



2026 STANDINGS

TEAM	ACC		OVERALL	
	W-L	PCT.	W-L	PCT.
Miami	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000
SMU	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000
Virginia	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000
California	1-0	1.000	1-1	.500
Duke	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
North Carolina	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
Pitt	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
Virginia Tech	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
Wake Forest	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
Boston College	0-0	.000	1-1	.500
Clemson	0-0	.000	1-1	.500
Louisville	0-0	.000	1-1	.500
Georgia Tech	0-0	.000	0-2	.000
Florida State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500
NC State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500
Stanford	0-1	.000	1-1	.500
Syracuse	0-1	.000	1-1	.500

THIS WEEK * WEEK 3

FEATURED GAMES

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18
7:30 p.m. ET



#5 MIAMI
AT
WAKE FOREST

ESPN
ACC FOOTBALL FRIDAYS

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19
3:30 P.M. ET



FLORIDA STATE
AT
#10 ALABAMA

ABC
ACC VS. SEC

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19
3:30 P.M. ET



#16 SMU
AT
#23 LOUISVILLE

ESPN2
TOP-25 ACC MATCHUP

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19
7:30 P.M. ET



WEST VIRGINIA
AT
#25 VIRGINIA

ACCN
DUKE'S MAYO CLASSIC

2026 SCHEDULE * WEEK 3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Mercer at Georgia Tech Noon ET (ACCN)
 North Carolina at Clemson * Noon ET (ESPN)
 NC State at Vanderbilt 12:45 p.m. ET (SECN)
 Maine at Boston College 2 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
 Wagner at California 3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
 Florida State at #10 Alabama 3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
 #16 SMU at #23 Louisville * 3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
 Stanford at Duke * 4 p.m. ET (The CW)
 West Virginia vs. #25 Virginia 7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
 Virginia Tech at Maryland 7:30 p.m. ET (FS1)

* conference game

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		OVERALL		POINTS						VS. AP	
	W-L	PCT.	W-L	PCT.	FOR	OPP	HOME	AWAY	NEUT	STREAK	TOP 10	VS. AP TOP 25
Miami	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000	122	13	1-0	1-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
SMU	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000	83	34	1-0	1-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
Virginia	1-0	1.000	2-0	1.000	93	11	2-0	0-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
California	1-0	1.000	1-1	.500	45	63	0-1	1-0	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Duke	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000	48	30	1-0	1-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
North Carolina	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000	50	13	1-0	0-0	1-0	W2	0-0	0-0
Pitt	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000	71	21	2-0	0-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
Virginia Tech	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000	117	24	2-0	0-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
Wake Forest	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000	76	52	1-0	1-0	0-0	W2	0-0	0-0
Boston College	0-0	.000	1-1	.500	43	55	1-0	0-1	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Clemson	0-0	.000	1-1	.500	32	58	1-0	0-1	0-0	W1	0-0	0-1
Louisville	0-0	.000	1-1	.500	97	54	1-0	0-0	0-1	W1	0-1	0-1
Georgia Tech	0-0	.000	0-2	.000	37	59	0-2	0-0	0-0	L2	0-0	0-1
Florida State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	58	44	1-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-0	0-1
NC State	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	81	34	1-0	0-1	0-0	W1	0-0	0-0
Stanford	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	43	72	1-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-1	0-1
Syracuse	0-1	.000	1-1	.500	84	24	1-1	0-0	0-0	L1	0-0	0-0

ACC IN THE POLLS

2026 ASSOCIATED PRESS TOP 25 POLL

September 13, 2026

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	Texas (55)	1678
2.	Georgia (3)	1551
3.	Notre Dame (1)	1531
4.	Indiana (3)	1466
5.	Miami (4)	1452
6.	Ohio State	1407
7.	LSU (1)	1334
8.	Ole Miss	1216
9.	Texas A&M	1165
10.	Alabama	1068
11.	BYU	966
12.	USC	944
13.	Texas Tech	910
14.	Penn State	692
15.	Tennessee	676
16.	SMU	636
17.	Utah	558
18.	Iowa	391
19.	Michigan	382
20.	Missouri	344
21.	Oregon	324
22.	Houston	292
23.	Louisville	244
24.	Oklahoma	222
25.	Virginia	182

(first-place votes in parentheses)

Others Receiving Votes:

Washington 172; Florida 83; Boise State 57; Oklahoma State 36; Western Michigan 35; Tulsa 18; Mississippi State 17; South Carolina 15; **Virginia Tech 11**; UCLA 9; James Madison 6; Arizona 5; North Dakota State 3; **Pittsburgh 1**; Kansas State 1.

2026 US LBM COACHES POLL TOP 25

September 13, 2026

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	Texas (42)	1804
2.	Georgia (15)	1732
3.	Notre Dame (4)	1639
4.	Indiana (10)	1611
5.	Miami (2)	1549
6.	Ohio State	1480
7.	LSU (1)	1405
8.	Texas A&M	1311
9.	Ole Miss	1228
10.	Alabama	1206
11.	USC	1023
12.	Texas Tech	977
13.	BYU	975
14.	Tennessee	679
15.	Penn State	676
16.	SMU	605
17.	Utah	590
18.	Oregon	564
19.	Michigan	426
20.	Iowa	423
21.	Oklahoma	395
22.	Missouri	340
23.	Houston	290
24.	Washington	268
25.	Virginia	249

(first-place votes in parentheses)

Others Receiving Votes:

Florida 183; **Louisville 160**; Boise State 44; Kansas State 24; South Carolina 23; Mississippi State 20; Vanderbilt 19; **Duke 19**; Nebraska 18; **Pittsburgh 16**; Oklahoma State 16; Auburn 15; Western Michigan 10; **Virginia Tech 9**; UCLA 8; Tulsa 7; North Dakota State 5; New Mexico 4; **Clemson 3**; **Wake Forest 1**; Arizona 1;

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF RANKINGS

First Rankings * November 3, 2026

Rk.	Team	Record
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ACC NOTES

FOUR TEAMS RANKED IN LATEST AP TOP 25 POLL

■ The ACC has six programs receiving recognition in the most recent AP Top 25 Poll when combining ranked teams and those receiving votes: Miami, SMU, Louisville, Virginia, Virginia Tech and Pitt.

■ Four ACC teams are ranked in the most recent 2026 AP Top 25 Poll, led by No. 5 Miami, followed by No. 16 SMU, No. 23 Louisville and No. 25 Virginia. Two additional ACC teams received votes in Virginia Tech (11) and Pitt (1).

■ Three of the ACC's four ranked teams climbed in this week's AP Top 25, highlighted by Miami jumping two spots to No. 5, its highest ranking of the season. SMU rose to No. 16 and Louisville moved to No. 23, while Virginia held steady at No. 25.

ACC IN THE MOST RECENT USA TODAY COACHES POLL

■ Nine ACC programs received votes in this week's 2026 US LBM Coaches Poll (Sept. 13), three teams in the Top 25 and six others receiving votes.

■ Three ACC teams were ranked in the Coaches Top 25 – No. 5 Miami, No. 16 SMU and No. 25 Virginia – while six additional teams received votes: Louisville, Duke, Pitt, Virginia Tech, Clemson and Wake Forest.

■ 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 coaches poll, marking the third straight poll when including the preseason 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	<i>Boston College</i>	11
ACC	<i>Georgia Tech</i>	11
ACC	<i>Louisville</i>	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.

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 four conference games through Week 2 of the season, twice as many as any other conference.

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
Sept. 12	California at Syracuse	CAL, 21-18

■ The ACC will have five conference games kick off in Week 3, highlighted by a top-25 showdown between No. 16 SMU and No. 23 Louisville.

ACC Games in Week 3

Date	Matchup	Time (ET)/Network
Sept. 17	Syracuse at Pitt	7:30 p.m./ESPN
Sept. 18	#5 Miami at Wake Forest	7:30 p.m./ESPN
Sept. 19	North Carolina at Clemson	Noon/ESPN
Sept. 19	#16 SMU at #23 Louisville	3:30 p.m./ESPN2
Sept. 19	Stanford at Duke	4 p.m./The CW



ACC NOTES

EIGHT ACC TEAMS REMAIN UNBEATEN

■ The ACC has eight undefeated teams entering Week 3, with all eight at 2-0 to start the year.

ACC Teams Unbeaten Entering Week 3

Team	Record
Duke	2-0
Miami	2-0
North Carolina	2-0
Pitt	2-0
SMU	2-0
Virginia	2-0
Virginia Tech	2-0
Wake Forest	2-0

ACC OFFENSES LIGHTING UP THE SCOREBOARD

■ Eight different ACC teams have scored at least 56 points in a game this season, tied with the Big 12 for the most among all FBS conferences. *(Stats Perform)*

■ In Week 2 alone, five ACC teams scored at least 50 points, and three reached 70-plus points.

■ The ACC has already surpassed its total from the entire 2025 season, when six different conference teams reached the 56-point mark in a game. *(Stats Perform)*

■ Nearly half of the ACC's 17 football programs (8) have already produced a 56-point performance through the opening weeks of the season.

ACC Teams with 56 or More Points in a Game this Year

Team (Opponent)	Points
Syracuse (vs. New Hampshire)	66
Pitt (vs. Miami (OH))	59
Virginia Tech (vs. VMI)	73
Miami (vs. Florida A&M)	77
Virginia (vs. Norfolk State)	59
Louisville (vs. Villanova)	59
NC State (vs. Richmond)	73
SMU (vs. UC Davis)	56

■ The ACC has four teams that rank in the top 25 in FBS in scoring, with each averaging over 46.0 points per game.

ACC Teams in the Top 25 in Scoring Offense

Rank	Team	PPG
2.	Miami	61.0
4.	Virginia Tech	58.5
17.	Louisville	48.5
T21.	Virginia	46.5

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 (10), 400-yard passing games (3) and 100-yard rushing games (13).

■ There have been 10 individual 300-yard passing performances by an ACC quarterback this season, the most by any FBS conference. Two of the six QBs with multiple 300-yard passing games in 2026 are from the ACC (SMU's Kevin Jennings and Louisville's Lincoln Kienholz). *(Stats Perform)*

of 300-Yard Passing Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
ACC	10
Big 12	7
Big Ten	6
CUSA	6
SEC	5
Pac-12	4
American	3
Mountain West	2
Sun Belt	2
MAC	0

■ The ACC is the only FBS conference with multiple 400-yard passing performances this season – with all three coming from three different players.

QB's with 400+ Passing Yards in a Game in 2026

Quarterback (Team) - Conference	Passing Yards
Mason Heintschel (Pitt) - ACC	453
Kevin Jennings (SMU) - ACC	430
Braden Atkinson (Oregon State) - Pac-12	413
Darian Mensah (Miami) - ACC	401

■ ACC players have posted 13 100-yard rushing performances, the most among all FBS conferences.

of 100-Yard Rushing Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
ACC	13
Big 12	12
SEC	12
American	11
Big Ten	11
Mountain West	6
CUSA	5
Pac-12	4
Sun Belt	4
MAC	2

■ The ACC is the only Power Four conference to produce a 200-yard rushing performance this season, accounting for one of just four such performances across the FBS.

of 200-Yard Rushing Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
American	2
ACC	1
Pac-12	1

■ The ACC is the only Power Four conference to produce a 200-yard receiving performance this season, accounting for one of just three such performances across the FBS.

of 200-Yard Receiving Games by Conference

Conference	# of Games
ACC	1
American	1
Pac-12	1

ACC STANDOUTS SETTING THE NATIONAL PACE

■ ACC players sit in the top three of the FBS in 19 different individual statistical categories through Week 2, showcasing impact across all three phases of the game.

■ ACC student-athletes rank in the top three in the nation in rushing yards per game, rushing yards, passing yards per game, passing efficiency, passing touchdowns, total offense per game, receiving yards per game and total receiving yards on offense.

■ The league also boasts the FBS leader in total interceptions, interceptions per game, total sacks, sacks per game and tackles-for-loss on defense and kickoff return average, punt return average, field goals per game and all-purpose yards per game on special teams.

ACC Players Leading the FBS Statistically

Rushing Yards Per Game		
Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Nate Sheppard (Duke)	187.0

Total Rushing Yards		
Rank	Player (Team)	Yards
2.	Nate Sheppard (Duke)	374

Passing Yards Per Game		
Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
2.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	383.5
4.	Mason Heintschel (Pitt)	332.5

Passing Efficiency		
Rank	Player (Team)	Effic.
2.	Darian Mensah (Miami)	271.7
3.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	243.9

Passing Touchdowns		
Rank	Player (Team)	TDs
T3.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	8
T3.	Darian Mensah (Miami)	8

Completion Percentage		
Rank	Player (Team)	PCT
1.	Darian Mensah (Miami)	91.1

Total Offensive Yards Per Game		
Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
1.	Kevin Jennings (SMU)	402.5
2.	Lincoln Kienholz (Louisville)	375.0



ACC NOTES

Receiving Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	YPG
3.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	165.0

Receiving Yards

Rank	Player (Team)	Yards
3.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	330

Total Interceptions

Rank	Player (Team)	Total
1.	Kingston Lopa (Cal)	4
T2.	Brandyn Hillman (Virginia)	3

Interceptions Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	PG
1.	Kingston Lopa (Cal)	2.00
T2.	Brandyn Hillman (Virginia)	1.50

Total Sacks

Rank	Player (Team)	Total
T2.	Xavier Lewis (North Carolina)	4.0

Sacks Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	PG
T2.	Xavier Lewis (North Carolina)	2.00

Total Tackles-for-Loss

Rank	Player (Team)	Total
T1.	Xavier Lewis (North Carolina)	6.5
3.	Mylachi Williams (Virginia Tech)	6.0

Tackles-for-Loss Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	PG
T1.	Xavier Lewis (North Carolina)	3.25
3.	Mylachi Williams (Virginia Tech)	3.00

Kickoff Return Average

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
1.	Rahkeem Smith (Georgia Tech)	57.3

Punt Return Average

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
2.	Que'Sean Brown (Virginia Tech)	39.0

Field Goals Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
T2.	Connor Calvert (Wake Forest)	3.00
T2.	Nolan Hauser (Clemson)	3.00

All-Purpose Yards Per Game

Rank	Player (Team)	AVG
1.	Nate Sheppard (Duke)	217.0
3.	Malachi Toney (Miami)	176.0

ACC OFFENSES RANK AMONG NATION'S BEST

■ ACC teams are represented in the top five nationally across several major offensive categories, including total offense, passing offense, team passing efficiency, scoring offense and first downs, with Miami leading the FBS in total offense (702.5 yards per game) and SMU leading the nation in passing offense (442.0 yards per game).

Total Offense Yards Per Game

Rank	Team	YPG
1.	Miami	702.5

Passing Offense Per Game

Rank	Team	YPG
1.	SMU	442.0
2.	Miami	427.0

Team Passing Efficiency

Rank	Team	Effic.
2.	Miami	254.74
3.	Virginia	239.02
5.	SMU	229.79

Scoring Offense

Rank	Team	PPG
2.	Miami	61.0
4.	Virginia Tech	58.5

First Downs Offense

Rank	Team	1st Downs
2.	Miami	69

ACC DEFENSES AMONG THE NATION'S BEST

■ ACC teams rank in the top five nationally across several major defensive categories, including rushing defense, scoring defense, team passing efficiency defense, third-down defense, red-zone defense and first downs allowed, highlighted by SMU ranking tied for second nationally in third-down defense (14.8 percent) and Pitt ranking third in rushing defense (23.5 yards allowed per game).

Rushing Defense

Rank	Team	YPG
3.	Pitt	23.5

Scoring Defense

Rank	Team	PPG
4.	Virginia	5.5

Team Passing Defense Efficiency

Rank	Team	Effic.
3.	Virginia	76.69

Third-Down Conversion Pct. Defense

Rank	Team	PCT
T2.	SMU	14.8

Red Zone Defense

Rank	Team	PCT
3.	Virginia	33.3

First Downs Defense

Rank	Team	1st Downs Allowed
3.	Virginia Tech	17

■ Five teams rank in the top 26 of all of FBS in total defense, highlighted by four teams in the top 12.

ACC Teams Ranked in the Top 26 of FBS in Defense

Rank	Team	YPG Allowed
9.	Virginia	195.5
10.	Virginia Tech	196.5
11.	Miami	203.0
12.	Syracuse	204.0
26.	Pitt	247.5

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 (OH) 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.

INTERESTING STATS OF NOTE

■ Miami outgained Florida A&M by 749 yards (856-107) in Thursday's 77-7 win, marking the largest single-game yardage differential in the FBS over the last 30 years. (*Stats Perform*)

■ Miami and SMU are the first ACC teams since 2003 NC State, led by Philip Rivers, to record 400 passing yards in each of their first two games of a season. Only three FBS teams in the last 10 seasons have done so in each of their first three games: 2016 Texas Tech (Patrick Mahomes), 2019 Washington State (Luke Falk) and 2023 Washington (Michael Penix Jr.). (*Stats Perform*)

■ Duke running back Nate Sheppard is the only FBS player in the last 30 seasons to record at least 350 rushing yards and multiple receiving touchdowns through his team's first two games of a season. The only other player in that span with at least 300 rushing yards and multiple receiving touchdowns through two games was Boise State's Jay Ajayi in 2014. (*Stats Perform*)

■ Sheppard is also the first ACC player since Florida State's Dalvin Cook in 2015 to record at least 374 rushing yards and five touchdowns from scrimmage through his team's first two games of a season. (*Stats Perform*)



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.

WEEK 0 HIGHLIGHTS

■ ACC – Goes 3-0 in Non-Conference Play

- North Carolina, Florida State and Stanford all opened the 2026 season with victories, giving the ACC a perfect 3-0 non-conference record in Week 0.

■ ACC – ACC Makes Its Mark on Opening Weekend

- North Carolina opened the season with a 15-10 victory over TCU in the *Aer Lingus College Football Classic* in Dublin. The Tar Heels' defense held TCU scoreless over the final 49 minutes and snapped the Horned Frogs' streak of 30 consecutive regular-season non-conference games scoring at least 28 points.
- Stanford opened the season with a 37-27 win over Hawai'i, scoring 14 points in the final 1:41 after trailing 27-23. Micah Ford rushed for 99 yards and three touchdowns, including the go-ahead score, before Tevarua Tafti's 31-yard strip-sack return for a touchdown sealed the victory. Running back Micah Ford became the first Stanford running back since Bryce Love in 2017 with at least 90 rushing yards and three touchdowns in a game.
- Florida State opened its season with a 34-17 win over New Mexico State. Samuel Singleton Jr. contributed both a receiving and rushing touchdown, while quarterback Ashton Daniels added a rushing score.
- Virginia rolled to a 34-8 conference win over NC State, holding the Wolfpack to just 168 yards of total offense. The Cavaliers rushed for 258 yards, their most in an ACC game since 2020. Virginia quarterback Beau Pribula accounted for 265 yards of total offense, completing 9-of-11 passes for 155 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 110 yards – the most by an FBS quarterback during Week 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.

WEEK 2 HIGHLIGHTS

■ ACC – ACC Goes 12-1 in Non-Conference Play

- ACC teams won 12 of their 13 non-conference games during Week 2, including four wins over Power Four opponents (3-0 vs. Big Ten; 1-0 vs. Big 12).
- The ACC finished the entire weekend 13-2 when

including California's 21-18 conference win at Syracuse.

■ ACC – Perfect Against the Big Ten and Big 12

- The ACC went 4-0 against Power Four opponents from the Big Ten and the Big 12, with Boston College defeating Rutgers 28-21, Duke winning 31-27 at Illinois, Wake Forest taking a 38-36 double-overtime thriller at Purdue and Pitt holding off UCF 12-7.
- Those four opponents entered Week 2 a combined 3-1.

■ ACC – Five Teams Top 50 Points

- Miami (77), NC State (73), Louisville (59), Virginia (59) and SMU (56) gave the league five teams with 50+ points in Week 2. Those five teams combined for 324 points, an average of 64.8 points per game.
- Among all FBS conferences in Week 2, the ACC had the highest average points scored per game among its teams (39.8) and the fewest average points allowed per game (15.9).
- The ACC outscored opponents 579-218 (+361) across 14 Week 2 games.

■ ACC – Ranked Teams Roll

- No. 7 Miami, No. 17 SMU, No. 24 Louisville and No. 25 Virginia all won convincingly, outscoring their opponents 251-33. Miami beat Florida A&M 77-7, Louisville defeated Villanova 59-13, Virginia rolled past Norfolk State 59-3 and SMU defeated UC Davis 56-10.

■ Miami – Offense Explodes

- No. 7 Miami piled up an incredible 856 yards of total offense in its 77-7 win over Florida A&M.
- The Hurricanes scored on 11 of their first 12 possessions, recorded 42 first downs and had 453 yards by halftime.
- The 42 first downs was an ACC record for a single game, while the 856 total yards of offense was the second-most in the ACC behind only 858 by Florida State on November 7, 1992, versus Maryland.
- The 77 points scored tied the Miami record and tied for the fourth-most in ACC history, while the 70-point margin of victory ranks as the sixth-highest in ACC history.

■ NC State – Posts the Weekend's Biggest Shutout

- NC State posted a 73-0 victory over Richmond, giving the ACC two teams that scored at least 70 points during Week 2. Miami (77) and NC State (73) combined for 150 points while allowing just seven.
- The 73-point margin of victory marks the fourth-largest in ACC history and was the seventh-largest margin in NC State history.
- The 73 points scored were the most points scored at Carter-Finley Stadium by any team.
- NC State set single-game program records in rushing yards (428) and total yards of offense (734) in the win.



ACC NOTES

THREE ACC PROGRAMS 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 11 head coaches with a career winning percentage of at least .550 – tied for the most of any league.

ACC Coaches with Career Winning Pct. of .550 or Better

Coach (School)	Winning Pct.
Dabo Swinney (Clemson)	.777
Rhett Lashlee (SMU)	.714
James Franklin (Virginia Tech)	.684
Manny Diaz (Duke)	.631
Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	.625
Dave Doeren (NC State)	.613
Mike Norvell (Florida State)	.606
Jake Dickert (Wake Forest)	.586
Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)	.573
Mario Cristobal (Miami)	.556
Brent Key (Georgia Tech)	.551

COACHING RECORDS

CAREER VICTORIES - FBS ACTIVE COACHES

Rk. Coach (Current School)	Wins
1. K.C. Keeler (Temple)	277
2. Kirk Ferentz (Iowa)	223
Willie Fritz (Houston)	223
4. Chris Creighton (Eastern Michigan)	201
5. Rich Rodriguez (West Virginia)	196
6. Dabo Swinney (Clemson)	188
7. Kyle Whittingham (Michigan)	179
8. Lance Leipold (Kansas)	174
9. Curt Cignetti (Indiana)	148
10. Chuck Martin (Miami (OH))	147
11. Bronco Mendenhall (Utah State)	146
12. Troy Calhoun (Air Force)	140
13. Bret Bielema (Illinois)	135
14. Bob Chesney (UCLA)	134
15. James Franklin (Virginia Tech)	130
16. Pete Lembo (Buffalo)	127
Kalen DeBoer (Alabama)	127
18. Jeff Monken (Army)	126
19. Jamey Chadwell (Liberty)	123
20. Ken Niumatalolo (San Jose State)	121
21. Dave Doeren (NC State)	119
Kirby Smart (Georgia)	119
23. Lane Kiffin (LSU)	118
24. Dan Mullen (UNLV)	114
25. Pat Fitzgerald (Michigan State)	112

29. Mario Cristobal (Miami)	99
33. Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	95
41. Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)	82
43. Mike Norvell (Florida State)	77

CAREER WINNING % - FBS ACTIVE COACHES

Rk. Name (Current School)	Record	Pct. ^A
1. Tim Polasek (North Dakota St.)	29-3	.906
2. Ryan Day (Ohio State)	83-13	.865
3. Kalen DeBoer (Alabama)	127-20	.864
4. Kirby Smart (Georgia)	119-21	.850
5. Dan Lanning (Oregon)	49-9	.845
6. Matt Entz (Fresno State)	70-16	.814
7. Curt Cignetti (Indiana)	148-37	.800
8. Mike Jacobs (Toledo)	95-24	.798
9. Marcus Freeman (Notre Dame)	45-12	.789
10. Dabo Swinney (Clemson)	188-54	.777
11. Jon Sumrall (Florida)	45-13	.776
12. Jimmy Rogers (Iowa State)	34-10	.773
13. Lincoln Riley (USC)	93-28	.769
14. Spencer Danielson (Boise State)	25-9	.735
15. Josh Heupel (Tennessee)	75-28	.728
16. Bob Chesney (UCLA)	134-52	.720
17. Rhett Lashlee (SMU)	40-16	.714
18. Willie Simmons (FIU)	74-31	.705
19. Lance Leipold (Kansas)	174-75	.699
20. Mike Elko (Texas A&M)	37-16	.698
21. K.C. Keeler (Temple)	277-120-1	.697
22. Lane Kiffin (LSU)	118-53	.690
23. Jason Eck (New Mexico)	37-17	.685
24. James Franklin (Virginia Tech)	130-60	.684
25. Jeff Traylor (UTSA)	55-26	.679

- Manny Diaz (Duke)	41-24	.631
- Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	95-57	.625
- Dave Doeren (NC State)	119-75	.613
- Mike Norvell (Florida State)	77-50	.606

^A 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)	188
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
-	Dave Doeren (NC State)	96

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)	99
Jeff Brohm (Louisville)	95
Pat Narduzzi (Pitt)	82
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.

FIRST CAREER WIN FOR CAL'S LUPOI

■ California head coach Tosh Lupoi earned his first career victory as a head coach with the Golden Bears' 21-18 road win over Syracuse in Saturday's ACC opener on September 12.

■ Lupoi's defense forced three interceptions, including a go-ahead 24-yard pick-six by Kingston Lopa in the fourth quarter, to secure the milestone victory.

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.

■ 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	1,024
2.	Ohio State	991
3.	Alabama	987
4.	Notre Dame	974
5.	Texas	973
6.	Oklahoma	961
7.	Penn State	952
8.	Nebraska	933
9.	Georgia	906
10.	USC	894
11.	Tennessee	885
12.	LSU	824
13.	Clemson	816
14.	North Dakota State	814
15.	Auburn	811
16.	Texas A&M	799
17.	West Virginia	793
18.	Washington	792
19.	Virginia Tech	783
20.	Pitt	778
21.	Georgia Tech	772
	Florida	772
23.	Navy	760
24.	Syracuse	757
25.	Wisconsin	752
26.	Arkansas	750
	Minnesota	750
28.	Army	747
	Delaware	747
30.	Miami (Ohio)	741
	North Carolina	741
32.	Colorado	737
	Utah	737
34.	Oregon	732
35.	Missouri	731
36.	Michigan State	727
37.	Iowa	708
38.	California	706
39.	Boston College	704
	TCU	704
41.	Virginia	701
	Ole Miss	701

ACC HEAD COACHING RECORDS

Head Coach, School	Year	Overall Record	Pct.	at an ACC School		
				Year	Record	Pct.
Bill O'Brien, Boston College	5th	25-26	.490	3rd	10-17	.370
Tosh Lupoi, California	1st	1-1	.500	1st	1-1	.500
Dabo Swinney, Clemson	19th	188-54	.777	19th	188-54	.777
Manny Diaz, Duke	6th	41-24	.631	6th	41-24	.631
Mike Norvell, Florida State	11th	77-50	.606	7th	39-35	.527
Brent Key, Georgia Tech	5th	27-22	.551	5th	27-22	.551
Jeff Brohm, Louisville	13th	95-57	.625	4th	29-13	.690
Mario Cristobal, Miami	16th	99-79	.556	5th	37-19	.661
Bill Belichick, North Carolina	2nd	6-8	.429	2nd	6-8	.429
Dave Doeren, NC State	16th	119-75	.613	14th	96-71	.575
Pat Narduzzi, Pitt	12th	82-61	.573	12th	82-61	.573
Rhett Lashlee, SMU	5th	40-16	.714	3rd	22-7	.759
Tavita Pritchard, Stanford	1st	1-1	.500	1st	1-1	.500
Fran Brown, Syracuse	3rd	14-13	.519	3rd	14-13	.519
Tony Elliott, Virginia	5th	24-26	.480	5th	24-26	.480
James Franklin, Virginia Tech	16th	130-60	.684	1st	2-0	1.000
Jake Dickert, Wake Forest	6th	34-24	.586	2nd	11-4	.733



ACC NOTES

ACG 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.

ACC DUO NAMED TO ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM

■ Clemson running back Gideon Davidson and Duke offensive lineman Micah Sahakian were named to the 2026 Allstate AFCA Good Works Team.

■ The pair are two of just 11 FBS student-athletes selected nationally, making the ACC one of only three conferences with multiple FBS honorees.

■ The award recognizes student-athletes for outstanding commitment to community service, academic achievement and athletic excellence.

■ Davidson has raised more than \$12,000 for adoption-related causes, while Sahakian's service includes work with Duke Children's Hospital, local youth and refugee communities in Lebanon.

TARGETING TRACKER - ACC

Player (School)	First Targeting Foul	Second Targeting Foul	Sit-Out First Half
Myles Turpin (Wake Forest)	Sept. 3 vs. Akron	-	-
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.

■ ACC Enhanced Replay Access broadcasts are limited to games that are both officiated by ACC crews and carried on ACC-controlled linear television platforms.

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)
Friday, 9/11	Villanova at Louisville (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/12	ETSU at North Carolina (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/12	California at Syracuse (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/12	Old Dominion at Virginia Tech (The CW)
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	Wagner at California (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/19	Mercer at Georgia Tech (ACCN)
Saturday, 9/19	SMU at Louisville (ESPN2)
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 Gio Lopez, QB, Wake Forest
 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 Nate Sheppard, RB, Duke
 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 Luke Reynolds, TE, Virginia Tech
 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 Nick Del Grande, LT, Duke
 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 Mylachi Williams, DE, Virginia Tech
 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 Anthony Palano, LB, Boston College
 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 Kingston Lopa, DB, California
 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 Nolan Hauser, K, Clemson
 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 Javian Mallory, RB, Miami
 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)
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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)
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Monday, September 7

#19 SMU 27 at Florida State 24 *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
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Open: North Carolina, NC State, Virginia

WEEK 2

Thursday, September 10

Florida A&M 7 at #7 Miami 77	8 p.m. ET (ACCN)
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Friday, September 11

Richmond 0 at NC State 73	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Villanova 13 at #24 Louisville 59	7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Norfolk State 3 at #25 Virginia 59	7 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Rutgers 21 at Boston College 28	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Saturday, September 12

Wake Forest 38 at Purdue 36 (20T)	Noon ET (FS1)
ETSU 3 at North Carolina 35	Noon ET (ACCN)
Old Dominion 21 at Virginia Tech 44	Noon ET (The CW)
California 21 at Syracuse 18 *	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
UCF 7 at Pitt 12	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Duke 31 at Illinois 27	3:30 p.m. ET (FS1)
UC Davis 10 at #17 SMU 56	4 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
#18 Tennessee 45 at Georgia Tech 24	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Georgia Southern 7 at Clemson 22	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)

Open: Florida State, Stanford

WEEK 3

Thursday, September 17

Syracuse at Pitt *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
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Friday, September 18

#5 Miami at Wake Forest *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
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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 #10 Alabama	3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
#16 SMU at #23 Louisville *	3:30 p.m. ET (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 (FS1)

Duke's Mayo Classic - Charlotte, North Carolina

West Virginia vs. #25 Virginia	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
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WEEK 4

Friday, September 25

Clemson at California *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
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Saturday, September 26

Virginia Tech at Boston College *	Noon ET (TBD)
Wake Forest at Louisville *	Noon ET (TBD)
Bucknell at Pitt	Noon ET (ACCNX)
Central Arkansas at Florida State	3 p.m. ET (ACCN)
William & Mary at Duke	3:30 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Delaware at Virginia	6 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Central Michigan at Miami	6:30 p.m. ET (The CW)
App State at NC State	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Missouri State at SMU	9 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Georgia Tech at Stanford *	10:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)

Open: North Carolina, Syracuse

WEEK 5

Friday, October 2

Pitt at Virginia Tech *	7 p.m. ET (ESPN)
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Saturday, October 3

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

Open: Duke, Georgia Tech



ACC FOOTBALL COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

WEEK 6

Friday, October 9

Florida State at 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 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 Miami *
 Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech *
 Louisville at Syracuse *
 Virginia at 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 SMU *
 Virginia Tech at Clemson *
 Pitt at 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 *
 SMU at Syracuse *
 Georgia Tech at Pitt *
 Stanford at Louisville *
 Miami at North Carolina *
 Virginia at Wake Forest *
 Open: Virginia Tech

WEEK 10

Friday, November 6

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

Saturday, November 7

Florida State at Boston College *
 Clemson at Syracuse *
 Duke at NC State *
 Louisville at Georgia Tech *

North Carolina at UConn
 Merrimack at Wake Forest
 Miami at 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 Miami *
 Louisville at North Carolina *
 Syracuse at NC State *
 Wake Forest at SMU *
 Stanford at Virginia Tech *
 Boston College at 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 Miami *
 Pitt at Louisville *
 North Carolina at Virginia *
 SMU at 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 Miami *
 Pitt at California *
 Duke at Wake Forest *
 NC State at North Carolina *
 SMU at Stanford *
 Virginia at Virginia Tech *
 South Carolina at Clemson
 Georgia Tech at Georgia
 Louisville at Kentucky
 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 (1-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	at Cincinnati	L, 15-34
Sept. 11	Rutgers	W, 28-21
Sept. 19	Maine	2 p.m. ET (ACCNX)
Sept. 26	Virginia Tech *	Noon ET (TBD)
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 (1-1, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	UCLA	L, 24-45
Sept. 12	at Syracuse *	W, 21-18
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 (1-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	at #11 LSU	L, 10-51
Sept. 12	Georgia Southern	W, 22-7
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 (2-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	Tulane	W, 17-3
Sept. 12	at Illinois	W, 31-27
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 #10 Alabama	3:30 p.m. ET (ABC)
Sept. 26	Central Arkansas	3 p.m. ET (ACCN)
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 (0-2)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 3	Colorado	L, 13-14
Sept. 12	#18 Tennessee	L, 24-45
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 (1-1)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 6	vs. #9 Ole Miss (<i>Nashville</i>)	L, 38-41
Sept. 11	Villanova	W, 59-13
Sept. 19	#16 SMU *	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Sept. 26	Wake Forest *	Noon ET (TBD)
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 (2-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 4	at Stanford *	W, 45-6
Sept. 10	Florida A&M	W, 77-7
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 (2-0)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	vs. TCU (<i>Ireland</i>)	W, 15-10
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 12	East Tennessee State	W, 35-3
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 (1-1, 0-1 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	at Virginia *	L, 8-34
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 11	Richmond	W, 73-0
Sept. 19	at Vanderbilt	12:45 p.m. ET (SECN)
Sept. 26	App State	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPNU)
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 (2-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	Miami (OH)	W, 59-14
Sept. 12	UCF	W, 12-7
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 (2-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 7	at Florida State *	W, 27-24
Sept. 12	UC Davis	W, 56-10
Sept. 19	at #23 Louisville *	3:30 p.m. ET (ESPN2)
Sept. 26	Missouri State	9 p.m. ET (ACCN)
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 (1-1, 0-1 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	New Hampshire	W, 66-3
Sept. 12	California *	L, 18-21
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 (2-0, 1-0 ACC)

Date	Opponent	
Aug. 29	NC State *	W, 34-8
Sept. 5	OPEN	
Sept. 11	Norfolk State	W, 59-3
Sept. 19	vs. WVU (Charlotte)	7:30 p.m. ET (ACCN)
Sept. 26	Delaware	6 p.m. ET (ACCN)
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 (2-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 5	VMI	W, 73-3
Sept. 12	Old Dominion	W, 44-21
Sept. 19	at Maryland	7:30 p.m. ET (FS1)
Sept. 26	at Boston College *	Noon ET (TBD)
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 (2-0)

Date	Opponent	
Sept. 3	Akron	W, 38-16
Sept. 12	at Purdue	W, 38-36 (2OT)
Sept. 18	#5 Miami *	7:30 p.m. ET (ESPN)
Sept. 26	at Louisville *	Noon ET (TBD)
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	-/-	-/-	-/RV/-	-/RV/-	-/-	-/-	23/RV/-	5/5/-	-/-	-/-	RV/RV/-	16/16/-	-/-	-/-	25/25/-	RV/RV/-	-/RV/-
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

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

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	3	42	-	168
Miami	37	334	68	555
North Carolina	-	80	1	280
NC State	-	12	-	191
Pitt	-	125	21	321
SMU	3	75	2	200
Stanford	-	97	-	303
Syracuse	-	69	7	213
Virginia	2	21	3	188
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 National Player of the Week

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

Bednarik Award Player of the Week (Defensive)

September 15..... Kingston Lopa (CB), California

Bronko Nagurski Defensive Player of the Week

September 15..... Anthony Palano (LB), Boston College

Davey O'Brien National Quarterback of the Week

September 9..... Mason Heintschel (QB), Pitt

Doak Walker National Running Back of the Week

September 9..... Nate Sheppard (RB), Duke

Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week

August 31 Tony Elliott, Virginia

John Mackey Award Player of the Week

September 9..... Randy Pittman Jr. (TE), SMU

Lou Groza Award Stars of the Week (Placekicker)

September 15..... Nolan Hauser (K), Clemson

Maxwell Award Player of the Week

September 9..... Mason Heintschel (QB), Pitt

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)

September 7..... Malachi Toney (WR), Miami (Offensive)

Pro Football Focus (PFF) Quarterback of the Week

September 7..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami

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

The Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award National Player of the Week

September 9..... Kevin Jennings (QB), SMU

Walter Camp National Player of the Week

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

September 15..... Kingston Lopa (DB), California (Defensive)

Honorable Mention / Honor Rolls

Associated Press National 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)

September 14..... Gio Lopez (QB), Wake Forest (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

September 14..... Gio Lopez (QB), Wake Forest

Pro Football Focus (PFF) Team of the Week

August 31 Ousmane Kromah (RB), Florida State

September 6..... Darian Mensah (QB), Miami

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

..... Thomas Williams (CB), Virginia Tech

September 13..... Kingston Lopa (CB), California

Paul Hornung Award Honor Roll

September 9..... Tre Richardson (WR/RS), Louisville

Ray Guy Award "Ray's 8"

September 8..... Jack Smith (P), Clemson

..... Kade Reynoldson (P), Duke

..... Aidan Flintoft (P), Stanford

September 14..... Jack Smith (P), Clemson

The Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award - Honorable Mention

September 15..... Kevin Jennings (QB), SMU



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

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



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

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

Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Watch List (September 10)

KP Price, Boston College
Jordan King, California
Ashton Hampton, Clemson
Matt Craycraft, Duke
Duce Robinson, Florida State
Kyle Efford, Georgia Tech
Clev Lubin, Louisville
Mark Fletcher Jr., Miami
Jordan Shipp, North Carolina
Isaiah Shirley, NC State
Mason Heintschel, Pitt
Kevin Jennings, SMU
Davis Warren, Stanford
Steve Angeli, Syracuse
Ethan Minter, Virginia
Marcellous Hawkins, Jr., Virginia Tech
Zach Lohavichan, 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
Makilan Thomas, OT, Virginia
Kemari Copeland, DL, Virginia Tech
Luke Reynolds, TE, Virginia Tech
Davaughn Patterson, DB, Wake Forest



PRESEASON HONORS & ACCOLADES

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
 P.J. Williams, T, SMU
 Kevin Jennings, QB, SMU
 Kendrick Raphael, RB, SMU
 Theo Melin Öhrström, TE, SMU
 Yannick Smith, WR, SMU
 Tevarua Tafari, 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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Weekly Press Conference: Monday at 3 p.m. ET

NORTH CAROLINA

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Web: HokieSports.com
Mailing & Shipping: 401 Cassell Coliseum - 675 Washington Street SW, Blacksburg, VA 24061
Primary Football Contact: Travis Wells, twells@vt.edu, 540-314-2357
Secondary Football Contact: Mike Skovan, mskovan@vt.edu, 845-204-1777
X: @hokiesports; @HokiesFB
Weekly Press Conference: Monday at Noon ET

WAKE FOREST

Web: GoDeacs.com
Mailing & Shipping: 475 Deacon Blvd, McCreary Tower, Gold Lobby, Winston-Salem, NC 27105
Primary Football Contact: Stephen Czarda, czardas@wfu.edu, 540-229-7101
Secondary Football Contact: KJ Smith, smitkj19@wfu.edu
X: @DemonDeacons; @WakeFB
Weekly Press Conference: Monday at 1 p.m. ET