



BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE

Football Report Monday, August 29, 2005

PUBLIC RELATIONS
 Mark Simpson, Director
 marks@bigsouth.org
 Nic Bowman, Assistant Director
 nicb@bigsouth.org
 7233 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Suite 100
 Charlotte, N.C. 28226
 Phone: (704) 341-7990
 Fax: (704) 341-7991

WEEK 1

BIGSOUTHSPORTS.COM

CONTACT: MARK SIMPSON

BIG SOUTH FOOTBALL STANDINGS														
Team	Big South					Overall			PF	PA	Home	Road	L10	Streak
	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	Pct.						
Coastal Carolina	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	--
Liberty	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	--
Charleston Southern	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	--
Gardner-Webb	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	--
VMI	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	--

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE	
Saturday, Sept. 3	
Davidson at VMI	1:00pm
COASTAL CAROLINA	
at Elon	6:00pm
Union	
at GARDNER-WEBB	6:00pm
Concord	
at LIBERTY	7:00pm
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	
at The Citadel (ETV)	7:00pm
Big South team in ALL CAPS * - Big South Conference game	

CHOICE HOTELS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK
<i>Begins Monday, Sept. 5</i>

NEW BALANCE DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK
<i>Begins Monday, Sept. 5</i>

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK
<i>Begins Monday, Sept. 5</i>

FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK
<i>Begins Monday, Sept. 5</i>

UPCOMING TV GAMES
Saturday, Sept. 3 Charleston So. at The Citadel TV: ETV
Saturday, Oct. 1 Liberty at VMI TV: CSN, FCS Atlantic
Coastal Carolina at S.C. State TV: ETV
Saturday, Oct. 15 Gardner-Webb at Coastal Caro. TV: CSS, BSTN, FCS Atlantic
Saturday, Oct. 22 Gardner-Webb at VMI TV: CSN, BSTN, FCS Atlantic
Saturday, Nov. 19 Coastal Caro. at Charleston So. TV: BSTN, FCS Atlantic
Key: BSTN: Big South Television Network CSN: Comcast SportsNet Mid-Atlantic CSS: Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast ETV: S.C. Educational Television FCS: Fox College Sports Atlantic

Call Choice Hotels' Sports Desk and give your school's code to receive a 15 percent discount on room rates!

Conference Office 00210730	1-877-240-AWAY (2929)	Liberty 00211890
Birmingham Southern 00211930		Radford 00211900
Charleston Southern 00211970		UNC Asheville 00211910
Coastal Carolina 00211960		VMI 00211880
High Point 00211950		Winthrop 00211920

2005 BIG SOUTH WEEKLY FOOTBALL COACHES TELECONFERENCE

BIG SOUTH SPONSORS WEEKLY TELECONFERENCE BEGINNING TUESDAY, SEPT. 6

For the first time in the League's four-year football history, the Big South will sponsor a one hour weekly teleconference involving all five head coaches each Tuesday during the 2005 season, beginning at 10:30am EST. The first call is scheduled for next Tuesday, Sept. 6. **THIS CALL IS OPEN TO MEDIA ONLY.** The schedule is being finalized and will be distributed later this week.

THE BIG SOUTH IN THE NATIONAL POLLS

<u>Week of</u> Preseason	<u>CSU</u> --/--/--	<u>CCU</u> RV/29/--/RV	<u>GWU</u> RV/--/--	<u>LU</u> --/--/--	<u>VMI</u> --/--/--
Sept. 5					
Sept. 12					
Sept. 19					
Sept. 26					
Oct. 3					
Oct. 10					
Oct. 17					
Oct. 24					
Oct. 31					
Nov. 7					
Nov. 14					
Nov. 21					
Final					

The Sports Network is listed first, followed by Don Hansen's Weekly Football Gazette Top 40, ESPN/USA Today and I-AA.org.

RV - Received Votes

Notes: The preseason ESPN/USA Today poll will be released Wed., Aug. 31 ... Coastal Carolina received a preseason No. 24 ranking from Street & Smith's.

2005 BIG SOUTH NATIONAL HONORS

The Sports Network Preseason All-America

Brandon Schweitzer, DL, Gardner-Webb (Honorable Mention)

Athlon's Preseason All-America

Antwon Trice, OL, Coastal Carolina (2nd Team)

The Sports Network Positional Rankings

Quinton Teal, Coastal Carolina - 8th-ranked S
 Antwon Trice, Coastal Carolina - 10th-ranked OL
 Maurice Simpkins, Coastal Carolina - 15th-ranked LB
 Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina - 16th-ranked RB
 Collin Drafts, Charleston Southern - 18th-ranked QB

2005 BIG SOUTH PRESEASON POLL

Defending Conference champion Coastal Carolina was selected to finish first in the League's annual preseason poll. Below are the preseason poll results, with first-place votes in paranthesis:

1. Coastal Carolina (11)73
2. Liberty (3)57
3. Gardner-Webb (2)56
4. VMI29
5. Charleston Southern25

2005 BIG SOUTH PRESEASON HONORS

Preseason co-Offensive Players of the Year

Collin Drafts, Jr., QB, Charleston Southern
 Patrick Hall, Sr., RB, Coastal Carolina

Preseason Defensive Player of the Year

Kelvin McIver, Sr., DL, Coastal Carolina

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

OFFENSE

- QB Collin Drafts, Jr., Charleston Southern
- RB Patrick Hall, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- RB Sean Mizzer, Sr., VMI
- WR Kory Alston, Jr., Gardner-Webb
- WR Zohn Burden, Sr., VMI
- WR Jerome Simpson, Soph., Coastal Carolina
- TE Bryan Meers, Sr., Charleston Southern
- OL Antwon Trice, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- OL Markus Ferguson, R-Sr., Liberty
- OL C.J. Brown, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- OL Kevin Inge, R-Sr., Liberty
- OL Jeremy Ward, Sr., VMI

DEFENSE

- DL Kelvin McIver, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- DL Brandon Schweitzer, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- DL Vicheal Foux, R-Sr., VMI
- DL Adam DeGraffenreid, Sr., Charleston So.
- LB Maurice Simpkins, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- LB Keppy Baucom, Sr., Gardner-Webb
- LB Justin Huggard, Sr., VMI
- LB Manny Rojas, R-Jr., Liberty
- DB Robert Mason, Sr., VMI
- DB Quinton Teal, Sr., Coastal Carolina
- DB C.J. Moore, R-Sr., Liberty
- DB Tavares Shorter, Sr., Charleston Southern

SPECIAL TEAMS

- PK Josh Hoke, Jr., Coastal Carolina
- P Noah Crouch, R-Sr., Liberty
- RS Sean Mizzer, Sr., VMI
- LS Matt Skeen, Soph., Gardner-Webb

BIG SOUTH KICKS OFF FOURTH SEASON THIS SATURDAY

The Big South begins Year Four of its young football history this weekend with all five members in action. Big South teams are a combined 6-8 in season openers since 2002, recording two wins each season. Coastal Carolina is 2-0 in its two previous season openers, while Gardner-Webb is 2-1 since the Conference began football. Liberty is 1-2, but won its opener last year.

TEAM-BY-TEAM OPENERS

Charleston Southern is opening on the road for the third straight season, while Coastal is opening away from home for the second consecutive year. VMI, playing its 115th season, is opening at Alumni Memorial Field for the first time since 2000. Below is a team-by-team look at season openers:

Team	Record	Last Opening Win	Notes
Charleston Southern	3-11	2001 (North Greenville, 38-0)	3-0 at home, 0-11 on road
Coastal Carolina	2-0	2004 (at Morehead State, 28-7)	1-0 at home, 1-0 on road
Gardner-Webb	17-16-2	2003 (Clark-Atlanta, 45-0)	6-2 under Steve Patton
Liberty	14-18	2004 (W. Virginia Tech, 55-17)	1-4 under Ken Karcher
VMI	68-43-3	2002 (Charleston Southern, 27-24)	1-5 under Cal McCombs

2005 SCHEDULE FEATURES EIGHT OPPONENTS RANKED IN PRESEASON POLLS

Five 2005 Big South opponents appear in *The Sports Network*, *I-AA.org* and Don Hansen's *National Weekly Football Gazette* preseason rankings: James Madison, Furman, William & Mary, Hampton and Lehigh. In addition, Wofford (*The Sports Network*, *Weekly Football Gazette*) and Appalachian State (*I-AA.org*, *Weekly Football Gazette*) appear in the Top 25, while South Carolina State is ranked No. 31 by *Weekly Football Gazette*.

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

In its previous three seasons, the Big South has posted a 25-28 (=.472) record in September. Last season, Big South teams went 8-11 in the first month. The Conference's most wins in September is nine, set in 2003. Since 2002, Charleston Southern and Gardner-Webb are both 6-5 in September, while Liberty is 3-8. Coastal Carolina is 5-3 and VMI is 3-5 since 2003.

FORMER BIG SOUTH PLAYERS IN THE NFL

Kansas City Chiefs rookie and former Liberty RB **SAM GADO** is currently listed fifth and injured on the club's depth chart. He signed as a free agent following the April draft. Former Gardner-Webb LB **JIM MAXWELL**, the first Big South player to appear in the NFL, enters his second season with the New York Giants and has seven tackles in three preseason games. Maxwell, currently third on the Giants' depth chart at WLB, completed his Master's in Business Administration at GWU this past spring as part of the NFL's Continuing Education Program.

RETURNING ALL-AMERICANS

Coastal Carolina OL **ANTWON TRICE** is the lone All-American returning in 2005. The 6-6, 300-pounder earned Third Team All-America honors from Don Hansen's *National Weekly Football Gazette*. Trice is one of eight returning players named to the publication's All-Eastern Region Team in 2004, joining fellow First-team selection **KELVIN McIVER** (CCU), Second-team honorees **PATRICK HALL** (CCU), **JOSH HOKE** (CCU), **ROBERT MASON** (VMI) and **BRANDON SCHWEITZER** (GWU), and Third-team picks **JUSTIN HUGGARD** (VMI) and **QUINTON TEAL** (CCU).

WELCOME BACK

The Big South welcomes back 33 All-Conference performers from 2004, 13 First-team selections and 20 Second-team honorees.

BIG SOUTH'S NON-CONFERENCE RECORD IMPROVES YEAR-TO-YEAR

The Big South is looking to build on its 16-18 record in non-conference action last season, and the .470 winning percentage was its best in its three years of football. The mark surpassed the previous percentages of .436 in 2003 and .406 in 2002. The Big South went 3-3 against Southern Conference teams in 2004, and will play eight games against the SoCon this season and five each against the MEAC and Atlantic 10 in 2005.

DRAFTING TABLE

Charleston Southern junior QB **COLLIN DRAFTS**, voted the Conference's preseason co-Offensive Player of the Year, is looking to build on a sophomore season that saw him set six passing records in 2004. He owns the single-season mark for passing yards (2,532), completions (212), TD passes (21), completion percentage (62.4), passing efficiency (140.58) and passing yards per game (253.2).

STUDY HALL

Coastal Carolina RB and Big South preseason co-Offensive Player of the Year **PATRICK HALL** carries a League-record of five straight games with two touchdowns scored into Saturday's game at Elon.

BIG SOUTH VS. OTHER CONFERENCES	
Atlantic Coast	0-0
Duke	
Atlantic 10	0-0
James Madison	
Richmond	
Towson	
William & Mary	
Big East	0-0
Connecticut	
Gateway	0-0
Youngstown State	
Mid-Eastern Athletic	0-0
Delaware State	
Hampton	
Howard	
Norfolk State	
South Carolina State	
Ohio Valley	0-0
Tennessee-Martin	
Patriot League	0-0
Lehigh	
Pioneer League	0-0
Davidson	
Jacksonville	
Southern	0-0
Appalachian State	
Chattanooga	
Elon	
Furman	
The Citadel	
Wofford	
I-AA Independent	0-0
Savannah State	
Non Division I	0-0
Bellhaven	
Concord	
Mansfield (Pa.)	
North Greenville	
Presbyterian	
Virginia Union	
West Virginia Wesleyan	
TOTAL	0-0 (.000)

IN THE NICK OF TIME

Gardner-Webb senior QB **NICK ROBERTS** is 222 rushing yards away from 1,000 in his career, which would make him the first Big South quarterback to reach the rushing milestone. He is currently 12th all-time in League annals, and needs 102 yards to pass Rashaud Palmer (Elon) for 11th place. Roberts' 13 rushing touchdowns are sixth-most in Big South history.

CATCH US IF YOU CAN

VMI senior receivers **ZOHN BURDEN** and **GARY PRICE** enter the season each having caught a pass in 23 straight games. Both streaks began in 2003 against Navy. Meanwhile, Burden is seven receptions away from becoming just the third receiver in Big South history with 100 career catches. Price is 31 receptions away from the century mark.

FLAMES LOOK TO RE-IGNITE RUNNING GAME

Liberty has the undaunted task of replacing the plentiful trio of running backs **DRE BARNES**, **EUGENE GOODMAN** and **SAM GADO**, who all graduated this past spring. The three combined for 2,268 rushing yards last season and 6,552 yards since 2002. **MARCUS HAMILTON** is Liberty's top returning rusher with 161 yards last season, while freshman **RYAN GREISER** will push for playing time.

"I'LL TAKE CAREER SCORING LEADERS FOR 100 PLEASE, ALEX"

The Big South's two all-time leading scorers return in 2005 and are part of a group of seven players who have scored 100 points in their Big South tenure. Coastal Carolina RB **AUNDRES PERKINS** is the Conference's all-time leading scorer with 156 points, having scored a League-record 26 TDs. Chanticleers K **JOSH HOKE** is the all-time kick scoring leader and second overall with 138 points. Gardner-Webb K **HUNTER SMITH** is seventh all-time with 102 points.

CLOSING IN...

Coastal Carolina RB **PATRICK HALL** is closing in on the 100-point barrier, as he enters this weekend with 96 career points. VMI rusher **SEAN MIZZER** stands 16 points away from the century mark.

2,000 IN THEIR SIGHTS

VMI senior RB **SEAN MIZZER** is 27 yards away from becoming the second player to rush for 2,000 yards in the Big South. He enters this weekend with 1,973 rushing yards during his two year Big South tenure. Mizzer, the second-leading rusher in Big South history, could be joined by three others in the 2,000 club this year:

Rk	Name, school	Yards	Needs
2.	Sean Mizzer, VMI	1,973	27
4.	Patrick Hall, Coastal Carolina	1,611	389
6.	Aundres Perkins, Coastal Carolina	1,395	605
8.	Jermaine Boston, Gardner-Webb	1,309	691

DYNAMIC DUO

Coastal rushers **PATRICK HALL** and **AUNDRES PERKINS** have combined for 3,006 rushing yards in their career, the second-most for a pair of teammates in Big South history. Former Liberty running backs **DRE BARNES** and **EUGENE GOODMAN** own the record of 5,178 combined rushing yards.

2005 BIG SOUTH TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Date	Game	Time	Network(s)
Sat., Sept. 3	Charleston Southern at The Citadel	7:00pm	ETV
Sat., Oct. 1	VMI at Liberty *	12:00pm	CSN Mid-Atlantic, FCSA
	Coastal Carolina at South Carolina State	2:00pm	ETV
Sat., Oct. 15	Gardner-Webb at Coastal Carolina *	3:30pm	CSS, BSTN, FCSA
Sat., Oct. 22	Gardner-Webb at VMI *	12:00pm	CSN Mid-Atlantic, BSTN, FCSA
Sat., Nov. 19	Coastal Carolina at Charleston Southern *	12:30pm	BSTN, FCSA

Key:

BSTN: Big South Television Network
 CSN Mid-Atlantic: Comcast SportsNet
 CSS: Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast
 ETV: South Carolina Educational Television
 FCSA: Fox College Sports Atlantic

BIG SOUTH MISCELLEANOUS STATISTICS

--	--

BIG SOUTH WEEKLY FOOTBALL REPORT • TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES/RESULTS • AUG. 29, 2005

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN (0-0, 0-0 BIG SOUTH)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sept. 3	at The Citadel	7:00pm
Sept. 10	PRESBYTERIAN	1:30pm
Sept. 17	JACKSONVILLE	1:30pm
Sept. 24	at North Greenville	1:30pm
Oct. 1	HOWARD	1:30pm
Oct. 8	at VMI *	1:00pm
Oct. 15	WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN	1:30pm
Oct. 22	SAVANNAH STATE	1:30pm
Nov. 5	at Gardner-Webb *	1:30pm
Nov. 12	LIBERTY *	1:30pm
Nov. 19	COASTAL CAROLINA *	12:30pm

* - Big South Conference game
HOME GAME IN ALL CAPS

COASTAL CAROLINA (0-0, 0-0 BIG SOUTH)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sept. 3	at Elon	6:00pm
Sept. 10	JAMES MADISON	7:00pm
Sept. 17	at Appalachian State	3:30pm
Sept. 24	DELAWARE STATE	7:00pm
Oct. 1	at South Carolina State	2:00pm
Oct. 15	GARDNER-WEBB *	3:30pm
Oct. 22	at Liberty *	7:00pm
Oct. 29	VMI *	12:30pm
Nov. 5	at Savannah State	1:30pm
Nov. 12	MANSFIELD	12:30pm
Nov. 19	at Charleston Southern *	12:30pm

* - Big South Conference game
HOME GAME IN ALL CAPS

GARDNER-WEBB (0-0, 0-0 BIG SOUTH)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sept. 3	UNION	6:00pm
Sept. 8	BELLHAVEN	6:00pm
Sept. 24	TENNESSEE-MARTIN	1:30pm
Oct. 1	at Furman	2:00pm
Oct. 8	HAMPTON	6:00pm
Oct. 15	at Coastal Carolina *	3:30pm
Oct. 22	at VMI *	12:00pm
Oct. 29	LIBERTY *	6:00pm
Nov. 5	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN *	1:30pm
Nov. 12	at Savannah State	1:00pm
Nov. 19	WOFFORD	12:00pm

* - Big South Conference game
HOME GAME IN ALL CAPS

LIBERTY (0-0, 0-0 BIG SOUTH)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sept. 3	CONCORD	7:00pm
Sept. 10	at Connecticut	12:00pm
Sept. 17	YOUNGSTOWN STATE	7:00pm
Sept. 24	at William & Mary	1:00pm
Oct. 1	VMI *	12:00pm
Oct. 8	CHATTANOOGA	7:00pm
Oct. 15	TOWSON	7:00pm
Oct. 22	COASTAL CAROLINA *	7:00pm
Oct. 29	at Gardner-Webb *	6:00pm
Nov. 5	at Charleston Southern *	1:30pm
Nov. 12	at Norfolk State	1:00pm

* - Big South Conference game
HOME GAME IN ALL CAPS

VMI (0-0, 0-0 BIG SOUTH)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sept. 3	DAVIDSON	1:00pm
Sept. 10	WILLIAM & MARY	1:00pm
Sept. 17	at Duke	1:00pm
Sept. 24	LEHIGH	1:00pm
Oct. 1	at Liberty *	12:00pm
Oct. 8	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN *	1:00pm
Oct. 15	at Wofford	1:30pm
Oct. 22	GARDNER-WEBB *	12:00pm
Oct. 29	at Coastal Carolina *	12:30pm
Nov. 5	at Richmond	3:00pm
Nov. 19	THE CITADEL	1:00pm

* - Big South Conference game
HOME GAME IN ALL CAPS

2005 BIG SOUTH TELEVISION SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Game</u>	<u>Network</u>
Sept. 3	CSU at The Citadel	ETV
Oct. 1	Liberty at VMI *	CSN, FCSA
Oct. 1	CCU at S.C. State	ETV
Oct. 15	GWU at CCU *	CSS, BSTN, FCSA
Oct. 22	GWU at VMI *	CSN, BSTN, FCSA
Nov. 19	CCU at CSU *	BSTN, FCSA