

L-R Announces 2012 Football Schedule

Written by Staff Reports

Wednesday, 16 May 2012 07:17

The Lenoir-Rhyne University Football Team has released its upcoming 2012 schedule, school officials announced recently. L-R's 10-game slate includes five home contests as the Bears look to defend their league title. Lenoir-Rhyne

is coached by second-year mentor Mike Houston, who guided the Bears to their first South Atlantic Conference Championship in 17 years in 2011.

For his efforts, Houston was selected as the conference co-coach of the year.

L-R went 7-3 last season including a 6-1 ledger in SAC play and ended the season on a four-game winning streak.

The Bears also went undefeated at home (4-0) last season for the first time since 1993 and has won six straight games at Moretz Stadium.

Lenoir-Rhyne opens the season on September 1 against Concord in Athens, W.Va., for the second straight year. The contest is scheduled to kick off at 7 p.m.

Concord finished with a 7-4 record last year and won the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC) Championship while earning a berth to the NCAA Division II Playoffs.

L-R hosts Davidson in its season opener on Saturday, September 8, at Moretz Stadium., at 7 p.m. The two long-time rivals have played every year since 2004.

Lenoir-Rhyne opens conference play on September 15, when it travels to Jefferson City, Tenn., to face Carson-Newman at 1 p.m. The Bears have defeated the Eagles for the past two seasons after snapping a 31-game losing streak to Carson-Newman in 2010.

L-R rounds out the non-conference portion of its schedule by facing North Greenville at home on Saturday, September 29, at 7 p.m., as part of Family Weekend. The Crusaders finished 11-3 last season and advanced all the way to the NCAA Division II National Quarterfinals.

Lenoir-Rhyne's other home games include league-foes Tusculum (October 13) on Homecoming, Mars Hill (October 20) and Catawba (November 10) on Senior Day. All three contests are scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

The Bears and Indians have met 91 times with Catawba holding a 46-41-4 edge in the all-time series. However, L-R has won the past three contests between the two schools.

L-R also plays at Brevard (October 6 at 1:00 p.m.), Wingate (October 27 at 1:30 p.m.) and Newberry (November 3 at 2:00 p.m.) in its remaining road games.

Lenoir-Rhyne went 2-1 last season against teams that qualified for the NCAA Division II Playoffs with victories over Concord (26-6) and Mars Hill (51-21). The Lions (8-3, 6-1) shared the 2011 South Atlantic Conference Championship with the Bears.

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Sept. 1 Concord, Athens, W.Va., 7 p.m.

Sept. 8 Davidson, Hickory, N.C., 7 p.m.

Sept. 15 #Carson-Newman, Jefferson City, Tenn., 1 p.m.

Sept. 29 North Greenville (Family Weekend), Hickory, N.C., 7 p.m.

Oct. 6 #Brevard, Brevard, N.C., 1 p.m.

Oct. 13 #Tusculum (Homecoming), Hickory, N.C., 2 p.m.

Oct. 20 #Mars Hill, Hickory, N.C., 2 p.m.

Oct. 27 #Wingate, Wingate, N.C., 1:30 p.m.

Nov. 3 #Newberry, Newberry, S.C., 2 p.m.

Nov. 10 #Catawba, Hickory, N.C., 2 p.m.

= South Atlantic Conference Game