

GREAT LAKES EAST



2025 OUTLOOK

Arguably the best Division in the NCFA in 2025, the Great Lakes East has 3 teams all with National Championship hopes, including returning NCFA National Champs the Ohio State Buckeyes. If you were placing a bet on which division the 2025 champs were going to come out of, this would probably be the odds on favorite. Wright State is looking to climb the ladder after their breakout year, while Toledo looks to get back into National Playoff contention in 2025.

OHIO STATE



2025 OUTLOOK

The defending NCFA Champions the Ohio State Buckeyes open the season as the clear favorite to retain their crown and finalize the 1st NCFA back to back Championships since Coppin State. Led once again by James Grega, OSU returns a ton of offensive firepower in returning All-Americans Niko Pappas, Aiden Donovan, and Cam Fries, that should be the catalyst for them to continue as the most explosive offense in the NCFA. Defensively they also return some major weapons with returning All-Americans Trey Jones, Tyler Beckman, Ryan Globokar and 2024 NCFA Defensive Player of the Year Matt Humphreys. Ohio State once again has built a tough schedule including some NCAA teams so they will be challenged. They expect to open the season strong and be the last team standing at the 2025 NCFA Championship game.

TOLEDO



2025 OUTLOOK

Toledo Returns with a chip on their shoulder in 2025, they expected to be National Contenders last season and fell short of their goals, finishing on the outside of the national playoffs. They continue to be in a transition period after the graduation of founding members, this will be a big year for Toledo to continue to grow under new leadership and look to break through into the NCFA Playoffs. Their biggest test once again will be Ohio State, beating them would be the break they need to get into the playoffs and national title contention.

WRIGHT STATE



2025 OUTLOOK

Wright State jumps into 2025 with high expectations after a breakout 2024 campaign which saw them finish 6-2, their best season since 2010. Returning Head Coach Markee Zrnich expects the Raiders to be contenders for the National Playoffs and has circled their week 6 matchup against OSU as the catalyst to get them there. With key returners on both sides of the football, Wright State should be a top 5 team in the NCFA in 2025.

GREAT LAKES WEST



2025 OUTLOOK

The 2025 Great Lakes West is the most unknown conference entering the season, with all 4 teams looking to rebound off disappointing 2024 seasons it is wide open for 2025. Michigan State thinks they have the inside track to win the division but Oakland and Milwaukee are expecting to rebound off subpar 2024 seasons while Loyola is looking to continue their rebuild. The GLC West Championship should be a great race all the way to the end of the season

LOYOLA CHICAGO



2025 OUTLOOK

Loyola had a string of years where they were in the thick of the Great Lakes race but in recent memory they have struggled to gain traction. 2025 looks to be a rebuilding year for the Ramblers as they look to build a core foundation for success. If they did well in recruiting that could happen sooner than anticipated, they will be relyant on some unknown newcomers to bring that success in 2025

MICHIGAN

STATE



2025 OUTLOOK

Michigan State has been a class of the GLC West for the last several years, with numerous GLC West division titles. Their numbers have been down the last several years and as the season as progressed they have struggled to play at the level they are accustomed to but it was just a couple season ago they grabbed the at large bid into the NCFA Playoffs. They enter 2025 as the pre-season favorites to win the GLC West but they do have a lot of question marks as to whom will be the players leading that charge

MILWAUKEE



2025 OUTLOOK

Milwaukee had high hopes entering 2024 after a breakout 2023 season, their best season since 2015. However an injury bug and lack of overall numbers hurt their success and they faltered. Coach Jose Ramos feels as though they have the pieces in place to make a run towards a division title and beyond in 2025. Pieces like RB Joe Cross and WR/DB Angel Renteria should play a big part fo that. If Milwaukee can start the season strong and stay healthy they could be a force in the GLC West

OAKLAND



2025 OUTLOOK

Longtime NCFA Powerhouse Oakland University is looking to get back to their standard after a couple of less than stellar seasons. 2024 was better than 2023 and they feel as though they are primed for a big 2025 season. With 2 National Championships under their belt, they are always a team that has the potential to put together a great season. This years squad is going to be led by dynamic 2-way player Vincent Johns, who is a weapon on both sides of the ball as a WR and DB. Miguel Garcia should be the primary ball carrier while Max Recknagel, Rockne Jacobs and Jacob Welsh hold together the defensive from their LB positions. Oakland is a darkhorse contender for the Great Lakes Championship and NCFA playoff berth this season