

ABOUT CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL

- Conference USA will field 12 teams in 2017, as the league begins its 22nd season: Charlotte, FIU, Florida Atlantic, Louisiana Tech, Marshall, Middle Tennessee, Old Dominion, Rice, Southern Miss, UAB, UTSA and WKU.
- Conference USA finished the 2016 season ranked No. 5 in the RPI after spending much of the season as high as No. 3. The league has been ranked among the top five baseball conferences in eight of the last 11 seasons.
- C-USA has placed at least four teams in the NCAA Championship 10 times in the past 15 years, producing five teams on two occasions. The league placed regular season champion Florida Atlantic, Louisiana Tech, Rice and tournament champion Southern Miss in the 2016 NCAA Field.
- Rice made its 22nd consecutive NCAA Regional appearance in 2016, the fourth-longest active streak in the nation.
- For the second time in league history, C-USA placed four teams in the final polls. Florida Atlantic and Rice spent nearly the entire 2016 season nationally ranked and were joined by Louisiana Tech and Southern Miss in the final rankings.
- Four C-USA teams ranked in the top 32 of the final 2016 RPI rankings, with seven in the top 100.
- Eight Conference USA teams won at least one game against a nationally ranked opponent during the 2016 season.
- C-USA teams posted a total of 19 wins over nationally ranked, non-conference opponents during the 2016 season, including six against top 10 foes.
- Florida Atlantic defeated then-No. 1 Miami (Fla.), 4-3, on April 20, marking the third consecutive year that a C-USA school has posted a win over the nation's top-ranked team. It was the 11th time in league history that a C-USA school has defeated the nation's No.1 ranked squad.
- C-USA played 29 of the teams ranked among the top 50 in the final NCAA RPI rankings, posting wins vs. 20 (as well as nine wins vs. 14 of the top 17). C-USA teams defeated: No. 3 Miami, Fla. (Florida Atlantic), No. 4 Texas A&M (Rice), No. 7 NC State (Old Dominion), No. 9 LSU (Rice), No. 10 Mississippi (Southern Miss), No. 14 Mississippi State (Florida Atlantic), No. 15 Arizona (Rice), No. 16 Vanderbilt (Middle Tennessee), No. 17 Louisiana-Lafayette (Louisiana Tech, Southern Miss), No. 21 Virginia (Old Dominion), No. 24 Dallas Baptist (Rice), No. 26 East Carolina (Rice), No. 28 Wake Forest (Charlotte), No. 36 Ohio State (UAB), No. 38 Sam Houston State (Rice), No. 42 Cal State Fullerton (Louisiana Tech), No. 43 Southeastern Louisiana (Southern Miss), No. 44 Georgia (Charlotte, WKU), No. 45 South Alabama (Middle Tennessee, Southern Miss, WKU) and No. 49 Connecticut (UTSA).
- Four different Conference USA players were honored as 2016 All-Americans, including Florida Atlantic junior SS **CJ Chatham**, Rice junior RHP **Jon Duplantier**, Southern Miss senior 1B **Tim Lynch** and WKU senior 3B **Danny Hudzina**.
- Three C-USA players earned 2016 Freshman All-American honors, including Middle Tennessee OF **Blake Benefield**, Rice SS **Ford Proctor** and Southern Miss RHP **Nick Sandlin**.
- Conference USA had four players that earned National Player of the Week honors in 2016 and one that gained National Player of the Month recognition: Southern Miss 3B **Taylor Braley**, Florida Atlantic RHP **David McKay**, Marshall 3B **Tyler Ratliff** and Middle Tennessee OF **Blake Benefield** each honored weekly awards, while Braley gained a monthly honor.
- Nine players ranked among the top 10 national leaders in the final 2016 NCAA statistics.
- Conference USA had 21 players chosen in the June Major League Baseball Draft, including seven picks in the first 10 rounds. Eight C-USA schools had at least one player selected.
- Eight players from current C-USA schools appeared on the 2016 opening day rosters of Major League Baseball teams.

CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL SCHOOLS

Since its first season in 1996, Conference USA has established itself as a national power. Here are some of the league's accomplishments in its first 21 seasons:

- Six College World Series Appearances
- 67 NCAA Appearances
- Three National Players of the Year
- Three National Freshmen of the Year
- 148 All-Americans
- Schools have combined to win 40 or more games 64 times in the past 13 years
- Has had a team ranked No. 1 in the nation in four different seasons
- Hosted 14 NCAA Regionals and six Super Regionals

The 12 current members of C-USA have also accomplished the following:

- 2003 National Champions - Rice
- 102 all-time NCAA Appearances (70 since 1995)



CHARLOTTE
FIU
FLORIDA ATLANTIC
LOUISIANA TECH
MARSHALL
MIDDLE TENNESSEE
OLD DOMINION
RICE
SOUTHERN MISS
UAB
UTSA
WKU