

## CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL 2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conference USA was the No. 5 ranked baseball conference in 2011, trailing only the SEC, ACC, Big 12 and Pac-10.
- C-USA placed four teams in the 2011 NCAA Championship, the eighth time in 10 years that the league has produced at least four bids.
- Rice made its 17th consecutive NCAA Regional appearance, the fourth-longest active streak in the nation. Southern Miss earned an NCAA Regional bid for the ninth straight year, the 10th-longest current streak. East Carolina played in an NCAA Regional for the 11th time in 13 years and UCF made its 10th all-time NCAA appearance.
- Three teams (East Carolina, Rice and Southern Miss) finished the season nationally-ranked in at least one of the four major polls.
- Four schools (East Carolina, Rice, Southern Miss and UCF) finished the season ranked in the top 27 of the final RPI rankings. Seven of the league's nine schools ranked in the top 77.
- Seven of the nine Conference USA teams won at least one game against a nationally-ranked, non-conference opponent.
- C-USA teams posted a total of 22 wins over nationally-ranked, non-conference opponents during the regular season, including eight against top 10 foes.
- Among the NCAA top 50 RPI teams that C-USA defeated in 2011 were: No. 2 Florida (UCF), No. 3 Virginia (East Carolina), No. 6 Florida State (UCF), No. 9 Texas A&M (Houston, Rice), No. 14 Stanford (Rice), No. 19 Stetson (UCF), No. 20 TCU (Houston), No. 32 Alabama (UAB, UCF), No. 33 Florida International (Rice), No. 37 Connecticut (Southern Miss), No. 39 Kent State (Houston), No. 40 Texas State (Rice), No. 41 Mississippi (Memphis, Southern Miss, Tulane), No. 47 Elon (East Carolina) and No. 50 Troy (UAB)
- Five different Conference USA players were honored as All-Americans, including Memphis junior SS **Chad Zurcher** and Rice junior DH **Anthony Rendon**, who each were on nearly every All-American team. Rice senior LHP **Tony Cingrani**, Southern Miss senior RHP **Todd McInnis** and UCF sophomore DH **D.J. Hicks** were also named to All-American squads.
- Three C-USA players earned Freshman All-American honors, including Rice RHP **Austin Kubitza**, Southern Miss C **Jared Bales** and Tulane RHP **Alex Facundus**.
- Conference USA had a pair of players that earned National Player of the Week honors: Rice freshman RHP **John Simms** and UCF sophomore DH **D.J. Hicks**.
- Ten C-USA players were named to the 2011 Capital One Academic All-District teams, while Memphis SS **Chad Zurcher** and Southern Miss OF **Marc Bourgeois** were both named Academic All-Americans, marking the 11th time in 14 years that C-USA has produced at least one Baseball Academic All-American.
- Four Conference USA schools ranked among the top 25 nationally in average home attendance. All four averaged at least 2,759 fans per game and two other schools topped the 1,100 mark in average home attendance.
- Eleven players and eight teams ranked among the top 10 national leaders in the final 2011 NCAA statistics.
- Conference USA had 38 players chosen in the June Major League Baseball Draft, the-highest total in league history. Eight of the nine C-USA schools had at least one player selected.
- Fourteen players from C-USA schools appeared on the 2011 opening day rosters of Major League Baseball teams, with two more players being called up in the first half of the season.

## CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL SCHOOLS

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

- 12 College World Series Appearances
- 2003 National Champions - Rice
- At least one College World Series team in five of the last seven seasons and nine out of 13.
- 108 NCAA Appearances (69 since 1995)
- Six National Players of the Year since 1995
- Seven National Freshmen of the Year since 1995
- 125 All-Americans since 1995
- Schools have combined to win 40 or more games 57 times in the last 14 years
- Has had a team ranked No. 1 in the nation in four of the last eight regular seasons



EAST CAROLINA  
HOUSTON  
MARSHALL  
MEMPHIS  
RICE  
SOUTHERN MISS  
TULANE  
UAB  
UCF