



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE FOOTBALL

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2016 Southern Conference Football Standings

C/SI	Team	Conference			Overall			Home	Road	Streak
		W-L	PF	PA	W-L	PF	PA			
15/15	The Citadel	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	ETSU	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	Furman	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	Mercer	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	Samford	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
7/6	Chattanooga	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	VMI	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	Western Carolina	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-
	Wofford	0-0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0-0	-

C-FCS Coaches Poll; SI - STATS Inc., Poll

This Week's Schedule

September 1

*The Citadel at Mercer
 Mars Hill at Samford
 Wofford at Tennessee Tech
 Shorter at Chattanooga

Series Record

CIT, 8-4-1
 SAM, 3-0
 WOF, 3-0
 First Meeting

TV/Internet

Fox Southeast 7:00 p.m.
 ESPN3 7:00 p.m.
 - 7:00 p.m.
 SDN 7:00 p.m.

Time

September 2

Furman at Michigan State

Series Record

First Meeting

TV/Internet

Big Ten Network 7:00 p.m.

Time

September 3

Western Carolina at East Carolina
 VMI at Akron
 ETSU at Kennesaw State

Series Record

ECU, 17-13
 Series Tied, 1-1
 KSU, 1-0

TV/Internet

ESPN3 6:00 p.m.
 ESPN3 6:30 p.m.
 - 7:00 p.m.

Time

Quick Hits

- The SoCon opens its 95th season of football this week.
- Chattanooga and Western Carolina each had 10 players selected to the preseason all-conference team.
- Home teams were 13-15 in conference play last season and are 49-40 since the start of 2013.
- Thirteen of the 28 league games were decided by one possession in 2015. Since the start of the 2013 season, 38 of 92 (.413) league games have been decided by one possession.

RANKINGS: The Citadel Bulldogs and Chattanooga Mocs are both ranked in preseason FCS polls. UTC is ranked sixth in the STATS, Inc., poll and seventh by the FCS coaches. The Citadel is ranked No. 15 in both polls.

- Mercer, Samford, Western Carolina and Wofford are among the teams receiving votes.

AWARD CANDIDATES: The Southern Conference has one player on the STATS Offensive Player of the Year Watch List and two on the Defensive Player of the Year Watch List.

- Offensive Player of the Year - Derrick Craine (Chattanooga).
- Defensive Player of the Year - Keionta Davis (Chattanooga) and Dee Delaney (The Citadel).

News & Notes

- Samford and Chattanooga host non-conference games this weekend while five league schools are on the road to open the season.
- The Citadel takes on Mercer in a league game Thursday night.
- Chattanooga was picked first in both the preseason coaches and media polls.
- Southern Conference teams will take on two FBS programs this weekend. The SoCon has 29 wins over FBS programs all-time.
- Brent Thompson will make his head coaching debut Thursday when The Citadel travels to Mercer. Thompson takes over at The Citadel after serving as offensive coordinator the previous two seasons.
- ETSU enters its first season in the Southern Conference since the 2003 campaign. The Bucs competed as an FCS independent program in 2015.

SoCon Stats



NCAA Stats



SoCon Media Guide



FCS Coaches Poll



2016 SoCon Football Preseason Coaches Poll

School (First-place votes)	Points
1. Chattanooga (7)	63
2. The Citadel (1)	52
3. Samford (1)	50
4. Western Carolina	41
5. Mercer	38
6. Wofford	33
7. Furman	24
8. VMI	14
9. ETSU	9

2016 SoCon Football Preseason Media Poll

School (First-place votes)	Points
1. Chattanooga (26)	250
2. The Citadel (2)	208
3. Western Carolina	179
4. Mercer	148
5. Samford	147
6. Wofford	136
7. Furman	102
8. VMI	62
9. ETSU	28

2016 Southern Conference Preseason All-Conference First Team

Off. POY: Detrez Newsome, Jr., RB, WCU
Def. POY: Keionta Davis, Sr., DL, UTC

Offense

- QB Al Cobb, Jr., VMI
- RB Derrick Craine, Sr., Chattanooga
- RB Detrez Newsome, Jr., Western Carolina
- OL Isaiah Pinson, Jr. The Citadel
- OL Brett Niederreither, Sr., Mercer
- OL Armando Bonheur, Sr., Samford
- OL Corey Levin, Sr., Chattanooga
- OL Jacob Revis, Jr., Chattanooga
- (tie) OL Anton Wahrby, Sr., Wofford
- TE Tyler Sexton, Sr., Western Carolina
- WR Karel Hamilton, Sr., Samford
- WR Aaron Sanders, Sr., VMI

Defense

- DL Joe Crochet, Sr., The Citadel
- DL Ahmad Gooden, So., Samford
- DL Keionta Davis, Sr., Chattanooga
- DL Miles Brown, So., Wofford
- LB Tevin Floyd, Sr., The Citadel
- LB Nakevion Leslie, Sr., Chattanooga
- LB Tyson Dickson, Sr., Western Carolina
- (tie) LB Daniel Riddle, Jr., Western Carolina
- DB Dee Delaney, Jr., The Citadel
- DB Trey Robinson, Sr., Furman
- DB Jamerson Blount, Sr., Samford
- DB Lucas Webb, Jr., Chattanooga

Specialists

- PK Henrique Ribeiro, Sr., Chattanooga
- P Ian Beryman, So., Western Carolina
- RS Dane Forlines, Sr., VMI

CONFERENCE CROWN: Chattanooga and The Citadel shared the league title last season with identical 6-1 records in conference play. It was the third straight season UTC won at least a share of the league crown. Last season marked the first conference title for The Citadel since 1992.

FAMILIAR FACES: ETSU and Mercer return a league-high 22 starters for the 2016 season. Western Carolina returns a league-low 14 starters from last year.

- The league's nine teams combined to return 70 percent of their starters (158 of 225) from 2015.

2015 SoCon Starters Returning/Lost

Team	Offense	Defense	Specialists	Total (Pct.)
The Citadel	7/4	7/4	1/2	15/10 (.600)
ETSU	9/2	10/1	3/0	22/3 (.880)
Furman	6/5	7/4	2/1	15/10 (.600)
Mercer	10/1	10/1	2/1	22/3 (.880)
Samford	8/3	7/4	1/2	16/9 (.640)
Chattanooga	8/3	6/5	3/0	17/8 (.680)
VMI	7/4	8/3	2/1	17/8 (.680)
Western Carolina	6/5	6/5	2/1	14/11 (.560)
Wofford	8/3	9/2	3/0	20/5 (.800)
Total	69/30	70/29	19/8	158/67 (.702)

THE FRIENDLY CONFINES OF HOME: Southern Conference teams went 14-4 at home in nonconference games last season.

- SoCon teams are 76-21 (.784) at home in nonconference games since the start of the 2010 season.

GROUND ATTACK: A Southern Conference team has ranked either first or second nationally in rushing in 13 of the last 14 seasons.

- The Citadel ranked second nationally in rushing last year with 347.2 yards per game.

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Seven schools in the Southern Conference have reached the postseason at least once.

Current SoCon Schools in the Playoffs

Team	App.	Won	Lost	Pct.	Champion	Runner-up
The Citadel	4	2	4	.333	0	0
ETSU	1	1	1	.500	0	0
Furman	16	18	15	.545	1	2
Mercer	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Samford	3	2	3	.400	0	0
Chattanooga	3	2	3	.400	0	0
VMI	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Western Carolina	1	3	1	.750	0	1
Wofford	6	5	6	.455	0	0

AWARD CANDIDATES: The Southern Conference has one player on the STATS Offensive Player of the Year Watch List, and two on the Defensive Player of the Year Watch List.

- STATS Inc., Offensive Player Candidates - Derrick Craine (Chattanooga).

Former Winners:	Year	Player	Position	School
	1992	Michael Payton	QB	Marshall
	1999	Adrian Peterson	RB	Georgia Southern
	2000	Louis Ivory	RB	Furman
	2007	Jayson Foster	QB	Georgia Southern
	2008	Armanti Edwards	QB	Appalachian State
	2009	Armanti Edwards	QB	Appalachian State

- STATS Inc., Defensive Player Candidates - Keionta Davis (Chattanooga) and Dee Delaney (The Citadel).

Former Winners:	Year	Player	Position	School
	1995	Dexter Coakley	LB	Appalachian State
	1996	Dexter Coakley	LB	Appalachian State

BUCS ARE BACK: After competing as an FCS Independent program in 2015, ETSU will compete as a full member of the SoCon this fall.

- ETSU competed in the league from 1978 through 2003 before dropping the program.
- The Bucs' best season in the SoCon was the 1996 campaign, when ETSU went 10-3 overall with a 7-1 record in league play. The Bucs defeated Villanova (35-29) in the opening round of the FCS playoffs before falling at Montana (44-14) in the quarterfinals.

WORKING OVERTIME: Current Southern Conference teams are 32-42 (.432) all-time in overtime games. The most recent overtime game was Dec. 5, 2015, when Jacksonville State topped Chattanooga (41-35) in the FCS Playoffs.

Team	OT Record	Pct.
The Citadel	7-7	.500
ETSU	2-2	.500
Furman	4-10	.286
Mercer	1-1	.500
Samford	2-0	1.000
Chattanooga	5-12	.313
VMI	5-3	.625
Western Carolina	2-6	.250
Wofford	4-1	.800
Total	32-42	.432

EXPERIENCED COACHES: Wofford head coach Mike Ayers is the dean of SoCon coaches. Ayers has tallied 141 wins at ETSU and Wofford while coaching in the Southern Conference. He ranks third on the league's all-time wins list behind Appalachian State's Jerry Moore and Duke's Wallace Wade. Mercer's Bobby Lamb is fourth on the all-time wins list with 78.

SoCon Wins Leaders	Wins
1. Jerry Moore, Appalachian State (1989-2012)	215
2. Wallace Wade, Alabama (1923-30); Duke (1931-41; 1946-50)	171
3. Mike Ayers, ETSU (1985-87); Wofford (1997-present)	141
4. Bobby Lamb, Furman (2002-2010) and Mercer (2014-pres.)	78
5. D.C. Walker, Wake Forest (1937-50)	77
6. Frank Howard, Clemson (1940-52)	69
Dick Sheridan, Furman (1978-85)	69
8. H.C. Byrd, Maryland (1921-34)	68
9. Jimmy Satterfield, Furman (1986-93)	66
Bob Waters, Western Carolina (1977-88)	66

SoCon vs. Other Conferences

FBS Opponents (0-0)
American (0-0)
 Western Carolina at East Carolina Sept. 3

ACC (0-0)
 Mercer at Georgia Tech Sept. 10
 The Citadel at North Carolina Nov. 19
 Chattanooga at Florida State Nov. 21

Big Ten (0-0)
 Furman at Michigan State Sept. 2

Mid-American (0-0)
 VMI at Akron Sept. 3

Southeastern (0-0)
 Wofford at Mississippi Sept. 10
 Samford at Mississippi State Oct. 29
 Chattanooga at Alabama Nov. 19
 Western Carolina at South Carolina Nov. 19

Sun Belt (0-0)
 Furman at Coastal Carolina Sept. 24

FCS Opponents (0-0)
Big South (0-0)
 ETSU at Kennesaw State Sept. 3
 Presbyterian at Chattanooga Sept. 10
 Gardner-Webb at Western Carolina Sept. 10
 The Citadel at Gardner-Webb Sept. 17
 Kennesaw State at Furman Oct. 1

Ohio Valley (0-0)
 Wofford at Tennessee Tech Sept. 1
 Tennessee Tech at Mercer Sept. 17
 Mercer at Austin Peay Oct. 22

Patriot League (0-0)
 VMI at Bucknell Sept. 24

Pioneer League (0-0)
 VMI at Morehead State Sept. 10

Southland Conference (0-0)
 Samford at Central Arkansas Sept. 10

Non-Division I Opponents (0-0)
 Mars Hill at Samford Sept. 3
 Shorter at Chattanooga Sept. 3
 Johnson C. Smith at Wofford Sept. 10
 North Greenville at The Citadel Oct. 8
 West Virginia Wesleyan at ETSU Oct. 20
 Cumberland at ETSU Nov. 12

Southern Conference Coaching Records

Coach, School	Years at School	Record at School	SoCon Record	SoCon Pct.	Career Record	Career Pct.
Brent Thompson, The Citadel	1	0-0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000
Carl Torbush, ETSU	2	2-9	0-0	.000	22-35	.386
Bruce Fowler, Furman	6	24-35	17-20	.459	24-35	.407
Bobby Lamb, Mercer	4	20-14	46-36	.561	88-54	.620
Chris Hatcher, Samford	2	6-5	15-15	.500	127-62	.672
Russ Huesman, Chattanooga	8	50-33	36-18	.667	50-33	.610
Scott Wachenheim, VMI	2	2-9	1-6	.143	2-9	.182
Mark Speir, Western Carolina	5	17-29	11-19	.367	17-29	.370
Mike Ayers, Wofford	29	188-131-1	94-73	.563	199-152-2	.566

2016 Southern Conference Football Schedules



The Citadel (0-0, 0-0)

S. 1	*at Mercer (FSSE)	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	*FURMAN (ESPN3)	6:00 p.m.
S. 17	at Gardner-Webb	6:00 p.m.
O. 1	*at Western Carolina (ESPN3)	3:30 p.m.
O. 8	N. GREENVILLE (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
O. 15	*CHATTANOOGA (FSSE)	6:00 p.m.
O. 22	*at Wofford (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 29	*ETSU (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 5	*SAMFORD (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 12	*at VMI (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 19	at North Carolina	TBA



ETSU (0-0, 0-0)

S. 3	at Kennesaw State	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	*WESTERN CAROLINA (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
S. 24	*at Wofford (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 1	*CHATTANOOGA	12:00 p.m.
O. 8	*at VMI (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 15	*FURMAN	12:00 p.m.
O. 20	WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN	7:30 p.m.
O. 29	*at The Citadel (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 5	*at Mercer (FSSE)	3:00 p.m.
N. 12	CUMBERLAND COLLEGE	1:00 p.m.
N. 19	*SAMFORD	3:30 p.m.



Furman (0-0, 0-0)

S. 2	at Michigan State (BTN)	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	*at The Citadel (ESPN3)	6:00 p.m.
S. 17	*CHATTANOOGA (ESPN3)	7:00 p.m.
S. 24	*at Coastal Carolina	6:00 p.m.
O. 1	KENNESAW ST. (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
O. 8	*SAMFORD (ESPN3)	1:00 p.m.
O. 15	*at ETSU	12:00 p.m.
O. 29	*at VMI (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 5	*WOFFORD (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 12	*WESTERN CAROLINA (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
N. 19	*at Mercer (FSSE)	3:00 p.m.



Mercer (0-0, 0-0)

S. 1	*THE CITADEL (FSSE)	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	at Georgia Tech (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
S. 17	TENNESSEE TECH	4:00 p.m.
O. 1	*at VMI (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 8	*at Chattanooga	4:00 p.m.
O. 15	*WESTERN CAROLINA (ESPN3)	4:00 p.m.
O. 22	at Austin Peay	4:00 p.m.
O. 29	*at Wofford (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 5	*ETSU (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
N. 12	*at Samford (ESPN3)	3:30 p.m.
N. 19	*FURMAN (FSSE)	3:00 p.m.



Samford (0-0, 0-0)

S. 1	MARS HILL (ESPN3)	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	at Central Arkansas	7:00 p.m.
S. 24	*at Chattanooga	2:00 p.m.
O. 1	*WOFFORD (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
O. 8	*at Furman (ESPN3)	1:00 p.m.
O. 15	*VMI (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
O. 22	*WESTERN CAROLINA (ASN)	7:00 p.m.
O. 29	at Mississippi State	TBA
N. 5	*at The Citadel (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 12	*MERCER (ESPN3)	3:30 p.m.
N. 19	*at ETSU	3:30 p.m.



Chattanooga (0-0, 0-0)

S. 1	SHORTER	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	PRESBYTERIAN	2:00 p.m.
S. 17	*at Furman (ESPN3)	7:00 p.m.
S. 24	*SAMFORD	2:00 p.m.
O. 1	*at ETSU	12:00 p.m.
O. 8	*MERCER	4:00 p.m.
O. 15	*at The Citadel (FSSE)	6:00 p.m.
O. 22	*VMI	2:00 p.m.
O. 29	*at Western Carolina	3:30 p.m.
No. 12	*WOFFORD	2:00 p.m.
N. 19	at Alabama	TBA



VMI (0-0, 0-0)

S. 3	at Akron (ESPN3)	6:30 p.m.
S. 10	at Morehead St.	6:00 p.m.
S. 24	at Bucknell	3:00 p.m.
O. 1	*MERCER (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 8	*ETSU (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 15	*at Samford (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
O. 22	*at Chattanooga	2:00 p.m.
O. 29	*FURMAN (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 5	*at Western Carolina (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 12	*THE CITADEL (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 19	*at Wofford (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.



Western Carolina (0-0, 0-0)

S. 3	at East Carolina (ESPN3)	6:00 p.m.
S. 10	GARDNER-WEBB	6:00 p.m.
S. 17	*at ETSU (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 1	*THE CITADEL (ESPN3)	3:30 p.m.
O. 8	*WOFFORD (ESPN3)	6:00 p.m.
O. 15	*at Mercer (ESPN3)	4:00 p.m.
O. 22	*at Samford (ASN)	7:00 p.m.
O. 29	*CHATTANOOGA	3:30 p.m.
N. 5	*VMI (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.
N. 12	*at Furman (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
N. 19	at South Carolina	TBA



Wofford (0-0, 0-0)

S. 1	at Tennessee Tech	7:00 p.m.
S. 10	at Ole Miss (SEC)	4:00 p.m.
S. 17	JOHNSON C. SMITH (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
S. 24	*ETSU (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 1	*at Samford (ESPN3)	3:00 p.m.
O. 8	*at Western Carolina (ASN)	7:00 p.m.
O. 22	*THE CITADEL (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
O. 29	*MERCER (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 5	*at Furman (ESPN3)	1:30 p.m.
N. 12	*at Chattanooga	2:00 p.m.
N. 19	*VMI (ESPN3)	2:00 p.m.

SoCon By the Numbers

Home Field Records

Team	W	L	T	Pct.	Yrs.	Stadium Name
The Citadel	223	141	3	.612	67th	Johnson Hagood
ETSU	2	4	0	.333	2nd	Kermit Tipton
Furman	160	53	1	.750	34th	Paladin
Mercer	15	6	0	.714	4th	Five Star
Samford	153	80	4	.654	47th	Seibert
Chattanooga	51	50	0	.505	18th	Finley
VMI	97	142	3	.407	54th	Foster
Western Carolina	120	94	2	.560	41st	E.J. Whitmire
Wofford	78	31	0	.716	19th	Gibbs

All-Time Conference Record

Team	Years	W	L	T	Pct.
The Citadel	78	196	287	5	.410
ETSU	26	68	112	0	.378
Furman	78	256	204	11	.556
Mercer	3	3	11	0	.214
Samford	9	32	30	0	.516
Chattanooga	40	133	144	2	.476
VMI	82	181	286	23	.392
Western Carolina	40	106	176	1	.376
Wofford	20	88	58	0	.600

Southern Conference Champions

No.	Team	Years
13	Furman	1978c-80-81-82-83-85-88c-89-90-99c-01c-04c-13c
7	Chattanooga	1977c-78c-79-84-13c-14-15c
7	VMI	1951c-57-59-60-62-74-77c
4	Wofford	2003-07c-10c-12c
3	The Citadel	1961-92-15c
1	Samford	2013c

c-denotes co-champions

Shutout Chart

Team	Last Shutout Win	Games Ago	Last Shutout Loss	Games Ago
The Citadel	69-0, Davidson, 2015	13	35-0, Wofford, 2010	62
ETSU	44-0, Concord College, 2003	22	52-0, Mercer, 2015	6
Furman	10-0, Elon, 2004	136	45-0, Samford, 2014	16
Mercer	52-0, ETSU, 2015	6	52-0, Rollins, 1941	40
Samford	43-0, Clark Atlanta, 2015	3	29-0, Tennessee Tech, 2000	167
Chattanooga	21-0, Presbyterian, 2015	9	49-0, Alabama, 2013	26
VMI	49-0, St. Francis (Pa.), 2008	89	49-0, Virginia, 2013	31
Western Carolina	35-0, Shorter, 2008	89	51-0, Chattanooga, 2014	15
Wofford	16-0, Gardner-Webb, 2015	8	3-0, Gardner-Webb, 2013	30

SoCon Media Relations Directory

School	Website	Media Relations	Email	Office Phone	Press Box Phone
The Citadel	www.citadelsports.com	Derek Satterfield	dsatterf@citadel.edu	(843) 953-5120	(843) 953-5004
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Mercer	www.mercerbears.com	Patrick Walsh	walsh_pt@mercer.edu	(478) 301-5209	(318) 514-9203
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VMI	www.vmikeydets.com	Wade Branner	brannerwh@vmi.edu	(540) 464-7515	(540) 464-7834
Western Carolina	www.catamountsports.com	Daniel Hooker	dhooker@email.wcu.edu	(828) 227-2339	(828) 227-2116
Wofford	www.woffordterriers.com	Brent Williamson	williamsondb@wofford.edu	(864) 597-4093	(864) 597-4487
SoCon	www.soconsports.com	Jason Yaman	jjyaman@socon.org	(864) 591-5100	