

### 1. From Underdog to Big Dog

In 2010, there were five FCS upsets over FBS opponents:

Jacksonville State 49, Ole Miss 48

North Dakota State 6, Kansas 3

Gardner-Webb 38, Akron 37

South Dakota 41, Minnesota 38

James Madison 21, Virginia Tech 16

How many FBS upsets will there be in the 2011 season? Who will be the Big Dogs this year?

Visit [TheUnderdawg.com](http://TheUnderdawg.com) and enter your opinion in the poll.

### 2. How Ironic

Ok, if it's known that bulldogs aren't good for withstanding hot temps and can die from extreme heat and hyperthermia, then why is the mascot for SC State the bulldog? Orangeburg, SC, the home of SC State University, is one of the hottest and humid places in the Southeast. And that's speaking from the stands...I'm sure on the field it's a lot hotter. But, that doesn't seem to stop those Bulldogs, as SC State has won three consecutive MEAC rings with post-season appearances (2008-2010). And, they're the winningest football team in MEAC conference history. So where many mascots are typically indigenous to their location, the Bulldogs of SC State have proven that theory wrong and can clearly stand the heat! Good luck to the Bulldogs in their quest for another successful football season!

### 3. Gold Rush

For new UNC-Charlotte Head Football Coach, Brad Lambert, it's quite a task for him to defend the urban legends of his home-state of Kansas. Brad is from the small, northwestern Kansas town of Hoxie. Beyond the bountiful wheat fields and Rocky Mtn foothill exterior of the region, many gold rush trailblazers of the mid-to-late 1800's began their push west. Many people even believed of gold mines having been located in Kansas. However, much to their dismay, many stories of gold found in the "Sunflower State" turned out to be disappointments. Well, as of March 1, 2011, Brad Lambert became an official 49'er and now has a chance at striking gold for his native Kansas. The UNCC 49'ers will be new members to the FCS in 2013 as Independents, with the first home-game set against Campbell University on Aug 31, 2013. Congrats to UNCC and Coach Lambert as the quest for gold has begun!

### 4. Native Pride

On April 8, 2010 the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education approved a motion to retire the Fighting Sioux nickname. This was a result of an earlier motion the year before that lacked the support of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe. While a new name has yet to be chosen, the school has set a June 30, 2011 deadline for retailers to sell off the last of their Sioux logo merchandise.

Besides UND, there are only two FCS schools with Native American mascots:

1. William & Mary Tribe (no longer uses imagery related to indigenous peoples)
2. Alcorn State Braves

### 5. Wild, Wild West

The Great West Conference will be defunct of FCS football by 2013. Four of the five teams will be headed to the Big Sky Conference in 2012: UC-Davis, Cal Poly, Southern Utah, North Dakota. The fifth team, South Dakota, will join the Missouri Valley Football Conference in 2012. Great West football has captured the attention of the collegiate sports world with wins over FBS teams the last four years, with victories over Ball State, San Diego State, Minnesota and Central Michigan. With the success that Great West teams have had over the past decade, how will the conference rebound? The Underdawg welcomes your comments.

**Trivia:** What is the oldest FCS conference?

Visit [TheUnderdawg.com](http://TheUnderdawg.com) and enter your answer in the "Contact Us" section. Trivia answer and winner will be announced on the next digest.