



AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOOTBALL 2025 Season • Week 1

@American_Conf

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SCHOOL AP/Coaches	AMERICAN						OVERALL							
	W-L	PCT	PF	PA	H	A	W-L	PCT	PF	PA	H	A	N	STREAK
UAB	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Lost 1
ARMY <i>rv/rv</i>	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
CHARLOTTE	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 2
EAST CAROLINA	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
FLORIDA ATLANTIC	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
MEMPHIS <i>rv/rv</i>	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 4
NAVY <i>rv/rv</i>	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 3
NORTH TEXAS	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Lost 1
RICE	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
SOUTH FLORIDA	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
TEMPLE	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Lost 2
UTSA	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Won 1
TULANE <i>rv/rv</i>	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Lost 3
TULSA	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	–	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Lost 4

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

all times Eastern

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Boise State at South Florida

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Series: First meeting



East Carolina at NC State

Time: 7 p.m.

Series: NC State leads, 19-14

Last Meeting: Dec. 28, 2024 (East Carolina, 26-21)



Alabama State at UAB

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Series: Tied, 2-2

Last Meeting: Aug. 29, 2019 (UAB, 24-19)



FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Tarleton State at Army

Time: 6 p.m.

Series: First meeting



Appalachian State vs. Charlotte

Time: 7 p.m.

Series: Appalachian State leads, 3-0

Last Meeting: Sept. 12, 2020 (Appalachian State, 35-20)



SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Florida Atlantic at Maryland

Time: Noon

Series: First meeting



VMI at Navy

Time: Noon

Series: Navy leads, 10-0

Last Meeting: Oct. 11, 2014 (Navy, 51-14)



Northwestern at Tulane

Time: Noon

Series: Tulane leads, 3-1

Last Meeting: Oct. 6, 1956 (Tulane, 20-13)



Temple at Massachusetts

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Series: Temple leads, 3-0

Last Meeting: Sept. 24, 2022 (Temple, 28-0)



Chattanooga at Memphis

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Series: Memphis leads, 12-5

Last Meeting: Sept. 9, 2006 (Memphis, 33-14)



UTSA at Texas A&M

Time: 7 p.m.

Series: Texas A&M leads, 2-0

Last Meeting: Nov. 2, 2019 (Texas A&M, 45-14)



Lamar at North Texas

Time: 8 p.m.

Series: North Texas leads, 5-2

Last Meeting: Sept. 2, 2017 (North Texas, 59-14)



Rice at Louisiana

Time: 8 p.m.

Series: Tied, 3-3

Last Meeting: Sept. 17, 2022 (Rice, 33-21)



Abilene Christian at Tulsa

Time: 8 p.m.

Series: First meeting



AMERICAN TODAY

The 2025 college football season begins in earnest Thursday, beginning with a key showdown in Tampa as South Florida hosts No. 25 Boise State on ESPN. It is the first of three straight games for the Bulls against top-25 opponents to start the season.

Thursday's opening day continues with East Carolina at NC State on the ACC Network as the Pirates look for back-to-back wins against the Wolfpack.

Friday's ledger is highlighted by the Duke's Mayo Classic as Charlotte takes on Appalachian State at Bank of America Stadium as new 49ers head coach Tim Albin makes his debut.

Nine American teams begin with traditional Saturday games. Florida Atlantic and new head coach Zach Kittley head to Maryland for a noon ET kickoff on the Big Ten Network as the Owls look to snap the Terrapins' 15-game winning streak against nonconference opponents.

Tulane hosts Northwestern on ESPN as the schools meet on the gridiron for the first time since 1956.

The highlight of the late window Saturday has UTSA headed to No. 19 Texas A&M for a prime time matchup on ESPN.

CBS Sports Network will the respective home openers for Army and Navy as the Black Knights host Tarleton State Friday and the Midshipmen welcome VMI on Saturday.

ESPN+ will feature six American teams in Week 1 as UAB plays Thursday, while Temple, Memphis, North Texas, Rice and Tulsa begin their seasons on Saturday.

AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

Polling Place

Four American Conference teams – Army, Memphis, Navy and Tulane – received votes in the 2025 Associated Press and AFCA coaches' preseason polls. The American is one of only five conferences to have at least four teams receive votes in the preseason polls, along with the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12 and SEC.

Gauntlet

South Florida is the only team in college football to open the 2025 season with three consecutive games against preseason top-25 teams. The Bulls face No. 25 Boise State, No. 15 Florida and No. 10 Miami (Fla.) in succession to begin the year.

Turnover Margin

American Conference teams will have six head coaches in their first full seasons with their respective programs in 2025.

Charlotte	Tim Albin
East Carolina	Blake Harrell
Florida Atlantic	Zach Kittley
Rice	Scott Abell
Temple	K.C. Keeler
Tulsa	Tre Lamb

Deja Vu

East Carolina opens the 2025 season by facing NC State. The Pirates and Wolfpack closed the 2024 season against each other in the Go Bowling Military Bowl, a 26-21 East Carolina win.

Us Vs. Them

American teams will face 10 top-25 teams during the course of the 2025 season: No. 5 Georgia, No. 6 Notre Dame, No. 10 Miami (Fla.), No. 15 Florida, No. 17 Kansas State, No. 18 Oklahoma, No. 19 Texas A&M, No. 21 Ole Miss, No. 24 Tennessee and No. 25 Boise State.

Hardware

The American Conference won the 2024 Bowl Challenge Cup as the FBS conference with the best winning percentage in Bowl Season. American teams were a combined 6-2 in bowl games in 2024, including wins against teams from the SEC, Big 12, ACC, Mountain West, Sun Belt and Conference USA.

2024 Bowl Challenge Cup Standings

American	6-2	.750
MAC	5-2	.714
Big Ten	10-6	.625
SEC	8-7	.533
Sun Belt	4-3	.517
Big 12	4-5	.444
Conference USA	1-4	.200
Mountain West	1-4	.200
ACC	2-11	.154

Select Company

The American had three teams with at least 10 wins in 2024 (Army, Memphis, Navy). The only other leagues with at least three 10-win teams were the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12 and SEC.

Rank And File

Army and Memphis finished the 2024 season ranked in the final Associated Press top 25. The American has finished with at least two ranked teams seven times in the conference's first 12 seasons.

Top Of The Charts

Army set a program record with 12 wins in 2024, its first season in the American.

The Best Offense ...

Tulane led the nation with six defensive touchdowns, five pick-sixes and eight non-offensive touchdowns in 2024.

Keys To Victory

Tulane head coach Jon Sumrall is 25-0 in his career when his team outrushes its opponent.

Stability

Nine American teams are projected to have an Opening Day starting quarterback who was on the same team last year.

UAB	Jalen Kitna
East Carolina	Katin Houser
Navy	Blake Horvath
North Texas	Drew Mestemaker
Rice	Chase Jenkins
South Florida	Byrum Brown
Temple	Evan Simon
UTSA	Owen McCown
Tulsa	Kirk Francis

We're Available

The American will issue player availability reports in advance of all conference games in the 2025 season. Reports will be published to the American website and on social media no later than two hours prior to kickoff for conference games.

Welcome To My House

Some notable nonconference home games for American teams in 2025:

Boise State at South Florida (Aug. 28)
Northwestern at Tulane (Aug. 30)
North Carolina at Charlotte (Sept. 6)
Oklahoma at Temple (Sept. 6)
Houston at Rice (Sept. 6)
Washington State at North Texas (Sept. 13)
Duke at Tulane (Sept. 13)
BYU at East Carolina (Sept. 20)
Arkansas at Memphis (Sept. 20)
Oregon State at Tulsa (Nov. 15)

Now And Then

Tulane had won 19 American Conference games in its first eight years in the conference and has 22 wins in The American in the last three seasons.

Sweet December

Tulane has reached the American Championship Game in each of the last three years.

Twenty And Counting

Memphis has scored at least 20 points in 40 consecutive games, marking the longest active streak among FBS teams

This Goes To Eleven

Memphis was bowl eligible for the 11th consecutive season in 2024.

Dome, Sweet Dome

UTSA has won its last 10 games at the Alamodome and has won 17 of its last 18 home games. The Roadrunners are 29-3 at home under head coach Jeff Traylor.

Back-To-Back

Alex Golesh became the first South Florida coach to lead the Bulls to bowl wins in each of his first two seasons. Golesh has 14 wins in two seasons in Tampa after the Bulls had won a combined 15 games in the five seasons prior.

People Watching

More than 52 million viewers watched American Conference football on television in 2024. The American had 17 games that drew at least one million viewers.

National Brand

In the first year with both Army and Navy in the American, the annual Army-Navy game on CBS drew 9.4 million viewers, the largest television audience for the game since at least 1990 and a 31% increase over the 2023 game.

Must See TV

The 2024 American Championship Game between Army and Tulane drew more than 2 million viewers on ABC, marking the eighth time in 10 years that the game surpassed 2 million viewers.

BUILT TO RISE

We have modernized our brand, marking a bold new era for the league. More than a brand facelift, this evolution uniquely aligns our identity, from its written voice and visual design to its strategy, with a clear purpose and forward-looking vision.

The result is a unified, confident brand built to fuel growth, increase national presence, and elevate our conference's competitive positioning on the collegiate stage.

A Bold Name

At the heart of our evolution is a simplified name:

American Conference

This streamlined name, already used colloquially by our fans and the media, reinforces a sharper, more modern identity. It eliminates confusion with other similarly named organizations and ensures consistent recognition among partners and the public.

We have officially transitioned from 'American Athletic Conference' (and the acronym 'AAC') to 'American Conference' on first reference and 'American' in subsequent references.

Meet 'Soar the Eagle'

One of the most innovative (and fun) aspects of our brand evolution is the introduction of Soar the Eagle as the American Conference's first conference ambassador.

Soar is a multi-platform brand symbol designed to personify our values and story. In fact, we are the first collegiate conference to unveil both a live and animated character to represent its brand.



Soar's very identity reflects our DNA of innovation, grit and service. His name, 'Soar,' evokes upward flight and aspiration, aligning perfectly with the rally call, 'Built To Rise.' From Day 1, he's been engineered to engage a wide range of audiences and to bridge the gap between the physical and digital realms of fandom.

Our Creative Identity

At the core of our brand growth is a bold new visual identity across a multitude of assets.



TALKING POINTS

UAB 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 28 vs. Alabama State (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	392.6	9th
Total Defense	393.8	7th
Scoring Offense	26.2	9th
Scoring Defense	34.3	10th

- K Jonah Delange was named the 2024 American Special Teams Player of the Year, becoming the first UAB player to win an end-of-season award from the conference.
- QB Jalen Kitna started the last eight games of 2024 and threw for 2,209 yards and 17 touchdowns.
- The Blazers' 2025 roster includes 51 newcomers.

ARMY 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 29 vs. Tarleton State (CBSSN)

American Ranks

Total Offense	380.7	11th
Total Defense	304.1	1st
Scoring Offense	31.4	8th
Scoring Defense	16.2	1st

- Army won the 2024 American Championship in its first year in the league. Army enters the season as the only FBS team in the country to have not lost a conference game it has played.
- Army's offensive line won the Joe Moore Award as the nation's top unit. OG Paolo Gennarelli and C Brady Small return from that group.
- The Black Knights have won their last 10 games at Michie Stadium.

CHARLOTTE 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 29 vs. Appalachian State (ESPNU)

American Ranks

Total Offense	341.2	13th
Total Defense	433.2	12th
Scoring Offense	23.7	12th
Scoring Defense	35.1	12th

- The 49ers named Tim Albin as their new head coach. Albin was a two-time MAC Coach of the Year at Ohio, where he won the 2024 conference title.
- Charlotte won its last two games of the 2024 season and finished 4-4 in conference play last year.
- The 2025 roster will include nearly 40 players from the transfer portal.

EAST CAROLINA 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 28 at NC State (ACC Network)

American Ranks

Total Offense	433.3	4th
Total Defense	403.6	8th
Scoring Offense	32.5	4th
Scoring Defense	27.8	6th

- The Pirates went 5-1 under head coach Blake Harrell to close the 2024 season. Harrell became the first coach in program history to win his first four games.
- QB Katin Houser returns as the starting signal-caller after he threw for 2,006 yards and 18 touchdowns last season.
- The Pirates improved by six wins from 2023 to 2024.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 at Maryland (Big Ten Network)

American Ranks

Total Offense	397.6	7th
Total Defense	416.7	9th
Scoring Offense	25.9	10th
Scoring Defense	30.3	8th

- The Owls named Zach Kittley as their new head coach. Kittley had most recently served as offensive coordinator at Texas Tech.
- At 33 years old, Kittley is the youngest FBS head coach.
- QB Caden Veltkamp, a transfer from Western Kentucky, was the 2024 Offensive Player of the Year in Conference USA. Veltkamp threw for 3,108 yards and 25 touchdowns.

MEMPHIS 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 vs. Chattanooga (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	442.1	3rd
Total Defense	355.6	4th
Scoring Offense	35.2	2nd
Scoring Defense	22.8	4th

- Memphis, which went 11-2 last year, registered back-to-back seasons with double-digit wins for the first time in program history.
- The Tigers have scored at least 20 points in 40 consecutive games, the longest active streak nationally.
- Memphis, which went 7-0 at home last year, is 43-6 at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium since 2017.

NAVY 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 vs. VMI (CBSSN)

American Ranks

Total Offense	375.8	11th
Total Defense	363.6	5th
Scoring Offense	32.2	6th
Scoring Defense	22.3	3rd

- Navy registered its first season with at least 10 wins since 2019 as the Midshipmen went 10-3 last season.
- QB Blake Horvath accounted for 30 total touchdowns (17 rushing, 13 passing) and rushed for 1,246 yards in 2024.
- Navy closed the 2024 season by defeating Army for the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy and topping Oklahoma in the Armed Forces Bowl.

NORTH TEXAS 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 vs. Lamar (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	488.7	1st
Total Defense	456.6	13th
Scoring Offense	34.0	3rd
Scoring Defense	34.5	12th

- QB Drew Mestemaker, who is expected to be the Opening Day starter for North Texas, made his first start since his freshman year in high school in last year's First Responder Bowl.
- Mestemaker passed for 393 yards and two touchdowns in the bowl game last season.
- The Mean Green will have more than 40 transfers on this year's roster.

RICE 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 at Louisiana (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	352.9	12th
Total Defense	334.6	3rd
Scoring Offense	22.2	13th
Scoring Defense	25.4	5th

- Rice has named Scott Abell as the Owls' next head coach. Abell went 47-28 in seven seasons at Davidson, where he won two conference titles and made three NCAA appearances.
- Abell had seven consecutive winning seasons with a Davidson team that had 10 straight losing seasons prior to his arrival.
- The Owls ranked third in The American in total defense last year, allowing 334.6 yards per game.

TALKING POINTS

SOUTH FLORIDA 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 28 vs. Boise State (ESPN)

American Ranks

Total Offense	418.1	6th
Total Defense	436.6	12th
Scoring Offense	31.4	7th
Scoring Defense	29.0	7th

- South Florida is the only team in the nation to start the 2025 season with three consecutive games against preseason top-25 opponents (Boise State, Florida, Miami).
- QB Byrum Brown, who passed for 3,292 yards and 26 touchdowns in 2023, returns to the lineup after being limited by injury to five games in 2024.
- The Bulls have gone 7-6 in each of Alex Golesh's first two seasons.

TEMPLE 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 at Massachusetts (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	308.8	14th
Total Defense	418.4	10th
Scoring Offense	19.6	14th
Scoring Defense	35.4	13th

- The Owls named K.C. Keeler as their new head coach. Keeler has won 271 career games in 31 years as a head coach, including two NCAA FCS national championships.
- Keeler is the only coach in FCS history to win the national championship at two different schools (Delaware in 2003, Sam Houston in 2020).
- Returning QB Evan Simon passed for 2,032 yards and 15 touchdowns last season.

UTSA 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 at Texas A&M (ESPN)

American Ranks

Total Offense	447.4	2nd
Total Defense	383.8	6th
Scoring Offense	32.3	5th
Scoring Defense	31.3	9th

- The Roadrunners went 6-0 at home and 0-6 on the road in the 2024 regular season.
- UTSA is 29-3 in the Alamodome under head coach Jeff Traylor, who begins his sixth season in San Antonio.
- QB Owen McCown passed for 3,424 yards and 25 touchdowns last year in his first year as the Roadrunners' starter.

TULANE 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 vs. Northwestern (ESPN)

American Ranks

Total Offense	421.2	5th
Total Defense	307.7	2nd
Scoring Offense	37.2	1st
Scoring Defense	19.7	2nd

- Tulane has made three consecutive appearances in the American Championship Game.
- Tulane led the nation with six defensive touchdowns and eight non-offensive TDs in 2024.
- Head coach Jon Sumrall has taken his team to the conference championship game in each of his three years as a head coach. Sumrall won back-to-back Sun Belt championships at Troy before bringing Tulane to the American title game last year.

TULSA 0-0, 0-0 American



Next: Aug. 30 vs. Abilene Christian (ESPN+)

American Ranks

Total Offense	389.7	10th
Total Defense	496.8	14th
Scoring Offense	25.0	11th
Scoring Defense	42.5	14th

- Tulsa named Tre Lamb, formerly the head coach at East Tennessee State and Gardner-Webb, as its new leader.
- Tulsa looks to end a run of three consecutive sub-.500 seasons.
- QB Kirk Francis, who emerged from a four-man quarterback room to earn the starting spot midway through last season, threw for 1,595 yards and nine touchdowns in 2024.

WEEK 1 PREVIEWS

THURSDAY, AUG. 28 • 5:30 P.M. • ESPN



BOISE STATE at SOUTH FLORIDA



Raymond James Stadium (65,000/Natural Grass)
Tampa, Florida

Television

ESPN

Matt Barrie, Tom Luginbill and Harry Lyles Jr.

Radio

WHPT-FM 102.5 (South Florida flagship)
SiriusXM 139 or 201

THE GAME

Thursday's game will be the first meeting between Boise State and South Florida ... The Bulls have gone 4-1 against current members of the Mountain West Conference, including a 41-39 victory against San Jose State in the 2024 Hawaii Bowl to close last season ... Boise State is 11-6 against current members of the American.

25/25 BOISE STATE 0-0, 0-0 Mountain West

Head Coach

Spencer Danielson (Asuza Pacific '12)
15-3, second full season

Information Contact

Chris Kutz
(559) 871-2091, ChrisKutz@boisestate.edu

Notes

Boise State is coming off a 12-2 campaign in 2024, which ended with the Broncos' first appearance in the College Football Playoff ... The Broncos' only losses last year were to Oregon and Penn State ... Boise State is 17-3 at home in the last three seasons, but is 12-8 on the road in the same stretch ... The Broncos are ranked No. 25 in both national preseason polls ... The most significant loss is Heisman Trophy runner-up Ashton Jeanty, who rushed for 2,601 yards and 29 touchdowns in 2024 ... QB Maddux Madsen passed for 3,018 yards and 23 touchdowns last season ... The top returning receiver is TE Matt Laute, who had 619 yards and seven touchdown catches ... Head coach Spencer Danielson went 3-1 as the Broncos' interim coach in 2023 and was 12-2 last year after assuming the permanent role.

SOUTH FLORIDA 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Alex Golesh (Ohio State '06)
14-12, third season

Information Contact

Brian Siegrist
(813) 293-3897, siegrist@usf.edu

Notes

South Florida plays the first of three straight games against preseason top-25 teams to open the season with Thursday's matchup against Boise State ... The Bulls follow with road dates against No. 15/17 Florida and No. 10/10 Miami ... South Florida is the only team in the nation to open with three straight games against ranked teams ... The Bulls went 7-6 for the second consecutive season under head coach Alex Golesh, the first coach in program history with two bowl wins in his first two years ... Golesh's 14 wins come after the Bulls won a combined four games in the three previous seasons ... The Bulls are bolstered by the return of QB Byrum Brown, who suffered a season-ending leg injury after five games last year ... Brown passed for a school-record 3,292 yards and 26 touchdowns and rushed for 809 yards and 11 TDs in 2023

THURSDAY, AUG. 28 • 7 P.M. • ACC NETWORK



EAST CAROLINA at NC STATE



Carter-Finley Stadium (56,919/Natural Grass)
Raleigh, North Carolina

Television

ACC Network

Wes Durham, Steve Addazio and Dana Boyle

Radio

WNCT-FM 107.9 (East Carolina flagship)
SiriusXM 85

THE GAME

Thursday's game will be the 34th meeting between East Carolina and NC State in a series that dates to 1970 ... The Wolfpack holds a 19-14 series lead, though the Pirates claimed the most recent meeting with a 26-21 win in the Military Bowl to close last season ... NC State has won the last two meetings in Raleigh.

EAST CAROLINA 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Blake Harrell (Western Carolina '02)
5-1, first full season

Information Contact

Malcolm Gray
(252) 737-4523, graym@ecu.edu

Notes

East Carolina started the 2024 season at 3-4, but the Pirates won five of their last six games after Blake Harrell was named the interim head coach ... East Carolina's 26-21 win against NC State in the Military Bowl gave the Pirates an 8-5 record last year, a six-win improvement from 2023 ... East Carolina went 5-3 in the American, winning four of its last five conference games to finish fifth in the conference standings ... The top returner on offense is QB Katin Houser, a transfer from Michigan State who threw for 2,006 yards and 18 touchdowns with ECU last year ... WR Anthony Smith, a transfer from NC State, had 41 receptions for 799 yards and six touchdowns ... The defense returns only one starter from 2024 – DE Ryheem Craig, a transfer from Louisville who had 53 tackles and 4.0 tackles for loss.

NC STATE 0-0, 0-0 ACC

Head Coach

Dave Doeren (Drake '93)
87-65, 13th season at NC State
110-69, 14th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Annabelle Myers
(919) 513-3205, amyers@ncsu.edu

Notes

NC State finished last season at 6-7, snapping a streak of four consecutive winning seasons ... The Wolfpack went 3-5 in the ACC, finishing in a four-way tie for 10th in the conference standings ... NC State has gone 27-7 at home in the last five years ... The Wolfpack returns 13 starters from last year ... QB C.J. Bailey passed for 2,413 yards and 17 touchdowns against 10 interceptions last year and added five rushing TDs ... NC State also returns its leading rusher (RB Hollywood Smothers) and receiver (TE Justin Joly) from last season ... LB Sean Brown started all 13 games last year and had a team-high 96 tackles ... Former East Carolina head coach Ruffin McNeill is in his sixth season on Dave Doeren's staff at NC State, serving as special assistant to the head coach.

THURSDAY, AUG. 28 • 8 P.M. • ESPN+



ALABAMA STATE at UAB



Protective Stadium (42,354/Shaw Sports Turf)
Birmingham, Alabama

Television

ESPN+

Doug Sherman, Dave Steckel and Maria Trivelpiece

Radio

WJOX-FM 94.5 (UAB flagship)
SiriusXM 385

THE GAME

Thursday's game will be the fifth meeting between UAB and Alabama State and will break a 2-2 tie in the series record ... The Hornets won the first two games in the series with victories in 1994 and 1995, but the Blazers have won the last two, including a 24-19 decision at Legion Field in 2019.

ALABAMA A&M 0-0, 0-0 SWAC

Head Coach

Eddie Robinson Jr. (Alabama State '94)
20-14, fourth season

Information Contact

Fred Singleton
(334) 229-2601, fsingleton@alasu.edu

Notes

Alabama State went 7-5 last season, giving head coach Eddie Robinson Jr. his third winning season in as many years at his alma mater ... The Hornets won their last two games of the 2024 season, including a 34-6 win against Tuskegee in the Turkey Day Classic to close the year ... Alabama State has won SWAC championships in 1991, 2004 and 2010 and was the HBCU national champion in 1991 ... Alabama State went 5-3 in the SWAC last season, finishing second to Jackson State in the East Division ... Alabama State's defense did not allow a touchdown in the last nine quarters of the 2024 season ... Top returning players for the Hornets include S Keane Lewis, second-team All-SWAC performer last year, and OL Desmond Daniels, who made 11 starts and allowed only one sack among 466 snaps played.

UAB 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Trent Dilfer (Fresno State '93)
7-17, third season

Information Contact

Ted Feeley
(205) 704-4147, tfeeley@uab.edu

Notes

UAB looks for a turnaround in Trent Dilfer's third season in Birmingham after the Blazers went 3-9 last season ... Since the program was reinstated in 2017, the Blazers have gone 57-43 overall (.570), 36-9 in Birmingham and have won three bowl games ... The Blazers return only three starters from last year ... The top returner is QB Jalen Kitna, who started the last eight games of 2024 and threw for 2,209 yards and 17 touchdowns and 11 interceptions ... The lone returning starter on defense is S Sirad Bryant ... K Jonah Delange was the 2024 American Special Teams Player of the Year after he connected on 21 of 24 field goal attempts and was perfect on kicks of 50 yards or longer ... The Blazers' 2025 roster includes 51 newcomers ... UAB begins conference play in Week 2 when the Blazers visit Navy.

WEEK 1 PREVIEW

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 • 6 P.M. • CBS SPORTS NETWORK



TARLETON STATE at ARMY



Michie Stadium (30,000/FieldTurf)
West Point, New York

Television

CBS Sports Network
Dave Ryan, Adam Breneman and Tina Cervasio

Radio

WBNR-AM 1260 (Army flagship)
SiriusXM 161 or 201

THE GAME

Friday's game will be the first meeting between Army and Tarleton State ... Army has gone 16-0 against NCAA FCS opponents since the 2016 season ... Tarleton State is 1-3 against FBS opponents since the Texas moved to Division I in 2020 ... The Texans defeated New Mexico State 43-17 in 2020.

TARLETON STATE 1-0, 0-0 UAC

Head Coach

Todd Whitten (Stephen F. Austin '87)
115-57, 16th season at Tarleton State
140-85, 21st season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Jake Withee
(970) 319-2260, jwithee@tarleton.edu

Notes

Tarleton State began its sixth season as an Division I FCS program with an impressive 42-0 road win against Portland State in Week 0 ... The Texans, ranked No. 10 in the Stats Perform FCS poll and No. 8 in the AFCA FCS poll, gained 453 total yards, forced four turnovers and included a pick-six touchdown among their scoring output ... QB Victor Gabalis completed 14 of 24 passes for 152 yards and two touchdowns, while RB Tre Page III led a potent ground game with 170 yards and two TDs on 15 carries ... Tarleton State rushed for 301 yards and three touchdowns against the Vikings ... LB Ty Rawls led the defense with two interceptions ... Tarleton State is the pavorite in the UAC preseason poll ... The Texans went 10-4 last season and fell to South Dakota in the FCS playoff.

rv/rv ARMY 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Jeff Monken (Millikin '89)
82-57, 12th season at Army
118-73, 16th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Eric Szczepinski
(440) 823-1241, eric.szczepinski@westpoint.edu

Notes

Army holds the unique distinction of having never lost a conference game in program history after the Black Knights went 12-2 overall and 8-0 in the American last season, claiming the conference title in their first year in the league ... Army finished the 2024 season ranked No. 21 in the national polls, its highest finish in the rankings since 1958 ... The Black Knights return two members of last year's offensive line, which won the Joe Moore Award as the nation's top unit ... OG Paolo Gennarelli was an AP third-team All-America selection, while C Brady Small was a first team all-conference selection ... QB Dwayne Coleman will take over as the starter behind center following the graduation of record-setting signal-caller Bryson Daily, who rushed for 32 touchdowns last year.

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 • 7 P.M. • ESPNU



APPALACHIAN STATE vs. CHARLOTTE



Bank of America Stadium (74,867/FieldTurf Pro)
Charlotte, North Carolina

Television

ESPNU
Courtney Lyle and Rene Ingoglia

Radio

WZGV-AM 730 (Charlotte flagship)

THE GAME | THE DUKE'S MAYO CLASSIC

Charlotte is making its first appearance in the Duke's Mayo Classic, while Appalachian State is making its second appearance in the event ... Friday's game will be the fourth meeting between Charlotte and App State ... The Mountaineers have won the first three matchups, most recently a 35-20 decision in 2020.

APPALACHIAN STATE 0-0, 0-0 Sun Belt

Head Coach

Dowell Loggains (Arkansas '03)
0-0, first season

Information Contact

Joey Jones
(828) 964-7183, jonesj7@appstate.edu

Notes

Dowell Loggains makes his head coaching debut Friday as App State looks to bounce back from an uncharacteristic 5-6 season in 2024 ... It was just the fourth sub-500 season for the Mountaineers since 1983 and the first losing season since 2013 ... Loggains, a former offensive coordinator with four NFL clubs who was in a similar role at South Carolina last year, is the Mountaineers' fourth head coach in seven seasons ... App State has 55 newcomers on this year's roster and returns only seven starters from last year ... QB AJ Swann, who started 12 games for Vanderbilt in 2022 and 2023 before transferring to LSU last year, is expected to take over as the Mountaineers' starter ... RB Rashod Dubinion, who started seven games at Arkansas in the last three seasons, should be the primary option in the backfield.

CHARLOTTE 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Tim Albin (Northwestern Oklahoma State '89)
0-0, first season at Charlotte
58-27, eighth season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Joe Templin
(704) 687-1838, jtemplin@charlotte.edu

Notes

Charlotte won its last two games of the 2024 season to finish 5-7 overall and 4-4 in the American ... Head coach Tim Albin begins his first season with the 49ers after spending the last four seasons in a similar role at Ohio, where he was the 2024 MAC Coach of the Year and led the Bobcats to the conference title ... Albin finished his tenure at Ohio with three consecutive 10-win seasons ... His coaching ledger also includes a 13-0 campaign and NAIA national championship at Northwestern Oklahoma State in 1999 ... The 2025 roster features nearly 40 transfers ... QB Conner Harrell, a transfer from North Carolina who passed for 219 yards and two touchdowns against the 49ers last year, is projected to be the Opening Day starter ... Charlotte hosts North Carolina in Week 2.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • NOON • BIG TEN NETWORK



FLORIDA ATLANTIC at MARYLAND



SECU Stadium (51,802/FieldTurf)
College Park, Maryland

Television

Big Ten Network
TBD

Radio

WFTL-AM 640 (Florida Atlantic flagship)
SiriusXM 380

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the first meeting between Florida Atlantic and Maryland ... The Owls have faced seven current members of the Big Ten and are a combined 1-12 in those games ... The Terrapins are 24-19 all-time in games against current members of the American ... Florida Atlantic has dropped 14 consecutive road openers.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Zach Kittley (Texas Tech '14)
0-0, first season

Information Contact

Katrina McCormack
(561) 251-5588, kmccormi@fau.edu

Notes

Florida Atlantic will have a new look in more ways than one for the 2025 season after the Owls went 3-9 in 2024 ... Head coach Zach Kittley, at 33 years old, is the youngest head coach in Division I, and he welcomes a team that includes 55 newcomers from either the transfer portal or the freshman class ... The biggest name among the newcomers is QB Caden Valtkamp, who was the Conference USA Offensive Player of the Year at Western Kentucky last year, where he passed for 3,108 yards and 25 touchdowns ... The defense has S Wendel Philord as the squad's only returning starter, but some talented newcomers should fill the void, including NG C.J. Doggette (via Ohio), LB Tyler Stolsky (from Minnesota) and CB Derrick Rogers (from Purdue) ... P Logan Lupo is the lone returning regular on special teams.

MARYLAND 0-0, 0-0 Big Ten

Head Coach

Michael Locksley (Towson '92)
33-41 seventh full season at Maryland
35-67, 17th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Dustin Semonavick
(757) 544-8393, dustin@umd.edu

Notes

Maryland went 4-8 last season, finishing in 17th place in the Big Ten standings ... The Terrapins went 3-0 in nonconference games, however, extending their nonconference winning streak to 15 games, the longest active streak in FBS ... Maryland's last nonconference loss was a 20-17 setback at Temple Sept. 14, 2019 ... The Terrapins are 17-1 in nonconference games under head coach Michael Locksley ... Maryland has won its last 13 nonconference openers ... Only three starters return on offense as the Terrapins look to replace their starting quarterback, leading rusher and top three receivers from last year ... QB Malik Washington could be the Opening Day starter as a true freshman ... Maryland ranked last in the Big Ten with 14 sacks in 2024 and must replace the entire front seven.

WEEK 1 PREVIEWS

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • NOON • CBS SPORTS NETWORK



**VMI
at
NAVY**



Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium (34,000/FieldTurf)
Annapolis, Maryland

Television

CBS Sports Network
Chris Lewis, Randy Cross and Brandon Baylor

Radio

WBAL-FM 101.5 (Navy flagship)
SiriusXM 83

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the 11th meeting between Navy and VMI in a series that traces its roots to 1898 ... The Midshipmen have taken all 10 previous meetings, most recently a 51-14 win in Annapolis in 2014 ... Save for a 1963 matchup in Norfolk, Virginia, and a 1973 meeting in Lexington, the remaining games have all been played at Navy.

**VMI
0-0, 0-0 Southern**

Head Coach

Danny Rocco (Wake Forest '84)
6-17, third season at VMI
127-82, 19th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Phil Marcello
(804) 381-1192, marcellopr@vmi.edu

Notes

VMI looks to rebound from a 1-11 campaign in 2024 ... The Keydets went 1-7 in the Southern Conference to finish ninth in the standings ... VMI has 12 returning starters and 57 returning letterwinners from last year ... Head coach Danny Rocco inherited a team that went 1-11 in 2022 and led the Keydets to a 5-6 showing the following year ... Rocco has won seven conference titles in 19 seasons (four Big South, three CAA) and has made five NCAA FCS playoff appearances between Delaware, Richmond and Liberty ... QB Collin Shannon returns to the VMI lineup after he was sidelined with an injury after two games in 2024 ... QB Chandler Wilson made five starts and passed for 424 yards and three touchdowns ... Shannon and Wilson were among four QBs who saw significant action in 2024.

**rv/rv NAVY
0-0, 0-0 American**

Head Coach

Brian Newberry (Baylor '98)
15-10, third season

Information Contact

Scott Strasemeier
(410) 293-8775, sstrasem@usna.edu

Notes

Navy enjoyed an outstanding 2024 season that saw the Midshipmen close the year with a win against Army to clinch the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy and a 21-20 victory against Oklahoma in the Armed Forces Bowl ... Navy finished 10-3 overall and was 6-2 in the American ... The Midshipmen return 17 starters and 47 letterwinners from that squad ... QB Blake Horvath rushed for 1,246 yards and 17 touchdowns and passed for 1,353 yards and 13 TDs to lead the offense last year ... RB/WR Eli Heidenreich was a dynamic playmaker with 39 catches for 671 yards and six touchdowns to go with 444 rushing yards and three TDs on the ground ... FB Alex Tecza added eight rushing touchdowns ... The top returners on defense are NG Landon Robinson (4.0 sacks, 5.5 tackles for loss in 2024) and LB Luke Pirris (68 tackles, 6.0 tackles for loss).

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • NOON • ESPN



**NORTHWESTERN
at
TULANE**



Vulman Stadium (30,000/FieldTurf)
New Orleans, Louisiana

Television

ESPN
Matt Schumacher and Dustin Fox

Radio

WRKN-FM 106.1 (Tulane flagship)
SiriusXM 381

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the fifth meeting between Tulane and Northwestern ... The four previous matchups were all played between 1925 and 1956 ... The Green Wave holds a 3-1 series lead ... Northwestern's only win in the series was a 14-0 decision Oct. 4, 1930 ... Saturday's game will be just the second to be played in New Orleans.

**NORTHWESTERN
0-0, 0-0 Big Ten**

Head Coach

David Braun (Winona State '08)
12-13, third season

Information Contact

Zach Wingrove
(847) 491-7503, zachary.wingrove@northwestern.edu

Notes

Northwestern went 8-5 in David Braun's first season in Evanston in 2023, but the Wildcats fell to 4-8 last season, facing a schedule that included three of the last four participants in the College Football Playoff National Championship Game ... QB Preston Stone is no stranger to the American after playing in the league for three seasons at SMU ... Stone started 12 games for the Mustangs in 2023, when SMU won the American title, though he did not play against Tulane in the conference championship game ... Following the season-opener on the road, Northwestern plays its next four games at home ... Northwestern is playing its home games at Martin Stadium for the second consecutive year while renovations to Ryan Stadium are in progress ... The Wildcats will play back-to-back home games at Wrigley Field in November.

**rv/rv TULANE
0-0, 0-0 American**

Head Coach

Jon Sumrall (Kentucky '05)
9-5, second season at Tulane
32-9, fourth season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Jason Corriher
(740) 331-1497, jcorriher@tulane.edu

Notes

Tulane, which has played in the American Championship Game in each of the last three seasons, is looking for a fourth straight appearance after the Green Wave went 9-5 in Jon Sumrall's first year in New Orleans ... Three of the five losses came to nationally ranked opponents (Kansas State, Oklahoma, Army) ... The Green Wave won 17 consecutive regular-season conference games between 2023-25, tying the American record ... Tulane saw plenty of activity on both ends of the transfer portal and got a boost from the late addition of QB Jake Retzlaff ... Retzlaff started every game for BYU last year and passed for 2,947 yards and 20 touchdowns ... RB Maurice Turner (transfer from Louisville) and WR Shazz Preston (transfer from Alabama) also come in with high expectations.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 3:30 P.M. • ESPN



**TEMPLE
at
MASSACHUSETTS**



McGuirk Stadium (17,000/FieldTurf)
Amherst, Massachusetts

Television

ESPN+
Robert Lee and Patrick Murray

Radio

OwlSports.com
SiriusXM 385

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the fourth meeting between Temple and Massachusetts and first to be played on the UMass campus ... Temple holds a 3-0 series lead with a 25-23 win at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts, in 2015, a 29-21 win in Philadelphia in 2017 and a 28-0 home victory in 2022.

**TEMPLE
0-0, 0-0 American**

Head Coach

K.C. Keeler (Delaware '80)
0-0, first season at Temple
271-112-1, 32nd season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Rich Burg
(215) 356-3952, rich.burg@temple.edu

Notes

After four consecutive 3-9 seasons, Temple has turned to veteran head coach K.C. Keeler to return the Owls' fortunes to their championship-level form from a decade ago ... Keeler, the only coach to have on NCAA FCS titles at two different institutions (Delaware, Sam Houston) has had 16 seasons with double-digit wins in 31 years as a head coach across three institutions ... Temple has added 25 players from the transfer portal and brought in the Owls' highest-rated incoming class in years ... QB Evan Simon threw for 2,032 yards and 15 touchdowns last year and has battled with Oregon State transfer QB Gevani McCoy for the starting role ... RB Jay Ducker played two years at Memphis before rushing for 745 yards at Sam Houston last season.

**MASSACHUSETTS
0-0, 0-0 MAC**

Head Coach

Joe Harasymiak (Springfield '08)
0-0, first season at Massachusetts
20-15, fourth season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Dan Collieran
(574) 339-9810, dcollieran@umass.edu

Notes

Massachusetts returns to the Mid-American Conference in 2025 after the Minutemen spent the last nine seasons as an FBS independent program, going a combined 18-82 in that stretch ... Head coach Joe Harasymiak begins his first season in Amherst ... Harasymiak was most recently the defensive coordinator at Rutgers (2022-24) and was the 2018 AFCA FCS Coach of the Year at Maine, when he led the Black Bears to a 10-4 record, a CAA championship and a trip to the NCAA FCS semifinals ... QB Grant Jordan, a transfer from Yale, comes in after throwing for 1,938 yards and 22 touchdowns against three interceptions last year, while Utah transfer QB Brandon Rose is expected to see action as well ... RB Rocko Griffin rushed for 483 yards and six touchdowns for UTSA in 2023.

WEEK 1 PREVIEWS

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 4:30 P.M. • ESPN+



CHATTANOOGA at MEMPHIS



Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium (30,000/AstroTurf)
Memphis, Tennessee

Television

ESPN+
Chris Carlin and Jay Sonnhalter

Radio

WXXM-FM 98.9 (Memphis flagship)
SiriusXM 381

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the 18th meeting between Memphis and Chattanooga in a series that dates to 1942 ... Memphis holds a 12-5 series lead and has won the last nine meetings ... The Mocs' last win in the series was a 7-0 victory in Chattanooga Nov. 28, 1957 ... The teams last met in 2006, when Memphis was a 33-14 winner.

CHATTANOOGA 0-0, 0-0 Southern

Head Coach

Rusty Wright (Chattanooga '96)
37-27, seventh season

Information Contact

Jim Horten
(423) 645-8733, james-horten@utc.edu

Notes

Chattanooga went 7-5 overall and 5-3 in the Southern Conference last season, but has only five starters returning from that team ... The Mocs dropped their first three games of the season, but won seven of their last nine ... Head coach Rusty Wright has finished at .500 or better in each of his first six seasons at Chattanooga and is the only coach in program history to do so ... The Mocs were picked second in the 2025 Southern Conference preseason poll, trailing only Mercer ... OL BJ Ragland was named to the league's preseason all-conference first team, while TE John McIntyre and DB Jeremiah Batiste were second-team selections ... The Mocs have won seven Southern Conference titles, but will be looking for their first championship since 2015 ... The Mocs last reached the NCAA FCS playoffs in 2023.

rv/rv MEMPHIS 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Ryan Silverfield (Hampden-Sydney '03)
42-21, sixth season

Information Contact

Claire Johnson
(636) 233-2568, claire.johnson@memphis.edu

Notes

Memphis has been one of the American's most consistent teams under sixth-year head coach Ryan Silverfield, who has led the Tigers to five consecutive .500-or-better seasons, including back-to-back years with double-digit wins ... Memphis went 11-2 last year, falling only to Navy and UTSA in conference play ... The Tigers topped West Virginia 42-37 in the Frisco Bowl for their fourth consecutive bowl victory ... The Tigers have been bowl-eligible in 11 consecutive seasons ... Memphis enters the 2025 season having scored at least 20 points in 40 consecutive games, the longest active streak nationally ... The Tigers have gone 43-6 at home since 2017 ... The top candidate to replace record-setting signal caller Seth Henigan is QB Brendon Lewis, who passed for 2,290 yards and 16 touchdowns and rushed for a team-high 775 yards at Nevada last year.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 7 P.M. • ESPN



UTSA at TEXAS A&M



Kyle Field (102,733/Natural Grass)
Bryan-College Station, Texas

Television

ESPN
Anish Shroff, Andre Ware and Paul Carcatera

Radio

KTKR-AM 760 (UTSA flagship)
SiriusXM 81

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the third meeting between UTSA and Texas A&M ... It will be the third straight game to be played in College Station ... The Aggies have taken the first two meetings with a 23-10 victory in 2016 and a 45-14 decision in 2019 ... The last meeting saw Texas A&M RB Isaiah Spiller rush for 217 yards and three touchdowns.

UTSA 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Jeff Traylor (Stephen F. Austin '90)
46-20, sixth season

Information Contact

Kyle Stephens
(210) 887-3636, kyle.stephens@utsa.edu

Notes

UTSA secured a fifth consecutive winning season under head coach Jeff Traylor with a 44-15 win against Coastal Carolina in the Myrtle Beach Bowl last year to finish 2024 with a 7-6 record ... The Roadrunners will feature a veteran offensive unit in 2025, thanks to the return of 10 starters, but UTSA will have to replace all 11 starters on defense, relying primarily on the transfer portal to fill the gaps ... The offense will be led by QB Owen McCown, who had 3,424 passing yards and 25 touchdowns last season ... RB Robert Henry finished with 706 rushing yards and seven TDs ... A UTSA palyer has been named the American's Defensive Player of the Year in each of the last two seasons (LB Trey Moore in 2023, LB Jimmori Robinson in 2024) ... The Roadrunners are 29-3 in the Alamodome under Jeff Traylor, but went 0-6 in road games last year.

19/21 TEXAS A&M 0-0, 0-0 SEC

Head Coach

Mike Elko (Penn '99)
8-5, second season at Texas A&M
24-14, fourth season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Rachel Perreault
(603) 767-6492, rperreault@athletics.tamu.edu

Notes

Texas A&M went 8-5 overall and finished a solid 5-3 in the SEC last season, scoring top-10 wins against Missouri and LSU in the process ... The Aggies fell to USC 35-31 in the Las Vegas Bowl to close the year ... Texas A&M plays five of its first six games at home, with only a Sept. 13 game at Notre Dame as the exception ... The Aggies return 41 letterwinners and 15 starters from last season ... QB Marcel Reed passed for 1,864 yards and rushed for 543 yards last season ... QB Jacob Zeno, who played in the American at UAB, is also on the depth chart ... RB Le'Veon Moss rushed for 765 yards and earned All-SEC honors despite missing all or most of five games due to injury ... The Aggies return seven of their eight regular offensive linemen ... CB Will Lee III was an All-SEC pick on defense.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 8 P.M. • ESPN+



LAMAR at NORTH TEXAS



DATCU Stadium (30,100/FieldTurf)
Denton, Texas

Television

ESPN+
Justin Kutcher, LaDarrin McLane and Maria Triveliece

Radio

KEGL-FM 97.1
SiriusXM 380

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the eighth meeting between North Texas and Lamar in a series that began in 1951 ... The Mean Green holds a 5-2 series lead and has won the last three matchups, including a 59-14 win in Denton to start the 2017 season ... Lamar's last win in the series was a 10-6 decision in Beaumont in 1984.

LAMAR 0-0, 0-0 Southland

Head Coach

Pete Rossomando (Boston University '95)
13-10, third season at Lamar
79-59, 14th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

James Dixon
(409) 880-8329, james.dixon@lamar.edu

Notes

Lamar enters its third season under head coach Pete Rossomando, who has improved the Cardinals' win total in each of his first two years ... The Cardinals went 7-5 overall and 4-3 in the Southland Conference last year, registering back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1966-67 ... Lamar reached the FCS top-25 for the first time in program history last year, spending four weeks as a ranked team in 2024 ... The Cardinals return 14 starters and 45 letterwinners from last year, including five of their eight all-conference picks ... OL Kortez Winslo earned FCS Freshman All-America honors last season ... QB Robert Coleman has passed for 3,703 yards and 31 touchdowns in 22 career starts ... The defense will look to replace eight starters from last year.

NORTH TEXAS 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Eric Morris (Texas Tech '08)
11-14, third season at North Texas
35-32, seventh season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Doug Waters
(936) 240-6780, doug.waters@unt.edu

Notes

North Texas returns only 32 letterwinners from last year's team, which went 6-7 and fell to Texas State in the First Responder Bowl ... But hopes are high in Denton thanks to the return of nine defensive starters and a veteran presence augmented by the transfer portal ... North Texas has more than 40 transfers on this year's incoming group, including six defensive players who from Sam Houston along with new defensive coordinator Skyler Cassity ... Head coach Eric Morris has named QB Drew Mestemaker as the Opening Day starter ... Mestemaker famously made his first start since ninth grade in the First Responder Bowl last season and responded by throwing for 393 yards and two touchdowns ... The Mean Green is looking to register its first winning season since 2018.

WEEK 1 PREVIEW

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 8 P.M. • ESPN+



RICE at LOUISIANA

Cajun Field (25,000/Matrix Turf)
Lafayette, Louisiana

Television

ESPN+
TBD

Radio

Varsity Network
SiriusXM 383

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the seventh meeting between Rice and Louisiana in a series that began in 1921 ... Saturday's result will break a 3-3 tie in the series ... Rice was a 33-21 winner in Houston Sept. 17, 2022, which was the most recent matchup ... Louisiana took a 41-16 win in 1988 in the only previous meeting in Lafayette.

RICE 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Scott Abell (Longwood '92)
0-0, first season at Rice
86-53, 13th season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Chuck Pool
(832) 244-6476, cpool@rice.edu

Notes

Rice has turned to new head coach Scott Abell as the Owls look for their first winning season since 2014 ... Abell is no stranger to turning programs around – he inherited a Davidson program that had registered 10 consecutive losing seasons and had seven winning seasons in as many years there ... Abell has essentially rebuilt the Rice roster as the Owls return only seven starters and 36 letterwinners from a year ago ... Abell has named QB Chase Jenkins as the Week 1 starter ... Jenkins has seen limited action in his first two years at Rice, but was judged to be the best fit for Abell's "gun choice" up-tempo, option-based offense ... LB Ty Morris, who had a team-high 56 tackles with four sacks last year, leads the defense that held opponents to just 174 passing yards in 2024.

LOUISIANA 0-0, 0-0 Sun Belt

Head Coach

Michael Desormeaux (Louisiana '09)
23-18, fourth season

Information Contact

Matt Sullivan
(985) 981-0009, matt.sullivan@louisiana.edu

Notes

Louisiana enjoyed its fourth season with double-digit wins in the last six seasons – and its first under head coach Michael Desormeaux – last year as the Ragin' Cajuns went 10-4 and played in the Sun Belt Championship Game ... Louisiana fell to Marshall in the title game and dropped a 34-3 decision to TCU in the New Mexico Bowl as the Cajuns look to snap a two-game slide ... Louisiana has only seven returning starters from last year's team ... The starting signal-caller will be QB Walker Howard Jr., who was previously at LSU and Ole Miss, playing behind Jayden Daniels and Jaxson Dart, before transferring to Louisiana ... The defense will be led by DE Jordan Lawson, who had 5.5 sacks and was an All-Sun Belt second team choice last season ... Louisiana last faced a team from the American last season, when Tulane was a 41-33 winner.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30 • 8 P.M. • ESPN+



ABILENE CHRISTIAN at TULSA

H.A. Chapman Stadium (30,000/FieldTurf)
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Television

ESPN+
James Westling and Leger Douzable

Radio

KXBL-FM 99.5 (Tulsa flagship)
SiriusXM 381

THE GAME

Saturday's game will be the first meeting between Tulsa and Abilene Christian ... Tulsa has won its last four games against NCAA FCS opponents, most recently a 62-28 victory against Northwestern State last season ... Abilene Christian's last game against an FBS opponent was a heartbreaking 52-51 overtime loss at Texas Tech last year.

ABILENE CHRISTIAN 0-0, 0-0 UAC

Head Coach

Keith Patterson (East Central '86)
21-15, fourth season

Information Contact

Evan Nemec
(325) 899-7404, evan.nemec@acu.edu

Notes

Abilene Christian enjoyed a history-making 9-5 season in 2024 ... The Wildcats went 7-1 in the United Athletic Conference, winning their first Division I conference title in program history ... They additionally reached the NCAA FCS playoffs for the first time and won their first-round game (defeating Northern Arizona 24-0) before falling to North Dakota State in the second round ... Head coach Keith Patterson was named the UAC Coach of the Year in 2024 ... Abilene Christian enters the 2025 season ranked No. 16 in the FCS Stats Perform preseason poll, marking the Wildcats' first preseason national ranking ... The top player for ACU is LB Will Shaffer, a Stats Perform Preseason All-America first team pick who led the UAC and was eighth nationally with 123 tackles in 2024 ... DL Kaghen Roach earned third-team, preseason honors.

TULSA 0-0, 0-0 American

Head Coach

Tre Lamb (Tennessee Tech '13)
0-0, first season at Tulsa
27-25, sixth season as collegiate head coach

Information Contact

Travis Rae
(715) 205-0324, travis-rae@utulsa.edu

Notes

Tulsa looks to end a run of three consecutive sub-.500 seasons as Tre Lamb takes over as the Golden Hurricane head coach ... Lamb served as head coach at East Tennessee State in 2024 after spending four seasons in the same role at Gardner-Webb ... The Golden Hurricane looks to end a four-game slide that carried over from last season ... Lamb has 32 returning letterwinners and 10 returning starters from last year ... QB Kirk Francis emerged from a crowded quarterback room to take over as the starter last year and returns after throwing for 1,585 yards and nine touchdowns against six interceptions ... Special teams should be an area of strength for Tulsa, which returns K Seth Morgan (10-15 FG, 33-34 PAT) and P Angus Davies (43.6 ypp).

NATIONAL POLLS

Associated Press Poll

Preseason Poll			
	School	Record	Pts
1.	Texas (25)	0-0	1,552
2.	Penn State (23)	0-0	1,547
3.	Ohio State (11)	0-0	1,472
4.	Clemson (4)	0-0	1,398
5.	Georgia (1)	0-0	1,331
6.	Notre Dame	0-0	1,325
7.	Oregon (1)	0-0	1,236
8.	Alabama	0-0	1,179
9.	LSU	0-0	1,174
10.	Miami (Fla.)	0-0	889
11.	Arizona State	0-0	791
12.	Illinois	0-0	713
13.	South Carolina	0-0	667
14.	Michigan	0-0	662
15.	Florida	0-0	626
16.	SMU	0-0	565
17.	Kansas State	0-1	512
18.	Oklahoma	0-0	463
19.	Texas A&M	0-0	434
20.	Indiana	0-0	423
21.	Ole Miss	0-0	370
22.	Iowa State	1-0	309
23.	Texas Tech	0-0	274
24.	Tennessee	0-0	192
25.	Boise State	0-0	181

Receiving votes: BYU 156, Utah 144, Baylor 132, Louisville 90, USC 64, Georgia Tech 63, Missouri 33, **Tulane 23**, Nebraska 23, UNLV 21, Toledo 13, Auburn 10, James Madison 9, **Memphis 9**, Florida Satte 8, Duke 6, **Navy 5**, Liberty 5, Iowa 5, TCU 4, Pitt 3, **Army 2**, Louisiana 1, Colorado 1

US LBM Coaches' Poll

Preseason Poll			
	School	Record	Pts
1.	Texas (28)	0-0	1,606
2.	Ohio State (20)	0-0	1,565
3.	Penn State (14)	0-0	1,525
4.	Georgia (3)	0-0	1,466
5.	Notre Dame	0-0	1,360
6.	Clemson (2)	0-0	1,324
7.	Oregon	0-0	1,307
8.	Alabama	0-0	1,210
9.	LSU	0-0	1,056
10.	Miami (Fla.)	0-0	823
11.	Arizona State	0-0	806
12.	Illinois	0-0	734
13.	South Carolina	0-0	665
14.	Michigan	0-0	580
15.	Ole Miss	0-0	573
16.	SMU	0-0	555
17.	Florida	0-0	498
18.	Tennessee	0-0	492
19.	Indiana	0-0	460
20.	Kansas State	0-1	438
21.	Texas A&M	0-0	392
	Iowa State	1-0	392
23.	BYU	0-0	287
24.	Texas Tech	0-0	261
25.	Boise State	0-0	246

Receiving votes: Oklahoma 221, Missouri 142, Louisville 126, USC 116, Utah 86, Baylor 76, Auburn 50, Iowa 49, **Memphis 34**, **Army 33**, **Tulane 31**, Georgia Tech 27, TCU 24, Nebraska 19, Syracuse 16, Washington 15, **Navy 14**, Arkansas 14, Duke 12, Colorado 12, Minnesota 11, UNLV 8, Florida State 8, Kansas 6, Vanderbilt 3, Buffalo 1

College Football Playoff Rankings

Final 2024 Ranking		
	School	Record
1.	Oregon	13-0
2.	Georgia	11-2
3.	Texas	11-2
4.	Penn State	11-2
5.	Notre Dame	11-1
6.	Ohio State	10-2
7.	Tennessee	10-2
8.	Indiana	11-1
9.	Boise State	12-1
10.	SMU	11-2
11.	Alabama	9-3
12.	Arizona State	11-2
13.	Miami (Fla.)	10-2
14.	Ole Miss	9-3
15.	South Carolina	9-3
16.	Clemson	10-3
17.	BYU	10-2
18.	Iowa State	10-3
19.	Missouri	9-3
20.	Illinois	9-3
21.	Syracuse	9-3
22.	Army	11-1
23.	Colorado	9-3
24.	UNLV	10-3
25.	Memphis	10-2

WEEK-BY-WEEK IN THE NATIONAL POLLS

Below is a weekly look at each American Conference team's spot in the Associated Press and Coaches polls in 2025. Rankings are listed as AP/Coaches.

	UAB	Army	Charlotte	ECU	FAU	Memphis	Navy	UNT	Rice	USF	Temple	UTSA	Tulane	Tulsa
Preseason	-/-	rv/rv	-/-	-/-	-/-	rv/rv	rv/rv	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	rv/rv	-/-
Sept. 2														
Sept. 7														
Sept. 14														
Sept. 21														
Sept. 28														
Oct. 5														
Oct. 12														
Oct. 19														
Oct. 26														
Nov. 2														
Nov. 9														
Nov. 16														
Nov. 23														
Nov. 30														
Dec. 7														
Final														

THE 2025 SEASON

2025 HOME ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL [Capacity]	GP	TOTAL	AVG.	LARGEST CROWD
UAB (47,100)				
Army (38,000)				
Charlotte (15,314)				
East Carolina (50,000)				
Florida Atlantic (29,495)				
Memphis (58,862)				
Navy (34,000)				
North Texas (30,850)				
Rice (47,000)				
South Florida (65,897)				
Temple (68,532)				
UTSA (36,582)				
Tulane (30,000)				
Tulsa (30,000))			
2025 TOTALS				

2025 TOP PERFORMANCES

100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

Player, School, Year	2025 Career
Blake Horvath, Navy, Sr.	6
Byrum Brown, South Florida, Jr.	5
Robert Henry, UTSA, Sr.	2
Braxton Woodson, Navy, So.	2
Alex Tecza, Navy, Jr.	2
Hayden Reed, Army, Jr.	1
Noah Short, Army, Jr.	1
Zuberi Mobley, Florida Atlantic/Tulane, Jr.	1
Xavier Terrell, Florida Atlantic, So.	1
Eli Heidenreich, Navy, Jr.	1
Makenzie McGill II, North Texas	1
Sutton Smith, Memphis, Jr.	1
Joquez Smith, Temple, So.	1

300-YARD PASSING GAMES

Player, School, Year	2025 Career
Owen McCown, UTSA, So.	4
Byrum Brown, South Florida, Jr.	4
Jalen Kitna, UAB, Jr.	2
Katin Houser, East Carolina, So.	2
Drew Mestemaker, North Texas, Fr.	1
Bryce Archie, South Florida, So.	1
Kirk Francis, Tulsa, RFr.	1

100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES

Player, School, Year	2025 Career
Anthony Smith, East Carolina, Sr.	2
Eli Heidenreich, Navy, Jr.	2
Keshaun Singleton, South Florida, So.	2
David Amador, UTSA, So.	2
Corri Milliner, UAB, RFr.	1
Noah Short, Army, Jr.	1
Yannick Smith, East Carolina, Fr.	1
Omari Hayes, Florida Atlantic/Tulane, So.	1
Miles Coleman, North Texas, Fr.	1
Houston Thomas, UTSA, So.	1
Landon Sides, North Texas, So.	1

Note: career totals include games as an American player

THE RECORD BOOK

Most Rushing Yards	
1. Malcolm Perry, Navy vs. Army (12/14/19)	304
2. Jordan Cronkrite, South Florida at Massachusetts (10/6/18)	302
3. Malcolm Perry, Navy vs. SMU (11/11/17)	282
Most Rushing Touchdowns	
1. Ryquell Armstead, Temple at Houston (11/10/18)	6
2. Keenan Reynolds, Navy vs. ECU (9/19/15)	5
James Flanders, Tulsa at Memphis (10/29/16)	5
Zach Abey, Navy vs. Virginia (12/28/17)	5
Kevin Mensah, UConn at Massachusetts (10/26/19)	5
Jamale Carothers, Navy at Houston (11/30/19)	5
Bryson Daily, Army vs. East Carolina (10/19/24)	5
Longest Rush	
1. Ta'Zawn Henry, Houston at South Florida (11/6/21)	97 yds
Most Passing Yards	
1. Dillon Gabriel, UCF at Memphis (10/17/20)	601
2. Hayden Moore, Cincinnati vs. Memphis (9/24/15)	557
3. Garrett Gilbert, SMU vs. Temple (10/26/13)	538
Most Pass Completions	
1. Gardner Minshe, East Carolina at Houston (11/4/17)	52
2. Greg Ward Jr., Houston at Memphis (11/25/16)	47
3. Garrett Gilbert, SMU, vs. Rutgers (10/5/13)	45
Most Touchdown Passes	
1. Tanner Mordecai, SMU vs. Houston (11/5/22)	9
2. Paxton Lynch Memphis vs. SMU (11/28/15)	7
Riley Ferguson, Memphis at UConn (10/6/17)	7
Tanner Mordecai, SMU vs. Abilene Christian (9/4/21)	7
Clayton Tune, Houston at SMU (11/5/22)	7
Most Receiving Yards	
1. C.J. Johnson, East Carolina vs. Cincinnati (11/2/19)	283
2. Naiem Simmons, South Florida vs. Rice (9/23/23)	272
3. Trevon Brown, East Carolina vs. Cincinnati (11/18/17)	270
Most Receptions	
1. Zay Jones, East Carolina at South Carolina (9/7/16)	22
2. Zay Jones, East Carolina vs. UConn (10/29/16)	19
Tyler Sneed, East Carolina at SMU (11/9/19)	19
Most Touchdown Receptions	
1. Courtland Sutton, SMU vs. North Texas (9/9/17)	4
Anthony Miller, Memphis at UConn (10/6/17)	4
C.J. Johnson, East Carolina at South Florida (10/1/22)	4
Longest Reception	
1. Marquez Stevenson, Houston vs. SMU (10/24/19)	96 yds
Blair Conwright, North Texas vs. Tulsa (9/28/24)	96 yds
Most Points	
1. Keenan Reynolds, Navy vs. East Carolina (9/19/15)	30
James Flanders, Tulsa at Memphis (10/29/16)	30
Most Field Goals	
1. Riley Patterson, Memphis vs. Penn State (12/28/19)	6
Longest Field Goal	
1. Maddux Trujillo, Temple vs. Utah State (9/21/24)	64 yds
2. Maddux Trujillo, Temple at UConn (10/5/24)	60 yds
Longest Punt Return	
1. Calvin Austin III, Memphis vs. Mississippi State (9/18/21)	94 yds
Longest Kickoff Return	
1. 18 times, most recent	
Quinton Jackson, Rice at UConn (10/26/24)	100 yds
Most All-Purpose Yards	
1. Antonio Gibson, Memphis vs. SMU (11/2/19)	386
Most Tackles	
1. Tyler Matakovich, Temple at Idaho (9/28/13)	24
2. Bryson Armstrong, UCF at Navy (10/2/21)	22
3. Austin Robinson, Houston at Navy (10/20/18)	21
Most Tackles For Loss	
1. Derek Parish, Houston at Texas Tech (9/10/22)	6.5
2. Quincy Roche, Temple vs. Tulane (11/16/19)	6.0
3. Jimmori Robinson, UTSA vs. Temple (11/22/24)	5.5
4. Five times, most recent	
Chandler Martin, Memphis vs. Iowa State (12/29/23)	5.0
Most Sacks	
1. Derek Parish, Houston at Texas Tech (9/10/22)	4.5
2. Montese Overton, East Carolina at SMU (10/3/15)	4.0
Justin Lawler, SMU vs. UConn (9/30/17)	4.0
John Marshall, Navy at UCF (11/19/22)	4.0
Jimmori Robinson, UTSA vs. Temple (11/22/24)	4.0

THE 2025 SEASON

AWARD WINNERS

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Sept. 1
Sept. 8
Sept. 15
Sept. 22
Sept. 29
Oct. 6
Oct. 13
Oct. 20
Oct. 27
Nov. 3
Nov. 10
Nov. 17
Nov. 24
Dec. 1

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Sept. 1
Sept. 8
Sept. 15
Sept. 22
Sept. 29
Oct. 6
Oct. 13
Oct. 20
Oct. 27
Nov. 3
Nov. 10
Nov. 17
Nov. 24
Dec. 1

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Sept. 1
Sept. 8
Sept. 15
Sept. 22
Sept. 29
Oct. 6
Oct. 13
Oct. 20
Oct. 27
Nov. 3
Nov. 10
Nov. 17
Nov. 24
Dec. 1

CAREER WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

2 – Andrew Conrad (K, East Carolina); Blake Horvath (QB, Navy); Byrum Brown (QB, South Florida)

1 – Jonah Delange (K, UAB); Jalen Kitna (QB, UAB); Kalib Fortner (LB, Army); Matthew Rhodes (P/H, Army); Katin Houser (QB, East Carolina); Noah Perez (K, East Carolina); Logan Lupo (K/P, Florida Atlantic); Greg Desrosiers Jr. (RB, Memphis); Kourtlan Marsh (DB, Memphis); Jaxson Campbell (LB, Navy); Luke Pirris (LB, Navy); Quinton Jackson (RB/KR, Rice); Gerrod Henderson (DE, Tulane); Sam Howard (LB, Tulane); Seth Morgan (K, Tulsa)

2025 STATISTICAL RANKINGS

Team	OFFENSE				DEFENSE				KR	PR	Int.	Sacks	TFL	T/O
	Rush	Pass	Total	Score	Rush	Pass	Total	Score						
UAB														
Army														
Charlotte														
East Carolina														
Florida Atlantic														
Memphis														
Navy														
North Texas														
Rice														
South Florida														
Temple														
UTSA														
Tulane														
Tulsa														

AGAINST THE CONFERENCES

FBS (0-0)
ACC (0-0)
East Carolina at NC State (8/28)
North Carolina at Charlotte (9/6)
South Florida at Miami (Fla.) (9/13)
Ade at Tulane (9/13)
Temple at Georgia Tech (9/20)

BIG 12 (0-0)
Army at Kansas State (9/6)
Houston at Rice (9/6)
Tulsa at Oklahoma State (9/19)
BYU at East Carolina (9/20)

BIG TEN (0-0)
Florida Atlantic at Maryland (8/30)
Northwestern at Tulane (8/30)

CONFERENCE USA (0-0)
Tulsa at New Mexico State (9/6)
Florida Atlantic at FIU (9/13)

MAC (0-0)
Temple at Massachusetts (8/30)
North Texas at Western Michigan (9/6)
Akron at UAB (9/13)

MOUNTAIN WEST (0-0)
Boise State at South Florida (8/28)
UTSA at Colorado State (9/20)
Air Force at Navy (10/4)
Army at Air Force (11/1)

PAC-12 (0-0)
Washington State at North Texas (9/13)
Oregon State at Tulsa (11/15)

SEC (0-0)
UTSA at Texas A&M (8/30)
South Florida at Florida (9/6)
Oklahoma at Temple (9/13)
UAB at Tennessee (9/20)
Arkansas at Memphis (9/20)
Tulane at Ole Miss (9/20)

SUN BELT (0-0)
Appalachian State vs. Charlotte (8/29)
Rice at Louisiana (8/30)
Texas State at UTSA (9/6)
Memphis at Georgia State (9/6)
Tulane at South Alabama (9/6)
Memphis at Troy (9/13)
East Carolina at Coastal Carolina (9/13)
South Alabama at North Texas (9/27)

FBS INDEPENDENTS (0-0)
UConn at Rice (10/25)
UAB at UConn (11/1)
Navy at Notre Dame (11/8)
UConn at Florida Atlantic (11/22)

FCS (0-0)
CAA (0-0)
Campbell at East Carolina (9/6)
Monmouth at Charlotte (9/13)

MEAC (0-0)
Howard at Temple (9/6)
South Carolina State at South Florida (9/20)

SOUTHERN (0-0)
VMI at Navy (8/30)
Chattanooga at Memphis (8/30)

SOUTHLAND (0-0)
Lamar at North Texas (8/30)
Incarnate Word at UTSA (9/13)

SWAC (0-0)
Alabama State at UAB (8/28)
Florida A&M at Florida Atlantic (9/6)
Prairie View A&M at Rice (9/13)

UNITED (0-0)
Tarleton State at Army (8/29)
Abilene Christian at Tulsa (8/30)

TOTAL NONCONFERENCE RECORDS	
All Games	0-0
FBS Opponents	0-0
FCS Opponents.....	0-0
AP Top 25	0-0
USA Today Top 25.....	0-0
Bowl Games	0-0

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

The Bracket

The format of the College Football Playoff is built on a 12-team bracket. The five highest-ranked conference champions will earn a place in the Playoff, but will no longer include a bye for the four highest-ranked champions.

The 12-team bracket will now be seeded directly based on the final ranking of the CFP Selection Committee, with the four highest-ranked teams receiving a first-round bye. If one or more of the five highest-ranked conference champions are ranked outside the top 12, that team or teams would move up to the 12th seed, 11th seed, etc., based on the number of conference champions outside the top 12.

- The 12 participating teams will be the five conference champions ranked highest by the CFP selection committee, plus the next seven highest-ranked teams.
- The ranking of the teams will continue to be done by a selection committee.
- The eight teams seeded No. 5-12 will play in a first round with the higher seeds hosting the lower seeds either on campus or at other sites designated by the higher-seeded institution (No. 12 at No. 5, No. 11 at No. 6, No. 10 at No. 7 and No. 9 at No. 8).
- The four highest-ranked teams will be assigned to Playoff Quarterfinals bowls on Selection Day in ranking order and in consideration of current contract bowl relationships (for example: if the highest-ranked team is from the Big Ten, that team would be assigned to the Rose Bowl Game).
- The highest seed will receive preferential placement for the Playoff Semifinal bowl assignment.
- All 11 games will be under the CFP umbrella with the administrative policies determined by the CFP.

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 Chris Ault, Troy Dannen, Mark Dantonio, Jeff Long, Ivan Maisel, Chris Massaro, Randall McDaniel, Mack Rhoades (chair), Mike Riley, David Saylor, Wesley Walls, Carla Williams and Hunter Yurachek



**COLLEGE FOOTBALL
PLAYOFF**

2025-26

College Football Playoff Schedule

FIRST ROUND

Friday, December 19 and Saturday, December 20, 2025
Campus sites

No. 12 seed at No. 5 seed
No. 9 seed at No. 8 seed
No. 11 seed at No. 6 seed
No. 10 seed at No. 7 seed

QUARTERFINALS

Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic

Wednesday, December 31, 2025
7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
AT&T Stadium | Arlington, Texas

Capital One Orange Bowl

Thursday, January 1, 2026
Noon ET | ESPN
Hard Rock Stadium | Miami Gardens, Florida

Rose Bowl Game presented by Prudential

Thursday, January 1, 2026
4 p.m. ET | ESPN
Rose Bowl Stadium | Pasadena, California

Allstate Sugar Bowl

Thursday, January 1, 2026
8 p.m. ET | ESPN
Caesars Superdome | New Orleans, Louisiana

SEMIFINALS

Vrbo Fiesta Bowl

Thursday, January 8, 2026
7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
State Farm Stadium | Glendale, Arizona

Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl

Friday, January 9, 2026
7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
Mercedes-Benz Stadium | Atlanta, Georgia

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Monday, January 19, 2026
Hard Rock Stadium | Miami Gardens, Florida

BOWL PARTNERSHIPS

The American Bowl Lineup

American Conference teams are guaranteed at least eight bowl appearances in 2025 as part of the conference's postseason lineup, which began in the 2020 season.

The American champion would play in the College Football Playoff if it is ranked among the five highest-ranked conference champions by the CFP selection committee.

As part of the current bowl cycle, The American will annually send teams to the Go Bowling Military Bowl in Annapolis, Maryland, and the Wasabi Fenway Bowl in Boston, facing opponents from the Atlantic Coast Conference in those matchups. In 2025, The American will send a team to the Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl and the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl.

In the 2025 season, The American will additionally fill four spots from a group of eight bowls: the Birmingham Bowl, the StaffDNA Cure Bowl, the Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl, the Boca Raton Bowl, the Scooter's Coffee Frisco Bowl, the SERVPRO First Responder Bowl, the Isleta New Mexico Bowl and the Myrtle Beach Bowl.

Aside the from the eight primary bowl affiliations in place for the 2025, The American has secondary agreements with the AutoZone Liberty Bowl and the Quick Lane Bowl.



2025 Bowl Affiliations



Go Bowling Military Bowl
Dec. 27, 2025 | 11 a.m. ET | ESPN
Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium
Annapolis, Maryland



Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl
Jan. 2, 2026 | 1 p.m. ET | ESPN
Amon G. Carter Stadium
Fort Worth, Texas



Wasabi Fenway Bowl
Dec. 27, 2025 | 2:15 p.m. ET | ESPN
Fenway Park
Boston, Massachusetts



Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl
Dec. 24, 2025 | 8 p.m. ET | ESPN
Clarence T.C. Ching Athletics Complex
Honolulu, Hawaii

Four Selections From



Scooter's Coffee Frisco Bowl
Dec. 23, 2025 | 9 p.m. ET | ESPN
Toyota Stadium
Frisco, Texas



Boca Raton Bowl
Dec. 23, 2025 | 2 p.m. ET | ESPN
Flagler Credit Union Stadium
Boca Raton, Florida



StaffDNA Cure Bowl
Dec. 17, 2025 | 5 p.m. ET | ESPN
Camping World Stadium
Orlando, Florida



Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl
Dec. 19, 2025 | 3:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
Raymond James Stadium
Tampa, Florida



Myrtle Beach Bowl
Dec. 19, 2025 | Noon ET | ESPN
Brooks Stadium
Conway, South Carolina



Isleta New Mexico Bowl
Dec. 27, 2025 | 5:45 p.m. ET | ESPN
University Stadium
Albuquerque, New Mexico



Birmingham Bowl
Dec. 29, 2025 | 2 p.m. ET | ESPN
Protective Stadium
Birmingham, Alabama



SERVPRO First Responder Bowl
Dec. 26, 2025 | 8 p.m. ET | ESPN
Gerald J. Ford Stadium
Dallas, Texas

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TheAmerican.org

The official website of the American features up-to-date information on all facets of the league and serves as the central point of distribution for live video and statistics of conference games.

collegepressbox

CollegePressBox is the official media website for American football and the media home for information on every Division I team and conference. Access and download weekly game notes, quotes, statistics, media guides, photos and more for the conference and each of its 14 member schools throughout the season.

stat broadcast

The American has partnered with StatBroadcast to provide media members with live, real-time statistics of all conference-controlled football games.

American Conference Media Stats

aac.statbroadcast.com



2025 RESULTS AND SCHEDULES

UAB (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	UAB	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/28	Alabama State (8:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/6	at Navy * (9:30 p.m., CBSSN)													
9/13	Akron (8:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/20	at Tennessee (12:45 p.m., SEC Network)													
10/4	Army *													
10/11	at Florida Atlantic *													
10/18	Memphis *													
11/1	at UConn													
11/8	at Rice *													
11/15	North Texas *													
11/22	South Florida *													
11/29	at Tulsa *													

ARMY (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Army	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/29	Tarleton State (6 p.m., CBSSN)													
9/6	at Kansas State (7 p.m., ESPN)													
9/20	North Texas * (Noon, CBSSN)													
9/25	at East Carolina * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													
10/4	at UAB *													
10/11	Charlotte * (Noon, CBSSN)													
10/18	at Tulane *													
11/1	at Air Force (Noon, CBS)													
11/8	Temple * (Noon, CBSSN)													
11/22	Tulsa * (Noon, CBSSN)													
11/28 *	at UTSA *													
12/13	vs. Navy ¹ (3 p.m., CBS)													

* or 11/29

¹ MGT Bank Stadium; Baltimore, Maryland

CHARLOTTE (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	CLT	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO		Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/29	Appalachian State ¹ (7 p.m., ESPN)														
9/6	North Carolina (7 p.m., ESPN+)														
9/13	Monmouth (6 p.m., ESPN+)														
9/18	Rice * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)														
10/3	at South Florida * (7 p.m., ESPN2)														
10/11	at Army * (Noon, CBSN)														
10/18	Temple *														
10/24	North Texas * (7 p.m., ESPN2)														
11/8	at East Carolina *														
11/15	UTSA *														
11/22	at Georgia (12:45 p.m., SEC Network)														
11/29	at Tulane *														

¹ Bank of America Stadium; Charlotte, North Carolina

EAST CAROLINA (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	ECU	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/28	at NC State (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													
9/6	Campbell (60 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	at Coastal Carolina (7:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/20	BYU													
9/25	Army * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													
10/9	at Tulane * (7:30/8 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
10/16	Tulsa * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													
11/1	at Temple *													
11/8	Charlotte *													
11/15	Memphis *													
11/22	at UTSA *													
11/29	at Florida Atlantic *													

2025 RESULTS AND SCHEDULES

FLORIDA ATLANTIC (0-0, 0-0 American)														
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Rank		Offense					Defense			
				FAU	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	at Maryland <small>(Noon, BTN)</small>													
9/6	Florida A&M <small>(6 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/13	at FIU <small>(6 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/27	Memphis *													
10/4	at Rice *													
10/11	UAB *													
10/18	at South Florida *													
10/25	at Navy * <small>(3:30 p.m., CBSSN)</small>													
11/8	Tulsa *													
11/15	at Tulane *													
11/22	UConn													
11/29	East Carolina *													

MEMPHIS (0-0, 0-0 American)				Rank		Offense					Defense			
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Mem	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	Chattanooga (4:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/6	at Georgia State (7 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	at Troy (Noon, ESPN2)													
9/20	Arkansas													
9/27	at Florida Atlantic *													
10/4	Tulsa *													
10/18	at UAB *													
10/25	South Florida *													
10/31	at Rice * (7 p.m., ESPN2)													
11/7	Tulane * (9 p.m., ESPN)													
11/15	at East Carolina *													
11/27	Navy * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													

NAVY				Rank		Offense					Defense			
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Navy	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	VMI <small>(Noon, CBSSN)</small>													
9/6	UAB * <small>(3:30 p.m., CBSSN)</small>													
9/13	at Tulsa * <small>(8 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/27	Rice * <small>(3:30 p.m., CBSSN)</small>													
10/4	Air Force <small>(Noon, CBS)</small>													
10/11	at Temple *													
10/25	Florida Atlantic * <small>(3:30 p.m., CBSSN)</small>													
11/1	at North Texas *													
11/8	at Notre Dame <small>(7:30 p.m., NBC)</small>													
11/15	South Florida * <small>(Noon, ESPN Network TBD)</small>													
11/27	at Memphis * <small>(7:30 p.m., ESPN)</small>													
12/13	vs. Army ¹ <small>(3 p.m., CBS)</small>													

¹ MGT Bank Stadium; Baltimore, Maryland

NORTH TEXAS (0-0, 0-0 American)				Rank		Offense					Defense			
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	UNT	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	Lamar (8 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/6	at Western Michigan (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	Washington State (3:30 p.m., ESPN2)													
9/20	at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)													
9/27	South Alabama													
10/10	South Florida * (7:30 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
10/18	UTSA *													
10/24	at Charlotte * (7 p.m., ESPN2)													
11/1	Navy *													
11/15	at UAB *													
11/22	at Rice *													
11/28 *	Temple *													

* or 11/29

2025 RESULTS AND SCHEDULES

RICE (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Rank		Offense					Defense			
				Rice	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	at Louisiana (8 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/6	Houston (7 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	Prairie View A&M (7 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/18	at Charlotte * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)													
9/27	at Navy * (3:30 p.m., CBSSN)													
10/4	Florida Atlantic *													
10/11	at UTSA *													
10/25	UConn													
10/31	Memphis * (7 p.m., ESPN2)													
11/8	UAB *													
11/22	North Texas *													
11/29	at South Florida *													

SOUTH FLORIDA (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Rank		Offense					Defense			
				USF	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/28	Boise State (5:30 p.m., ESPN)													
9/6	at Florida (4:15 p.m., SEC Network)													
9/13	at Miami (Fla.) (4:30 p.m., The CW)													
9/20	South Carolina State (Noon, ESPN+)													
10/3	Charlotte * (7 p.m., ESPN2)													
10/10	at North Texas * (7:30 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
10/18	Florida Atlantic *													
10/25	at Memphis *													
11/6	UTSA * (7:30/8 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
11/15	at Navy * (Noon, ESPN Network TBD)													
11/22	at UAB *													
11/29	Rice *													

TEMPLE (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Rank		Offense					Defense			
				Temple	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	at Massachusetts (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/6	Howard (2 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	Oklahoma (Noon, ESPN2)													
9/20	at Georgia Tech													
10/4	UTSA *													
10/11	Navy *													
10/18	at Charlotte *													
10/25	at Tulsa *													
11/1	East Carolina *													
11/8	at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)													
11/22	Tulane *													
11/28 +	at North Texas *													

+ or 11/29

UTSA (0-0, 0-0 American)

Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Rank		Offense					Defense			
				UTSA	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	at Texas A&M (7 p.m., ESPN)													
9/6	Texas State (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/13	Incarnate Word (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)													
9/20	at Colorado State													
10/4	at Temple *													
10/11	Rice *													
10/18	at North Texas *													
10/30	Tulane * (7:30 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
11/6	at South Florida * (7:30/8 p.m., ESPN/ESPN2)													
11/15	at Charlotte *													
11/22	East Carolina *													
11/28 +	Army *													

+ or 11/29

2025 RESULTS AND SCHEDULES

TULANE (0-0, 0-0 American)				Rank		Offense					Defense			
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Tulane	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	Northwestern <small>(Noon, ESPN)</small>													
9/6	at South Alabama													
9/13	Duke													
9/20	at Ole Miss													
9/27	at Tulsa *													
10/9	East Carolina *													
10/18	Army *													
10/30	at UTSA *													
11/7	at Memphis *													
11/15	Florida Atlantic *													
11/22	at Temple *													
11/29	Charlotte *													

TULSA (0-0, 0-0 American)			Rank		Offense					Defense				
Date	Opponent	Result	Attend.	Tulsa	Opp	Rush	Pass	Total	Passing	TO	Rush	Pass	Total	TO
8/30	Abilene Christian <small>(8 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/6	at New Mexico State <small>(9 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/13	Navy * <small>(8 p.m., ESPN+)</small>													
9/19	at Oklahoma State <small>(7 p.m., ESPN)</small>													
9/27	Tulane *													
10/4	at Memphis *													
10/16	at East Carolina * <small>(7:30 p.m., ESPN)</small>													
10/25	Temple *													
11/8	at Florida Atlantic *													
11/15	Oregon State													
11/22	at Army * <small>(Noon, CBSSN)</small>													
11/29	UAB *													

2025 COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 28

Boise State at South Florida (5:30 p.m., ESPN)
East Carolina at NC State (7 p.m., ACC Network)
Alabama State at UAB (8:30 p.m., ESPN+)

Friday, August 29

Tarleton State at Army (6 p.m., CBSSN)
Appalachian State vs. Charlotte ¹ (7 p.m., ESPNU)

Saturday, August 30

Florida Atlantic at Maryland (Noon, Big Ten Network)
VMI at Navy (Noon, CBSSN)
Northwestern at Tulane (Noon, ESPNU)
Temple at Massachusetts (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)
Chattanooga at Memphis (4:30 p.m., ESPN+)
UTSA at Texas A&M (7 p.m., ESPN)
Lamar at North Texas (8 p.m., ESPN+)
Rice at Louisiana (8 p.m., ESPN+)
Abilene Christian at Tulsa (8 p.m., ESPN+)

Saturday, September 6

Howard at Temple (2 p.m., ESPN+)
UAB at Navy * (3:30 p.m., CBSSN)
North Texas at Western Michigan (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)
Texas State at UTSA (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)
South Florida at Florida (4:15 p.m., SEC Network)
Campbell at East Carolina (6 p.m., ESPN+)
Florida A&M at Florida Atlantic (6 p.m., ESPN+)
Army at Kansas State (7 p.m., ESPN)
North Carolina at Charlotte (7 p.m., ESPN+)
Memphis at Georgia State (7 p.m., ESPN+)
Houston at Rice (7 p.m., ESPN+)
Tulane at South Alabama (7 p.m., ESPN+)
Tulsa at New Mexico State (9 p.m., ESPN+)

Saturday, September 13

Memphis at Troy (Noon, ESPNU)
Oklahoma at Temple (Noon, ESPN2)
Washington State at North Texas (3:30 p.m., ESPNU)
Incarnate Word at UTSA (3:30 p.m., ESPN+)
South Florida at Miami (Fla.) (4:30 p.m., CW)
Monmouth at Charlotte (6 p.m., ESPN+)
Florida Atlantic at FIU (6 p.m., ESPN+)
Prairie View A&M at Rice (7 p.m., ESPN+)
East Carolina at Coastal Carolina (7:30 p.m., ESPN+)
Navy at Tulsa * (8 p.m., ESPN+)
Duke at Tulane (8 p.m., ESPN2)
Akron at UAB (8:30 p.m., ESPN+)

Thursday, September 18

Rice at Charlotte * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)

Friday, September 19

Tulsa at Oklahoma State (7 p.m., ESPN)

Saturday, September 20

North Texas at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)
South Carolina State at South Florida (Noon, ESPN+)
UAB at Tennessee (12:45 p.m., SEC Network)
BYU at East Carolina
Arkansas at Memphis
Temple at Georgia Tech
UTSA at Colorado State (TBD, Fox Networks)
Tulane at Ole Miss

Thursday, September 25

Army at East Carolina * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)

Saturday, September 27

Rice at Navy * (3:30 p.m., CBSSN)
Memphis at Florida Atlantic *
South Alabama at North Texas
Tulane at Tulsa *

Friday, October 3

Charlotte at South Florida * (7 p.m., ESPN2)

Saturday, October 4

Air Force at Navy (Noon, CBS)
Army at UAB *
Florida Atlantic at Rice *
Tulsa at Memphis *
UTSA at Temple *

Thursday, October 9

East Carolina at Tulane * (7:30 or 8 p.m., ESPN or ESPN2)

Friday, October 10

South Florida at North Texas * (7:30 p.m., ESPN2)

Saturday, October 11

Charlotte at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)
UAB at Florida Atlantic *
Navy at Temple *
Rice at UTSA *

Thursday, October 16

Tulsa at East Carolina * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)

Saturday, October 18

Memphis at UAB *
Army at Tulane *
Temple at Charlotte *
Florida Atlantic at South Florida *
UTSA at North Texas *

Friday, October 24

North Texas at Charlotte * (7 p.m., ESPN2)

Saturday, October 25

Florida Atlantic at Navy * (3:30 p.m., CBSSN)
South Florida at Memphis
UConn at Rice
Temple at Tulsa *

Thursday, October 30

Tulane at UTSA * (7:30 p.m., ESPN or ESPN2)

Friday, October 31

Memphis at Rice * (7 p.m., ESPN2)

Saturday, November 1

Army at Air Force (Noon, CBS)
UAB at UConn
East Carolina at Temple *
Navy at North Texas *

Thursday, November 6

UTSA at South Florida * (7:30 or 8 p.m., ESPN or ESPN2)

Friday, November 7

Tulane at Memphis * (9 p.m., ESPN)

Saturday, November 8

Temple at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)
Navy at Notre Dame (7:30 p.m., NBC)
UAB at Rice *
Charlotte at East Carolina *
Tulsa at Florida Atlantic *

Saturday, November 15

South Florida at Navy * (Noon, ESPN Network TBD)
North Texas at UAB *
UTSA at Charlotte *
Memphis at East Carolina *
Florida Atlantic at Tulane *
Oregon State at Tulsa

Saturday, November 22

Tulsa at Army * (Noon, CBSSN)
Charlotte at Georgia (12:45 p.m., SEC Network)
South Florida at UAB *
East Carolina at UTSA *
UConn at Florida Atlantic
North Texas at Rice *
Tulane at Temple *

Thursday, November 27

Navy at Memphis * (7:30 p.m., ESPN)

Friday, November 28 or

Saturday, November 29

Army at UTSA *
Temple at North Texas *

Saturday, November 29

UAB at Tulsa *
Charlotte at Tulane *
East Carolina at Florida Atlantic *
Rice at South Florida *

Friday, December 5

American Championship (8 p.m., ABC)

Saturday, December 13

Army vs. Navy ² (3 p.m., CBS)

* American Conference game

¹ Bank of America Stadium; Charlotte, N.C.

² MGT Bank Stadium; Baltimore, Md.

All times Eastern

All dates and times subject to change