

2023 STANDINGS

	CUSA LEAGUE PLAY						OVERALL						
	W-L	Pct.	H	A	Pts.	Opp.	W-L	Pct.	H	A	N	Pts	Opp.
Liberty	4-0	1.000	2-0	2-0	123	52	6-0	1.000	3-0	3-0	0-0	212	103
WKU	2-0	1.000	1-0	1-0	66	38	4-2	.667	3-0	1-2	0-0	193	174
Jax State*	3-1	.750	1-1	2-0	110	103	5-2	.714	3-1	2-1	0-0	196	136
New Mexico State	2-1	.667	2-0	0-1	78	63	4-3	.571	3-1	1-2	0-0	210	162
Louisiana Tech	2-2	.500	1-1	1-1	97	93	3-5	.375	2-2	1-3	0-0	213	220
Middle Tennessee	1-2	.333	1-1	0-1	71	99	2-5	.286	2-2	0-3	0-0	155	223
UTEP	1-2	.333	0-1	1-1	51	55	2-5	.286	1-2	1-3	0-0	124	183
Sam Houston*	0-3	.000	0-1	0-2	57	83	0-6	.000	0-2	0-4	0-0	67	148
FIU	0-4	.000	0-2	0-2	54	121	3-4	.429	2-2	1-2	0-0	138	189

* Jax State and Sam Houston are ineligible for the 2023 CUSA Championship Game and bowl games due to their transition from FCS

WEEK 7 RESULTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

MTSU 31, LA Tech 23
Liberty 31, Jax State 13

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

UTEP 27, FIU 14
New Mexico State 27, Sam Houston 13

UPCOMING GAMES (ALL TIMES CT)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

MTSU at Liberty (CBSSN) 6 p.m.
WKU at Jax State (ESPNU) 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

FIU at Sam Houston (CBSSN) 6 p.m.
New Mexico State at UTEP (ESPN2) 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

New Mexico State at LA Tech (CBSSN) 6 p.m.
Liberty at WKU (ESPNU) 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Jax State at FIU (CBSSN) 6 p.m.
UTEP at Sam Houston (ESPN2) 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Kennesaw State at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.
LA Tech at Liberty (CBSSN) 5 p.m.
MTSU at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms) 5 p.m.
WKU at UTEP (ESPN Platforms) 8 p.m.
Jax State at South Carolina TBD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Old Dominion at Liberty (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.
Sam Houston at LA Tech (ESPN Platforms) 2 p.m.
FIU at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.
New Mexico State at WKU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

UMass at Liberty (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.
LA Tech at Jax State (ESPN Platforms) 1 p.m.
UTEP at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 1 p.m.
Sam Houston at WKU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.
FIU at Arkansas TBD
New Mexico State at Auburn TBD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

MTSU at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms) 11 a.m.
WKU at FIU (ESPN Platforms) 2 p.m.
Liberty at UTEP (CBSSN) 2:30 p.m.
Jax State at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms) 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

CUSA Championship (CBSSN) TBD

Conference games in bold.

All times are listed in CT

All dates are subject to change based upon television selections.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK, PRESENTED BY BLENDERS EYEWEAR (WEEK 7)

OFFENSE

QB DIEGO PAVIA, NEW MEXICO STATE

Junior, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Pavia became the first Aggie to record a 100-yard rushing game this season as he totaled 115 yards and a touchdown on the ground in the win over Sam Houston to go along with 286 yards and two touchdowns through the air, accounting for 401 of the Aggies 456 total yards. Pavia became the first Aggie to have over 400 yards of total offense since 2017. On the week, Pavia led CUSA in total offensive yards (401), passing yards (286) and was tied for the most passing touchdowns (two) in Week 7. He also recorded the longest rush of the week and second-longest pass completion of the week among CUSA players. His 115 rushing yards were the second-most among CUSA players on the week.

DEFENSE

DL MAURICE WESTMORELAND, UTEP

Junior, Houston, Texas

Westmoreland recorded career highs in sacks (2.5), tackles for loss (3.5) and total tackles (six), while also adding a quarterback hurry in UTEP's 27-14 victory at FIU on Oct. 11. Westmoreland got to the Panthers' quarterback during the second, third and fourth quarters in the win. Westmoreland, who didn't record a sack last season, leads the team with 4.5 in 2023, while tying for the league lead. The Houston native also is tied for ninth in CUSA with 5.5 tackles for loss on the season. Westmoreland helped lead a defense that registered eight sacks on the night, the most for the Miners since the 2001 season.

SPECIAL TEAMS

P JOSHUA SLOAN, UTEP

Junior, Melbourne, Australia

Sloan booted four punts for 176 yards (an average of 44.0 yards per attempt), which included a career-long 65-yard punt in UTEP's 27-14 win at FIU on Oct. 11. Sloan placed a pair inside the 20 in the win. Sloan ranks third in CUSA at 42.9 yards per punt and the Melbourne, Australia, native ranks fifth in the league with 32 total punts.



QUICK HITTERS

CUSA ADDS FOUR NEW MEMBERS

Conference USA enters 2023 with a new composition, having added four new members - Jacksonville State, Liberty, New Mexico State and Sam Houston.

The quartet brings the 2023 membership to nine teams, joining FIU, Louisiana Tech, Middle Tennessee, UTEP and WKU.

Kennesaw State will join CUSA on July 1, 2024.

A LOOK AT WEEK 8

Eight Conference USA teams are in action in Week 8, as midweek conference matchups continue to take center stage in front of a national television audience with a pair of doubleheaders on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively.

Tuesday night's games get kicked off at 6 p.m. CT, as Middle Tennessee (2-5, 1-2 CUSA) travels to Lynchburg, Virginia, to take on Liberty (6-0, 4-0 CUSA) on **CBS Sports Network**. MTSU won last week, 31-23 at home over Louisiana Tech, to get the Blue Raiders' first league win of the season, while Liberty dispatched of a previously 5-1 Jax State, 31-13, comfortably on the road to remain undefeated.

Speaking of Jax State (5-2, 3-1 CUSA), the Gamecocks remain at home to host WKU (4-2, 2-0 CUSA) at 6:30 p.m. CT on **ESPN**. The Gamecocks fell 31-13 to Liberty last week, and though WKU was off last week, the Hilltoppers knocked off Louisiana Tech 35-28 on the road back on Oct. 5 in Ruston its last time out.

A pair of Wednesday night contests get underway at 6 p.m. in Huntsville, Texas, as Sam Houston (0-6, 0-3 CUSA) is in search of its first win as an FBS program when it welcomes FIU (3-4, 0-4 CUSA) at 6 p.m. CT on **CBS Sports Network**. The Bearcats fell 27-13 on the road last week at New Mexico State, while FIU dropped a home game 27-14 to UTEP. Someone will leave Huntsville with its first conference victory.

The final CUSA game of the week kicks off at 8 p.m. CT on **ESPN2** in the 100th edition of the Battle of I-10 between New Mexico State (4-3, 2-1 CUSA) and UTEP (2-5, 1-2 CUSA) in El Paso at the Sun Bowl. The Aggies defeated Sam Houston 27-13 last week at home, while UTEP picked up a much-needed victory on the road at FIU, 27-14.

2023 ROUND ROBIN SCHEDULE

Conference USA's nine-team configuration in 2023 allows for a true round robin schedule format to decide the participants of the CUSA Championship game on Friday, Dec. 1.

NEW FACES IN CUSA

With four new teams in Conference USA in 2023, that means the league has four new head coaches: **Rich Rodriguez** is in year two at Jacksonville State, **Jamey Chadwell** is in the first year of his tenure at Liberty, **Jerry Kill** is in his second year at New Mexico State and **K.C. Keeler** is in his 10th season at Sam Houston

2023 MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

Conference USA's new television deal with partners CBS Sports Network and ESPN, features a new mid-week scheduling model this fall. 19 CUSA games will

take place on weeknights throughout the month of October, enhancing linear exposure for the league and its programs.

LIBERTY ONE OF 11 UNBEATEN

Liberty (6-0, 4-0 CUSA) is one of just 11 unbeaten teams remaining in the FBS. The Flames, under first-year head coach Jamey Chadwell are atop the Conference USA standings at the midway point of the season, and in contention for the Peer Conference spot in the New Year's Six.

REED ALL ABOUT IT!

WKU **QB Austin Reed** has opened his 2023 season by completing 150-246 passes for 1,665 yards with 14 touchdowns and three interceptions, while also carrying 24 times for 71 yards and three additional scores.

He was 19-34 for 297 yards with three touchdowns and one interception in the Hilltoppers' win on the road at Louisiana Tech on Oct. 5.

Reed enters Week 8 ranked 10th in points responsible per game (17.3), 11th nationally in completions per game (25.00), is tied 15th in passing touchdowns (14), 15th in points responsible for (104), 22nd in passing yards per game (277.5) and 30th in passing yards (1,665), 30th in total offense per game (289.3).

SENSATIONAL SALTER

Liberty **QB Kaidon Salter** has had a tremendous start to his 2023 season for the 6-0 Flames. The sophomore has complete 76-132 passes for 1,353 yards with 14 touchdowns and two interceptions, while also carrying 69 times for 337 yards and six more touchdowns.

He completed 12-21 passes for 177 yards with a pair of touchdowns and no interceptions to go along with 10 carries for 31 yards in a 31-13 league road win at Jacksonville State last week.

Through Week 7 of the season, Salter leads the nation in passing yards per completion (17.80), ranks sixth in points responsible for per game (20.0), sixth in yards per pass attempt (10.25), eighth in passing efficiency (175.6), eighth in total points responsible for (120), 15th in passing touchdowns (14), and 27th in rushing touchdowns (six).

TACKLING MACHINES

Through Week 7 of the season, CUSA boasts three of the top-10 in the country in tackles per game.

3. Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	11.6
4. Tyrice Knight, LB, UTEP	11.7
10. Donovan Manuel, LB, FIU	10.3

WHY THE RUSH?

Liberty enters Week 8 ranking second in the country in rushing offense, averaging 253.5 yards per game, trailing just Air Force for the national lead.

Jax State ranks 15th in FBS at 204.0 yards per game and New Mexico State is 24th at 194.6 yards per game.

HOT TAKE(AWAYS)

Liberty enters Week 8 as the national leader in interceptions, as the Flames have a total of 13 through its first six games of the season. Liberty's 13 turnovers forced is also eighth-best in the nation.

WKU leads the nation in takeaways with 16 (and also ranks 18th nationally with eight interceptions), while Jax State is tied with WKU for the national lead with 16 (and ranks fourth nationally in interceptions with 10).

ON THE (TURNOVER) MARGINS

Entering Week 8 Liberty and WKU are +1.33 in turnover margin, which is tied for fifth nationally, while Jax State is seventh at +1.29 per game. The Gamecocks are +9 for the season, while WKU and Liberty are both +8.

RECOVERY IS KEY

WKU is second in the nation in fumble recoveries entering Week 8, with eight. FIU ranks 24th nationally with five.

MINERS SPOIL VICE NIGHT, BEAT FIU 27-14

UTEP (2-5, 1-2 CUSA) traveled to Miami and spoiled Vice Night, picking up a very much-needed win, 27-14 over FIU (3-4, 0-4 CUSA) on Wednesday night. UTEP raced out to a 21-0 lead in the first quarter and held on to pick up the victory, their first since Week 1 in a win over Incarnate Word. **WR Kelly Akharaiyi** had a career night for the Miners, hauling in eight catches for 223 yards and a pair of touchdowns, while **QB Cade McConnell** completed 11-17 passes for 262 yards in his first career start. Defensively, **DE Praise Amaewhule** became the UTEP program-leader in career sacks, with 21.5 (previous record was 20.0 held by Gonzalo Floyd since 1993). Amaewhule recorded a pair of sacks in the win for the Miners, who picked up their first-ever win in the state of Florida and second-ever in the Eastern Time Zone (now 2-26-1 in program history in that situation). **DE Maurice Westmoreland** had a monster performance as well for UTEP, as he recorded six total tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks and a quarterback hurry.

AGGIES ROLL, ABOVE .500 WITH 27-13 WIN

New Mexico State (4-3, 2-1 CUSA) beat Sam Houston (0-6, 0-3 CUSA) 27-13 at home on Wednesday night to close out the Week 7 CUSA slate. **QB Diego Pavia** had a very productive night for the Aggies, both with his arm and his legs. He completed 20-36 passes for 286 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions, and 15 carries for 115 yards and another score. **WR Trent Hudson** caught three passes for 122 yards and two touchdowns in the win. New Mexico State opened the game with 27 unanswered points and held a 27-0 halftime lead. Sam Houston cut the lead to 27-13 and appeared to be headed for a late fourth quarter touchdown to cut it to a one-score game, but New Mexico State's defense forced a turnover on downs inside the red zone. Defensively, the Aggies were led by **DB Myles Rowser**, who finished with a team-high 10 tackles.

LIBERTY STAYS UNBEATEN, IS BOWL ELIGIBLE

Liberty (6-0, 4-0 CUSA) kept its record unblemished, knocking off Jax State (5-2, 3-1 CUSA) 31-13 on the road Tuesday night to become the first CUSA



QUICK HITTERS

team to reach bowl eligibility. **RB Quinton Cooley** was fantastic for the Flames, showcasing the nation's second-ranked rushing attack. Cooley finished with 28 carries for 163 yards and two touchdowns. **QB Kaidon Salter** was 12-21 for 177 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions, while also carrying 10 times for 31 yards in the win. The Liberty defense now leads the nation in interceptions after Tuesday's pair of picks lifted the Flames to 13 on the season, passing Oklahoma for the FBS lead. **LB Tyren Dupree** finished with a game-high 12 tackles and a pass breakup, while **DB Brylan Green** recorded his CUSA-leading fourth interception of the season, and **DB Kobe Singleton** snagged his third. The Flames are one of 14 unbeaten teams remaining in the FBS, and with a win over Jax State continue to build their resume during their first season as a member of CUSA.

MTSU PICKS UP FIRST CUSA WIN, 31-23

Middle Tennessee (2-5, 1-2 CUSA) picked up a much-needed victory at home Tuesday night over Louisiana Tech (3-5, 2-2 CUSA), 31-23. LA Tech had an opportunity to try and tie things up late, but the Blue Raider defense stood up, forcing a turnover on downs to secure the victory, the team's first since a Sept. 16 win over Murray State, also at home. **QB Nicholas Vattiato** completed 23-29 passes for 248 yards with three total touchdowns (two passing, one rushing) and no interceptions in the win. **WR Holden Willis** had four catches for 103 yards and a touchdown (a key 60-yard score in the fourth quarter). Defensively, **LB Parker Hughes** led the Blue Raiders with nine tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, and a half sack in the win.

NCAA LEADERS (TEAM)

Below is a list of NCAA leaders among Conference USA programs:

3rd Down Conversion Percentage
Liberty 50.0% 13th

3rd Down Conversion Percentage (Defense)
Jax State 32.1% 20th
Liberty 33.3% T-30th

4th Down Conversion Percentage
New Mexico State 75.0% T-11th

4th Down Conversion Percentage (Defense)
Sam Houston 20.0% 4th

Blocked Kicks
MTSU 1 T-27th
New Mexico State 1 T-27th
UTEP 1 T-27th
WKU 1 T-27th

Completion Percentage
MTSU 68.9% 18th

Defensive TDs
WKU 2 7th
FIU 1 T-28th
Jax State 1 T-28th
Liberty 1 T-28th
LA Tech 1 T-28th

First Downs (Defense)
Liberty 107 24th

First Downs (Offense)
LA Tech 158 17th

Fumbles Lost
Sam Houston 1 T-6th

Fumbles Recovered
WKU 8 T-2nd
Jax State 6 T-8th
FIU 5 T-25th

Kickoff Return Defense (yards per return)
LA Tech 11.67 3rd
Liberty 12.22 5th
WKU 15.80 20th

Net Punting
Jax State 41.12 28th

Passes Had Intercepted
Liberty 2 T-6th
Jax State 4 T-29th
WKU 4 T-29th

Passes Intercepted
Liberty 13 1st
Jax State 10 T-4th
WKU 8 T-18th

Passing Offense (yards per game)
WKU 287.8 54th

Passing Yards Allowed (per game)
LA Tech 182.1 18th
Liberty 194.7 28th

Passing Yards Per Completion
Liberty 17.80 2nd
New Mexico State 16.17 4th
FIU 14.68 16th
UTEP 14.42 17th

Punt Return Defense (yards per attempt)
FIU 1.40 14th
Liberty 2.25 18th
Jax State 3.50 T-27th

Red Zone Defense
Liberty 72.2% 19th
FIU 73.1% 23rd

Red Zone Offense
WKU 100% 1st

Rushing Offense (yards per game)
Liberty 253.5 2nd
Jax State 204.0 15th
New Mexico State 194.6 24th

Sacks Allowed (per game)
WKU 0.50 T-2nd
Liberty 1.17 T-19th
Jax State 1.29 T-21st

Scoring Defense (points per game)
Liberty 16.2 T-14th
Jax State 19.4 T-28th

Scoring Offense (points per game)
Liberty 35.3 25th

Tackles for Loss Allowed (per game)
Liberty 3.67 7th
New Mexico State 4.00 15th

Team Passing Efficiency
Liberty 171.74 9th
New Mexico State 168.30 13th

Team Passing Efficiency Defense
Liberty 99.76 6th

Team Sacks (per game)
Jax State 3.43 9th

Team Tackles for Loss (per game)
Jax State 7.9 10th

Time of Possession
Liberty 33:49 5th
UTEP 32:24 13th

Total Defense (yards per game)
Liberty 315.3 21st

Total Offense (yards per game)
Liberty 479.0 14th

Turnover Margin
Liberty +1.33 T-5th
WKU +1.33 T-5th
Jax State +1.29 7th

Turnovers Gained
Jax State 16 T-1st
WKU 16 T-1st
Liberty 15 T-3rd

NCAA LEADERS (INDIVIDUAL)

Below is a list of NCAA leaders among Conference USA individuals:

Combined Kick Returns
Aaron Bedgood, Liberty 268 27th
Smoke Harris, LA Tech 261 30th

Completion Percentage
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU 68.6% 20th

Completions Per Game
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU 25.29 10th
Austin Reed, WKU 25.00 11th

Field Goal Percentage
Lucas Carneiro, WKU 100.0% T-1st
Ethan Albertson, NM State 83.3% 30th

Field Goals Per Game
Ethan Albertson, NM State 1.43 29th

Forced Fumbles (per game)
Kendrick Simpkins, WKU 0.60 1st
Donovan Manuel, FIU 0.57 T-2nd
Jerome Jolly, Jr., Liberty 0.33 T-17th
Kamari Stephens, Jax State 0.33 T-17th

Fumbles Recovered
JaQués Evans, WKU 2 T-3rd
Jeff Marks, Jax State 2 T-3rd

Interceptions
Brylan Green, Liberty 4 T-3rd
CJ Christian, FIU 3 T-12th
Kobe Singleton, Liberty 3 T-12th

Passes Defended (per game)
Willie Roberts, LA Tech 1.4 10th
Brylan Green, Liberty 1.3 11th
Kobe Singleton, Liberty 1.2 22nd

Passing Efficiency
Kaidon Salter, Liberty 175.6 8th
Diego Pavia, NM State 167.0 13th

Passing TDs
Kaidon Salter, Liberty 14 T-15th
Diego Pavia, NM State 14 T-15th
Austin Reed, WKU 14 T-15th



QUICK HITTERS

Passing Yards

Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU	1,824	19th
Austin Reed, WKU	1,665	30th

Passing Yards Per Game

Austin Reed, WKU	277.5	22nd
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Passing Yards Per Completion

Kaidon Salter, Liberty	17.80	1st
Diego Pavia, NM State	15.83	6th
Keyone Jenkins, FIU	15.27	10th

Points Responsible For

Kaidon Salter, Liberty	120	8th
Austin Reed, WKU	104	15th
Diego Pavia, NM State	96	27th

Points Responsible For Per Game

Kaidon Salter, Liberty	20.0	6th
Austin Reed, WKU	17.3	10th

Punt Return TDs

Smoke Harris, LA Tech	1	T-2nd
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Punt Returns (per return)

Dean Patterson, FIU	11.0	19th
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	9.0	26th

Punting

Blake Ochsendorf, LA Tech	45.5	15th
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Receiving TDs

Trent Hudson, NM State	5	T-26th
Malachi Corley, WKU	5	T-26th

Receiving Yards

Kris Mitchell, FIU	636	11th
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	614	17th

Receiving Yards (per game)

Malachi Corley, WKU	107.6	9th
Kris Mitchell, FIU	90.9	18th

Receptions Per Game

Malachi Corley, WKU	7.4	10th
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	7.4	11th

Rushing Yards Per Carry

Quinton Cooley, Liberty	6.04	26th
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Rushing TDs

Logan Smothers, Jax State	6	T-27th
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	6	T-27th

Rushing Yards

Quinton Cooley, Liberty	592	23rd
Malik Jackson, Jax State	578	25th

Rushing Yards Per Game

Quinton Cooley, Liberty	98.7	15th
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Sacks (per game)

Kendrick Simpkins, WKU	0.90	13th
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Solo Tackles (per game)

Tyrice Knight, UTEP	8.0	1st
Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	7.3	2nd
Donovan Manuel, FIU	5.6	T-10th
Tyren Dupree, Liberty	5.0	T-24th

Tackles For Loss (per game)

Donovan Manuel, FIU	1.4	T-17th
Tyrice Knight, UTEP	1.4	T-17th
Brevin Randle, LA Tech	1.3	T-22nd
Kendrick Simpkins, WKU	1.3	27th

Total Offense (per game)

Diego Pavia, NM State	292.0	T-23rd
Austin Reed, WKU	289.3	27th

Total Tackles (per game)

Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	11.8	3rd
Tyrice Knight, UTEP	11.7	4th
Donovan Manuel, FIU	10.3	10th

Yards Per Pass Attempt

Kaidon Salter, Liberty	10.25	6th
Diego Pavia, NM State	9.85	8th
Keyone Jenkins, FIU	8.83	24th

Yards Per Reception

CJ Daniels, Liberty	24.33	2nd
Treon Sibley, Liberty	24.06	5th
Trent Hudson, NM State	20.69	15th
Kelly Akharaiyi, UTEP	20.52	16th
Dean Patterson, FIU	19.27	25th
Jonathan Brady, NM State	21.00	18th

AP TOP 25

Rk	Team	Rec.	Conf.	LW
1	Georgia (43)	7-0	SEC	1
2	Michigan (16)	7-0	B10	2
3	Ohio State (1)	6-0	B10	3
4	Florida State (1)	6-0	ACC	4
5	Washington (2)	6-0	P12	7
6	Oklahoma	6-0	B12	5
7	Penn State	6-0	B10	6
8	Texas	5-1	B12	9
9	Oregon	5-1	P12	8
10	North Carolina	6-0	ACC	12
11	Alabama	6-1	SEC	11
12	Oregon State	6-1	P12	15
13	Ole Miss	5-1	SEC	13
14	Utah	5-1	P12	16
15	Notre Dame	6-2	FBS IND.	21
16	Duke	5-1	ACC	17
17	Tennessee	5-1	SEC	19
18	USC	6-1	P12	10
19	LSU	5-2	SEC	22
20	Missouri	6-1	SEC	NR
21	Louisville	6-1	ACC	14
22	Air Force	6-0	MWC	NR
23	Tulane	5-1	AAC	NR
24	Iowa	6-1	B10	NR
25	UCLA	4-2	P12	18

Others Receiving Votes: James Madison 70, Clemson 35, Florida 12, Washington State 11, Fresno State 6, **Liberty 5**, Kentucky 4, Wyoming 4, Kansas 2, West Virginia 1, Oklahoma State 1, Miami 1.

2023 CUSA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Here's a look at CUSA's players of the week for the 2023 season, as selected by a panel of the league's media members:

Offensive Player of the Week

A28 – WR Smoke Harris, LA Tech
 S4 – WR Kris Mitchell, FIU
 S11 – RB Kejon Owens, FIU
 S18 – QB Kaidon Salter, Liberty
 S25 – QB Kaidon Salter, Liberty
 O2 – QB Logan Smothers, Jax State
 O9 – WR Malachi Corley, WKU
 O16 – QB Diego Pavia, New Mexico State

Defensive Player of the Week

A28 – S Jeremiah Harris, Jax State
 S4 – LB JaQués Evans, WKU
 S11 – LB Tyrice Knight, UTEP
 S18 – LB Sam Brumfield, MTSU
 S25 – DL Chris Hardie, Jax State
 O2 – LB Bryson Washington, WKU

O9 – DL Chris Hardie, Jax State
 O16 – DL Maurice Westmoreland, UTEP

Special Teams Player of the Week

A28 – P Jack Dawson, Jax State
 S4 – K Lucas Carneiro, WKU
 S11 – K Jacob Barnes, LA Tech
 S18 – K Ethan Albertson, New Mexico State
 S25 – P Jack Dawson, Jax State
 O2 – PR Smoke Harris, LA Tech
 O9 – P Max Morgan, Liberty
 O16 – P Joshua Sloan, UTEP

2023 SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Here's a look at CUSA's non-league FBS opponents by conference during the 2023 season:

ACC: none

American: North Texas (2), SMU, South Florida

Big 12: BYU, Houston

Big Ten: Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State

MAC: Bowling Green, Buffalo, Eastern Michigan

Mountain West: Air Force, Colorado State, Hawai'i, New Mexico, UNLV

Pac-12: Arizona

SEC: Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Missouri, South Carolina

Sun Belt: Coastal Carolina, Old Dominion, Troy

Independent: UCONN, UMass (2)

PRESEASON AWARDS

(as selected by the league's nine head coaches)

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Austin Reed, RS Sr., QB, WKU

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

JaQués Evans, Jr., LB, WKU

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Smoke Harris, RS Sr., KR/PR, Louisiana Tech

PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

(as selected by a panel of the league's media)

1. WKU (18)
2. Liberty (4)
3. Middle Tennessee
4. Louisiana Tech
5. New Mexico State
6. UTEP
7. Jacksonville State
8. FIU

Sam Houston
 (First place votes in parentheses)

WATCH THIS!

2023 National watch lists are beginning to make their rounds, and include several CUSA standouts.

AFCA Good Works Team (Community Service)

X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
 Richard Kinley, DE, RS Jr., MTSU
 JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU



QUICK HITTERS/BROADCAST INFORMATION

Athlon Preseason All-American

Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU (Fourth Team)

Bednarik Award (Nation's Best Defensive Player)

Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP
JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU

Biletnikoff Award (Nation's Best Receiver)

Tyrin Smith, WR, Sr., UTEP
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU

Bronko Nagurski Trophy (Nation's Best Defensive Player)

Kendy Charles, DL, Sr., Liberty
Tra Fluellen, S, Sr., MTSU
Praise Amaewhule, DE, RS Sr., UTEP
Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP
JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU

Butkus Award (Nation's Best LB)

Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP
JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU

College Football News Preseason All-American

Teldrick Ross, DB, RS Sr., MTSU (Honorable Mention)
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU (Honorable Mention)
Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU (Honorable Mention)

Dave Campbell's Texas Football All-Texas Team

Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP (First Team)
Markel Perry, DL, GS, Sam Houston (Second Team)
Joshua Sloan, P, Jr., UTEP (Second Team)

Davey O'Brien Award (Nation's Best QB)

Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Doak Walker Award (Nation's Best RB)

Marquis Crosby, RB, RS So., Louisiana Tech
Frank Peasant, RB, Jr., MTSU
Deion Hankins, RB, RS Jr., UTEP
Davion Ervin-Pointdexter, RB, RS Jr., WKU

Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award (Offensive Player of the Year with a Texas Connection)

Grayson James, QB, Jr., FIU
X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
Nate Jones, TE, Jr., Louisiana Tech
Kordell David, WR, RS Jr., New Mexico State
Ife Adeyi, WR, RS Jr., Sam Houston
Deion Hankins, RB, RS Jr., UTEP

East-West Shrine Bowl 1000

Lexington Joseph, RB, Sr., FIU (expected to miss '23)
Donovan Manuel, LB, Sr., FIU
Kolbi Fuqua, S, RS Jr., Jax State
Clay Webb, OL, RS Jr., Jax State
X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
Kobe Singleton, DB, Jr., Liberty
Hank Bachmeier, QB, Sr., Louisiana Tech
Deshon Hall, DL, Sr., Louisiana Tech
Smoke Harris, WR, RS Sr., Louisiana Tech
Willie Roberts, DB, Sr., Louisiana Tech
Tra Fluellen, S, Sr., MTSU
Teldrick Ross, DB, RS Sr., MTSU
Zaylin Wood, DE, RS Jr., MTSU
Ife Adeyi, WR, RS Jr., Sam Houston
Praise Amaewhule, DE, RS Sr., UTEP
Gavin Hardison, QB, RS Sr., UTEP
Elijah Klein, OL, RS Sr., UTEP
Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU
Wes Dorsey, OL, RS Jr., WKU
JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU
Quantavious Leslie, OL, Jr., WKU

John Mackey Award (Nation's Best TE)

Josiah Miamen, TE, Jr., FIU
Sean Brown, TE, RS Jr., Jax State

Lombardi Award (Best OL/DL)

Marley Cook, DL, RS Jr., MTSU

Manning Award (Nation's Best QB)

Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Maxwell Award (Nation's Most Outstanding Player)

Diego Pavia, QB, Sr., New Mexico State
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU
Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Outland Trophy (Nation's Best Interior Lineman)

Kendy Charles, DL, Sr., Liberty
X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
Keyland Rutledge, OL, So., MTSU
Quantavious Leslie, OL, Jr., WKU

Paycom Jim Thorpe Award (Nation's Best DB)

Willie Roberts, DB, Sr., Louisiana Tech
Tra Fluellen, S, Sr., MTSU
Teldrick Ross, DB, RS Sr., MTSU
Upton Stout, DB, RS So., WKU

Phil Steele Preseason All-American

Smoke Harris, AP, RS Sr., Louisiana Tech (First Team)
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU (Fourth Team)

Ray Guy Award (Nation's Best P)

Daton Montie, P, RS Jr., FIU
Joshua Sloan, P, Jr., UTEP

Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

Clay Webb, OL, RS Jr., OL
X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
Kobe Singleton, DB, Jr., Liberty
Devonta Lee, WR, RS Jr., Louisiana Tech
Tra Fluellen, S, Sr., MTSU
Trevor Williams, LB, Gr., Sam Houston
Praise Amaewhule, DE, RS Sr., UTEP
Gavin Hardison, QB, RS Sr., UTEP
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU
Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Rimington Trophy (Nation's Best C)

Andrew Meyer, C, Sr., UTEP

Walter Camp Award (Nation's Most Outstanding Player)

Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Wuerffel Trophy (Community Service)

Jeremy Passmore, DL, RS Jr., FIU
X'Zauvea Gadlin, OL, Sr., Liberty
Abraham Delfin, OL, Gr., Louisiana Tech
Teldrick Ross, DB, RS Sr., MTSU
Canaan Yarro, OL, RS Jr., New Mexico State
Trevor Williams, LB, Gr., Sam Houston
Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU
JaQués Evans, LB, Jr., WKU
Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

WORKING OVERTIME

Here's a look at CUSA overtime games in 2023 and all-time.

2023 CUSA Overtimes

Jax State 35, Sam Houston 28 (OT) - 9/28/2023

Overtime Records 1996-2023

Teams	All Games	CUSA Games
FIU	7-6	2-2
Jax State*	10-8	1-0
Liberty^	8-9	0-0
Louisiana Tech	4-10	2-4
Middle Tennessee	6-6	4-2
New Mexico State	2-5	0-0
Sam Houston*	3-8	0-1
UTEP	6-3	5-3
WKU&	13-5	4-2

* - all but one game as an FCS program

^ - Liberty is 2-1 in OT games since its move to FBS
& - WKU is 8-4 since its move to FBS

CUSA BROADCAST INFORMATION

Conference USA has announced its initial broadcast schedule for the 2023 football season. The current confirmed schedule features games to air nationally by the league's primary partners and every CUSA football game is expected to be available on traditional linear television or streaming via ESPN+.

CUSA games will be available this fall via CBS Sports Network and ESPN Platforms. The majority of these exposures will take place on Saturday, with select Thursday and Friday night telecasts also being featured in addition to the new midweek scheduling model for the month of October.

Some non-conference CUSA games will also be made available as part of other conferences television agreements. Those games will continue to be added to the schedule this fall as part of those agreements.

The 2023 CUSA Championship game, slated for Friday, December 1, will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

Additional Conference USA football broadcast exposures will be released as soon as they are finalized. Please note that all dates and times are subject to change.

ABOUT CBS SPORTS NETWORK

CBS Sports Network, the 24-hour home of CBS Sports, is available through all major cable, satellite and telco distributors as well as via OTT streaming service providers YouTube TV, fuboTV, DirecTV and Hulu. Additionally, a live CBS Sports Network stream is available through CBSSports.com and the CBS Sports App with select providers. For more information, including a full programming schedule, go to www.cbssportsnetwork.com

ABOUT ESPN AND ESPN+

ESPN, Inc. is the leading multinational, multimedia sports entertainment brand featuring the broadest portfolio of multimedia sports assets. Based in Bristol, Conn., ESPN launched on September 7, 1979, and is 80 percent owned by ABC, Inc., an indirect subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company. Hearst holds a 20 percent interest.

ESPN+ is the industry-leading sports streaming service that offers fans in the U.S. thousands of live sports events, original programming not available on ESPN's linear TV or digital networks and exclusive editorial content from dozens of ESPN writers and reporters. Launched in April 2018, ESPN+ has grown to more than 24.3 million subscribers. Fans sign up to ESPN+ for just \$9.99 a month (or \$99.99 per year) at ESPN.com, ESPNplus.com or on the ESPN App (mobile and connected devices).





FOOTBALL

2023 Football Media Release (October 16, 2023)

Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@c-usa.org | 805.551.8648

CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION



2023 CONFERENCE USA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Conference USA will host its 19th annual football championship game in 2023.

The event, slated for Friday, December 1, will be televised by CBS Sports Network. The team with the highest league winning percentage will serve as host site for the game.

The title game will feature the top two finishers in the league's regular season. Eleven different schools have hosted the first 18 championship games.

Year Champion (CUSA Record)

2022	UTSA (8-0)
2021	UTSA (7-1)
2020	UAB (3-1)
2019	Florida Atlantic (7-1)
2018	UAB (7-1)
2017	Florida Atlantic (8-0)
2016	WKU (7-1)
2015	WKU (8-0)
2014	Marshall (7-1)
2013	Rice (7-1)
2012	Tulsa (7-1)
2011	Southern Miss (7-1)
2010	UCF (7-1)
2009	East Carolina (6-2)
2008	East Carolina (6-2)
2007	UCF (7-1)
2006	Houston (7-1)
2005	Tulsa (6-2)

CUSA TIEBREAKER

Home field for the CUSA Championship Game will be awarded to the team that posts the highest regular season winning percentage against conference opposition. The first tiebreaker is the winner of a head-to-head match-up. Additional tiebreakers are in place in the event of a tie of three or more teams.



CONFERENCE USA BOWL PARTNERS

CUSA BOWL SYNOPSIS

Conference USA is in year four the league's six-year cycle of the bowl lineup, concluding with the 2025 season. The conference is guaranteed seven bowl appearances in each year of the cycle and will have associations with up to 16 different bowls.

As part of the new bowl cycle, CUSA will annually send teams to the Bahamas Bowl against a Mid-American Conference opponent, and to the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, against a Sun Belt Conference school. The league has participated in all eight Bahamas Bowls and has placed a team in the New Orleans Bowl 18 times in its first 22 years.

The league continues its relationship with the Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl. CUSA is guaranteed to send a team to the Shreveport, Louisiana-based bowl in 2025, while holding a secondary agreement with the bowl in the other years of the cycle.

CUSA also continues its long-standing relationship with the easypost Hawai'i Bowl. The league is set to participate in the Honolulu-based game in 2024.

The conference's remaining guaranteed selections in the cycle (either four or five per season) will include the 68 Ventures Bowl (Mobile, Alabama) or from among 11 games which are owned and operated by ESPN Events. A backup opportunity also exists for the Quick Lane Bowl after ESPN and/or Independence Bowl slots have been filled.

Guaranteed selections each season:

Hometown Lenders Bahamas Bowl
(Nassau, Bahamas)
www.bahamasbowl.com

R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl
(New Orleans, Louisiana)
www.neworleansbowl.org

Guaranteed selections selected seasons:

Easypost Hawai'i Bowl
(Honolulu, Hawai'i) - 2024
www.thehawaiibowl.com

Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl
(Shreveport, Louisiana) - 2025
www.radiance technologies independence bowl.com

Remaining selections (4-5 per season) from this group:

Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl
(Fort Worth, Texas)
www.armedforcesbowl.com

TicketSmarter Birmingham Bowl
(Birmingham, Alabama)
ticketsmarterbirminghambowl.com

Roofclaim.com Boca Raton Bowl
(Boca Raton, Florida)
thebocaratonbowl.com

Camellia Bowl
(Montgomery, Alabama)
camelliabowl.com

Cure Bowl
(Orlando, Florida)
curebowl.com

Wasabi Fenway Bowl
(Boston, Massachusetts)
mlb.com/redsox/fenway-bowl

SERVPRO First Responder Bowl
(Dallas, Texas)
firstresponderbowl.com

Scooter Coffee Frisco Bowl
(Frisco, Texas)
thefriscobowl.com

Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl
(Tampa, Florida)
gasparillabowl.com

68 Ventures Bowl
(Mobile, Alabama)
68venturesbowl.com

Myrtle Beach Bowl
(Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)
myrtlebeachbowlgame.com

Isleta New Mexico Bowl
(Albuquerque, New Mexico)
newmexicobowl.com

There is no set selection order among C-USA's bowl partners.

CUSA and the College Football Playoff

As a member of the College Football Playoff, Conference USA will be a part of one of the CFP bowls if it produces the highest rated champion from among the American Athletic, CUSA, Mid-American, Mountain West and Sun Belt Conferences.

The Playoff

During the 2014-15 season, college football entered a new era when postseason playoffs began. The format is simple: top four teams, two semifinals played in bowl games, and a national championship game played in a different city each year. Each semifinal will be played during the New Year's holiday with the national championship game in prime time on a Monday night at least a week later.

The Selection Committee

A selection committee will choose the four teams for the playoff based on their performance during the regular season, including, strength of schedule, head-to-head results, championships won, and other factors. The teams will be seeded so that No. 1 will play No. 4 in one semifinal and No. 2 will meet No. 3 in the other, with the two winners advancing to the national championship game.

The Rotation

The semifinals rotate among six different bowls, extending the experience to more fans. In the years when the bowls are not hosting semifinals, the bowls will feature eight other teams in four compelling matchups.

For the 2023-24 season, the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (Dec. 29), Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl (Dec. 30) the Capital One Orange Bowl (Dec. 30) and VRBO Fiesta Bowl (Jan. 1), will host its regular bowl games, while the Rose Bowl (Jan. 1) and Allstate Sugar Bowl (Jan. 1) will host semifinals. The College Football Championship will be held on Monday, Jan. 8 in Houston, Texas.





FOOTBALL

2023 Football Media Release (October 16, 2023)

Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@c-usa.org | 805.551.8648

MEDIA INFORMATION

WEEKLY FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Video highlights from all nine Conference USA Football teams will be available this season through Box, a video exchange service. Each school will update 5 minutes of footage per week by late Monday morning for media outlets to download and use. Schools may also post additional footage at times during the week.

Please contact the CUSA media relations department for more information.

COACHES' TELECONFERENCE

The only scheduled CUSA Coaches teleconference during the 2023 season will be held on Tuesday, November 28, and will feature the head coaches of the two teams participating in the 2023 CUSA Football Championship Game.

Some Conference USA schools will be making their weekly press conferences available to media members via video calls. Please contact each individual school for links and more information.

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.

Statistics are updated on Sundays, weekly releases on Mondays, and press conference quotes on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Please contact Jordan Stepp (jstepp@c-usa.org) or Josh Yonis (jyonis@c-usa.org) in the conference office with requests or questions.

COLLEGE PRESS BOX.COM

collegepressbox is the official media website for Division I football. Access and download game notes, quotes, statistics, media guides, headshots, logos and more for all FBS schools, conferences, postseason games, awards and the College Football Playoff. For access, please register for an account at collegepressbox.com/register.

FLAGSHIP RADIO STATIONS

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

School	Station	Signal	PxP
FIU	WQBA-AM	1140	AJ Ricketts
Jax State	WIJLS	91.9	Mike Parris
Liberty	WRVL-FM	88.3	Alan York
Louisiana Tech			Malcolm Butler
Middle Tenn.	WGNS	100.5, 101.9, 1450 AM	
	WQZQ-FM (Nashville)	93.1	Chip Walters
NM State	KXPZ-FM	91.5	Jack Nixon
Sam Houston	KSAM-FM	101.7	Carlos Zimmerman
UTEP	KLAQ-FM	95.5	
	ESPN Radio	600	Jon Teicher
WKU	WWKU-FM	102.7	Randy Lee

CUSA WEBSITES

Here are the official websites for each CUSA school:

FIU	www.FIUSports.com
Jacksonville State	www.jaxstatesports.com
Liberty	www.libertyflames.com
Louisiana Tech	www.LATechSports.com
Middle Tennessee	www.GoBlueRaiders.com
New Mexico State	www.nmstatesports.com
Sam Houston	www.gobearkats.com
UTEP	www.UTEPathletics.com
WKU	www.WKUSports.com

CUSA X FEEDS

Here are the X feeds for each CUSA school:

FIU	@FIUFootball
Jacksonville State	@JaxStateFB
Liberty	@LibertyFootball
Louisiana Tech	@LATechFB
Middle Tennessee	@MT_FB
New Mexico State	@NMStateFootball
Sam Houston	@BarkatsFB
UTEP	@UTEPFB
WKU	@WKUFootball

WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCES

Here are the weekly schedules for each CUSA school: (schedules subject to change on short weeks)

FIU	Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m. CT
for midweek games	Fridays at 12:00 p.m. CT
Jax State	Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. CT
Liberty	Tuesdays at 7:10 a.m. CT
Louisiana Tech	Tuesdays at 12 p.m. CT
Middle Tennessee	Mondays at 10:30 a.m. CT
New Mexico State	Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. CT
Sam Houston	Mondays at 2 p.m. CT
UTEP	Mondays at 3:30 p.m. CT
WKU	Mondays at 11 a.m. CT

CUSA FOOTBALL SID CONTACTS

Here is the information for each CUSA football SID:

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Middle Tennessee Mark Owens
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New Mexico State Michael Navarrette
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Sam Houston Cody Stark
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UTEP Drew Bonney
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 Cell Phone: (915) 309-4478
 E-Mail: arbonney@utep.edu

WKU Jared MacDonald
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 Secondary E-Mail: jack.todd@wku.edu
 Tertiary E-Mail: scott.swegan@wku.edu



TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES

FIU (3-4, 0-4 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	at LA Tech (CBSSN)	L, 22-17
S2	MAINE (ESPN+)	W, 14-12
S9	NORTH TEXAS (ESPN+)	W, 46-39
S16	at UCONN (CBSSN)	W, 24-17
S23	LIBERTY (ESPN+)	L, 38-6
O4 (Wed.)	at New Mexico State (CBSSN)	L, 34-17
O11 (Wed.)	UTEP (ESPN2)	L, 27-14
O18 (Wed.)	at Sam Houston (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	JAX STATE (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N11	at MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	at Arkansas	TBD
N25	WKU (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

JACKSONVILLE STATE (5-2, 3-1 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	UTEP (CBSSN)	W, 17-14
S2	EAST TENN. STATE (ESPN+)	W, 49-3
S9	at Coastal Carolina (ESPN+)	L, 30-16
S23	EASTERN MICHIGAN (ESPN+)	W, 21-0
S28 (Th.)	at Sam Houston (ESPNU)W, 35-28 (OT)	
O4 (Wed.)	at MTSU (ESPNU)	W, 45-30
O10 (Tues.)	LIBERTY (ESPNU)	L, 31-13
O17 (Tues.)	WKU (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	at FIU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at South Carolina	TBD
N18	LA TECH (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms)	3 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

LOUISIANA TECH (3-5, 2-2 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	FIU (CBSSN)	W, 22-17
S2	at SMU (ESPNU)	L, 38-14
S9	NORTHWESTERN STATE (ESPN+)	W, 51-21
S16	NORTH TEXAS (ESPN+)	L, 40-37
S23	at Nebraska (Big Ten Net)	L, 28-14
S29 (Fri.)	at UTEP (CBSSN)	W, 24-10
O5 (Th.)	WKU (ESPN)	L, 35-28
O10 (Tues.)	at MTSU (CBSSN)	L, 31-23
O24 (Tues.)	NEW MEXICO STATE (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at Liberty (CBSSN)	5 p.m.
N11	SAM HOUSTON (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.
N18	at Jax State (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

LIBERTY (6-0, 4-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	BOWLING GREEN (CBSSN)	W, 34-24
S9	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN+)	W, 33-17
S16	at Buffalo (CBSSN)	W, 55-27
S23	at FIU (ESPN+)	W, 38-6
O5 (Th.)	SAM HOUSTON (CBSSN)	W, 21-16
O10 (Tues.)	at Jax State (ESPNU)	W, 31-13
O17 (Tues.)	MTSU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O24 (Tues.)	at WKU (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
N4	LA TECH (CBSSN)	5 p.m.
N11	OLD DOMINION (ESPN Platforms)	12 p.m.
N18	UMASS (ESPN Platforms)	12 p.m.
N25	at UTEP (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE (2-5, 1-2 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	at No. 4 Alabama (SEC Net)	L, 56-7
S9	at Missouri (SEC Net+)	L, 23-19
S16	MURRAY STATE (ESPN+)	W, 35-14
S23	COLORADO STATE (ESPN+)	L, 31-23
S28 (Th.)	at WKU (CBSSN)	L, 31-10
O4 (Wed.)	JAX STATE (ESPNU)	L, 45-30
O10 (Tues.)	LA TECH (CBSSN)	W, 31-23
O17 (Tues.)	at Liberty (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms)	5 p.m.
N11	FIU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	UTEP (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms)	11 a.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.



TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES

NEW MEXICO STATE (4-3, 2-1 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	UMASS (ESPN)	L, 41-30
S2	WESTERN ILLINOIS (ESPN+)	W, 58-21
S9	at Liberty (ESPN+)	L, 33-17
S16	at New Mexico (MWN)	W, 27-17
S23	at Hawai'i (Spectrum PPV)	L, 20-17
O4 (Wed.)	FIU (CBSSN)	W, 34-17
O11 (Wed.)	SAM HOUSTON (CBSSN)	W, 27-13
O18 (Wed.)	at UTEP (ESPN2)	8 p.m.
O24 (Tues.)	at LA Tech (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	5 p.m.
N11	at WKU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	at Auburn	TBD
N25	JAX STATE (ESPN Platforms)	3 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

UTEP (2-5, 1-2 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	at Jax State (CBSSN)	L, 17-14
S2	INCARNATE WORD (ESPN+)	W, 28-14
S9	at Northwestern (Big Ten Net)	L, 38-7
S16	at Arizona (Pac-12 Net)	L, 31-10
S23	UNLV (ESPN+)	L, 45-28
S29 (Fri.)	LA TECH (CBSSN)	L, 24-10
O11 (Wed.)	at FIU (ESPN2)	W, 27-14
O18 (Wed.)	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN2)	8 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	at Sam Houston (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	WKU (ESPN Platforms)	8 p.m.
N18	at MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	LIBERTY (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.

SAM HOUSTON (0-6, 0-3 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	at BYU (FS1)	L, 14-0
S9	AIR FORCE (CBSSN)*	L, 13-3
S23	at Houston (Big 12 Now)	L, 38-7
S28 (Th.)	JAX STATE (ESPNU)	L, 35-28 (OT)
O5 (Th.)	at Liberty (CBSSN)	L, 21-16
O11 (Wed.)	at New Mexico State (CBSSN)	L, 27-13
O18 (Wed.)	FIU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	UTEP (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	KENNESAW STATE (ESPN Platforms)	12 p.m.
N11	at LA Tech (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.
N18	at WKU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N25	MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	11 a.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.
* - game to be played at NRG Stadium in Houston

WKU (4-2, 2-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	SOUTH FLORIDA (CBSSN)	W, 41-24
S9	HOUSTON CHRISTIAN (ESPN+)	W, 52-22
S16	at No. 6 Ohio State (FOX)	L, 63-10
S23	at Troy (ESPNU)	L, 27-24
S28 (Th.)	MTSU (CBSSN)	W, 31-10
O5 (Th.)	at LA Tech (ESPN)	W, 35-28
O17 (Tues.)	at Jax State (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
O24 (Tues.)	LIBERTY (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
N4	at UTEP (ESPN Platforms)	8 p.m.
N11	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	SAM HOUSTON (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N25	at FIU (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.

All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.





FOOTBALL

2023 Football Media Release (October 16, 2023)

Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@c-usa.org | 805.551.8648

COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

Jax State 17, UTEP 14

UMass 41, New Mexico State 30

LA Tech 22, FIU 17

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

SMU 38, LA Tech 14

Liberty 34, Bowling Green 24

Jax State 49, East Tennessee State 3

WKU 41, South Florida 24

FIU 14, Maine 12

No. 4 Alabama 56, MTSU 7

UTEP 28, Incarnate Word 14

New Mexico State 58, Western Illinois 21

BYU 14, Sam Houston 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Northwestern 38, UTEP 7

Liberty 33, New Mexico State 17

FIU 46, North Texas 39

Missouri 23, MTSU 19

WKU 52, Houston Christian 22

LA Tech 51, Northwestern State 21

Air Force 13, Sam Houston 3

Coastal Carolina 30, Jax State 16

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Liberty 55, Buffalo 27

FIU 24, UConn 17

No. 6 Ohio State 63, WKU 10

MTSU 35, Murray State 14

North Texas 40, LA Tech 37

New Mexico State 27, New Mexico 17

Arizona 31, UTEP 10

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Troy 27, WKU 24

Nebraska 28, LA Tech 14

Jax State 21, Eastern Michigan 0

Liberty 38, FIU 6

Colorado State 31, MTSU 23

Houston 38, Sam Houston 7

UNLV, 45 UTEP 28

Hawai'i 20, New Mexico State 17

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

WKU 31, MTSU 10

Jax State 35, Sam Houston 28 (OT)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

LA Tech 24, UTEP 10

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Jax State 45, MTSU 30

New Mexico State 34, FIU 17

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

Liberty 21, Sam Houston 16

WKU 35, LA Tech 28

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

MTSU 31, LA Tech 23

Liberty 31, Jax State 13

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

UTEP 27, FIU 14

New Mexico State 27, Sam Houston 13

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

MTSU at Liberty (CBSSN) 6 p.m.

WKU at Jax State (ESPNU) 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

FIU at Sam Houston (CBSSN) 6 p.m.

New Mexico State at UTEP (ESPN2) 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

New Mexico State at LA Tech (CBSSN) 6 p.m.

Liberty at WKU (ESPNU) 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Jax State at FIU (CBSSN) 6 p.m.

UTEP at Sam Houston (ESPN2) 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Kennesaw State at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.

LA Tech at Liberty (CBSSN) 5 p.m.

MTSU at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms) 5 p.m.

WKU at UTEP (ESPN Platforms) 8 p.m.

Jax State at South Carolina TBD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Old Dominion at Liberty (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.

Sam Houston at LA Tech (ESPN Platforms) 2 p.m.

FIU at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.

New Mexico State at WKU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

UMass at Liberty (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m.

LA Tech at Jax State (ESPN Platforms) 1 p.m.

UTEP at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 1 p.m.

Sam Houston at WKU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m.

FIU at Arkansas TBD

New Mexico State at Auburn TBD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

MTSU at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms) 11 a.m.

WKU at FIU (ESPN Platforms) 2 p.m.

Liberty at UTEP (CBSSN) 2:30 p.m.

Jax State at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforms) 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

CUSA Championship (CBSSN) TBD

Conference games in bold.

All times are listed in CT

All dates are subject to change based upon television selections.

