



BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE

Weekly Football Report Monday, Nov. 8, 2004

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BIG SOUTH FOOTBALL STANDINGS											
Team	Conference			Overall			Home	Road	Neu	L10	Streak
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.					
Coastal Carolina	3	0	1.000	8	1	.889	5-0	3-1	0-0	8-1	W6
Liberty	3	1	.750	4	5	.444	3-2	1-3	0-0	4-5	W2
Charleston Southern	1	1	.500	5	3	.625	4-0	1-3	0-0	5-3	W1
Gardner-Webb	1	2	.333	3	6	.333	2-2	1-4	0-0	3-6	L2
VMI	0	4	.000	0	10	.000	0-4	0-6	0-0	0-10	L10

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS	
Saturday, Nov. 6	
at COASTAL CAROLINA	52
Savannah State	14
LIBERTY	38
at VMI *	17
at CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	58
Allen	6
at #10 Wofford	49
GARDNER-WEBB	17

* Denotes Big South Conference game

CHOICE HOTELS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**Sam Gado • Running Back • Senior
Liberty • Columbia, S.C.**

For the second-straight week, Gado rushed for three touchdowns in a game, tallying 166 rushing yards for a 7.2 per carry average in LU's 38-17 win at VMI. The senior paced the Flames in their second-straight Big South win and first road victory of the season with his fourth 100-yard rushing game of the season and sixth of his career. Gado added a 52-yard touchdown run late in the game, marking the third-longest rush of his career.

NEW BALANCE DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**Adam DeGraffenreid • Defensive End • Junior
Charleston Southern • Wichita, Kan.**

DeGraffenreid recorded five total tackles in CSU's win over Allen, three of which were for losses of 15 yards, including one sack for -7. DeGraffenreid is third in the League in tackles for loss, and also tied for second with five sacks on the season.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 13	
GARDNER-WEBB	Noon
at CHARLESTON SOUTHERN *	
(C-SET)	
Jacksonville	12:30 pm
at #24 COASTAL CAROLINA	
LIBERTY	1:30 pm
at Chattanooga	

* Denotes Big South Conference game

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**Josh Hoke • Kicker • Sophomore
Coastal Carolina • Statesville, N.C.**

Hoke was perfect on all seven PATs and added a 31-yard field goal for 10 points in the win over Savannah State. On kickoffs, he pinned the Tigers deep, as SSU's average starting field position was its own 24-yard line.

FRESHMAN PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**Barrett Way • Kicker
VMI • Richmond, Va.**

Way booted an Alumni Field record 53-yard field goal in the first half against Liberty. It tied him for the longest in Big South history and second-longest in school history -- equaling Matt Sharpe's 53-yarder against Coastal Carolina last year. Way also connected on his two PATs.

UPCOMING TV GAMES

Saturday, Nov. 20	
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	7:00pm
at COASTAL CAROLINA *	
(CSS)	

CSS: Comcast Sports Southeast

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Liberty 00211890
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 UNC Asheville 00211910
 VMI 00211880
 Winthrop 00211920

2004 BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

<u>Week</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>
Sept. 6	RB Marcus Hamilton, Liberty 11-108-2 TDs; 9.8 AVG; 50-yard run	FS Mario Williams, Gardner-Webb 15 TT (5-10); 1 FR (TD); 1 INT (65-yd TD)
Sept. 13	WR Kory Alston, Gardner-Webb 3-115-2 TDs; 38.3 AVG (TD - 65, 35 yds)	CB Allen Davis, Gardner-Webb 8 TT (7-1); 5 PB; 1 INT (29-yd TD)
Sept. 20	WR Eddie Gadson, Coastal Carolina 5-73-2 TDs; Punt Returns: 3-17 RB Eugene Goodman, Liberty 26-142-1 TD; 2-18 Receiving	LB Justin Huggard, VMI 13 TT (8-5); 1 INT (25 yds); 3.5 TFL (13 yds)
Sept. 27	QB Nick Roberts, Gardner-Webb PASS: 21-41-259, 1 TD; RUSH: 11-35-1 TD	FS Mario Williams, Gardner-Webb 14 TT (9-5); 1 TFL; 2 PB
Oct. 5	QB Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern PASS: 29-42-330, 2 TDs; RUSH: 8-14 RB Sam Gado, Liberty 24-219-2 TDs; 9.1 AVG; 79-yard TD run	LB Manny Rojas, Liberty 9 TT (5-4); 2 TFL (1 yd); 2 QB Hurries
Oct. 11	QB Tyler Thigpen, Coastal Carolina PASS: 9-20-200, 3 TDs; RUSH: 7-83-1 TD	DT Harold Wells, Gardner-Webb 14 TT (6-8); 4.5 TFL (17 yds); 2 Sacks (11 yds)
Oct. 18	WR Perry Parks, Coastal Carolina 3-52-1 TD; Game-winning 30-yard TD catch	DE Robert Mason, VMI 15 TT (5-10); 1 INT; Blocked 20-yard FG
Oct. 25	QB Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern PASS: 17-23-320, 5 TDs, 0 INT; Long 52	LB Tavoris Horton, Gardner-Webb 12 TT (6-6); 2.5 TFL (3 yds); 1 sack, 1 INT (36-yd TD)
Nov. 1	RB Dre Barnes, Liberty 30-211-1 TD, 7.0 AVG, Long 32 RB Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina 19-103-2 TDs; 5.4 AVG; Long 23	DT Harold Wells, Gardner-Webb 13 TT (6-7); 2.5 TFL (16 yds); 2 sacks (15 yards), FF
Nov. 8	RB Sam Gado, Liberty 23-166-3 TDs, 7.2 AVG; Long 52	DE Adam DeGraffenreid, Charleston Southern 5 TT (3-2); 3.0 TFL (15 yds); 1 sack (7 yards)

2004 SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

<u>Week</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Sept. 6	KR/PR Alonzia Phillips, Liberty PR: 1-29; blocked punt for TD
Sept. 13	P Graham Whitlock, Gardner-Webb 3-135; 45.0 AVG (Long 49)
Sept. 20	PK/P Nick Ellis, Charleston Southern 5-185; 37.0 AVG; 1-1 FG; 5-5 PATs
Sept. 27	PK Josh Hoke, Coastal Carolina 7-7 PATs, 3-3 FG (Long 43)
Oct. 5	P Noah Crouch, Liberty 6-261; 45.3 AVG (Long 51)
Oct. 11	PK Josh Hoke, Coastal Carolina 6-6 PATs, 2-3 FG (Long 41)
Oct. 18	P Rob Williams, Coastal Carolina 6-218; 36.3 AVG (Long 48); VMI-1 PR, 1 yd
Oct. 25	PK Hunter Smith, Gardner-Webb 3-3 FG (Long 45); 1-1 PAT
Nov. 1	P Rob Williams, Coastal Carolina 5-183; 36.6 AVG (Long 46)
Nov. 8	K Josh Hoke, Coastal Carolina 7-7 PATs, 1-1 FG (31 yards)

2004 FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK

<u>Week</u>	<u>Freshman</u>
Sept. 6	WR Jerome Simpson, Coastal Carolina 4-59-2 TDs; 14.8 AVG (TD - 16, 29 yds)
Sept. 13	WR Jerome Simpson, Coastal Carolina 6-89-1 TD; 13.8 AVG (TD - 45 yds)
Sept. 20	DB C.J. Hirschman, Charleston Southern 2 INT (Long-19 yards); 3 TT
Sept. 27	LB Brian Johnston, Gardner-Webb 10 TT; 2 TFLs; 2 Sacks
Oct. 5	WR Maurice Price, Charleston Southern 6-87-1 TD; 14.5 AVG, Game-tying TD
Oct. 11	WR Jerome Simpson, Coastal Carolina 4-108-3 TDs; 27.0 AVG (TD - 9, 20, 34 yds)
Oct. 18	DB Marrio Norman, Coastal Carolina 7 TT (3-4); 1 TFL; 2 PB
Oct. 25	FB Mike Tolbert, Coastal Carolina 10-107-1 TD; 10.7 AVG; 52-yard run
Nov. 1	DE Ro-Derick Middleton, Coastal Carolina 3 TT (1-2), 1 TFL, 1 Sack (5 yards)
Nov. 8	K Barrett Way, VMI 1-2 FG (53 yards); 2-2 PATs; FG tied League record

AIR TIME

The Big South returns to the tube for the third-straight weekend, as Gardner-Webb travels to Charleston Southern in a battle for third place in the Conference standings. The game will be broadcasted by Carolinas Sports Entertainment Television (C-SET) at Noon. The match-up marks the first time that the two schools have met with GWU holding a losing record (3-6) and Charleston Southern with a winning record (5-3) at the time of the game. The game will also conclude Big South play for the Bulldogs, while the Bucs will still have to face League-leader Coastal Carolina in two weeks.

24TH AND CLIMBING

In just its second season of football, Coastal Carolina has slid into the National spotlight in recent weeks. The Chanticleers jumped into the 24th spot in the latest *Sports Network* poll and 26th in *Don Hansen's Weekly Football Gazette*. Coastal has also received votes in the ESPN/USA Today rankings for three-straight weeks. Following Week Eight's win over Liberty, Coastal was named the "I-AA National Team of the Week" by *CollegeSportsReport.com*. The web publication covers all I-AA conferences and has weekly awards for the top team and performer of the week in each conference, as well as national team and individual awards. The last Big South team to be ranked in the top-25 was Gardner-Webb last season, when the Bulldogs were No. 25 in Weeks One and Two.

STREAKING

Coastal Carolina improved to 8-1 on the season with its 52-14 win over Savannah State Saturday. The Chants are riding a six-game winning streak, while the eight wins surpasses the school mark of six, set last year in its first year of football. If CCU can hold off Jacksonville this weekend, the Chants will tie the League record of nine wins, set by Gardner-Webb in 2002.

BROKEN RECORD

Coastal Carolina leads the nation in Pass Efficiency Defense at 79.6. Meanwhile, through nine games, the Chants are on pace to shatter several Big South season records. Among them:

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PACE	BIG SOUTH RECORD
Passing Defense Efficiency	79.6		106.1 - VMI, 2003
Scoring Offense	34.3	377	29.9 (359) - VMI, 2003
Scoring Defense	13.9	144	20.4 (204) - Gardner-Webb, 2002
Rushing Offense (per game)	260.7	-	223.1 - Elon, 2002
Rushing Yards	2,346	2,868	2,614 - Liberty, 2003
Average per rush	5.5	-	4.8 - (two teams)
Rushing Defense	140.9		142.8 - Gardner-Webb, 2003
Total Defense	294.8		320.4 - Gardner-Webb, 2003

TURNING 50

Charleston Southern notched 58 points against Allen, while Coastal Carolina racked up 52 vs. Savannah State Saturday, marking the fifth and sixth times a Big South school has reached the 50-point mark this season, surpassing the Conference's season record of four, established in 2003. The Bucs and the Chants have tallied 50+ points twice this season, while Liberty (55) and Gardner-Webb (56) have conquered the feat once.

COASTAL DOMINATION

In its three Big South games this season, Coastal is allowing just 14.0 points per game. The top scoring defense in Conference games is Gardner-Webb's 14.8 average in 2003. Meanwhile, Coastal has posted three overall games of allowing less than 10 points, tying Charleston Southern (2002) for the second-most in a season. VMI allowed less than 10 points in a game a record four times in 2003.

BACK ON TOP

Senior Liberty RB **DRE BARNES** returned from injury in Week Eight, rushing for 43 yards at Coastal Carolina. He followed that up with a season-high 211 yards and set a school record for 200-yard rushing games. With his 180-yard performance at VMI Saturday, he became Liberty's all-time leading rusher at 3,819 and the first Big South player to amass over 3,000 yards (3,065).

TRIPLE-THREAT

Liberty RB **SAM GADO** became the first Big South player this season to score three touchdowns in back-to-back games. He tallied three TDs in Week Nine against Charleston Southern and followed that up with a triple-score performance Saturday at VMI.

BIG SOUTH vs. other Conferences

Atlantic-10	0-4
James Madison	0-1
Richmond	0-1
William & Mary	0-2
Gateway	0-1
Youngstown State	0-1
Mid-American Conference	0-2
Ohio	0-1
Kent State	0-1
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference	1-2
Morgan State	1-0
Hampton	0-1
Howard	0-1
Ohio Valley	0-2
Tennessee Tech	0-2
Patriot League	0-2
Lehigh	0-1
Georgetown	0-1
Pioneer League	3-0
Morehead State	1-0
Davidson	1-0
Jacksonville	1-0
Southern	1-1
Western Carolina	1-0
Furman	0-1
Wofford	0-1
The Citadel	
Chattanooga	
Elon	
Southland	0-0
Southeastern Louisiana	
Non Division I	7-2
Charleston (WVa)	2-0
North Greenville	2-0
Allen	1-0
Savannah State	1-0
West Virginia Tech	1-0
Newberry	0-1
Presbyterian	0-1
TOTAL	12-17 (.414)

THE MIZZ

VMI rusher **SEAN MIZZER** tallied 41 yards rushing Saturday against Liberty, pushing his season total to 656, which ranks third in the Conference. Mizzer, who has 2,010 career yards, has tallied 1,900 during VMI's one-plus years in the Big South, and needs 100 yards to become just the second RB to amass 2,000 rushing yards in the Big South.

4,000 STRONG

Charleston Southern QB **COLLIN DRAFTS** threw for a Conference-record 419 yards against Allen, pushing his career total to 4,066 in just 19 games. Gardner-Webb's **NICK ROBERTS** was the first Big South QB to reach that feat during Week Nine. Roberts' total stands at 4,202.

GENUINE DRAFTS

Charleston Southern sophomore QB **COLLIN DRAFTS** tied a Big South record with 5 TD passes in Week Eight against North Greenville. He now shares the mark with former Gardner-Webb signal caller **JEREMY MARTIN**, who tossed five touchdowns against Savannah State in 2002. Drafts is enjoying a fine season, and is challenging several Big South marks this year:

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PACE	BIG SOUTH RECORD
Completions	175	219	203 (Nick Roberts, GWU, 2003)
Attempts	274	343	338 (Nick Roberts, GWU, 2003)
Percentage	61.6	--	60.1 (Nick Roberts, GWU, 2003)
Passing Efficiency	134.4	--	129.8 (Jeremy Martin, GWU, 2002)
Touchdown Passes	17	21	20 (Nick Roberts, GWU, 2002)
Passing Yards	2089	2611	2260 (Jonathan Wilson, VMI, 2003)
Passing Yards per game	261	--	216.6 (Jeremy Martin, GWU, 2002)

Drafts has notched four games with at least 25 completions this season, and tied a Conference record of 29 pass completions in CSU's win against VMI in Week Five. He also has four career 300-yard passing games, a Big South best. Not to be outdone, but GWU's **NICK ROBERTS** is on pace for 370 pass attempts and 2,437 passing yards this season as well.

DOUBLE-TEAM

In what seems to be becoming the norm for Liberty, RBs **DRE BARNES** and **SAM GADO** became the fifth pair of running backs this season and the 10th in school history to rush for 100 or more yards in the same game, as Barnes rushed for a 180 yards and a score, while Gado rushed for 166 yards and three touchdowns at VMI.

GOLDEN TOE

VMI freshman kicker **BARRETT WAY** converted a 53-yard field goal against Liberty Saturday, setting an Alumni Field record. The boot also tied him for the longest in Big South history and second-longest in school history -- equaling Matt Sharpe's 53-yarder against Coastal Carolina last year.

KEY-DETS

VMI WRs **ZOHN BURDEN** and **GARY PRICE** each extended their pass-catch streak to 22 games with receptions vs. Liberty Saturday. Burden has caught a pass in 30 of his 34 career games, while Price has a reception in 25 of his 34 career appearances. With 10 catches vs. LU, Burden total stands at 54 on the season, surpassing his personal best of 36 receptions last season. Price had four catches for 31 yards, giving him 36 on the year, which surpassed his career-high of 32.

CATCH OF THE DAY

Charleston Southern WR **HARRY SEABROOK** hauled in six passes for 148 yards in Week Eight against North Greenville, the highest receiving yardage this season and fourth-most in Big South history. He has caught six passes in three consecutive games and is fourth in the League in that category. Meanwhile, teammate **EDDIE GADSON**'s Conference-leading catch total now stands at 55. He is ninth in Division I-AA with 6.88 receptions per game.

GETTING HIS KICKS

Coastal Carolina PK **JOSH HOKE** became the first kicker to score 100 points, when he tallied four extra-points Week Eight against Liberty. He leads the Big South in kick scoring with 63 points, and now has 118 in his career.

400-YARD PASSING GAMES

- 1 Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern

300-YARD PASSING GAMES

- 2 Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern
- 1 Nick Roberts, Gardner-Webb

5-TOUCHDOWN PASSING GAMES

- 1 Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern

4-TOUCHDOWN PASSING GAMES

- 1 Nick Roberts, Gardner-Webb

200-YARD RUSHING GAMES

- 1 Sam Gado, Liberty
- 1 Dre Barnes, Liberty

100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

- 5 Eugene Goodman, Liberty
- 4 Sam Gado, Liberty
- 2 Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina
- 2 Sean Mizzer, VMI
- 1 Marcus Hamilton, Liberty
- 1 Aundres Perkins, Coastal Carolina
- 1 Kenny Harper, Charleston Southern
- 1 Jermaine Boston, Gardner-Webb
- 1 Mike Tolbert, Coastal Carolina
- 1 Dre Barnes, Liberty

CONSECUTIVE 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

- 5 Eugene Goodman, Liberty
(9/4 - 10/2)
- 2 Sam Gado, Liberty
(9/27 - 10/2, 10/30 - 11/6)
- 2 Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina
(10/30 - 11/6)

100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES

- 2 Kory Alston, Gardner-Webb
- 2 Zohn Burden, VMI
- 2 Eddie Gadson, Charleston Southern
- 2 Harry Seabrook, Charleston Southern
- 1 Maurice Price, Charleston Southern
- 1 Aaron Richardson, Gardner-Webb
- 1 Jerome Simpson, Coastal Carolina

CONSECUTIVE 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES

- 2 Kory Alston, Gardner-Webb
(9/4 through 9/11)

MULTI-TOUCHDOWN GAMES

Player	2	3	4	5
Sam Gado, LU	1	2		
Patrick Hall, CCU	3			
Jerome Simpson, CCU	1	1		
Kory Alston, GWU	2			
Ben Hampton, CCU	2			
Eddie Gadson, CSU	2			
Aundres Perkins, CCU	1			
Zohn Burden, VMI	1			
Dre Barnes, LU	1			
Marcus Hamilton, LU	1			
Mario Williams, GWU	1			
Robert Adams, CSU	1			
Kenny Harper, CSU	1			
Nick Roberts, GWU	1			
Sean Mizzer, VMI	1			
Harry Seabrook, CSU	1			

WHO'S ON FIRST?

Coastal Carolina is 8-0 when the Chants score the first points of the game, and are 8-0 when leading after three quarters. Charleston Southern is 5-1 when scoring first, and 4-0 leading after 45 minutes. Liberty is 4-1 when scoring first, and 4-0 when leading after three quarters. Gardner-Webb is 1-1 when scoring first and 1-0 when leading after three periods. VMI has not scored the first points of a ballgame this season. Meanwhile, Charleston Southern and Gardner-Webb are the lone teams to record wins when trailing entering the fourth quarter.

THE DEFENSE NEVER RESTS

Coastal Carolina and Charleston Southern are 1-2 in the Big South in scoring defense. The Chants are 3rd nationally with a 13.9 average, while the Bucs are 13th at 17.2 points allowed. The Big South record is 20.4 points allowed, set by Gardner-Webb in 2002. CSU and CCU do not meet until the final weekend of the season, Nov. 20, in Charleston, S.C. The game will be televised on Comcast Sports Southeast.

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN SURPASSES '03 POINT TOTAL

After scoring 58 points against Allen Saturday, the 5-3 Buccaneers have scored 240 points through eight games, a 30.0 average, which bettered the 2001 total (226 points). CSU is six points away from surpassing the 2000 total of 246. Meanwhile, Charleston Southern's five wins is the most since back-to-back 5-6 seasons in 2000 and 2001.

FIVE-FOR-FIVE

This season, five interceptions have been returned for touchdowns, three times by Gardner-Webb and twice by Coastal Carolina. In 2003, five interceptions were also returned for scores. Gardner-Webb has tallied an interception return for a touchdown each season of Big South football.

WHIT-KICK

Whitlock punted three times for a season-best average of 48.3 yards per kick, including a season-long 65-yarder that pinned #10 Wofford inside its 20-yard line early in the game. Whitlock currently ranks in the top-10 at the Division I-AA level and leads the Big South with an average of 43.4 yards per punt in 2004. He is also the Division I-AA career active leader in punting average. The Laurens, S.C., native led the nation in punting last season with the 15th-best single season effort in I-AA history (45.5 ypp).

BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE TV SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 13

GARDNER-WEBB noon
at CHARLESTON SOUTHERN * (C-SET - Carolinas Sports Entertainment Television)

Saturday, Nov. 20

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN 7:00pm
at COASTAL CAROLINA * (CSS - Comcast Sports Southeast)

CONSECUTIVE MULTI-TOUCHDOWN GAMES

- 2 Kory Alston, Gardner-Webb (9/4 through 9/11)
- 2 Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina (10/23 through 10/30)
- 2 Sam Gado, Liberty (10/30 through 11/6)

TEAMMATES w/ 100-YARDS RUSHING, SAME GAME

- 5 Liberty (Hamilton 108, Goodman 107 - 9/4) (Goodman 109, Gado 101 - 9/27) (Gado 219, Goodman 112 - 10/2) (Barnes 211, Gado 150 - 10/30) (Barnes 180, Gado 166 - 11/6)

BIG SOUTH in the NCAA STATISTICS

Offensive and Special Teams (thru Nov. 6)

All Purpose Running

Sam Gado, LU12th
Sean Mizzer, VMI42nd

Field Goals

Josh Hoke, CCU39th
Hunter Smith, GWU44th

Interceptions

Quinton Teal, CCU12th
Allen Davis, GWUT-35th
Jensen Turner, GWUT-35th

Kickoff Returns

Ralphell Goodson, GWU36th

Pass Efficiency

Collin Drafts, CSU13th

Punting

Graham Whitlock, GWU7th
Noah Crouch, LU32nd
Adam Peters, VMI42nd

Punt Returns

Allen Davis, GWU40th

Receptions Per Game

Eddie Gadson, CSU9th
Zohn Burden, VMI32nd
Harry Seabrook, CSU38th

Receiving Yards Per Game

Eddie Gadson, CSU35th
Kory Alston, GWU48th

Rushing Yards Per Game

Sam Gado, Liberty18th

Total Offense

Collin Drafts, CSU13th
Nick Roberts, GWU17th

Defensive (thru 10/30/04)

Solo Tackles

Robert Mason, VMIT-23rd

Forced Fumbles

C.J. Moore, LUT-35th

Passes Defended

Allen Davis, GWU4th
Quinton Teal, CCUT-9th
Greg Williamson, CCUT-29th
Jared Brogden, LUT-35th

Tackles For Loss

Harold Well, GWU3rd
Kelvin McIver, CCUT-33rd

BIG SOUTH MEDIA INFORMATION

The following details each school's plans for weekly press conferences and other interview opportunities with coaches and/or players. Please contact the respective SID for more information.

<u>School</u>	<u>Weekly Press Conference</u>	<u>Additional Coach Availability</u>
Charleston Southern	none	contact SID
Coastal Carolina	Wednesdays, noon	Mornings (contact SID)
Gardner-Webb	Tuesdays, 11:30am	Tuesdays, 11:00am (contact SID)
Liberty	Tuesdays, 3:15pm	contact SID
VMI	none	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, 8:00-10:00am (contact SID)

2004 BIG SOUTH PRESEASON POLL

For the third-straight year, Gardner-Webb was chosen as the Big South Conference preseason football favorite, capturing nine first-place votes and 46 overall points. Below are the 2004 preseason poll results, with first-place votes in parenthesis:

1. Gardner-Webb (9).....46
2. Liberty.....33
3. VMI.....30
4. Coastal Carolina (1).....28
5. Charleston Southern.....13

BIG SOUTH PRESEASON HONORS

Preseason Offensive Player of the Year
Dre Barnes, Sr., Liberty

Preseason Defensive Player of the Year
Mario Williams, Sr., Gardner-Webb

ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

OFFENSE

- QB Nick Roberts, Jr., Gardner-Webb
- RB Dre Barnes, Sr., Liberty
- RB Sean Mizzer, Jr., VMI
- WR Austin Gaines, So., Gardner-Webb
- WR Lauren Williams, R-Jr., Liberty
- WR Zohn Burden, Jr., VMI
- WR Gary Price, Jr., VMI
- TE Stephen Knorr, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- OL Bryce Gregory, Sr., Charleston Southern
- OL Nick Johnson, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- OL Ryan Smith, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- OL Sean Boyle, Sr., Liberty
- OL Jeremy Ward, R-Jr., VMI

DEFENSE

- DL Adam DeGraffenreid, Jr., Charleston Southern
- DL Adrain Grady, So., Coastal Carolina
- DL Harold Wells, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- DL Seth Reichert, Sr., Liberty
- LB Bowe Butler, Sr., Charleston Southern
- LB Maurice Simpkins, Jr., Coastal Carolina
- LB Kappy Baucom, Jr., Gardner-Webb
- LB Todd Baldwin, Jr., VMI
- DB Kijana Thomas, Sr., Charleston Southern
- DB Mario Williams, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- DB C.J. Moore, R-Jr., Liberty
- DB Robert Mason, Jr., VMI

SPECIAL TEAMS

- PK Hunter Smith, So., Gardner-Webb
- P Graham Whitlock, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- KR/PR Kijana Thomas, Sr., Charleston Southern
- LS Jake Neal, Sr., Gardner-Webb

THE BIG SOUTH IN THE 2004 NATIONAL I-AA POLLS

Date	CSU	CCU	GWU	LU	VMI
Preseason	--/--/--	--/--/--	RV/RV/RV/--	--/--/--	RV/--/--
Sept. 6	--/--/--	--/--/--	RV/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Sept. 13	--/--/--	--/--/--	RV/RV/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Sept. 20	--/--/--	--/--/--	RV/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Sept. 27	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/RV/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Oct. 4	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	RV/RV/--	--/--/--
Oct. 11	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Oct. 18	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Oct. 25	--/--/--	RV/RV/--	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Nov. 1	--/--/--	RV/RV/--/28	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--
Nov. 8	--/--/--	24/RV/--/26	--/--/--	--/--/--	--/--/--

The Sports Network ranking is first, followed by the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll, I-AA.org and Weekly Football Gazette Top-40. Note: there was no ESPN/USA Today poll for the Week of Sept. 6. RV - Received Votes

2004 NATIONAL HONORS

Coastal Carolina

- *CollegeSportsReport.com* National Team of the Week - Oct. 25

Mario Williams, Senior, FS, Gardner-Webb

- I-AA.org National Defensive All-Star of the Week - Sept. 5
- Buck Buchanan Award Candidate
- *The Sports Network* Preseason national No. 2 safety
- *The Sports Network* Preseason All-America (first-team)
- I-AA.org Preseason All-America (first-team)
- *Football Gazette* Preseason All-America (first-team)
- *Lindy's* Preseason All-America
- *Athlon* Preseason All-America
- *Street & Smith's* Preseason All-America

Graham Whitlock, Senior, P, Gardner-Webb

- *The Sports Network* preseason national No. 1 punter
- *The Sports Network* Preseason All-America (first-team)
- I-AA.org Preseason All-America (first-team)
- *Football Gazette* Preseason All-America (third-team)
- *Lindy's* Preseason All-America
- *Athlon* Preseason All-America
- *Street & Smith's* Preseason All-America

Harold Wells, Senior, DT, Gardner-Webb

- *Football Gazette* Preseason All-America (first-team)
- *Football Gazette* National Defensive Player of the Week - Oct. 25

Justin Huggard, Junior, LB, VMI

- *Football Gazette* National Defensive Player of the Week - Sept. 21

Josh Hoke, Sophomore, PK, Coastal Carolina

- *Football Gazette* National Special Teams Player of the Week - Sept. 28



CHARLESTON SOUTHERN BUCCANEERS (5-3, 1-1 Big South)

Head Coach: Jay Mills • Football Contact: David Shelton
SID Phone: 843-863-7688 • SID Email: dshelton@csuniv.edu

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardner-Webb will face CSU for the fourth time Saturday, with the Bulldogs holding a 3-0 series lead. The Bulldogs defeated the Bucs last season, 46-0, and won in Charleston in 2002, 57-15. • CSU set Big South Conference records in total yards (641), and average yards per play (8.8) last week against Allen. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QB COLLIN DRAFTS set a Big South and CSU record with 419 passing yards vs. Allen. Drafts now has 2,089 passing yards this season, 209 short of the CSU single-season record and 171 yards short of the Big South single-season record. • WRs EDDIE GADSON and HARRY SEABROOK each have 500 yards receiving this season, a | <p>first in CSU program history. Seabrook became the fifth player in school history to have 1,000 yards receiving for a career.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSU's 641 total yards last week was a school single-game record, breaking the mark of 630 set in 1998. CSU had five scoring drives of more than 70 yards, a first in school history, including two drives of at least 90 yards. |
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COASTAL CAROLINA CHANTICLEERS (8-1, 3-0 Big South)

Head Coach: David Bennett • Football Contact: John Martin
SID Phone: 843-349-2822 • SID Email: jamartin@coastal.edu

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacksonville holds a 1-0 advantage in the series, as Coastal Carolina came up on the short end of a 14-9 decision at Jacksonville, Sept. 20, 2003. • RB PATRICK HALL is making the most of his opportunity this season. After earning the starting job in fall practice, Hall is just 245 yards shy of the 1,000-yard mark for the season, having | <p>gained 755 yards on 116 carries and nine touchdowns. His 70-yard dash against Savannah State, Nov. 6, tied the school record for the longest run from scrimmage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DB QUINTON TEAL had a solid game all around for the Chanticleers in the win over Savannah State. Teal totalled seven tackles (second most on the team) and added one | <p>tackle for loss, an interception that led to a CCU touchdown, and one pass breakup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freshman WR JEROME SIMPSON had just two catches, but made them count, as he reeled in a pair of touchdowns, including a 51-yard touchdown off a screen pass. For the season, Simpson leads Coastal with 22 catches for 407 yards and eight touchdowns. |
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GARDNER-WEBB RUNNIN' BULLDOGS (4-5, 1-2 Big South)

Head Coach: Steve Patton • Football Contact: Marc Rabb
SID Phone: 704-406-4355; SID Email: mrabb@gardner-webb.edu

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday's meeting will mark the first time that the two schools have met with GWU holding a losing record (3-6) and Charleston Southern with a winning record (5-3) at the time of the game. • Gardner-Webb has dominated the series to date, outscoring the Bucs by a combined 159-17 in the series, which dates back to the 1992 | <p>season. GWU blanked Charleston Southern, 46-0, last November in Boiling Springs, and defeated the, Bucs 57-17, in Charleston, S.C. to clinch the first ever Big South title two seasons ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The six losses by GWU is the most since the 'Dogs went 2-9 in 1996 - the last time the school experienced a losing record in football. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nose guard BRANDON SCHWEITZER netted a career-high 10 tackles against No. 10 Wofford on Saturday and is second in the Big South among defensive linemen this season with 57 tackles. • QB NICK ROBERTS needs only six yards passing to reach the 2,000-yard mark in a season for the second time in two years. |
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LIBERTY FLAMES (4-5, 3-1 Big South)

Head Coach: Ken Karcher • Football Contact: Todd Wetmore
SID Phone: 434-582-2292; SID Email: twetmore@liberty.edu

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will mark the first meeting between the Flames and the Moc. Chattanooga is just one of two current members of the Southern Conference that Liberty has never faced, with The Citadel being the second. • Newly-appointed QB BROCK FARRELL had his first two-touchdown day, as the junior finished with 20-yard TD passes to DRE BARNES | <p>and LAUREN WILLIAMS late in the third quarter at VMI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday's game marked the first time in three tries that the Keydets have held Dre Barnes under 200 yards rushing, as the running back previously rushed for 211 yards last year and 202 yards at Alumni Memorial Field in 2002. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With back-to-back wins over Charleston Southern and VMI, the Flames have set themselves up with the opportunity to finish back-to-back seasons with four-straight wins as Liberty won its final four games of the 2003 season and has won two-straight games this year with two contests remaining. |
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VMI KEYDETS (0-10, 0-4 Big South)

Head Coach: Cal McCombs • Football Contact: Wade Branner
SID Phone: 540-454-7515; SID Email: brannerwh@mail.vmi.edu

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Keydets will enjoy an open weekend before facing No. 10 Wofford Nov. 20 in their season finale. • VMI's 324 yards of total offense against Liberty was a season-high. • WRs ZOHN BURDEN and GARY PRICE both extending consecutive games reception streaks | <p>to 22 games - one short of the school mark held by Kevin Solomon (1999-2002).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QB KIRK MONTELEONE set a school record for single game completions when he completed 27 passes against Liberty - surpassing the old mark of 26 set by Joey Gibson in 2001 vs, ETSU and Dave Brown against Marshall in 1988. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since taking over the QB duties, Montelone |
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