

MARSHALL THUNDERING HERD



QB Rakeem Cato

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2014

QUARTERBACKS - The Thundering Herd had a pair of #1DC's at QB in Chad Pennington ('00) and Byron Leftwich ('03). Since Leftwich departed, this unit has only seen a couple of seasons of solid QB play. In '11 true frosh Rakeem Cato (PS#97), who was not even IFS but ran the same offense in HS, st'd 9 gms and threw for 2,059 (60%, 15-11) incl guiding them to a bowl win. A more confident Cato, who "bulked up" to 182 lbs, came into '12 with 5 wins as a st'r (most of any CUSA QB). Cato threw for 4,201 (70%, 37-11) and was CUSA OPOY. RFr Blake Frohnapfel led 5 td drives in 4 gms (18-23-180-2-1, 78 yd rush). Cato missed most of the 2H vs EC, a gm which eliminated them from a bowl. LY Cato stayed healthy the entire ssn and threw for 3,916 (59.7%, 39-9, 294 rush) despite throwing 85 times less. Frohnapfel hit 17-22 (77.3%) for 206 yds (3-1, 86 rush). TY Cato enters with a td pass in 32 straight gms (NCAA record Russell Wilson, 38). The new bkp (Frohnapfel trans) will be either Gunnar Holcombe (PS#108), Kevin Anderson (6'2" 212 rFr, PS#115) or true frosh Cole Garvin (PS#97) who was IFS. Another solid yr and Cato will leave as the career passing leader (only needs 2,967 yds).

RUNNING BACKS - Marshall had only three 1,000 yd rushers (Darius Marshall 2x) from '99-'12 (14Y). In '12 they had to replace their leading rusher (3 ret RB's had 663 yds in '11). They did add in 3 solid true frosh who were #1, #2 and #3 in rushing with Kevin Grooms (PS#27) w/737 (6.1), Steward Butler (PS#112) w/500 (5.0) and Remi Watson (5'11" 200 Jr, PS#149) w/380 (4.8). I expected big things from the then sophs in '13 but surprisingly it was veteran Essray Taliaferro (98 '10, 92 '11, 251 in '12) who got the bulk of the carries (best at blitz pickup). He topped 100 five times (1140, 5.2) the most s/Ahmad Bradshaw in '06. For the first time in MU history, 3 RB's topped 100 vs UAB (Taliaferro, Butler, Grooms). Butler was #2 w/765 (8.8), Grooms #3 w/503 (5.5) and Watson a distant #3 (120, 4.0). Added to the mix TY is a pair of GS in Tony Pittman (5'11" 200 Fr, PS#200) and Brandon Byrd (6'0" 198 Fr, PS#261). Despite losing their top rusher, I still think this is one of CUSA's top RB units.

RECEIVERS - In '12 MU had a veteran receiving corps which was led by Tommy Shuler (1138, 10.3). LY they had to replace their #2 and #3 WR's (comb 1420, 11.3). They did return TE Gator Hoskins (374, 10.7, 10 td) and Shuler. I had expected 3 VHT's to have an impact but true frosh Angelo Jean-Louis (PS#23) & Deontay McManus (PS#30) both DNQ and GS and a Penn St transfer (PS#39) DNP. Shuler became only the eighth ever major college player to top 100 rec's in 2 diff seasons (no player has 3) finishing with 1,165 yds (11.0) while Hoskins was #1 of 8 Mackey semi-finalists (821, 16.4, 15 td). Dangerous RM Devon Smith (PS#86) had 402 (16.1) at Penn St in '11 and was #3 w/653

(16.7). Craig Wilkins was #4 w/408 (12.8). TY they lose 2x 1st Tm CUSA Hoskins (13 st) and Smith (9 st). Despite losing their top TE, both Devon Johnson and Eric Frohnapfel look good, they add in those 2 VHT's and are close to '13 exp wise.

OFFENSIVE LINE - The Herd avg'd just 97 ypg rush in '10 (3.4) but have increased each year since. LY they had 9 of the top 10 back losing a RG (7 st) and had 85 car sts. LT Jordan Jeffries (12 st '12) was inj'd and only played in 3 gms in '13. MU improved to 206 ypg rush the most s/'96 (5.0, 26 sk). Soph RT Clint Van Horn trimmed down (323 spring to 302) and was the MIP in Aug starting the final 8. "The Big Swede" Sebastian Johansson (NFL size & strength) DNP in '12 but started all 14 at LG LY. TY they lose RG Alex Schooler (14 st, 22 car st), LT Gage Niemeyer (6 st), 2nd Tm CUSA RT/LT Garrett Scott (14 st, 3Y st'r, #6DC SEA) & Jeffries. The car sts drop to 64 but they return 1st Tm CUSA C Chris Jasperse and could improve again.

DEFENSIVE LINE - In '12 MU had to replace CUSA DPOY Vinny Curry (2#2DC), a NT (12 st) and 2 bkp (28 tkl, 5.5 tfl). They maintained good health (2 st lost) but all d 203 ypg rush (highest s/'01) and 4.6 ypc (19 sk). LY they had 3 st'r's back incl 3rd Tm CUSA DE Alex Bazzie (80 tkl, 9 tfl) plus they got back James Rouse (6 st '10 & '11, DNP '12) and added in USC transfer Steve Dillon (PS#134). I said it should be a much improved front and they all'd just 161 ypg rush (3.7, 32 sk). Starting DE Jeremiah Taylor was lost after 3 sts (like 2 st'r's back). TY they lose NT Brandon Sparrow (9 st, 40 tkl, 5 tfl), Taylor (3 st) and 2x 3rd Tm CUSA Bazzie (#4 tkl'r, 2 sk, 11 tfl). They do add in Miami, FL transfer Ricardo Williams (PS#76). Dillon st'd just 2 LY and should be more productive and 1st Tm CUSA DT Rouse (39 tkl, 6 sk, 8 tfl) was granted a 6th year making them even stronger.

LINEBACKERS - In '12 Marshall had to replace their #2, #3, #6 tkl'r's (ret'd #4, #13). The Herd all'd schl record 43.1 ppg, an avg of 2 td's more than in '11. LY they had to replace their #7 tkl'r and DJ Hunter (#3 tkl'r) moved back to S. They added in Georgia transfer Kent Turene (PS#35) and ret'd their #4, #11 & #12 tkl'r's. Turene only played in 3 (5 tkl). Projected st'r, true frosh Stefan Houston (PS#122), was the #11 tkl'r as a bkp and Billy Mitchell (5 sts '12) DNP. The only veteran back was Jermaine Holmes and he finished #3 (2 sk, 6.5 tfl). Evan McKelvey only st'd 7 but was the #1 tkl'r w/97 and this year they only lose Derek Mitchell (22 tkl) and Deon Meadows (23 tkl '12, 2 tkl LY). Despite the inexp'd LB corps the D allowed its fewest points s/'04 at 22.9 ppg. TY they are more exp'd and Hunter moves back in as well.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - MU was #34 in my PDR in '10 (57%, 18-11) and #58 in '11 (63%, 24-14). In '12, after my magazine was published they brought in a pair of Boston College S's (PS#45 & PS#68). When ret st'r Darryl Roberts (9 st '11) was OFY, and a proj'd st'r quit, they basically had 1 DB back (7 st) and slipped to #104. LY they lost both BC transfers (#1, #2 tkl'r's) but added in rFr AJ Leggett (PS#23). VHT LB DJ Hunter moved to SS (PS#36, #3 tkl'r) and a PS#77JC. Hunter was inj'd after 7 sts and true frosh Tiquan Lang st'd the last 7. MU moved up to #21 (18 int most s/'91). TY they add in VHT Virg Tech transfer Donaldven Manning (PS#46). They lose CB Monterius Lovett (14 st, 31 tkl, 2 int, 11 pbu). CB Derrick Thomas (17 tkl, 3 pbu) and Hunter is back at LB. They have 6 of the top 9 back and I look for a bigger impact from Leggett this year but it will be tough to move up from #21.

SPECIAL TEAMS - Marshall had their lowest finish ever in my ST rankings in '12 (#119) but almost everybody was back LY. Tyler Williams was #9 in the FBS in punting avg 45.2 (37.6 net) in '12. In Williams' 2nd season, he avg 42.2 (35.7 net). Justin Haig hit 13-16 (L45) in '12 (60-60 xp). He did have just 4 TB on 63 KO so Holliday gave those duties to rFr Amoreto Curraj in '13 (52 TB, 97 KO). Haig hit 11-16 fg but had only 3 att's 40+. Devon "Moo Moo" Smith was a dangerous PR

(381, 14.7, 59 yd PR called back vs EC) and Deandre Reaves was a solid KR (924, 25.0). MU's ST did have a negative impact in 3 of the team's 4 losses with 2 blk'd punts and 1 fmb'd KO all resulting in opp's td's in games they lost by a comb 5 pts in regulation and a 3rd in OT. MU rose up to #74. TY they lose their PR, but could climb even higher in my ST rankings.

COACHES - Doc Holliday has WV in his blood as he was born here and played LB at WV as well. Holliday was a Mountaineers coach for 21Y before spending 5Y at NCSt, 3Y at Florida, then ret to WV in '08-'09 (assoc HC). He took this job in '10 and LY led Marshall to a DD win ssn for the first time s/'02. OC Bill Legg was the OC at FIU ('08-'09) and spent 5 yrs ('03-'07) at Purdue (L/2 co-OC). Second year DC Chuck Heater was the DC at Temple for 2Y ('11-'12) and was at Florida from '05-'10 (DB's & asst DC L/3).

ALSO ON ROSTER:

RB Kevin Rodriguez 5'8" 194 Jr	TE Joe Woodrum 6'6" 235 Jr	LB Aaron Plant 6'1" 225 rFr
WR Jack Gammon 5'10" 178 Jr	TE Ryan Riedel 6'0" 247 So	LB Blaine Thompson 5'9" 182 rFr
WR Josh Knight 6'0" 186 So	K Kaare Vedvik 6'3" 200 rFr	DB Peter Hellow 6'0" 176 So
WR Cody Carter 5'9" 176 So	DL Marcus Gilchrist 6'4" 248 So	DB Mark Shaver 5'10" 181 rFr
	LB Carl Yonter 6'1" 199 rFr	DB Assani Mudumbi 5'10" 189 Jr
	LB Kyle Camacho 6'0" 224 rFr	DB Matthew Senter 6'2" 189 Fr

PHIL'S FORECAST

Marshall stepped right in from IAA and dominated the MAC winning the conf title 5 of their first 6 yrs. MU joined CUSA in '05 and HC Bob Pruett surprisingly retired after the spring. Mark Snyder stepped into a tough situation with only 5 ret sts. Snyder had 4 losing seasons to open although his CUSA overall record was a respectable 17-23 ('05-'09). In '09 MU made my Most Improved List which meant I thought they would make it to a bowl. They did not disappoint (Little Caesars) but Snyder was fired and with DC Rick Minter as interim HC, they beat Ohio for their first winning season in 6 yrs. They managed to lure Doc Holliday from WV and had 13 ret st'r's in '10, but suffered key injuries and fell to 5-7. MU pulled 3 upsets in '11 and in the reg season finale, got past a banged up EC squad, 34-27, in OT to get to a bowl. Their 3rd upset was over FIU in the bowl to finish 7-6. Despite their 5-3 CUSA record in '11, they were -67 ypg (5th worst) and had 5 net close wins. Indicators were pointing down in '12 and MU slipped to 5-7 (4-4 CUSA). LY MU had 15 ret st'r's and I was impressed with the talent, sked and all of the key indicators and they earned the high honors of being my #1 Most Improved Team in the country. As it was, MU went from 5 to 10 wins and it could have easily been more. They won their first 2 (comb 107-14) but vs Ohio had a 482-335 yd edge and lost by 3. At VT in heavy rain, they outplayed the Hokies but had a punt blk'd for a td, then were int'd at the VT22, int'd in the EZ, had a fg blk'd and they would lose in 3OT. They rolled UTSA 34-10. Half the crowd was Marshall fans at FAU and they trailed 23-14. Cato hit just 6-14-57 in the 1H but they got a 41 yd fg on the last play to win 24-23. MU took the lead vs MT on the road with 2:29 left but MT conv on 3&12 and 4&5 and on the last play, got a 9 yd td pass to win 51-49. MU destroyed SM and UAB (comb 117-27). They st'd vs Tulsa a min late to commemorate the anniversary of the 1970 plane crash (MU's 1st road game on Nov 14 s/'70) that killed 75 and players wore "75" on their helmets. MU jumped out to a 21-0 lead and won 45-34 (619-345 yd edge). They had their best road performance of the season whipping FIU 48-10. They beat EC 59-28 for the CUSA East Title. In a crucial decision, MU was the only CUSA team drawing votes in the polls but Rice ranked ahead of them in the BCS formula and got to host the CUSA Title game. Rice led 34-10 in the 3Q winning 41-24. In the bowl MU beat MD 31-20. MU was +226 ypg and won their HG's by an avg of 53-13 but on the road and they were just 3-3. MU's 3 road reg ssn losses were by 3, 2 and in OT. They were +61 ypg in those with an avg score of 34-30 (big diff). TY MU has 14 ret st'r's but their 6 road games come vs ODU (1-4 vs FBS LY) and 5 FBS tms who were a comb 9-51 LY and they very well may be favored by DD in every game. They had -3 net upsets LY and 2 net close losses. MU also benefits from their main rival (EC) departing to the AAC.

OFFENSE

JERSEY # IN GREEN

QB 12 RAKEEM CATO SR.	6-0 181 PS#97.9st,2059 (60%, 15-11) true.12st,4201 (70%, 37-11), CUSA OPOY '12, 14 st, 3916 (60%, 39-9), 294, rush (3.0), 2nd Tm CUSA LY. 10 Gunnar Holcombe (6'3" 199 So) PS#108, 1 gm LY.
RB 20 Steward Butler Jr.	5-9 182 PS#112. Orig signed Ariz St. 11 gm, 500 (5.0) '12. 12 gm, 765 (8.8) LY. 37 Kevin Grooms (5'10" 178 Jr) PS#27. Miami, FL trans 11. 3 st, 737 (6.1) '12. 10 gm, 503 (5.5) LY. OFS (susp).
WR 15 Angelo Jean-Louis Fr.	6-0 175 PS#23. DNO Mia, FL GS LY. 4 Demetrius Evans (5'11" 197 Sr) 2 st, 72 (10.3) 2Y. 3 st, 12 gm, 284 (8.9) '12. 5 st, 14 gm, 134 (7.1) LY. 9 Justin Hunt (6'2" 193 So) PS#275. 13 gm, 2 rec true.
WR 81 CRAIG WILKINS SR.	6-0 180 PS#159. 1 st, 122 (8.7) '12. 11 st, 13 gm, 408 (12.8) LY. 6 Davonte Allen (6'2" 200 Jr) PS#179. 9 gm, 190 (15.8) '12. 4 st, 163 (18.1) LY. 80 Chris Alston (5'10" 174 So) 1 gm rFr LY.
WR 1 TOMMY SHULER SR.	5-7 188 PS#161. 10 gm, 122 (8.7) true. 10 st, 1138 (10.3), 1st Tm CUSA '12. 14 st, 1165 (11.0), 1st Tm CUSA LY. 18 Deandre Reaves (5'10" 173 Jr) PS#124. 10 gm, '12. 14 gm, 6 rec, 924 KR (25.0) LY.
TE 47 Devon Johnson Jr.	6-1 254 PS#160. 11 gm '12. 14 gm, 218 (18.2) LY. 83 Eric Frohnapfel (6'6" 229 Sr) PS#55. 12 gm, 129 (9.9) '12. 14 gm, 95 (13.6) LY. 16 Deontay McManus (6'2" 227 Fr) PS#30WR. Orig WV. GS LY.
C 60 CHRIS JASPERSE SR.	6-4 287 13 st rFr. '12 st (9 C, 3 RG) '12. 14 st, 1st Tm CUSA LY. 65 Cody Collins (6'1" 276 Fr) PS#205. 66 Cameron Dees (6'1" 285 So) PS#281. L/3 st, 7 gm true. RS LY. Nathaniel Devers is PS#98.
RG 54 Michael Selby So.	6-2 277 PS#160. 13 gm bkp OG true. CUSA All Fr LY. 75 Tyler Combs (6'4" 274 So) PS#232. DNP as rFr LY. 64 Trevor Mendelson (6'7" 299 Sr) DNP '11. 6 gm '12. 13 gm bkp LY. Jordan Dowrey is PS#386.
LG 52 Blake Brooks Sr.	6-1 317 4 gm DL 2Y. 13 gm bkp OG LY. Brandon Mitchell (6'4" 310 Jr) PS#317JC.
68 Tom Collins (6'4" 277 Jr) DNP 2Y.	61 Will Mendoza (6'4" 264 Fr). LS 88 Matt Cincotta (6'0" 204 Jr) 12 gm '12. 14 gm LY.
RT 78 CLINT VAN HORN JR.	6-4 302 GS. Invited W/O '11. 11 gm bkp RT Fr. Earned schol 8 st, 14 gm, 2nd Tm CUSA LY. 67 Sandley Jean-Felix (6'5" 323 rFr) PS#122. 5Y. Eric Ansley (6'6" 300 So) PS#486. RS '12. DNP LY.
LT 71 SEBASTIAN JOHANSSON JR.	6-4 285 PS#234. RS '11. No gm action '12. 14 st at LG LY "The Big Swede". Taking LT spot. Most athletic OL. 62 Chris Huhn (6'5" 284 Fr) PS#115. 74 AJ Addison (6'6" 274 Fr) 13 fr. Fred Binot is PS#402.
K 23 JUSTIN HAIG SR.	5-8 174 PS#78. 1-2 fg, 58 KO, 1 TB, 2 OOB rFr. IFs 16 fg, 146, 60-60 PAT '12. 11-16 fg, L/42, 77-80 PAT LY. 39 Amoreto Curraj (6'2" 202 So) 97 KO, 52 TB, 3 OOB LY. 48 Nick Smith (5'10" 165 rFr).

2014 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

DE 40 Ra'SHAWDE MYERS SR.	6-4 246 PS#287. 13 gm, 9 tkl true. 1 st, 16 tkl '12. 11 st, 51 tkl, 4.5 sk, 7 qb, 1st Tm CUSA LY. 97 Ricardo Williams (6'5" 248 Jr) PS#76. Mia, FL trans LY. 73 Joe Massaquoi (6'5" 253 So) 3 gm, 2 tkl LY.
DT 11 JAMES ROUSE SR.	6-5 270 PS#202. 6 st, 20 tkl 2Y. DNP (inj) '12. 13 st, 39 tkl, 6 sk, 8 tfl, 1st Tm CUSA LY. 93 Steve Daniel (6'3" 280 Jr) PS#134. USC trans. 11 gm, 6 tkl here LY. 12. 2 st, 14 gm, 25 tkl, 1.5 sk LY.
NT 94 JARQUE SAMUEL JR.	6-4 273 PS#224. 11 gm, 9 tkl rFr. 4 st, 24 tkl, 3.5 tfl, 5 qb, 15 qb LY. 99 Josh Brown (6'7" 307 So) PS#131. Orig sign Clem , 8 gm, 17 tkl here LY. 52 Malcolm Strong (6'4" 253 Sr) 8 gm, 8 tkl L2Y.
DE 59 Gary Thompson So.	6-1 241 1 st, 14 gm, 30 tkl, 3 sk, 2 tfl, 4 pbu, 2 int, CUSA All-Fr tm LY. 13 Armonze Daniel (6'4" 240 Jr) PS#151. 15 gm, 19 tkl L2Y. 90 Arnold Blackmon (6'1" 238 Sr) PS#363JC. 12 gm, 20 tkl, 1 sk, 5 tfl LY.
WLB 31 EVAN MCKELVEY SR.	6-1 211 3 gm, 14 tkl (OFV) '12. 7 st, 14 gm, 97 tkl, 4.5 tfl, 3rd Tm CUSA LY. 3 Stefan Houston (6'3" 209 So) PS#122. 2 st, 11 gm, 41 tkl, 5.5 tfl LY. 50 Kent Turene (6'3" 238 Jr) PS#35. Orig UGA. 3 gm, 5 tkl LY.
MLB 46 JERMAINE HOLMES SR.	5-11 246 PS#206. 17 st, 108 tkl, 16 tfl, 3rd Tm CUSA FY2. 10 st, 14 gm, 84 tkl, 2 sk, 6.5 tfl, 2nd Tm CUSA LY. 43 Neville Hewitt (6'2" 217 Sr) PS#200JC. 12 st, 85 tkl, 2.5 sk LY. 49 Cortez Carter (5'11" 240 Sr).
LS 22 DJ HUNTER JR.	6-0 212 PS#36. Orig sign Tenn. L/11 st, 102 tkl rFr. 7 st (SS), 14 gm, 50 tkl LY. 14 Raheem Waiters (6'0" 220 Sr) PS#139. 1 st, 27 tkl 2Y. 14 gm, 24 tkl LY. Kaleb Harris (6'3" 207 Fr) PS#136.
CB 7 DARRYL ROBERTS SR.	5-11 177 13 st, 53 tkl, 11 pb 2Y. RS (inj) '12. 14 st, 58 tkl, 5 tfl, 7 pbu, 2 int LY. 5 Keith Baxter (5'11" 196 Jr) PS#179. 9 st, 33 tkl, 7 pb 12. RS LY. 32 Michael Johnson (5'10" 163 So) PS#75. 11 gm, 6 tkl true LY.
CB 29 DONALDVEN MANNING SO.	5-10 173 PS#46. 8 gm, 4 tkl true. VTech trans, sat out LY. 10 Corey Tindal (5'9" 179 So) PS#132. RS '12. 12 st, 61 tkl, 5 tfl, 6 pbu, HM CUSA LY. 18 Andre Scott (6'0" 182 So) PS#169. 2 gm, 2 tkl LY.
SS 17 TAJ LETMAN JR.	6-2 192 PS#77JC. 13 st, 50 tkl, 5 pb LY. 21 Tiquan Lang (5'9" 178 So) PS#314. 7 st, 41 tkl, 3 pb LY. Kendall Gant (6'3" 184 Fr) PS#64. CB De Andre Wilson (5'10" 170 Fr) PS#125. GS LY.
FS 1 AJ Leggett So.	5-11 192 PS#23. RS '12. 1 st, 11 gm, 45 tkl, 3 pbu, 4 int, CUSA Fr Tm LY. 28 Corie Wilson (5'9" 168 Jr) PS#269. 14 gm, 6 tkl L2Y. Quintavious Knight (6'0" 175 Jr) PS#57JC. Demetrius Johnson is PS#128.
PR 38 TYLER WILLIAMS JR.	6-0 194 43 punts (45.2 - MU rec'd), L/66, 16 In20, 1 blk'd, 10 tkl, net 37.6 LY. 13 In20, net 35.7 LY. 48 Nick Smith (5'10" 165 rFr) #2 punter in the spring.

MARSHALL THUNDERING HERD

Huntington, West Virginia **WEATHER ZIP: 25755**
Enrollment: 9,885 (#112)

Phil's Homefield Edge - 4.25

2014 Schedule Difficulty - #125

DATE	OPPONENT	TURF	LINE	FINAL SCORE	W
Aug. 30	at Miami, Oh	A			
Sep. 6	Rhode Island	A			
Sep. 13	Ohio	A			
Sep. 20	at Akron	A			
Sep. 27					
Oct. 4	at Old Dominion	A			
Oct. 11	Middle Tennessee (HC)	A			
Oct. 18	at FIU	A			
Oct. 25	Florida Atlantic	A			
Nov. 1					
Nov. 8	at Southern Miss	A			
Nov. 15	Rice	A			
Nov. 22	at UAB	A			
Nov. 28	WKU (Fri)	A			

TURF

LINE

FINAL SCORE

W

MU

OPP

L

CAREER PASSING LEADERS

CAREER RUSHING LEADERS

CAREER RECEIVING LEADERS

1. Chad Pennington 13,143 '95-'99

1. Mike Barber 4,262 '85-'88

2. Byron Leftwich 11,903 '98-'02

2. Doug Chapman 4,016 '96-'99

2. Darius Watts 4,031 '00-'03

3. Rakeem Cato 10,176 '11-'13

3. Ron Darby 3,903 '86-'89

3. Josh Davis 3,889 '01-'04

MU is 7-1 s'98 but lost 45-6 the LTH '03. MU trailed 28-6 at HT and for the gm was outgained 494-239

(-10 FD), they also committed 5 TO's (resulted in 21 pts). MU has dropped 14 str road openers by 24 ppg.

First meeting. The Thundering Herd has won 7 of their last 9 home openers with both losses to a ranked WV squad. The Rams went 3-9 LY (12th str losing ssn) incl a 66-14 loss vs Old Dominion.

Old conf opp's have met L5Y w/MU winning the first 2 incl '09's LC Pizza Bowl but dropping L/3. LY down 7 w/7:12 left MU was int'd, leading to a DD Ohio lead. MU had 4 TO's which resulted in 17 pts.

First gm since their MAC days. Visitor has gone 0-4 s'01. LTH '04 MU lost 31-28. Thundering Herd led 28-7 in the 2H but all'd 24 unanswered in the final 18 mins (43 yd fg as time exp'd was GW score).

First meeting. LY the Thundering Herd went 7-2 in CUSA play (2+ losses each ssn), prior 5-3 had been their best mark. MU is 5-10 their L/15 gms after a bye wk (bowls incl) but over the L/2Y are 3-1.

LY's gm had 7 lead changes & 4 ties. MU went 44/8pl getting a td & led 49-45 w/2:29 left. On the next drive, MT went 7/13pl incl a big 4th&5 conv (18 yd pass from MU27), they got a GW 9 yd td pass as time exp'd.

Second str ssn MU will visit FIU Stadium. In 2011 (1st meeting) these tms also played in FL, MU won 20-10 in the Beef O' Brady's Bowl. Into '14, MU is 12-24 in reg ssn CUSA AG's but 5-3 the L/2 ssn.

LY facing a 4&5 from the FAU41, MU tossed a 41 yd td pass and the Herd got within 2 pts, 23-21 w/6:47 left. FAU punted from the MU36 & then the Herd went 67/9pl getting a GW 41 yd fg as time exp'd.

Southern Miss: SM has won 3 str by 30 ppg incl a 59-24 win the LTH. MU only led 24-17 w/5:13 2Q.

From that point MU scored the next 35 pts until 5:12 left outgaining SMISS 358-164 during that span.

The home team is 4-1 in this series. LY The Herd trailed 21-3 and 34-10 into the 4Q (down 11+ entire 2H).

LTH MU trailed 24-7 at HT all'g 406 yds. Down 31-7 in the 2H MU cut the deficit to 7 w/7:18 left.

L/gm was in '96 (IAA foes). MU is 4-1, only series loss in 1942.

MU is 15-2 (5 str wins) in home finales as a FBS program.

JOAN C. EDWARDS STADIUM - FieldTurf

Built: 1991 - 38,227 (#82) - LY's Capacity: 65.8% (#95)

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	10Y Total
6-6	4-7	5-7	3-9	4-8	7-6	5-7	7-6	5-7	10-4	56-67
Home	4-1	3-3	4-1	3-3	3-2	4-2	4-1	3-3	6-0	38-19
Away	2-4	1-4	1-6	0-6	1-5	2-4	1-5	2-5	2-4	15-47
Neutral	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	3-1
vs Conf	6-2	3-5	4-4	3-5	3-5	4-4	4-4	5-3	4-4	42-38
vs Non-Conf	0-4	1-2	1-3	0-4	1-3	3-2	1-3	2-3	1-3	13-29
ATS	4-8	4-5	4-7	4-6	4-7	7-6	4-7	7-5	4-7	51-63
Home Fav	2-3	0-2	3-1	1-1	0-2	1-2	2-2	2-1	0-3	6-0
Home Dog	0-0	3-0	0-0	1-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	1-1	2-0	10-17
Away Fav	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	1-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	1-5
Away Dog	2-1	1-2	1-6	2-4	2-3	3-2	1-3	1-3	2-3	1-0
Neutral	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-0
vs Conf	2-6	2-5	1-4	4-4	4-4	4-4	3-4	1-4	2-5	1-4
vs Non-Conf	2-2	2-0	0-3	0-2	0-3	3-2	1-3	3-1	2-2	4-1
Off SU Win	1-5	3-1	2-3	1-1	2-2	3-3	1-2	1-3	3-2	4-5
Off SU Loss	3-2	1-4	1-2	3-4	1-2	4-2	3-4	4-2	1-4	4-0

2013 STATISTICAL LEADERS

RUSHING						PASSING						RECEIVING						PUNTING						KICKING							
Player	Att	Gain	Lost	Net	To Avg	Player	Tkl	Sks	Tfl	Pbu	Int	Qbr	Rec	Yds	Avg	To	Long	No	Yds	Avg	FC	Net	Blk	XP	1-39	40-49	50+	Tdl	Long		
Essray Taliaferro	221	1163	23	1140	5.2	Evan McKelvey	97	0.5	4.5	3	1	3	Tommy Shuler	106	1165	11.0	10	49	56	2366	42.2	13	35.7	2	77-80	4-4	5-9	2-3	0-0	11-16	
Steward Butler	87	777	12	765	8.8	Neville Hewitt	85	2.5	1	1	1	2	Gator Hoskins	50	821	16.4	15	50	12	128	10.7	1	19	5	109	21.8	1	21	39	40	
Kevin Grooms	91	511	8	503	6.5	Jermaine Holmes	84	2	6.5	1	1	3	Devon Smith	39	653	16.7	4	58	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	
Rakeem Cato	99	495	201	294	6.3	Alex Bazzie	66	2	11	2	0	8	Craig Wilkins	32	408	12.8	2	32	7	95	13.6	2	39	7	95	13.6	2	39	7	95	
Remi Watson	30	128	8	120	6.0	Corey Tindal	61	1.5	3.5	6	0	2	Devon Johnson	12	218	18.2	2	52	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	
Blake Frohnapple	11	100	14	86	7.8	Darryl Roberts	58	0	5	7	2	1	Devonte Allen	9	163	18.1	2	40	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	8.9	1	20	9	80	
PASSING						RECEIVING						PUNTING						KICKING													
Rakeem Cato	499	298	59.7	3916	39	9	14.8	Taj Letman	50	0	0.5	4	10	Tommy Shuler	106	1165	11.0	10	49	56	2366	42.2	13	35.7	2	77-80	4-4	5-9	2-3	0-0	11-16
Blake Frohnapple	22	17	77.3	206	3	1	91.7	DJ Hunter	50	0	1.5	1	0	Gator Hoskins	50	821	16.4	15	50	12	128	10.7	1	19	5	109	21.8	1	21	39	40
RECEIVING						PUNTING						KICKING						KICKING													
Tommy Shuler	106	1165	11.0	10	49			AJ Leggett	45	0	0.5	3	4	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Gator Hoskins	50	821	16.4	15	50			Stefan Houston	41	0.5	5	1	0	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Devon Smith	39	653	16.7	4	58			Tiquan Lang	41	0	0.5	2	1	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Craig Wilkins	32	408	12.8	2	32			Brandon Sparrow	40	1.5	3.5	1	0	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Devon Johnson	12	218	18.2	2	52			James Rouse	39	6	8	3	0	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Devonte Allen	9	163	18.1	2	40			Monterius Lovett	31	0	2.5	11	2	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Demetrius Evans	19	134	7.1	1	24			Gary Thompson	30	3	2	4	2	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Essray Taliaferro	12	128	10.7	1	19			Steve Dillon	25	0	1	0	1	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Jazz King	5	109	21.8	1	21			Jaquese Samuel	24	0	3.5	0	5	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Eric Frohnapple	7	95	13.6	2	39			Rakeem Walters	24	1	0	2	1	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
Kevin Grooms	9	80	8.9	1	20			Derek Mitchell	22	0	1.5	0	1	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
PUNTING						RECEIVING						PUNTING						KICKING													
Tyler Williams	56	2366	42.2	13	35.7	2	113.0	Arnell Blackmon	20	1	5	1	0	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												
KICKING						PUNTING						RECEIVING						KICKING													
Justin Haig	77-80	4-4	5-9	2-3	0-0	11-16	42.2	Arnell Blackmon	20	1	5	1	0	Devon Smith	26	381	14.7	1	7												

2013 GAME-BY-GAME STATS

ATT	OPPONENT	SCORE	TTL OFF
27,148	Miami, Oh	52-14	591
26,317	Gardner-Webb	55-0	509
24,836	at Ohio	31-34	482
64,060	at Virginia Tech	21-29	361
28,837	UTSA	34-10	404
19,760	at Florida Atlantic	24-23	355
19,898	at Middle Tenn	49-51	448
20,398	Southern Miss	61-13	636
22,321	UAB	56-14	657
16,723	at Tulsa	45-34	619
15,891	at FIU	48-10	558
25,117	East Carolina	59-28	539
20,247	at Rice	24-41	371
30,163	† Maryland	31-20	475
TOTALS		590-321	7005
AVERAGES		42-23	500
ATTENDANCE	CONF	44-25	510
25,023 (#83)	HOME	53-13	556
25,916 (#121)	AWAY	34-30	459

OFFENSE - LAST 7 YEARS - DEFENSE

FD	ATT	YDS	AVG	PASS CO-ATT	YDS	SKS	TD
24	57-30.4	5.3	24-37	287	1	239	
26	39-22.4	5.7	22-35	285	1	184	
28	34-116	3.4	30-45	366	2	335	
22	46-133	2.9	19-41	228	4	362	
23	49-125	2.6	22-32	279	5	254	
18	34-139	4.1	18-35	216	1	395	
27	52-213	4.1	19-35	235	1	585	
29	27-304	11.3	28-37	332	0	397	
25	32-381	11.9	14-20	276	0	464	
32	45-163	3.6	33-58	456	3	345	
25	31-270	8.7	17-34	288	1	262	
23	53-267	5.0	17-28	272	2	440	
23	37-106	2.9	24-41	265	3	487	
24	35-138	3.9	28-44	337	1	510	
364	571-2883	5.0	315-522	4122	26	3191	
26.0	41-206	5.0	60.3-24	5.0%	369	19	
25.6	40-219	5.5	60.0%	291	5.0%	403	2
27.5	43-268	6.2	67.2%	289	5.3%	330	17
24.9	39-160	4.1	56.5%	299	4.8%	398	18