

2023 Football Media Release (September 5, 2023)

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

## 2023 STANDINGS

<b>CUSA LEAGUE PLAY</b>	OVERALL													
	W-L	Pct.	Н	Α	Pts.	Opp.		W-L	Pct.	Н	Α	N	Pts	Opp.
Jax State	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	17	14		2-0	1.000	2-0	0-0	0-0	66	17
Louisiana Tech	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	22	17		1-1	.500	1-0	0-1	0-0	36	55
Liberty	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-		1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	34	24
WKU	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-		1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	41	24
New Mexico State	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-		1-1	.500	1-1	0-0	0-0	30	41
Middle Tennessee	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-		0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	0-0	7	56
Sam Houston	0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	-		0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	0-0	0	14
FIU	0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	17	22		1-1	.500	1-0	0-1	0-0	31	34
UTEP	0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	14	17		1-1	.500	1-0	0-1	0-0	42	31

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

#### **WEEK 1 RESULTS**

#### **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

## **UPCOMING GAMES (ALL TIMES CT)**

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

UTEP at Northwestern (Big Ten Net) 2:30 p.m.

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

North Texas at FIU (ESPN+) 5:30 p.m.

Jax State at Coastal Carolina (ESPN+) 6 p.m.

Northwestern State at LA Tech (ESPN+) 6 p.m.

MTSU at Missouri (SEC Net+) 6 p.m.

Houston Christian at WKU (ESPN+) 6 p.m.

Air Force at Sam Houston (CBSSN) 7 p.m.

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

Liberty at Buffalo (CBSSN)	11 a.m.
FIU at UCONN (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.
WKU at No. 5 Ohio State (Fox)	3 p.m.
North Texas at LA Tech (ESPN+)	6 p.m.
Murray State at MTSU (ESPN+)	6 p.m.
New Mexico State at New Mexico (M	1WN) 7 p.m.
UTEP at Arizona (Pac-12 Net)	10 p.m.

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

Eastern Michigan at Jax State (ESPN Platforms) 4 p.m. **Liberty at FIU (ESPN Platforms)**Colorado State at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 6 p.m.

Sam Houston at Houston (Big 12 Now) 6 p.m.

WKU at Troy 6 p.m.

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

New Mexico State at Hawai'i 11 p.m.

LA Tech at Nebraska

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

MTSU at WKU (CBSSN) 6:30 p.m. Jax State at Sam Houston (ESPNU) 7 p.m.

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29	
A Tech at UTEP (CBSSN)	8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4	
Jax State at MTSU (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
FIU at New Mexico State (CBSSN)	8 p.m.

# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 Sam Houston at Liberty (CBSSN) 6 p.m. WKU at LA Tech (ESPNU) 7 p.m.

## 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 1)

## OFFENSE

## WR KRIS MITCHELL, FIU

RS Junior, Jacksonville, Florida

Mitchell finished with 201 yards on nine receptions in FIU's win over Maine, which tied for the most receiving yards in a single game in FIU program history (Tyrese Chambers did so against Charlotte on 10/8/21 and T.Y. Hilton did so at Louisville on 9/9/II). Mitchell's 62-yard touchdown catch against Maine was the longest of his career, and his two scoring grabs tied a single-game career best mark. The Jacksonville, Florida, native's nine catches were the most he has had in a single game thus far in his career.

## DEFENSE LB JAQUES EVANS, WKU

Junior, Dublin, Georgia

Evans helped the Hilltoppers close out a 41-24 season-opening win over South Florida on Saturday by stripping the USF quarterback, recovering the ball and returning it 27 yards for a touchdown. The Conference USA Preseason Defensive Player of the Year finished with seven tackles – which was tied for the game high – and also had a sack and pass breakup. WKU held USF to just 10 points over the final three quarters, including a single touchdown in the second half.

## SPECIAL TEAMS K, LUCAS CARNEIRO, WKU

RS Freshman, Cornelius, North Carolina

In his first game at the college level, Carneiro, a redshirt freshman, made both field goals he attempted and was a perfect 5-5 on extra points. His field goals were from 41 and 42 yards, respectively, and helped the Hilltoppers overcome an early double-digit deficit in Saturday's 41-24 season-opening win over South Florida.





















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## **QUICK HITTERS**

## **CUSA ADDS FOUR NEW MEMBERS**

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

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

Kennesaw State will join CUSA on July 1, 2024.

## A LOOK AT WEEK 2

For the second straight week, all nine Conference USA teams are in action in Week 2. The week features seven non-conference matchups and one conference tilt

UTEP (1-1, 0-1 CUSA) travels to Evanston, Illinois, to take on Northwestern (0-1) in the first game of the week involving a CUSA team. The Miners and Wildcats kick off at 2:30 p.m. CT on **Big Ten Network**. UTEP enters play after a 28-14 win at home last week against Incarnate Word, while Northwestern opened the season with a 24-7 loss to Rutgers in interim head coach David Braun's debut.

New Mexico State (1-1, 0-0 CUSA) travels to Lynchburg to take on Liberty (1-0, 0-0 CUSA) in the first-ever CUSA contest for both teams, at 5 p.m. CT on **ESPN+. Jerry Kill**'s Aggies bounced back with a dominant 58-21 win over Western Illinois at home last week and look to duplicate their performance at Liberty from 2022...a 49-14 win. Liberty knocked off Bowling Green last week in the Flames' season opener, 34-24, in **Jamey Chadwell**'s first win as Liberty head coach and the 100th of his coaching career.

FIU (1-1, 0-1 CUSA) hosts a former conference mate in North Texas (0-1) on Saturday night at 5:30 p.m. CT on **ESPN+**. The Panthers picked up their first win of the season last week with a 14-12 win at home over Maine in true freshman **QB Keyone Jenkins**' first career start. North Texas opened the Eric Morris era with a disappointing 58-21 loss at home last week to Cal

Jax State (2-0, 1-0 CUSA) looks to continue its hot start when it travels to Coastal Carolina (0-1) in Myrtle Beach at 6 p.m. CT on **ESPN+**. The Gamecocks scored 49 unanswered points to knock off East Tennessee State 49-3 last week at home. This week they take their first road trip of the season to take on the Chanticleers, who fell 27-13 last week at UCLA in head coach Tim Beck's debut.

LA Tech (1-1, 1-0 CUSA) looks to rebound this week when they host FCS foe Northwestern State (0-1) at 6 p.m. CT on **ESPN+**. The Bulldogs fell 38-14 at SMU last week, while the Demons dropped their opener 38-13 at Louisiana.

Middle Tennessee (0-1) takes on its second consecutive SEC foe this week, when the Blue Raiders travel to battle Missouri (1-0) at 6 p.m. CT on **SEC Network+**. MTSU lost 56-7 last week at No. 4 Alabama, while the Tigers opened the 2023 season with a 35-10 win over South Dakota at home.

WKU (1-0) looks to open the year with back-to-back wins when the Hilltoppers welcome Houston Chris-

tian (1-0) to Bowling Green at 6 p.m. CT on **ESPN+**. WKU knocked off AAC foe South Florida 41-24 last week in the season opener, while Houston Christian defeated Arkansas Baptist 66-0 in the Huskies' opener.

The final game involving a CUSA team kicks off at 7 p.m. CT on **CBS Sports Network** as Sam Houston (0-1) takes on Air Force (1-0) at NRG Stadium in Houston. The Bearkats hung with BYU last week on the road, falling 14-0 to the Cougars in Provo, while Air Force beat Robert Morris 42-7 last week at home.

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

## 2023 MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

Conference USA's new television deal with partners CBS Sports Network and ESPN, features a new midweek scheduling model for beginning this fall. 19 CUSA games will take place on weeknights throughout the month of October, enhancing linear exposure for the league and its programs.

## REED ALL ABOUT IT!

WKU **QB Austin Reed** returns for the 2023 season as the nation's leading returning passer. He led the country in 2022 in passing yardage (4,746) and finished his first season in Bowling Green by completing 389-of-603 for 4,746 yards with 40 touchdowns to just 11 interceptions. He also chipped in on the ground, carrying 91 times for 224 yards and eight more touchdowns.

Reed opened his 2023 season by completing 29-50 passes for 336 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions, while also carrying three times for 27 yards and another score.

## CHADWELL ERA AT LIBERTY OPENS WITH WIN

Liberty (1-0) opened its CUSA era with a 34-24 win at home over MAC foe Bowling Green (0-1). It marked new head coach **Jamey Chadwell**'s first win with the Flames and the 100th of his career. Liberty's defense recorded five interceptions, including a pair by **LB Jerome Jolly, Jr.** Redshirt sophomore **QB Kaidon Salter** was dynamic for the Flames, throwing for 143 yards and two scores with no interceptions, and also ran for 82 yards in the win. Sophomore **DL Chris Boti** finished with 2.5 TFL and 1.5 sacks in the win.

## JAX STATE COASTS TO 2-0, WIN 49-3

Jax State (2-0, 1-0 CUSA) improved to 2-0 with a comfortable 49-3 home win over FCS foe East Tennessee State (0-1). The Gamecocks ran for 237 yards, including a strong performance by **RB Malik Jackson**, who carried 12 times for 100 yards and a
touchdown. **QB Logan Smothers** finished 13-17 for
127 yards with a touchdown and no interceptions in
his first career start to go along with 14 carries for 40
yards and two more scores in the win. Defensively,
Jax State forced four turnovers, giving them seven
on the young season already. They also recorded
three sacks in the win.

#### **REED, EVANS LEAD WKU TO 41-24 WIN**

WKU (1-0) opened its 2023 season with a 41-24 win over AAC foe South Florida (0-1). CUSA Preseason Offensive Player of the Year **QB Austin Reed** led the way for the Hilltoppers, completing 29-50 passes for 336 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions and also carried three times for 27 yards and another score. Defensively, CUSA Preseason Defensive Player of the Year **LB JaQues "Donut" Evans** finished with seven stops, and a highlight reel sack, forced fumble, fumble recovery and rturned it 27 yards for a touchdown to put an exclamation mark on the victory.

#### **JENKINS LEADS FIU TO FIRST WIN OF 2023**

FIU (1-1, 0-1 CUSA) picked up its first win of the 2023 season, holding off Maine (0-1) 14-12 in Miami on Saturday night. True freshman **QB Keyone Jenkins** completed 15-30 passes for 290 yards and two touchdowns in the win, his first career start. His favorite target was **WR Kris Mitchell**, who hauled in nine passes for 201 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, **LB Donovan Manuel** recorded a gamehigh 14 tackles, and a pair of tackles for loss in the win.

## HANKINS PACES MINERS TO WIN OVER UIW

UTEP (1-1, O-1 CUSA) knocked off Incarnate Word (O-1) 28-14 in El Paso on Saturday night to even its record. **RB Deion Hankins** carried 24 times for 174 yards in the win for the Miners, and **QB Gavin Hardison** threw a pair of touchdown passes. **LB Tyrice Knight** had a game-high 16 tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and a sack. The Miners held UIW scoreless in the second half, and outgained the Cardinals 423-308.

#### AGGIES BOUNCE BACK WITH DOMINANT WIN

New Mexico State (1-1) bounced back at home Saturday night with a comfortable 58-21 win over Western Illinois (0-1). The Aggies rolled up 650 yards of total offense, and were led by **QB Diego Pavia**, who completed 16-20 passes for 317 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions. **RB Star Thomas** paced a productive running game (277 rushing yards), carrying 12 times for 96 yards and a pair of scores, while **WR Jonathan Brady** hauled in four catches for 102 yards and a touchdown. Defensively, **DL Nikhil Webb-Walker** had 1.5 sacks and a quarter-back hurry in the win.

## SAM HOUSTON MAKES CUSA DEBUT AT BYU

Sam Houston (0-1) kept it close in Provo against BYU (1-0), falling 14-0 on the road in its FBS and CUSA debut. The Bearkats defense held the Cougars to 25 yards of total offense and just 14 points, but couldn't get things going offensively.





















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## QUICK HITTERS/BROADCAST INFORMATION/CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION

AP T	AP TOP 25					
Rk	Team	Rec.	Conf.	LW		
1	Georgia (58)	1-0	SEC	1		
2	Michigan (2)	1-0	B10	2		
3	Alabama	1-0	SEC	4		
4	Florida State (3)	1-0	ACC	8		
5	Ohio State	1-0	B10	3		
6	USC	2-0	P12	6		
7	Penn State	1-0	B10	7		
8	Washington	1-0	P12	10		
9	Tennessee	1-0	SEC	12		
10	Notre Dame	2-0	FBS IND.	13		
11	Texas	1-0	B12	11		
12	Utah	1-0	P12	14		
13	Oregon	1-0	P12	15		
14	LSU	0-1	SEC	5		
15	Kansas State	1-0	B12	16		
16	Oregon State	1-0	P12	18		
17	North Carolina	1-0	ACC	21		
18	Oklahoma	1-0	B12	20		
19	Wisconsin	1-0	B10	19		
20	Ole Miss	1-0	SEC	22		
21	Duke	1-0	ACC	NR		
22	Colorado	1-0	P12	NR		
23	Texas A&M	1-0	SEC	23		
24	Tulane	1-0	AAC	24		

Others Receiving Votes: Iowa 73, UCLA 55, Arkansas 28, TCU 27, Kentucky 15, Pittsburgh 8, Mississippi State 5, Miami 4, NC State 4, Auburn 3, Troy 3, Fresno State 3, Minnesota 3, Wyoming 3, Iowa State 2, Texas State 2, Texas Tech 1, Louisville 1, Washington State 1, Illinois 1, Houston 1, UCF 1, James Madison 1.

ACC

## 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

Clemson

Big Ten: Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State

MAC: Bowling Green, Buffalo, Eastern Michigan

<u>Mountain West:</u> Air Force, Colorado State, Hawai'i, New Mexico, UNLV

Pac-12: Arizona

<u>SEC:</u> Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Missouri, South Carolina

Sun Belt: Coastal Carolina, Old Dominion, Troy

Independent: UCONN, UMass (2)

## PRESEASON AWARDS

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

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Austin Reed, RS Sr., QB, WKU

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR** 

JaQues Evans, Jr., LB, WKU

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

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

#### PRESEASON WATCH LIST

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

#### **OFFENSE**

QB QB Gavin Hardison, RS Sr., UTEP Grayson James, Jr., FIÚ Diego Pavia, Sr., New Mexico State Austin Reed, RS Sr., WKU Anwar Lewis, RS Jr., Jacksonville State QB QB RB RB Frank Peasant, Jr., Middle Tennessee WR Ife Adeyi, Sr., Sam Houston Malachi Corley, Jr., WKU WR Noah Frith, Sr., Liberty Smoke Harris, RS Sr., Louisiana Tech Sean Brown, RS Jr., Jacksonville State Carson Bruno, RS So., Louisiana Tech WR WR ΤE OL X'Zauvea Gadlin, Sr., Liberty Ethan Hagler, Sr., Sam Houston Elijah Klein, RS Sr., UTEP OL OL OL OL OL Quantavious Leslie, Jr., WKU Jacob Peace, Sr., FIU Shiyazh Pete, RS So., New Mexico State OL OL Keylan Rutledge, So., Middle Tennessee

## **DEFENSE**

DE DE Praise Amaewhule, RS Sr., UTEP J-Rock Swain, Jr., Jacksonville State Kendy Charles, Sr., Liberty Marley Cook, RS Jr., Middle Tennessee DL DL DL Jordan Guerad, RS So., FIU Deshon Hall, Sr., Louisiana Tech Chris Hardie, RS Jr., Jacksonville State DL DL DL Markel Perry, Gr., Sam Houston DL Dion Wilson Jr., Jr., New Mexico State Jaques Evans, Jr., WKU
Kavian Gaither, Jr., Sam Houston
Tyrice Knight, RS Sr., UTEP
Donovan Manuel, Sr., FIU LB LB LB LB DB Quinton Reese, Sr., Liberty Willie Roberts, Sr., Louisiana Tech Teldrick Ross, RS Sr., Middle Tennessee DB DB DB Andre Seldon, RS So., New Mexico State

#### **SPECIAL TEAMS**

K Nick Brown, So., Liberty
K Alen Karajic, Jr., Jacksonville State
K Zeke Rankin, Jr., Middle Tennessee
K/P Jadon Cardell, RS So., Sam Houston
P Tom Ellard, RS So., WKU
P Daton Montiel, RS Jr., FIU
Joshua Sloan, Jr., UTEP
PR/KR Smoke Harris, RS Sr., Louisiana Tech
KR Jonathan Brady, So., New Mexico State

## ACADEMIC PERFORMER

OL Jacob Peace, Sr., FIU
DL Jackson Luttrell, Sr., Jacksonville State
QB Trey Lowe, Sr., Liberty
OL Abraham Delfin, Gr., Louisiana Tech
LB Devyn Curtis, RS So., Middle Tennessee
OL Canaan Yarro, RS Jr., New Mexico State
LB Trevor Williams, Gr., Sam Houston
OL Andrew Meyer, RS Sr., UTEP
OL Vincent Murphy, RS Jr., WKU

## PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

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

1. WKU (18)

2. Liberty (4)

3. Middle Tennessee

4. Louisiana Tech5. New Mexico State

6. UTEP

7. Jacksonville State

8. FIU

Sam Houston

(First place votes in parentheses)

## **WATCH THIS!**

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

#### **AFCA Good Works Team (Community Service)**

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

## **Biletnikoff Award (Nation's Best Receiver)**

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

#### Bronko Nagurski Trophy (Nation's Best Defensive Player)

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

#### **Butkus Award (Nation's Best LB)**

Tyrice Knight, LB, RS Sr., UTEP JaQues 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 Zaylin Wood, DE, 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





















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## **BROADCAST INFORMATION/CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION**

Malachi Corley, WR, Jr., WKU Wes Dorsey, OL, RS Jr., WKU JaQues Evans, LB, Jr., WKU Quantavious Leslie, OL, Jr., WKU

John Mackey Award (Nation's Best TE)

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

Lombardi Award (Best OL/DL)

Marley Cook, DL, RS Jr., MTSU

Manning Award (Nation's Best QB)

Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

Maxwell Award (Nation's Most Outstanding Player)

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

**Outland Trophy (Nation's Best Interior Lineman)** 

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

Paycom Jim Thorpe Award (Nation's Best DB)

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

**Phil Steele Preseason All-American** 

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

Ray Guy Award (Nation's Best P)

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

**Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List** 

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

Rimington Trophy (Nation's Best C)

Andrew Meyer, C, Sr., UTEP

Walter Camp Award (Nation's Most Outstanding Player)

Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

**Wuerffel Trophy (Community Service)** 

Jeramy 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
JaQues Evans, LB, Jr., WKU
Austin Reed, QB, RS Sr., WKU

#### **WORKING OVERTIME**

Here's a look at CUSA overtime games in 2022 and all-time.

2022 CUSA Overtimes

FIU 38, Bryant 37 (OT) - 9/1/22 No. 24 Houston 37, UTSA 35 (3OT) - 9/3/22 UTSA 41, Army West Point 38 (OT) - 9/10/22 Indiana 33, WKU 30 (OT) - 9/17/22 Rice 42, Louisiana Tech 41 (OT) - 10/22/22 FIU 42, Louisiana Tech 34 (2OT) - 10/28/22 UTSA 44, UAB 38 (2OT) - 11/5/22 WKU 32, Florida Atlantic 31 (OT) - 11/26/22

Overtime Records 1996-2022

ieams	All Games	CUSA Games
FIU	7-6	2-2
Jax State*	9-8	0-0
Liberty <sup>^</sup>	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*	3-7	0-0
UTEP	6-3	5-3
WKU&	13-5	4-2

- \* all 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).



## 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)

UTSA (8-0) 2022 UTSA (7-1) 2021 2020 UAB (3-1) 2019 Florida Atlantic (7-1) 2018 UAB (7-1) 2017 Florida Atlantic (8-0) 2016 WKU (7-1) WKU (8-0) 2015 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.





















**2023 Football Media Release** (September 5, 2023) Contact: Jordan Stepp | jstepp@c-usa.org | 805.551.8648

## **CONFERENCE USA BOWL PARTNERS**

## **CUSA BOWL SYNOPSIS**

Conference USA is in year four the league's sixyear 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.

## <u>Guaranteed selections each season:</u> Hometown Lenders Bahamas Bowl

(Nassau, Bahamas) www.bahamasbowl.com

## **R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl**

(New Orleans, Louisiana) www.neworleansbowl.org

## <u>Guaranteed selections selected seasons:</u> Easypost Hawai'i Bowl

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

## **Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl**

(Shreveport, Louisiana) – 2025 www.radiancetechnologiesindependencebowl. 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

## **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.

## **COLLEGEPRESSBOX.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		M	1alcolm 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 Zimmerm	
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
Jacksonville State
Liberty
Louisiana Tech
Middle Tennessee
New Mexico State
Sam Houston
UTEP

WKU

www.FIUSports.com www.jaxstatesports.com www.libertyflames.com www.LATechSports.com www.GoBlueRaiders.com www.nmstatesports.com www.gobearkats.com www.UTEPAthletics.com 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 @NMStateFootball New Mexico State Sam Houston @BearkatsFB 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 Mondays at 2 p.m. CT Sam Houston **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:

Conference USA League Office Cell Phone: E-Mail: Secondary E-Mail:	(805) 551-8648 jstepp@c-usa.org
FIU Office Phone:Cell Phone:E-Mail:	(303) 908-0439
Jacksonville State Office Phone:	(256) 453-0545
Liberty Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail: Secondary E-Mail:	(434) 841-8974 twetmore@liberty.edu
Louisiana Tech Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail:	(913) 689-8407
Middle Tennessee Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail:	(615) 631-9520
New Mexico State Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail: Secondary E-Mail:	(915) 525-8627 micnav@nmsu.edu
Sam Houston Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail:	(979) 229-3722
UTEP Office Phone: Cell Phone: E-Mail:	(915) 309-4478
WKU Office Phone:	(207) 462-0269 red.macdonald@wku.edu jack.todd@wku.edu





















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## **TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES**

## FIU (1-1, 0-1 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	at LA Tech (CBSSN)	L, 22-17
S2	MAINE (ESPN+)	W, 14-12
S9	NORTH TEXAS (ESPN+)	5:30 p.m.
S16	at UCONN (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.
S23	LIBERTY (ESPN Platforms)	5:30 p.m.
04 (Wed.)	at New Mexico State (CBSS)	
O11 (Wed.)	UTEP (ESPN2)	6:30 p.m.
	at Sam Houston (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	JAX STATE (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N11	at MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	at Arkansas	TBD
N25	WKU (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.

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

## LIBERTY (1-0, 0-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	BOWLING GREEN (CBSSN)	11 a.m.
S9	<b>NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN-</b>	+) 5 p.m.
S16	at Buffalo (CBSSN)	11 a.m.
S23	at FIU (ESPN Platforms)	5:30 p.m.
O5 (Th.)	SAM HOUSTON (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O10 (Tues.)	at Jax State (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
O17 (Tues.)	MTSU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
<b>O24</b> (Tues.)	at WKU (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
N4	LA TECH (CBSSN)	5 p.m.
N11	OLD DOMINION (ESPN Platfor	ms) 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 (2-0, 1-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	UTEP (CBSSN)	W, 17-14
S2	EAST TENN. STATE (ESPN+)	W, 49-3
S9	at Coastal Carolina (ESPN+)	6 p.m.
S23	EASTERN MICHIGAN (ESPN Platfor	ms) 4 p.m.
S28 (Th.)	at Sam Houston (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
	at MTSU (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
O10 (Tues.)	LIBERTY (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
O17 (Tues.)	WKU (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	at FIU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at South Carolina	TBD
N18	LA TECH (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	at New Mexico State (ESPN Platforn	ns) 3 p.m.

 $\label{eq:local_local_local_local} \mbox{All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.}$ 

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE (0-1, 0-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	at No. 4 Alabama (SEC Net)	L, 56-7
S9	at Missouri (SEC Net+)	6 p.m.
S16	MURRAY STATE (ESPN+)	6 p.m.
S23	COLORADO STATE (ESPN Platforms	) 6 p.m.
		30 p.m.
	JAX STATE (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
	) LA TECH (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
O17 (Tues.)	) at Liberty (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at New Mexico State (ESPN Platform:	s) 5 p.m.
N11		30 p.m.
N18	UTEP (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	at Sam Houston (ESPN Platforms	) 11 a.m.

 $\label{eq:local_local_local_local} \mbox{All times CT and along with dates, are subject to change based upon television selections.}$ 

## LOUISIANA TECH (1-1, 1-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	FIU (CBSSN)	W, 22-17
S2	at SMU (ESPNU)	L, 38-14
S9	NORTHWESTERN STATE (ESPN	l+) 6 p.m.
S16	NORTH TEXAS (ESPN+)	6 p.m.
S23	at Nebraska	TBD
S29 (Fri.)	at UTEP (CBSSN)	8 p.m.
O5 (Th.)	WKU (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
	at MTSU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
<b>O24</b> (Tues.)	NEW MEXICO STATE (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	at Liberty (CBSSN)	5 p.m.
N11	SAM HOUSTON (ESPN Platforn	
N18	at Jax State (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.

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





















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## **TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES**

## **NEW MEXICO STATE (1-1, 0-0 CUSA)**

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
A26	UMASS (ESPN)	L, 41-30
S2	WESTERN ILLINOIS (ESPN+)	W, 58-21
S9	at Liberty (ESPN+)	5 p.m.
S16	at New Mexico	7 p.m.
S23	at Hawai'i	11 p.m.
04 (Wed.)	FIU (CBSSN)	8 p.m.
O11 (Wed.)	SAM HOUSTON (CBSSN)	8 p.m.
O18 (Wed.)	at UTEP (ESPN2)	8 p.m.
<b>O24</b> (Tues.)	at LA Tech (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
N4	MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	5 p.m.
N11	at WKU (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N18	at Auburn	TBD
N25	JAX STATE (ESPN Platforms)	3 p.m.

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

## SAM HOUSTON (0-1, 0-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	at BYU (FS1)	L, 14-0
S9	AIR FORCE (CBSSN)*	7 p.m.
S23	at Houston (Big 12 Now)	6 p.m.
S28 (Th.)	JAX STATE (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
O5 (Th.)		6 p.m.
O11 (Wed.)	at New Mexico State (CBSSN)	8 p.m.
	FIU (CBSSN)	6 p.m.
	UTEP (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	KENNESAW STATE (ESPN Platforms)	) 12 p.m.
N11	at LA Tech (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.
N18		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.  $^{\ast}$  - game to be played at NRG Stadium in Houston

## **UTEP (1-1, 0-1 CUSA)**

DAIL	OPPONENT (TV)	IIME
A26	at Jax State (CBSSN)	L, 17-14
S2	INCARNATE WORD (ESPN+)	W, 28-14
S9	at Northwestern (Big Ten Net)	2:30 p.m.
S16	at Arizona (Pac-12 Net)	10 p.m.
S23	UNLV (ESPN Platforms)	8 p.m.
S29 (Fri.)	LA TECH (CBSSN)	8 p.m.
O11 (Wed.)	at FIU (ESPN2)	6:30 p.m.
O18 (Wed.)	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN2)	8 p.m.
O25 (Wed.)	at Sam Houston (ESPN2)	7 p.m.
N4	WKU (ESPN Platforms)	8 p.m.
N18	at MTSU (ESPN Platforms)	1 p.m.
N25	LIBERTY (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.

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

## WKU (1-0, 0-0 CUSA)

DATE	OPPONENT (TV)	TIME
S2	SOUTH FLORIDA (CBSSN)	W, 41-24
S9	HOUSTON CHRISTIAN (ESPN	+) 6 p.m.
S16	at No. 5 Ohio State (FOX)	3 p.m.
S23	at Troy	6 p.m.
S28 (Th.)	MTSU (CBSSN)	6:30 p.m.
O5 (Th.)	at LA Tech (ESPNU)	7 p.m.
O17 (Tues.)	at Jax State (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
<b>O24</b> (Tues.)	LIBERTY (ESPNU)	6:30 p.m.
N4	at UTEP (ESPN Platforms)	8 p.m.
N11	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN Platforms	s) 2:30 p.m.
N18	SAM HOUSTON (ESPN Platforms)	2:30 p.m.
N25	at FIU (ESPN Platforms)	2 p.m.

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





















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## **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** 

UTEP at Northwestern (Big Ten Net) 2:30 p.m. New Mexico State at Liberty (ESPN+) 5 p.m. North Texas at FIU (ESPN+) 5:30 p.m. Jax State at Coastal Carolina (ESPN+) 6 p.m. Northwestern State at LA Tech (ESPN+) 6 p.m. MTSU at Missouri (SEC Net+) 6 p.m. Houston Christian at WKU (ESPN+) 6 p.m. Air Force at Sam Houston (CBSSN) 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16** 

Liberty at Buffalo (CBSSN) 11 a.m. FIU at UCONN (CBSSN) 2:30 p.m. WKU at No. 5 Ohio State (Fox) 3 p.m. North Texas at LA Tech (ESPN+) 6 p.m. Murray State at MTSU (ESPN+) 6 p.m. New Mexico State at New Mexico (MWN) 7 p.m. UTEP at Arizona (Pac-12 Net) 10 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23** 

Eastern Michigan at Jax State (ESPN Platforms) 4 p.m. Liberty at FIU (ESPN Platforms) Colorado State at MTSU (ESPN Platforms) 6 p.m. Sam Houston at Houston (Big 12 Now) 6 p.m. WKU at Troy 6 p.m. UNLV at UTEP (ESPN Platforms) 8 p.m. New Mexico State at Hawai'i 11 p.m. LA Tech at Nebraska TRD

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28** 

MTSU at WKU (CBSSN) 6:30 p.m. Jax State at Sam Houston (ESPNU) 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29** 

LA Tech at UTEP (CBSSN) 8 p.m. **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4** 

Jax State at MTSU (ESPNU) 7 p.m. FIU at New Mexico State (CBSSN) 8 p.m.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5** 

Sam Houston at Liberty (CBSSN) 6 p.m. WKU at LA Tech (ESPNU) 7 p.m.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10** 

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

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11** 

**UTEP at FIU (ESPN2)** 6:30 p.m. Sam Houston at New Mexico State (CBSSN) 8 p.m.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17** 

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

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18** 

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

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24** 

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

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25** 

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

**SATURDAY. NOVEMBER 4** 

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

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11** 

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

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 

UMass at Liberty (ESPN Platforms) 12 p.m. LA Tech at Jax State (ESPN Platforms) 1 p.m. **UTEP at MTSU (ESPN Platforms)** 1 p.m. Sam Houston at WKU (ESPN Platforms) 2:30 p.m. FIU at Arkansas TBD New Mexico State at Auburn TBD **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25** 

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

**TBD** 

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

**CUSA Championship (CBSSN)** 

Conference games in bold.

All times are listed in CT All dates are subject to change based upon television selections.

















