BIG SKY FOOTBALL NOTES

2025 SEASON • SEMIFINALS

2025 BIG SKY FOOTBALL STANDINGS

	CONF	CONF%	OVR	OVR%	PF-PA	HOME	AWAY	STREAK
Montana State$*	8-0	1.000	12-2	.857	523-247	8-1	4-1	W8/W12
Montana *	7-1	.875	13-1	.929	592-333	9-1	4-0	L1/W2
UC Davis *	6-2	.750	9-4	.692	421-392	5-2	4-2	W1/L1
Sacramento State	5-3	.625	7-5	.583	405-315	4-2	3-3	L1/L1
Idaho State	5-3	.625	6-6	.500	396-327	3-2	3-4	W4/W4
Northern Arizona	4-4	.500	7-5	.583	380-375	4-2	3-3	L1/L1
Eastern Washington	4-4	.500	5-7	.417	281-362	4-1	1-6	L1/L1
Cal Poly	2-6	.250	4-8	.333	330-378	2-3	2-5	W1/W1
Idaho	2-6	.250	4-8	.333	302-317	3-3	1-5	L3/L3
Northern Colorado	2-6	.250	4-8	.333	243-341	2-3	2-5	W1/W1
Weber State	2-6	.250	4-8	.333	277-460	2-3	2-5	W1/W1
Portland State	1-7	.125	1-11	.083	194-512	0-5	1-6	L3/L3

*$ - Big Sky Champion & AQ for FCS Playoffs // * - FCS Playoff berth*

WEEKLY NEWS & NOTES

#2 Montana State vs. #3 Montana
Saturday, Dec. 20 at 2:00 p.m. MT (ABC)
For the first time ever, Montana and Montana State will face off in the FCS Playoffs, marking the 125th meeting for the two programs which first met in 1897. Saturday's semifinal game will also mark the first time in over a century the two teams have faced off twice in the same season, with the rivals playing twice in the 1913, 1912, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1899, and 1898 seasons.

The Griz and Bobcats met less than a month ago in Missoula, with Montana State upending previously undefeated Montana 31-28 on the road to win the Brawl of the Wild and the Big Sky title. The road win was the first for either team in the series since 2018.

This Saturday's matchup will move to Bozeman as the two fight for a trip to Nashville and a berth to the FCS National Championship Game.

Montana leads the all-time series 74-44-5, but Montana State holds a 7-2 record in the last nine meetings, including a two-game win streak over the rival Grizzlies.

Both teams punched their tickets to the semifinals with blowout wins last week, as Montana State topped Stephen F. Austin 44-28, and Montana downing South Dakota 52-22.

With a win on Saturday, Montana State would secure its third trip to a national title game since 2021 and the fourth appearance overall for the program, while Montana would earn its first trip since the 2023 season and ninth overall.

With the FCS National Championship Game moving to Nashville this season, the title game returns to the Volunteer State for the first time since 2009. The championship was held in Chattanooga from 1997-2009, with Montana earning five trips to the final as they were the only Big Sky team to reach the title game during that 13-game stretch in Chattanooga.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS & UPCOMING BIG SKY GAMES

FCS PLAYOFFS // SECOND ROUND

Saturday, Dec. 6	Location
#3 Montana 50, #14 South Dakota State 29	Missoula, MT
#2 Montana State 21, Yale 13	Bozeman, MT
#8 UC Davis 47, #9 Rhode Island 26	Davis, CA

FCS PLAYOFFS // QUARTERFINALS

Friday, Dec. 12	Location
#2 Montana State 44, #7 Stephen F. Austin 28	Bozeman, MT

Saturday, Dec. 13	Location
#3 Montana 52, #11 South Dakota 22	Missoula, MT
Illinois State 42, #8 UC Davis 31	Davis, CA

FCS PLAYOFFS // SEMIFINALS

Saturday, Dec. 20	TV (Time (MT))
#3 Montana at #2 Montana State	ABC (2:00 p.m.)

#Rankings are FCS Playoff Seeds

2025 FCS PLAYOFF BRACKET

First Round	Second Round	Quarterfinals	Semifinals	Final
November 29	December 6	December 12/13	December 20	January 5
ESPN+				

1 *North Dakota St. (12-0)
Illinois St. (8-4)
1 p.m.
16 *Southeastern La. (9-3)
Illinois St. 21-3
1 p.m. - ESPN+
Illinois St. 29-28

8 *UC Davis (8-3)
Central Conn. St. (8-4)
Noon
9 *Rhode Island (10-2)
Rhode Island 27-19
10 p.m. - ESPN2
*UC Davis 47-26

Saturday, December 13
5 p.m. - ESPN+
Illinois St. 42-31

5 *Lehigh (12-0)
Harvard (9-1)
Noon
12 *Villanova (9-2)
Villanova 52-7
Noon - ESPN+
Villanova 14-7

4 *Tarleton St. (11-1)
North Dakota (7-5)
1 p.m.
13 *Tennessee Tech (11-1)
North Dakota 31-6
1 p.m. - ESPN+
*Tarleton St. 31-13

Saturday, December 13
Noon - ESPN
*Villanova 26-21

7:30 p.m. - ESPN2

3 *Montana (11-1)
New Hampshire (8-4)
1 p.m.
14 *South Dakota St. (8-4)
South Dakota St. 41-3
2 p.m. - ESPN+
*Montana 50-29

6 *Mercer (9-2)
Drake (8-3)
1 p.m.
11 *South Dakota (8-4)
South Dakota 38-17
Noon - ESPN+
South Dakota 47-0

Saturday, December 13
3:30 p.m. - ABC
Montana 52-22

7 *SFA (10-2)
Lamar University (8-4)
1 p.m.
10 *Abilene Christian (8-4)
Abilene Christian 38-20
2 p.m. - ESPN+
SFA 41-34

2 *Montana St. (10-2)
Yale (8-2)
Noon
15 *Youngstown St. (8-4)
Yale 43-42
2 p.m. - ESPN+
*Montana St. 21-13

Friday, December 12
9 p.m. - ESPN
*Montana St. 44-28

4 p.m. - ABC

FirstBank Stadium
Nashville, TN
7:30 p.m.
ESPN

NATIONAL CHAMPION

NCAA 2026 DI FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP NASHVILLE

* Host Institution
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BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Big Sky Playoff History
Since expanding the field to 24 teams in 2013, the Big Sky Conference has sent 48 teams to the FCS Playoffs. Overall, 10 of the Big Sky's current 12 football members have made at least one FCS Playoff appearance since 2015. Montana State, Montana, and UC Davis were awarded national seeds for the 2025 FCS Playoffs, with the Bobcats getting the No. 2 slot, the Griz earning the No. 3, and the Aggies getting the No. 8 spot. All three teams had a bye for the first round of the playoffs.

Year	Field Size/Seeds	Big Sky Bids	Big Sky Teams in Playoffs (# National Seed)
2025	24/16	3	#2 Montana State, #3 Montana, #8 UC Davis
2024	24/16	5	#1 Montana State, #5 UC Davis, #8 Idaho, #14 Montana, NAU
2023	24/8	4	#2 Montana, #4 Idaho, #6 Montana State, Sac State
2022	24/8	5	#2 Sac State, #4 Montana State, Weber State, Idaho, Montana
2021	24/8	5	#4 Sac State, #6 Montana, #8 Montana State, Eastern Washington, UC Davis
2020	16/4	2	Eastern Washington, Weber State
2019	24/8	4	#3 Weber State, #4 Sac State, #5 Montana State, #6 Montana
2018	24/8	4	#2 Weber State, #3 Eastern Washington, #6 UC Davis, Montana State
2017	24/8	3	#8 Southern Utah, NAU, Weber State
2016	24/8	3	#2 Eastern Washington, Cal Poly, Weber State
2015	24/8	3	#6 Portland State, Montana, Southern Utah
2014	24/8	3	#4 Eastern Washington, Montana, Montana State
2013	24/8	4	#3 Eastern Washington, #8 Montana, NAU, Southern Utah
2012	20/5	3	#2 Eastern Washington, #3 Montana State, Cal Poly
2011	20/5	2	#4 Montana, Montana State
2010	20/5	2	#4 Montana State, #5 Eastern Washington
2009	16/4	3	#1 Montana, Eastern Washington, Weber State
2008	16/4	2	#4 Montana, Weber State
2007	16/4	2	#3 Montana, Eastern Washington
2006	16/4	2	#2 Montana, Montana State
2005	16/4	2	Montana, Eastern Washington
2004	16/4	2	Montana, Eastern Washington
2003	16/4	3	Montana, Montana State, NAU
2002	16/4	2	Montana, Montana State
2001	16/4	2	#1 Montana, NAU
2000	16/16	2	#1 Montana, #15 Portland State
1999	16/16	2	#8 Montana, #15 NAU
1998	16/16	1	#13 Montana
1997	16/16	2	#3 Eastern Washington, #11 Montana
1996	16/16	2	#1 Montana, #7 NAU
1995	16/16	2	#6 Montana, #15 Idaho
1994	16/4	3	#3 Boise State, Idaho, Montana
1993	16/4	2	#2 Montana, Idaho
1992	16/4	2	Idaho, Eastern Washington
1991	16/4	2	#1 Nevada, Weber State
1990	16/4	3	#4 Nevada, Boise State, Idaho
1989	16/4	2	#4 Idaho, Montana
1988	16/4	3	#1 Idaho, Montana, Boise State
1987	16/4	2	#4 Idaho, Weber State
1986	16/4	2	#1 Nevada, Idaho
1985	12/4	2	#2 Nevada, Idaho
1984	12/4	1	#3 Montana State
1983	12/4	2	Idaho State, Nevada
1982	12/4	2	Idaho, Montana
1981	8/4	2	#2 Idaho State, #4 Boise State
1980	4/--	1	Boise State
1979	4/--	1	Nevada
1978	4/--	1	Nevada

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

FCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Conf.
1978	Florida A&M	SWAC
1979	Eastern Kentucky	OVC
1980	Boise State	Big Sky
1981	Idaho State	Big Sky
1982	Eastern Kentucky	OVC
1983	Southern Illinois	MVC
1984	Montana State	Big Sky
1985	Georgia Southern	Indep.
1986	Georgia Southern	Indep.
1987	Louisiana-Monroe^	Southland
1988	Furman	SoCon
1989	Georgia Southern	Indep.
1990	Georgia Southern	Indep.
1991	Youngstown State	Indep.
1992	Marshall	SoCon
1993	Youngstown State	Indep.
1994	Youngstown State	Indep.
1995	Montana	Big Sky
1996	Marshall	SoCon
1997	Youngstown St.	Gateway%
1998	UMass	A-10
1999	Georgia Southern	SoCon
2000	Georgia Southern	SoCon
2001	Montana	Big Sky
2002	Western Kentucky	Gateway%
2003	Delaware	A-10
2004	James Madison	A-10
2005	Appalachian State	SoCon
2006	Appalachian State	SoCon
2007	Appalachian State	SoCon
2008	Richmond	CAA
2009	Villanova	CAA
2010	Eastern Washington	Big Sky
2011	North Dakota State	MVFC
2012	North Dakota State	MVFC
2013	North Dakota State	MVFC
2014	North Dakota State	MVFC
2015	North Dakota State	MVFC
2016	James Madison	CAA
2017	North Dakota State	MVFC
2018	North Dakota State	MVFC
2019	North Dakota State	MVFC
2021*	Sam Houston	Southland
2021	North Dakota State	MVFC
2022	South Dakota State	MVFC
2023	South Dakota State	MVFC
2024	North Dakota State	MVFC

** - 2021 spring season*
^ - Northeast Louisiana known now as Louisiana-Monroe
% - Gateway Conference later became the Missouri Valley Football Conference

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Big Sky Playoff History
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Big Sky History in FCS Quarterfinals
Aside from the spring season in 2021, the Big Sky has had at least two teams in the FCS Quarterfinals every season since 2018. The Big Sky has had a national title game appearance in four of those six seasons, with a chance at five of seven seasons if all goes well this year.

Big Sky Quarterfinal Teams Since 2018

Year	Big Sky Team (# National Seed)
2025	#2 Montana State, #3 Montana, #8 UC Davis
2024	#1 Montana State*, #5 UC Davis, #8 Idaho
2023	#2 Montana*, #4 Idaho
2022	#2 Sac State, #4 Montana State
2021	#6 Montana, #8 Montana State*
2019	#3 Weber State, #5 Montana State, #6 Montana
2018	#2 Weber State, #3 Eastern Washington*, #6 UC Davis

Big Sky History in FCS Semifinals
With Montana State and Montana earning a trip to the FCS Semifinals, the Big Sky has now had five-straight seasons with a team in the playoff round. The 2025 season marks the first time since 2019 the league has had half of the playoff field in the FCS Semifinals, but just the second time ever that Big Sky teams have had to play one another in the round. The first and last time that occurred was the 1990 season, with Nevada winning a 59-52 contest in triple overtime against Boise State to secure a spot in the national title game.

Big Sky Semifinal Teams Since 1981

Year	Big Sky Team (# National Seed)
2025	#2 Montana State, #3 Montana
2024	#1 Montana State*
2023	#2 Montana*
2022	#4 Montana State
2021	#8 Montana State*
2019	#3 Weber State, #5 Montana State
2018	#3 Eastern Washington*
2016	#2 Eastern Washington
2013	#3 Eastern Washington
2012	#2 Eastern Washington
2011	#4 Montana
2010	#5 Eastern Washington*^
2009	#1 Montana*
2008	#4 Montana*
2006	#2 Montana
2004	Montana*
2001	#1 Montana*^
2000	#1 Montana*
1997	#3 Eastern Washington
1996	#1 Montana*
1995	#6 Montana*^
1994	Montana, #3 Boise State*
1993	Idaho
1990	#4 Nevada*, Boise State
1989	Montana
1986	#1 Nevada
1984	#3 Montana State*^
1983	Nevada
1981	#2 Idaho State*^, #4 Boise State

* - Played in National Title Game

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

2025 BIG SKY FOOTBALL TEAM BY TEAM SCHEDULES

MONTANA STATE (12-2, 8-0 BIG SKY)

2024 Record: 15-1 (8-0 Big Sky) - FCS Playoff berth
Head Coach: Brent Vigen (5th Season as HC at MSU)
Home Stadium: Bobcat Stadium (17,777)

DATE	OPPONENT	TV	TIME (MT)/RESULT
8/30	at Oregon	B1G Network	L/13-59
9/6	#2 SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	ESPN+/Scripps	L/24-30 (2OT)
9/13	SAN DIEGO	ESPN+/Scripps	W/41-7
9/20	MERCYHURST	ESPN+/Scripps	W/17-0
9/27	EASTERN WASHINGTON*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/57-3
10/4	at #13 Northern Arizona*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/34-10
10/11	IDAHO STATE*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/48-14
10/25	at Cal Poly*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/34-17
11/1	at Northern Colorado*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/55-7
11/8	WEBER STATE*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/66-14
11/15	#9 UC DAVIS*	ESPN2	W/38-17
11/22	at #2 Montana	ESPN+/Scripps	W/31-28
12/6	YALE#	ESPN+	W/21-13
12/12	#7 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN#	ESPN	W/44-28
12/20	#3 MONTANA#	ABC	2:00 p.m.

* Big Sky game // Home games in ALL CAPS // Rankings FCS Stats // # FCS Playoffs

MONTANA (13-1, 7-1 BIG SKY)

2024 Record: 9-5 (5-3 Big Sky) - FCS Playoff berth
Head Coach: Bobby Hauck (14th Season as HC at UM)
Home Stadium: Washington-Grizzly Stadium (25,217)

DATE	OPPONENT	TV	TIME (MT)/RESULT
9/6	CENTRAL WASHINGTON	ESPN+/Scripps	W/42-17
9/13	#16 NORTH DAKOTA	ESPN+/Scripps	W/24-23
9/20	INDIANA STATE	ESPN+/Scripps	W/63-20
9/27	#8 IDAHO*	ESPN2/ESPN+	W/41-30
10/4	at Idaho State*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/42-38
10/11	CAL POLY*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/28-9
10/18	SACRED HEART	ESPN+/Scripps	W/43-21
10/24	at RV Sacramento State*	ESPN2/ESPN+	W/49-35
11/1	at Weber State*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/38-17
11/8	EASTERN WASHINGTON*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/29-24
11/15	at Portland State*	ESPN+/Scripps	W/63-17
11/22	#3 MONTANA STATE*	ESPN+/Scripps	L/28-31
12/6	#14 SOUTH DAKOTA STATE#	ESPN+	W/50-29
12/13	#11 SOUTH DAKOTA#	ABC	W/52-22
12/20	#2 at Montana State#	ABC	2:00 p.m.

* Big Sky game // Home games in ALL CAPS // Rankings FCS Stats // # FCS Playoffs

2025 Big Sky Conference Award Winners



Offensive MVP
Eli Gillman, RB
Montana



Defensive MVP
Caden Dowler, DB
Montana State



Newcomer of the Year
Justin Lamson, QB
Montana State



Freshman of the Year
Caden Pinnick, QB
UC Davis



Coach of the Year
Brent Vigen
Montana State

2025 Big Sky Conference All-Conference Honorees

First Team All-Big Sky Offense
QB: Keali'i Ah Yat, Montana
RB: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
RB: Eli Gillman, Montana
WR: Carver Cheeks, Northern Colorado
WR: Samuel Gbatu, UC Davis
WR: Kolbe Katsis, Northern Arizona
TE: Ian Simpson, UC Davis
TE: Evan Shafer, Montana
OL: Stryker Rashid, Idaho State
OL: Titan Fleischmann, Montana State
OL: Cannon Panfiloff, Montana
OL: Eli Simonson, UC Davis
OL: Gavin Ortega, Weber State
OL: Nate Azzopardi, Idaho
AP: Michael Wortham, Montana

Second Team All-Big Sky Offense
QB: Justin Lamson, Montana State
RB: Julius Davis, Montana State
RB: Dason Brooks, Idaho State
WR: Taco Dowler, Montana State
WR: Michael Wortham, Montana
WR: Tsion Nunnally, Idaho State
TE: Landon Cooper, Eastern Washington
TE: Noah Bennee, Weber State
OL: Aidan Meek, Sac State
OL: Liam Brown, Montana
OL: Dean Abdullah, Sac State
OL: Zaire Collier, UC Davis
OL: Racin Delgatty, Cal Poly
OL: Jeremiah Katt, Northern Arizona
OL: Ethan Kramer, Northern Arizona
AP: Rodney Hammond, Sac State

Honorable Mention Offense
QB: Caden Pinnick, UC Davis
QB: Ty Pennington, Northern Arizona
QB: Jordan Cooke, Idaho State
RB: Adam Jones, Montana State
RB: Jordan Fisher, UC Davis
WR: Michael Shulikov, Idaho State
WR: Michael Briscoe, Cal Poly
WR: Damien Morgan, Idaho State
WR: Brooks Davis, Montana
TE: Kristian Ingman, Portland State
OL: JT Reed, Montana State
OL: Dylan Conner, Eastern Washington
OL: Cedric Jefferson, Montana State
OL: Jack Ziebell, Northern Colorado
OL: Burke Mastel, Montana State
AP: Nate Bell, Eastern Washington

First Team All-Big Sky Defense
DL: Jacob Psyk, UC Davis*
DL: Paul Brott, Montana State
DL: Kenneth Eiden IV, Montana State
DL: Hunter Peck, Montana
DL: DeSean Watts, Sac State
LB: Mikey D'Amato, Cal Poly*
LB: Peyton Wing, Montana
LB: Isiah King, Idaho
LB: Travis Arena, Northern Arizona
LB: Kenny Olson, Cal Poly
DB: Caden Dowler, Montana State
DB: Quentin Moten, Northern Arizona
DB: Cam Chapa, Northern Colorado
DB: Koa Akui, Sac State
DB: Jaylon Jenkins, Eastern Washington
DB: Khalani Riddick, UC Davis
DB: Montae Pate, Weber State

Second Team All-Big Sky Defense
DL: Matt Herron, Weber State
DL: Dylan Hampsten, Sac State
DL: Jayland McGlothen, Sac State
DL: Victory Johnson, Cal Poly
DL: Cam'ron Willis, Idaho State
LB: Solomon Tuliaupupu, Montana
LB: Nate Rutchena, UC Davis
LB: Brandon Wong, Northern Arizona
LB: Cole Taylor, Montana State
LB: Read Sunn, Eastern Washington
DB: Drew Cofield, UC Davis
DB: Rylan Leathers, Idaho State
DB: TJ Rausch, Montana
DB: Jeremiah Bernard, Cal Poly
DB: Carsten Mamaril, Portland State
DB: Tayden Gray, Montana State

Honorable Mention Defense
DL: Alec Eckert, Montana State
DL: Matyus McLain, Idaho
DL: Spencer Elliott, Portland State
DL: Isaiah Perez, Eastern Washington
DL: Hunter Parsons, Montana State
DL: Jake Mason, Montana
LB: Mayson Hitchens, Weber State
LB: Dylan Lane, Idaho
LB: Nathan Reynolds, Idaho State
LB: Caleb Otlewski, Montana
LB: Hudson Voggesser, Northern Colorado
DB: Isaiah Green, Portland State
DB: Jason Oliver, Sac State
DB: Angel King, Weber State
DB: Drew Carter, Eastern Washington

First Team All-Big Sky Specialists
KR: Kolbe Katsis, Northern Arizona
PR: Taco Dowler, Montana State
K: Trajan Sinatra, Idaho State
P: Ben D'Aquila, Northern Arizona
ST: Tanner Huff, Montana
LS: Spencer Moore, Cal Poly

Second Team All-Big Sky Specialists
KR: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
PR: Drew Deck, Montana
K: Sloan Calder, Weber State
P: Gabe Russo, Idaho State
ST: Brayden Rice, Idaho
LS: Grayson Pibal, Montana

Honorable Mention Specialists
KR: Cru Newman, Portland State
PR: Isaiah Eastman, Northern Arizona
K: Ty Morrison, Montana
P: Landon Ogles, Eastern Washington
LS: Maddox Broughton, Northern Colorado
LS: Adam Johnston, Sac State

* - Unanimous selection

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

2025 BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NATIONAL RANKINGS (FCS STATS PERFORM/AFCA)

Preseason	--	--/RV	12/12	--	8/9	2/2	19/18	--	--	15/14	8/7	--
9/1	--/RV	--/RV	10/11	--/RV	6/10	3/T3	19/19	--/RV	--	18/16	8/5	--
9/8	--	--	8/10	--	5/7	4/6	18/19	--	--	21/21	9/9	--
9/15	--	--	8/8	--	5/5	4/T6	17/19	--	--	24/22	9/9	--
9/22	--	--/RV	8/10	--	5/4	4/6	15/T15	--	--	21/	9/8	--
9/29	--/RV	--	12/15	--	4/4	5/5	13/13	--	--	RV/RV	7/7	--
10/6	--/RV	--	11/13	--	4/4	5/5	14/16	--	--	RV/NR	6/6	--
10/13	--	--	24/RV	--	4/4	5/5	19/21	RV/NR	--	RV/RV	6/6	--
10/20	--	--	--	--	4/4	5/5	20/22	--	--	RV/RV	6/6	--
10/27	--	--	--	--	3/3	T4/4	19/21	--	--	RV/RV	6/6	--
11/3	--	--	--	--	2/2	3/3	RV/RV	--	--	RV/RV	11/12	--
11/10	--	--	--	--	2/2	3/3	24/RV	--	--	RV/RV	9/10	--
11/17	--	--	--	--	2/2	3/3	23/RV	--	--	RV/RV	15/14	--
11/24	--	--	--	--	3/4	2/2	RV/NR	--	--	NR/RV	11/11	--
Final	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2025 FCS NATIONAL TOP 25 POLLS

STATS PERFORM FCS MEDIA POLL (NOV. 24, 2025)

Rk.	Team (1st)	Record	Points	LW
1	North Dakota State (56)	12-0	1,400	1
2	**Montana State**	**10-2**	**1,340**	**3**
3	**Montana State**	**11-1**	**1,270**	**2**
4	Lehigh	12-0	1,206	4
5	Tarleton State	11-1	1,193	5
6	Tennessee Tech	11-1	1,086	6
7	Mercer	9-2	1,032	7
8	Rhode Island	10-2	933	10
9	Villanova	9-2	914	9
10	Stephen F. Austin	10-2	890	14
11	**UC Davis**	**8-3**	**849**	**15**
12	South Dakota	8-4	731	16
13	Abilene Christian	8-4	714	17
14	Youngstown State	8-4	625	18
15	Harvard	9-1	519	8
16	South Dakota State	8-4	491	22
T-17	Illinois State	8-4	443	11
T-17	Southeastern Louisiana	9-3	443	21
19	North Dakota	7-5	407	13
20	Jackson State	9-2	297	20
21	Monmouth	9-3	249	12
22	New Hampshire	8-4	248	25
23	Southern Illinois	7-5	243	24
24	Yale	8-2	192	NR
25	Lamar	8-4	168	19

Others Receiving Votes: Alabama State, 64; South Carolina State, 54; West Georgia, 50; Southern Utah, 29; Austin Peay), 27; Central Connecticut State, 27; Drake, 23; **Northern Arizona, 17;** Lafayette, 16; UT Rio Grande Valley, 4

AFCA FCS COACHES POLL (NOV. 24, 2025)

Rk.	Team (1st)	Record	Points	LW
1	North Dakota State (24)	12-0	623	1
2	**Montana State (1)**	**10-2**	**597**	**3**
3	Lehigh	12-0	557	4
4	**Montana**	**11-1**	**554**	**2**
5	Tarleton State	11-1	534	5
6	Villanova	9-2	470	7
7	Tennessee Tech	11-1	455	8
8	Mercer	9-2	444	6
9	Rhode Island	10-2	430	9
10	Stephen F. Austin	10-2	392	13
11	**UC Davis**	**8-3**	**348**	**14**
12	Jackson State	9-2	309	15
13	Youngstown State	8-4	294	17
14	Abilene Christian	8-4	-265	18
15	Southeastern Louisiana	9-3	247	20
16	Monmouth	9-3	208	T-11
17	Illinois State	8-4	199	T-11
18	South Dakota State	8-4	182	22
19	Harvard	9-1	175	10
20	South Dakota	8-4	173	21
21	Yale	8-2	136	25
22	West Georgia	8-3	108	23
23	North Dakota	7-5	96	16
24	Lamar	8-4	61	19
25	Southern Illinois	7-5	58	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Alabama State, 52; Lafayette, 40; UT Rio Grande Valley, 31; New Hampshire, 15; Gardner-Webb, 14; South Carolina State, 12; Presbyterian, 11; **Sacramento State, 8;** Austin Peay, 7; Richmond, 6; ETSU, 4; Southern Utah, 4; Dartmouth, 3; Central Connecticut State, 1; Drake, 1; North Carolina Central, 1.

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

2025 BIG SKY FOOTBALL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Week	OFFENSIVE	DEFENSIVE	SPECIAL TEAMS
0	Dason Brooks, RB, ISU	Rylan Leathers, DB, ISU	Trajan Sinatra, K, ISU
1	Ty Dieffenback, QB, CP	Rex Connors, DB, UCD	Landon Ogles, P, EWU
2	Eli Gillman, RB, UM/Joshua Wood, QB, UI	Ezra Ekuban, DL, UNC/ Koa Akui, DB, SAC	Trajan Sinatra, K, ISU
3	Ty Pennington, QB, NAU	Hudson Voggesser, LB, UNC	Sloan Calder, K, WSU/Ty Morrison, K/P, UM
4	Ty Pennington, QB, NAU/Keali'i Ah Yat, QB, NAU	Dylan Hampsten, DL, SAC/Jacob Psyk, DL, UCD	Ty Morrison, K/P, UM
5	Caden Pinnick, QB, UCD	Brian Dukes, DB, CP	Trajan Sinatra, K, ISU
6	Michael Wortham, WR, UM/Caden Pinnick, QB, UCD	Kenneth Eiden IV, DL, MSU	Taco Dowler, PR, MSU
7	Caden Pinnick, QB, UCD	Cam Chapa, DB, UNC/Kenzel Lawler, DB, UM	Rodney Hammond Jr., KR, SAC
8	Keali'i Ah Yat, QB, UM	Kao Hansen, DB, WSU	Grant Meadors, K, SAC
9	Michael Wortham, WR/RB, UM	Peyton Wing, LB, UM	Landon Ogles, P, EWU/Ty Morrison, K/P, UM
10	Dason Brooks, RB, ISU	Nathan Reynolds, LB, ISU	Trajan Sinatra, K, ISU
11	Rodney Hammond, RB, SAC	Caden Dowler, DB, MSU	Kolbe Katsis, KR, NAU
12	Jordan Cooke, QB, ISU/ Kolbe Katsis, WR, NAU	Caden Dowler, DB, MSU	Colby Frokjer, P/K, MSU
13	Justin Lamson, QB, MSU	Caden Dowler, DB, MSU	Trajan Sinatra, K, ISU

FCS STATS PERFORM NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Week 1: Caden Pinnick, QB, UC Davis (National Freshman of the Week)
Week 9: Michael Wortham, WR/RB, Montana (National Offensive Player of the Week)
Week 10: Carsten Mamaril, DB, Portland State (National Defensive Player of the Week)
Week 13: Caden Dowler, DB, Montana State (National Defensive Player of the Week)

FCS STATS PERFORM NATIONAL TEAMS OF THE WEEK

Week 5: Montana (41-30 win over Idaho)
Week 7: Northern Colorado (49-33 win over Idaho)

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

BYE WEEKS

WEEK 1
AUG. 30
MONTANA

WEEK 3
SEPT. 13
IDAHO STATE
UC DAVIS

WEEK 4
SEPT. 20
PORTLAND STATE

WEEK 6
OCT. 4
IDAHO
NORTHERN COLORADO
SACRAMENTO STATE
WEBER STATE

WEEK 7
OCT. 11
EASTERN WASHINGTON
PORTLAND STATE

WEEK 8
OCT. 18
CAL POLY
IDAHO STATE
MONTANA STATE
NORTHERN ARIZONA
UC DAVIS

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2025 COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

Week 0 - Saturday, Aug. 23

UNLV 38, Idaho State 31	MW Network	Las Vegas, NV
Tarleton State 42, Portland State 0	ESPN2	Portland, OR
UC Davis vs. Mercer^ (No Contest/Lightning)	ESPN	Mobile, AL

^ - FCS Kickoff Classic in Montgomery, Ala.

Week 1 - Saturday, Aug. 30

Northern Colorado 17, Chadron State 3	ESPN+	Greeley, CO
Oregon 59, Montana State 13	BTN	Eugene, OR
James Madison 45, Weber State 10	ESPN+	Harrisburg, VA
Incarnate Word 31, Eastern Washington 21	ESPN+	San Antonio, TX
South Dakota State 20, Sacramento State 3	ESPN+	Brookings, SD
BYU 69, Portland State 0	ESPN+	Provo, UT
Cal Poly 41, San Diego 17	ESPN+	San Diego, CA
Southern Utah 46, Idaho State 24	ESPN+	Cedar City, UT
Washington State 13, Idaho 10	The CW	Pullman, WA
Arizona State 38, Northern Arizona 19	ESPN+	Tempe, AZ
UC Davis 31, Utah Tech 24	ESPN+	St. George, UT

Week 2 - Friday, Sept. 5

Boise State 51, Eastern Washington 14	FS1	Boise, ID

Week 2 - Saturday, Sept. 6

New Mexico 32, Idaho State 22	MW Network	Albuquerque, NM
Idaho 37, St. Thomas 30	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID
Northern Arizona 38, Utah Tech 31	ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ
Nevada 20, Sacramento State 17	MW Network	Reno, NV
Utah 63, Cal Poly 9	ESPN+	Salt Lake City, UT
North Dakota 50, Portland State 20	ESPN+	Grand Forks, ND
Colorado State 21, Northern Colorado 17	MW Network	Fort Collins, CO
South Dakota State 30, Montana State 24 (2OT)	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
Montana 42, Central Washington 17	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Arizona 48, Weber State 3	ESPN+	Tucson, AZ
Washington 70, UC Davis 10	BTN	Seattle, WA

Week 3 - Saturday, Sept. 13

South Dakota 24, Northern Colorado 17 (OT)	ESPN+	Vermillion, SD
Montana State 41, San Diego 7	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
Montana 24, North Dakota 23	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Idaho 20, Utah Tech 6	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID
Northern Iowa 17, Eastern Washington 14	ESPN+	Cedar Falls, IA
Weber State 42, McNeese 41	ESPN+	Lake Charles, LA
Cal Poly 56, Western Oregon 7	ESPN+	San Luis Obispo, CA
Northern Arizona 52, Southern Utah 49	ESPN+	Cedar City, UT
Sacramento State 49, Mercyhurst 28	ESPN+/KMAX	Sacramento, CA
Hawaii 23, Portland State 3	MW Network	Manoa, HI

Week 4 - Saturday, Sept. 20

Montana 63, Indiana State 20	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Montana State 17, Mercyhurst 0	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
San Jose State 31, Idaho 28	MW Network	San Jose, CA
Northern Arizona 31, Incarnate Word 23	ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ
Idaho State 90, Lincoln (CA) 0	ESPN+	Pocatello, ID
Eastern Washington 52, Western Illinois 31	ESPN+	Cheney, WA
Northern Colorado 26, Houston Christian 23 (OT)	ESPN+	Houston, TX
Stephen F. Austin 35, Cal Poly 17	ESPN+	Nacogdoches, TX
Sacramento State 45, Central Arkansas 16	ESPN+/KMAX	Sacramento, CA
Weber State 38, Butler 24	ESPN+	Ogden, UT
UC Davis 50, Southern Utah 34	ESPN+/KCRA	Davis, CA

Week 5 - Saturday, Sept. 27

Idaho State 26, Northern Colorado 18	ESPN+	Greeley, CO
Montana State 57, Eastern Washington 3	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
Northern Arizona 31, Portland State 17	ESPN+	Portland, OR
Cal Poly 32, Sacramento State 24	ESPN+/KMAX	Sacramento, CA
UC Davis 34, Weber State 12	ESPN+/KCRA	Davis, CA
Montana 41, Idaho 30	ESPN2	Missoula, MT

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

BIG SKY VS. EVERYONE

FCS OPPONENTS.....19-8

CAA.....1-0
Rhode Island.....1-0
IVY.....1-0
Yale.....1-0
MVFC.....4-5
Indiana State.....1-0
North Dakota.....1-1
Northern Iowa.....0-1
South Dakota.....1-1
South Dakota State.....1-2
NEC.....2-0
Mercyhurst.....2-0
OVC/BIG SOUTH.....0-0
Western Illinois.....0-0
PIONEER.....3-0
Butler.....0-0
San Diego.....2-0
St. Thomas.....1-0
SOUTHLAND.....3-1
Houston Christian.....0-0
Incarnate Word.....1-1
McNeese.....1-0
Stephen F. Austin.....1-0
UAC.....4-2
Central Arkansas.....0-0
Southern Utah.....1-1
Tarleton State.....0-1
Utah Tech.....3-0
FCS INDEPENDENT.....1-0
Sacred Heart.....1-0

FBS OPPONENTS.....0-13

BIG 10.....0-2
Oregon.....0-1
Washington.....0-0
BIG 12.....0-4
Arizona.....0-1
Arizona State.....0-1
BYU.....0-1
Utah.....0-1
MOUNTAIN WEST.....0-7
Boise State.....0-0
Colorado State.....0-1
Hawaii.....0-1
Nevada.....0-1
New Mexico.....0-1
San Jose State.....0-1
UNLV.....0-1
Washington State.....0-1
SUN BELT.....0-1
James Madison.....0-1

DIV-II OPPONENTS.....3-0
Central Washington.....1-0
Chadron State.....1-0
Western Oregon.....1-0

NON- NCAA OPPONENTS.....1-0
Lincoln (CA).....1-0

2025 COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

Week 6 - Saturday, Oct. 4

Montana State 34, Northern Arizona 10	ESPN+/Scripps	Flagstaff, AZ
Eastern Washington 35, Portland State 27	ESPN+/SWX	Cheney, WA
UC Davis 34, Cal Poly 27	ESPN+	San Luis Obispo, CA
Montana 42, Idaho State 38	ESPN+	Pocatello, ID

Week 7 - Saturday, Oct. 11

Montana State 48, Idaho State 14	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
Montana 28, Cal Poly 9	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Northern Colorado 49, Idaho 33	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID
UC Davis 45, Northern Arizona 24	ESPN+/KCRA	Davis, CA
Sacramento State 55, Weber State 27	ESPN+/KMAX	Ogden, UT

Week 8 - Saturday, Oct. 18

Montana 43, Sacred Heart 21	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Weber State 43, Portland State 27	ESPN+	Portland, OR
Eastern Washington 21, Idaho 14	ESPN+/SWX	Cheney, WA
Sacramento State 40, Northern Colorado 35	ESPN+/KMAX	Sacramento, CA

Week 9 - Friday, Oct. 24

Montana 49, Sacramento State 35	ESPN2/ESPN+	Sacramento, CA

Week 9 - Saturday, Oct. 25

Eastern Washington 23, Weber State 0	ESPN+	Ogden, UT
UC Davis 27, Northern Colorado 16	ESPN+	Greeley, CO
Idaho 45, Portland State 6	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID
Northern Arizona 31, Idaho State 18	ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ
Montana State 34, Cal Poly 17	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT

Week 10 - Friday, Oct. 31

Idaho 35, Northern Arizona 32 (OT)	ESPN2/ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ

Week 10 - Saturday, Nov. 1

Montana State 55, Northern Colorado 7	ESPN+/Scripps	Greeley, CO
Montana 38, Weber State 17	ESPN+/Scripps	Ogden, UT
Idaho State 38, UC Davis 36	ESPN+/KCRA	Davis, CA
Sacramento State 35, Eastern Washington 13	ESPN+/SWX	Cheney, WA
Portland State 40, Cal Poly 35	ESPN+	San Luis Obispo, CA

Week 11 - Saturday, Nov. 8

Montana 29, Eastern Washington 24	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Montana State 66, Weber State 14	ESPN+/Scripps	Bozeman, MT
Sacramento State 52, Portland State 24	ESPN+	Portland, OR
Idaho State 27, Cal Poly 17	ESPN+	Pocatello, ID
Northern Arizona 49, Northern Colorado 10	ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ
UC Davis 28, Idaho 14	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID

Week 12 - Saturday, Nov. 15

Eastern Washington 27, Northern Colorado 7	ESPN+/SWX	Cheney, WA
Northern Arizona 35, Cal Poly 27	ESPN+	Flagstaff, AZ
Montana 63, Portland State 17	ESPN+/Scripps	Portland, OR
Idaho State 31, Weber State 3	ESPN+	Pocatello, ID
Sacramento State 23, Idaho 20	ESPN+/KMAX	Sacramento, CA
Montana State 38, UC Davis 17	ESPN2	Bozeman, MT

Week 13 - Saturday, Nov. 22

Montana State 31, Montana 28	ESPN+/Scripps	Missoula, MT
Northern Colorado 24, Portland State 13	ESPN+	Greeley, CO
Weber State 48, Northern Arizona 28	ESPN+	Ogden, UT
Idaho State 37, Idaho 16	ESPN+/SWX	Moscow, ID
UC Davis 31, Sacramento State 27	ESPN+/KCRA	Davis, CA
Cal Poly 43, Eastern Washington 34	ESPN+	San Luis Obispo, CA

* - denotes Big Sky Conference game

FCS Playoff 1st Round - Saturday, Nov. 29
FCS Playoff 2nd Round - Saturday, Dec. 6
FCS Playoff Quarterfinal Round - Friday, Dec. 12/Saturday, Dec. 13
FCS Playoff Semifinal Round - Saturday, Dec. 20
FCS National Championship Game - Monday, Jan. 5 (Nashville, TN)

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

BIG SKY PLAYERS IN THE NFL

All Players Finished Their Playing Careers at Big Sky Schools
As of Oct. 8, 2025

Atlanta Falcons
Troy Andersen, LB (Montana State)
Kaden Elliss, LB (Idaho)

Baltimore Ravens
Teddye Buchanan*, LB (UC Davis)

Buffalo Bills
Taron Johnson, DB (Weber State)

Chicago Bears
Daniel Hardy, DL (Montana State)
Braxton Jones, OL (Southern Utah)

Cleveland Browns
DeAndre Carter, WR (Sac State)
Winston Reid, DL (Weber State)

Dallas Cowboys
Daron Bland*, DB (Sac State)

Denver Broncos
Alex Singleton, LB (Montana State)

Detroit Lions
Khalil Dorsey, DB (Northern Arizona)
Hogan Hatten, LS (Idaho)

Green Bay Packers
Daniel Whelan, P (UC Davis)

Indianapolis Colts
Samson Ebukam, DL (EWU)

Las Vegas Raiders
Jacob Bobenmoyer, LS (UNC)

Miami Dolphins
Tanner Conner, TE (Idaho State)

New England Patriots
Christian Elliss, LB (Idaho)
Marte Mapu, LB (Sac State)
Efton Chism III, WR (EWU)
Elijah Ponder, DL (Cal Poly)
Lan Larison, RB (UC Davis)

New Orleans Saints
Jonah Williams DL (Weber State)

Pittsburgh Steelers
Miles Killebrew, DB (Southern Utah)

San Francisco 49ers
Kendrick Bourne, WR (EWU)

Seattle Seahawks
Cooper Kupp, WR (EWU)
Ty Okada, DB (Montana State)
Rashid Shaheed, WR (Weber State)

Tennessee Titans
Jackson Slater, OL (Sac State)
Marcus Harris*, DB (Idaho)

** - EARNED A DEGREE FROM A BIG SKY SCHOOL, BUT FINISHED PLAYING CAREER ELSEWHERE*

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Three New Head Coaches Hired for 2026 Big Sky Teams
Three new head coaches will join the league and coach their Big Sky teams in 2026, as Cal Poly, Portland State and Weber State all named leadership changes in the past month.

Cal Poly hired Tim Skipper in early December, who was a former Fresno State player with extensive collegiate experience, including most recently as the interim head coach for UCLA.

Portland State named Chris Fisk as its new head coach late last week, who had a very successful tenure at Central Washington over the last seven seasons before taking the job with the Vikings.

Weber State hired Eric Kjar as its head coach earlier this week, who was most recently the head coach at Corner Canyon High School in Draper, Utah, where he posted a 112-10 record with six state championships over the last nine seasons.

Montana's Botner Wins Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete Award
Montana's Dillon Botner was recognized for his hard work on the field, in the classroom and the community, as the Grizzly offensive lineman was named the 2025 Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete Award recipient by Stats Perform FCS on this past week.

The Doris Robinson Award, first presented in 2015 and in its 11th season, honors FCS student-athletes who exemplify excellence on the field, in the classroom and across the community. The values embody the leadership and integrity championed by Doris Robinson, a former schoolteacher and the wife of legendary Grambling State University coach Eddie Robinson.

Botner is the second winner to come from the Big Sky Conference, joining Montana State's Tommy Mellott who won the honor in 2023.

Botner was selected from 13 Doris Robinson Award finalists – one from each conference involved in the Division I subdivision. He's the fifth finalist from Montana, joining Derek Crittenden (2015), Reggie Tillman (2018), Dante Olson (2019), and Robby Hauck (2022) and will be honored at the Stats Perform FCS National Awards Show on Jan. 3 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Big Sky Earns 10 Finalists for National Awards
Award voting for the Stats Perform FCS National Awards were announced earlier this month, with the Big Sky earning 10 finalists for the national honors to go along with the league's Doris Robinson Award winner Dillon Botner of Montana.

Walter Payton Award (Voting Result) - Top Offensive Player
Justin Lamson, Montana State (7th, 40 points)
Kealiʻi Ah Yat, Montana (9th, 30 points)
Michael Wortham, Montana (t-18th, 6 points)
Rodney Hammond Jr., Sac State (t-29th, 0 points)

Buck Buchanan Award (Voting Result) - Top Defensive Player
Caden Dowler, Montana State (4th, 65 points)
Jaco Psyk, UC Davis (20th, 9 points)

Jerry Rice Award (Voting Result) - Top Freshman Player
Caden Pinnick, UC Davis (2nd, 149 points)
Brooks Davis, Montana (t-12th, 10 points)

Eddie Robinson Award (Voting Result) - Top Coach
Bobby Hauck, Montana (12th, 20 points)

Doris Robinson Award (Voting Result) - Top Scholar-Athlete
Dillon Botner, Montana (winner)

Over 20 Former Big Sky Players Make 53-Man NFL Roster
The 2025 NFL season is underway, with 20 players who finished their collegiate playing careers in the Big Sky that are currently on NFL rosters. The New England Patriots are Big Sky East, with the club sporting five former Big Sky players on their roster heading into the 2025 season. Eastern Washington, Montana State, Idaho, Sacramento State, and Weber State are tied for the most former players on NFL rosters with four each.
UC Davis is not far behind with three each on NFL rosters.

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Another "National Team of the Week" for the Big Sky
The Big Sky has had two teams earn "National Team of the Week" honors from FCS Stats Perform this season, as the Week 5 and Week 7 wins over Idaho for Montana and Northern Colorado secured the honor. Montana defeated then 8th-ranked Idaho 41-30 in Week 5, before Northern Colorado upset the No. 11 Vandals 49-33 in Week 7.

Big Sky Present vs. Big Sky Future
Effective July 1, 2026, Southern Utah and Utah Tech will join the league as full members and compete in the Big Sky starting with the 2026-27 academic year, the conference office announced this past June.

Overall, both Southern Utah and Utah Tech will face three Big Sky foes each during the 2025 regular season, as the two gear up to join the league in 2026.

Southern Utah vs. Big Sky Foes in 2025	**Utah Tech vs. Big Sky Foes in 2025**
8/30: vs. Idaho State (W/46-24)	8/30: vs. UC Davis (L/24-31)
9/13: vs. Northern Arizona (L/49-52)	9/6: at Northern Arizona (L/31-38)
9/20: at UC Davis (L/34-50)	9/13: at Idaho (L/6-20)

Big Sky Has Most FBS Upsets Than Any Other Conference Since 2021
Since 2021, Big Sky teams have earned 10 upsets over FBS foes, which is the most of any other FCS conference during that same timespan. Six of those FBS wins came over Mountain West foes, three over teams formerly from the Pac-12 and one over an American Conference opponent. Of the 10 FBS wins, eight different Big Sky teams have earned upsets, with Eastern Washington, Idaho, Montana, Montana State, Northern Arizona, Sacramento State, UC Davis, and Weber State picking up wins.

Future Vegas Kickoff Classic to Feature Montana, Montana State
ESPN Events announced a pair of future Vegas Kickoff Classic games at Allegiant Stadium that will feature matchups of top FCS programs from the Big Sky Conference and Missouri Valley Football Conference.

Labor Day Weekend Vegas Games
2027: Montana State vs. North Dakota State
2029: Montana vs. South Dakota State

Both games will be played during Labor Day weekend at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas, with the game dates, times and networks to be announced at a later date.

The last four FCS National Championship Games have featured Montana, Montana State, North Dakota State or South Dakota State playing one another, while every title game since 2017 has featured at least one of those four teams in the championship game.

Record-High Four Big Sky Conference Games to be Nationally Televised by ESPN Linear Networks This Fall
For the first time in league history, four regular-season Big Sky football conference games have been selected for national linear distribution by ESPN's family of networks. The four matchups selected by ESPN will feature Idaho, Montana, Montana State, Northern Arizona, Sacramento State, and UC Davis.

The full national TV schedule Includes:
Saturday, Sept. 27: Idaho at Montana (8:15 p.m. MT // ESPN2)
Friday, Oct. 24: Montana at Sac State (8:30 p.m. MT // ESPN2)
Friday, Oct. 31: Idaho at Northern Arizona (8:30 p.m. MT // ESPN2)
Saturday, Nov. 15: UC Davis at Montana State (8:15 p.m. MT // ESPN2)

The ESPN network designations are part of its new deal with the Big Sky Conference, which begins in the 2025-26 athletic year and goes through 2029-30. The new contract doubles the Big Sky's exposure for nationally televised football games, with a minimum of four regular-season contests televised on a Friday or Saturday. A minimum of two of those games will air on ESPN or ESPN2.

Since the Big Sky's latest partnership with ESPN began in 2021, the league has had eight of its football teams (more than half of the league) featured on linear network conference games on ESPN2 or ESPNU.

Six Big Sky Teams Ranked in the Preseason Top 25 Polls
Half of the Big Sky is currently ranked in Top 25 preseason polls, which is becoming common place with each passing year. Montana State, Montana, UC Davis, Idaho, Sacramento State, and Northern Arizona have all been tabbed in multiple Top 25 polls entering the 2025 season.

AFCA FCS Top 25 (Big Sky Teams)	**Stats Perform FCS Top 25 (Big Sky Teams)**
No. 2: Montana State	No. 2: Montana State
No. 7: UC Davis	No. 7: Montana
No. 9: Montana	No. 8: UC Davis
No. 12: Idaho	No. 12: Idaho
No. 14: Sacramento State	No. 15: Sacramento State
No. 18: Northern Arizona	No. 19: Northern Arizona
RV: Eastern Washington	

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Big Sky Conference Announces 2026 Football Schedule
The Big Sky Conference recently announced its 2026 football schedule this past October, which features 58 total games as it welcomes two new members to the 13-team league for the upcoming football season.

With the addition of Southern Utah and Utah Tech to the Big Sky in 2026, the league will move to nine conference games annually, with one team playing eight games due to the odd number of schools. The 2026 schedule will also feature 12 teams in conference action during Week 0 to open the season, a first for the league. Playing conference games in Week 0 also gives flexibility for league teams to honor non-conference game contracts throughout the season.

Teams will alternate between five and four home games each season due to the odd number of conference games during the upcoming scheduling cycle. The odd number of conference games also means that at least one team each week will not be in conference play during the season.

League schools had increased input into the scheduling process, which began with the news of Southern Utah and Utah Tech joining the Big Sky Conference back in June of 2025. Annual opponents, and other future schedule details will be announced at a later date. The full week-by-week schedule for the 2026 football season can be found below.

Cal Poly
Aug. 29: Idaho
Sept. 26: at Eastern Washington
Oct. 3: Weber State
Oct. 10: at Idaho State
Oct. 17: at Northern Colorado
Oct. 24: Utah Tech
Oct. 31: at Montana State
Nov. 7: Northern Arizona
Nov. 14: Open
Nov. 21: at UC Davis

Eastern Washington
Aug. 29: at Northern Arizona
Sept. 26: Cal Poly
Oct. 3: at UC Davis
Oct. 10: Northern Colorado
Oct. 17: Montana State
Oct. 24: Open
Oct. 31: Montana
Nov. 7: at Idaho
Nov. 14: at Utah Tech
Nov. 21: Portland State

Idaho
Aug. 29: at Cal Poly
Sept. 26: Open
Oct. 3: Montana State
Oct. 10: at Weber State
Oct. 17: at Montana
Oct. 24: Southern Utah
Oct. 31: at Portland State
Nov. 7: Eastern Washington
Nov. 14: UC Davis
Nov. 21: at Idaho State

Idaho State
Aug. 29: Open
Sept. 26: at Southern Utah
Oct. 3: Northern Arizona
Oct. 10: Cal Poly
Oct. 17: at Weber State
Oct. 24: Portland State
Oct. 31: at Utah Tech
Nov. 7: Montana State
Nov. 14: at Montana
Nov. 21: Idaho

Montana
Aug. 29: Southern Utah
Sept. 26: at UC Davis
Oct. 3: Northern Colorado
Oct. 10: at Northern Arizona
Oct. 17: Idaho
Oct. 24: Open
Oct. 31: at Eastern Washington
Nov. 7: Portland State
Nov. 14: Idaho State
Nov. 21: at Montana State

Montana State
Aug. 29: at Utah Tech
Sept. 26: Northern Arizona
Oct. 3: at Idaho
Oct. 10: Open
Oct. 17: at Eastern Washington
Oct. 24: Weber State
Oct. 31: Cal Poly
Nov. 7: at Idaho State
Nov. 14: at Northern Colorado
Nov. 21: Montana

Northern Arizona
Aug. 29: Eastern Washington
Sept. 26: at Montana State
Oct. 3: at Idaho State
Oct. 10: Montana
Oct. 17: Portland State
Oct. 24: Open
Oct. 31: at Southern Utah
Nov. 7: at Cal Poly
Nov. 14: Weber State
Nov. 21: Northern Colorado

Northern Colorado
Aug. 29: Weber State
Sept. 26: Utah Tech
Oct. 3: at Montana
Oct. 10: at Eastern Washington
Oct. 17: Cal Poly
Oct. 24: at UC Davis
Oct. 31: Open
Nov. 7: at Southern Utah
Nov. 14: Montana State
Nov. 21: at Northern Arizona

Portland State
Aug. 29: UC Davis
Sept. 26: at Weber State
Oct. 3: Open
Oct. 10: Utah Tech
Oct. 17: at Northern Arizona
Oct. 24: at Idaho State
Oct. 31: Idaho
Nov. 7: at Montana
Nov. 14: Southern Utah
Nov. 21: at Eastern Washington

Southern Utah
Aug. 29: at Montana
Sept. 26: Idaho State
Oct. 3: at Utah Tech
Oct. 10: Open
Oct. 17: UC Davis
Oct. 24: at Idaho
Oct. 31: Northern Arizona
Nov. 7: Northern Colorado
Nov. 14: at Portland State
Nov. 21: Open

UC Davis
Aug. 29: at Portland State
Sept. 26: Montana
Oct. 3: Eastern Washington
Oct. 10: Open
Oct. 17: at Southern Utah
Oct. 24: Northern Colorado
Oct. 31: at Weber State
Nov. 7: Utah Tech
Nov. 14: at Idaho
Nov. 21: Cal Poly

Utah Tech
Aug. 29: Montana State
Sept. 26: at Northern Colorado
Oct. 3: Southern Utah
Oct. 10: at Portland State
Oct. 17: Open
Oct. 24: at Cal Poly
Oct. 31: Idaho State
Nov. 7: at UC Davis
Nov. 14: Eastern Washington
Nov. 21: at Weber State

Weber State
Aug. 29: at Northern Colorado
Sept. 26: Portland State
Oct. 3: at Cal Poly
Oct. 10: Idaho
Oct. 17: Idaho State
Oct. 24: at Montana State
Oct. 31: UC Davis
Nov. 7: Open
Nov. 14: at Northern Arizona
Nov. 21: Utah Tech

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

WEEKLY NOTES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Numerous Big Sky Standouts Named to FCS All-America Teams
After a thrilling 2025 season, various media outlets have announced their 2025 All-America Teams, which include a long list of Big Sky standouts from this past year. Below is a composite list of the teams.

Stats Perform FCS All-America Teams

First Team
AP: Michael Wortham, Montana
OL: Titan Fleischmann, Montana State
DL: Jacob Psyk, UC Davis
DB: Caden Dowler, Montana State

Second Team
QB: Keali'I Ah Yat, Montana
QB: Justin Lamson, Montana State
RB: Eli Gillman, Montana
AP: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
OL: Cannon Panfiloff, Montana
OL: Stryker Rashid, Idaho State
DL: Paul Brott, Montana State

Third Team
AP: Kolbe Katsis, Northern Arizona
DL: Kenneth Eiden IV, Montana State
LB: Mikey D'Amato, Cal Poly
PK: Trajan Sinatra, Idaho State
P: Ben D'Aquila, Northern Arizona
LS: Spencer Moore, Cal Poly

Freshman Team
QB: Caden Pinnick, UC Davis
AP: Cru Newman, Portland State
TE: Jeter Purdy, Northern Arizona
OL: Braden Zimmer, Montana State
LB: Ramere Davis, Northern Arizona
LS: Maddox Broughton, Northern Colorado

FCS Football Central All-America Teams

First Team
AP: Michael Wortham, Montana
RB: Eli Gillman, Montana
OL: Titan Fleischmann, Montana State
DB: Caden Dowler, Montana State

Second Team
QB: Keali'I Ah Yat, Montana
WR: Samuel Gbatu Jr., UC Davis
AP: Kolbe Katsis, Northern Arizona
AP: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
OL: Gavin Ortega, Weber State
DL: Jacob Psyk, UC Davis
DL: Kenneth Eiden IV, Montana State
LB: Peyton Wing, Montana
DB: Cam Chapa, Northern Colorado
K: Trajan Sinatra, Idaho State

Third Team
RB: Julius Davis, Montana State
OL: Cannon Panfiloff, Montana
DL: Paul Brott, Montana State
LB: Mikey D'Amato, Cal Poly
DB: Quentin Moten, Northern Arizona
PR: Drew Deck, Montana

AP All-America Teams

First Team
AP: Michael Wortham, Montana
OL: Titan Fleischmann, Montana State
DB: Caden Dowler, Montana State
P: Ben D'Aquila, Northern Arizona

Second Team
RB: Eli Gillman, Montana
AP: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
OL: Stryker Rashid, Idaho State
DL: Jacob Psyk, UC Davis
DL: Paul Brott, Montana State
LB: Mikey D'Amato, Cal Poly

Honorable Mention
QB: Keali'I Ah Yat, Montana
RB: Rodney Hammond, Sac State
WR: Samuel Gbatu Jr., UC Davis
WR: Kolbe Katsis, Northern Arizona
WR: Carver Cheeks, Northern Colorado
TE: Ian Simpson, UC Davis
AP: Justin Lamson, Montana State
OL: Gavin Ortega, Weber State
OL: Cannon Panfiloff, Montana
OL: Eli Simonson, UC Davis
OL: Dillon Botner, Montana
OL: Braden Zimmer, Montana State
OL: Evan Shafer, Montana
OL: JT Reed, Montana State
DL: DeSean Watts, Sac State
DL: Kenneth Eiden IV, Montana State
LB: Porter Connors, UC Davis
LB: Peyton Wing, Montana
LB: Isiah King, Idaho
DB: Koa Akui, Sac State
DB: Cam Chapa, Northern Colorado
DB: Jaylon Jenkins, Eastern Washington
DB: Quentin Moten, Northern Arizona
DB: Carsten Mamaril, Portland State
DB: Rex Connors, UC Davis
DB: Khalani Riddick, UC Davis
K: Trajan Sinatra, Idaho State
K: Sloan Calder, Weber State
P: Gabe Russo, Idaho State

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

HEAD COACHING BIOS/RECORDS



CAL POLY
Head Coach....Paul Wulff
Overall Record....72-104 (15 Seasons)
Record at School....10-24 (3 Seasons)
Conference Record at School....5-19 (3 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Washington State ('90)



EASTERN WASHINGTON
Head Coach....Aaron Best
Overall Record....57-47 (9 Seasons)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....42-28 (9 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Eastern Washington ('01)



IDAHO
Head Coach....Thomas Ford, Jr.
Overall Record....6-26 (3 Seasons)
Record at School....4-8 (1st Season)
Conference Record at School....2-6 (1st Season)
Alma Mater....Linfield ('04)



IDAHO STATE
Head Coach....Cody Hawkins
Overall Record....14-21 (3 Seasons)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....11-13 (3 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Colorado ('10)



MONTANA
Head Coach....Bobby Hauck
Overall Record....166-91 (20 Seasons)
Record at School....151-42 (15 Seasons)
Conference Record at School....86-23 (15 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Montana ('88)



MONTANA STATE
Head Coach....Brent Vigen
Overall Record....59-12 (5 Seasons)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....37-3 (5 Seasons)
Alma Mater....North Dakota State ('98)



NORTHERN ARIZONA
Head Coach....Brian Wright
Overall Record....52-18 (7 Seasons)
Record at School....15-10 (2 Season)
Conference Record at School....10-6 (2 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Wooster ('94)



NORTHERN COLORADO
Head Coach....Ed Lamb
Overall Record....50-77 (11 Seasons)
Record at School....5-30 (3 Seasons)
Conference Record at School....3-21 (3 Seasons)
Alma Mater....BYU ('96)



PORTLAND STATE
Head Coach....Bruce Barnum
Overall Record....39-75 (11 Seasons)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....29-51 (11 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Eastern Washington ('87)



SACRAMENTO STATE
Head Coach....Brennan Marion
Overall Record....7-5 (1st Season)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....5-3 (1st Season)
Alma Mater....Tulsa ('09)



UC DAVIS
Head Coach....Tim Plough
Overall Record....20-7 (2 Seasons)
Record at School....Same
Conference Record at School....13-3 (2 Seasons)
Alma Mater....UC Davis ('08)



WEBER STATE
Head Coach....Mickey Mental
Overall Record....29-22 (5 Seasons)
Record at School....13-20 (3 Seasons)
Conference Record at School....8-14 (3 Seasons)
Alma Mater....Baldwin Wallace ('08)

COACHING RECORDS & HISTORY

Most Overall Wins for Big Sky Coaches (Active)

Coach, Big Sky School(s)	Record at School(s)	Seasons
1. Bobby Hauck, Montana	151-42	12 (2003-09, 18-25)
2. Paul Wulff, EWU/CP	62-63	11 (2000-07, 23-25)
3. Brent Vigen, Montana State	59-12	5 (2021-25)
4. Aaron Best, Eastern Washington	57-47	9 (2017-25)
5. Bruce Barnum, Portland State	39-75	11 (2015-25)
6. Ed Lamb, SUU/UNC	29-54	7 (2012-15, 23-25)
7. Tim Plough, UC Davis	19-6	2 (2024-25)
8. Brian Wright, Northern Arizona	15-10	2 (2024-25)
9. Cody Hawkins, Idaho State	14-21	3 (2023-25)
10. Brennan Marion, Sac State	7-5	1 (2025)
11. Thomas Ford, Idaho	4-8	1 (2025)
12. Brent Myers, Weber State	1-1	1* (2025)

*- *INTERIM COACH*

Most Conference Wins for Big Sky Coaches (Active)

Coach, Big Sky School(s)	Record at School(s)	Seasons (Years)
1. Bobby Hauck, Montana	86-23	12 (2003-09, 18-25)
2. Aaron Best, Eastern Washington	42-28	9 (2017-25)
T3. Paul Wulff, EWU/CP	37-43	11 (2000-07, 23-25)
T3. Brent Vigen, Montana State	37-3	5 (2021-25)
5. Bruce Barnum, Portland State	29-51	11 (2015-25)
6. Ed Lamb, SUU/UNC	22-34	7 (2012-15, 23-25)
7. Tim Plough, UC Davis	13-3	2 (2024-25)
8. Cody Hawkins, Idaho State	11-13	3 (2023-25)
9. Brian Wright, Northern Arizona	10-6	2 (2024-25)
10. Brennan Marion, Sac State	5-3	1 (2025)
11. Thomas Ford, Idaho	2-6	1 (2025)
12. Brent Myers, Weber State	1-1	1* (2025)

*- *INTERIM COACH*

Most Overall Wins for Big Sky Coaches (All-Time)

Coach, Big Sky School(s)	Record at School(s)	Seasons (Years)
1. Bobby Hauck, Montana	151-42 (78.3%)	12 (2003-09, 18-25)
2. Jerome Souers, NAU	123-114 (51.9%)	21 (1998-18)
3. Chris Ault, Nevada	111-46-1 (70.7%)	13 (1979-91)
4. Tim Walsh, PSU/CP	107-107 (50.0%)	19 (1996-06, 12-19)
5. Mike Kramer, EWU/MSU/ISU	95-125 (43.2%)	19 (1994-06, 11-16)
6. Beau Baldwin, EWU/CP	89-53 (62.7%)	12 (2008-16, 19-22)
7. Don Read, Montana	85-34 (71.4%)	10 (1986-95)
8. Rob Ash, Montana State	70-38 (64.8%)	9 (2007-15)
9. Jay Hill, Weber State	68-39 (63.6%)	9 (2014-22)
10. Paul Wulff, EWU/CP	62-63 (49.6%)	11 (2000-07, 23-25)

Most Conference Wins for Big Sky Coaches (All-Time)

Coach, Big Sky School(s)	Record at School(s)	Seasons (Years)
1. Bobby Hauck, Montana	86-23 (79.4%)	12 (2003-09, 18-25)
2. Jerome Souers, NAU	85-77 (52.5%)	21 (1998-18)
3. Tim Walsh, PSU/CP	74-73 (50.3%)	19 (1996-06, 12-19)
4. Chris Ault, Nevada	68-28 (70.8%)	13 (1979-91)
5. Mike Kramer, EWU/MSU/ISU	63-82 (43.4%)	19 (1994-06, 11-16)
6. Beau Baldwin, EWU/CP	60-31 (65.9%)	12 (2008-16, 19-22)
7. Don Read, Montana	54-22 (71.1%)	10 (1986-95)
8. Jay Hill, Weber State	50-19 (72.5%)	9 (2014-22)
9. Rob Ash, Montana State	49-23 (68.1%)	9 (2007-15)
10. Aaron Best, Eastern Washington	42-28 (60.9%)	9 (2017-25)

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

PAST BIG SKY CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Record
1963	Idaho State	3-1
1964	Montana State	3-0
1965	Weber State/Idaho	3-1
1966	Montana State	4-0
1967	Montana State	4-0
1968	Weber St/MSU/Idaho	3-1
1969	Montana	4-0
1970	Montana	5-0
1971	Idaho	4-1
1972	Montana State	5-1
1973	Boise State	6-0
1974	Boise State	6-0
1975	Boise State	5-0-1
1976	Montana State	6-0
1977	Boise State	6-0
1978	Northern Arizona	6-0
1979	Montana State	6-1
1980	Boise State	6-1
1981	Idaho State	6-1
1982	Idaho/Montana/MSU	5-2
1983	Nevada	6-1
1984	Montana State	6-1
1985	Idaho	6-1
1986	Nevada	7-0
1987	Idaho	7-1
1988	Idaho	7-1
1989	Idaho	8-0
1990	Nevada	7-1
1991	Nevada	8-0
1992	Idaho	6-1
1993	Montana	7-0
1994	Boise State	6-1
1995	Montana	6-1
1996	Montana	8-0
1997	Eastern Washington	7-1
1998	Montana	6-2
1999	Montana	7-1
2000	Montana	8-0
2001	Montana	7-0
2002	MSU/Montana/Idaho State	5-2
2003	MSU/Montana/NAU	5-2
2004	Montana/EWU	6-1
2005	EWU/MSU/Montana	5-2
2006	Montana	8-0
2007	Montana	8-0
2008	Montana/Weber State	7-1
2009	Montana	8-0
2010	EWU/Montana State	7-1
2011	Montana State	7-1
2012	EWU/MSU/Cal Poly	7-1
2013	Eastern Washington	8-0
2014	Eastern Washington	7-1
2015	Southern Utah	7-1
2016	EWU/North Dakota	8-0
2017	Southern Utah/Weber State	7-1
2018	Weber State/EWU/UC Davis	7-1
2019	Weber State/Sac State	7-1
2021*	Weber State	5-1
2021	Sacramento State	8-0
2022	Sac State/Montana State	8-0
2023	Montana	7-1
2024	Montana State	8-0
2025	Montana State	8-0

* - 2021 spring season

BIG SKY OVER FBS WINS SINCE 1978

Date	Big Sky Team	Opponent	Conference	Score
9/7/24	Idaho	Wyoming	Mountain West	17-13
8/24/24	Montana State	New Mexico	Mountain West	35-31
9/16/23	Sacramento State	Stanford	Pac-12	30-23
9/9/23	Idaho	Nevada	Mountain West	33-6
9/24/22	Sacramento State	Colorado State	Mountain West	41-10
9/10/22	Weber State	Utah State	Mountain West	35-7
9/18/21	Northern Arizona	Arizona	Pac-12	21-19
9/4/21	Montana	No. 20 Washington	Pac-12	13-7
9/2/21	UC Davis	Tulsa	American	19-17
9/2/21	Eastern Washington	UNLV	Mountain West	35-33
8/30/18	UC Davis	San Jose State	Mountain West	44-38
9/1/18	Northern Arizona	UTEP	C-USA	30-10
9/16/17	Idaho State	Nevada	Mountain West	30-28
9/3/16	Eastern Washington	Washington State	Pac-12	45-42
9/5/15	North Dakota*	Wyoming	Mountain West	24-13
9/5/15	Portland State	Washington State	Pac-12	24-17
10/10/15	Portland State	North Texas	C-USA	66-7
8/29/13	Southern Utah*	South Alabama	Sun Belt	22-21
8/31/13	Eastern Washington	No. 25 Oregon State	Pac-12	49-46
8/30/12	Eastern Washington	Idaho^	WAC%	20-3
9/8/12	Northern Arizona	UNLV	Mountain West	17-14
9/8/12	Sacramento State	Colorado	Pac-12	30-28
9/15/12	Cal Poly	Wyoming	Mountain West	24-22
9/3/11	Sacramento State	Oregon State	Pac-12	29-28
9/2/06	Montana State	Colorado	Big-12	19-10
9/2/06	Portland State	New Mexico	Mountain West	17-6
9/6/03	Eastern Washington	Idaho^	Sun Belt	8-5
9/27/03	Montana	Idaho^	Sun Belt	41-38
10/5/02	Montana	Idaho^	Sun Belt	38-31
9/8/01	Eastern Washington	UConn	1A-Independent	35-17
11/24/01	Montana	Idaho^	Sun Belt	33-27
9/9/00	Montana	Idaho^	Big West%	45-38
9/9/00	Portland State	Hawaii	WAC%	45-20
11/18/00	Idaho State	Utah State	Big West%	27-24
8/30/97	Cal State Northridge*	Boise State	Big West%	63-23
11/1/97	Eastern Washington	Idaho^	Big West%	24-21
9/7/96	Montana	Oregon State	Pac-12	35-14
9/14/96	Eastern Washington	Boise State	Big West%	27-21
9/21/96	Cal State Northridge*	New Mexico State	Big West%	33-0
9/9/95	Boise State*	Utah State	Big West%	38-14
9/17/94	Boise State*	Nevada	Big West%	37-27
9/17/94	Idaho	UNLV	WAC%	48-38
11/5/94	Eastern Washington	Utah State	Big West%	49-31
10/23/93	Weber State	Nevada	Big West%	47-30
9/12/92	Idaho	Colorado State	WAC%	37-34
9/19/92	Boise State*	Pacific^	Big West%	17-7
10/31/92	Weber State	Nevada	Big West%	23-21
9/7/91	Nevada*	UNLV	Big West%	50-8
9/14/91	Boise State*	Long Beach State^	Big West%	48-14
9/1/90	Montana	Oregon State	Pac-12	22-15
10/20/90	Nevada*	UNLV	Big West%	26-14
11/11/89	Nevada*	UNLV	Big West%	45-7
9/3/88	Boise State*	Long Beach State^	Big West%	29-10
9/17/88	Idaho	Pacific^	Big West%	36-26
11/7/87	Northern Arizona	Tulsa	Independent	24-20
8/30/86	Nevada*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	49-3
9/20/86	Idaho	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	25-17
9/7/85	Montana	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	31-30
9/14/85	Nevada*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	30-3
11/9/85	Nevada*	UNLV	Big West%	48-7
9/29/84	Idaho	Oregon State	Pac-12	41-22
11/17/84	Montana State	Fresno State	Big West%	35-31
9/10/83	Idaho State	UTEP	WAC%	12-10
10/29/83	Idaho	Pacific^	Big West%	31-19
10/29/83	Idaho State	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	43-10
11/5/83	Nevada*	Pacific^	Big West%	34-24
9/11/82	Boise State*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	20-9
9/11/82	Idaho State	Drake^	MVC%	41-21
9/18/82	Idaho	Pacific^	Big West%	36-17
9/25/82	Boise State*	Pacific^	Big West%	22-15
10/16/82	Nevada*	Fresno State	Big West%	40-26
10/23/82	Nevada*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	17-7
11/13/82	Boise State*	Utah State	Big West%	30-10
9/19/81	Montana State	Fresno State	Big West%	30-26
11/14/81	Idaho State	Utah State	Big West%	50-24
11/21/81	Nevada*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	36-34
9/6/80	Boise State*	Utah	WAC%	28-7
10/18/80	Boise State*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	26-11
9/22/79	Boise State*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	22-3
9/22/79	Idaho	Pacific^	Big West%	17-13
9/9/78	Boise State*	Cal State Fullerton^	Big West%	42-12
9/16/78	Boise State*	Long Beach State^	Big West%	19-13
10/14/78	Boise State*	San Jose State	Big West%	30-15
11/11/78	Montana State	Fresno State	Big West%	35-14
11/11/78	Weber State	Utah State	Big West%	44-25

* - Former Big Sky member ^ - Former FBS member % - Former FBS/1A Conference

BIG SKY FOOTBALL WEEKLY NOTES

BIG SKY-MVFC CHALLENGE

2025 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 5, Big Sky 2
8/30: South Dakota State 20, Sac State 3
9/6: South Dakota State 30, Montana State 24
9/6: North Dakota 50, Portland State 20
9/13: South Dakota 24, Northern Colorado 17 (OT)
9/13: Montana 24, North Dakota 23
9/13: Northern Iowa 17, Eastern Washington 14
9/20: Montana 63, Indiana State 20

2024 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 2, Big Sky 1
8/31: Montana 29, Missouri State 25
9/7: North Dakota 27, Montana 24
9/14: North Dakota 52, Idaho State 28

2023 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 4, Big Sky 1
9/2: NDSU 35, EWU 10
9/9: North Dakota 37, NAU 22
9/9: Weber State 34, UNI 17
9/9: SDSU 20, Montana State 16
9/16: UNI 41, Idaho State 17

2022 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 3, Big Sky 3
9/10: Montana 24, South Dakota 7
9/10: South Dakota State 24, UC Davis 22
9/17: Montana 49, Indiana State 14
9/17: South Dakota 38, Cal Poly 21
9/17: North Dakota 27, NAU 21
9/17: Sacramento State 37, UNI 21

2021 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 4, Big Sky 2
9/4: North Dakota 35, Idaho State 14
9/11: Montana 42, Western Illinois 7
9/11: South Dakota 34, NAU 7
9/11: UNI 34, Sac State 16
9/18: South Dakota 48, Cal Poly 14
9/18: EWU 62, Western Illinois 56

2019 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 6, Big Sky 4
NAU 37, Missouri State 23
Montana 31, South Dakota 17
UNI 34, Southern Utah 14
Montana State 23, Western Ill. 14
UNI 13, Idaho State 6
Illinois State 40, NAU 27
South Dakota 14, UNC 6
North Dakota State 27, UC Davis 16
South Dakota State 43, SUU 7
Weber State 29, UNI 17

2018 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 5, Big Sky 3
Montana State 26, Western Ill. 23
North Dakota State 49, Cal Poly 3
Montana 26, UNI 23
South Dakota 43, UNC 28
South Dakota State 45, MSU 14
Missouri State 40, NAU 8
Weber State 27, South Dakota 10
Western Illinois 31, Montana 27

2017 BIG SKY/MVFC CHALLENGE

MVFC 5, Big Sky 3
North Dakota State 40, EWU 13
UNI 45, Cal Poly 38 (OT)
South Dakota State 31, Montana State 27
Western Illinois 38, NAU 20
North Dakota 34, Missouri State 0
South Dakota 45, North Dakota 7
Southern Utah 24, UNI 21
NAU 37, Illinois State 16

PRESEASON MEDIA POLL

Rank	Team (1st)	Pts
1.	Montana State (30)	488
2.	Montana (6)	434
3.	UC Davis (4)	399
4.	Idaho (1)	364
5.	Northern Arizona	354
6.	Sacramento State (1)	282
7.	Idaho State	247
8.	Eastern Washington	225
9.	Weber State	192
10.	Portland State	140
11.	Cal Poly	94
12.	Northern Colorado	57

PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

Rank	Team (1st)	Pts
1.	Montana State (7)	117
2.	UC Davis (1)	100
3.	Montana (2)	96
4.	Northern Arizona (1)	94
5.	Idaho	81
6.	Sacramento State (1)	73
7.	Idaho State	56
8.	Weber State	55
9.	Eastern Washington	48
10.	Portland State	32
11.	Cal Poly	25
12.	Northern Colorado	15

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PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS (VOTED BY MEDIA)

OFF MVP: Adam Jones, Montana State

DEF MVP: Rex Connors, UC Davis

Pos.	Player, Team
QB:	Ty Pennington, Northern Arizona
RB:	Adam Jones, Montana State
RB:	Eli Gillman, Montana
FB:	Colter May, Weber State
WR:	Sam Gbatu, Jr., UC Davis
WR:	Taco Dowler, Montana State
WR:	Michael Briscoe, Cal Poly
TE:	Winston Williams, UC Davis
TE:	Tanner Beaman, Portland State
OL:	Titan Fleischmann, Montana State
OL:	Gavin Ortega, Weber State
OL:	Stryker Rashid, Idaho State
OL:	Nate Azzopardi, Idaho
OL:	Ernesto Nava, UC Davis
OL:	Eli Simonson, UC Davis
DL:	Paul Brott, Montana State
DL:	Kenneth Eiden IV, Montana State
DL:	Ethan Rodriguez, Cal Poly
DL:	Micah Carreon, Northern Arizona
DL:	Tylin Jackson, Eastern Washington
DL:	Zach Krotzer, Idaho
LB:	Peyton Wing, Montana
LB:	Porter Connors, UC Davis
LB:	Isiah King, Idaho
LB:	Brandon Wong, Northern Arizona

Pos.	Player, Team
LB:	Nathan Reynolds, Idaho State
DB:	Rex Connors, UC Davis
DB:	Mason Rivera, Cal Poly
DB:	Cam Chapa, Northern Colorado
DB:	DaJean Wells, Eastern Washington
DB:	Isaiah Green, Portland State
DB:	Mason Young, Idaho State
PK:	Hunter Ridley, UC Davis
P:	Ben D'Aquila, Northern Arizona
KR:	Michael Wortham, Montana
PR:	Taco Dowler, Montana State
LS:	Grayson Pibal, Montana
ST:	Trevor Thurman, Eastern Washington
AP:	Michael Wortham, Montana

* - *Received most votes in position group*