

Issue No. 16 - Week of 10/22/2011

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Week 7 "Game of the Week" recap....

Freshmen RB, Terrance West rushed for 148 yds on 16 carries and 2 TD's to lead Towson over Old Dominion last Saturday. The Tigers ground attack of 220 total yds proved to make a dent in time of possession and, with a 4th quarter comeback surge, made the difference in the final score of 39-35. The Monarchs looked to control the 2nd and 3rd quarters outscoring Towson 20-10 from a run & pass combo, led by QB Taylor Heinicke, as well as a defense TD from a fumble recovery near the end of the 3rd. Towson's defense sealed the cap in the final period, holding ODU scoreless and sustaining their crown in CAA standings. What a turnaround for a team that went 1-10 last season.

The Underdawg "Game of the Week"

#7 **Sam Houston State** vs **McNeese State**

A battle of Southland conference top teams earns this week's game to watch. McNeese State has 3 of the last 5 conference rings and have dominated the Bearkats 24-7-1 all-time. The last head-to-head win for SMSU was in 2004. The Cowboys shouldn't take their dominance lightly at all on Saturday, home game or not. Sam Houston State is 6-0, ranked in the top 10, and looking to have just their 5th consecutive winning season in 20 years. These teams supplied 10 pre-season all-conference players on both sides of the ball. SMSU was recently ranked 4th in total defense in the FCS. However, McNeese has put up no less than 28 pts in each matchup since 1999 against the Kats. Given the final four games proceeding Saturday's matchup for both teams, this may very well determine the forerunner for the Southland.

FCS LEADERBOARD

Here are the category leaders for Week 7 of FCS Football (Source: NCAA.com)

Total Offense (total yds/game)

1	Chris Lum	Lehigh	382.43
2	Kevin Decker	New Hampshire	357.83
3	Ryan Taggart	Holy Cross	339.00

Passing (completions/game)

1	Kevin Yost	Idaho St.	29.71
2	Jonathan Carkhuff	Davidson	29.50
3	Chris Lum	Lehigh	28.57

Total Team Offense (total yds/game)

1	Lehigh	490.57
2	Ga. Southern	484.50
3	Morehead St.	481.29

Total Team Defense (opp total yds/game)

1	Texas Southern	247.67
2	N.C. A&T	270.50
3	Wofford	279.17



NC A&T Aggies have turned things around and are ranked in FCS top defenses in consecutive weeks.

[See the Top 50 FCS Teams in these categories](#)

GIMME MY PROPS

- Big ups to the Norfolk State Spartans entering the poll this week at #24. First ranking for the Spartans. They host MEAC champ, Bethune-Cookman on ESPNU on Thursday at 7:30pm ET.
- Lehigh continues to impress. The Mountain Hawks are ranked in top 3 of individual offense, passing, and team offense, and are ranked #8 in the polls.
- Two of the 10 automatic bid conference leaders aren't ranked: Liberty (Big South), and Albany (NE). Liberty has two, tough 3-point losses to two Top (11) FCS opponents, James Madison and Lehigh. Not to mention a well-played and coached season opener against NC State. Albany dropped their first two against Colgate and James Madison, but has been perfect since. How does Richmond remain ranked (#18) at 0-3 in the conference, 3-3 overall, and these two conference leaders fight for position?

AND-OH!

Remaining undefeated is a tough accomplishment in football, regardless of the level of competition. As humble as players and coaches presume to be, I'm sure in the back of their minds they'd like an unbeaten record. No one likes to lose.

Currently, there are three undefeated FCS teams sitting at 6-0: Georgia Southern, North Dakota State, and Sam Houston State. Who will keep the streak alive? 2010 didn't witness such dominance...will there be any "and-oh" teams in 2011?

Here are a few facts around FCS undefeated teams:

- Georgia Southern has 2 undefeated seasons since its football program started in 1924- went 15-0 in 1989; 11-0 in 1998 (FCS play). Note: GSU had no team 1942-1981.
- North Dakota State has 13 undefeated seasons since its football program started in 1894; three of which were from 1978 in Div II play; none since entering FCS in 2008. Note: ND State had no team in 1918 and 1943-44.
- Sam Houston State has 1 undefeated season since its football program started in 1912- went 10-0 in 1956 (NAIA). Note: SMSU had no team in 1918 and 1943-45.
- There have been 27 undefeated teams in FCS history (since 1978)
- There have been 3 undefeated teams who've gone on to win the FCS championship: Eastern Kentucky (10-0, 1982), Ga Southern (11-0, 1989), Marshall (11-0, 1996)
- Of the 33 seasons of FCS play (since 1978), there have been 11 seasons with no undefeated teams.
- There have been only two undefeated teams with ties: Alabama State (11-0-1, 1991) and Youngstown State (14-0-1, 1994)
- Yale has the most undefeated seasons at 30.

UPSET COUNTER

6 FCS/FBS upsets this season thus far:

Sacramento State over Oregon State

Richmond over Duke

Indiana State over Western Kentucky

North Dakota State over Minnesota

Sam Houston State over New Mexico

Southern Utah over UNLV

FCS vs FBS matchups this weekend...

10 Jacksonville State visits Kentucky- 12pm ET on ESPNU

Idaho State travels to BYU- 3pm ET on BYU Network

Go Gamecocks and Bengals! Represent!

Trivia Results: The only year with no overtime games played in the FCS was 1983.

Trivia Question: Which 2 FCS teams scored the most safeties in a season and how many did they score?

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