ACC FOOTBALL



2026 WEEKLY RELEASE | WEEK 2 * SEPTEMBER 10-12

2026 STANDINGS

	ACC		OVERALL	
TEAM	W-L	PCT.	W-L	PCT.
Miami	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000
SMU	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000
Virginia	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000
Duke	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
North Carolina	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Pitt	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Syracuse	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Virginia Tech	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Wake Forest	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Boston College	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
California	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
Clemson	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
Georgia Tech	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
Louisville	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
Florida State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500
Stanford	0-1	.000	1-1	.500
NC State	0-1	.000	0-1	.000

THIS WEEK * WEEK 2

FEATURED GAMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
7:30 p.m. ET

RUTGERS
AT
BOSTON COLLEGE

ESPN2
ACC FOOTBALL FRIDAYS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
3:30 P.M. ET

UCF
AT
PITT

ESPN2
ACC VS. BIG 12

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
3:30 P.M. ET

DUKE
AT
ILLINOIS

FS1
ACC VS. BIG TEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
7:30 P.M. ET

#18 TENNESSEE
AT
GEORGIA TECH

ESPN
ACC VS. SEC

2026 SCHEDULE * WEEK 2

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Florida A&M at #7 Miami	8 p.m. ET (ACCN)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Villanova at #24 Louisville	7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Richmond at NC State	7 p.m. ET (ESPNU)
Norfolk State at #25 Virginia	7 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Rutgers at Boston College	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Wake Forest at Purdue	Noon ET (FS1)
ETSU at North Carolina	Noon ET (ACCN)
Old Dominion at Virginia Tech	Noon ET (The CW)
UCF at Pitt	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
California at Syracuse *	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Duke at Illinois	3:30 p.m. ET (FS1)
UC Davis at #17 SMU	4 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
#18 Tennessee at Georgia Tech	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Georgia Southern at Clemson	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)

QUICK HITS

STRONGEST NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE IN 2026

■ ACC teams are scheduled to play 25 non-conference games against Power Four + Notre Dame — most of any conference.

■ Includes nine games vs. SEC, five vs. B1G, five vs. Big 12 and six vs. Notre Dame.

■ Two-thirds of the ACC's non-conference games are against Power Four or bowl-eligible teams.

■ All 17 ACC teams will play at least 10 games vs. Power Four + Notre Dame.

■ Three of the five FBS teams playing 11 or more games vs. Power Four + Notre Dame are from the ACC.

■ 12 non-conference games against teams ranked in ESPN's 2026 Way-Too-Early Top 25.

■ 12 games against teams ranked in the final 2025 College Football Playoff rankings and AP Top 25.

■ 29 games against 23 teams that received a 2025 bowl invitation.

ACC AGAIN OWNED LABOR DAY WEEKEND WITH "FIVE DAYS OF ACC FOOTBALL"

■ 14 teams competed in 12 games across five days (Thursday, September 3 – Monday, September 7).

■ SMU at Florida State on Labor Day Monday marked the ACC's 17th consecutive year playing on Labor Day (excluding 2020) and 20th since 2005.

■ The ACC led all conferences in Week 1 with five Power Four non-conference games.

ACC FOOTBALL FRIDAYS

■ During the 2026 season, the ACC is playing a record 15 games on Fridays.

■ Over the first six weeks, ACC teams will appear in nine Friday games, including four contests in Week 2.

■ The league will continue to take center stage in October and November, with:

■ At least one Friday night game will be played in each of Weeks 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

■ The Friday slate concludes Thanksgiving week with Florida at Florida State on Black Friday.

STRENGTH AND DEPTH OF ACC FOOTBALL

■ Over the last three seasons, the ACC has had 11 or more bowl-eligible teams — the longest streak of any conference.

■ Last year in 2025, the ACC had seven teams with nine or more wins on the season — the most in a single season in ACC history.

■ Nine ACC teams had eight or more wins in 2025 — tied for the most in FBS and the most in a single season in ACC history.

■ In 2024, four teams finished the season with 10 or more wins — the first time in ACC history.



FULL STANDINGS

STANDINGS	ACC W-L	ACC PCT.	OVERALL W-L	OVERALL PCT.	POINTS FOR	POINTS OPP	HOME	AWAY	NEUT	STREAK	VS. AP TOP 10	VS. AP TOP 25
Miami	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	45	6	0-0	1-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
SMU	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	27	24	0-0	1-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Virginia	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	34	8	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Duke	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	17	3	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
North Carolina	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	15	10	0-0	0-0	1-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Pitt	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	59	14	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Syracuse	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	66	3	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Virginia Tech	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	73	3	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Wake Forest	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	38	16	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Boston College	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	15	34	0-0	0-1	0-0	L1	0-0	0-0
California	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	24	45	0-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-0	0-0
Clemson	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	10	51	0-0	0-1	0-0	L1	0-0	0-1
Georgia Tech	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	13	14	0-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-0	0-0
Louisville	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	38	41	0-0	0-0	0-1	L1	0-1	0-1
Florida State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	58	44	1-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-0	0-1
Stanford	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	43	72	1-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-1	0-1
NC State	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	8	34	0-0	0-1	0-0	L1	0-0	0-0

ACC IN THE POLLS

2026 ASSOCIATED PRESS TOP 25 POLL

September 8, 2026

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	Ohio State (46)	1684
2.	Georgia	1532
3.	Notre Dame (4)	1512
4.	Texas (2)	1462
5.	Indiana (8)	1428
6.	Oregon (3)	1422
7.	***Miami (1)***	***1405***
8.	LSU (5)	1315
9.	Ole Miss	1154
10.	Texas A&M	1079
11.	Oklahoma	1039
12.	Alabama	910
13.	Texas Tech	900
14.	USC	861
15.	BYU	840
16.	Penn State	621
17.	***SMU***	***501***
18.	Tennessee	491
19.	Washington	489
20.	Utah	381
21.	Iowa	369
22.	Houston	214
23.	Missouri	182
24.	***Louisville***	***163***
25.	***Virginia***	***89***

(first-place votes in parentheses)

Others Receiving Votes:
Boise State 86; Florida 83; Michigan 69; Arizona 33; Memphis 23; South Carolina 19; Western Michigan 12; ***Pittsburgh 11;*** Navy 10; UCLA 7; ***Virginia Tech 6;*** Illinois 6; James Madison 4; Minnesota 4; Colorado 3; Auburn 2; Arizona State 2; Vanderbilt 2.

2026 US LBM COACHES POLL TOP 25

September 8, 2026

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	Ohio State (50)	1801
2.	Georgia (7)	1672
3.	Texas (1)	1600
4.	Notre Dame (4)	1558
5.	Indiana (11)	1537
6.	Oregon (1)	1524
7.	***Miami***	***1477***
8.	LSU	1279
9.	Texas A&M	1204
10.	Oklahoma	1184
11.	Ole Miss	1141
12.	Alabama	1059
13.	Texas Tech	955
14.	USC	919
15.	BYU	838
16.	Penn State	612
17.	***SMU***	***517***
18.	Tennessee	513
19.	Washington	432
20.	Utah	415
21.	Iowa	411
22.	Houston	236
23.	Missouri	231
24.	Michigan	164
25.	Florida	157
	Virginia	***157***

(first-place votes in parentheses)

Others Receiving Votes:
Louisville 125; Illinois 45; Boise State 43; Arizona 42; South Carolina 36; Memphis 24; Auburn 19; Vanderbilt 17; ***Pittsburgh 14; Virginia Tech 11;*** Nebraska 11; Arizona State 11; Minnesota 9; New Mexico 7; Western Michigan 7; Kansas State 6; North Dakota State 6; Navy 5; ***Duke 4;*** UCLA 4; ***Clemson 3;*** UNLV 3; ***North Carolina 2;*** San Diego State 2; Colorado 1.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF RANKINGS

*First Rankings * November 3, 2026*

Rk.	Team	Record



ACC NOTES

FOUR TEAMS RANKED IN WEEK 1 AP TOP 25 POLL

■ The ACC has six programs receiving recognition in the first regular season poll when combining ranked teams and those receiving votes: Miami, SMU, Louisville, Virginia, Pitt and Virginia Tech.

■ Four ACC teams are ranked in the first regular season 2026 AP Top 25 Poll, led by No. 7 Miami, followed by No. 17 SMU, No. 24 Louisville and No. 25 Virginia. Two additional ACC teams received votes in Pitt (11) and Virginia Tech (6).

THE ACC IN THE MOST RECENT COACHES POLL

■ Nine ACC programs received votes in the first regular season 2026 US LBM Coaches Poll, three teams in the Top 25 and six others receiving votes.

■ Three ACC teams were ranked in the Coaches Top 25 — No. 7 Miami, No. 17 SMU and No. 25 Virginia — while six additional teams received votes: Louisville, Pitt, Virginia Tech, Duke, Clemson and North Carolina.

■ Over half of the league was recognized, as nine of the ACC's 17 football programs (53%) received at least one vote from the coaches in the first regular season poll.

NINE-GAME CONFERENCE SLATE BEGINS IN 2026

■ 2026 marks the ACC's transition to a nine-game conference football schedule, creating more head-to-head competition among league programs.

■ 12 of the ACC's 17 football programs will play nine conference games in 2026, along with at least one Power Four non-conference opponent.

■ Five programs — Boston College, Clemson, Florida State, Georgia Tech and North Carolina — will play eight ACC games in 2026 because of previously scheduled Power Four non-conference commitments.

■ Beginning in 2027, 16 of 17 programs will play nine ACC games each season, with one school rotating through an eight-game conference schedule and playing two Power Four non-conference opponents.

■ The broader scheduling model is designed to ensure every ACC program plays at least 10 games annually against ACC or other Power Four competition, strengthening overall schedule quality.

FBS TEAMS WITH DOUBLE-DIGIT POWER FOUR GAMES

■ A total of five FBS teams in all of college football are scheduled to play 11 or more games versus Power Four + Notre Dame in 2026, three of which are in the ACC.

FBS Teams with 11+ Games vs. Power Four + ND

Conf.	Team	# of Games
ACC	***Boston College***	***11***
ACC	***Georgia Tech***	***11***
ACC	***Louisville***	***11***
Big Ten	Purdue	11
Big 12	Colorado	11

■ A total of 59 Power Four teams this season are scheduled for 10 or more games versus fellow Power Four + Notre Dame, led by 17 ACC teams.

# of Teams by Conference w/ 10+ Games vs. P4 + ND

Conference	# of Teams
ACC	***17***
SEC	16
Big Ten	13
Big 12	12
Independent	1

2026 ACC FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

■ The 2026 ACC Football Championship Game will kick off on Saturday, December 5, at noon ET on ABC at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina.

■ 2026 marks the 14th consecutive year and the 18th time overall that the championship game will air on ABC.

■ ACC championship games have been televised on either ABC or ESPN every year since their inaugural season in 2005.

■ The ACC's top two teams will be showcased in the only Power Four conference championship game at noon ET.

ACC TEAMS KICK OFF IN IRELAND

■ North Carolina took on TCU in the 2026 *Aer Lingus College Football Classic* on Saturday, August 29, at Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Ireland, defeating the Horned Frogs 15-10 in the season opener.

ACC Teams in the Aer Lingus College Football Classic

Year	Matchup	Result
2016	Georgia Tech vs. Boston College	GT, 17-14
2024	Georgia Tech vs. #10 Florida State	GT, 24-21
2026	North Carolina vs. TCU	UNC, 15-10
2027	Pitt vs. Wisconsin	Aug. 28

ACC'S GROWING GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

■ The ACC kicked off the 2026 season on the international stage, as North Carolina defeated TCU 15-10 in the *Aer Lingus College Football Classic* in Dublin, Ireland, on Saturday, August 29.

■ ACC football is no stranger to Dublin, with conference teams previously competing in the *Aer Lingus College Football Classic* in both 2016 and 2024.

■ Florida State and Georgia Tech opened the 2024 college football season in Dublin on August 24, 2024, while Georgia Tech and Boston College began the 2016 campaign in Ireland on September 3, 2016.

■ The ACC's global footprint will expand again in 2027 with multiple international contests. Pitt will face Wisconsin in the *Aer Lingus College Football Classic* in Dublin on August 28, while Syracuse and Wake Forest will make history with an ACC matchup in Toronto on August 28 or 29.

■ With games in Ireland and Canada on the horizon, the ACC continues to showcase its programs and student-athletes on an international stage while extending the reach of ACC Football to fans around the world.

ACC IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN IN WEEK 0

■ The ACC was the only Power Four conference to play a league game in Week 0 of the 2026 season, as NC State traveled to Virginia on Saturday, August 29. Virginia defeated NC State 34-8 in the 2026 conference opener in front of a sold-out crowd at Scott Stadium in Charlottesville, Virginia.

■ Following extensive review with operational partners and international stakeholders, the game, which was originally scheduled to be played in Brazil, was relocated to Charlottesville, Virginia. This change followed communication from Athlete Advantage that the event could not be conducted.

ACC LEADS FBS IN CONFERENCE GAMES PLAYED

■ The ACC has played an FBS-high three conference games through Week 1 of the 2026 season.

ACC Games Thus Far in 2026

Date	Matchup	Result
Aug. 29	NC State at Virginia	UVA, 34-8
Sept. 4	#7 Miami at Stanford	UM, 45-6
Sept. 7	#19 SMU at Florida State	SMU, 27-24

■ In fact, only two other FBS conferences have played a conference game thus far this season, with the Mountain West (UNLV-Hawai'i) and MAC (Eastern Michigan-Sacramento State) each playing one.

HEINTSCHEL'S SEVEN-TD DAY SETS ACC RECORD

■ Pitt quarterback Mason Heintschel made ACC history in Week 1, throwing an ACC single-game record seven touchdown passes in the Panthers' 59-14 win over Miami (Ohio) on September 5.

■ Heintschel broke the previous ACC single-game record of six touchdown passes, a mark that had been reached 11 times previously, with the last being six by Sam Hartman of Wake Forest in a double-overtime loss to Clemson in 2022.

■ His seven touchdown passes also tied Pitt's school record, originally set by Pete Gonzalez in 1997.

■ He completed 31-of-41 passes for 453 yards, seven touchdowns and no interceptions, with all seven touchdown passes going to different receivers.



ACC NOTES

ACC OFFENSIVE PLAYMAKERS LEADING THE FBS

■ No conference has produced more explosive individual offensive performances than the ACC: the league leads the FBS in 300-yard passing games (6), 400-yard passing games (3) and 100-yard rushing games (8).

■ ACC quarterbacks have produced an FBS-high six 300-yard passing performances this season, more than the Big Ten (4), SEC (4), Conference USA (4) and Big 12 (3).

# of 300-Yard Passing Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
ACC	***6***
Big Ten	4
CUSA	4
SEC	4
Big 12	3
Sun Belt	2
American	1
Mountain West	1
Pac-12	1
MAC	0

■ The ACC is the only FBS conference with a 400-yard passing performance this season — and the league already has three. No other FBS conference has recorded one.

QBs with 400+ Passing Yards in a Game in 2026

Quarterback (Team)	Passing Yards
Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	453
Kevin Jennings (SMU)	430
Darian Mensah (Miami)	401

■ ACC players have posted eight 100-yard rushing performances, the most among all FBS conferences.

# of 100-Yard Rushing Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
ACC	***8***
American	7
Big 12	6
Big Ten	4
SEC	4
CUSA	3
Mountain West	3
Sun Belt	1
MAC	0
Pac-12	0

■ The ACC is also one of just two FBS conferences with a 200-yard rushing performance this season, joining the American.

Players with 200+ Rushing Yards in a Game in 2026

Player (Team)	Rushing Yards
Nate Sheppard (Duke)	227
Braxton Woodson (Navy)	200

■ The ACC is the only FBS conference with a 200-yard receiving performance this season.

Players with 200+ Receiving Yards in a Game in 2026

Player (Team)	Receiving Yards
Malachi Toney (Miami)	234

ACC STANDOUTS SETTING THE NATIONAL PACE

■ ACC players sit atop the FBS in 11 different individual statistical categories through Week 1, showcasing impact across all three phases of the game.

■ ACC student-athletes lead the nation in rushing yards per game, passing yards per game, total offense per game, passing touchdowns, receiving yards per game, receptions per game, total receiving yards and points responsible for on offense.

■ The league also boasts the FBS leader in total tackles per game on defense and punting average and kickoff return average on special teams.

ACC Players Leading the FBS Statistically

Rushing Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Nate Sheppard (Duke)	227.0

Passing Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	453.0
2.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	430.0
3.	Darian Mensah (Miami)	401.0

Total Offensive Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	476.0
2.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	463.0
4.	Darian Mensah (Miami)	406.0

Passing Touchdowns

Rank	Player (Team)	TDs
1.	Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	7

Receiving Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	234.0
3.	Carlos Hernandez (Wake Forest)	165.0

Receiving Yards

Rank	Player (Team)	Yards
1.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	234

Receptions Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	Per Game
T1.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	12

Points Responsible For

Rank	Player (Team)	Points
1.	Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	42

Tackles Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	TPG
1.	Popo Aguirre (NC State)	18.0

Punting Average

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
1.	Kade Reynoldson (Duke)	54.3

Kickoff Return Average

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
1.	Rahkeem Smith (Georgia Tech)	65.0

WEEK 1 HIGHLIGHTS

■ **ACC — Offenses Light Up the Scoreboard**

- Three ACC teams scored 59 or more points in Week 1, as Virginia Tech posted 73 points against VMI, Syracuse scored 66 against New Hampshire and Pitt totaled 59 against Miami (OH).
- The three teams scored at least 59 points on Saturday, September 5. That was the sixth calendar day in the last 40 years that at least three ACC teams reached that mark, previously done on September 21, 2024. *(Stats Perform)*

■ **ACC — Leading the Way**

- In Week 1, the ACC had the leading passer (Mason Heintschel – 453), leading rusher (Nate Sheppard – 227) and leading receiver (Malachi Toney – 234).
- This is the second time in the last 30 seasons that the ACC has done that in the regular season, along with Week 9 of 2018 (Ryan Finley - passer, Matt Colburn II - rusher, Kelvin Harmon - receiver). *(Stats Perform)*

■ **Miami — National Statement**

- No. 7 Miami opened the season with a 45-6 win at Stanford, scoring touchdowns on six of its first seven possessions.
- QB Darian Mensah completed 27-of-30 passes for a career-high 401 yards and five touchdowns.
- WR Malachi Toney set a Miami single-game record with 234 receiving yards. Toney added three touchdowns on 12 catches.

■ **Pitt — ACC Record**

- Pitt rolled past Miami (OH), 59-14, behind one of the best individual performances of the opening weekend.
- QB Mason Heintschel threw seven touchdown passes, tying the Pitt record and establishing a new ACC single-game record.
- Pitt finished with 646 yards of total offense, while Heintschel's seven TD passes went to seven different receivers.

■ **Virginia Tech — Franklin Era Starts Fast**

- Virginia Tech opened the James Franklin era with a 73-3 win over VMI, scoring 10 TDs.
- It was the Hokies' first 70-point game since a 77-27 win over Akron in 1995.
- VT scored the most points in a half (45) since the first half against Tulsa on December 26, 2015.
- The Hokies' defense recorded 18 tackles-for-loss, the most in a single game since at least 1987.



ACC NOTES

CAL, STANFORD & VIRGINIA TECH WITH NEW HEAD COACHES IN 2026

■ Tosh Lupoi was named California's 35th head football coach, returning to Berkeley after spending the past four seasons as Oregon's defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. A former Cal defensive lineman (2000–05) and defensive line coach (2008–11), Lupoi returns to his alma mater following a coaching career that has included stops at Alabama, Washington and in the NFL with the Cleveland Browns, Atlanta Falcons and Jacksonville Jaguars. During his five seasons at Alabama, he helped the Crimson Tide win two national championships. At Oregon, Lupoi directed one of the nation's premier defenses, as the Ducks finished the 2025 regular season ranked third nationally in total defense (251.6 yards per game), passing defense (144.3), and passing yards allowed (1,732), while ranking eighth in scoring defense (14.8 points per game) and 20th in rushing defense (107.3 yards per game). He was also named a semifinalist for the 2025 Broyles Award, presented annually to the nation's top assistant coach, for the second consecutive season. Known as one of college football's top recruiters and talent developers, Lupoi helped Cal sign highly regarded recruiting classes during his first stint in Berkeley and coached two first-round NFL Draft picks along the defensive line.

■ Tavita Pritchard was named Stanford's 37th head football coach, returning to his alma mater after serving as the Washington Commanders' quarterbacks coach for the past three seasons. A 2009 Stanford graduate and former Cardinal quarterback, Pritchard helped develop one of the NFL's rising offenses, guiding the Commanders to the 2024 NFC Championship Game while mentoring AP NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year Jayden Daniels. Under Pritchard's guidance, Daniels earned Pro Bowl honors after throwing for 3,568 yards and 25 touchdowns with a 69.0% completion percentage, accounting for 31 total touchdowns—third-most by a rookie quarterback in NFL history. Pritchard takes over for his first head coaching job, returning to The Farm after previous coaching stints with Stanford and the Washington Commanders of the NFL.

■ James Franklin was named Virginia Tech's new head football coach after 12 successful seasons at Penn State, bringing more than 30 years of collegiate coaching experience and a career head coaching record of 128-60 prior to taking over at VT. One of the nation's most accomplished active coaches, Franklin led Penn State to 104 victories—the second-most in school history—while guiding the Nittany Lions to seven top-12 finishes in the final College Football Playoff rankings over the last nine seasons, seven New Year's Six bowl appearances, four New Year's Six victories and the 2016 Big Ten Championship. Previously, he engineered one of the greatest turnarounds in Vanderbilt history, leading the Commodores to three consecutive bowl appearances and the program's first back-to-back nine-win seasons. Throughout his career, Franklin has coached 18 All-Americans, produced 59 NFL Draft picks and developed more than 100 future NFL players, further cementing his reputation as one of college football's premier program builders. He becomes one of the ACC's new head football coaches entering the 2026 season.

ACC X NFL

■ No conference blends college football and NFL experience quite like the ACC in 2026, with two former NFL head coaches now leading programs: Bill O'Brien (Boston College) and Bill Belichick (North Carolina).

■ Two other ACC head coaches, Tosh Lupoi (California) and Tavita Pritchard (Stanford), have also coached in the NFL, serving as position coaches at the professional level.

■ Several ACC programs also feature general managers with deep NFL ties, along with a growing number of former NFL stars contributing across coaching staffs and player development roles.

2026 DODD TROPHY PRESEASON WATCH LIST

■ Three ACC head coaches were named to the 2026 Dodd Trophy Preseason Watch List: Louisville's Jeff Brohm, Miami's Mario Cristobal and Georgia Tech's Brent Key.

TRIO OF ACC HEAD COACHES WITH MULTIPLE CFP WINS

■ With the hiring of James Franklin at Virginia Tech in the 2026 offseason, the ACC now has three head coaches with multiple College Football Playoff wins: Clemson's Dabo Swinney, Miami's Mario Cristobal and Virginia Tech's Franklin.

Conferences with Head Coaches with Multiple CFP Wins

Conference	# of Coaches
SEC	4
ACC	**3**
Big Ten	3

ELITE HEAD COACHES IN THE ACC

■ The ACC has 10 head coaches with a career winning percentage of at least .560 — tied for the most of any league.

ACC Coaches with Career Winning Pct. over .560

Coach (School)	Winning Pct.
Dabo Swinney (Clemson)	.776
Rhett Lashlee (SMU)	.709
James Franklin (Virginia Tech)	.683
Manny Diaz (Duke)	.625
Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	.623
Dave Doeren (NC State)	.611
Mike Norvell (Florida State)	.606
Jake Dickert (Wake Forest)	.579
Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)	.570
Brent Key (Georgia Tech)	.563

COACHING RECORDS

CAREER VICTORIES - FBS ACTIVE COACHES

Rk.	Coach (Current School)	Wins
1.	K.C. Keeler (Temple)	277
2.	Kirk Ferentz (Iowa)	222
	Willie Fritz (Houston)	222
4.	Chris Creighton (Eastern Michigan)	201
5.	Rich Rodriguez (West Virginia)	195
6.	***Dabo Swinney (Clemson)***	***187***
7.	Kyle Whittingham (Michigan)	178
8.	Lance Leipold (Kansas)	174
9.	Curt Cignetti (Indiana)	147
10.	Chuck Martin (Miami (OH))	146
	Bronco Mendenhall (Utah State)	146
12.	Troy Calhoun (Air Force)	140
13.	Bret Bielema (Illinois)	135
14.	Bob Chesney (UCLA)	133
15.	***James Franklin (Virginia Tech)***	***129***
16.	Pete Lembo (Buffalo)	127
17.	Kalen DeBoer (Alabama)	126
	Jeff Monken (Army)	126
19.	Jamey Chadwell (Liberty)	122
20.	Ken Niumatalolo (San Jose State)	120
21.	***Dave Doeren (NC State)***	***118***
	Kirby Smart (Georgia)	118
23.	Lane Kiffin (LSU)	117
24.	Dan Mullen (UNLV)	114
25.	Pat Fitzgerald (Michigan State)	111
30.	***Mario Cristobal (Miami)***	***98***
33.	***Jeff Brohm (Louisville)***	***94***
41.	***Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)***	***81***
43.	***Mike Norvell (Florida State)***	***77***

CAREER WINNING % - FBS ACTIVE COACHES

Rk.	Name (Current School)	Record	Pct.^
1.	Tim Polasek (North Dakota St.)	28-3	.903
2.	Ryan Day (Ohio State)	83-12	.874
3.	Kalen DeBoer (Alabama)	126-20	.863
4.	Dan Lanning (Oregon)	49-8	.860
5.	Kirby Smart (Georgia)	118-21	.849
6.	Matt Entz (Fresno State)	69-16	.812
7.	Curt Cignetti (Indiana)	147-37	.799
8.	Mike Jacobs (Toledo)	94-24	.797
9.	Jimmy Rogers (Iowa State)	34-9	.791
10.	Marcus Freeman (Notre Dame)	44-12	.786
11.	***Dabo Swinney (Clemson)***	***187-54***	***.776***
12.	Jon Sumrall (Florida)	44-13	.772
13.	Lincoln Riley (USC)	92-28	.767
14.	Spencer Danielson (Boise State)	24-9	.727
15.	Josh Heupel (Tennessee)	74-28	.725
16.	Bob Chesney (UCLA)	133-52	.719
17.	***Rhett Lashlee (SMU)***	***39-16***	***.709***
18.	Willie Simmons (FIU)	73-31	.702
19.	Lance Leipold (Kansas)	174-74	.702
20.	Blake Harrell (East Carolina)	14-6	.700
21.	K.C. Keeler (Temple)	277-119-1	.699
22.	Mike Elko (Texas A&M)	36-16	.692
23.	Brian Newberry (Navy)	27-12	.692
24.	Lane Kiffin (LSU)	117-53	.688
25.	***James Franklin (Virginia Tech)***	***129-60***	***.683***
-	***Jeff Brohm (Louisville)***	***94-57***	***.623***
-	***Manny Diaz (Duke)***	***40-24***	***.625***
-	***Dave Doeren (NC State)***	***118-75***	***.611***
-	***Mike Norvell (Florida State)***	***77-50***	***.606***

^ *minimum one full season as a coach*



ACC NOTES

WINNINGEST COACHES IN THE ACC

■ Dabo Swinney surpassed Bobby Bowden for the most career victories by a head coach at an ACC program in 2024.

Most Wins Overall While Coaching at an ACC School

Rank	Coach (School)	Wins
1.	Dabo Swinney (Clemson)	187
2.	Bobby Bowden (Florida State)	173
3.	George Welsh (Virginia)	134
4.	Mack Brown (North Carolina)	113
	Frank Beamer (Virginia Tech)	113
6.	Bill Dooley (UNC & Wake Forest)	98

CHASING CAREER WIN NUMBER 100

■ Several ACC head coaches are approaching the 100-career-win milestone, with two within reach of the mark this season.

ACC Coaches Closing in on Career Win No. 100

Head Coach	Career Wins
Mario Cristobal (Miami)	98
Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	94
Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)	81
Mike Norvell (Florida State)	77

FIRST CAREER WIN FOR STANFORD'S PRITCHARD

■ Stanford first-year head coach Tavita Pritchard earned his first career victory as a head coach in his debut, leading Stanford to a 37-27 season-opening win over Hawai'i on Saturday, August 29.

■ His first victory as a head coach came on the same field where he began his collegiate playing and coaching careers. Pritchard previously spent 13 seasons on Stanford's coaching staff before serving three years as the Washington Commanders' quarterbacks coach.

ELITE PRESENCE IN THE CFP & BCS CHAMPIONSHIP

■ In 10 of the past 13 seasons, the ACC has been represented in either the College Football Playoff or the BCS National Championship Game—an elite streak that began with Florida State's thrilling 34-31 win over Auburn in the final BCS title game in January 2014 (2013 season).

■ The ACC is one of the few conferences to have sent five different programs to the College Football Playoff:

ACC Teams in the College Football Playoff

Team	Year(s)
Clemson	2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2024
Florida State	2014
Miami	2025
SMU	2024
Notre Dame*	2020

** played the season as a member of the ACC*

■ With nine all-time College Football Playoff victories, the ACC ranks third nationally behind only the SEC (21) and Big Ten (16).

UNMATCHED DEPTH IN BOWL SEASON

■ Over the last three seasons (2023, 2024 and 2025), the ACC has had 11 or more bowl-eligible teams each year — the longest streak of any conference.

■ The 2024 season saw a league-record 13 ACC teams earn bowl eligibility, tying for the most among all Power Four conferences.

■ For 24 consecutive years, the ACC has secured six or more bowl bids, excluding the unique 2020 season. The league has sent 11 teams or more to the postseason in seven of the last 12 years.

VIRGINIA JOINS ELITE GROUP OF 700 PROGRAM WINS

■ Virginia's 34-8 victory over NC State on Saturday, August 29, in the 2026 season opener marked the 700th victory in program history.

■ The Cavaliers became the 39th FBS program to reach 700 all-time victories.

■ Virginia is the ninth current ACC program to reach the milestone, joining Clemson, Virginia Tech, Pitt, Georgia Tech, Syracuse, North Carolina, California and Boston College.

Most Wins in FBS History (Min. 700)

Rank	Team	Wins
1.	Michigan	1,023
2.	Ohio State	991
3.	Alabama	986
4.	Notre Dame	973
5.	Texas	972
6.	Oklahoma	961
7.	Penn State	951
8.	Nebraska	932
9.	Georgia	905
10.	USC	893
11.	Tennessee	884
12.	LSU	823
13.	***Clemson***	***815***
14.	Auburn	810
15.	Texas A&M	798
16.	West Virginia	792
17.	Washington	791
18.	***Virginia Tech***	***782***
19.	***Pitt***	***777***
20.	***Georgia Tech***	***772***
21.	Florida	771
22.	Navy	760
23.	***Syracuse***	***757***
24.	Wisconsin	751
25.	Arkansas	750
	Minnesota	750
27.	Army	747
28	Miami (Ohio)	740
	North Carolina	***740***
31.	Colorado	736
	Utah	736
33.	Oregon	732
34.	Missouri	730
35.	Michigan State	726
35.	Iowa	707
36.	***California***	***705***
37.	***Boston College***	***703***
	TCU	703
39.	***Virginia***	***700***
	Ole Miss	700

**games through September 7, 2026*

ACC HEAD COACHING RECORDS

Head Coach, School	Year	Overall Record	Pct.	at an ACC School Year	Record	Pct.
Bill O'Brien, Boston College	5th	24-26	.480	3rd	9-17	.346
Tosh Lupoi, California	1st	0-1	.000	1st	0-1	.000
Dabo Swinney, Clemson	19th	187-54	.776	19th	187-54	.776
Manny Diaz, Duke	6th	40-24	.625	6th	40-24	.625
Mike Norvell, Florida State	11th	77-50	.606	7th	39-35	.527
Brent Key, Georgia Tech	5th	27-21	.563	5th	27-21	.563
Jeff Brohm, Louisville	13th	94-57	.623	4th	28-13	.683
Mario Cristobal, Miami	16th	98-79	.554	5th	36-19	.655
Bill Belichick, North Carolina	2nd	5-8	.385	2nd	5-8	.385
Dave Doeren, NC State	16th	118-75	.611	14th	95-71	.572
Pat Narduzzi, Pitt	12th	81-61	.570	12th	81-61	.570
Rhett Lashlee, SMU	5th	39-16	.709	3rd	21-7	.750
Tavita Pritchard, Stanford	1st	1-1	.500	1st	1-1	.500
Fran Brown, Syracuse	3rd	14-12	.538	3rd	14-12	.538
Tony Elliott, Virginia	5th	23-26	.469	5th	23-26	.469
James Franklin, Virginia Tech	16th	129-60	.683	1st	1-0	1.000
Jake Dickert, Wake Forest	6th	33-24	.579	2nd	10-4	.714



ACC NOTES

ACC PART OF ANOTHER HISTORIC COLLEGE GAMEDAY

■ ESPN's *College GameDay* was in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for Clemson at No. 11 LSU in Week 1, marking the show's historic 500th road show.

■ The milestone matchup also kicked off the 40th season of college football's premier pregame show.

■ Clemson was part of *College GameDay*'s 400th road show, as the No. 2 Tigers played No. 3 Ohio State in the College Football Playoff Semifinals at the Allstate Sugar Bowl on January 1, 2021.

■ *College GameDay* held its first-ever on-campus road show on November 13, 1993, when No. 1 Florida State traveled to No. 2 Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

■ The ACC was also part of *College GameDay*'s first international road show, when No. 10 Florida State faced Georgia Tech in Dublin, Ireland, in Week 0 of the 2024 season.

ACC AVAILABILITY REPORTING

■ The ACC announced on July 22, 2025, two new policies to enhance the safety and well-being of ACC student-athletes beginning in the 2025-26 academic year.

(1) Institutional event security plans will limit access to the competition area in men's and women's basketball and football.

(2) The availability status of student-athletes will be reported before each conference game in baseball, men's and women's basketball and football.

■ For Conference football games, availability reports shall be submitted each day starting three nights before the game and on game day two hours before the scheduled game time. For basketball and baseball games, availability reports shall be submitted the night before the game and two hours before the scheduled game time. However, only one report is submitted on the second and subsequent days when a team plays a game on consecutive days.

■ In football, a report will be submitted three days before each Conference game (e.g., Wednesday before a Saturday game) with updates submitted two days before the game, the day before the game and on game day.

■ For each report submitted before game day, student-athletes will be designated as Available, Probable, Questionable, Doubtful or Out for the upcoming game. Game Day Reports will be submitted two hours before each game. For this report, student-athletes will be designated as Available, Game Time Decision, or Out.

■ All availability reports and the full conference policy will be available to the public and media on the ACC's website – www.theACC.com.

** This policy is intended to help protect student-athletes and staff members from outside entities seeking to obtain inside information about availability and participation, including but not limited to injuries. It will also reinforce to athletes and staff the sensitivity of such information.*

TARGETING PENALTY

■ This change will be an experimental rule for 2026.

- Targeting fouls that are upheld will include a disqualification for the current game, and the rule will eliminate the carryover disqualification for fouls in the second half.
- If a player receives a second Targeting foul within the same season, disqualification for the remainder of the game and the first half of the team's next scheduled game within that season.
- If a player receives a third or subsequent Targeting foul within the same season, disqualification for the remainder of the game and that player will receive an automatic one-game suspension in their team's next scheduled game of that season.
- If a player receives a second and/or subsequent upheld targeting foul within the same season, the conference has the option to consult the national coordinator of football officials who would then facilitate a video review. Based on the review, if and only if the national coordinator concludes that it is clearly obvious the player should not have been disqualified on the first, second or any subsequent targeting foul, the suspension will be vacated. If the national coordinator supports the disqualification, the suspension for the next game will remain.
- Rationale: This continues the evolution of this important player safety rule. The committee believes the rule has had a profound positive impact on technique and removing the carryover aspect of second-half fouls is appropriate. Increasing the progressive penalty aspect is intended to underscore the continued importance of this rule.

TARGETING TRACKER - ACC

Player (School)	First Targeting Foul	Second Targeting Foul	Sit-Out First Half
Chris Peal, Syracuse	Sept. 5 vs. New Hampshire	-	-
AJ Tuitele, California	Sept. 5 vs. UCLA	-	-



ACC NETWORK NOTES

YEAR TWO OF THE ACC'S ENHANCED REPLAY ACCESS

■ The ACC will expand its Enhanced Replay Access in 2026, giving audiences even more opportunities to hear real-time replay discussions during more games across ACC football.

■ The initiative builds on its 2025 launch, when viewers heard live discussions among the Referee, stadium replay official and ACC Collaborative Instant Replay Official in Charlotte.

■ After featuring select Friday night and primetime Saturday games in 2025, Enhanced Replay Access will expand to more games in 2026.

■ The expansion reinforces the ACC's commitment to transparency, innovation and greater insight into the officiating process.

■ Enhanced access gives viewers a real-time look at how replay decisions are discussed and determined.

■ The initiative has evolved from sharing Game Day Operations Center video in 2023, to limited replay audio access in 2024, to a broader rollout in 2025.

Games with Enhanced Replay Access for Weeks 0-3 *

Date	Game (Network)
Saturday, 8/29	NC State at Virginia (ESPN)
Saturday, 8/29	NMSU at Florida State (The CW)
Thursday, 9/3	Colorado at Georgia Tech (ESPN)
Friday, 9/4	Miami at Stanford (ESPN)
Saturday, 9/5	Miami (OH) at Pitt (The CW)
Saturday, 9/5	VMI at Virginia Tech (ACCN)
Monday, 9/7	SMU at Florida State (ESPN)
Thursday, 9/10	**Florida A&M at Miami (ACCN)**
Friday, 9/11	**Richmond at NC State (ESPNU)**
Saturday, 9/12	**ETSU at North Carolina (ACCN)**
Saturday, 9/12	**California at Syracuse (ACCN)**
Saturday, 9/12	**Tennessee at Georgia Tech (ESPN)**
Saturday, 9/12	**Georgia Southern at Clemson (ACCN)**
Thursday, 9/17	Syracuse at Pitt (ESPN)
Friday, 9/18	Miami at Wake Forest (ESPN)
Saturday, 9/19	North Carolina at Clemson (ESPN)
Saturday, 9/19	Mercer at Georgia Tech (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/19	SMU at Louisville (ESPN)
Saturday, 9/19	Stanford at Duke (The CW)

Friday Games on ESPN with Enhanced Replay Access for Weeks 4-14*

Friday, 9/25	Clemson at California (ESPN)
Friday, 10/2	Pitt at Virginia Tech (ESPN)
Friday, 10/9	Florida State at Louisville (ESPN)
Friday, 10/23	Duke at Virginia (ESPN)
Friday, 10/23	NC State at Stanford (ESPN)
Friday, 11/6	Virginia Tech at SMU (ESPN)
Friday, 11/13	Florida State at Pitt (ESPN)
Friday, 11/20	Clemson at Duke (ESPN)

**Subject to change*

ACC NETWORK'S ACC HUDDLE RETURNS TO CAMPUSES

■ For the second straight season, *ACC Huddle* Powered by United States Air Force will again originate live from the site of the conference's biggest matchup each weekend. The traveling studio show airs Saturdays from 10 a.m.–noon ET on ACC Network and is open to fans at every campus stop.

ACC Huddle Stops in 2026

Week	Location	Game
Week 0	Charlottesville, Va.	NC State at Virginia
Week 1	Tallahassee, Fla.	SMU at Florida State
Week 2	**Atlanta, Ga.**	**Tennessee at Georgia Tech**
Week 3	Clemson, S.C.	North Carolina at Clemson

■ Week 1 also included live on-site coverage from Stanford that surrounded the Friday night matchup against Miami and Berkeley, California, as Cal hosted UCLA in a marquee on Saturday night.

■ Beginning in Week 4, *ACC Huddle* Powered by United States Air Force destinations will be determined on a week-to-week basis.

ACC NETWORK

About ACC Network

Owned and operated by ESPN in partnership with the Atlantic Coast Conference, ACC Network (ACCN) and its digital platform ACCNX is a 24/7 national network dedicated to ACC sports that launched on August 22, 2019. ACCN televises more than 500 regular-season and tournament games from across the conference's 28 sponsored sports plus a complement of news and information shows and original programming. Together, ACCN and its digital platform, ACCNX, combine to feature more than 1,500 ACC events each year. ESPN has been televising ACC content since 1979 and has exclusive rights to every conference-controlled game across all sports and championships. Carriage agreements are in place with the following video providers: Comcast, Cox, DIRECTV, DIRECTV STREAM, DISH Network, Frontier, fuboTV, Google Fiber, Hulu+ Live TV, Mediacom, Optimum, Sling TV, Spectrum TV, Suddenlink, Verizon Fios, YouTube TV, members of the NCTC, NRTC and Vivicast, among others. All ACCN games will also be available on the ESPN App to authenticated subscribers. Fans interested in learning more about ACCN can visit www.GetACCN.com.



ACC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Quarterback

Aug. 31	Beau Pribula, QB, Virginia
Sept. 8	Mason Heintschel, QB, Pitt
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Offensive Lineman

Aug. 31	Monroe Mills, OT, Virginia
Sept. 8	PJ Williams, OL, SMU
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Defensive Back

Aug. 31	Brandyn Hillman, S, Virginia
Sept. 8	Jimmy Wyrick, S, SMU
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Running Back

Aug. 31	Micah Ford, RB, Stanford
Sept. 8	Nate Sheppard, RB, Duke
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Defensive Lineman

Aug. 31	Xavier Lewis, DL, North Carolina
Sept. 8	Bryce Davis, DE, Duke
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Specialist

Aug. 31	Will Bettridge, K, Virginia
Sept. 8	Rahkeem Smith, WR, Georgia Tech
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Offensive Receiver

Aug. 31	Samuel Singleton Jr., RB, Florida State
Sept. 8	Malachi Toney, WR, Miami
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Linebacker

Aug. 31	Derek McDonald, LB, North Carolina
Sept. 8	Vincent Firenze, LB, Wake Forest
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	

Rookie

Aug. 31	Atticus Joseph, WR, Stanford
Sept. 8	Shavane Anderson Jr., RB, Syracuse
Sept. 14	
Sept. 21	
Sept. 28	
Oct. 5	
Oct. 12	
Oct. 19	
Oct. 26	
Nov. 2	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 16	
Nov. 23	
Nov. 30	



ACC FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME TIEBREAKER POLICY

ACC FOOTBALL TIEBREAKER POLICY

■ The Atlantic Coast Conference Football Champion will be decided by a game (the "ACC Football Championship Game") between the Top Two Teams.

■ The Top Two Teams shall be the two ACC teams with the highest percentage of Conference wins during all regular-season Conference competition and/or team(s) which played an alternate number of Conference games and have either the same number of Conference wins or the same number of Conference losses as the team(s) with the highest percentage of Conference wins.

■ To be among the Top Two Teams, a team must be eligible to compete in the postseason. Conference games against otherwise postseason ineligible teams will always be counted in the league standings and in application of the tiebreaker policy.

■ If three (3) or more teams are tied with the highest percentage of wins or two (2) or more teams are tied with the second highest percentage of wins, the following tiebreaker shall be administered to determine the representative(s) in the ACC Football Championship Game.

ACC Football Tiebreaker

1. Defining Tied Teams:
   a. Step 1: Identify the team or teams with the best Conference win percentage; plus,
   b. Step 2: Any team or teams which played an alternate number of Conference games and have either the same number of Conference wins or the same number of Conference losses as the team(s) identified in Step 1.
   c. No other teams may be defined as Tied Teams.

2. Once the Tied Teams have been identified:
   a. In the event of a tie involving teams which played an alternate number of Conference games, all ties will be broken starting with the highest win percentage, working downward.
   1. Two-Team Tie
      a. The tied team which defeated the other tied team in head-to-head Conference competition.
      b. The tied team with the better ranking in the Team Success Ranking provided by SportSource Analytics following the conclusion of all regular-season games.
      c. The participant shall be chosen by a draw as administered by the Commissioner or Commissioner's designee.
   2. Three (or More) Team Tie
      a. If all the Tied Teams are common opponents:
         i. The Tied Team with the best record among the Tied Teams; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.
         ii. The Tied Team with the best ranking in the Team Success Ranking provided by SportSource Analytics following the conclusion of regular-season games; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.
         iii. The participant shall be chosen by a draw as administered by the Commissioner or Commissioner's designee; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.
      b. If all the Tied Teams are not common opponents:
         i. The Tied Team which defeated each of the other Tied Teams is placed into the Championship Game and removed from the tie. The tied team which lost to each of the other Tied Teams is removed from the tie; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.
         ii. The Tied Team with the best ranking in the Team Success Ranking provided by SportSource Analytics following the conclusion of regular-season games is placed into the Championship Game and removed from the tie; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.
         iii. The participant shall be chosen by a draw as administered by the Commissioner or Commissioner's designee; if necessary, the tiebreaker will restart, including the definition of tied teams.





ACC FOOTBALL COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

WEEK 0

Saturday, August 29

Aer Lingus College Football Classic - Dublin, Ireland

North Carolina 15 vs. TCU 10 ..... Noon ET (ESPN)
NC State 8 at Virginia 34 * ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Hawai'i 27 at Stanford 37 ..... 7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
New Mexico State 17 at Florida State 34 ..... 7 p.m. ET (The CW)

WEEK 1

Thursday, September 3

Akron 16 at Wake Forest 38 ..... 7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Colorado 14 at Georgia Tech 13 ..... 8 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Friday, September 4

#7 Miami 45 at Stanford 6 * ..... 9 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, September 5

New Hampshire 3 at Syracuse 66 ..... Noon ET (ACCN)
Miami (OH) 14 at Pitt 59 ..... 12:30 p.m. ET (The CW)
Tulane 3 at Duke 17 ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Boston College 15 at Cincinnati 34 ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (FOX)
Clemson 10 at #11 LSU 51 ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
VMI 3 at Virginia Tech 73 ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
UCLA 45 at California 24 ..... 10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Sunday, September 6

Liberty Mutual Music City Kickoff - Nashville, Tennessee

#24 Louisville 38 vs. #9 Ole Miss 41 ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ABC)

Monday, September 7

#19 SMU 27 at Florida State 24 * ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Open: North Carolina, NC State, Virginia

WEEK 2

Thursday, September 10

Florida A&M at #7 Miami ..... 8 p.m. ET (ACCN)

Friday, September 11

Richmond at NC State ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPNU)
Villanova at #24 Louisville ..... 7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Norfolk State at #25 Virginia ..... 7 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Rutgers at Boston College ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)

Saturday, September 12

Wake Forest at Purdue ..... Noon ET (FS1)
ETSU at North Carolina ..... Noon ET (ACCN)
Old Dominion at Virginia Tech ..... Noon ET (The CW)
California at Syracuse * ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
UCF at Pitt ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Duke at Illinois ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (FS1)
UC Davis at #17 SMU ..... 4 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
#18 Tennessee at Georgia Tech ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Georgia Southern at Clemson ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)

Open: Florida State, Stanford

WEEK 3

Thursday, September 17

Syracuse at Pitt * ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Friday, September 18

#7 Miami at Wake Forest * ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, September 19

North Carolina at Clemson * ..... Noon ET (ESPN)
Mercer at Georgia Tech ..... Noon ET (ACCN)
NC State at Vanderbilt ..... 12:45 p.m. ET (SECN)
Maine at Boston College ..... 2 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Florida State at #13 Alabama ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
#19 SMU at #24 Louisville * ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN or ESPN2)
Wagner at California ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Stanford at Duke * ..... 4 p.m. ET (The CW)
Virginia Tech at Maryland ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (FOX or FS1)

Duke's Mayo Classic - Charlotte, North Carolina

West Virginia vs. Virginia ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)

WEEK 4

Friday, September 25

Clemson at California * ..... 10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, September 26

Bucknell at Pitt ..... Noon ET (ACCNX)
William & Mary at Duke ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Central Michigan at #7 Miami ..... 6:30 p.m. ET (The CW)
Georgia Tech at Stanford * ..... 10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Virginia Tech at Boston College * .....
Wake Forest at #24 Louisville * .....
Appalachian State at NC State .....
Missouri State at #19 SMU .....
Delaware at Virginia .....
Central Arkansas at Florida State .....

Open: North Carolina, Syracuse

WEEK 5

Friday, October 2

Pitt at Virginia Tech * ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, October 3

California at UNLV ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (CBSSN)
Boston College at #19 SMU * .....
#7 Miami at Clemson * .....
Virginia at Florida State * .....
#24 Louisville at NC State * .....
Stanford at Wake Forest * .....
#4 Notre Dame at North Carolina .....
Syracuse at UConn .....

Open: Duke, Georgia Tech



ACC FOOTBALL COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

WEEK 6

Friday, October 9

Florida State at #24 Louisville * ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, October 10

Virginia Tech at California * .....
Duke at Georgia Tech * .....
North Carolina at Pitt * .....
Wake Forest at NC State * .....
Syracuse at Virginia * .....
Stanford at #4 Notre Dame ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (NBC/Peacock)
Open: Boston College, Clemson, Miami, SMU

WEEK 7

Saturday, October 17

Pitt at Boston College * .....
Wake Forest at California * .....
North Carolina at Duke * .....
Florida State at #7 Miami * .....
Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech * .....
#24 Louisville at Syracuse * .....
Virginia at #19 SMU * .....
Charleston Southern at Clemson .....
Elon at Stanford ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Open: NC State

WEEK 8

Friday, October 23

Duke at Virginia * ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
NC State at Stanford * ..... 10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, October 24

Boston College at Georgia Tech * .....
California at #19 SMU * .....
Virginia Tech at Clemson * .....
Pitt at #7 Miami * .....
Syracuse at North Carolina * .....
Open: Florida State, Louisville, Wake Forest

WEEK 9

Saturday, October 31

Boston College at Duke * .....
Clemson at Florida State * .....
California at NC State * .....
#19 SMU at Syracuse * .....
Georgia Tech at Pitt * .....
Stanford at #24 Louisville * .....
#7 Miami at North Carolina * .....
Virginia at Wake Forest * .....
Open: Virginia Tech

WEEK 10

Friday, November 6

Virginia Tech at #19 SMU * ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, November 7

Florida State at Boston College * .....
Clemson at Syracuse * .....
Duke at NC State * .....
#24 Louisville at Georgia Tech * .....
North Carolina at UConn .....
Merrimack at Wake Forest .....
#7 Miami at #4 Notre Dame ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (NBC/Peacock)
Open: California, Pitt, Stanford, Virginia

WEEK 11

Friday, November 13

Florida State at Pitt * ..... 7 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, November 14

California at Virginia * .....
Georgia Tech at Clemson * .....
Duke at #7 Miami * .....
#24 Louisville at North Carolina * .....
Syracuse at NC State * .....
Wake Forest at #21 SMU * .....
Stanford at Virginia Tech * .....
Boston College at #4 Notre Dame ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (NBC/Peacock)

WEEK 12

Friday, November 20

Clemson at Duke * ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, November 21

Syracuse at Boston College * .....
Stanford at California * .....
NC State at Florida State * .....
Wake Forest at Georgia Tech * .....
Virginia Tech at #7 Miami * .....
Pitt at #24 Louisville * .....
North Carolina at Virginia * .....
#19 SMU at #4 Notre Dame ..... 7:30 p.m. ET (NBC/Peacock)

WEEK 13

Friday, November 27

Florida at Florida State ..... 3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)

Saturday, November 28

Boston College at #7 Miami * .....
Pitt at California * .....
Duke at Wake Forest * .....
NC State at North Carolina * .....
#19 SMU at Stanford * .....
Virginia at Virginia Tech * .....
South Carolina at Clemson .....
Georgia Tech at #3 Georgia .....
#24 Louisville at Kentucky .....
#4 Notre Dame at Syracuse .....

CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

Saturday, December 5

Bank of America Stadium - Charlotte, North Carolina
TBD ..... Noon ET (ABC)

* Denotes ACC game



ACC FOOTBALL TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES

BOSTON COLLEGE (0-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	at Cincinnati	L, 15-34
Sept. 11	Rutgers	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Sept. 19	Maine	2 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Sept. 26	Virginia Tech *	
Oct. 3	at SMU *	
Oct. 10	OPEN	
Oct. 17	Pitt *	
Oct. 24	at Georgia Tech *	
Oct. 31	at Duke *	
Nov. 7	Florida State *	
Nov. 14	at Notre Dame	3:30 p.m. ET (NBC)
Nov. 21	Syracuse *	
Nov. 28	at Miami *	

CALIFORNIA (0-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	UCLA	L, 24-45
Sept. 12	at Syracuse *	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 19	Wagner	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 25	Clemson *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 3	at UNLV	3:30 p.m. ET (CBSSN)
Oct. 10	Virginia Tech *	
Oct. 17	Wake Forest *	
Oct. 24	at SMU *	
Oct. 31	at NC State *	
Nov. 7	OPEN	
Nov. 14	at Virginia *	
Nov. 21	Stanford *	
Nov. 28	Pitt *	

CLEMSON (0-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	at #11 LSU	L, 10-51
Sept. 12	Georgia Southern	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 19	North Carolina *	Noon ET (ESPN)
Sept. 25	at California *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 3	Miami *	
Oct. 10	OPEN	
Oct. 17	Charleston Southern	
Oct. 24	Virginia Tech *	
Oct. 31	at Florida State *	
Nov. 7	at Syracuse *	
Nov. 14	Georgia Tech *	
Nov. 20	at Duke *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 28	South Carolina	

DUKE (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	Tulane	W, 17-3
Sept. 12	at Illinois	3:30 p.m. ET (FS1)
Sept. 19	Stanford *	4 p.m. ET (The CW)
Sept. 26	William & Mary	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Oct. 3	OPEN	
Oct. 10	at Georgia Tech *	
Oct. 17	North Carolina *	
Oct. 23	at Virginia *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 31	Boston College *	
Nov. 7	at NC State *	
Nov. 14	at Miami *	
Nov. 20	Clemson *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 28	at Wake Forest *	

FLORIDA STATE (1-1, 0-1 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	New Mexico State	W, 34-17
Sept. 7	#19 SMU *	L, 24-27
Sept. 12	OPEN	
Sept. 19	at Alabama	3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
Sept. 26	Central Arkansas	
Oct. 3	Virginia *	
Oct. 9	at Louisville *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 17	at Miami *	
Oct. 24	OPEN	
Oct. 31	Clemson *	
Nov. 7	at Boston College *	
Nov. 13	at Pitt *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 21	NC State *	
Nov. 27	Florida	3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)

GEORGIA TECH (0-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 3	Colorado	L, 13-14
Sept. 12	#18 Tennessee	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 19	Mercer	Noon ET (ACCN)
Sept. 26	at Stanford *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 3	OPEN	
Oct. 10	Duke *	
Oct. 17	at Virginia Tech *	
Oct. 24	Boston College *	
Oct. 31	at Pitt *	
Nov. 7	Louisville *	
Nov. 14	at Clemson *	
Nov. 21	Wake Forest *	
Nov. 28	at Georgia	

LOUISVILLE (0-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 6	vs. #9 Ole Miss *(Nashville)*	L, 38-41
Sept. 11	Villanova	7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 19	SMU *	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN/ESPN2)
Sept. 26	Wake Forest *	
Oct. 3	at NC State *	
Oct. 9	Florida State *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 17	at Syracuse *	
Oct. 24	OPEN	
Oct. 31	Stanford *	
Nov. 7	at Georgia Tech *	
Nov. 14	at North Carolina *	
Nov. 21	Pitt *	
Nov. 28	at Kentucky	

MIAMI (1-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 4	at Stanford *	W, 45-6
Sept. 10	Florida A&M	8 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 18	at Wake Forest *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	Central Michigan	6:30 p.m. ET (The CW)
Oct. 3	at Clemson *	
Oct. 10	OPEN	
Oct. 17	Florida State *	
Oct. 24	Pitt *	
Oct. 31	at North Carolina *	
Nov. 7	at Notre Dame	7:30 p.m. ET (NBC)
Nov. 14	Duke *	
Nov. 21	Virginia Tech *	
Nov. 28	Boston College *	

NORTH CAROLINA (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	vs. TCU *(Ireland)*	W, 15-10
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 12	East Tennessee State	Noon ET (ACCN)
Sept. 19	at Clemson *	Noon ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	OPEN	
Oct. 3	Notre Dame	
Oct. 10	at Pitt *	
Oct. 17	at Duke *	
Oct. 24	Syracuse *	
Oct. 31	Miami *	
Nov. 7	at UConn	
Nov. 14	Louisville *	
Nov. 21	at Virginia *	
Nov. 28	NC State *	



ACC FOOTBALL TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES

NC STATE (0-1, 0-1 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	at Virginia *	L, 8-34
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 11	Richmond	7 p.m. ET (ESPNU)
Sept. 19	at Vanderbilt	12:45 p.m. ET (SECN)
Sept. 26	Appalachian State	
Oct. 3	Louisville *	
Oct. 10	Wake Forest *	
Oct. 17	OPEN	
Oct. 23	at Stanford *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 31	California *	
Nov. 7	Duke *	
Nov. 14	Syracuse *	
Nov. 21	at Florida State *	
Nov. 28	at North Carolina *	

PITT (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	Miami (OH)	W, 59-14
Sept. 12	UCF	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Sept. 17	Syracuse *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	Bucknell	Noon ET (ACCNX)
Oct. 2	at Virginia Tech *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 10	North Carolina *	
Oct. 17	at Boston College *	
Oct. 24	at Miami *	
Oct. 31	Georgia Tech *	
Nov. 7	OPEN	
Nov. 13	Florida State *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 21	at Louisville *	
Nov. 28	at California *	

SMU (1-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 7	at Florida State *	W, 27-24
Sept. 12	UC Davis	4 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Sept. 19	at Louisville *	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	Missouri State	
Oct. 3	Boston College *	
Oct. 10	OPEN	
Oct. 17	Virginia *	
Oct. 24	California *	
Oct. 31	at Syracuse *	
Nov. 6	Virginia Tech *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 14	Wake Forest *	
Nov. 21	at Notre Dame	7:30 p.m. ET (NBC)
Nov. 28	at Stanford *	

STANFORD (1-1, 0-1 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	Hawai'i	W, 37-27
Sept. 4	#7 Miami *	L, 6-45
Sept. 12	OPEN	
Sept. 19	at Duke *	4 p.m. ET (The CW)
Sept. 26	Georgia Tech *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 3	at Wake Forest *	
Oct. 10	at Notre Dame	3:30 p.m. ET (NBC)
Oct. 17	Elon	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Oct. 23	NC State *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 31	at Louisville *	
Nov. 7	OPEN	
Nov. 14	at Virginia Tech *	
Nov. 21	at California *	
Nov. 28	SMU *	

SYRACUSE (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	New Hampshire	W, 66-3
Sept. 12	California *	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 17	at Pitt *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	OPEN	
Oct. 3	at UConn	
Oct. 10	at Virginia *	
Oct. 17	Louisville *	
Oct. 24	at North Carolina *	
Oct. 31	SMU *	
Nov. 7	Clemson *	
Nov. 14	at NC State *	
Nov. 21	at Boston College *	
Nov. 28	Notre Dame	

VIRGINIA (1-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	NC State *	W, 34-8
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 11	Norfolk State	7 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Sept. 19	vs. WVU *(Charlotte)*	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 26	Delaware	
Oct. 3	at Florida State *	
Oct. 10	Syracuse *	
Oct. 17	at SMU *	
Oct. 23	Duke *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 31	at Wake Forest *	
Nov. 7	OPEN	
Nov. 14	California *	
Nov. 21	North Carolina *	
Nov. 28	at Virginia Tech *	

VIRGINIA TECH (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	VMI	W, 73-3
Sept. 12	Old Dominion	Noon ET (The CW)
Sept. 19	at Maryland	7:30 p.m. ET (FOX/FS1)
Sept. 26	at Boston College *	
Oct. 2	Pitt *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Oct. 10	at California *	
Oct. 17	Georgia Tech *	
Oct. 24	at Clemson *	
Oct. 31	OPEN	
Nov. 6	at SMU *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Nov. 14	Stanford *	
Nov. 21	at Miami *	
Nov. 28	Virginia *	

WAKE FOREST (1-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 3	Akron	W, 38-16
Sept. 12	at Purdue	Noon ET (FS1)
Sept. 18	Miami *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	at Louisville *	
Oct. 3	Stanford *	
Oct. 10	at NC State *	
Oct. 17	at California *	
Oct. 24	OPEN	
Oct. 31	Virginia *	
Nov. 7	Merrimack	
Nov. 14	at SMU *	
Nov. 21	at Georgia Tech *	
Nov. 28	Duke *	

** Denotes ACC game*



ACC BOWL PARTNERS & LINEUP

Bowl Game	Date	Time (ET)	TV Network
Frisco Football Classic	Tuesday, December 15, 2026	9 p.m.	ESPN
Bush's Boca Raton Bowl of Beans	Friday, December 18, 2026	11 a.m.	ESPN
Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl	Friday, December 18, 2026	2:30 p.m.	ESPN
Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl ^^^	Tuesday, December 22, 2026	8:30 p.m.	ESPN
Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl	Wednesday, December 23, 2026	5:30 p.m.	ESPN
Frisco Bowl	Wednesday, December 23, 2026	9 p.m.	ESPN
Bad Boy Mowers Pinstripe Bowl	Saturday, December 26, 2026	Noon	ABC
Wasabi Fenway Bowl	Saturday, December 26, 2026	2 p.m.	ESPN
Duke's Mayo Bowl	Saturday, December 26, 2026	3:30 p.m.	ABC
Freedom Mortgage Military Bowl	Monday, December 28, 2026	2 p.m.	ESPN
Trust & Will Holiday Bowl ^^^	Monday, December 28, 2026	5 p.m.	The CW
JLab Birmingham Bowl	Tuesday, December 29, 2026	2 p.m.	ESPN
Pop-Tarts Bowl	Tuesday, December 29, 2026	5:30 p.m.	ESPN
Valero Alamo Bowl ^^^	Tuesday, December 29, 2026	9 p.m.	ESPN
TaxSlayer Gator Bowl	Wednesday, December 30, 2026	11:30 a.m.	ESPN
Tony the Tiger Sun Bowl ^^^	Thursday, December 31, 2026	2 p.m.	CBS
Las Vegas Bowl ^^^	Thursday, December 31, 2026	3:45 p.m.	ESPN
SERVPRO First Responder Bowl	Friday, January 2, 2027	3:30 p.m.	ABC
2026-27 College Football Playoff			
CFP First Round - Campus Site	Friday, December 18, 2026	8 p.m.	ESPN
CFP First Round - Campus Site	Saturday, December 19, 2026	Noon	ABC/ESPN
CFP First Round - Campus Site	Saturday, December 19, 2026	3:30 p.m.	TNT/TruTV/HBO Max
CFP First Round - Campus Site	Saturday, December 19, 2026	7:30 p.m.	TNT/TruTV/HBO Max
CFP Quarterfinals - Vrbo Fiesta Bowl	Wednesday, December 30, 2026	7:30 p.m.	TNT/TruTV/HBO Max
CFP Quarterfinals - Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl	Friday, January 1, 2027	TBD	TBD
CFP Quarterfinals - Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic	Friday, January 1, 2027	TBD	TBD
CFP Quarterfinals - Rose Bowl Game Presented by Prudential	Friday, January 1, 2027	TBD	TBD
CFP Semifinals - Capital One Orange Bowl	Thursday, January 14, 2027	7:30 p.m.	TNT/TruTV/HBO Max
CFP Semifinals - Allstate Sugar Bowl	Friday, January 15, 2027	7:30 p.m.	ABC/ESPN
CFP National Championship Game	Monday, January 25, 2027	7:30 p.m.	ABC/ESPN

• The College Football Playoff (CFP) is the event that crowns the national champion in college football. The CFP selection committee ranks the top 25 teams at the end of the regular season. The 12 participating schools will be the conference champions from the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Southeastern Conference and the highest-ranked team from the American, Conference USA, Mid-American Conference, Mountain West, Pac-12 Conference or Sun Belt Conference, along with the next seven highest-ranked teams. The University of Notre Dame will be included in the playoff if it is ranked among the top 12 teams in the final rankings.

^^^ Denotes matchups featuring teams from the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12 or Washington State/Oregon State



ACC IN THE RANKINGS

AP/COACHES/CFP

	BC	CAL	CU	DU	FSU	GT	LOU	MIA	UNC	NCSU	PITT	SMU	STAN	SU	UVA	VT	WF
Preseason	-/-/-	RV/RV/-	RV/23/-	-/RV/-	-/RV/-	RV/RV/-	24/RV/-	7/7/-	-/-/-	-/RV/-	RV/RV/-	19/20/-	-/-/-	-/-/-	RV/RV/-	RV/RV/-	-/-/-
Sept. 8	-/-/-	-/-/-	-/RV/-	-/RV/-	-/-/-	-/-/-	24/24/-	7/7/-	-/RV/-	-/-/-	RV/RV/-	17/17/-	-/-/-	-/-/-	25/25/-	RV/RV/-	-/-/-
Sept. 13																	
Sept. 20																	
Sept. 27																	
Oct. 4																	
Oct. 11																	
Oct. 18																	
Oct. 25																	
Nov. 1																	
Nov. 8																	
Nov. 15																	
Nov. 22																	
Nov. 29																	
Dec. 6																	
Final																	

ASSOCIATED PRESS (AP) RANKINGS

		WEEK													
School	Pr	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12	W13	W14	Fin
Ohio State	1	1														
Georgia	3	2														
Notre Dame	4	3														
Texas	5	4														
Indiana	6	5														
Oregon	2	6														
Miami	***7***	***7***														
LSU	11	8														
Ole Miss	9	9														
Texas A&M	8	10														
Oklahoma	10	11														
Alabama	13	12														
Texas Tech	12	13														
USC	14	14														
BYU	14	15														
Penn State	18	16														
SMU	***19***	***17***														
Tennessee	20	18														
Washington	17	19														
Utah	21	20														
Iowa	22	21														
Houston	23	22														
Missouri	25	23														
Louisville	***24***	***24***														
Virginia	***-***	***25***														
Michigan	16	-														

ACC ASSOCIATED PRESS (AP) RANKING HISTORY

School	Consecutive Polls	Top 10	No. 1	Weeks Ranked
Boston College	-	34	1	145
California	-	92	4	200
Clemson	-	220	25	516
Duke	-	57	-	180
Florida State	-	388	72	590
Georgia Tech	-	148	-	320
Louisville	***2***	***42***	***-***	***167***
Miami	***36***	***333***	***68***	***554***
North Carolina	-	80	1	280
NC State	-	12	-	191
Pitt	-	125	21	321
SMU	***2***	***75***	***2***	***199***
Stanford	-	97	-	303
Syracuse	-	69	7	213
Virginia	***1***	***21***	***3***	***187***
Virginia Tech	-	95	-	311
Wake Forest	-	2	-	69

ACC COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF (CFP) RANKING HISTORY

All-Time CFP Rankings	Appearances	Highest Rank (Date)
Boston College	3	17 (Nov. 16, 2018)
California	-	-
Clemson	60	1, eight times (Dec. 3, 2017)
Duke	3	21 (Nov. 11, 2014)
Florida State	30	2, two times (Nov. 4, 2014)
Georgia Tech	12	11 (Dec. 2, 2014)
Louisville	22	5 (Nov. 15, 2016)
Miami	23	2 (Nov. 21, 2017)
North Carolina	19	10, two times (Dec. 6, 2015)
NC State	24	14 (Nov. 6, 2018)
Pitt	13	12 (Dec. 5, 2021)
SMU	10	8 (Dec. 3, 2024)
Stanford	15	6 (Dec. 6, 2015)
Syracuse	9	12 (Nov. 13, 2018)
Virginia	9	14 (Nov. 4, 2025)
Virginia Tech	10	13 (Oct. 31, 2017)
Wake Forest	8	9 (Nov. 2, 2021)



NATIONAL WEEKLY AWARDS & HONORS

National Weekly Awards

Associated Press Player of the Week

September 8 ..... Malachi Toney (WR), Miami

Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week

August 31 ..... Tony Elliott, Virginia

Panini Senior Bowl Player of the Week

August 31 ..... Melkart Abou-Jaoude (DE), North Carolina (Defensive)
..... Davis Warren (QB), Stanford (Offensive)
September 8 ..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami (Offensive)

Pro Football Focus (PFF) Player of the Week

August 31 ..... Xavier Lewis (DL), North Carolina (Defensive Player)
September 7 ..... Malachi Toney (WR), Miami (Offensive Player)

Shrine Bowl Coach of the Week

August 31 ..... Joey Orck, Virginia (Offensive Line Coach)
September 7 ..... Shannon Dawson, Miami (Offensive Coordinator)

Shrine Bowl Players of the Week

August 31 ..... Micah Ford (RB), Stanford (Offensive)

Shrine Bowl Monday Morning Quarterback

August 31 ..... Beau Pribula, Virginia
September 7 ..... Darian Mensah, Miami

Honorable Mention / Honor Rolls

Associated Press Player of the Week (Honorable Mention)

August 31 ..... Beau Pribula (QB), Virginia (Runner-Up)
..... Micah Ford (RB), Stanford (HM)
..... Davis Warren (QB), Stanford (HM)
..... Xavier Lewis (DL), North Carolina (HM)
September 8 ..... Mason Heintschel (QB), Pitt (Runner-Up)
..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami (HM)
..... Kevin Jennings (QB), SMU (HM)

Davey O'Brien "Great Eight" Quarterbacks

September 7 ..... Mason Heintschel (QB), Pitt
..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami

Manning Stars of the Week

September 8 ..... Mason Heintschel (QB), Pitt
..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami

Pro Football Focus (PFF) Team of the Week

August 31 ..... Ousmane Kromah (RB), Florida State
..... Jelani Thurman (TE), North Carolina
..... Melkart Abou-Jaoude (DE), North Carolina
..... Xavier Lewis (DI), North Carolina
..... Braden Marceau-Olayinka (DI), Stanford
..... Chris Jones (LB), Florida State
..... Lonnie McAllister III (CB), Stanford
September 7 ..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami
..... Malachi Toney (WR), Miami
..... Thomas Williams (CB), Virginia Tech

Ray Guy Award "Ray's 8

September 8 ..... Jack Smith (P), Clemson
..... Kade Reynoldson (P), Duke
..... Aidan Flintoft (P), Stanford



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

NATIONAL PRESEASON HONORS & RECOGNITION

■ Ahead of the 2026 college football season, ACC student-athletes continued to earn national recognition through preseason All-America team selections and appearances on award watch lists.

Preseason All-America Teams

Phil Steele's 2026 Preseason All-American Teams (June 11)
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami – First-Team Offense
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State – First-Team Offense
PJ Williams, OT, SMU – Second-Team Offense
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson – Second-Team Defense
Kade Reynoldson, P, Duke – Second-Team Special Teams
Tre Richardson, KR, Louisville – Second-Team Special Teams
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami – Third-Team Offense
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville – Third-Team Offense
Ahmad Moten, DT, Miami – Third-Team Defense
Aidan Birr, K, Georgia Tech – Third-Team Special Teams
Carlos Hernandez, PR, Wake Forest – Third-Team Special Teams
Morgan Tribbett, LS, SMU – Third-Team Special Teams
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson – Fourth-Team Offense
McKale Boley, OT, Virginia – Fourth-Team Offense
Brayden Jacobs, OT, Clemson – Fourth-Team Offense
Melkart Abou Jaoude, DE, North Carolina – Fourth-Team Defense
Kam Robinson, LB, Virginia – Fourth-Team Defense
Chris Peal, CB, Syracuse – Fourth-Team Defense

Athlon Sports College Football 2026 All-America Teams (June 24)
Malachi Toney, AP, Miami – First-Team Offense
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State – First-Team Offense
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville – Second-Team Offense
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami – Third-Team Offense
Clev Lubin, DL, Louisville – Third-Team Defense
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson – Third-Team Defense
Aidan Birr, K, Georgia Tech – Third-Team Specialists
Malachi Toney, PR, Miami – Third-Team Specialists
Justice Haynes, RB, Georgia Tech – Fourth-Team Offense
Cooper Barkate, WR, Miami – Fourth-Team Offense
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson – Fourth-Team Offense
PJ Williams, OL, SMU – Fourth-Team Offense
Ahmad Moten, DL, Miami – Fourth-Team Defense

2026 Walter Camp Preseason All-America Teams (June 30)
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami – First-Team Offense
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson – First-Team Defense
Bryce Fitzgerald, DB, Miami – Second-Team Defense

Sporting News 2026 College Football Preseason All-America Teams (August 6)
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami – First-Team Offense
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville – Second-Team Offense
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State – Second-Team Offense
Clev Lubin, Edge, Louisville – Second-Team Defense
Chris Peal, CB, Syracuse – Second-Team Defense

On3 Preseason All-America Teams (August 10)
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami - First Team Offense
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville - Second Team Offense
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami - Third Team Offense
PJ Williams, OT, SMU - Third Team Offense
Ahmad Moten Sr., DT, Miami - Third Team Defense
Clev Lubin, Edge, Louisville - Third Team Defense
Aidan Birr, PK, Georgia Tech - Third Team Specialists
Kade Reynoldson, P, Duke - Third Team Specialists

Pro Football Network's 2026 Preseason All-America Team (August 10)
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami - First Team Offense
PJ Williams, OL, SMU - First Team Offense
Jeremiah Hasley, TE, Duke - Second Team Offense
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State - Third Team Offense
Ryan Baer, OL, Pitt - Third Team Offense
Antonio Watts, LB, Louisville - First Team Defense
Clev Lubin, Edge, Louisville - Second Team Defense
Ahmad Moten Sr., DT, Miami - Second Team Defense
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson - Second Team Defense
Bryce Fitzgerald, CB, Miami - Second Team Defense
Kemari Copeland, DT, Virginia Tech - Third Team Defense
Tayon Holloway, CB, Louisville - Third Team Defense
Jay Green, S, Stanford - Third Team Defense
Aidan Birr, K, Georgia Tech - Second Team Special Teams

ESPN's 2026 Preseason College Football All-America Team (August 13)
Malachi Toney, AP, Miami - First Team Offense
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami - Second Team Offense
Ahmad Moten Sr., DT, Miami - First Team Defense
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson - First Team Defense

CBS Sports Preseason All-America Team (August 18)
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson - First Team Defense
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami - Second Team Offense
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami - Second Team Offense
Ahmad Moten Sr., DT, Miami - Second Team Defense
Malachi Toney, AP, Miami - First Team Special Teams

Preseason AP All-America College Football Team (August 18)
Malachi Toney, So, WR, Miami - First Team Offense
Mark Fletcher Jr., Sr., RB, Miami - Second Team Offense
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State - Second Team Offense
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson - Second Team Defense

The Athletic's 2026 Preseason All-American Teams (August 19)
Malachi Toney, So., AP, Miami – First-Team Specialists
Mark Fletcher Jr., Sr., RB, Miami - Second Team Offense
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State - Second Team Offense
Clev Lubin, 5th, Edge, Louisville - Second Team Defense
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson - Second Team Defense
Bryce Fitzgerald, So., CB, Miami - Second Team Defense



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

NATIONAL PRESEASON AWARDS WATCH LIST

■ Below is a full list of ACC football players named to national preseason award watch lists for 2026.

Lott IMPACT Trophy Watch List (May 20)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Fisher Camac, Sr., DE, Virginia
Bryce Fitzgerald, So., DB, Miami
Clev Lubin, Sr., DL, Louisville
Luke Mergott, Jr., LB, Duke
Damon Wilson II, Sr., DL, Miami

Jet Award Preseason Watch List (May 20)
Solomon Beebe, RB, Virginia
Kam Shanks, WR, Wake Forest
Malachi Toney, WR, Miami

Dodd Trophy Watch List (July 9)
Jeff Brohm, Louisville
Mario Cristobal, Miami
Brent Key, Georgia Tech

Allstate AFCA Good Works Team Nominees (July 20)
Josiah Griffin, R-Jr., DL, Boston College
Jordan King, R-Sr., WR, California
Gideon Davidson, So., RB, Clemson
Micah Sahakian, Gr., OL, Duke
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State
Jordan Walker, R-Sr., DE, Georgia Tech
Clev Lubin, R-Sr., DL, Louisville
Ahmad Moten Sr., R-Sr., DL, Miami
Jordan Shipp, Jr., WR, North Carolina
Isaiah Shirley, Sr., DT, NC State
Mason Heintschel, So., QB, Pitt
Alexander Kilgore, So., LB, SMU
Braden Marceau-Olayinka, R-Jr., DL, Stanford
Cornell Perry, R-Sr., DB, Syracuse
Ethan Minter, Jr., S, Virginia
Marcellous Hawkins, R-Sr., RB, Virginia Tech

Maxwell Award Watch List (August 3)
Jaron-Keawe Sagapolutele, So., QB, California
Nate Sheppard, So., RB, Duke
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State
Justice Haynes, Sr., RB, Georgia Tech
Isaac Brown, Jr., RB, Louisville
Darian Mensah, Sr., QB, Miami
Malachi Toney, So., WR, Miami
Mark Fletcher, Sr., RB, Miami
CJ Bailey, Jr., QB, NC State
Mason Heintschel, So., QB, Pitt
Kevin Jennings, Sr., QB, SMU

Patrick Mannelly Award Watch List (August 3)
Adam Booker, R-Sr., LS, Miami
Christian Epling, R-Sr., LS, Virginia Tech
Morgan Tribbett, Jr., LS, SMU
Peyton Warford, R-Sr., LS, Stanford

Outland Trophy Watch List (August 4)
Malachi Carney, R-Sr., G, Georgia Tech
Lance Robinson, Gr., C, Louisville
Matthew McCoy, R-Sr., OT, Miami
Ahmad Moten Sr., R-Sr., DT, Miami
Ryan Baer, R-Sr., OT, Pitt
BJ Williams, Sr., G, Pitt
Joshua Bates, R-Jr., C, SMU
PJ Williams, R-Sr., OT, SMU
Noah Josey, Gr., G, Virginia
Kemari Copeland, R-Sr., DT, Virginia Tech

Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List (August 4)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Koen Entringer, Jr., S, Louisville
Clev Lubin, R-Sr., DE, Louisville
Bryce Fitzgerald, So., S, Miami
Ahmad Moten Sr., R-Sr., DT, Miami
Damon Wilson II, Sr., DE, Miami
Melkart Abou Jaoude, R-Sr., DE, North Carolina
Matt Rose, R-Sr., LB, Stanford
Kam Robinson, Sr., LB, Virginia
Kemari Copeland, R-Sr., DT, Virginia Tech

John Mackey Award Watch List (August 5)
Dorian Thomas, TE, California
Jeremiah Hasley, TE, Duke
Chris Corbo, TE, Georgia Tech
Brody Foley, TE, Louisville
Elija Lofton, TE, Miami
Jelani Thurman, TE, North Carolina
Randy Pittman Jr., TE, SMU
Luke Reynolds, TE, Virginia Tech

Rimington Trophy Watch List (August 6)
Matt Craycraft, Gr., C, Duke
Ryan Carretta, R-Jr., C, Pitt
Joshua Bates, R-Jr., C, SMU

Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award Watch List (August 7)
Luca Lombardo, Sr., PK, Boston College
Nolan Hauser, Jr., PK, Clemson
Gabe Panikowski, Sr., PK, Florida State
Aidan Birr, Sr., PK, Georgia Tech
Jack Olsen, Sr., PK, Miami
Will Bettridge, Gr., PK, Virginia

Paul Hornung Award Watch List (August 10)
Adam Mohammed, Jr., RB, California
Tre Richardson, Sr., WR, Louisville
Malachi Toney, So., WR, Miami
Jayden "Duke" Scott, Jr., RB, NC State
Demetres Samuel Jr., So., DB/WR, Syracuse
Solomon Beebe, Jr., RB, Virginia

Lombardi Award Watch List (August 11)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Clev Lubin, R-Sr., Edge, Louisville

Allstate Wuerffel Trophy Watch List (August 11)
Josiah Griffin, Boston College
Jordan King, California
Gideon Davidson, Clemson
Micah Sahakian, Duke
Duce Robinson, Florida State
Jordan Walker, Georgia Tech
Clev Lubin, Louisville
Ahmad Moten Sr., Miami
Jordan Shipp, North Carolina
Isaiah Shirley, NC State
Mason Heintschel, Pitt
Alexander Kilgore, SMU
Braden Marceau-Olayinka, Stanford
Cornell Perry, Syracuse
Ethan Minter, Virginia
Marcellous Hawkins, Virginia Tech

Paycom Jim Thorpe Preseason Watch List (August 12)
Ashton Hampton, Jr., CB, Clemson
Bryce Fitzgerald, So., S, Miami
Chris Peal, Sr., CB, Syracuse

Butkus Award Collegiate Watch List (August 13)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Luke Mergott, Sr., LB, Duke
Kyle Efford, 5th, LB, Georgia Tech
Mohamed Toure, 8th, LB, Miami
Peyton Seelmann, Jr., LB, North Carolina
Braylan Lovelace, Sr., LB, Pitt
Matt Rose, 5th, LB, Stanford
Gary Bryant III, 5th, LB, Syracuse
Kam Robinson, Sr., LB, Virginia

Ray Guy Award Preseason Watch List (August 14)
Daniel Hughes, Sr., P, Florida State
Dylan Joyce, Sr., P, Miami
Daniel Sparks, 7th, P, Virginia

Walter Camp Player of Year Watch List (August 17)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State
Isaac Brown, Jr., RB, Louisville
Mark Fletcher Jr., Sr., RB, Miami
Darian Mensah, Sr., QB, Miami
Malachi Toney, So., WR/PR, Miami
CJ Bailey, Jr., QB, NC State
Kevin Jennings, 5th, QB, SMU



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

Doak Walker Award Preseason Watch List (August 18)
Evan Dickens, Sr., RB, Boston College
Adam Mohammed, Jr., RB, California
Ousmane Kromah, So., RB, Florida State
Quintrevion Wisner, Sr., RB, Florida State
Justice Haynes, Sr., RB, Georgia Tech
Malachi Hosley, Sr., RB, Georgia Tech
Mark Fletcher Jr., Sr., RB, Miami
Demon June, So., RB, North Carolina
Jayden "Duke" Scott, Jr., RB, NC State
Kendrick Raphael, Sr., RB, SMU
Peyton Lewis, Jr., RB, Virginia
Marcellous Hawkins, 5th, RB, Virginia Tech

Biletnikoff Award Preseason Watch List (August 19)
Chase Hendricks, Sr., WR, California
Ian Strong, Sr., WR, California
T.J. Moore, Jr., WR, Clemson
Javen Nicholas, 5th, WR, Duke
Duce Robinson, Sr., WR, Florida State
Tre Richardson, Sr., WR, Louisville
Cooper Barkate, 5th, WR, Miami
Malachi Toney, So., WR, Miami
Victor Snow, 5th, WR, NC State
Que'Sean Brown, Sr., WR, Virginia Tech

Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List (August 19)
CJ Bailey, Jr., QB, NC State
Kevin Jennings, 5th, QB, SMU

Davey O'Brien Award Preseason Watch List (August 20)
Jaron-Keawe Sagapolutele, So., QB, California
Darian Mensah, Sr., QB, Miami
CJ Bailey, Jr., QB, NC State
Kevin Jennings, 5th, QB, SMU

Comeback Player of the Year Watch List (August 20)
Nate Burrell, DL, California
Isaiah Crosby, DB, California
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson
Nick Morris Jr., LB, Duke
Ethan Pritchard, LB, Florida State
Justice Haynes, RB, Georgia Tech
Billy Edwards Jr., QB, North Carolina
Brody Barnhardt, S, NC State
Censere Lee, WR, Pitt
Jalen Hale, WR, SMU
Jonathan Jefferson, DL, SMU
Steve Angeli, QB, Syracuse
Xavier Brown, RB, Virginia
Monroe Mills, OL, Virginia

Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award Watch List (August 20)
Jaron-Keawe Sagapolutele, QB, California
AJ Tuitele, LB, California
Sioape Vatikani, OL, California
Trech Kekahuna, WR, North Carolina
Abel Hoopii, LG, SMU
Simione Pale, RG, Stanford
Tevarua Tafiti, DE, Stanford
Dallas Afalava, NT, Wake Forest

Bednarik Award Watch List (August 21)
Sammy Brown, Jr., LB, Clemson
Ashton Hampton, Jr., CB, Clemson
Ja'Bril Rawls, Sr., CB, Florida State
Clev Lubin, 5th, DE, Louisville
Ahmad Moten Sr., 5th, DT, Miami
Damon Wilson II, Sr., DE, Miami
Melkart Abou Jaoude, 5th, DE, North Carolina
Braylan Lovelace, Sr., LB, Pitt
Matt Rose, 5th, LB, Stanford
Kam Robinson, Sr., LB, Virginia
Kemari Copeland, 5th, DT, Virginia Tech
Langston Hardy, 5th, DE, Wake Forest

Manning Award Preseason Watch List (August 24)
Jaron-Keawe Sagapolutele, So., QB, California
Walker Eget, 6th, QB, Duke
Darian Mensah, Sr., QB, Miami
CJ Bailey, Jr., QB, NC State
Mason Heintschel, So., QB, Pitt
Kevin Jennings, 5th, QB, SMU

Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Watch List (August 25)
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson
Matt Craycraft, C, Duke
Quintrevion Wisner, RB, Florida State
Kevin Jennings, QB, SMU
PJ Williams, OL, SMU
Byron Washington, OL, Syracuse
Chico Holt, TE, Stanford
Wondame Davis Jr., WR, Wake Forest

Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Watch List (August 26)
Tait Reynolds, QB, Clemson
Jackson Cantwell, OT, Miami
Somourian Wingo, WR, Miami

Hispanic College Football Player of the Year Watch List (August 26)
Kolby Luna, R-Jr., WR, Miami
Riply Luna, R-Jr., WR, Miami
Raul (Popo) Aguirre Jr., Sr., LB, NC State
Carlos Hernandez, Sr., WR, Wake Forest

The Athletic College Football Freaks List (August 10)
No. 4 – Jackson Cantwell, Miami (OT)
No. 7 – Kemari Copeland, Virginia Tech (DT)
No. 9 – Emmanuel Okoye, California (Edge)
No. 12 – Micahi Danzy, Florida State (WR)
No. 18 – Jayden "Duke" Scott, NC State (RB)
No. 20 – Sammy Brown, Clemson (LB)
No. 22 – McKale Boley, Virginia (OT)
No. 41 – Colby Cronk, NC State (DL)
No. 43 – Jordan Walker, Georgia Tech (DE)
No. 44 – Makilan Thomas, Virginia (OL)
No. 45 – Chris D'Appolonia, Syracuse (LB)
No. 52 – Antoine Deslauriers, Syracuse (LB)
No. 55 – Jeremiah Hasley, Duke (TE)
No. 57 – Mandrell Desir, Florida State (DL)
No. 70 – Ryan Baer, Pitt (OT)
No. 76 – Yamir Knight, SMU (WR)
No. 83 – Kaleb Spencer, Virginia Tech (LB)
No. 90 – Beau Pribula, Virginia (QB)
No. 93 – Zach Rowell, Stanford (DL)
No. 100 – Israel Oladipupo, Boston College (DE)

2027 Senior Bowl Top 300 (August 20)
KP Price, S, Boston College
Max Tucker, CB, Boston College
Chase Hendricks, WR, California
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson
Ashton Hampton, CB, Clemson
Will Heldt, Edge, Clemson
Jahiem Lawson, Edge, Clemson
T.J. Moore, WR, Clemson
Collin Sadler, OL, Clemson
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson
Jeremiah Hasley, TE, Duke
Nick Morris Jr., LB, Duke
Xavier Chaplin, OL, Florida State
Daniel Lyons, DL, Florida State
Ja'Bril Rawls, CB, Florida State
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State
Justice Haynes, RB, Georgia Tech
E.J. Lightsey, LB, Georgia Tech
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville
Clev Lubin, DL, Louisville
Tre Richardson, WR, Louisville
Cooper Barkate, WR, Miami
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami
OJ Frederique Jr., CB, Miami
Darian Mensah, QB, Miami
Ahmad Moten Sr., DL, Miami
Mohamed Toure, LB, Miami
Damon Wilson II, DL, Miami
Melkart Abou Jaoude, DL, North Carolina
Teague Andersen, OL, NC State
Ryan Baer, OT, Pitt
Braylan Lovelace, LB, Pitt
Kevin Jennings, QB, SMU
Theo Melin Ohrstrom, TE, SMU
PJ Williams, OL, SMU
Niki Prongos, OL, Stanford
Matt Rose, LB, Stanford
Steve Angeli, QB, Syracuse
Chris Peal, CB, Syracuse
McKale Boley, OT, Virginia
Kam Robinson, LB, Virginia



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

Makilan Thomas, OT, Virginia
Kemari Copeland, DL, Virginia Tech
Luke Reynolds, TE, Virginia Tech
Davaughn Patterson, DB, Wake Forest

2026 Shriners Children's East-West Bowl 1000 (July 20)
Max Tucker, CB, Boston College
E'Lla Boykin, Edge, Boston College
Evan Dickens, RB, Boston College
KP Price, S, Boston College
Daniel Harris, CB, California
Ricky Fletcher, CB, California
Jayden Wayne, Edge, California
Tyson Ruffins, G, California
Mason Mini, TE, California
Dorian Thomas, TE, California
Ian Strong, WR, California
Chase Hendricks, WR, California
Ashton Hampton, CB, Clemson
Elliot Washington II, CB, Clemson
Will Heldt, Edge, Clemson
Jahiem Lawson, Edge, Clemson
Sammy Brown, LB, Clemson
Collin Sadler, G, Clemson
Harris Sewell, G, Clemson
Ronan Hanafin, S, Clemson
Corey Myrick, S, Clemson
Olsen Patt-Henry, TE, Clemson
T.J. Moore, WR, Clemson
Bryant Wesco Jr., WR, Clemson
Nick Morris Jr., LB, Duke
Luke Mergott, LB, Duke
Matt Craycraft, C, Duke
Jordan Larsen, G, Duke
Nick Del Grande, T, Duke
Walker Eget, QB, Duke
Jeremiah Hasley, TE, Duke
Jared Richardson, WR, Duke
Javen Nicholas, WR, Duke
Ja'Bril Rawls, CB, Florida State
Daniel Lyons, DL, Florida State
Deante McCray, DL, Florida State
Blake Nichelson, LB, Florida State
Mikai Gbayor, LB, Florida State
Xavier Chaplin, T, Florida State
Nate Pabst, T, Florida State
Chimdia Nwaiwu, T, Florida State
Quintrevion Wisner, RB, Florida State
Ashlynd Barker, S, Florida State
Desirrio Riles, TE, Florida State
Duce Robinson, WR, Florida State
Daiquan White, CB, Georgia Tech
E.J. Lightsey, LB, Georgia Tech
Kyle Efford, LB, Georgia Tech
Ethan Mackenny, T, Georgia Tech
Malachi Carney, T, Georgia Tech
Justice Haynes, RB, Georgia Tech
Malachi Hosley, RB, Georgia Tech
Chris Corbo, TE, Georgia Tech
Isaiah Fuhrmann, WR, Georgia Tech
Tayon Holloway, CB, Louisville
Clev Lubin, Edge, Louisville
Tyler Thompson, Edge, Louisville
Antonio Watts, LB, Louisville
Stanquan Clark, LB, Louisville
TJ Capers, LB, Louisville
Eryx Daugherty, G, Louisville
Lance Robinson, G, Louisville
Cason Henry, T, Louisville
Lincoln Kienholz, QB, Louisville
Isaac Brown, RB, Louisville
Keyjuan Brown, RB, Louisville
Koen Entringer, S, Louisville
Brody Foley, TE, Louisville
Tre Richardson, WR, Louisville
Ethan O'Connor, CB, Miami
OJ Frederique Jr., CB, Miami
Xavier Lucas, CB, Miami
Damon Wilson II, Edge, Miami
Marquise Lightfoot, Edge, Miami
Armondo Blount, Edge, Miami
Ahmad Moten Sr., DL, Miami
Justin Scott, DL, Miami
Mohamed Toure, LB, Miami
Adam Booker, LS, Miami
Samson Okunlola, G, Miami
Matthew McCoy, G, Miami
Dylan Joyce, P, Miami
Darian Mensah, QB, Miami
Mark Fletcher Jr., RB, Miami
Charmar Brown, RB, Miami
Zechariah Poyser, S, Miami
Elija Loftin, TE, Miami
Cooper Barkate, WR, Miami
Cam Vaughn, WR, Miami
Vandrevius Jacobs, WR, Miami
Kaleb Cost, CB, North Carolina
Melkart Abou Jaoude, Edge, North Carolina
Donovan Hoilette Jr., Edge, North Carolina
Billy Edwards Jr., QB, North Carolina
Mason Humphrey, WR, North Carolina
Brian Nelson II, CB, NC State
Harvey Dyson III, Edge, NC State
Jimarion McCrimon, T, NC State
Teague Andersen, T, NC State
CJ Bailey, QB, NC State
King Mack, S, NC State
Victor Snow, WR, NC State
Raion Strader, CB, Pitt
Jimmy Scott, Edge, Pitt
Nick James, DL, Pitt
Sean FitzSimmons, DL, Pitt
Braylan Lovelace, LB, Pitt
BJ Williams, G, Pitt
Netinho Olivieri, G, Pitt
Ryan Baer, T, Pitt
Cruce Brookins, S, Pitt
Malik Knight, WR, Pitt
Marques White, Edge, SMU
Nick Reed, K, SMU
Morgan Tribbett, LS, SMU
Joshua Bates, C, SMU
Addison Nichols, G, SMU
PJ Williams, T, SMU
Kevin Jennings, QB, SMU
Kendrick Raphael, RB, SMU
Theo Melin Öhrström, TE, SMU
Yannick Smith, WR, SMU
Tevarua Tafiti, Edge, Stanford
Emmet Kenney, K, Stanford
Matt Rose, LB, Stanford
Peyton Warford, LS, Stanford
Nick Fattig, G, Stanford
Fisher Anderson, G, Stanford
Niki Prongos, T, Stanford
Jay Green, S, Stanford
Caden High, WR, Stanford
Nico Brown, WR, Stanford
Chris Peal, CB, Syracuse
Tunmise Adeleye, Edge, Syracuse
Keyshawn Johnson, Edge, Syracuse
Chris D'Appolonia, LB, Syracuse
Joe Cruz, G, Syracuse
Trevion Mack, T, Syracuse
Steve Angeli, QB, Syracuse
Noah Meyers, TE, Syracuse
Donavon Platt, CB, Virginia
Jacobie Henderson, CB, Virginia
Fisher Camac, Edge, Virginia
Matthew Fobbs-White, Edge, Virginia
Kam Robinson, LB, Virginia
Noah Josey, G, Virginia
Monroe Mills, T, Virginia
McKale Boley, T, Virginia
Makilan Thomas, T, Virginia
Daniel Sparks, P, Virginia
Beau Pribula, QB, Virginia
Eli Holstein, QB, Virginia
Brandyn Hillman, S, Virginia
Jaquez White, CB, Virginia Tech
Isaiah Brown-Murray, CB, Virginia Tech
Kemari Copeland, DL, Virginia Tech
Elhadj Fall, DL, Virginia Tech
John Love, K, Virginia Tech
Kaleb Spencer, LB, Virginia Tech
Marcellous Hawkins, RB, Virginia Tech
Luke Reynolds, TE, Virginia Tech
Benji Gosnell, TE, Virginia Tech
Que'Sean Brown, WR, Virginia Tech
Brian Blades, CB, Wake Forest
Langston Hardy, Edge, Wake Forest
Gabe Kirschke, Edge, Wake Forest
Dallas Afalava, DL, Wake Forest
Aiden Hall, LB, Wake Forest
Gio Lopez, QB, Wake Forest
Davaughn Patterson, S, Wake Forest
Carlos Hernandez, WR, Wake Forest



THIS IS THE ACC

FOOTBALL SUCCESS

The ACC has solidified its reputation as a powerhouse in college football over the last decade, producing elite teams, top-tier coaching talent and Heisman-caliber athletes.

Elite Presence on the National Stage

• In 10 of the past 13 seasons, the ACC has been represented in either the College Football Playoff or the BCS National Championship Game—an elite streak that began with Florida State's thrilling 34-31 win over Auburn in the final BCS title game in January 2014 (2013 season).

Five CFP Teams, One Conference

• The ACC is one of the few conferences to have sent five different programs to the College Football Playoff:
- Clemson (2015–2020, 2024)
- Florida State (2014)
- Notre Dame (2020, while competing as part of the ACC during the pandemic season)
- SMU (2024)
- Miami (2025)

Playoff Success That Stands Out

• With nine all-time College Football Playoff victories, the ACC ranks third nationally behind only the SEC (21) and Big Ten (16).

Unmatched Depth in Bowl Season

• Over the last three seasons (2023, 2024 and 2025), the ACC has had 11 or more bowl-eligible teams each year — the longest streak of any conference.

• The 2024 season saw a league-record 13 ACC teams earn bowl eligibility, tying for the most among all Power Four conferences.

• For 24 consecutive years, the ACC has secured six or more bowl bids, excluding the unique 2020 season. The league has sent 11 teams or more to the postseason in seven of the last 12 years.

Top Coaching Talent Across the Board

• 11 active ACC head coaches currently rank among the top 70 in the FBS in career winning percentage (at least two full seasons of coaching):
- Dabo Swinney (Clemson)
- Rhett Lashlee (SMU)
- James Franklin (Virginia Tech)
- Jeff Brohm (Louisville)
- Manny Diaz (Duke)
- Dave Doeren (NC State)
- Mike Norvell (Florida State)
- Brent Key (Georgia Tech)
- Jake Dickert (Wake Forest)
- Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)
- Mario Cristobal (Miami)

Heisman Pedigree

• Over the last 13 years, eight ACC players have finished in the top five of the Heisman Trophy voting a total of 10 times, including two winners:
- Jameis Winston, Florida State – 2013 winner
- Lamar Jackson, Louisville – 2016 winner, third in 2017
- Deshaun Watson, Clemson – 2nd in 2016, 3rd in 2015
- Trevor Lawrence, Clemson – 2nd in 2020
- Kenny Pickett, Pitt – 3rd in 2021
- Andre Williams, Boston College – 5th in 2013
- Jordan Travis, Florida State – 5th in 2023
- Cameron Ward, Miami – 4th in 2024

ACC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME SUCCESS

Expanding the Field of Contenders

• With SMU making its first appearance in 2024, 14 different programs have now competed in the ACC Football Championship Game since it began in 2005—highlighting the league's depth and competitive balance.

• Clemson leads all schools with 10 appearances, followed by Virginia Tech and Florida State, each with six.

Champions Across the Conference

• Since the inaugural title game in 2005, seven different schools have claimed the ACC Championship:
- Clemson: 9 titles (most in league history)
- Florida State: 5 titles, including the 2023 crown
- Virginia Tech: 3 titles
- Duke, Georgia Tech, Wake Forest, and Pitt: 1 title each

A Proven Draw in Charlotte

• The ACC Championship Game has been a major event in Charlotte, selling out five times at Bank of America Stadium—in 2010, 2011, 2015, 2017, and 2020—demonstrating the passion of ACC fans and the game's regional appeal.

Charlotte: The Long-Term Home of ACC Championship Football

• In April 2018, the ACC and the Charlotte Sports Foundation solidified a 10-year partnership to keep the title game in Charlotte through 2030. The game will continue to be played annually at Bank of America Stadium on the first Saturday of December, continuing one of college football's premier championship traditions.

ACC & THE NFL DRAFT

Another Impressive Draft Class

• The ACC had 38 players selected in the 2026 NFL Draft, representing 13 different institutions across the conference. The ACC had 42 players taken in the 2025 NFL Draft, which tied the league's highest single-draft total since 2021 (not including Notre Dame's nine picks that year).

Consistent Pipeline to the Pros

• Since the 2000 NFL Draft, the ACC has produced 891 total draft picks, including 128 first-round selections—ranking third among all conferences in both categories.

Top-Three in Recent Draft Production

• Over the last 14 drafts (2013–2026), the ACC has had 507 players selected, the third-most of any conference during that span. Notably, the ACC has seen 40 or more players drafted in three of the last six years.

No. 1 Overall Picks: A Legacy of Excellence

• Current ACC programs have produced 17 No. 1 overall picks in the history of the NFL Draft. Most recently, Miami quarterback Cameron Ward was selected first overall by the Tennessee Titans in the 2025 NFL Draft. Several ACC schools have contributed multiple top picks over the years:

- Stanford: 4 (Bobby Garrett – 1954, Jim Plunkett – 1971, John Elway – 1983, Andrew Luck – 2012)
- Miami: 3 (Vinny Testaverde – 1987, Russell Maryland – 1991, Cam Ward – 2025)
- Cal: 2 (Steve Bartkowski – 1975, Jared Goff – 2016)
- Virginia Tech: 2 (Bruce Smith – 1985, Michael Vick – 2001)
- Clemson: 1 (Trevor Lawrence – 2021)
- Florida State: 1 (Jameis Winston – 2015)
- NC State: 1 (Mario Williams – 2006)
- SMU: 1 (Kyle Rote – 1951)
- Syracuse: 1 (Ernie Davis – 1962)
- Virginia: 1 (Bill Dudley – 1942)

Additionally, NC State's Roman Gabriel was selected No. 2 overall in the 1962 NFL Draft but was the No. 1 overall pick in the AFL Draft by the Oakland Raiders.



THIS IS THE ACC

NATIONAL SUCCESS

National Championships

• The ACC won seven NCAA National Championships in 2025-26 in ACC-sponsored sports. In addition, Stanford won the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championship.
- NC State won the 2025 NCAA Women's Cross Country Championship.
- Florida State won the 2025 NCAA Women's Soccer Championship.
- Virginia won the 2025-26 NCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Championship.
- Notre Dame won the 2026 NCAA Men's Fencing Championship.
- Notre Dame won the 2026 NCAA Women's Fencing Championship.
- Stanford won the 2026 NCAA Women's Golf Championship.
- Virginia won the 2026 NCAA Men's Tennis Championship.

• In addition to the seven titles, ACC programs finished as national runners-up in:
- Football (Miami)
- Women's Soccer (Stanford)
- Men's Soccer (NC State)
- Women's Swimming & Diving (Stanford)
- Men's Swimming & Diving (California)
- Women's Lacrosse (North Carolina)
- Men's Lacrosse (Notre Dame)
- Rowing (Stanford)
- Baseball (North Carolina)

• The ACC has won a combined 36 NCAA championships over the last five academic years in its league-sponsored sports – more than at any other point in the league's history.
- The ACC has won six or more national championships in each of the last five years, marking the best run in ACC history.
- In 2022-23, the ACC won the most NCAA championships of any conference with a league-record nine.

Learfield Directors' Cup Standings

• Six ACC schools were ranked among the top 25 for the second consecutive year, including three in the top five, in the final Division I Learfield College Directors' Cup standings following the 2025-26 academic year. All 18 ACC programs finished in the top 90 of the final standings.

• The ACC had three schools finish in the top five in the final standings for the first time in conference history – Stanford (2nd), North Carolina (4th) and Virginia (5th).

• This marks the 24th consecutive year that four or more ACC schools have placed among the top 30 in the final LEARFIELD Directors' Cup standings. North Carolina and Virginia have ranked among the top 30 nationally in each of the 31 years the Directors' Cup has been conducted.

• The ACC was one of only two conferences with every school among the final top 90 in 2025-26.

ACC STUDENT-ATHLETE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

• The ACC conducted its fifth annual Health and Safety Summit in May 2026, again in Charlotte, North Carolina, bringing together athletic trainers, team physicians, dietitians, mental health practitioners, sports performance coaches, and others within the ACC's health and sports performance community to collaborate and to share best practices.

• The ACC continued to provide leadership development programming to ACC coaches through the Coaching the Whole Athlete Academy. The Coaching Academy is an eight-week virtual and immersive development program established by the league office that equips coaches with information, tools, and skills needed to take a humanistic approach to better support the needs of the student-athlete.

• The ACC organized the fourth annual ACC Career Trek in Charlotte, North Carolina, in June 2026. The trek included 30 student-athletes across the league meeting with representatives and participating in panel discussions from five different categories including sports, real estate, finance/banking, consulting and government.

• The ACC brought together student-athletes, coaches and administrators from all 18 member institutions for the fifth annual ACC Unity Tour on July 12–15 in Washington, D.C. Each ACC institution was invited to send six representatives—four student-athletes and two coaches or administrators—to participate in the four-day experience. This past year's program examined the intersection of sport, leadership and diplomacy while providing opportunities to engage with policymakers, historians and community leaders. Participants explored how athletics can serve as a bridge across campuses and communities, foster collaboration across differences and create lasting impact.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

ACC Student-Athletes Excel Once Again in NCAA APR Report

• Atlantic Coast Conference teams once again showcased strong academic achievement, according to the latest Academic Progress Rate (APR) data released by the NCAA in May 2026.

• Overall, the ACC average APR was 991, five points above the Division I national average. Every team among the ACC's 28 sponsored sports exceeded the NCAA's required APR of 930. A total of 112 ACC teams recorded a perfect APR score of 1000, including at least two teams from each of the 18 member institutions. Notre Dame led the way with 17 teams with a perfect score, followed by Duke with 14 teams and Boston College, Clemson and NC State with 10 each.

ACC Makes Another Strong Showing in NCAA Graduation Success Rates

• The ACC's collective high level of academic success was again reflected by the NCAA Graduation Success Rate (GSR) report, released in November 2025. The ACC's average graduation rate of 94 percent was four points higher than the year's national average of 90 percent.

ACC Again Leads the Way in U.S. News & World Report "Best Colleges" Rankings

• For the 19th consecutive year – and now with 18 member institutions – the ACC led the way nationally among Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) conferences in the "Best Colleges" rankings released by U.S. News & World Report in September 2025.
- The 50.7 average rank of ACC schools was the best among all FBS conferences.
- Two ACC institutions ranked in the top 10, making the ACC the only FBS conference with multiple schools in the top 10 nationally.
- Four ACC schools ranked in the top 25, more than any other FBS conference.
- Six ACC schools were among the top 30, also the most among all FBS conferences.
- A record 16 ACC schools were ranked among the top 75, the most of any FBS conference.
- 11 of the 18 ACC institutions either maintained or improved their position from the previous year's rankings.



MEDIA SERVICES & INFORMATION

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THEACC.COM

The Atlantic Coast Conference's official website – theACC.com – is the source for complete conference football information. The media section of the website (theACC.com/media) offers additional information for use by members of the media, including access to the ACC Box folder, which contains conference and school logos and images from ACC events and championships.

ACC MEDIA PORTAL

Press Conferences and ACC Events: The ACC will continue to provide video from a variety of press conferences and select ACC Championship footage throughout the athletic year. Game highlights from regular season football and basketball games will no longer be provided. Previous accounts to the ACC Media Portal will no longer be active. If you are interested in access to the new ACC Media Portal, please contact Kevin Davis (kdavis@theacc.org) to gain access and for additional information. The use of ACC Championship highlights provided through the ACC Media Portal remains subject to all restrictions as outlined in the ACC News Access Guidelines. Thanks for your continued support of the Atlantic Coast Conference.

ACC SOCIAL MEDIA

You can follow the ACC on social media:
Instagram (@accsports), X (@theACC and @ACCFootball) and Facebook (facebook.com/theACC).

COLLEGEPRESSBOX.COM

Collegepressbox.com is the official media website for NCAA 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.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR COVERING ACC FOOTBALL

Saturday, August 29

• The 2026 football season kicks off in Week 0 with four games, including an ACC matchup with NC State at Virginia.

Monday, August 31

• The first ACC Player of the Week Awards will be announced.
* For Week 1, ACC Player of the Week honors will be announced on Tuesday, September 8, at 2 p.m. ET due to a Labor Day game on Monday night (September 7).
• All other weeks of the 2026 season, the ACC Player of the Week honors will be announced on Monday at 2 p.m. ET.

Monday, November 2

• The 2026 ACC Football Championship Game credential application website opens.

Sunday, November 29

• The ACC Football Championship Game participating coaches teleconference - TBD
• All-ACC Football Team voting ends at 5 p.m. ET
• The deadline for media credential applications to the 2026 ACC Football Championship Game is at 5 p.m. ET

Monday, November 30 — Thursday, December 3

• ACC awards will be announced during the week following the conclusion of the regular season.
The following awards will be announced.
- Jacobs Blocking Trophy
- Jim Tatum Award (Top Football Scholar-Athlete)
- Brian Piccolo Award (Most Courageous Football Student-Athlete)
- All-ACC Football Teams
- ACC Offensive, Defensive and Overall Rookies of the Year
- ACC Offensive, Defensive and Overall Players of the Year
- ACC Coach of the Year

Friday, December 4

• 2026 ACC Football Championship Game Press Conference (participating coaches) — TBD

Saturday, December 5

• 2026 ACC Football Championship Game
Bank of America Stadium, Charlotte, N.C. — Noon ET (ABC)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

OVERVIEW

The College Football Playoff (CFP) is a postseason event to determine college football's national champion on the field, while emphasizing the significance of college football's unique regular season where every game counts.

RANKINGS

The selection committee ranks the schools based on the members' evaluation of their performance on the field, using strength of schedule, head-to-head results, and comparison of results against common opponents.

THE BRACKET

The 12 participating schools will be the conference champions from the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Southeastern Conference and the highest-ranked team from the American, Conference USA, Mid-American Conference, Mountain West, Pac-12 Conference or Sun Belt Conference, along with the next seven highest-ranked teams. The University of Notre Dame will be included in the playoff if it is ranked among the top 12 teams in the final rankings.

The four highest-ranked schools will be seeded one through four and will receive a first-round bye. The remaining schools will be seeded 5-12 based on their final ranking.

If any of the automatic qualifiers falls outside of the top 12, they will be seeded at the bottom of the 12-team pool. If any are not ranked in the top 25, the committee will evaluate the team(s) using its established selection criteria and determine their relative positions for seeding purposes and seed them at the bottom of the 12-team pool.

TRADITION

The New Year's holiday period and bowl games belong to college football. This season following the CFP first-round games on campus, the four CFP Quarterfinal games will be played in the Fiesta Bowl on Wednesday, Dec. 30, and the Cotton Bowl Classic, Peach Bowl and Rose Bowl Game on New Year's Day. The following week, the Orange Bowl and Sugar Bowl will host the CFP Semifinals.

CHAMPIONSHIP MONDAY

The two teams that win the CFP Semifinals compete for the College Football Playoff National Championship. The national championship game is in a different city each year, always on a Monday night.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Every Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) team has equal access to the College Football Playoff based on its performance during the regular season.

GOVERNANCE

University presidents and chancellors from all 10 FBS conferences and Notre Dame serve as the board of managers and govern the administrative operations, with commissioners and Notre Dame athletics director (the Management Committee) managing the event. A small staff in the CFP office in Irving, Texas, carries out the day-to-day responsibilities.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

A talented group of 13 high-integrity individuals with experience as coaches, student-athletes, college administrators and journalists, along with sitting athletics directors, comprise the selection committee. Members of the committee are Troy Dannen, Mark Dantonio, Mark Harlan, Dr. Bryan Maggard, Ivan Maisel, Gus Malzahn, Chris Massaro, Randall McDaniel, Mike Riley, Jeff Tedford, Wesley Walls, Carla Williams and Hunter Yurachek (chair).

SELECTION COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Rank the top 25 teams and assign the schools to the 12-team playoff bracket.



SCHOOL MEDIA DIRECTORY - FOOTBALL CONTACTS

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FLORIDA STATE
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NORTH CAROLINA
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SMU
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Weekly Press Conference: Tuesday at 2 p.m. ET

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Weekly Press Conference: Monday at Noon ET

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