

2023 STANDINGS

	CUSA LEAGUE PLAY						OVERALL						
	W-L	Pct.	H	A	Pts.	Opp.	W-L	Pct.	H	A	N	Pts.	Opp.
Liberty	5-0	1.000	3-0	2-0	165	87	7-0	1.000	4-0	3-0	0-0	254	138
Jax State*	4-1	.800	2-1	2-0	130	120	6-2	.750	4-1	2-1	0-0	216	153
New Mexico State	3-1	.750	2-0	1-1	106	70	5-3	.625	3-1	2-2	0-0	238	169
WKU	2-1	.667	1-0	1-1	83	58	4-3	.571	3-0	1-3	0-0	210	194
Louisiana Tech	2-2	.500	1-1	1-1	97	93	3-5	.375	2-2	1-3	0-0	213	220
Middle Tennessee	1-3	.250	1-1	0-2	106	141	2-6	.250	2-2	0-4	0-0	190	265
UTEP	1-3	.250	0-2	1-1	58	83	2-6	.250	1-3	1-3	0-0	131	211
FIU	1-4	.200	0-2	1-2	87	148	4-4	.500	2-2	2-2	0-0	171	216
Sam Houston*	0-4	.000	0-2	0-2	84	116	0-7	.000	0-3	0-4	0-0	94	181

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

WEEK 8 RESULTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Liberty 42, MTSU 35
Jax State 20, WKU 17

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

FIU 33, Sam Houston 27 (2OT)
New Mexico State 28, UTEP 7

UPCOMING GAMES (ALL TIMES CT)

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

Jax State at South Carolina (ESPNU) 11 a.m.
Kennesaw State at Sam Houston (ESPN+) 12 p.m.
LA Tech at Liberty (CBSSN) 5 p.m.
MTSU at New Mexico State (ESPN+) 5 p.m.
WKU at UTEP (ESPN+) 8 p.m.

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 8)

OFFENSE

QB ZION WEBB, JAX STATE

Redshirt Senior, Phenix City, Alabama

Webb rebounded from a slow start against CUSA preseason favorite WKU and ended up leading the Gamecocks to a come-from-behind 20-17 win over the Hilltoppers on Tuesday night. He ran for a career-high 146 yards and a touchdown on 28 carries, while also throwing for 218 yards on 22-for-39 passing to account for a career-high 364 yards of total offense. Trailing 17-10 with less than nine minutes to play, the Phenix City, Alabama, native orchestrated two scoring drives: an 11-play, 91-yard touchdown drive to tie the game with 4:40 to play and a 10-play, 45-yard drive that ended with the game-winning field goal as time expired.

DEFENSE

LB REGGIE PETERSON, FIU

Junior, Fort Pierce, Florida

Peterson recorded a game-high 10 tackles (nine solo) and registered his second career interception, which he returned for 61 yards in FIU's 33-27 double-overtime win at Sam Houston on Wednesday night. The Fort Pierce, Florida, native now has three games with nine or more tackles this season and a pair with 10 or more.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K ALEN KARAJIC, JAX STATE

Junior, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Karajic was the hero in Jax State's come-from-behind 20-17 win over WKU, making a 41-yard field goal as time expired to win the game. He was 2-for-2 on field goals in the game, making the 41-yard winner and a 23-yarder in the second quarter, while also making both of his extra point attempts. The Chattanooga, Tennessee, native's winner was the first game-winning field goal as time expired by a Gamecock since Griffin Thomas beat Chattanooga in 2012, and was the longest game-winning field goal by a Gamecock since Thomas made a 44-yarder to beat Tennessee State in 2012.



QUICK HITTERS

CUSA'S FOUR NEW MEMBERS

Conference USA entered 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 9

Eight Conference USA teams are in action in Week 9, as midweek conference matchups wrap up in front of a national television audience with a pair of double-headers on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively.

Tuesday night's games kick off at 6 p.m. CT, as New Mexico State (5-3, 3-1 CUSA) travels to Ruston, Louisiana, to take on LA Tech (3-5, 2-2 CUSA) on **CBS Sports Network**. The Aggies were dominant in their 28-7 rivalry win over UTEP in El Paso last week, while LA Tech was off this past week. The Bulldogs fell 31-23 at MTSU its last time out, on Oct. 10.

WKU (4-3, 2-1 CUSA) hosts undefeated Liberty (7-0, 5-0 CUSA) at 6:30 p.m. CT on **ESPN**. WKU dropped a difficult decision on the road last week, 20-17 as time expired at Jax State, while Liberty beat MTSU 42-35 at home to remain one of nine unbeaten teams in the FBS. Liberty can clinch a spot in the CUSA Championship Game with a win on Tuesday.

A pair of Wednesday night contests get underway at 6 p.m. in Miami as FIU (4-4, 1-4 CUSA) hosts Jax State (6-2, 4-1 CUSA) on **CBS Sports Network**. The Panthers are coming off a thrilling 33-27 double-overtime win at Sam Houston last week, while Jax State upended WKU at home, 20-17.

The final CUSA game of the week kicks off at 7 p.m. CT on **ESPN2** as Sam Houston (0-7, 0-4 CUSA) welcomes UTEP (2-6, 1-3 CUSA) to Huntsville, Texas. The Bearkats dropped a heartbreaker in double overtime last week at home, 33-27, while UTEP lost its rivalry game at home against New Mexico State, 28-7.

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

LIBERTY ONE OF NINE UNBEATEN

Liberty (7-0, 5-0 CUSA) is one of just nine unbeaten teams remaining in the FBS. The Flames, under first-year head coach **Jamey Chadwell**, are atop the Conference USA standings, and are in contention for the Peer Conference spot in the New Year's Six.

SENSATIONAL SALTER

Liberty **QB Kaidon Salter** has had a tremendous start to his 2023 season for the 7-0 Flames. The sophomore has completed 88-152 passes for 1,493 yards with 16 touchdowns and three interceptions, while also carrying 85 times for 497 yards and six more touchdowns.

He completed 12-20 passes for 140 yards with a pair of touchdowns and no interceptions to go along with 16 carries for 160 yards in a 42-35 league win over Middle Tennessee last week.

Through Week 8 of the season, Salter leads the nation in passing yards per completion (16.97), ranks fifth in points responsible for per game (18.9), fifth in total points responsible for (120), sixth in yards per pass attempt (9.82), sixth among QBs in rushing yardage (497), ninth in passing efficiency (171.2), 12th in passing touchdowns (16).

REED ALL ABOUT IT!

Through seven games in 2023, WKU **QB Austin Reed** has completed 174-294 passes for 1,915 yards with 16 touchdowns and four interceptions, while also carrying 26 times for 89 yards and three additional scores.

He was 24-48 for 250 yards with two touchdowns and one interception in the Hilltoppers' loss on the road at Jax State.

Reed enters Week 9 tied for 12th nationally in passing touchdowns (16), ranked 13th in completions per game (25.00), 14th in points responsible per game (16.6), 19th in points responsible for (116), 22nd in passing yards (1,915), 2 in passing yards per game (277.5) and 30th in total offense per game (289.3).

PROLIFIC PAVIA

Entering Week 9 of the season, New Mexico State **QB Diego Pavia** has been electric for the 5-3 Aggies. Pavia is 117-189 for 1,801 yards with 16 passing touchdowns and five interceptions. He has also carried 89 times for 527 yards and four more rushing scores.

He was 15-25 for 186 yards with two touchdowns and carried 14 times for 96 yards and two more scores in a rivalry win over UTEP in El Paso.

Pavia through eight games ranks sixth in FBS in passing yards per completion (15.39), eighth in yards per pass attempt (9.53), 12th in passing touchdowns (16th), 13th in passing efficiency (164.6), 14th in points responsible for (120), 24th in total offense (290.8) and 25th in yards per carry (5.92). Among QBs, Pavia is third in rushing yardage (527).

TACKLING MACHINES

Through Week 8 of the season, CUSA boasts four of the top-25 in the country in tackles per game.

3. Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	12.1
5. Tyrice Knight, LB, UTEP	11.2
21. Donovan Manuel, LB, FIU	9.9
23. Tyren Dupree, LB, Liberty	9.3

WHY THE RUSH?

Liberty enters Week 9 ranking second in the country in rushing offense, averaging 274.6 yards per game, trailing just Air Force for the national lead.

Jax State ranks 13th in FBS at 211.2 yards per game and New Mexico State is 17th at 201.9 yards per game.

HOT TAKE(AWAYS)

Liberty enters Week 9 as the national leader in interceptions, as the Flames have a total of 15 through its first seven games of the season. Liberty's 18 turnovers forced is also second-best in the nation.

WKU is tied for second in the nation in takeaways with 18 (and also ranks 14th nationally with nine interceptions), while Jax State is tied with WKU for the national lead with 16 (and ranks fifth nationally in interceptions with 11).

ON THE (TURNOVER) MARGINS

Entering Week 9 Liberty and WKU are +1.29 in turnover margin, which is tied for third nationally, while Jax State is 11th at +1.00 per game. The Gamecocks are +8 for the season, while WKU and Liberty are both +9.

RECOVERY IS KEY

WKU is second in the nation in fumble recoveries entering Week 9, with nine. FIU ranks 30th nationally with five.

FIU PICKS UP DOUBLE OT WIN

FIU (4-4, 1-4 CUSA) picked up its first league win on the season, 33-27 in double overtime at Sam Houston (0-7, 0-4 CUSA) on Wednesday night in Huntsville, Texas. The Panthers snapped a three-game skid, and took one step closer to bowl eligibility with four games remaining. FIU's fourth win matches its win total from 2022 and the win marked FIU's first in league play since Oct. 28, 2022, against LA Tech (spanning eight games). FIU trailed 20-17 after a Sam Houston field goal with 1:24 left and drove 42 yards to hit the game-tying 36-yard field goal by **Chase Gabriel** to force overtime. **QB Keyone Jenkins** scrambled for 23 yards on a fourth-and-18 to help keep the drive alive. Jenkins completed 26-38 passes for 190 yards with a touchdown and also ran for 25 yards and another score. **WR Kris Mitchell** caught eight passes for 75 yards and what turned out to be the winning touchdown in double overtime (a 25-yard strike from Jenkins on the first play of the series). FIU's defense then recorded a fourth down sack (**DL Jack Daly**) to secure the victory. **LB Reggie Peterson** led the Panthers with 10 tackles (nine solo) and an interception in the win. Sam Houston **QB Keegan Shoemaker** was 31-47 for 306 yards and two touchdowns and an interception in a losing effort.

AGGIES WIN 100th BATTLE OF I-10

The final CUSA game of the week, the 100th edition of the Battle of I-10 saw New Mexico State (5-3, 3-1 CUSA) knock off UTEP (2-6, 1-3 CUSA) 28-7 in El Paso at the Sun Bowl Wednesday night. New Mexico State was led offensively by **QB Diego Pavia**, who completed 15-25 passes for 186 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions, while also carrying 14 times for 96 yards and two more scores and



QUICK HITTERS

RB Monte Watkins, who carried 10 times for 109 yards in the win. Defensively, **DB Jordan Vincent** led the team in tackles with eight, to go along with a pass breakup. New Mexico State outscored the Miners 21-0 in the second half to secure the rivalry win. The Aggies have now won four of the past six meetings with UTEP, but this marked their first win since 2019.

FLAMES RISE TO 7-0, BEAT MTSU

Liberty (7-0, 5-0 CUSA) remained undefeated on Tuesday night, knocking off MTSU (2-6, 1-3 CUSA) in a 42-35 thriller in Lynchburg, Virginia. The Flames entered Week 8 as one of just 11 undefeated teams in the country, and are receiving votes in both the AP Top 25 and USA Today Coaches Poll. **QB Kaidon Salter** bounced back from an interception on the first play from scrimmage to total 300 yards of total offense. He completed 12-20 passes for 140 yards with two touchdowns and was the team's leading rusher with 160 yards on 16 carries. The Flames, who entered the day ranking second in the country in rushing offense (253.5 yards per game) ran for 401 on Tuesday night. In addition to Salter, **RB Quinton Cooley** was also over the century mark, carrying 24 times for 134 yards and three touchdowns in the win. Over the past two games, Cooley has combined for 297 yards and five touchdowns on 52 carries (5.7 yards per carry). Defensively, Liberty forced three turnovers, including a pair of interceptions to give them a nation-leading 15 on the season. **DB Bryan Green** had one of those, his fifth on the year, which moves him into a tie for the national lead. Additionally, **LB Tyren Dupree** recorded 12 tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss and a sack in the victory.

CARDIAC GAMECOCKS KNOCK OFF WKU

Jax State (6-2, 4-1 CUSA) continued its impressive debut season at the FBS level and CUSA with a 20-17 win at home against WKU (4-3, 2-1 CUSA) on Tuesday night, as **K Alen Karajic** made a 41-yard field goal as time expired, lifting the Gamecocks, who came back after trailing 17-7 to pick up the win. Jax State was led offensively by **QB Zion Webb**, who completed 22-39 passes for 218 yards and carried 28 times for 149 yards and a score in the win. Jax State outgained WKU 487-339 on the day, and the defense held WKU scoreless in the second half. **CB Derek Carter** tied for the team lead in tackles on Tuesday night with eight, and also broke up three passes in the win. Jax State is now 15-4 under head coach **Rich Rodriguez** since he took over ahead of 2022.

WEEKDAY CUSA HAS BEEN ENTHRALLING

In Conference USA's first season with a midweek October schedule on national television, 11 of the 15 games that have been played in this window have been decided by two scores or less, while seven of those have been one-score games.

NCAA LEADERS (TEAM)

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

3rd Down Conversion Percentage
Liberty 49.4% 16th

3rd Down Conversion Percentage (Defense)
Jax State 33.1% 29th

4th Down Conversion Percentage
New Mexico State 75.0% T-12th

4th Down Conversion Percentage (Defense)
Liberty 36.8% 26th

Blocked Kicks
UTEP 2 T-7th
FIU 1 T-30th
MTSU 1 T-30th
New Mexico State 1 T-30th
Sam Houston 1 T-30th
WKU 1 T-30th

Completion Percentage
MTSU 68.4% 21st

Defensive TDs
WKU 2 7th

Fewest Penalties
WKU 32 15th

Fewest Penalties Per Game
WKU 4.57 16th

Fewest Penalty Yards
WKU 267 14th

Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game
WKU 38.14 15th

First Downs (Offense)
Jax State 167 T-27th
Liberty 167 T-27th

Fumbles Lost
Sam Houston 1 T-5th

Fumbles Recovered
WKU 9 T-2nd
Jax State 6 T-18th

Kickoff Return Defense (yards per return)
LA Tech 11.67 3rd
Liberty 12.47 5th
WKU 15.80 18th

Passes Had Intercepted
Liberty 3 T-8th

Passes Intercepted
Liberty 15 1st
Jax State 11 T-5th
WKU 9 T-13th

Passing Offense (yards per game)
WKU 282.4 30th

Passing Yards Allowed (per game)
LA Tech 182.1 16th

Passing Yards Per Completion
Liberty 16.97 2nd
New Mexico State 15.70 3rd
UTEP 14.10 19th

Punt Return Defense (yards per attempt)
FIU 1.43 13th
Liberty 2.25 16th
Jax State 3.50 T-27th
New Mexico State 3.67 30th

Punt Returns (yards per attempt)
MTSU 12.38 26th
FIU 12.30 28th

Red Zone Defense
New Mexico State 74.2% T-24th

Red Zone Offense
WKU 100% T-1st

Rushing Offense (yards per game)
Liberty 274.6 2nd
Jax State 211.2 13th
New Mexico State 201.9 18th

Sacks Allowed (per game)
WKU 0.57 T-2nd
Liberty 1.00 T-12th

Scoring Defense (points per game)
Liberty 18.9 T-13th
Jax State 19.1 T-25th

Scoring Offense (points per game)
Liberty 36.3 15th

Tackles for Loss Allowed (per game)
Liberty 3.43 5th
WKU 4.43 T-24th
New Mexico State 4.50 T-28th

Team Passing Efficiency
Liberty 167.88 10th
New Mexico State 165.84 13th

Team Passing Efficiency Defense
Liberty 109.75 13th

Team Sacks (per game)
Jax State 3.12 T-19th

Team Tackles for Loss (per game)
Jax State 7.2 T-18th

Time of Possession
Liberty 34:19 2nd
UTEP 32:04 21st

Total Offense (yards per game)
Liberty 487.9 9th

Turnover Margin
Liberty +1.29 T-3rd
WKU +1.29 T-3rd
Jax State +1.00 T-11th

Turnovers Gained
Liberty 18 T-2nd
WKU 18 T-2nd
Jax State 17 4th

NCAA LEADERS (INDIVIDUAL)

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

Combined Kick Returns
Aaron Bedgood, Liberty 344 21st

Completion Percentage
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU 68.1% 20th

Completions Per Game
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU 25.12 12th
Austin Reed, WKU 24.86 13th

Field Goal Percentage
Lucas Carneiro, WKU 100.0% T-1st

Forced Fumbles (per game)
Donovan Manuel, FIU 0.50 T-3rd
Kendrick Simpkins, WKU 0.50 T-3rd
Kobe Hylton, UTEP 0.33 T-15th
Kamari Stephens, Jax State 0.29 T-21st
Jerome Jolly, Jr., Liberty 0.29 T-21st

Fumbles Recovered
JaQués Evans, WKU 2 T-5th
Jeff Marks, Jax State 2 T-5th



QUICK HITTERS

Interceptions			
Brylan Green, Liberty	5	T-5th	
CJ Christian, FIU	3	T-14th	
Kobe Singleton, Liberty	3	T-14th	

Passes Defended (per game)			
Willie Roberts, LA Tech	1.4	11th	
Brylan Green, Liberty	1.3	14th	

Passing Efficiency			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	171.2	9th	
Diego Pavia, NM State	164.6	13th	

Passing TDs			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	16	T-12th	
Diego Pavia, NM State	16	T-12th	
Austin Reed, WKU	16	T-12th	

Passing Yards			
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU	2,156	11th	
Austin Reed, WKU	1,915	22nd	

Passing Yards Per Game			
Austin Reed, WKU	273.6	24th	
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU	269.5	29th	

Passing Yards Per Completion			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	16.97	1st	
Diego Pavia, NM State	15.39	6th	
Keyone Jenkins, FIU	13.57	21st	

Points Responsible For			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	132	5th	
Diego Pavia, NM State	120	14th	
Austin Reed, WKU	116	19th	
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU	108	29th	

Points Responsible For Per Game			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	18.9	5th	
Austin Reed, WKU	16.6	14th	

Punt Return TDs			
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	1	T-2nd	

Punt Returns (per return)			
Dean Patterson, FIU	12.3	13th	
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	9.0	22nd	

Punting			
Blake Ochsendorf, LA Tech	45.5	13th	

Receiving Yards			
Kris Mitchell, FIU	711	11th	
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	614	23rd	

Receiving Yards (per game)			
Malachi Corley, WKU	97.5	11th	
Kris Mitchell, FIU	88.9	20th	

Receptions Per Game			
Smoke Harris, LA Tech	7.4	9th	
Malachi Corley, WKU	7.2	11th	

Rushing Yards Per Carry			
Quinton Cooley, Liberty	5.95	24th	
Diego Pavia, NM State	5.90	25th	

Rushing Yards			
Quinton Cooley, Liberty	726	14th	

Rushing Yards Per Game			
Quinton Cooley, Liberty	103.7	13th	

Sacks (per game)			
Kendrick Simpkins, WKU	0.75	23rd	

Solo Tackles (per game)			
Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	7.9	1st	
Tyrice Knight, UTEP	7.2	1st	

Donovan Manuel, FIU	5.4	13th	
Tyren Dupree, Liberty	5.0	22nd	

Tackles For Loss (per game)			
Donovan Manuel, FIU	1.4	T-14th	
Brevin Randle, LA Tech	1.3	T-22nd	
Tyrice Knight, UTEP	1.3	T-20th	
Kendrick Simpkins, WKU	1.2	26th	

Total Offense (per game)			
Diego Pavia, NM State	290.8	24th	
Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU	290.4	25th	
Austin Reed, WKU	286.3	29th	

Total Tackles (per game)			
Trevor Williams, Sam Houston	12.1	3rd	
Tyrice Knight, UTEP	11.2	5th	
Donovan Manuel, FIU	9.9	21st	
Tyren Dupree, Liberty	9.3	23rd	

Yards Per Pass Attempt			
Kaidon Salter, Liberty	9.82	6th	
Diego Pavia, NM State	9.53	8th	

Yards Per Reception			
Treon Sibley, Liberty	24.06	4th	
CJ Daniels, Liberty	21.21	9th	
Trent Hudson, NM State	20.69	11th	
Kelly Akharaiyi, UTEP	19.96	14th	

AP TOP 25

Rk	Team	Rec.	Conf.	LW
1	Georgia (38)	7-0	SEC	1
2	Michigan (19)	8-0	B10	2
3	Ohio State (3)	7-0	B10	3
4	Florida State (3)	7-0	ACC	4
5	Washington	7-0	P12	5
6	Oklahoma	7-0	B12	6
7	Texas	6-1	B12	8
8	Oregon	6-1	P12	9
9	Alabama	7-1	SEC	11
10	Penn State	6-1	B10	7
11	Oregon State	6-1	P12	12
12	Ole Miss	6-1	SEC	13
13	Utah	6-1	P12	14
14	Notre Dame	6-2	FBS IND.	15
15	LSU	6-2	SEC	19
16	Missouri	7-1	SEC	20
17	North Carolina	6-1	ACC	10
18	Louisville	6-1	ACC	21
19	Air Force	7-0	MWC	22
20	Duke	5-2	ACC	16
21	Tennessee	5-2	SEC	17
22	Tulane	6-1	AAC	23
23	UCLA	5-2	P12	25
24	USC	6-2	P12	18
25	James Madison	7-0	SUNBELT	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Florida 34, Liberty 17, Kansas State 16, Miami (FL) 12, Fresno State 8, Oklahoma State 5, Toledo 3, Kentucky 2, Rutgers 2, UNLV 1, Wisconsin 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
 O23 - QB Zion Webb, Jax 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
 O23 - LB Reggie Peterson, FIU

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
 O23 - K Alen Karajic, Jax State

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)

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

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)

Kris Mitchell, WR, Jr., FIU
 Tyrin Smith, WR, Sr., UTEP
 Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU





FOOTBALL

2023 Football Media Release (October 23, 2023)

Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@conferenceusa.com | 805.551.8648

QUICK HITTERS/BROADCAST INFORMATION

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)

Kaidon Salter, QB, So., Liberty
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
FIU 33, Sam Houston 27 (2OT) - 10/18/2023

Overtime Records 1996-2023

Teams	All Games	CUSA Games
FIU	8-6	3-2
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%	3-9	0-2
UTEP	6-3	5-3
WKU&	13-5	4-2

* - all but one game as an FCS program

% - all but two games 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).





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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.





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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	@BearthatsFB
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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Jacksonville State Josh Underwood
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 Cell Phone: (256) 453-0545
 E-Mail: underwood@jsu.edu

Liberty Todd Wetmore
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Louisiana Tech Hunter Corneliusen
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Middle Tennessee Mark Owens
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 Cell Phone: (615) 631-9520
 E-Mail: MarkR.Owens@mtsu.edu

New Mexico State Michael Navarrette
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 Cell Phone: (915) 525-8627
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 Secondary E-Mail: jopiela@nmsu.edu

Sam Houston Cody Stark
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 E-Mail: cstark@shsu.edu

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 (4-4, 1-4 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)	W, 33-27 (2OT)
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.

LIBERTY (7-0, 5-0 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)	W, 42-35
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.

JACKSONVILLE STATE (6-2, 4-1 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)	W, 20-17
O25 (Wed.)	at FIU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at South Carolina (ESPNU)	11 a.m.
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.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE (2-6, 1-3 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)	L, 42-35
N4	at New Mexico State (ESPN+)	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.

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.



TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES

NEW MEXICO STATE (5-3, 3-1 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)	W, 28-7
O24 (Tues.)	at LA Tech (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	MTSU (ESPN+)	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 (2-6, 1-3 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)	L, 28-7
O25 (Wed.)	at Sam Houston (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	WKU (ESPN+)	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 (0-7, 0-4 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)	L, 33-27 (2OT)
O25 (Wed.)	UTEP (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	KENNESAW STATE (ESPN+)	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 (4-3, 2-1 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)	L, 20-17
O24 (Tues.)	LIBERTY (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
N4	at UTEP (ESPN+)	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.

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FOOTBALL

2023 Football Media Release (October 23, 2023)

Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@conferenceusa.com | 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

Liberty 42, MTSU 35

Jax State 20, WKU 17

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

FIU 33, Sam Houston 27 (2OT)

New Mexico State 28, UTEP 7

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

Jax State at South Carolina (ESPNU) 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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.

