

Issue No. 19 - Week of 11/12/2011

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Week 10 "Game of the Week" recap....

Drake continues to dominate their series with Jacksonville and stay unbeaten all-time at home against the Dolphins....Drake wins 31-24 last Saturday. Sr. RB, Patrick Cashmore rushed for 160 on 35 carries and put it in the end zone twice. His second TD proved to be the difference in the game as he punched in from 4 yd line with 20 seconds left in regulation. Drake has its final game of the season Saturday at home against Dayton. The Bulldogs sit atop the Pioneer conference at 6-1 (8-2 overall).

Bonus:

- Drake is 1 of 3 teams of the 10-team Pioneer Football League that has no open dates in their schedule. (other 2 are Marist and Dayton)
- Despite having a QB in the FCS top 3 in passing efficiency throughout the season (J. Carkhuff, Davidson), an FCS top 3 offensive team (Morehead St.) and a team that lead the FCS last season in total offense (Jacksonville), the Pioneer conference has yet to have any rankings in the polls this season.

The Underdawg "Game of the Week" # 7 **New Hampshire** at # 12 **Towson**

Much respect given to the SOCON with a major clash between Ga Southern and Wofford. But, this week, The Underdawg is spotlighting Colonial powers, New Hampshire and Towson. When's the last time these 2 played for the CAA's top spot...umm, never. Which is why this game has more of an element of mystique.

Towson has a lot to play for Saturday:

- The CAA crown (pending a next week's win at Rhode Island)
- A first ever win against New Hampshire (0-7 against the Wildcats)
- This will be the first time that a team from the state of Maryland defeated New Hampshire (ok...Towson just happens to be the only team that NHU has played from Maryland)

The winner cracks the 3-way, first place tie in the CAA, with Maine holding the 3rd spot. New Hampshire seeks its 3rd CAA North division championship in 4 seasons. These teams are equally yoked on both sides of the ball- offensively, 296(Towson) & 297(NHU) accumulative points scored overall to-date; defensively, 213 (Towson) & 270 (NHU) points allowed overall to-date. Towson is second to Old Dominion in CAA conference scoring at 209. We can run numbers all day, but the players will have to settle it on the field this Saturday.

FCS LEADERBOARD

Here are the category leaders for Week 10 of FCS Football (Source: NCAA.com)

Total Offense (total yds/game)

1	Chris Lum	Lehigh	351.22
2	Bo Levi Mitchell	Eastern Wash.	346.11
3	Casey Therriault	Jackson St.	329.11

Passing (completions/game)

1	Jonathan Carkhuff	Davidson	31.00
2	Zach Lewis	Morehead St.	29.67
3	Casey Brockman	Murray St.	28.89

Total Team Offense (total yds/game)

1	Lehigh	480.22
2	Morehead St.	470.22
3	Wofford	465.78

Total Team Defense (opp total yds/game)

1	Texas Southern	221.33
2	Sam Houston St.	260.44
3	Norfolk St.	267.50

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

FCS SNAPSHOT

Furman earned a spot on the polls at #17 after key conference wins against Wofford and Appalachian State....who says home field doesn't have an advantage? If the season ended today, Furman should have an at-large bid.

Norfolk State is back in the rankings at #22. The Spartans just need to beat Morgan State on Saturday to seal their first MEAC championship. If they lose, well, there are too many if's and but's to the MEAC crown with that scenario.

Teams on the rise....Eastern Kentucky and Central Arkansas are putting their reservations in for the post-season. EKU was picked 3rd in the preseason, now first place in the OVC. The Colonels' last playoff appearance was 2008 and they're thirsty to return. Since the start of FCS in 1978, EKU has 32 out of 33 winning seasons. They are set for another winning season this year, but I'm sure to play after Thanksgiving is on the brain, as they can't afford to go 6-5 at worst. Central Arkansas can hold a 2nd spot in the Southland conference and potentially go to the playoffs for the first time since joining the FCS. Two losses to FBS teams (one in OT to LA Tech) and a loss to the conference champs (Sam Houston St) should guarantee the Bears an at-large ticket.

Teams slipping...James Madison, William & Mary, and Jacksonville State. Although the Dukes and Tribe are more-than-likely a given for the playoffs, it wasn't an easy road for these Colonial powers. With the surge of Towson and Maine, along with consistent contender, New Hampshire, sweat bubbles are forming for these teams right about now. The Jacksonville State Gamecocks were expected to be sitting in the top 10 all year....they're now looking from outside the fence as they've dropped out the rankings for the first time this season. Two recent back to back home losses hurt the Gamecocks...now they're forced to win-out the last two against SE Missouri St and Tennessee State.

Bubble teams.....Portland State, Georgetown, Cal Poly, and Illinois State. The Georgetown Hoyas are enjoying their first winning season since 1999. This weekend they face defending Patriot champs, Lehigh, for the conference ring. If they win, they're in...if not, get ready for next season. No pressure. With early hoopla around conference foes, Indiana State and Youngstown State, the Illinois State Redbirds are a quiet third place in the Missouri Valley Conference. Illinois State is off this week but face Northern Iowa the following week. An expected loss to the Panthers would have them (at worst) 7-4. They need some good teams to fall quick...not many 4 loss teams make it in

the playoffs and their early loss to Eastern Illinois (2-8) doesn't help their chances. Can the MVC send 3 teams to the post-season a consecutive year? Portland State is probably the best bubble team from this list. Besides a loss to FBS opponent, TCU, they dropped two heartbreakers to Montana State and Montana by a total of 8 pts. Two of the four losses for Cal Poly were FBS opponents, but the Mustangs can't afford to drop another game to be considered for an at-large. Cal Poly is nearing their 4th Great West conference ring since the conference began in 2004.

Sleeper teams.....Liberty and Furman. The Flames are getting ready for a season-ending showdown with Stony Brook next week. If successful, they can finally get their just due into the post-season. Liberty played four full quarters against NC State to start the season and dropped two to James Madison and Lehigh at the same score, 24-27. Furman must have gotten a memo. After a whopping 30 point defeat to then #1 Ga Southern, the Paladins went on a rampage...beating Wofford and Appalachian State, and a tough Chattanooga team on the road. These recent wins not only have them ranked #17, but should hold a spot for them in the playoffs as an at-large. Taking an "L" against Florida next week (perhaps) shouldn't hurt their chances...but they have to get past Elon at home this Saturday. These two teams are quietly making a statement.

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

Trivia Results: The FCS team with the most field goal attempts in a game was Northern Arizona. Goran Lingmerth attempted (and made) 8 field goals in 1986 versus Idaho.

Trivia Question: What FCS team has the record for most tackles in a game?

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