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Phil Steele Plus
Inside the Pressbox

WEEK 01

Thursday, Sept 3rd

235 South Alabama
9:00 p.m.
236 Southern Miss

Saturday, Sept 5th

237 Arkansas St
10:00 p.m.
238 Memphis

239 SMU
10:15 p.m.
240 Texas St

241 Middle Tennessee
6:00 p.m.
242 ★ Army

243 BYU
8:00 p.m.
244 Navy

Added FBS vs. FCS Games Here

Phil Steele's

SPECIAL PLAYS OF THE WEEK

UPSET PLAY OF THE WEEK

*this is a Best Bet

No selection this Week

HIGH SCORING POW

No Selection this week

South Alabama Jaguars

Jaguars Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	TEAM ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	FOE OFF	FOE DEF	FOE ST
0-0		0-0		102	106			9/3	at Southern Miss			126	105	116	95	88	20			
	0-0		0-0		113			9/12	Tulane						96	56	56			
								9/19	Bye											
	0-0		0-0		114			9/24	UAB						68	30	80			
	0-0		0-0		107			10/3	Troy						71	107	110			
								10/10	Bye											
	0-0		0-0		99			10/17	Texas St						124	122	106			
	0-0		0-0		104			10/22	ULM						120	125	100			
	0-0		0-0		112			10/29	at GA Southern						94	77	93			
	0-0		0-0		107			11/7	at Coastal Carol						101	116	72			
	0-0		0-0		119			11/14	at Louisiana						29	61	67			
	0-0		0-0		100			11/21	Georgia St						88	115	110			
	0-0		0-0		108			11/28	at Arkansas St						48	106	33			

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
at Southern Miss															
Tulane															
Bye															
UAB															
Troy															
Bye															
Texas St															
ULM															
at GA Southern															
at Coastal Carolina															
at Louisiana															
Georgia St															
at Arkansas St															
Average	18-31	-78.5	-3.3	-0.5	18	42-171	4.0	52.8%	159	9.9%	21	44-192	4.4	64.4%	217	5.2%
Conference	19-30	-80.9	-4.6	-0.5	18	42-169	4.0	54.3%	165	9.1%	22	45-194	4.3	64.0%	221	5.3%
Away	16-33	-103.3	-3.7	0.0	18	42-139	3.3	54.8%	166		22	42-147	3.5	70.5%	262	4.2%

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. SUN 0-0

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. CUSA 0-0

NCAA RANKINGS

2020 TEAM RANKINGS

South Alabama		Southern Miss
#54	Rush Off	#120
#118	Pass Off	#19
#112	**Total Off**	**#62**
#120	Score Off	#80
#75	Sks Allowed	#44
#97	Rush Def	#18
#48	Pass Def	#81
#79	**Total Def**	**#37**
#87	Score Def	#55
#110	Sks By	#16
#111	Ypg Diff	#40
-6	**Total TO's**	**-11**

South Alabama Jaguars | **TEAM AVERAGES** | **Southern Miss Golden Eagles**

Position by Position Edges

South Alabama		Southern Miss
	South Alabama QB/WR vs. Southern Miss DB's	0.05
	South Alabama RB's vs. Southern Miss LB's	1.23
0.34	South Alabama OL vs. Southern Miss DL	
	South Alabama DL vs. Southern Miss OL	1.37
0.79	South Alabama LB'S vs. Southern Miss RB's	
	South Alabama DB's vs. Southern Miss QB/WR	1.45
	South Alabama ST's vs. Southern Miss ST's	1.71
	South Alabama K vs. Southern Miss K	0.90
	South Alabama Coaches vs. Southern Miss Coaches	0.90
1.13	South Alabama Pts vs. Southern Miss Pts	7.61

POSITIONAL EDGE AWARDED TO:

Southern Miss

By 6.48 Points

Southern Miss Golden Eagles

Golden Eagles Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	TEAM ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	FOE OFF	FOE DEF	FOE ST
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	106	102			9/3	South Alaban			95	88	20				126	105	116
								9/12	Bye											
	0-0		0-0		111			9/19	Louisiana Tec									76	84	106
	0-0		0-0		113			9/26	Tulane									96	56	56
	0-0		0-0		96			10/3	at North Texas									109	108	34
	0-0		0-0		119			10/10	Florida Atlant									92	114	46
	0-0		0-0		89			10/17	at UTEP									127	128	81
	0-0		0-0		104			10/24	at Liberty									115	119	101
	0-0		0-0		106			10/31	Rice									128	95	102
								11/7	Northern Alat											
	0-0		0-0		116			11/14	at WKU									98	41	40
	0-0		0-0		97			11/21	UTSA									112	113	67
	0-0		0-0		114			11/28	at UAB									68	30	80

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
South Alabama															
Bye															
Louisiana Tech															
Tulane															
at North Texas															
Florida Atlantic															
at UTEP															
at Liberty															
Rice															
Northern Alabama															
at WKU															
UTSA															
at UAB															
Average	27-26	54.5	1.6	-0.8	19	33-117	3.5	66.4%	290	5.3%	17	34-116	3.4	59.3%	237	10.7%
Conference	28-22	100.0	4.1	-0.6	20	35-137	3.9	66.3%	281	5.1%	16	33-107	3.3	53.3%	212	10.6%
Home	32-16	149.0	4.4	0.0	19	35-133	3.8	67.3%	304	5.9%	15	32-106	3.3	55.8%	181	8.8%

Last Five Years Meetings (Last 22 years at PhilSteele.com)

None

Return to Table of Contents

Projected Box Score

Projected Rushing

117 yards — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 148 yards

Projected Passing

133 yards — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 290 yards

Projected Yardage Total

250 yards — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 438 yards

Projected Final Score

16 points — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 30 points

Experience Rankings

129 — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 128

Team Schedule Strength

104 — South Alabama — Southern Miss — 82

Category	Team & Margin
Las Vegas Line	S Miss By 13.5
Las Vegas Total	56 Points
+/- Ratings	S Miss By 5.7
Game Grade	S Miss By 16.5
Computer Yards	S Miss 438-250
Computer Points	S Miss 30-16
Phil Steele	S Miss by 10

Phil's Forecast:

1st meeting, S Miss is 3-5 in season openers and they've lost their last 4 when facing an FBS foe in their home opener. South Alabama is in Steve Campbell's 3rd season and while the Jaguars had just 11 starters back last year, and slipped to 2-10 and he just hung onto his job. This year he has 16 returning starters and is 5-7 ATS as an AD. Southern Miss had a veteran squad last year and this year have 14 starters back including QB Abraham but 4 starters departed since July so they have just 10 back overall. The Golden Eagles opened 7-3 last year with losses to a pair of SEC schools and had the CUSA title game within reach but lost their last two and the bowl to finish just 7-6. The Rock was one of the tougher home venues but SM went just 2-15 at home from '12-'14. They are now 21-8 at home since then with Hopson 10-6-2 ATS at the Rock. SM won their home games by 16 ppg (+149 ypg) last year while losing on the road by 11 ppg but won't have their usual crowd edge. South Alabama covered at Nebraska (+38 yds) but are 0-12 SU on the road under Campbell losing by 29 ppg his first year and 17 pgg last year.

Southern Miss 31 South Alabama 21

Arkansas St Red Wolves

Red Wolves Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0		0-0		108	126			9/5	at Memphis			48	106	33	20	45	1
	0-0		0-0		123			9/12	at Kansas St						111	59	10
								9/19	Central Arkar								
	0-0		0-0		117			9/26	Tulsa						40	97	129
	0-0		0-0		107			10/3	at Coastal Carol						101	116	72
								10/10	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		100			10/15	Georgia St						88	115	110
	0-0		0-0		121			10/24	at Appalachian S						32	74	27
	0-0		0-0		107			10/31	Troy						71	107	110
	0-0		0-0		119			11/5	at Louisiana						29	61	67
	0-0		0-0		104			11/14	ULM						120	125	100
	0-0		0-0		99			11/21	at Texas St						124	122	106
	0-0		0-0		102			11/28	South Alaban						126	105	116

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	Offense FD	Offense RA-RY	Offense YPC	Offense Comp Att	Offense Yds Pass	Offense Sks	Defense FD	Defense RA-RY	Defense YPC	Defense Comp Att	Defense Yds Pass	Defense Sks
at Memphis															
at Kansas St															
Central Arkansas															
Tulsa															
at Coastal Carolina															
Bye															
Georgia St															
at Appalachian St															
Troy															
at Louisiana															
ULM															
at Texas St															
South Alabama															
Average	34-34	-39.0	-2.2	-0.2	22	35-127	3.6	63.5%	312	8.5%	24	43-215	5.0	60.7%	263	5.6%
Conference	36-35	-25.5	-2.9	-0.4	22	37-132	3.6	68.5%	315	10.1%	24	45-230	5.2	61.3%	244	6.1%
Away	35-38	-56.4	-3.3	-0.6	22	36-130	3.7	61.9%	323	7.5%	26	41-214	5.2	62.2%	296	4.5%

By Game Yardage Leaders — Passing — Rushing — Receiving

Last Five Years Meetings (Last 22 years at PhilSteele.com)

None

Return to Table of Contents

Projected Box Score

Projected Rushing		
110 yards	Arkansas St	Memphis 250 yards
Projected Passing		
265 yards	Arkansas St	Memphis 353 yards
Projected Yardage Total		
375 yards	Arkansas St	Memphis 604 yards
Projected Final Score		
28 points	Arkansas St	Memphis 51 points
Experience Rankings		
10	Arkansas St	Memphis 22
Team Schedule Strength		
105	Arkansas St	Memphis 69

OVERALL: 0-0 vs. SUN 0-0

OVERALL: 0-0 vs. AAC 0-0

NCAA RANKINGS

2020 TEAM RANKINGS

Arkansas St		Memphis
#111	Rush Off	#39
#10	Pass Off	#17
#32	**Total Off**	**#10**
#26	Score Off	#8
#119	Sks Allowed	#67
#117	Rush Def	#93
#110	Pass Def	#20
#123	**Total Def**	**#61**
#113	Score Def	#58
#69	Sks By	#21
#92	Ypg Diff	#17
-3	**Total TO's**	**-1**

Arkansas St Red Wolves | TEAM AVERAGES | Memphis Tigers

Position by Position Edges

Arkansas St		Memphis
	Arkansas St QB/WR vs. Memphis DB's	0.05
	Arkansas St RB's vs. Memphis LB's	0.20
0.83	Arkansas St OL vs. Memphis DL	
	Arkansas St DL vs. Memphis OL	1.05
	Arkansas St LB'S vs. Memphis RB's	1.56
	Arkansas St DB's vs. Memphis QB/WR	1.99
	Arkansas St ST's vs. Memphis ST's	1.85
2.25	Arkansas St K vs. Memphis K	
2.20	Arkansas St Coaches vs. Memphis Coaches	
5.28	Arkansas St Pts vs. Memphis Pts	6.70

POSITIONAL EDGE AWARDED TO: **Memphis By 1.42 Points**

Memphis Tigers

Tigers Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	126	108			9/5	Arkansas St			20	45	1	48	106	33
								9/12	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		121			9/18	Houston						50	53	27
	0-0		0-0		97			9/26	at UTSA						112	113	67
	0-0		0-0		115			10/3	at SMU						28	64	110
								10/10	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		127			10/17	UCF						6	24	93
	0-0		0-0		112			10/24	Temple						80	82	62
	0-0		0-0		125			10/31	at Cincinnati						62	26	27
	0-0		0-0		107			11/7	USF						113	93	44
	0-0		0-0		124			11/14	at Navy						90	67	97
								11/21	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		113			11/27	at Tulane						96	56	56

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	Offense FD	Offense RA-RY	Offense YPC	Offense Comp Att	Offense Yds Pass	Offense Sks	Defense FD	Defense RA-RY	Defense YPC	Defense Comp Att	Defense Yds Pass	Defense Sks
Arkansas St															
Bye															
Houston															
at UTSA															
at SMU															
Bye															
UCF															
Temple															
at Cincinnati															
USF															
at Navy															
Bye															
at Tulane															
Average	40-26	101.6	3.2	-0.1	23	39-187	4.7	63.7%	298	6.1%	20	42-188	4.5	53.0%	196	8.7%
Conference	42-28	83.3	2.8	0.0	23	37-174	4.6	63.8%	301	5.3%	21	42-176	4.1	57.5%	216	8.9%
Home	38-24	78.9	2.0	0.9	21	39-163	4.2	64.6%	280	6.3%	19	40-169	4.2	52.9%	196	8.8%

By Game Yardage Leaders — Passing — Rushing — Receiving

Category	Team & Margin
Las Vegas Line	Memphis By 19
Las Vegas Total	74 Points
+/- Ratings	Memphis By 19.8
Game Grade	Memphis By 22.7
Computer Yards	Memphis 604-375
Computer Points	Memphis 51-28
Phil Steele	Memphis by 17

Phil's Forecast:

Ark St has faced Memphis more times than any other team (57) and trail 24-28-5, but have won 4of the last 6 meetings. The last time these teams met was in '13 & Ark St was held to 7 pts & were outgained 505-255. Ark St is just 0-3 ATS as a DD dog the last two years but Memphis will have a limited home crowd for this one (9-4 HF L2Y). New HC Ryan Silverfield was the interim HC for the bowl and has QB Brady White back along with WR Damonte Coxie but star RB/WR Kenneth Gainwell just opted out leaving hem thin at RB. Memphis was #35 on pass D last year and retuns 6 DB's with starting experience and an Auburn transfer which will help them cope with a potent Ark St pass attack led by QB Logan Bonner and talented WR's Dahu Green and Jonathan Adams. Ark St has my #32 rated special teams but Memphis is #1 in that area. Memphis is the stronger team and gets the win, but Ark St has the firepower to hang within the large number.

Memphis 44 Arkansas St 27

SMU Mustangs

Mustangs Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	TEAM OFF	FOE DEF	FOE ST
0-0		0-0		115	99			9/5	at Texas St			28	64	110	124	122	106
	0-0		0-0		122			9/12	at TCU						53	27	60
	0-0		0-0		96			9/19	at North Texas						109	108	34
								9/26	SF Austin								
	0-0		0-0		126			10/3	Memphis						20	45	1
								10/10	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		113			10/16	at Tulane						96	56	56
	0-0		0-0		125			10/24	Cincinnati						62	26	27
	0-0		0-0		124			10/31	Navy						90	67	97
	0-0		0-0		112			11/5	at Temple						80	82	62
	0-0		0-0		117			11/14	at Tulsa						40	97	129
	0-0		0-0		121			11/21	Houston						50	53	27
	0-0		0-0		106			11/28	at East Carolina						60	111	25

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
at Texas St															
at TCU															
at North Texas															
SF Austin															
Memphis															
Bye															
at Tulane															
Cincinnati															
Navy															
at Temple															
at Tulsa															
Houston															
at East Carolina															
Average	42-33	44.8	1.5	0.3	25	41-181	4.4	62.2%	309	3.4%	23	40-156	3.9	60.0%	289	10.6%
Conference	43-34	12.4	2.1	0.4	26	39-171	4.4	61.3%	315	4.1%	24	43-161	3.8	59.1%	312	12.5%
Away	38-37	-21.0	-1.7	0.6	23	37-143	3.9	61.6%	302	2.5%	25	42-173	4.1	58.1%	293	12.1%

By Game Yardage Leaders — Passing — Rushing — Receiving

Last Five Years Meetings (Last 22 years at PhilSteele.com)

2019	Rank	Line	Score	FD	Rush	Comp-Att-Yds	TO's
SMU	-	-18.5	47	23	56-390	15-19-249	
Texas St	-	62	17	15	29-17	25-40-225	2

Return to Table of Contents

Projected Box Score

	Projected Rushing		
191 yards	SMU	Texas St	89 yards
	Projected Passing		
295 yards	SMU	Texas St	269 yards
	Projected Yardage Total		
486 yards	SMU	Texas St	358 yards
	Projected Final Score		
42 points	SMU	Texas St	21 points
	Experience Rankings		
124	SMU	Texas St	17
	Team Schedule Strength		
65	SMU	Texas St	94

OVERALL:		OVERALL:
0-0		0-0
vs. AAC		vs. SUN
0-0		0-0

NCAA RANKINGS

2020 TEAM RANKINGS

SMU		Texas St
#43	Rush Off	#126
#13	Pass Off	#57
#9	**Total Off**	**#120**
#7	Score Off	#120
#13	Sks Allowed	#93
#63	Rush Def	#119
#124	Pass Def	#25
#106	**Total Def**	**#85**
#108	Score Def	#106
#2	Sks By	#124
#49	Ypg Diff	#118
+4	**Total TO's**	**-9**

SMU Mustangs | **TEAM AVERAGES** | **Texas St Bobcats**

Position by Position Edges

SMU		Texas St
2.30	SMU QB/WR vs. Texas St DB's	
0.82	SMU RB's vs. Texas St LB's	
2.26	SMU OL vs. Texas St DL	
0.39	SMU DL vs. Texas St OL	
1.16	SMU LB'S vs. Texas St RB's	
	SMU DB's vs. Texas St QB/WR	0.14
0.30	SMU ST's vs. Texas St ST's	
1.50	SMU K vs. Texas St K	
1.50	SMU Coaches vs. Texas St Coaches	
10.22	SMU Pts vs. Texas St Pts	0.14

POSITIONAL EDGE AWARDED TO:

SMU

By 10.08 Points

Texas St Bobcats

Bobcats Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	TEAM OFF	FOE DEF	FOE ST
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	99	115			9/5	SMU			124	122	106	28	64	110
	0-0		0-0		97			9/12	UTSA						112	113	67
	0-0		0-0		104			9/19	at ULM						120	125	100
	0-0		0-0		116			9/26	at Boston Colleg						45	62	48
								10/3	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		107			10/10	at Troy						71	107	110
	0-0		0-0		102			10/17	at South Alaban						126	105	116
	0-0		0-0		116			10/24	at BYU						51	52	74
	0-0		0-0		119			10/31	Louisiana						29	61	67
	0-0		0-0		121			11/7	Appalachian S						32	74	27
	0-0		0-0		112			11/14	at GA Southern						94	77	93
	0-0		0-0		108			11/21	Arkansas St						48	106	33
	0-0		0-0		107			11/28	Coastal Carol						101	116	72

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
SMU															
UTSA															
at ULM															
at Boston College															
Bye															
at Troy															
at South Alabama															
at BYU															
Louisiana															
Appalachian St															
at GA Southern															
Arkansas St															
Coastal Carolina															
Average	18-33	-99.3	-4.7	-0.8	17	27-77	2.8	63.0%	241	6.8%	22	46-218	4.7	63.6%	199	4.0%
Conference	20-35	-101.9	-7.0	-1.0	16	28-92	3.2	62.1%	226	5.9%	23	48-213	4.5	64.7%	208	4.9%
Home	24-29	21.3	-0.7	-0.7	20	33-111	3.4	63.8%	276	6.3%	21	43-162	3.8	61.3%	204	3.9%

By Game Yardage Leaders — Passing — Rushing — Receiving

Category	Team & Margin
Las Vegas Line	Smu By 21.5
Las Vegas Total	70 Points
+/- Ratings	Smu By 14.5
Game Grade	Smu By 19.6
Computer Yards	Smu 486-358
Computer Points	Smu 42-21
Phil Steele	SMU by 24

Phil's Forecast:

SMU had won just three of their last 18 season openers and just two of their last 22 road openers, but won at SBC member Ark St last year 37-30 (+2'). This is the Mustang's first trip to San Marcos. Last year these two met and I used SMU as an ESPN and Inside the Pressbox play. SMU had a 639-241 yard-edge and only led Texas St 13-3 at half (277-85 yd edge) but 34-10 after 3Q and won 47-17 (-17'). Texas St allowed 32.6 ppg last year and only return 4 starters on D while SMU has QB Shane Buchele back (3929, 63%, 34-10 ratio). Dykes is just 1-4 ATS as an AF with SMU but won't face much of a crowd here. Texas St is just 4-13 ATS as a HD vs FBS foes the L4Y. SMU does have a big game vs TCU on deck and Texas St is improved but still call for the Mustangs by 24.

SMU 44 Texas St 20

Middle Tenn Blue Raiders

Blue Raiders Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0		0-0		111	108			9/5	at Army West P(			103	112	87	104	99	58
								9/12	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		107			9/19	Troy						71	107	110
								9/26	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		116			10/3	WKU						98	41	40
	0-0		0-0		101			10/10	at FIU						99	70	48
	0-0		0-0		96			10/17	North Texas						109	108	34
	0-0		0-0		106			10/24	at Rice						128	95	102
								10/31	at Bye								
	0-0		0-0		107			11/7	Charlotte						93	91	127
	0-0		0-0		108			11/14	at Marshall						66	81	82
	0-0		0-0		107			11/21	at Troy						71	107	110
	0-0		0-0		119			11/28	Florida Atlant						92	114	46

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	Offense FD	Offense RA-RY	Offense YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	Defense FD	Defense RA-RY	Defense YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
at Army West Point															
Bye															
Troy															
Bye															
WKU															
at FIU															
North Texas															
at Rice															
at Bye															
Charlotte															
at Marshall															
at Troy															
Florida Atlantic															
Average	26-30	-51.0	-2.6	0.3	21	34-172	5.1	61.9%	236	6.0%	23	39-194	4.9	65.3%	265	2.7%
Conference	29-26	-5.8	-0.6	0.4	21	37-193	5.3	59.1%	237	4.1%	22	36-164	4.5	63.8%	272	2.4%
Away	19-36	-113.0	-5.5	-0.7	19	31-135	4.3	57.6%	234	6.2%	25	42-225	5.4	66.7%	257	3.7%

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. CUSA 0-0

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. IND 0-0

NCAA RANKINGS

2020 TEAM RANKINGS

Middle Tenn		Army
#53	Rush Off	#3
#62	Pass Off	#128
#58	**Total Off**	**#88**
#84	Score Off	#66
#42	Sks Allowed	#8
#100	Rush Def	#73
#112	Pass Def	#5
#113	**Total Def**	**#30**
#80	Score Def	#41
#128	Sks By	#95
#99	Ypg Diff	#55
+3	**Total TO's**	**-1**

Middle Tenn Blue Raiders | **TEAM AVERAGES** | **Army Black Knights**

Position by Position Edges

Middle Tenn		Army
1.21	Middle Tenn QB/WR vs. Army DB's	
	Middle Tenn RB's vs. Army LB's	0.66
0.27	Middle Tenn OL vs. Army DL	
	Middle Tenn DL vs. Army OL	1.51
	Middle Tenn LB'S vs. Army RB's	1.62
0.13	Middle Tenn DB's vs. Army QB/WR	
	Middle Tenn ST's vs. Army ST's	0.74
	Middle Tenn K vs. Army K	1.00
	Middle Tenn Coaches vs. Army Coaches	1.00
1.61	Middle Tenn Pts vs. Army Pts	6.54

POSITIONAL EDGE AWARDED TO:

Army

By 4.92 Points

Army Black Knights

Black Knights Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	108	111			9/5	Middle Tenne			104	99	58	103	112	87
	0-0		0-0		104			9/12	ULM						120	125	100
	0-0		0-0		116			9/19	BYU						51	52	74
	0-0		0-0		125			9/26	at Cincinnati						62	26	27
								10/3	Abilene Chris								
								10/10	The Citadel								
	0-0		0-0		97			10/17	at UTSA						112	113	67
								10/24	Mercer								
								10/31	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		119			11/7	Air Force						55	98	123
	0-0		0-0		113			11/14	at Tulane						96	56	56
	0-0		0-0		112			11/21	GA Southern						94	77	93
								11/28	Bye								
								12/5	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		124			12/12	† Navy						90	67	97

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	Offense FD	Offense RA-RY	Offense YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	Defense FD	Defense RA-RY	Defense YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
Middle Tennessee															
ULM															
BYU															
at Cincinnati															
Abilene Christian															
The Citadel															
at UTSA															
Mercer															
Bye															
Air Force															
at Tulane															
GA Southern															
Bye															
Bye															
† Navy															
Average	28-23	36.8	2.9	-0.1	21	57-297	5.2	46.8%	82	11.9%	18	36-163	4.6	62.3%	179	6.4%
Conference	25-25	-6.2	0.5	-0.3	19	55-261	4.7	48.2%	85	11.6%	19	37-182	4.9	63.5%	170	6.9%
Home	40-20	145.7	11.5	0.3	27	64-374	5.9	41.5%	84	12.3%	15	30-123	4.1	57.8%	190	5.2%

Last Five Years Meetings (Last 22 years at PhilSteele.com)

None

Return to Table of Contents

Projected Box Score

	Projected Rushing		
150 yards	Middle Tenn	Army	337 yards
	Projected Passing		
223 yards	Middle Tenn	Army	99 yards
	Projected Yardage Total		
373 yards	Middle Tenn	Army	437 yards
	Projected Final Score		
25 points	Middle Tenn	Army	30 points
	Experience Rankings		
86	Middle Tenn	Army	65
	Team Schedule Strength		
91	Middle Tenn	Army	118

Category	Team & Margin
Las Vegas Line	Army By 3.5
Las Vegas Total	55 Points
+/- Ratings	Army By 2.2
Game Grade	Army By 8.4
Computer Yards	Army 437-373
Computer Points	Army 30-25
Phil Steele	Army by 10

Phil's Forecast:

One key to facing the option is to have time to prepare for it. Normally teams spend part of spring and a good portion of August preparing for it but Middle has not faced an option team since 2013 and did not even know they were facing Army until a few weeks ago. They had prepped for two other foes in the opener prior to that. Middle will have a bounce back season this year as the last time they had a losing season they bounced back to an 8-4 record. Middle was banking on a pair of P5 transfers at RB but both opted out last week. Army is off a losing year and poised for a turnaround and with 7 starters back will have a much-improved defense. Army is 16-2 SU at home the last 3 years and are only a FG favorite for this. Middle might end up a stronger team in the power ratings at the end of the year, but the situation favors Army and they get this one at home.

Best Bet: ★ Army 37 Middle Tennessee 27

BYU Cougars

Cougars Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0		0-0		116	124			9/7	at Navy			51	52	74	90	67	97
								9/12	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		108			9/19	at Army West Po						104	99	58
	0-0		0-0		107			9/26	Troy						71	107	110
								10/3	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		97			10/10	UTSA						112	113	67
	0-0		0-0		121			10/16	Houston						50	53	27
	0-0		0-0		99			10/24	Texas St						124	122	106
	0-0		0-0		116			10/31	WKU						98	41	40
								11/7	Bye								
								11/14	Bye								
								11/21	Northern Alab								

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
at Navy															
Bye															
at Army West Point															
Troy															
Bye															
UTSA															
Houston															
Texas St															
WKU															
Bye															
Bye															
Northern Alabama															
Average	28-25	50.2	2.1	0.1	23	36-159	4.4	63.2%	285	6.2%	21	40-168	4.2	63.7%	226	4.3%
Conference	27-27	39.5	1.1	0.2	22	35-154	4.4	62.3%	286	6.3%	21	41-172	4.2	65.5%	229	4.8%
Away	30-24	94.7	5.0	0.1	25	37-182	4.9	62.7%	306	6.5%	20	40-157	3.9	62.0%	237	5.4%

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. IND 0-0

OVERALL: 0-0
vs. AAC 0-0

NCAA RANKINGS

2020 TEAM RANKINGS

BYU		Navy
#68	Rush Off	#1
#25	Pass Off	#127
#28	**Total Off**	**#19**
#66	Score Off	#12
#85	Sks Allowed	#13
#78	Rush Def	#10
#64	Pass Def	#38
#68	**Total Def**	**#16**
#48	Score Def	#34
#110	Sks By	#51
#45	Ypg Diff	#9
+1	**Total TO's**	**+6**

BYU Cougars | **TEAM AVERAGES** | **Navy Midshipmen**

Position by Position Edges

BYU		Navy
0.31	BYU QB/WR vs. Navy DB's	
	BYU RB's vs. Navy LB's	0.07
1.41	BYU OL vs. Navy DL	
0.06	BYU DL vs. Navy OL	
	BYU LB'S vs. Navy RB's	0.90
0.47	BYU DB's vs. Navy QB/WR	
0.98	BYU ST's vs. Navy ST's	
	BYU K vs. Navy K	1.25
	BYU Coaches vs. Navy Coaches	1.25
3.23	BYU Pts vs. Navy Pts	3.48

POSITIONAL EDGE AWARDED TO:

Navy

By 0.25 Points

Navy Midshipmen

Midshipmen Logs

TM REC	FOE REC	TM CONF	FOE CONF	TM +/-	FOE +/-	AP TM	AP FOE	DATE	FOE	SCORE	W/L	TEAM OFF	TEAM DEF	--PS RANK-- ST	--PS RANK-- OFF	--PS RANK-- DEF	FOE ST
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	124	116			9/7	at BYU			90	67	97	51	52	74
								9/12	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		113			9/19	at Tulane						96	56	56
	0-0		0-0		112			9/26	Temple						80	82	62
	0-0		0-0		119			10/3	at Air Force						55	98	123
								10/10	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		106			10/17	at East Carolina						60	111	25
	0-0		0-0		121			10/24	Houston						50	53	27
	0-0		0-0		115			10/31	at SMU						28	64	110
	0-0		0-0		117			11/7	Tulsa						40	97	129
	0-0		0-0		126			11/14	Memphis						20	45	1
	0-0		0-0		107			11/21	at USF						113	93	44
								11/28	Bye								
								12/5	Bye								
	0-0		0-0		108			12/12	† Army West Po						104	99	58

Score	Yds	Net FD	TO's	FD	Offense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks	FD	Defense RA-RY	YPC	Comp Att	Yds Pass	Sks
at BYU															
Bye															
at Tulane															
Temple															
at Air Force															
Bye															
at East Carolina															
Houston															
at SMU															
Tulsa															
Memphis															
at USF															
Bye															
Bye															
† Army West Point															
Average	37-22	141.6	6.5	-0.2	22	59-361	6.1	52.9%	95	16.3%	15	33-106	3.2	56.6%	208	8.7%
Conference	42-23	133.8	6.3	0.9	23	60-381	6.3	50.0%	99	17.2%	17	32-116	3.6	56.1%	230	8.1%
Home	39-19	155.5	8.7	0.2	24	62-359	5.8	56.6%	112	15.1%	15	35-114	3.3	53.6%	201	8.4%

Last Five Years Meetings (Last 22 years at PhilSteele.com)

None

Return to Table of Contents

Projected Box Score

BYU		Navy
	Projected Rushing	
83 yards	BYU Navy	368 yards
	Projected Passing	
263 yards	BYU Navy	57 yards
	Projected Yardage Total	
346 yards	BYU Navy	425 yards
	Projected Final Score	
21 points	BYU Navy	33 points
	Experience Rankings	
79	BYU Navy	12
	Team Schedule Strength	
76	BYU Navy	71

Category	Team & Margin
Las Vegas Line	Navy By 1.5
Las Vegas Total	50 Points
+/- Ratings	Navy By 13.0
Game Grade	Navy By 14.3
Computer Yards	Navy 425-346
Computer Points	Navy 33-21
Phil Steele	BYU by 7

Phil's Forecast:

This is Kalini Sitake's best team he has fielded in his 5 years with 15 returning starters led by QB Zach Wilson. With a softer schedule than they have had in years they could contend for an unbeaten season! BYU returns 12 of their top 14 tacklers from a defense that allowed 18.3 ppg the last 6 regular season games. BYU has a significant edge on my Experience chart at #15 vs #107 and goes three deep at almost every position. Navy has a solid defense as they allowed just 314 ypg and have 7 starters back. My biggest question mark is at QB as in 2018 Navy had just 349 ypg and 25.0 ppg but last year with an offense tailored to QB Malcolm Perry (2017 rush yds!) they put up 456 ypg and 37.2 ppg and went from 3-10 to 11-2. Perry is gone so it may take time for the new QB to get acclimated.

BYU 31 Navy 24

Houston Baptist at North Texas – North Texas has won 4 straight vs FCS teams by 32 ppg but HBU nearly upset UTEP in last years' opener losing 36-34. These two faced two mutual opponents last year. North Texas beat UTEP 52-26 and both teams played Abeline Christian with NT winning by 20 and HBU losing by 25. Seth Littrell is on the hot seat and needs a solid start to the season breaking in a new QB. HBU has a veteran offense with QB Bailey Zappe (63%, 35-15) back but he defense gave up 496 ypg allowing foes 133 ypg above their season average and Seth Littrell has taken over as offensive play caller. Nine of the Mean Greens 12 wins the last 2 years have been by 20+ pts so they like to roll it up. **North Texas 45 (-27.5) Houston Baptist 20**

Central Arkansas at UAB – UAB is loaded this year going from #127 on my Experience chart all the way up to #3! UAB is 4-0 vs FCS foes winning by 28 ppg. Central Arkansas has a game under their belt edge as more people watched them on TV last week than probably the last 2 years combined as they got a late TD to get past Austin Peay but did have a 460-333 yard-edge. QB Breylin Smith is back and threw for 3704 (64.5%) last year with a 32-16 ratio. Central did upset WKU last year in the opener and that same WKU team beat UAB. Central has an improved defense after allowing 404 ypg last year. UAB did struggle to get past Alabama St in the opener last year but is 10-2-2 as a HF the last 3 years and last year won their home games by 19 kppg while losing on the road by 11 ppg. RB Spencer Brown should return to his 1,000-yard form, they have explosive WR's and the defense produced 44 sacks last year.
UAB 37 (-20.5) Central Arkansas 13

Eastern Kentucky at Marshall– These two did meet in 2018 and Marshall won that 32-16 (-31) with Marshall having a 367-187 yard edge. It was 20-13 in the 3Q. Marshall has won 9 in a row vs FCS foes by 31 ppg but is just 2-5-1 ATS in those. Marshall QB Isaiah Green hit the transfer portal but returned however Grant Wells will get the start here. Marshall does have RB Brenden Knox back (1387, 5.1) and the top offensive line in CUSA. Marshall does have just 4 starters back from a defense that allowed 380 ypg (5 sts back last year). EKU loses 1st tm OVC RB Daryl McCleskey (1238, 5.8) and also 6 of the top ten tacklers. EKU did lose to Louisvillle 42-0 last year. My computer has Marshall by 28 but I think EKU could keep it closer than that.
MARSHALL 31 (-24.5) Eastern Kentucky 10

Stephen F Austin at UTEP– This is the first meeting. EKU was just 3-9 last year iin FCS with an average Game Grade of 52.9. They have QB Trae Self back (53.4%, 12-12) and do return their top 2 RB's but Da'Leon Ward led with just 471 (3.8). They do lose 3 OL starters. SFA has 8 of the top 10 back on defense from a unit that allowed 453 ypg. SFA has lost their last 10 to FBS schools by 48 ppg but most of those were vs P5 teams. UTEP is #125 on my Experience Chart with just 10 returning starters and were just 1-11 last year and -102 ypg. UTEP played to an average game grade of 65.6 last year and unlike most FBS vs FCS matchups, will look at this one as a must win. SFA was only -11 ppg on the season last year so this figures to be a competitive game.
UTEP 34 (-8.5) SF Austin 24