

2022 Conference **Preview**





The Central Georgia Tech Titans not only enter their first season in the NCFA, but their first season in existence. Former Middle Georgia State Assistant Terry Kendrick took the reigns as the Head Coach and spearheaded building the program from scratch. As a new ball club, they have zero returning players, but expect to have a large core of talent. Their pre-season will feature a QB battle between Eli Broadnex and Zo Bellamy, to see who can grab the starting spot. Both are tremendous athletes so don't expect the backup to be standing on the sideline with a clipboard. The defense will be lead by team captain FS Brandon Smith. Georgia is a hot bed of football talent and we have seen teams enter the NCFA by storm in their first season. Don't be surprised to see the Titans competing with the NCFA best right away, but as an expansion program the flip side could also come true. Coach Kendricks when asked about their season goals said "To be productive and Compete, and be better today than you were yesterday"



Central Georgia Tech Macon, GA

Head Coach – Terry Kendrick Assistants – Brandon Williams

Returning Players – 0
Team Captains - Addison Beardon, Brandon Smith
Players to Watch – Eli Broadnex, Qb,Db, Zo Bellamy, Qb,
Brandon Smith, Fs

Columbus State had a successful 2021 season but fell short of their goal of a repeat South Atlantic Title, finishing behind Gordon State. Longtime head coach Michael Speight returns along with 19 returning players with one goal in mind, retake the SAC crown. When asked about the season outlook Coach Speight said "We have a good group of young men and I look forward to enjoying a great season with them." The South Atlantic is going to wide open this year, the Cougars will be in the running to take home the conference title



Columbus State University Columbus, GA

Head Coach – Michael Speight Assistants – Thomas Ngyuen, Eric Singleton, Adrian Carr, Taylor Rodgers, Emmanuel Brunson

Returning Players – 19
Team Captains – Kobe Hatcher, Justin Youmes
Players to Watch – Donald Wilson, Joshua Bogan,
Wendell McGhee, Kobe Hatcher

Gordon State enters 2022 with a target on their back as reigning and defending South Atlantic Conference Champions. Due to the lack of NCFA Playoffs in 2021, Gordon State, in spite of their conference title, were left out of the NCFA Title game due to their spot on the Power Rankings. Gordon State is looking to enter that conversation by repeating as SAC champs, securing their spot in the playoffs and making a run to the NCFA Title Game. Coach Kevin Adkins returns with a great staff and have tethered their success to dynamic returning QB Neal Howard. Howard, a dual threat athlete, gained valuable experience as a starter in 2021 and should be among the best signal callers in the NCFA this season. The Highlanders utilize a high-flying Air Raid attack that will allow Howard to spread the wealth around to receivers Pacer Kincaid, Michael Johnson, Joel Howard and running backs Carlos **Burks and Cannon Byant. Defensively, the Highlanders** return 7 starters from last year of one best defenses in the NCFA. They should be stout once again, led by Jeremiah McDermott, Jamarco Hughes, Omari Drake, and Jacory Gaines. Gordon State has the inside track on paper to repeat in the South Atlantic and grab that spot in the NCFA Playoffs.



Gordon State University Barnesville, GA

Head Coach – Kevin Adkins Assistants – Christian Lane, Darvon Ingram, Ben Griffin, Wayne Niles, Courtney Daniel, Harvey Middleton, Rod Brown, Tim Shelley II, and Johnny Read

Returning Players – 11

Team Captains – Pacer Kincaid, Michael Johnson, Gerquez Deese, Jamarco Hughes, and Tripp Shippman Players to Watch – #2(QB) Neal Howard, #8(WR) Pacer Kincaid, #11(WR) Michael Johnson, #1(LB) Jeremiah McDermott, #9(DE) Gerquez Deese, and #3(K) Tripp Shippman

Longtime NCFA Stalwart Longwood University, returns to the South Atlantic Conference in 2022, looking to rebound from a 1-win season last fall. Generally, a player run team, Longwood will look to the leadership of team captains QB Nathan Martin and LB Caleb Brown. After catching a bit of the injury bug last season, Longwoods returning players have worked hard in the off-season to get stronger and hope a healthy 2022 will translate to more wins



Longwood University Farmville, VA

Head Coach - N/A
Assistants - N/A
Returning Players - 15
Team Captains - Nathan Martin and Caleb Brown
Players to Watch - Nathan Martin(QB), Caleb Brown
(MLB), Lamont Williams (RB), Ethan Mckinney (DE),
Alex Thompson (DE)

Returning to the NCFA in 2022 are the Cock Commanders of USC. Jake Arnold takes the helm as Head Coach and Offensive Coordinator with assistance from Defensive Coordinator Thomas Rainey. They believe they have enough talent to compete for the South Atlantic Title and an NCFA playoff berth. They return 20 players from last years non NCFA squad including captains TE Tom Kane and OL Nate Milewski. They also return QB Hayden Shinn. South Carolina is a bit of an unknown after not playing in the league in 2021, the South Atlantic will be a tough top-heavy conference with Gordon and Columbus State but USC seems to have the returning talent and coaching to make things difficult for those two and possibly make their mark with a conference championship in their first season back in the league



University of South Carolina Columbia, SC

Head Coach – Jake Arnold
Assistants – Thomas Rainey DC Jake Arnold HC/OC
Returning Players – 20
Team Captains – Tom Kane Nate Milewski

Players to Watch – Nate Milewski OL Tom Kane TE
Hayden Shinn QB Nate Mahaffey RB Kyle Siverd RB
Kaleb Snider WR Kevin Drennan CB Noah Burguess CB