



850 Ridge Avenue
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2017 Great Lakes Conference Preview



Eastern Michigan University Eagles
Ypsilanti, Michigan

2016 Record: N/A

Head Coach: Larry Page

Assistants:

LaMarr Miller, Eddie Ford, Brandon Letcher, Zak Kemper

Team Captain(s): TBD

Returning Starters: N/A

Season Outlook

Eastern Michigan enters their first season in the NCFA. Their road to success won't be easy, being placed in the highly competitive Great Lakes Conference. If they can make a mark in the GLC this fall it'll be an impressive inaugural season.



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Loyola University Chicago Ramblers
Chicago, Illinois

2016 Record: 3-4

Head Coach: Connor Gomer

Assistants:

Riley Halligan, Jon Bruehl, Adler Burns, Dawn Pederson, Mike Oppenheimer

Team Captain(s): TBD

Players to Watch: James Rodriguez, Larenz Jones, Conor Deal, John Khosa

Season Outlook

Loyola University is coming off a disappointing 2016 season but has high hopes for a Great Lakes West title in 2017. They will be led by their All-American bookends on the defensive line Conor Deal and John Khosa, they have proven to be a handful for opposing offenses to handle. Big play threat Larenz Jones returns after a standout freshman season and WR/CB James Rodriguez returns after an injury filled 2016 season. Head Coach Conner Gomer enters his 2nd season and has set the motto "come hungry, leave happy" which you might remember from a certain restaurant 😊 Look for the Ramblers to make a push towards the GLC West title this fall



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University of Michigan Flint Kodiaks
Flint, MI
2016 Record: 0-5
Head Coach: Trevais Walker
Team Captain(s): Nick Keyes, Entrice Mitchell
Returning Starters: 10

Season Outlook

UM-Flint is riding an NCFA high 17 game losing streak into the 2017 season, not having won a game since the 2013 season. They do have the distinction of being of one only two club football programs to have a former player in the NFL with Pittsburgh Steelers WR Marcus Tucker. The Grizzlies will continue their rebuild in 2017 but they face a continued uphill battle in the GLC East.



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Michigan State University Spartans
Lansing, Michigan

2016 Record: 3-2

Head Coach: Chris Pickney

Assistants:

Mark Beach, Mike Alexander, Kevin Palmer, Rashard Lynch, Earl Taylor, Joe,
Cleavenger

Team Captain(s): TBD

Returning Starters: 11

Season Outlook

Michigan State followed up a highly successful inaugural 2015 season by narrowly missing the GLC title game, finishing 2nd in the Great Lakes West division. Head Coach Chris Pickney and his staff return for their 3rd season and with 11 returning starters the Spartans feel like they are set up to be competitive in every game this fall and compete with Oakland for the Great Lakes East title.



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Oakland University Grizzlies
Rochester, MI

2016 Record: 11-0 NCFA National Champions / Great Lakes Champions

Head Coach: Tom Menas

Assistants:

Karl Featherstone

Jack Fugate

Phil Menas

LJ Stolarski

Team Captain(s): Bobby Saad, Ben Hajciar, Malik Pettway

Returning Starters: 9

Players to Watch: Bobby Saad, Chris Polite, Ben Hajciar, Trent Grabowski

Season Outlook

The 2016 NCFA Champs, Oakland Grizzlies are excited for their 2017 prospects with the return of some key players that helped them secure both last year's title and their 2014 championship. For the first time in their history, the Grizzlies return their Head Coach from the previous season with Tom Menas returning to the sidelines. Once again you can expect the Grizzly defense to lead the charge of their success, returning 2016 NCFA defensive player of the year Bobby Saad should once again be a terror for opposing offenses. Offensively the return of workhorse power back Malik Pettway and QB Ben Hajciar should make life easier for offensive coordinator Karl Featherstone. Oakland looks to be the pre-season favorite to repeat as NCFA Champions and cement their legacy as an NCFA dynasty.



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Robert Morris University Peoria Eagles
Peoria, Illinois
2016 Record: 4-5 (3-0 GLC West) 2016 GLC West Champions
Head Coach: Dwayne Siggers
Assistants:
Kyle McKenna
Team Captain(s): John Maebane, James Washington, Jordan Cruise, Larry Billups, Mo Winsley
Returning Starters: 2

Season Outlook

Robert Morris enters the season looking to secure their 5th straight GLC west crown and a return to the NCFANational Club Football Association title game where they were last seen at in 2014. This is probably the year they have opened with the most uncertainty with the program, with a new Head Coach in Dwayne Siggers and only 6 returning players, the Eagles do return 2016 NCFANational Club Football Association All-American John Maebane to build around. Until further notice RMU remains the class of the GLC West and should be considered the pre-season favorite to continue their GLC west dominance



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University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2016 Record: 1-5

Head Coach: Kelvin Ray Chambers

Assistants:

Sean Oroni, Shawn Mckenzie, Josh Fuher, JoJo Moore

Team Captain(s): TBD

Returning Starters: 15

Season Outlook

The Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers are looking for a bounce back season, after being a perennial GLC title contender from 2013-2015, the Panthers fell off in an injury plagued 2016 season, losing 5 games by an average of only 7 points each, including a third straight loss to RMU by a touchdown or less. However, like RMU, the Panthers face a large amount of uncertainty in 2016, losing some key players from previous seasons including former NCFA All-Americans Jordan Platek, Tony Sanicola, Keith Morris and Dez Marion-Moore. The Panthers are also breaking in a new Head Coach as Kelvin Ray Chambers is set for his first year at the helm. The Panthers are hoping a strong defense led by linebackers Eric Koeller and Drew Speth and cornerback Josh Werner can hold down the fort until the offense can get organized. Look for 5th year senior WR Brandon Smith to be the go to player on the offensive side of the ball. The Panthers do have as good of a chance as any in the wide open GLC west this fall