

# **GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE**

2017 Football Weekly Release | August 30, 2017 | Week One



















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# GSC STANDINGS

(through 08/29/17)

				Confer	ence		l		Overa	all					
A/D2	Team	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	l w	L	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Neutral	<b>Streak</b>
RV/	Delta State	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-3
RV/	Florida Tech	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-1
	Mississippi College	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-1
6/5	North Alabama	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-1
	Shorter	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-17
11/13	Valdosta State	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-1
	West Alabama	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	W-1
	West Florida	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	L-3
RV/	West Georgia	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	W-1

A-AFCA Division II Coaches' Poll | D2-D2Football.com Poll

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL OVERVIEW

All nine GSC teams will open up the 2017 season this week, with four teams starting play on Thursday, followed by the remaining five institutions on Saturday. The four-time defending league champions from North Alabama were picked as the conference favorite heading into the season. The Lions advanced to the NCAA National Championship Game in 2016. The Lions were followed in the poll by Valdosta State, West Georgia, Florida Tech, and West Alabama. Delta State, West Florida, Mississippi College, and Shorter rounded out the preseason rankings.

There will be plenty of skill position talent on display this season. Three First Team All-GSC Wide Receivers (**Donta Armstrong**, UWA; **Dre Hall**, UNA; **Ishmel Morrow**, UWF) return in 2017, as do two First Team All-GSC Running Backs (**Chris Robinson**, DSU; **Antwuan Haynes**, FIT).

Two of the four First Team All-GSC Defensive Linemen from last season were selected in the NFL Draft (UWG's **Dylan Donahue** and **Alex Armah**). The other two (**Adonis Davis**, FIT; **Darius Ellis**, UWA) are just juniors and return to the GSC in 2017 with high expectations. Davis and Ellis are the only two returning members of the 2016 All-GSC Defensive First Team.

There were two coaching changes in the league. Bobby Wallace, the winningest coach in GSC history, retired from North Alabama and was replaced by longtime assistant Chris Willis. This is Willis' first time as a head coach. David Dean will return to the GSC in 2017. Dean is now at the helm of West Georgia after winning two national titles during his tenure at Valdosta State.

# THIS WEEK'S GAMES

#5 Texas A&M Commerce @ #6 North Alabama	6:00 p.m.
Fort Valley State @ West Georgia	7:00 p.m.
Mississippi College @ Clark Atlanta	7:00 p.m.
West Alabama @ Lenoir-Rhyne	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 2	
Mars Hill @ <b>Shorter</b>	1:00 p.m.
Tarleton State @ <b>Delta State</b>	2:00 p.m.
Virginia Lynchburg @ Florida Tech	7:00 p.m.
#11 Valdosta State @ Albany State	7:00 p.m.
West Florida @ Missouri S&T	7:00 p.m.

All Times are Local; GSC Teams in BOLD

Thursday, August 31

# **NEXT WEEK'S GAMES**

Thursday, September 7 West Alabama @ Samford	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 9	
Chowan @ <b>Delta State</b>	2:00 p.m.
Mississippi College @ Southwest Baptist	6:00 p.m.
Midwestern State @ West Florida	6:00 p.m.
Shorter @ Tusculum	6:00 p.m.
Miles @ West Georgia	7:00 p.m.
Fort Valley State vs. #11 Valdosta State	7:00 p.m.
Florida Tech @ McNeese State	7:00 p.m.

All Times are Local; GSC Teams in **BOLD**; Division I-FCS Opponents in *Italics* 

# Mississippi College Choctaws

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



# #5 Texas A&M Commerce Lions



## Clark Atlanta Panthers

(0-0, 0-0 Southern Intercollegiate)



Thursday, August 31 | 7:00 p.m. ET CAU Panther Stadium | Atlanta, Ga.

Series Record:	First Meeting
Last Meeting:	
MC's 2016 Record:	3-7 (1-7 GSC)
CAU's 2016 Record:	5-5 (3-4 SIAC)

# **Game Breakdown**

Last season, the Choctaws picked up their first GSC win since 1995 in a shutout victory over Shorter. This season, MC will be looking to claim victory in its third straight season opener, defeating Point University and Texas College the last two years. Defensively, the Choctaws return the majority of their starters, including Chris Manning, who ranked in the league's top 10 in both tackles and interceptions in 2016. Offensively, the Choctaws will have to replace their leader passer, rusher, and receiver. On the flip side, CAU will return its offensive leaders for the 2017 campaign, including quarterback Johnathon McCray, the Preseason SIAC Offensive Player of the Year.

## Mississippi College Statistical Leaders

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Alizee Chubbs (341 yds, 34.1 avg/g, 3 TDs) Rushina: Khiran Williams (449 yds, 89.8 avg/g, 2 TDs) Passing:

Chakel Gates (20 rec, 226 yds, 1 TD) Receiving:

Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Chris Manning (DB, 44 solo, 26 ast, 1.0 TFL/3 yds)

Kris Reliford (DL, 2.0 sacks/8 yds) Sacks: Interceptions: Chris Manning (DB, 3 INTs/44 yds)

#### **Clark Atlanta Statistical Leaders**

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Jaha McCray (491 yds, 49.1 avg/g, 1 TD) Rushing: Johnathon McCray (1903 yds, 190.3 avg/g, 14 TDs) Passing:

Receiving: Dre Martin (38 rec, 678 yds, 3 TDs)

Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Jaquatin Victrum (DB, 49 solo, 28 ast, 4.0 TFL/9 yds) Tackles:

Sacks: Detavion Galmer (DL, 4.0 sacks/34 yds)

Kenneth Morgan (DB, 3 INTs) Interceptions:

# (0-0, 0-0 Lone Star)

## #6 North Alabama Lions

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



Thursday, August 31 | 6:00 p.m. CT Braly Municipal Stadium | Florence, Ala.

Series Record:	First Meeting
Last Meeting:	N/A
TAMC's 2016 Record:	11-2 (8-1 LSC)
UNA's 2016 Record:	11-2 (7-0 GSC)

#### **Game Breakdown**

The marquee game of the week in the conference will take place in Florence, as the four-time defending GSC Champions from UNA take on Texas A&M Commerce, the Lone Star Conference Champions for three straight seasons. North Alabama's vaunted defense will be tested, as TAMC returns quarterback Luiz Perez, who threw for 32 touchdowns and just five interceptions in 2016, and his favorite target, D'Arthur Cowan. North Alabama will be without its quarterback from 2016, as Jacob Tucker, GSC Offensive Player of the Year and second runner-up in Harlon Hill Trophy voting, has graduated. However, one of the nation's most dynamic receivers, Dre Hall, is back for the UNA attack, as is **Damon Cox**, who rushed for eight touchdowns a year ago.

## **Texas A&M Commerce Statistical Leaders** Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Ovie Urevbu (632 vds. 52.7 avg/q. 1 TD) Rushina: Passing: Luis Perez (3326 yds, 277.2 avg/g, 32 TDs) Receiving: D'Arthur Cowan (49 rec, 226 yds, 1 TD)

#### Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Brucks Saathoff (LB, 37 solo, 31 ast, 5.5 TFL/11 yds)

Sacks: Michael Onuoha (DL, 2.5 sacks/11 yds) Interceptions: Yusef Sterling-Lowe (DB, 4 INTs/173 yds)

#### **North Alabama Statistical Leaders**

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Damon Cox (519 yds, 40.0 avg/g, 8 TDs) Passing: Blake Hawkins (225 yds, 22.5 avg/g, 3 TDs)

Receiving: Dre Hall (80 rec, 1179 yds, 9 TDs)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Dorsey Norris (DB, 43 solo, 24 ast, 2.5 TFL/2 yds) Eddquerion Harris (DL, 3.0 sacks/19 yds) Sacks:

Interceptions: Dorsey Norris (DB, 3 INTs/66 yds)

# West Alabama Tigers

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



Fort Valley State Wildcats (0-0, 0-0 Southern Intercollegiate)



# Lenoir-Rhyne Bears

(0-0. 0-0 South Atlantic)



Thursday, August 31 | 7:00 p.m. ET Moretz Stadium | Hickory, N.C.

VS.

Series Record:	First Meeting
Last Meeting:	N/Ā
UWA's 2016 Record:	
LRU's 2016 Record:	3-8 (3-4 SAC)

# **Game Breakdown**

The Tigers had one of the most prolific offenses in the GSC last season. and although quarterback Austin Grammer, the GSC's leading passer from a year ago, is no longer there, the majority of the weapons will return to Livingston. Donta Armstrong and Corey Davis both ranked in the league's top 10 in receiving yards, and running back Lakendric Thomas was an all-conference selection. Defensively, UWA boasts one of the nation's most dominant pass rushers in Darius Ellis. As just a sophomore, Ellis led the GSC in tackles per loss and was an all-region selection. Lenoir-Rhyne's **Nelson** Brown was an All-SAC selection in 2016 as a freshman. Brown twice ran for more than 200 yards in a game last season.

## West Alabama Statistical Leaders

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Lakenderic Thomas (783 yds, 71.2 avg/g, 5 TDs) Rushina: Harry Satterwhite (192 yds, 38.4 avg/g, 4 TDs) Passing: Receiving: Donta Armstrong (91 rec, 904 yds, 6 TDs)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Darius Ellis (DL, 32 solo, 20 ast, 20.0 TFL/108 yds) Tavarius Hutchinson (DB, 32 solo, 20 ast, 1.5 TFL/3 yds) Darius Ellis (DL, 10.5 sacks/89 yds) Sacks:

3 Players: T. Hutchinson, L. Johnson, T. Myhand (2 INTs) Interceptions:

#### **Lenoir-Rhyne Statistical Leaders**

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Nelson Brown (902 yds, 82.0 avg/g, 6 TDs) Passing: Jarrod Kellar (1248 yds, 113.5 avg/g, 6 TDs) Jaquay Mitchell (13 rec, 149 yds, 1 TD) Receiving:

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Clayton Horn (LB, 23 solo, 50 ast, 4.5 TFL/8 yds) Sacks: Jonathan Nolan (LB, 3.0 sacks/24 yds)

Interceptions: Isaiah Herring (DB, 2 INTs) Sherrod Williams (LB, 2 INTs)

# **West Georgia Wolves**

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



Thursday, August 31 | 7:00 p.m. ET University Stadium | Carrollton , Ga.

VS.

Series Record:	First Meeting
Last Meeting:	N/Ā
FVSU's 2016 Record:	7-4 (4-4 SIAC)
UWG's 2016 Record:	5-5 (3-4 GSC)

#### **Game Breakdown**

West Georgia will have a new look in 2017, highlighted by the arrival of GSC veteran coach David Dean to take over head coaching duties. Dean is a two-time national champion at VSU. An offensive minded coach, Dean will have a lot of talent to work with in his first year at the helm in Carrollton. All-purpose back **Devontae Jackson** is a two-time all-conference selection, and two offensive linemen for the Wolves (Quentin Stanford and Harley Vaughan) were named Preseason All-GSC. Defensively, UWG will have to overcome several key losses, including Dylan Donahue and Alex Armah, both of whom were selected in the 2017 NFL Draft. Fort Valley State won the SIAC Championship in 2016 for the first time since 1999.

## **Fort Valley State Statistical Leaders**

## Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Jamari Clark (438 yds, 43.8 avg/g, 0 TDs) Rushina: Passing: Demontay Jones (1002 yds, 143.1 avg/g, 9 TDs) Receiving: Bodarius Johnson (17 rec, 365 yds, 2 TDs)

#### Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Kentron James (DB, 36 solo, 31 ast, 12.5 TFL/41 yds) Tackles: Sacks: Aaron Henderson-Singfield (DL, 4.5 sacks/29 yds)

Interceptions: Aaron Dore (DB, 2 INTs) Cameron Young (DB, 2 INTs)

#### **West Georgia Statistical Leaders**

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Devontae Jackson (487 yds, 54.1 avg/g, 4 TDs) Passing: Willie Candler (749 yds, 93.6 avg/g, 10 TDs) Receiving: DeNiko Carter (22 rec, 413 yds, 6 TDs)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Jakyron Young (DB, 35 solo, 20 ast) Sacks: Cordarro Stoute (DL, 1.5 sacks/3 yds) Interceptions: Zed Brown (DB, 2 INTs/109 yds, 2 TDs)

Jakyron Young (DB, 2 INTs)

## Mars Hill Lions

(0-0, 0-0 South Atlantic)





### Shorter Hawks

(0-0. 0-0 Gulf South)



## Saturday, September 2 | 1:00 p.m. ET Barron Stadium | Rome, Ga.

VS.

Series Record:	Mars Hill leads 2-1
Last Meeting:	Shorter 21 @ Mars Hill 28 (OT) (2016)
MHU's 2016 Record:	5-6 (3-4 SAC)
SU's 2016 Record:	0-11 (0-8 GSC)

# **Game Breakdown**

After nearly defeating the Lions in overtime last season. Shorter will welcome in Mars Hill to Rome for a Saturday afternoon contest. The Hawks will be looking to bounce back from a tough season in 2016, and they are counting on a real boost from running back B.J. McCoy. McCoy was the GSC's leading rusher in 2015, putting up nearly 300 more yards on the ground than anybody else. The Hawks will also have a familiar face at quarterback, as two-time GSC Freshman of the Week Tyler Pullum will be the starter. Mars Hill will look to build off the momentum that it built towards the end of 2016, as the Lions won three of their final four games.

#### **Mars Hill Statistical Leaders**

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Malik Prescott (699 vds. 63.5 avg/g. 7 TDs) Rushina: David Salmon (1272 yds, 141.3 avg/g, 10 TDs) Passing: Receiving: Craig Rucker (63 rec, 846 yds, 10 TDs)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Jerjuan Edwards (LB, 37 solo, 33 ast, 9.0 TFL/38 yds) Sacks: Jerjuan Edwards (LB, 4.0 sacks/25 yds)

Interceptions: Chris Leamon (LB, 1 INT/5 yds) Jeremy Middleton (DB, 1 INT)

#### **Shorter Statistical Leaders**

### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: B.J. McCoy (1489 yds, 148.9 avg/g, 10 TDs) (2015) Passing: Tyler Pullum (826 yds, 103.3 avg/g, 5 TDs) Maurice Sutton (27 rec, 226 yds, 0 TDs) Receiving:

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Justin Filmore (LB, 42 solo, 26 ast, 3.5 TFL/18 yds)

Randall Blash (DL, 1.5 sacks/12 yds) Sacks: Interceptions: John Jarrard (LB, 3 INTs/3 yds)

# Tarleton State Texans

(0-0, 0-0 Lone Star)

## **Delta State Statesmen**

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



## Saturday, September 2 | 2:00 p.m. CT Parks Field (Cleveland Central HS) | Cleveland, Miss.

Series Record:	Delta State leads 2-0
Last Meeting:	Tarleton State 36 @ Delta State 38 (2013)
TSU's 2016 Record:	5-6 (5-4 LSC)
DSU's 2016 Record:	2-8 (1-7 GSC)

#### **Game Breakdown**

Chris Robinson will lead the Statesmen into the 2017 season after tying the GSC record for most touchdowns scored in 2016, getting into the end zone 24 times. Robinson was both the leading rusher and leading receiver for the second best scoring offense in the conference. DSU had three all-conference selections in 2016 (Robinson, George Roberts, and Landry Tullo), and all three return this season for the Statesmen. DSU is 11-3 in non-conference play under Coach Todd Cooley. Tarleton State will bring a prolific passing attack to Cleveland, as Zed Woerner and Del'Michael High, the LSC leader in receiving touchdowns last year, will look to continue their connection in 2017.

## **Tarleton State Statistical Leaders**

### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Skyler Wetzel (68 yds, 9.7 avg/g, 0 TDs) Rushina: Passing: Zed Woerner (2443 yds, 222.3 avg/g, 24 TDs) Receiving: Del'Michael High (55 rec, 790 yds, 10 TDs)

#### Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Basil Jackson (LB, 54 solo, 30 ast, 6.0 TFL/12 yds)

Sacks: Chase Varnado (DL, 8.0 sacks/41 yds)

Interceptions: Basil Jackson (LB, 2 INTs)

#### **Delta State Statistical Leaders**

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Chris Robinson (976 yds, 97.6 avg/g, 19 TDs) Passing: Collin Willis (304 yds, 152.0 avg/g, 1 TD) Receiving: Chris Robinson (37 rec, 551 yds, 5 TD)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Chandler Ector (LB, 39 solo, 32 ast, 9.0 TFL/30 vds)

Sacks: Landry Tullo (LB, 2.0 sacks/3 yds) Interceptions: Decory McGee (DB, 3 INTs/101 yds)

## Virginia University Lynchburg Dragons (0-1)





## Florida Tech Panthers

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



Saturday, September 2 | 7:00 p.m. ET Florida Tech Panther Stadium | Melbourne, Fla.

VS.

Series Record:	First Meeting
Last Meeting:	N/Ā
VUL's Last Game:	Home vs. Louisburg College, Lost 41-10
FIT's 2016 Record:	8-3 (5-2 GSC)

# **Game Breakdown**

One year after making the first postseason appearance in program history, the FIT Panthers are looking to continue their upward trajectory. On the offensive side of the ball, the Panthers should once again be explosive, as the top scoring team in the GSC in 2016 returns the league's top rusher in Antwuan Haynes and returning quarterback Mark Cato was named the Preseason All-GSC Team. Defensively, FIT will have the deal with the loss of the team's top five leaders in tackles, but First Team All-GSC defensive end Adonis Davis will return; he finished tied for fourth in the league in sacks last season. VUL has one game under its belt this year, falling to Louisburg, an NJCAA institution.

## Virginia Lynchburg Statistical Leaders

Offensive Leaders

Rushina: N/A N/A Passing: Receiving: N/A

**Defensive Leaders** 

Tackles: N/A Sacks: N/A Interceptions: N/A

#### Florida Tech Statistical Leaders

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Antwuan Haynes (1076 yds, 97.8 avg/g, 10 TDs) Passing: Mark Cato (2263 yds, 226.3 avg/g, 19 TDs) Receiving: Antwuan Haynes (24 rec, 398 yds, 2 TDs)

Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Joe Jackson (DB, 21 solo, 14 ast) Sacks: Adonis Davis (DL, 6.5 sacks/47 yds)

Interceptions: Joe Jackson (DB, 3 INTs)

# **#11 Valdosta State Blazers**

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)

# Albany State Golden Rams

(0-0, 0-0 Southern Intercollegiate)



Saturday, September 2 | 7:00 p.m. ET Albany State University Coliseum | Albany, Ga.

Series Record:	Valdosta State leads 17-1
Last Meeting:	Albany State 7 @ Valdosta State 16 (2016)
VSU's 2016 Record:	8-3 (6-2 GSC)
ASU's 2016 Record:	5-4 (3-1 SIAC)

#### **Game Breakdown**

For the fourth straight year, Valdosta State and Albany State will square off in the opening week of the season. The Blazers have won all three of those matchups. VSU landed five players on the Preseason All-GSC Team, including quarterback Adam Robles and a pair of offensive lineman: Brandon Kemp and Josh Adams. Kemp and Adams will also help clear the way for Cedric Hollingshed, the 2016 GSC Offensive Freshman of the Year. Valdosta State has advanced to the NCAA Playoffs three straight seasons. In Kerwin Bell's first season at VSU, the Blazers had the top passing offense in the GSC. Albany State is the preseason favorite in the SIAC Eastern Division. The Golden Rams won the SIAC East last season.

## **Valdosta State Statistical Leaders**

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Cedric Hollingshed (476 yds, 52.9 avg/g, 7 TDs) Rushina: Passing: Adam Robles (2046 yds, 204.6 avg/g, 18 TDs) Receiving: Dallas Baldner (41 rec, 591 yds, 6 TDs)

Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Brandon Roe (DB, 36 solo, 20 ast, 0.5 TFL/0 yds)

Sacks: Jeffrey Stokes (DL, 3.0 sacks/7 yds) Interceptions: Brandon Roe (DB, 5 INTs/64 yds)

#### **Albany State Statistical Leaders**

Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: McKinley Habersham (337 yds, 37.4 avg/g, 2 TDs)

Passing: N/A

Receiving: Quadrey Simmons (28 rec, 392 yds, 3 TDs)

Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Zavondric Shingleton (LB, 30 solo, 21 ast, 2.5 TFL/6 yds)

Zane Fields (LB, 3.5 sacks/24 yds) Sacks: Interceptions: Nick Scott (DB, 2 INTs/42 yds)

# West Florida Argonauts

(0-0, 0-0 Gulf South)



## Missouri S&T Miners

(0-0, 0-0 Great Lakes Valley)



Saturday, September 2 | 7:00 p.m. CT Allgood-Bailey Stadium | Rolla, Mo.

Series Record:	West Florida leads 1-0
Last Meeting:	Missouri S&T 28 @ West Florida 45 (2016)
UWF's 2016 Record:	5-6 (3-5 GSC)
MST's 2016 Record:	5-6 (4-4 GLVC)

#### **Game Breakdown**

The Miners were the visiting team in the first home game in the history of UWF Football, falling to the Argonauts. West Florida boasted the second best passing offense in the GSC in their inaugural year, with returning receiver Ishmel Morrow finishing second in the league in receiving yards per game. Defensively, 2016 GSC Defensive Freshman of the Year Trent Archie returns, and linebackers Andre Duncombe and Reggie Barnes were each named to the GSC Preseason All-Conference Team. Missouri S&T returns its offensive leaders in rushing, passing, and receiving yards from last year. Braxton Graham was a First Team All-GLVC selection as a wide receiver and was also named the GLVC Special Teams Player of the Year.

## **West Florida Statistical Leaders**

#### Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Chris Schwarz (350 yds, 31.8 avg/g, 2 TDs)
Passing: Grey Jackson (319 yds, 35.4 avg/g, 4 TDs)
Receiving: Ishmel Morrow (72 rec, 1045 yds, 8 TDs)

#### Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Trent Archie (DB, 41 solo, 49 ast, 4.0 TFL/7 yds)
Sacks: John Williamson (DL, 7.5 sacks/64 yds)
Interceptions: Marvin Conley (DB, 4 INTs/64 yds)

#### Missouri S&T Statistical Leaders

## Returning Offensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Rushing: Charles Bournes (558 yds, 50.7 avg/g, 3 TDs)
Passing: Tyler Swart (2178 yds, 217.8 avg/g, 21 TDs)
Receiving: Braxton Graham (68 rec, 1029 yds, 9 TDs)

## Returning Defensive Leaders (2016 Stats Listed)

Tackles: Landon Compton (LB, 49 solo, 45 ast, 15.0 TFL/44 yds)
Sacks: Tershawn Wharton (DL, 5.5 sacks/32 yds)
Interceptions: 5 Players: L. Compton, B. Curtis, R. Kirkendall, N. Brown, S. Williams (1 INT)

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL • POLLS AND RECORDS

# **DIVISION II WEEKLY NATIONAL POLLS**

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5

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7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Ferris State

Shepherd

Harding

Indiana (Pa.)

California (Pa.)

Azusa Pacific

Colorado St.-Pueblo

**VALDOSTA STATE** 

**Grand Valley State** 

**NORTH ALABAMA** 

Minnesota Duluth

Texas A&M-Commerce

**Emporia State** 

## AFCA Top 25

(as of 08/14/17)

- Northwest Missouri St. (34) **Grand Valley State**
- 3 Ferris State
- Emporia State 4
- 5 Texas A&M-Commerce
- 6 **NORTH ALABAMA**
- 7 Shepherd
- California (Pa.) 8
- 9 Indiana (Pa.)
- 10 Minnesota-Duluth
- **VALDOSTA STATE** 11
- 12 Colorado St.-Pueblo
- Azusa Pacific 1.3
- LIU-Post

- 15 Harding 16
  - Colorado School of Mines
  - 17 Sioux Falls
  - Southwest Baptist 18
  - 19 **UNC Pembroke**
  - 20 Minnesota State
  - Central Missouri 21
  - Southern Arkansas 23 Colorado Mesa
  - 24 Midwestern State
  - Bemidji State 25

# D2Football.com Top 25

(as of 08/28/17)

- 15 Northwest Missouri St. Sioux Falls
  - 16 Minnesota State
    - 17 Bemidji State
    - Ashland 18
    - 19 LIU-Post
    - 20 Central Missouri
    - Colorado School of Mines 21
    - 22 Midwestern State
    - 23 **UNC Pembroke** 24 Southern Arkansas
    - 25 West Chester

Others Receiving Votes: Ashland (Ohio), 130; Tuskegee (Ala.), 123; North Greenville (S.C.), 121; Winston-Salem St. (N.C.), 114; Newberry (S.C.), 107; Ohio Dominican, 86; West Chester (Pa.), 82; West Georgia, 75; Edinboro (Pa.), 57; Albany St. (Ga.), 45; Florida Tech, 43; Assumption (Mass.), 38; Texas A&M-Kingsville, 36; Fairmont St. (W.Va.), 19; Bowie St. (Md.), 16; Augustana (S.D.), 14; Carson-Newman (Tenn.), 14; Virginia Union, 12; Arkansas Tech, 11; Central Washington, 10; Pittsburg St. (Kan.), 10; Henderson St. (Ark.), 8; Charleston (W.Va.), 7; Indianapolis (Ind.), 7; Gannon (Pa.), 6; Ouachita Baptist (Ark.), 6; Truman St. (Mo.), 5; Fort Valley St. (Ga.), 4; Slippery Rock (Pa.), 4; Delta St. (Miss.), 3; East Central (Okla.), 3; Humboldt St. (Calif.), 2; Tusculum

# **GSC IN NATIONAL PRESEASON PUBLICATIONS**

# **Lindy's Preseason Predictions**

## **Top 25**

1. NW Missouri State

(Tenn.), 1; Wingate (N.C.), 1.

- 2. Ferris State
- 3. Grand Valley State
- 4. Emporia State
- 5. IUP
- 6. Harding
- 7. California (Pa.)
- 8. Texas A&M Commerce
- 9. UNC Pembroke
- 10. Sioux Falls
- 11. Minnesota-Duluth
- 12. LIU Post
- 13. Azusa Pacific

- 14. Colorado Mines
- 15. Shepherd
- 16. North Greenville
- 17. VALDOSTA STATE
- 18. Central Missouri
- 19. NORTH ALABAMA
- 20. Ashland
- 21. Newberry
- 22. Tuskegee
- 23. Texas A&M Kingsville
- 24. WEST GEORGIA
- 25. Colorado Mesa

## Street and Smith's Preseason Predictions **Top 25**

- 1. NW Missouri State
- 2. Grand Valley State
- 3. California (Pa.)
- 4. Emporia State
- 5. Ferris State
- 6. Texas A&M Commerce
- 7. Southwest Baptist
- 8. Colorado State-Pueblo
- 9. Bemidji State

### 10. VALDOSTA STATE

- 11. IUP
- 12. Minnesota-Duluth
- 13. Shepherd

# 14. NORTH ALABAMA

- 15. Azusa Pacific
- 16. Edinboro
- 17. Sioux Falls
- 18. Colorado Mines
- 19. Central Missouri
- 20. Assumption
- 21. West Chester
- 22. LIU Post
- 23. Winston-Salem State
- 24. Colorado Mesa
- 25. Texas A&M Kingsville

# **GSC COACHING RECORDS**

Below is a list of win-loss records for the nine current GSC head coaches for their careers and at the helm of GSC programs.

Coach, School	Career	GSC
Todd Cooley, DSU	24-18	24-18
Steve Englehart, FIT	52-32	26-19
John Bland, MC	81-50	6-24
Chris Willis, UNA	0-0	0-0
Aaron Kelton, SU	23-36	O-11
Kerwin Bell, VSU	74-38	8-3
Brett Gilliland, UWA	19-14	19-14
Pete Shinnick, UWF	108-52	5-6
David Dean, UWG	79-27	79-27

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

<u>School</u>	<b>Total Points</b>
1. North Alabama (7)	62
2. Valdosta State (1)	54
3. West Georgia (1)	49
4. Florida Tech	47
5. West Alabama	32
6. Delta State	31
7. West Florida	25
8. Mississippi College	16
9 Shorter	8

**NOTES**: The head coaches voted in this poll. Teams received 8 points for a first place vote, 7 for a second place vote, etc. The head coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams. Number of first place votes in parenthesis.

2017 PRESEASON ALL-GSC TEAM						
	OFFENSE					
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
QB	Mark Cato	Florida Tech	6-2	205	SR	Gainesville, Fla.
QB	Adam Robles	Valdosta State	6-3	215	JR	Ocala, Fla.
RB	Antwuan Haynes*	Florida Tech	5-8	160	JR	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
RB	Chris Robinson*	Delta State	5-9	193	SR	Bude, Miss.
WR	Donta Armstrong*	West Alabama	5-10	160	SR	Pittsboro, Miss.
WR	Dre Hall**	North Alabama	6-1	190	SR	Columbia, Tenn.
TE	Arik Washington	Mississippi College	6-1	225	JR	York, Ala.
AP	Devontae Jackson^*	West Georgia	5-7	170	JR	Marietta, Ga.
Т	Josh Adams	Valdosta State	6-3	313	SR	Kennesaw, Ga.
Т	Derrick McClelland	Delta State	6-7	300	SR	Meridian, Miss.
G	Brandon Kemp*	Valdosta State	6-6	235	SO	Stone Mountain, Ga.
G	Quentin Stanford*	West Georgia	6-4	325	JR	Warner Robins, Ga.
С	Harley Vaughan*^	West Georgia	6-3	295	SR	Dawsonville, Ga.
		DEF	ENSE			
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
DL	Adonis Davis*	Florida Tech	6-3	255	JR	Columbus, Ohio
DL	Darius Ellis*	West Alabama	5-10	215	JR	Northport, Ala.
DL	Eddquerion Harris <sup>^</sup>	North Alabama	6-0	317	JR	Courtland, Ala.
DL	Freddie Reed^^	North Alabama	6-0	309	SR	West Point, Miss.
LB	Reggie Barnes	West Florida	6-1	226	SR	Odessa, Fla.
LB	Andre Duncombe <sup>^</sup>	West Florida	6-1	205	SO	Miami, Fla.
LB	Chandler Ector	Delta State	5-10	190	JR	Decatur, Ga.
LB	Terry Samuel	West Alabama	6-2	200	JR	Brewton, Ala.
LB	Malik Slater	Valdosta State	6-0	232	SO	Tallahassee, Fla.
DB	Joe Jackson	Florida Tech	5-9	182	SR	Aldie, Va.
DB	Chris Manning	Mississippi College	5-11	200	SR	Section, Ala.
DB	Dorsey Norris	North Alabama	6-2	225	SR	Honolulu, Hawaii
DB	Brandon Roe	Valdosta State	6-1	195	SR	Douglas, Ga.
DB	Jakyron Young <sup>^</sup>	West Georgia	5-11	155	JR	Ocilla, Ga.
	SPECIAL TEAMS					
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
PK	Jordan Bennett <sup>^</sup>	West Alabama	6-0	170	JR	Tallahassee, Fla.
Р	Matthew Turcotte <sup>^</sup>	Mississippi College	6-3	210	SR	Philadelphia, Miss.
RS	Antoine Griffin	West Florida	5-10	146	JR	Tampa, Fla.
RS	LaDarion Peterson	Delta State	5-11	195	SR	Woodville, Miss.
ВТ	Wil Lovelace*^	North Alabama	5-11	200	SR	Florence, Ala.

**NOTES**: The 2017 Preseason All-GSC Football Team was selected by the head coaches. Ties were not broken. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own players.

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates Previous First Team All-GSC Selection

<sup>^</sup>Indicates Previous Second Team All-GSC Selection

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL • FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST GAME OF THE WEEK

The Gulf South Conference Game of the Week returns for its 13th season with a 10-game slate featured exclusively on ESPN3 and the ESPN app. Florida's Space Coast Office of Tourism will serve as the title sponsor of the package, which will include in-game features and online promotional contests throughout the season.

ESPN3 will serve as the exclusive carrier of the league's package for the fourth straight season. This year's slate will feature nine Saturday games and one Thursday night contest.

"The Gulf South Conference's Game of the Week package has been a leader in Division II since its inception. Continuing our relationship with ESPN provides unparalleled exposure and distribution for the GSC," said GSC Commissioner Matt Wilson. "We believe that the ESPN digital platforms are ideal for our fans, student-athletes, and future recruits."

Don Russell will continue to be the play-by-play voice of the league, and he will once again be joined by Rick Rhodes as the color commentator. Gulf Coast Mobile L.L.C. will produce the package for the sixth year in a row.

## **About ESPN3**

ESPN3 is ESPN's live multi-screen sports network, a destination that delivers thousands of exclusive sports events annually. It is accessible on computers, smartphones, tablets and streaming devices through the ESPN app. The network is currently available nationwide at no additional cost to those who receive their high-speed Internet connection or video subscription from an affiliated service provider. It is also available at no cost to U.S. college students and U.S.-based military personnel via computers, smartphones and tablets connected to on-campus educational and on-base military broadband and Wi-Fi networks.

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL GAME OF THE WEEK SCHEDULE

Date	Game	Time
Sept. 16	North Alabama at Valdosta State	7:00 ET/6:00 CT
Sept. 23	Delta State at Shorter	1:00 ET/12:00 CT
Sept. 30	Delta State at Mississippi College	8:00 ET/7:00 CT
Oct. 7	Valdosta State at West Georgia	2:00 ET/1:00 CT
Oct. 14	Mississippi College at Valdosta State	7:00 ET/6:00 CT
Oct. 21	West Alabama at Florida Tech	2:00 ET/1:00 CT
Oct. 26	Shorter at West Georgia	7:00 ET/6:00 CT
Oct. 28	West Florida at West Alabama	5:00 ET/4:00 CT
Nov. 4	North Alabama at West Florida	5:00 ET/4:00 CT
Nov. 11	Florida Tech at Delta State	8:00 ET/7:00 CT





# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL • TEAM SCHEDULES

# **DELTA STATE**

# **STATESMEN**



Date	Day	Opponent
Sept. 2	SAT	Tarleton State
Sept. 9	SAT	Chowan
Sept. 16	SAT	West Georgia
Sept. 23	SAT	@ Shorter^
Sept. 30	SAT	@ Mississippi College^
Oct. 7	SAT	West Alabama
Oct. 14	SAT	@ West Florida
Oct. 21	SAT	Valdosta State
Oct. 28	SAT	@ North Alabama
Nov. 4	SAT	@ North Greenville
Nov. 11	SAT	Florida Tech*^

GSC Games in **BOLD** All Times Local \*Homecoming

^GSC TV Game of the Week

# FLORIDA TECH

# **PANTHERS**



Date	Day	Opponent
Sept. 2	SAT	Virginia Lynchburg
Sept. 9	SAT	@ McNeese State
Sept. 16	SAT	Shorter
Sept. 23	SAT	@ Mississippi College
Sept. 30	SAT	West Florida%
Oct. 7	SAT	@ North Alabama
Oct. 14	SAT	@ North Greenville
Oct. 21	SAT	West Alabama <sup>^</sup>
Oct. 28	SAT	@ Valdosta State
Nov. 4	SAT	West Georgia*
Nov. 11	SAT	@ Delta State^

GSC Games in **BOLD** All Times Local

\*Homecoming

^GSC TV Game of the Week %NCAA Division II Showcase

# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

# **CHOCTAWS**



Date	Day	Opponent
Aug. 31	THU	@ Clark Atlanta
Sept. 9	SAT	@ Southwest Baptist
Sept. 16	SAT	@ West Alabama
Sept. 23	SAT	Florida Tech
Sept. 30	SAT	Delta State <sup>^</sup>
Oct. 7	SAT	@ West Florida
Oct. 14	SAT	@ Valdosta State^
Oct. 21	SAT	West Georgia*
Nov. 4	SAT	Shorter
Nov. 11	SAT	@ North Alabama

GSC Games in **BOLD** 

\*Homecoming

All Times Local

^GSC TV Game of the Week

# NORTH ALABAMA

# LIONS



Date	Day	Opponent
Aug. 31	THU	Texas A&M Commerce
Sept. 16	SAT	@ Valdosta State^
Sept. 23	SAT	West Alabama
Sept. 30	SAT	@ West Georgia
Oct. 7	SAT	Florida Tech*
Oct. 14	SAT	@ Shorter
Oct. 21	SAT	@ Central Washington
Oct. 28	SAT	Delta State
Nov. 4	SAT	@ West Florida^
Nov. 11	SAT	Mississippi College

GSC Games in **BOLD** 

\*Homecoming

All Times Local

^GSC TV Game of the Week

# SHORTER

# **HAWKS**



Result

Date	Day	Opponent
Sept. 2	SAT	Mars Hill
Sept. 9	SAT	@ Tusculum
Sept. 16	SAT	@ Florida Tech
Sept. 23	SAT	Delta State <sup>^</sup>
Sept. 30	SAT	@ West Alabama
Oct. 7	SAT	Gardner-Webb
Oct. 14	SAT	North Alabama
Oct. 21	SAT	West Florida*
Oct. 26	THU	@ West Georgia^
Nov. 4	SAT	@ Mississippi College
Nov. 11	SAT	Valdosta State

GSC Games in **BOLD** All Times Local \*Homecoming

^GSC TV Game of the Week

# **VALDOSTA STATE**

# **BLAZERS**



Result

Date	Day	Opponent
Sept. 2	SAT	@ Albany State
Sept. 9	SAT	Fort Valley State%
Sept. 16	SAT	North Alabama <sup>^</sup>
Sept. 23	SAT	@ West Florida
Oct. 7	SAT	@ West Georgia^
Oct. 14	SAT	Mississippi College <sup>^</sup>
Oct. 21	SAT	@ Delta State
Oct. 28	SAT	Florida Tech
Nov. 4	SAT	West Alabama*
Nov. 11	SAT	@ Shorter

GSC Games in  ${\bf BOLD}$ 

\*Homecoming

All Times Local ^GSC TV Game of the Week %Game played in Waycross, Ga.

# 2017 GSC FOOTBALL • TEAM SCHEDULES

# **WEST ALABAMA TIGERS**



Result

^GSC TV Game of the Week

Day	Opponent
THU	@ Lenoir Rhyne
THU	@ Samford
SAT	Mississippi College
SAT	@ North Alabama
SAT	Shorter
SAT	@ Delta State
SAT	West Georgia
SAT	@ Florida Tech^
SAT	West Florida*^
	THU THU SAT SAT SAT SAT SAT SAT

SAT

Nov. 4 Nov. 11

All Times Local

SAT North Greenville GSC Games in **BOLD** \*Homecoming

# **WEST FLORIDA ARGONAUTS**



Date	Day	Opponent
Sept. 2	SAT	@ Missouri S&T
Sept. 9	SAT	Midwestern State
Sept. 16	SAT	Chowan
Sept. 23	SAT	Valdosta State
Sept. 30	SAT	@ Florida Tech%
Oct. 7	SAT	Mississippi College
Oct. 14	SAT	Delta State*
Oct. 21	SAT	@ Shorter
Oct. 28	SAT	@ West Alabama^
Nov. 4	SAT	North Alabama^
Nov. 11	SAT	@ West Georgia

GSC Games in BOLD All Times Local

\*Homecoming ^GSC TV Game of the Week %NCAA Division II Showcase

# WEST GEORGIA

@ Valdosta State

# **WOLVES**



Date	Day	Opponent
Aug. 31	THU	Fort Valley State
Sept. 9	SAT	Miles
Sept. 16	SAT	@ Delta State
Sept. 23	SAT	Albany State*
Sept. 30	SAT	North Alabama
Oct. 7	SAT	Valdosta State <sup>^</sup>
Oct. 14	SAT	@ West Alabama
Oct. 21	SAT	@ Mississippi College
Oct. 26	THU	Shorter <sup>^</sup>
Nov. 4	SAT	@ Florida Tech
Nov. 11	SAT	West Florida

GSC Games in **BOLD** \*Homecoming

All Times Local ^GSC TV Game of the Week

# **GAME**

# OF THE WEEK



Date	Game
Sept. 16	North Alabama at Valdosta St.
Sept. 23	Delta St. at Shorter
Sept. 30	Delta St. at Miss. College
Oct. 7	Valdosta St. at West Georgia
Oct. 14	Miss. College at Valdosta St.
Oct. 21	West Alabama at Florida Tech
Oct. 26	Shorter at West Georgia
Oct. 28	West Florida at West Alabama
Nov. 4	North Alabama at West Florida
Nov. 11	Florida Tech at Delta St.

GSC Games in BOLD \*Homecoming

All Times Local ^GSC TV Game of the Week