

ABOUT CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL

- Conference USA will field 12 teams in 2018, as the league begins its 23rd season: Charlotte, FIU, Florida Atlantic, Louisiana Tech, Marshall, Middle Tennessee, Old Dominion, Rice, Southern Miss, UAB, UTSA and WKU.
- Conference USA finished the 2017 season ranked No. 6 in the RPI as a league. The league has been ranked among the top five baseball conferences in eight of the last 12 seasons.
- C-USA has placed at least four teams in the NCAA Championship 10 times in the past 16 years, producing five teams on two occasions. The league placed regular season champion Southern Miss and tournament champion Rice in the 2017 NCAA Field.
- Southern Miss hosted an NCAA Regional in June, the 15th time that a C-USA school has hosted an NCAA Regional since 1999.
- Rice made its 23rd consecutive NCAA Regional appearance in 2017, the third-longest active streak in the nation.
- Southern Miss finished ranked as high as No. 16 in the final 2017 polls, while four other schools were ranked during the season (Florida Atlantic, Louisiana Tech, Old Dominion and Rice)
- Six C-USA teams ranked in the top 58 of the final 2017 RPI rankings, with eight in the top 100.
- The top six C-USA teams in the RPI combined for an average ranking of 44.1
- Eight Conference USA teams won at least one game against a nationally ranked opponent during the 2017 season.
- C-USA teams posted a total of 17 wins over nationally ranked, non-conference opponents during the 2017 season, including six against top eight foes.
- C-USA played 18 of the teams ranked among the top 30 in the final NCAA RPI rankings, posting wins vs. 23 (as well as 13 wins vs. seven of the top 20). C-USA wins included: UTSA over No. 7 Texas Tech, Charlotte over No. 10 Wake Forest, Louisiana Tech over No. 12 Arkansas, Rice twice over No. 13 Stanford, Rice twice over No. 17 Texas, Rice twice over No. 19 Houston, Charlotte twice and Old Dominion twice over No. 20 West Virginia, FIU, Louisiana Tech and Southern Miss each over No. 21 Mississippi State, Florida Atlantic over No. 26 UCF, UTSA over No. 24 Baylor, Florida Atlantic over No. 25 Indiana, Charlotte over No. 27 NC State, Rice twice and Southern Miss once over No. 30 Southeastern Louisiana. League members also defeated No. 32 South Alabama (Southern Miss twice), No. 34 Indiana (Florida Atlantic), No. 35 Florida Gulf Coast (FIU and Florida Atlantic), No. 38 Sam Houston State (Rice), No. 39 Auburn (UAB), No. 43 Miami (FIU twice), No. 45 McNeese State (Louisiana Tech).
- Eight different Conference USA players were honored as 2017 All-Americans, including Louisiana Tech junior C **Brent Diaz** and senior RHP **Nick Harris**, Old Dominion junior 2B **Jared Young** and SS **Zach Rutherford**, Southern Miss freshman OF **Matt Wallner**, sophomore RHP **Nick Sandlin**, junior 3B/P **Taylor Braley** and senior 1B **Dylan Burdeaux**.
- Southern Miss freshman OF **Matt Wallner** became the fourth player in Conference USA history to be named National Freshman of the Year. Wallner earned that honor from Baseball America, D1Baseball.com and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA).
- Seven C-USA players earned 2017 Freshman All-American honors, including FIU RHP **Nick MacDonald**, RHP **Tyler Myrick** and 3B **Javier Valdes**, Old Dominion LHP **John Wilson**, 1B **Vinnie Pasquantino** and OF **Kyle Battle** and Southern Miss OF **Matt Wallner**.
- Conference USA had three players that earned National Player of the Week honors in 2017: FIU RHP **Robert Garcia**, Louisiana Tech 3B **Chase Lunceford** and Old Dominion 2B **Jared Young**.
- Ten players ranked among the top 10 national leaders in the final 2017 NCAA statistics, including Southern Miss 1B **Dylan Burdeaux**, who led the nation in hits with 102.
- Conference USA had 32 players chosen in the June Major League Baseball Draft, including 10 picks in the first nine rounds. Ten C-USA schools had at least one player selected.
- Eight players from current C-USA schools appeared on the 2017 opening day rosters of Major League Baseball teams, including three former MLB All-Stars.

CONFERENCE USA BASEBALL SCHOOLS

Since its first season in 1996, Conference USA has established itself as a national power. Here are some of the league's accomplishments in its first 22 seasons:

- Six College World Series Appearances
- 69 NCAA Appearances
- Three National Players of the Year
- Four National Freshmen of the Year
- 156 All-Americans
- Schools have combined to win 40 or more games 65 times in the past 13 years
- Has had a team ranked No. 1 in the nation in four different seasons
- Hosted 15 NCAA Regionals and six Super Regionals

The 12 current members of C-USA have also accomplished the following:

- 2003 National Champions - Rice
- 104 all-time NCAA Appearances (72 since 1995)



CHARLOTTE
FIU
FLORIDA ATLANTIC
LOUISIANA TECH
MARSHALL
MIDDLE TENNESSEE
OLD DOMINION
RICE
SOUTHERN MISS
UAB
UTSA
WKU