


Atlantic Sun Conference

CSS Game of the Week –Lipscomb at Mercer


Standings	-----Conference-----					-----Overall-----				
	W	L	Pct	PF	PA	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Belmont	12	4	.750	77.6	69.9	16	9	.640	77.2	71.0
Jacksonville	12	4	.750	75.6	65.0	14	11	.560	73.1	67.0
ETSU	11	5	.688	79.0	70.2	17	9	.654	77.7	70.7
Mercer	10	6	.625	76.1	74.6	16	11	.593	74.1	74.0
Stetson	9	8	.529	69.1	69.0	13	13	.500	66.3	66.8
Lipscomb	8	8	.500	76.4	72.2	12	13	.480	75.4	70.4
Campbell	8	9	.471	70.6	70.1	11	15	.423	73.8	73.3
FGCU	7	11	.389	69.4	73.9	11	18	.379	65.8	71.7
USC Upstate	6	10	.375	61.8	67.1	7	18	.280	59.6	68.3
UNF	4	12	.250	56.1	66.7	6	20	.231	55.1	69.0
Kennesaw State	3	13	.188	60.1	72.6	7	18	.280	60.4	68.6


Thursday, February 19

ETSU at USC Upstate, 7:00pm 


FGCU at UNF, 7:45pm 


Sunday, February 22

Belmont at Mercer, 2:00pm 

Lipscomb at Kennesaw State, 3:00pm 

Friday, February 20

Lipscomb at Mercer, 7:00pm 


Belmont at Kennesaw State, 7:30pm 

Monday, February 23

ETSU at Campbell, 7:00pm 

Stetson at Jacksonville, 7:15pm 

Saturday, February 21

USC Upstate at Campbell, 3:15pm 

FGCU at Jacksonville, 4:15pm 

Stetson at UNF, 4:15pm 

Lipscomb Bisons at Mercer Bears

February 20, 2009

Allen Arena – Nashville, Tenn.

The CSS Atlantic Sun Game of the Week features the conference's hottest teams as Lipscomb, winners of four straight, travels to Macon to battle with Mercer, owners of a five-game streak. The Bears have kept the streak alive with a pair of late comebacks. On Feb. 7th, the Bears rallied from at 10-point deficit against Jacksonville to win at the buzzer. On Monday, Mercer overcame shooting 34 percent from the floor to win at Stetson. Lipscomb improved its standing with four straight victories highlighted by a win in the Battle of the Boulevard against Belmont and ending a seven-game losing skid to ETSU.

Mercer/Lipscomb

During Win Streaks

	Lipscomb	Mercer
Win Streak	4	5
PPG	82.3	78.2
Opp PPG	67.5	67.4
FG Pct	51.9	44.4
Opp FG Pct	38.5	40.0
“Star” PPG	Hodzic, 19.5	Florence, 22.2

In a guard-heavy league, the spotlight will be on the paint as two of the conference's top inside presences face each other in Adnan Hodzic for the Bisons and Daniel Emerson for the Bears. Hodzic leads the league in FG percentage while Emerson leads in rebounding and in double-doubles.

Hodzic vs Emerson Season Comparison

	Hodzic	Emerson
PPG	16.9	14.1
A-Sun Rank	6 th	10 th
RPG	7.4	10.7
A-Sun Rank	6 th	1 st
FG Pct	60.6	48.6
A-Sun Rank	2 nd	10 th
Double-Doubles	6	12
A-Sun Rank	T-4 th	1 st

Lipscomb Bisons 12-13, 8-8 A-Sun

Leaders:	Overall	A-Sun Play
PPG	Adnan Hodzic, 16.9	Hodzic, 17.9
RPG	Hodzic, 7.4	Hodzic, 7.5
APG	Michael Lusk, 3.5	Josh Slater, 3.9
FG Pct	Hodzic, 60.6	Hodzic, 62.0
3-pt FG Pct	Lusk, 43.8	Lusk, 42.9

Adnan Hodzic, a member of the 2007-08 All-Freshman team, has experienced nothing resembling a sophomore slump, ranking in the top 10 in scoring and rebounding while shooting 60.6 percent from the floor. He has almost doubled his scoring output from his freshman season, the greatest increase in the Atlantic Sun.

Highest PPG Increase, Atlantic Sun 2007-08 to 2008-09

Player	School	08-09 PPG	07-08 PPG	Increase
Adnan Hodzic	Lipscomb	16.9	8.9	8.0
Mike Smith	ETSU	14.8	7.0	7.8
Kevin Tiggs	ETSU	21.2	14.6	6.6
Alex Renfro	Belmont	15.4	8.8	6.6
Jon House	Belmont	9.0	2.7	6.3

Highest FG Percentage, A-Sun Active Players, Min 200 FG Attempts

Player	Schools, Years	FG-FGA	FG Pct
Adnan Hodzic	Lipscomb, 2007-	283-473	.598
Ayron Hardy	Jacksonville, 2007-	190-336	.565
Alex Renfro	Belmont, 2007-	233-423	.551
Kevin Tiggs	ETSU, 2007-	355-650	.546
Thomas Pfaff	Lipscomb, 2005	187-359	.521

Since being inserted into the starting lineup in last year's Belmont game at home, Hodzic has been a starter in all but one game since. Starting with that game, Hodzic has established himself as one of the top inside forces in the conference

Adnan Hodzic

Since Starting vs Belmont on Jan. 12, 2008

	After	Before
G-GS	*39-38	16-1
PPG	15.2	5.6
RPG	6.7	3.1
FG Pct	61.4	50.7
Games w/ 10+ pts	33 of 39	4 of 16
Double-Doubles	6	1

* Did not start on Dec. 4, 2008 against UNF

The Bisons rank among the leaders in the country for the most players to have scored at least 20 points in a game this season with six. Only VMI and Minnesota have more individuals, seven. Among A-Sun schools, only one other school, tonight's opponent, Mercer, has had more than four players

School	20+	Players
Lipscomb	6	Hodzic, Wright, Lusk, Slater, Pfaff, Teller
Mercer	5	Florence, Ellis, Kusnyer, Emerson, Henry
Belmont	4	Renfro, Dotson, Wicke, House
Kennesaw State	4	McConnell, Pollock, Woods, Nickerson,
USC Upstate	4	Davis, Gordon, Schneiders, Uzochukwu
Stetson	4	Smith, Blair, Diaz, Oliver

Mercer Bears

16-11, 10-6 A-Sun

Leaders:	Overall	A-Sun Play
PPG	James Florence, 19.0	Florence, 20.9
RPG	Emerson, 10.7	Emerson, 10.8
APG	Florence, 3.9	Florence, 4.3
FG Pct	Emerson, 48.6	Emerson, 49.4
3-pt FG Pct	E.J. Kusnyer, 37.3	Kusnyer, 36.8

The Bears stormed out of the gates under new head coach, Bob Hoffman, winning six of their first eight games, including road wins at Alabama and Auburn. After a tough seven-game stretch, the Bears have responded with nine wins in their last 12 games

Mercer 2008-09 Season

	First 8 Games	Next 6 Games	Last 12 Games
W-L	6-2	1-6	9-3
PPG	75.1	62.0	80.5
Opp PPG	71.0	76.0	74.8
FG Pct	44.4	38.5	45.2
Opp FG Pct	40.0	45.5	42.3
Reb Margin	+ 7.7	+ 0.7	+2.4

Daniel Emerson transferred to Mercer joining a long line of Emersons to don a Bears jersey. He has proven to be a rebounding machine, averaging almost 11 rebounds per game highlighted by the top two single-game totals in the A-Sun, a 19-rebound debut against Piedmont and a 20-rebound game at Campbell. His current rebounding average currently ranks as the four-highest average in the last 15 years.

Highest RPG, Atlantic Sun Last 15 Seasons

Player	School	Season	RPG
Adam Sonn	Belmont	2002-03	12.1
Scott Farley	Mercer	1995-96	12.0
Thaddeous Delaney	College of Charleston	1995-96	11.4
Thomas Sanders	Gardner-Webb	2007-08	10.8
Daniel Emerson	Mercer	2008-09	10.7

As mentioned, Emerson joins brothers Will and Scott in Mercer tradition. A look at the three brothers during their time in Macon

Brother	Career	PPG	RPG	FG Pct
Daniel	2008-present	14.1	10.7	48.6
Will	2001-2006	9.2	5.1	47.1
Scott	1999-2004	15.5	8.2	52.2

Emerson is closing on becoming just the fourth in Mercer history, and 18th in the Atlantic Sun to grab 300 rebounds in a season.

Most Rebounds Mercer, Single Season

Player	Year	Rebs
Scott Farley	1995-96	349
Steve Moody	1965-66	317
Jim Hearn	1962-63	291
Daniel Emerson	2008-09	288
Woodrow Richardson	1955-56	284

James Florence has joined Centenary's Willie Jackson and Samford's Craig Beard as the only three players in Atlantic Sun history to have three 500-point seasons. ETSU's Courtney Pigram and Campbell's Jonathan Rodriguez are both approaching this milestone.

Three 500-point seasons Atlantic Sun History

James Florence	539 (2006-07)	531 (2007-08)	513 (2008-09)
Craig Beard	566 (1982-83)	645 (1983-84)	703 (1984-85)
Willie Jackson	693 (1981-82)	697 (1982-83)	663 (1983-84)

Approaching:

Courtney Pigram	614 (2006-07)	506 (2007-08)	469 (2008-09)
Jonathan Rodriguez	536 (2006-07)	626 (2007-08)	442 (2008-09)