice averaged 495 yards per game, including an even 700 yards in the finale against Tulsa. Seniors QB **Chase Clement** and WR **Jarett Dillard**, both natives of San Antonio, have combined for 32 touchdown passes, six shy of the NCAA record that was set by Tim Rattay and Troy Edwards of Louisiana Tech and matched last year by Colt Brennan and Davone Bess of Hawaii.

SMU MUSTANGS

The Mustangs will open the **June Jones** era on Friday night at Rice (ESPN, 7 p.m. CT). SMU will be seeking a season-opening victory for the first time since defeating Kansas in the inaugural game at Ford Field in 2000. In 1999, Jones took over a Hawaii team that had gone winless the season before and led the Warriors to nine wins, a share of the WAC Championship and an appearance in the Oahu Bowl. On August 18, Jones announced that true freshmen **Bo Levi Mitchell** and **Braden Smith** had separated themselves and would be the top two quarterbacks heading into the season opener. Senior P/K **Thomas Morstead** enters the season having hit 77 consecutive PATs and boasting an SMU-record 44.3-yard career punting average. Morstead led C-USA with a 44.6 yards per punt average and was named first team All-Conference USA at punter. With 18 career receiving TDs, junior WR **Emmanuel Sanders** enters the season with a good shot at breaking SMU's all-time record of 25.

SOUTHERN MISS GOLDEN EAGLES

The Golden Eagles will open the 2008 season at M.M. Roberts Stadium for the second consecutive season when they host Louisiana-Lafayette on Saturday, August 30 at 6:00 p.m. First-year head coach **Larry Fedora**, considered to be one of the great offensive minds in the game of football today, promises to bring an attack offense as the Golden Eagles unveil its South End Zone Complex. The Eagle's Nest is also a new feature for the stadium on the East Side, which features a new, chairback seating area. The new additions to the program hope to enhance its illustrious history that currently includes 14-straight winning seasons, six consecutive bowl appearances (10 in the last 11 years) and four league championships in the 12-year history of Conference USA. The 2008 Southern Miss squad features the Conference USA preseason Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year in RB **Damion Fletcher** and LB **Gerald McRath**. Overall, the Golden Eagles return five starters on offense and four on defense and have their sights set on another league title in 2008.

TULANE GREEN WAVE

The Green Wave is the only team in Conference USA that does not play this weekend. Tulane will visit No. 24 Alabama on Sept. 6 for its season opener. The defense returns seven starters under new coordinator **O'Neill Gilbert**. Senior S **David Skehan** produced 66 tackles (39 solo) last season, led the team with four interceptions and was second with 10 pass breakups. He missed the beginning of preseason camp as he recovered from a sports hernia injury suffered during the summer. Senior DE **Reggie Scott** recorded four sacks, nine tackles for loss and three forced fumbles in 12 starts last season. Sophomore **Kevin Moore**, who threw for 432 yards and two TDs in parts of eight games last year, was named the Wave's starting quarterback on August 14. Junior RB **Andre Anderson** is scheduled to be the starter to take the place of record-setting rusher **Matt Forte**. A two-year letterwinner, Anderson carried 14 times for 91 yards and one touchdown in 2007. Moore and Anderson will work behind an offensive line that returns four starters, including Lombardi Trophy watch list member **Michael Parenton**.

TULSA GOLDEN HURRICANE

The Golden Hurricane will open the season with a conference game for the first time since 1996 when Tulsa travels to UAB on Saturday afternoon. The Golden Hurricane has won its last two season openers. Tulsa returns nine starters to a unit that led the nation in total offense with an average of 543.9 yards per game. Senior **David Johnson** will take over the reins at quarterback for the record-setting **Paul Smith**, although head coach **Todd Graham** has indicated that **A.J. Whitmore** will also see time under center in the opener. Johnson has seen limited action in his three seasons at TU, completing 41-of-63 passes for 472 yards and two touchdowns. The QB transition will be made easier by the presence of a veteran line and a trio of 1,000-yard receivers in **Brennan Marion**, **Trae Johnson**, and **Charles Clay**. And, the team's leading rushers from the last two years are also back. Senior **Tarrion Adams** rushed for 1,225 yards and caught 30 passes after 2006 starter **Courtney Tennial** was lost with a season-ending Achilles injury.

UAB BLAZERS

UAB kicks off its 2008 season at Legion Field with a C-USA game against Tulsa on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. ET. Head coach **Neil Callaway** finished 2007 with 14 true freshman seeing action, including 12 that were on the field beginning with the season opener. A trio those rookies, **Frantrell Forrest**, **Mario Wright** and **Mike Jones**, all will be back on the field in 2008 and combined for 90 receptions for 1,051 yards and nine touchdowns last season. Forrest finished the campaign with a UAB freshman record 49 receptions for 563 yards with five scores. The Blazers' defensive line featured three freshman starters in 2007 and with the return of two preseason first-team all-conference selections, the Blazers defense should be much improved. Senior **Will Dunbar** has established himself as one of the top defensive players in C-USA at his safety position. He led the conference in tackles per game last season at 12.2. Linebacker **Joe Henderson** also was a coaches' choice for first-team honors in the summer after recording 109 tackles, 9.5 tackles for loss and five sacks in 2007.

UCF KNIGHTS

UCF begins its second season at Bright House Networks Stadium on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. ET as it hosts South Carolina State. The Knights enter the 2008 season in a different role than years before. This time around, the Knights are the hunted. The 2007 edition of the Knights captured the first conference championship in program history with a 44-25 victory over Tulsa in the Bright House Networks Conference USA Championship. **Gary Blackney** will lead the Knights' defensive backs in 2008. Blackney inherits a unit that has four players who have started at least six games in each of their three seasons at UCF. Senior CB **Joe Burnett** headlines the group and enters 2008 ranked second on the UCF career charts with 12 interceptions, which is tied for second among active returning players in the NCAA FBS. Senior OL **Pat Brown** will be the anchor on the offensive. Brown has more starts at left tackle than any player at his position in the country and will be in charge of protecting newly named starting quarterback junior **Michael Greco**.

UTEP MINERS

The Miners were the first C-USA team to open the 2008 season and fell to the Buffalo Bulls in Buffalo, 42-17. After falling behind 14-0 to begin the game, UTEP rallied to tie the game early in the second quarter. Senior RB **Terrell Jackson** got his team on the board first with a one-yard run to cap an 18-play, 80-yard drive. On UTEP's next possession, sophomore QB **Trevor Vittatoe** found classmate TE **Jonny Moore** in the endzone with a short pass to knot the game at 14-14. The Bulls then used a clock eating drive to take a 21-14 lead into halftime and the Miners would get no closer the rest of the contest. Vittatoe finished the game 20-of-37 for 199 yards with the one touchdown toss. Jackson finished with 72 yards on 18 carries, while the Miners notched 98 yards as a team. 2007 Lou Groza Award finalist senior **K Jose Martinez** went 1-for-2 on field goal tries, hitting from 27 yards and missing from 66 yards. UTEP will return to action on Sept. 6 when they host No. 10 Texas at the Sun Bowl.



A GLANCE AT THIS WEEK'S MATCHUPS

UTEP at BUFFALO

Thursday, August 28
7 p.m. (EDT)
All-Time Series:
Television:
Announcers:

Buffalo, New York
UB Stadium (29,013)
First Meeting
Time Warner El Paso
Jon Teicher (PxP), Bernie Ricono (Analyst)

UTEP (4-8, 2-6 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.utepathletics.com
Head Coach: Mike Price (Puget Sound '69)
Career Record: 154-145 (27th year)
Record at UTEP: 25-23 (5th year)
Offense: I-Back
Defense: 3-3-5
Leading Returning Passer: Trevor Vittatoe (224-of-407, 3,101 yds., 25 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Terrell Jackson (39 att., 202 yds., 0 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Jeff Moturi (65 rec., 891 yds., 13 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 6, (10) Texas

Buffalo (5-7, 5-3 in MAC in 2007)

Website: www.buffalobulls.com
Head Coach: Turner Gill (Nebraska '84)
Career Record: 7-17 (3rd year)
Record at UB: 7-17 (3rd year)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: 4-3
Leading Returning Passer: Drew Willy (258-of-377, 2,572 yds., 15 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: James Starks (251 att., 1,103 yds., 12 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Naaman Roosevelt (63 rec., 766 yds., 4 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 6, at (25) Pittsburgh

SMU at RICE

Friday, August 29
7 p.m. (CDT)
All-Time Series:
Last Meeting:
Television:
Announcers:

Houston, Texas
Rice Stadium (47,000)
SMU leads 45-39-1
Rice 43, at SMU 42 (Nov. 10, 2007)
ESPN
Joe Tessitore (PxP), Rodney Gilmore (Analyst)

SMU (1-11, 0-8 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.smumustangs.com
Head Coach: June Jones (N.Y. State Regents College)
Career Record: 75-41 (10th year)
Record at SMU: 0-0 (1st year)
Offense: Run and Shoot
Defense: 4-3
Leading Returning Passer: Justin Willis (242-of-414, 2,944 yds., 25 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Justin Willis (180 att., 699 yds., 3 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Emmanuel Sanders (74 rec., 889 yds., 9 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 6, Texas State

Rice (3-9, 3-5 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.riceowls.com
Head Coach: David Bailiff (Texas State, '81)
Career Record: 24-24 (5th year)
Record at Rice: 3-9 (2nd year)
Offense: Spread
Defense: 4-2-5
Leading Returning Passer: Chase Clement (300-of-508, 3,377 yds., 29 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Chase Clement (144 att., 535 yds., 8 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Jarett Dillard (79 rec., 1,057 yds., 14 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 6, at Memphis (CBS College Sports)

(15) VIRGINIA TECH vs. EAST CAROLINA (CHARLOTTE)

Saturday, August 30
Noon (EDT)
All-Time Series:
Last Meeting:
Television:
Announcers:

Charlotte, North Carolina
Bank of America Stadium (73,298)
Virginia Tech leads 9-4
(9) Virginia Tech 17, East Carolina 7 (Sept. 1, 2007)
ESPN
Dave Pasch (PxP), Andre Ware (Analyst)

Virginia Tech (11-3, 7-1 in ACC in 2007; ACC Champions)

Website: www.hokiesports.com
Head Coach: Frank Beamer (Virginia Tech '69)
Career Record: 209-108-4 (28th year)
Record at VT: 167-85-2 (22nd year)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: 4-3
Leading Returning Passer: Sean Glennon (143-235, 1,796 yds., 12 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Tyrod Taylor (102 att., 429 yds., 6 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Sam Wheeler (15 rec., 211 yds., 1 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: Kansas 24, Virginia Tech 21 (FedEx Orange Bowl)
Next Game: Sept. 6, Furman

East Carolina (8-5, 6-2 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.ecupirates.com
Head Coach: Skip Holtz (Notre Dame, '86)
Career Record: 54-40 (9th year)
Record at ECU: 20-17 (4th year)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: Multiple
Leading Returning Passer: Patrick Pinkney (121-of-200, 1,358 yds., 11 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Patrick Pinkney (79 att., 306 yds., 1 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Jamar Bryant (48 rec., 704 yds., 6 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: ECU 41, (22) Boise State 38 (Sheraton Hawaii Bowl)
Next Game: Sept. 6, (8) West Virginia (ESPN)

TULSA at UAB

Saturday, August 30
3 p.m. (CDT)
All-Time Series:
Last Meeting:

Birmingham, Alabama
Legion Field (72,000)
Tulsa leads 1-0
Tulsa 38, UAB 30 (Sept. 29, 2007)

Tulsa (10-4, 6-2 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.tulsahurricane.com
Head Coach: Todd Graham (West Texas State, '87)
Career Record: 17-10 (3rd year)
Record at Tulsa: 10-4 (2nd year)
Offense: Spread No Huddle
Defense: 3-4
Leading Returning Passer: David Johnson (4-8, 56 yds., 0 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Tarrion Adams (219 att., 1,225 yds., 8 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Trae Johnson (70 rec., 1,088 yds., 13 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: Tulsa 63, UCF 7 (GMAC Bowl)
Next Game: Sept. 6, at North Texas

UAB (2-10, 1-7 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.uabsports.com
Head Coach: Neil Callaway (Alabama '78)
Career Record: 2-10 (2nd year)
Record at UAB: 2-10 (2nd year)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: 4-3
Leading Returning Passer: Joe Webb (65-of-117, 679 yds., 5 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Joe Webb (67 att., 288 yds., 1 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Frantrell Forrest (49 att., 563 yds., 5 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 6, at Florida Atlantic



A GLANCE AT THIS WEEK'S MATCHUPS

ILLINOIS STATE at MARSHALL

Saturday, August 30
 4:30 p.m. (EDT)
 All-Time Series:
 Last Meeting:
 Television:
 Announcers:

Huntington, West Virginia
 Joan C. Edwards Stadium (38,019)
 Marshall leads 3-1
 Marshall 10, Illinois State 3 (Nov. 10, 1984)
 WOWK-TV (Charleston/Huntington)
 TBA (PxP), TBA (Analyst)

Illinois State (4-7, 2-4 in Gateway in 2007)

Website: www.goredbirds.com
 Head Coach: Denver Johnson (Tulsa, '81)
 Career Record: 66-58 (12th year)
 Record at ISU: 45-46 (10th year)
 Offense: Multiple
 Defense: 4-3
 Leading Returning Passer: Kevin Brockway (1-of-1, 15 yds., 0 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Geno Blow (143 att., 776 yds., 8 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Eyad Salem (31 att., 460 yds., 4 TD)
 2007 Postseason: None
 Next Game: Sept. 13, at Murray State

Marshall (3-9, 3-9 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.herdzone.com
 Head Coach: Mark Snyder (Marshall, '88)
 Career Record: 12-23 (4th year)
 Record at Marshall: 12-23 (4th year)
 Offense: Multiple
 Defense: 3-4
 Leading Returning Passer: Brian Anderson (12-28, 94 yds., 0 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Darius Marshall (123 att., 631 yds., 3 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Cody Slate (66 rec., 818 yds., 5 TD)
 2007 Bowl Game: None
 Next Game: Sept. 6, at (12) Wisconsin (Big Ten Network)

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE at UCF

Saturday, August 30
 6:00 p.m. (EDT)
 All-Time Series:

Orlando, Florida
 Bright House Networks Stadium Stadium (45,323)
 First Meeting

South Carolina State (7-4, 6-2 in MEAC in 2007)

Website: www.scsusports.com
 Head Coach: Oliver "Buddy" Pough (S.C. State '75)
 Career Record: 47-21 (7th year)
 Record at SCSU: 47-21 (7th year)
 Offense: Multiple Pro 1
 Defense: Multiple 4
 Leading Returning Passer: Malcolm Long (14-of-34, 273 yds., 3 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: William Ford (210 att., 1,389 yds., 4 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Dustin DuBose (25 rec., 302 yds., 2 TD)
 2007 Postseason: None
 Next Game: Sept. 6, Benedict

UCF (10-4, 7-1 in C-USA in 2007; C-USA Champions)

Website: www.ucfathletics.com
 Head Coach: George O'Leary (New Hampshire '69)
 Career Record: 74-61 (12th year)
 Record at UCF: 22-28-0 (5th year)
 Offense: Multiple
 Defense: Multiple
 Leading Returning Passer: Michael Greco (24-of-45, 303 yds., 0 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Michael Greco (31 att., 128 yds., 2 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Rocky Ross (50 rec., 658 yds., 2 TD)
 2007 Bowl Game: Mississippi State 10, UCF 3 (AutoZone Liberty)
 Next Game: Sept. 6, (19) South Florida (ESPN 2)

SOUTHERN at HOUSTON

Saturday, August 30
 6:00 p.m. (CDT)
 All-Time Series:

Houston, Texas
 O'Quinn Field at Robertson Stadium (32,000)
 First Meeting

Southern (7-3, 5-3 in SWAC in 2007)

Website: www.gojagsports.com
 Head Coach: Pete Richardson (Dayton '68)
 Career Record: 164-6-1 (20th year)
 Record at Southern: 122-52 (16th year)
 Offense: Multiple
 Defense: 4-3
 Leading Returning Passer: C.J. Byrd (31-of-52, 389 yds., 3 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Bryant Lee (27 att., 177 yds., 3 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Del Roberts (21 rec., 187 yds., 1 TD)
 2007 FCS Playoffs: None
 Next Game: Sept. 6, at Tennessee State

Houston (8-5, 5-3 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.uhcougars.com
 Head Coach: Kevin Sumlin (Purdue, '86)
 Career Record: 0-0 (1st year)
 Record at UH: 0-0 (1st year)
 Offense: Multiple
 Defense: 4-3
 Leading Returning Passer: Case Keenum (187-of-273, 2,259 yds., 10 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Terrance Ganaway (109 att., 550 yds., 6 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Mark Hafner (40 rec., 445 yds., 3 TD)
 2007 Bowl Game: TCU 20, Houston 13 (Texas)
 Next Game: Sept. 6, at Oklahoma State

MEMPHIS at MISSISSIPPI

Saturday, August 30
 5 p.m. (CDT)
 All-Time Series:
 Last Meeting:
 Television:

Oxford, Mississippi
 Vaught-Hemingway Stadium (60,580)
 Ole Miss leads 45-10-2
 Ole Miss 23, Memphis 21 (Sept. 1, 2007)
 CSS (Tape Delay - airs on Aug. 31)

Mississippi (3-9, 0-8 in SEC in 2007)

Website: www.olemisssports.com
 Head Coach: Houston Nutt (Oklahoma State '81)
 Career Record: 69-48 (16th year)
 Record at Ole Miss: 0-0 (1st year)
 Offense: Pro Set
 Defense: Multiple 4-3
 Leading Returning Passer: Justin Sparks (1-of-1, 8 yds., 0 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: Dexter McCluster (6 att., 63 yds., 0 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Shay Hodge (43 rec., 593 yds., 6 TD)
 2007 Bowl Game: None
 Next Game: Sept. 6, at (23) Wake Forest

Memphis (7-6, 6-2 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.gotigersgo.com
 Head Coach: Tommy West (Tennessee '75)
 Career Record: 76-79 (14th year)
 Record at Memphis: 41-44 (8th year)
 Offense: No Huddle, Spread
 Defense: 4-3
 Leading Returning Passer: Will Hudgens (52-of-104, 587 yds., 5 TD)
 Leading Returning Rusher: T.J. Pitts (106 att., 481 yds., 1 TD)
 Leading Returning Receiver: Duke Calhoun (62 att., 890 yds., 5 TD)
 2007 Bowl Game: Fla. Atlantic 44, Memphis 27 (New Orleans Bowl)
 Next Game: Sept. 6, Rice (CBS College Sports)



A GLANCE AT THIS WEEK'S MATCHUPS

LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE at SOUTHERN MISS

Saturday, August 30
6:00 p.m. (CDT)
All-Time Series:
Last Meeting:

Hattiesburg, Mississippi
M.M. Roberts Stadium (36,000)
Southern Miss leads 38-11-1
Southern Miss 48, Louisiana-Lafayette 3 (Nov. 1, 2003)

Louisiana-Lafayette (3-9, 3-4 in Sun Belt in 2007)

Website: www.ragincajuns.com
Head Coach: Rickey Bustle (Clemson, '76)
Career Record: 26-44 (7th year)
Record at ULL: 26-44 (7th year)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: Multiple
Leading Returning Passer: Michael Desormeaux (133-of-242, 1,405 yds, 10 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Tyrell Fenroy (180 att., 1,021 yds., 7 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Jason Chery (36 rec., 442 yds., 2 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: None
Next Game: Sept. 13, at (19) Illinois

Southern Miss (7-6, 5-3 in C-USA in 2007)

Website: www.southernmiss.com
Head Coach: Larry Fedora (Austin College '85)
Career Record: 0-0 (1st year)
Record at USM: 0-0 (1st year)
Offense: Spread
Defense: 4-3
Leading Returning Passer: Martevious Young (1-of-1, 2 yds., 0 TD)
Leading Returning Rusher: Damion Fletcher (295 att., 1,586 yds., 15 TD)
Leading Returning Receiver: Torris Magee (44 rec., 632 yds., 3 TD)
2007 Bowl Game: Cincinnati 31, Southern Miss 21 (Papajohns.com)
Next Game: Sept. 6, at (10) Auburn



C-USA BOWL PARTNERS

C-USA BOWL SYNOPSIS

Conference USA has agreements in place with seven different bowl games and is guaranteed a spot in six bowls for the 2008 season.

The AutoZone Liberty Bowl in Memphis will have the first selection of Conference USA teams to face an opponent from the Southeastern Conference in its game. The second selection belongs to the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala., which will pair a C-USA team against an opponent from the Mid-American Conference. The league will also provide teams for the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl, the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, the St. Petersburg Bowl and the Texas Bowl this season.

Conference USA could also earn a seventh bowl spot this season if the Pac-10 is unable to supply a team for the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl. That bowl will be played on December 24 and includes a team from the Western Athletic Conference.

BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

ABOUT THE BCS

The Bowl Championship Series (BCS) is a five-game arrangement for post-season college football that is designed to match the two top-rated teams in a national championship game and to create exciting and competitive matchups between eight other highly regarded teams in four other games. The bowl games participating are the Fiesta Bowl, Orange Bowl, Rose Bowl and Sugar Bowl. In addition, a BCS National Championship Game will be played at one of the bowl sites.

BCS RANKINGS

The BCS Standings, have been compiled by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame since the beginning of the 2000 regular season. The BCS Standings determine which teams play in the National Championship game, and which are included in the pool of eligible teams available for at-large selection. The BCS Standings include the Harris Poll, the USA Today Coaches poll and an average of six computer polls. Each component will count for one-third of a team's overall BCS score in the BCS Standings.



C-USA AND THE BCS

The Conference USA champion (along with the champions of the Mid-American Conference, the Mountain West Conference, the Sun Belt Conference and the Western Athletic Conference) will have an automatic berth in one of the five bowls if it is a Conference Champion; and Either:

*It is ranked in the top 12 of the BCS Standings on Bowl Selection Sunday;

*It is ranked in the top 16 of the BCS Standings on Bowl Selection Sunday, and its ranking in the BCS Standings is better than that of a champion of a Conference that has an annual automatic berth in one of the BCS bowl games.

AUTO ZONE LIBERTY BOWL

The AutoZone Liberty Bowl will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2008...It is the nation's seventh-oldest bowl...Conference USA's representative has won seven of the last 11 Liberty Bowl games...C-USA teams have an all-time record of 10-7 in the game...The game has drawn a crowd of more than 50,000 in each of the last 10 years...In 2008, C-USA will face a team from the SEC in the game for the third-straight year...Over the years the Liberty Bowl has seen legendary coaches such as Paul "Bear" Bryant, Lou Holtz, Johnny Majors and Joe Paterno coach in the game, while outstanding players such as Ernie Davis, Doug Flutie, Bo Jackson, Archie Manning and Randy White have participated in the bowl.



AUTO ZONE LIBERTY BOWL FACTS

Website: www.LibertyBowl.org
 Location: Memphis, Tennessee
 Date: January 2, 2009
 Time: 4:00 p.m. CST
 Stadium: Liberty Bowl Memorial (62,380)
 Network: ESPN
 Opponent: SEC Selection
 Executive Director: Steve Ehrhart
 President: Mike Longo
 Associate Executive Director: Harold Graeter
 Chief Financial Officer: Perry Winstead
 Phone: 901/795-7700
 FAX: 901/795-7826
 Mailing Address: 3767 New Getwell Road
 Memphis, TN 38118

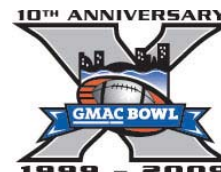
C-USA IN THE LIBERTY BOWL

2007 Mississippi State 10, UCF 3
 2006 South Carolina 44, Houston 36
 2005 Tulsa 31, Fresno State 24
 2004 (7) Louisville 44, Boise State 40
 2003 (25) Utah 17, Southern Miss 0
 2002 TCU 17, (21) Colorado State 3
 2001 (22) Louisville 28, (17) BTU 10
 2000 (23) Colorado State, (22) Louisville 17
 1999 Southern Miss 23, Colorado State 17

1998 Tulane 41, Brigham Young 27
 1997 Southern Miss 41, Pittsburgh 7
 1996 Syracuse 30, Houston 17
 1995 East Carolina 19, Stanford 13
 1994 Illinois 30, East Carolina 0
 1993 Louisville 18, Michigan State 7
 1979 Penn State 9, Tulane 6
 1970 Tulane 17, Colorado 3

GMAC BOWL

Some of the brightest offensive stars have displayed their talents in the first nine years of the GMAC Bowl. Incredibly productive quarterbacks like Paul Smith (Tulsa), Jordan Palmer (UTEP), Dave Ragone (Louisville), Stefan LeFors (Louisville) and David Garrard (East Carolina) have squared off against the likes of Bruce Gradkowski (Toledo), Ben Roethlisberger (Miami-Ohio) and Byron Leftwich (Marshall) in the game. Running backs like TCU's LaDainian Tomlinson and DeAngelo Williams of Memphis have raced down the field at Ladd-Peebles Stadium...East Carolina and Marshall battled in the highest-scoring bowl game in NCAA history in the third annual GMAC Bowl in 2001. No. 25 Marshall rallied from a 38-8 halftime deficit to post a 64-61 win in double-overtime. The teams combined for 1,141 total yards. Last year, Tulsa set an NCAA record for largest winning margin in a bowl game with its 63-7 victory over Bowling Green.



GMAC BOWL FACTS

Website: www.GMACBowl.com
 Location: Mobile, Alabama
 Stadium: Ladd-Peebles Stadium (42,000)
 Date: January 6, 2009
 Time: 7:00 p.m. CST
 Network: ESPN
 Opponent: MAC Selection
 CEO: Mike Gottfried
 President: Jerry Silverstein
 Executive Director: Frank Modarelli
 Media Relations Director: Kelley Wright
 Phone: 251/635-0011
 FAX: 251/635-0014
 Mailing Address: 1100 Hillcrest Road, Suite 115
 Mobile, AL 36695

C-USA IN THE GMAC BOWL

2007 Tulsa 63, Bowling Green 7
 2006 Southern Miss 28, Ohio 7
 2005 Toledo 45, UTEP 13
 2004 Bowling Green 52, Memphis 35
 2003 Miami (Ohio) 48, Louisville 29
 2002 Marshall 38, Louisville 15
 2001 Marshall 64, East Carolina 61 (2ot)
 2000 Southern Miss 28, TCU 21
 1999 TCU 28, East Carolina 14



BELL HELICOPTER ARMED FORCES BOWL

Following a one-year absence, Conference USA will return to the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl...The C-USA representative will face an opponent from the Mountain West Conference in this year's game....Conference USA was a part



of the first four Armed Forces Bowls (known as the Fort Worth Bowl during its first three years)....Tulsa appeared in the game two years ago, losing to Utah....Houston represented C-USA in the 2005 game, falling to Big 12 foe Kansas....The 2004 game featured a matchup of current and future C-USA members as Cincinnati posted a 32-14 win over Marshall in what proved to be the final game for Thundering Herd head coach Bob Pruett, who retired several weeks after the game....The inaugural game in 2003 featured a battle of Top 20 Teams when No. 19 TCU battled No. 16 Boise State. The Broncos won the game, 34-31, in one of the highest scoring games of the 2003-2004 bowl season.

BELL HELICOPTER ARMED FORCES BOWL FACTS

Website: www.ArmedForcesBowl.com
 Location: Fort Worth, Texas
 Date: December 31, 2008
 Time: 11:00 a.m. CST
 Stadium: Amon G. Carter Stadium (44,008)
 Network: ESPN
 Match-Up: Mountain West Conference Selection
 Executive Director: Tom Starr
 Sales and Marketing: Brant Ringle
 Operations: Anne Rector
 Ticket Operations: Trisha Branch
 Phone: 817/810-0012
 FAX: 817/810-0252
 Mailing Address: 505 Main Street, Suite 270
 Fort Worth, TX 76102
 Media Relations Director: Tim Simmons
 Phone: 303/678-8484

C-USA IN THE ARMED FORCES BOWL

2006 Utah 25, Tulsa 13
 2005 Kansas 42, Houston 13
 2004 Cincinnati 32, Marshall 14
 2003 Boise State 34, TCU 31

R+L CARRIERS NEW ORLEANS BOWL

Conference USA will be a part of the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl for the seventh-consecutive season, facing the champion of the Sun Belt Conference...Last season, Memphis made its fourth bowl appearance in five years when it fell to Florida Atlantic... Rice represented C-USA in the 2006 game, ending a 45-year bowl drought, losing to Troy...Southern Miss captured



back-to-back games in 2005 and 2004, defeating Sun Belt Conference Champions Arkansas State and North Texas, respectively....In 2003, Memphis, armed with over 10,000 of its fans, made its first bowl appearance since 1971....The Tigers defeated North Texas, 27-17, to cap off their first nine-win season since 1963....In 2002, C-USA co-champion Cincinnati battled North Texas, dropping a 24-19 decision to the Mean Green....The New Orleans Bowl is played at the Louisiana Superdome, home of Tulane University and site of six Super Bowl games.

R+L CARRIERS NEW ORLEANS BOWL FACTS

Website: www.NewOrleansBowl.org
 Location: New Orleans, La.
 Date: December 21, 2008
 Time: 7:00 p.m. CST
 Stadium: Louisiana Superdome (69,767)
 Network: ESPN
 Opponent: Sun Belt Conference Champion
 President/CEO: Jay Cicero
 Executive Director: Billy Ferrante
 Media Relations Director: Sam Joffray
 Operations Director: Alison Comeaux
 Phone: 504/525-5678
 FAX: 504/529-1622
 Mailing Address: 2020 St. Charles Avenue 4th Floor
 New Orleans, LA 70130

C-USA IN THE NEW ORLEANS BOWL

2007 Florida Atlantic 44, Memphis 27
 2006 Troy 41, Rice 17
 2005 Southern Miss 31, Arkansas State 19 (Lafayette, La.)
 2004 Southern Miss 31, North Texas 10
 2003 Memphis 27, North Texas 17
 2002 North Texas 24, Cincinnati 19

ST. PETERSBURG BOWL

Conference USA has reached an agreement with the St. Petersburg Bowl to provide a team for its annual game beginning with the inaugural 2008 contest. The C-USA representative will play an opponent from the Big East Conference at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg. The inaugural St. Petersburg Bowl will be played this December and will be televised by ESPN or ESPN 2.



The NCAA certified St. Petersburg Bowl will be owned and operated by ESPN Regional Television (ERT), a subsidiary of ESPN. ERT operates five other postseason college football bowls: the Papajohns.com Bowl; the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl; the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl; the Pioneer Las Vegas Bowl and the New Mexico Bowl.

This will be the first time that C-USA has been a part of a bowl game in Florida. The St. Petersburg Bowl will

be the sixth postseason game to take place in the Sunshine State.

ST. PETERSBURG BOWL FACTS

Website: www.StPetersburgBowl.com
 Location: St. Petersburg, Fla.
 Date: December 20, 2000
 Time: 4:30 p.m. EST
 Stadium: Tropicana Field (43,000)
 Network: ESPN 2
 Opponent: Big East Selection
 Executive Director: TBA
 Media Relations Director: TBA

TEXAS BOWL

Conference USA will be a part of the Texas Bowl in Houston for the 2008 and 2009 seasons. Operated by Lone Star Sports & Entertainment, the bowl is played at the state-of-the-art Reliant Stadium, home of the NFL's Houston Texans.



C-USA will face an opponent from the Big 12 Conference in the bowl. Last year, Houston faced old C-USA and Southwest Conference rival TCU in the game, falling 20-13. In the inaugural Texas Bowl in 2006, nationally-ranked Rutgers defeated Kansas State, 37-10, in front of a crowd of 52,210, the largest crowd to watch a bowl game in Houston not involving Texas since 1972.

TEXAS BOWL FACTS

Website: www.TexasBowl.org
 Location: Houston, Texas
 Date: December 30, 2008
 Time: 7:00 p.m. CST
 Stadium: Reliant Stadium (68,000)
 Network: NFL Network
 President: Jamey Rootes
 Event Manager: David Brady
 Marketing Services Manager: Heather Houston
 Media Relations Director: Zac Emmons
 Phone: 832/667-2220
 FAX: 832/667-2057
 Mailing Address: Reliant Stadium, Two Reliant Park
 Houston, TX 77054

C-USA IN THE TEXAS BOWL

2007 TCU 20, Houston 13



INSTANT REPLAY

Conference USA will continue to use an instant replay program implemented in 2005. For 2008, C-USA will use the model adopted by all Division I-A conferences which relies on a replay official (RO) in the press box to both call for the instant replay and have the final decision upon review.

The RO will have access to the referee through a vibrating pager. When the RO feels there is a call that warrants a review and the play is reviewable, he will page the referee.

The referee will kill the clock and announce that a ruling on the field is being reviewed. The RO will then review all aspects of the play and can change the original call or allow it to stand. The RO, as well as the communicator (CO), and technician (at a minimum), will be utilized to insure that all plays are reviewed in an efficient and timely manner.

In addition to the RO having the ability to change a call rather than the referee, the other significant difference to the Conference USA instant replay policy relates to a coaches challenge.

Unlike the 2005 protocol, coaches will be allowed to challenge an on-field ruling once per game. A coach may initiate a challenge by calling a time out (if he has a time out available) and informing the referee prior to the ball being put back in play. If the on-field ruling is reversed, that team's time out will not be charged.

There will be no clock adjustments unless there is a replay reversal on a play that ran time off the clock and, upon further review, the clock would have been stopped. The referee and TA will confirm the correct time and communicate it to the timer.

Instant replay is a very unique situation and there are many aspects to it. Conference USA replay officials, referees and communicators were provided with intensive training at a clinic prior to the start of the season.

C-USA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Conference USA will host its fourth football championship game in 2008. The event is slated for Saturday, December 6, and will be televised by ESPN or ESPN 2.

The team with the highest league winning percentage will serve as host site for the game. The title game will feature champions from the East and West divisions of the league. UCF and Houston have hosted the first three championship games, played in front of record-setting crowds.

Tulsa claimed the C-USA inaugural crown in 2005. In 2007, UCF hosted the game for the second time in three seasons and earned its first championship. Houston claimed the championship game title in 2006. The Knights became the seventh different team to earn the C-USA title since 2002.

C-USA is one of only five Division I-A Conferences that host a football championship game. The ACC, Big 12, SEC and Mid-American conferences currently host football championships.

C-USA TIEBREAKER

Home field for the C-USA Championship Game will be awarded to the team that posts the highest regular season winning percentage against conference competition. The first tiebreaker is the winner of a head-to-head matchup. If the two teams did not play during the regular season, the team with the highest BCS ranking would receive the nod.

C-USA FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Here is a look at the dates and sites for Conference USA's fall championships:

Men's and Women's Cross Country

Date: Nov. 1
Location: Memphis, Tenn.
Host: Memphis

Women's Soccer

Date: Nov. 5-9
Location: Houston, Texas
Host: Rice

Men's Soccer

Date: Nov. 12-16
Location: Dallas, Texas
Host: SMU

Volleyball

Date: Nov. 20-23
Location: Memphis, Tenn.
Host: Memphis



C-USA FOOTBALL FACTS

Below are several facts about Conference USA football teams:

- 121 All-Time Bowl appearances (47 since 1994).
- Since 1995, current C-USA schools have posted at least one non-conference victory over the following foes: Miami (Fla.), Oklahoma, LSU, Alabama, Kansas State, Tennessee, Georgia, Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Clemson, Oklahoma State, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Boise State and West Virginia.
- Since 1997, three schools have finished ranked in the Top 25 in the final poll at least one time (Marshall, Southern Miss and Tulane)
- C-USA schools have finished ranked in the Top 20 of the final AP poll at total of 49 times since the poll began in 1936.
- Since the 2000 season, current C-USA schools have combined to make 225 national television appearances.
- 11 of Conference USA's 12 teams have played in a bowl game in the last six years.
- Houston and Southern Miss have played in more bowl games than any other C-USA schools. Both teams made their 18th bowl appearance last year.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Several C-USA schools are often mis-represented when it comes to the correct spelling and abbreviation of their names. The following is a list of names that seem to cause the most confusion. Please be sure to use the correct spelling when referring to Conference USA schools.

Correct Usage	NEVER USE!!
Conference USA	Conf. USA
C-USA	CUSA
East Carolina Pirates	
Houston Cougars	
Marshall Thundering Herd	Marshall Herd, Herd
Memphis Tigers	
Rice Owls	
SMU Mustangs	Southern Methodist
Southern Miss Golden Eagles	So. Mississippi
	So. Miss (abbreviation)
	USM (stat abbreviation)
Tulane Green Wave	
Tulsa Golden Hurricane	UT, Hurricanes
UAB Blazers	Alabama-Birmingham
	Ala.-Birmingham
UCF Knights	Central Florida
	Central Fla.
	Golden Knights
UTEP Miners	Texas-El Paso



COACHES' TELECONFERENCE

All 12 Conference USA head football coaches will be featured on a teleconference beginning at 2:00 p.m. EDT/1:00 p.m. CDT each Monday during the 2008 season. The first call is scheduled for August 25 and can be accessed by calling (913) 981-5538.

Following is the call schedule for 2008. Please note that a call will **NOT** be held on the following Mondays: Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Oct. 27 and Nov. 10.

SCHEDULE

2:00 EDT/1:00 p.m. CDT	Players of the Week/Notes
2:05 EDT/1:05 p.m. CDT	Skip Holtz, East Carolina
2:12 EDT/1:12 p.m. CDT	Mark Snyder, Marshall
2:19 EDT/1:19 p.m. CDT	George O'Leary, UCF
2:26 EDT/1:26 p.m. CDT	Larry Fedora, Southern Miss
2:33 EDT/1:33 p.m. CDT	Kevin Sumlin, Houston
2:40 EDT/1:40 p.m. CDT	David Baliff, Rice
2:47 EDT/1:47 p.m. CDT	June Jones, SMU
2:54 EDT/1:54 p.m. CDT	Bob Toledo, Tulane
3:01 EDT/2:01 p.m. CDT	Neil Callaway, UAB
3:08 EDT/2:08 p.m. CDT	Todd Graham, Tulsa
3:15 EDT/2:15 p.m. CDT	Mike Price, UTEP
3:22 EDT/2:22 p.m. CDT	Tommy West, Memphis

WEEKLY FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Conference USA is pleased to introduce an exciting new format for getting C-USA football highlights this season, as well as selected highlights for other sports. Conference USA has teamed with DragonFly Athletics, a leading provider of video highlights and content. The web-based platform will provide extensive highlights of C-USA Football throughout the 2008 season.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Establish a DragonFly Athletics account by visiting www.dragonflyathletics.com/cusa where you will be prompted to login.
2. Click on the "REGISTER" link.
3. An E-mail will be sent to you at the E-mail address that you enter to verify your E-mail address.
4. Once your account is verified, you may login at www.dragonflyathletics.com/cusa.
5. After logging-in, enter the "Media Access" credential code "CUSAmedia" in the Credentials.
6. You will now see a list of all video by school throughout the conference.

If you have technical questions, please contact:
Kirk Miller at 205-886-3713

collegepressbox.com

CollegePressBox.com is the official media website for Conference USA football. Access and download weekly game notes, statistics, media guides and more for the conference and each of its 12 member institutions throughout the season. Login information will be distributed by the conference office to accredited media or you can apply for a password by sending an e-mail to: password@collegepressbox.com

PRESS BOX NUMBERS

Here are the press box numbers for each Conference USA school:

East Carolina	(252) 328-4697
Houston	(713) 743-0550
Marshall	(304) 696-6666
Memphis	(901) 272-0136
Rice	(713) 527-0250
SMU	(214) 768-7730
Southern Miss	(601) 266-5523
Tulane	(504) 587-3868
Tulsa	(918) 631-2492
UAB	(205) 327-5228
UCF	(407) 245-0342
UTEP	(915) 747-5154

FLAGSHIP RADIO STATIONS

Below is the flagship radio station for each Conference USA football school:

East Carolina	WSFL-FM 106.5
Houston	KBME-AM 790
Marshall	WDGG-FM 93.7
Memphis	WREC-AM 600
Rice	KSEV-AM 700
SMU	KTCK-AM 1310
Southern Miss	WXRR-FM 104.5
Tulane	WIST-AM 690
Tulsa	KRMG-AM 690
UAB	WYDE-FM 101.1
UCF	WQTM-AM 740
UTEP	KOFX-FM 92.3
	KSVE-AM 1150 (Spanish)

C-USA WEBSITES

Here are the official websites for each Conference USA school:

East Carolina	www.ECUPirates.com
Houston	www.UHCougars.com
Marshall	www.HerdZone.com
Memphis	www.GoTigersGo.com
Rice	www.RiceOwls.com
SMU	www.SMUMustangs.com
Southern Miss	www.SouthernMiss.com
Tulane	www.TulaneGreenWave.com
Tulsa	www.TulsaHurricane.com
UAB	www.UABSports.com
UCF	www.UCFAthletics.com
UTEP	www.UTEPAthletics.com

E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION

Media may contact the Conference USA office by phone (214-774-1300) or e-mail to be included on the league's e-mail lists for releases and information. Please contact Russell Anderson (rdanderson@c-usa.org) or Tod Meisner (tmeisner@c-usa.org) in the conference office with requests or questions.

C-USA FOOTBALL SID CONTACTS

Here is the essential information for each Conference USA football SID:

East Carolina	Tom McClellan
Office Phone:.....	(252) 328-4552
Cell Phone:.....	(252) 414-0990
E-Mail:.....	mccllellan@ecu.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	graym@ecu.edu
Houston	Chris Burkhalter
Office Phone:.....	(713) 743-9409
Cell Phone:.....	(713) 775-1542
E-Mail:.....	cburkha@mail.uh.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	jaconrad@uh.edu
Marshall	Randy Burnside
Office Phone:.....	(304) 696-4660
Cell Phone:.....	(304) 208-0498
E-Mail:.....	burnsid2@marshall.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	wright191@marshall.edu
Memphis	Jennifer Rodrigues
Office Phone:.....	(901) 678-2397
Cell Phone:.....	(901) 734-9951
E-Mail:.....	jmpowers@memphis.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	wkolditz@memphis.edu
Rice	Chuck Pool
Office Phone:.....	(713) 358-5775
Cell Phone:.....	(832) 244-6476
E-Mail:.....	cpool@rice.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	rmears@rice.edu
SMU	Brad Sutton
Office Phone:.....	(214) 768-1651
Cell Phone:.....	(214) 914-8705
E-Mail:.....	bsutton@smu.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	hermanh@smu.edu
Southern Miss	Jack Duggan
Office Phone:.....	(601) 266-6240
Cell Phone:.....	(985) 414-1118
E-Mail:.....	jack.duggan@usm.edu
Tulane	Roger Dunaway
Office Phone:.....	(504) 862-8240
Cell Phone:.....	(504) 452-2906
E-Mail:.....	roger@tulane.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	rweaver@tulane.edu
Tulsa	Don Tomkalski
Office Phone:.....	(918) 631-3200
Cell Phone:.....	(918) 640-0683
E-Mail:.....	donald-tomkalski@utulsa.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	eric-hollier@utulsa.edu
UAB	Norm Reilly
Office Phone:.....	(205) 934-0722
Cell Phone:.....	(205) 936-1793
E-Mail:.....	nreilly@uab.edu
UCF	Leigh Torbin
Office Phone:.....	(407) 823-0994
Cell Phone:.....	(407) 325-5703
E-Mail:.....	ltorbin@athletics.ucf.edu
Secondary E-Mail:.....	joehorn@athletics.ucf.edu
UTEP	Jeff Darby
Office Phone:.....	(915) 747-6652
Cell Phone:.....	(915) 204-0642
E-Mail:.....	jdarby@utep.edu



C-USA EAST SCHEDULES/RESULTS

EAST CAROLINA (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	vs. (15) Virginia Tech	ESPN	12:00 p.m.
S6	(8) WEST VIRGINIA	ESPN 2	4:30 p.m.
S13	at Tulane	WFTN	3:00 p.m.
S20	at North Carolina State		TBA
S27	HOUSTON	ESPN	3:30 p.m.
O11	at Virginia		TBA
O18	MEMPHIS	CSS	Noon
N2	at UCF	ESPN	8:00 p.m.
N8	MARSHALL	ESPN	3:30 p.m.
N15	at Southern Miss		3:00 p.m.
N22	at UAB	CSS	7:00 p.m.
N28	UTEP	ESPN	1:00 p.m.

All Times Eastern

SOUTHERN MISS (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE		6:00 p.m.
S6	at (10) Auburn	RAYCOM Sports	11:30 a.m.
S13	at Arkansas State		6:00 p.m.
S20	MARSHALL	CSS	2:30 p.m.
O4	UTEP		6:00 p.m.
O11	BOISE STATE	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
O18	at Rice		2:00 p.m.
O25	at Memphis	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
N1	UAB	CSS	7:00 p.m.
N8	at UCF		1:00 p.m.
N15	EAST CAROLINA		2:00 p.m.
N29	at SMU		2:00 p.m.

All Times Central

MARSHALL (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	ILLINOIS STATE	West Virginia Media	4:30 p.m.
S6	at (12) WISCONSIN	ESPN	12:00 a.m.
S13	MEMPHIS	CSS	7:00 p.m.
S22	at Southern Miss	CSS	3:30 p.m.
S27	at (8) West Virginia	ESPN PLUS	3:30 p.m.
O3	Cincinnati	ESPN	8:00 p.m.
O18	at UAB		4:00 p.m.
O28	HOUSTON	ESPN 2	8:00 p.m.
N8	at East Carolina	ESPN	3:30 p.m.
N15	UCF	CSS	4:30 p.m.
N22	at Rice		3:00 p.m.
N29	TULSA		3:30 p.m.

All Times Eastern

UAB (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	TULSA		3:00 p.m.
S6	at Florida Atlantic		3:00 p.m.
S13	at (18) Tennessee	RAYCOM Sports	11:30 p.m.
S20	ALABAMA STATE		11:30 p.m.
S27	at South Carolina		TBA
O2	MEMPHIS	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
O9	at Houston	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
O18	MARSHALL		3:00 p.m.
N1	at Southern Miss	CSS	7:00 p.m.
N15	at Tulane		2:00 p.m.
N22	EAST CAROLINA	CSS	6:00 p.m.
N29	at UCF		1:00 p.m.

All Times Central

MEMPHIS (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	at Mississippi		6:00 p.m.
S6	RICE	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
S13	at Marshall	CSS	6:00 p.m.
S20	NICHOLLS STATE		7:00 p.m.
S27	ARKANSAS STATE		1:00 p.m.
O2	at UAB	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
O12	LOUISVILLE	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
O18	at East Carolina	CSS	11:00 a.m.
O25	at SOUTHERN MISS	ESPN	7:00 p.m.
N8	at SMU		2:00 p.m.
N22	UCF		TBA
N29	TULANE		1:00 p.m.

All Times Central

UCF (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	SOUTH CAROLINA STATE		6:00 p.m.
S6	(19) SOUTH FLORIDA	ESPN 2	7:00 p.m.
S20	at Boston College		TBA
S27	at UTEP	ESPN	8:30 p.m.
O4	SMU	ESPN	3:30 p.m.
O11	at Miami (Fla.)		TBA
O26	at Tulsa	ESPN	8:00 p.m.
N2	EAST CAROLINA	ESPN	8:00 p.m.
N8	SOUTHERN MISS		2:00 p.m.
N15	at Marshall	CSS	4:30 p.m.
N22	at Memphis		TBA
N29	UAB		2:00 p.m.

All Times Eastern



C-USA WEST SCHEDULES/RESULTS

HOUSTON (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	SOUTHERN	6:00 p.m.
S6	at Oklahoma State	6:00 p.m.
S13	AIR FORCE	2:30 p.m.
S20	at Colorado State	2:30 p.m.
S27	at East Carolina	2:30 p.m.
O9	UAB	7:00 p.m.
O18	at SMU	7:00 p.m.
O28	at Marshall	7:00 p.m.
N8	TULANE	4:00 p.m.
N15	TULSA	4:00 p.m.
N22	UTEP	4:00 p.m.
N29	at Rice	2:00 p.m.

All Times Central

TULANE (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



S6	at (24) Alabama	6:00 p.m.
S13	EAST CAROLINA	2:00 p.m.
S20	LOUISIANA-MONROE	2:00 p.m.
S25	SMU	7:00 p.m.
O4	ARMY	2:00 p.m.
O11	at UTEP	8:05 p.m.
O25	RICE	2:00 p.m.
N1	at (6) LSU	7:00 p.m.
N8	at Houston	4:00 p.m.
N15	UAB	2:00 p.m.
N22	at Tulsa	2:00 p.m.
N29	at Memphis	1:00 p.m.

All Times Central

RICE (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A29	SMU	7:00 p.m.
S6	at Memphis	7:00 p.m.
S13	at Vanderbilt	6:00 p.m.
S20	at (10) Texas	TBA
S27	NORTH TEXAS	4:00 p.m.
O4	at Tulsa	7:00 p.m.
O18	SOUTHERN MISS	2:00 p.m.
O25	at Tulane	2:00 p.m.
N1	at UTEP	8:05 p.m.
N8	ARMY	2:00 p.m.
N22	MARSHALL	2:00 p.m.
N29	HOUSTON	2:00 p.m.

All Times Central

TULSA (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A30	at UAB	3:00p.m.
S6	at North Texas	6:00 p.m.
S20	NEW MEXICO	6:00 p.m.
S27	CENTRAL ARKANSAS	6:00 p.m.
O4	RICE	7:00 p.m.
O11	at SMU	7:00 p.m.
O18	UTEP	7:00 p.m.
O26	UCF	7:00 p.m.
N1	at Arkansas	1:00 p.m.
N15	at Houston	4:00 p.m.
N22	TULANE	2:00 p.m.
N29	at Marshall	2:00 p.m.

All Times Central

SMU (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A29	at Rice	7:00 p.m.
S6	TEXAS STATE	7:00 p.m.
S13	at (12) Texas Tech	6:00 p.m.
S20	TCU	7:00 p.m.
S25	at Tulane	7:00 p.m.
O4	at UCF	2:30 p.m.
O11	TULSA	7:00 p.m.
O18	HOUSTON	7:00 p.m.
O25	at Navy	2:30 p.m.
N8	MEMPHIS	2:00 p.m.
N15	at UTEP	8:05 p.m.
N29	SOUTHERN MISS	2:00 p.m.

All Times Central

UTEP (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)



A28	at Buffalo	L	17-42	0-1
S6	(10) TEXAS			5:00 p.m.
S20	NEW MEXICO STATE			6:00 p.m.
S27	UCF			7:05 p.m.
O4	at Southern Miss			2:30 p.m.
O11	TULANE			7:05 p.m.
O18	at Tulsa			7:05 p.m.
N1	RICE			7:05 p.m.
N8	at Louisiana-Lafayette			7:05 p.m.
N15	SMU			5:00 p.m.
N22	at Houston			5:30 p.m.
N28	at East Carolina			10:00 a.m.

All Times Mountain



C-USA COMPOSITE SCHEDULE/RESULTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Buffalo 42, UTEP 17

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

SMU at Rice (ESPN) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

(15) Virginia Tech vs. East Carolina (Charlotte/ESPN) 11:00 a.m.

Tulsa at UAB 3:00 p.m.

Illinois State at Marshall (WOWK) 3:30 p.m.

South Carolina State at UCF 5:00 p.m.

Southern at Houston 6:00 p.m.

Memphis at Mississippi 6:00 p.m.

Louisiana-Lafayette at Southern Miss 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Marshall at (12) Wisconsin (Big Ten Network) 11:00 a.m.

Southern Miss at (10) Auburn (Raycom) 11:30 a.m.

UAB at Florida Atlantic 3:00 p.m.

(8) West Virginia at East Carolina (ESPN) 3:30 p.m.

Houston at Oklahoma State 6:00 p.m.

Tulane at (24) Alabama 6:00 p.m.

Tulsa at North Texas 6:00 p.m.

South Florida at UCF (ESPN 2) 6:00 p.m.

Rice at Memphis (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

Texas State at SMU 7:00 p.m.

(10) Texas at UTEP (ESPN 2) 9:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

UAB at (18) Tennessee (Raycom) 11:30 a.m.

East Carolina at Tulane (WITN-TV) 2:00 p.m.

Air Force at Houston 2:30 p.m.

Memphis at Marshall (CSS) 6:00 p.m.

Rice at Vanderbilt 6:00 p.m.

SMU at (12) Texas Tech 6:00 p.m.

Southern Miss at Arkansas State 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Louisiana-Monroe at Tulane (CST) 2:00 p.m.

Houston at Colorado State 2:30 p.m.

Marshall at Southern Miss (CSS) 2:30 p.m.

Alabama State at UAB 3:00 p.m.

Nicholls State at Memphis 7:00 p.m.

TCU at SMU (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

New Mexico at Tulsa 6:00 p.m.

New Mexico State at UTEP 8:05 p.m.

East Carolina at N.C. State TBA

Rice at (10) Texas TBA

UCF at Boston College TBA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

SMU at Tulane (CSB C) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Arkansas State at Memphis 1:00 p.m.

Houston at East Carolina (CBS C) 2:30 p.m.

Marshall at (8) West Virginia 2:30 p.m.

North Texas at Rice 4:00 p.m.

Central Arkansas at Tulsa 6:00 p.m.

UCF at UTEP (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

UAB at South Carolina TBA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Memphis at UAB 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Cincinnati at Marshall (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

Army at Tulane 2:00 p.m.

SMU at UCF (CBS) 2:30 p.m.

UTEP at Southern Miss 6:00 p.m.

Rice at Tulsa (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

UAB at Houston (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Louisville at Memphis (ESPN) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Tulsa at SMU 7:00 p.m.

Boise State at Southern Miss (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

Tulane at UTEP 8:05 p.m.

East Carolina at Virginia TBA

UCF at Miami (Fla.) TBA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Memphis at East Carolina (CSS) 11:00 a.m.

Southern Miss at Rice 2:00 p.m.

Marshall at UAB 3:00 p.m.

Houston at SMU 7:00 p.m.

UTEP at Tulsa (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Rice at Tulane 2:00 p.m.

SMU at Navy (CBS C) 2:30 p.m.

Southern Miss at Memphis (CBS C) 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

UCF at Tulsa (ESPN) 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Houston at Marshall (ESPN 2) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Tulsa at Arkansas 1:00 p.m.

UAB at Southern Miss (CSS) 7:00 p.m.

Tulane at (6) LSU 7:00 p.m.

Rice at UTEP 8:05 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

East Carolina at UCF (ESPN) 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Southern Miss at UCF 1:00 p.m.

Memphis at SMU 2:00 p.m.

Marshall at East Carolina (CBS C) 2:30 p.m.

Tulane at Houston 4:00 p.m.

Army at Rice 2:00 p.m.

UTEP at Louisiana-Lafayette 7:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

East Carolina at Southern Miss 2:00 p.m.

UAB at Tulane 2:00 p.m.

UCF at Marshall (CSS) 3:30 p.m.

Tulsa at Houston 4:00 p.m.

SMU at UTEP 8:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Marshall at Rice 2:00 p.m.

Tulane at Tulsa 2:00 p.m.

East Carolina at UAB (CSS) 3:00 p.m.

UTEP at Houston 4:00 p.m.

UCF at Memphis TBA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

UTEP at East Carolina (CBS C) 12:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Tulane at Memphis 1:00 p.m.

UAB at UCF 1:00 p.m.

Houston at Rice 2:00 p.m.

Southern Miss at SMU 2:00 p.m.

Tulsa at Marshall 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

C-USA Championship Game (ESPN/ESPN 2) TBA

Conference games in bold.

All games and dates subject to change

