

Three SoCon Teams Make FCS Playoffs

Written by Jason Yaman

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Three Southern Conference football teams earned bids to the 2012 Division I FCS Playoffs the NCAA announced Sunday (Nov. 18). Appalachian State, Georgia Southern, and Wofford all earned invites to the postseason after finishing with identical records of 6-2 in conference play.

Georgia Southern (8-3, 6-2 SoCon), earned the No. 5 overall seed in the 20-team field. The Eagles will host Central Arkansas (9-2, 6-1 Southland) on December 1 in Statesboro, Ga. Georgia Southern is making its 19th appearance in the playoffs and owns a mark of 43-12 (.782) in the postseason. The Eagles have won six national titles, more than any other program in the FCS. The Mountaineers (8-3, 6-2 SoCon) earned an at-large bid and will host Illinois State (8-3, 5-3 MVC) on December 1.

This year marks Appalachian State's eighth consecutive trip to the postseason. The Mountaineers won three consecutive national titles from 2005-07 and boast an all-time record of 24-16 in the NCAA playoffs.

Wofford (8-3, 6-2 SoCon) earned its third consecutive bid to the postseason. The Terriers will host New Hampshire (8-3, 6-2 CAA) on December 1. Wofford also earned playoff berths in 2003, 2007 and 2008. The Terriers own a record of 4-5 in the postseason. All three games will kick off at 2:00 p.m. on December 1 and will be broadcast on ESPN3.

The Southern Conference was one of four conferences to receive three bids, joining the Colonial Athletic Association, Missouri Valley Conference and the Big Sky Conference. North Dakota State earned the No. 1 overall seed in the playoffs, while Eastern Washington is seeded second. Montana State (No. 3) and Old Dominion (No. 4) earned the remaining seeds in the 20-team field. Southern Conference teams are 96-58 (.623) in the NCAA playoffs, the best mark among FCS Conferences. The FCS National Championship game will be held January 5, 2013 in Frisco, Texas.