

CONFERENCE USA 5201 N. O'Connor Boulevard, Suite 300, Irving, TX 75039 214.774.1300 214.496.0055 fax

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Contact: Russell Anderson (rdanderson@c-usa.org)

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C-USA ANNOUNCES SEPTEMBER 7 FOOTBALL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

IRVING, Texas – After rushing for more yards than FBS player the opening weekend of the season and scoring four touchdowns, Old Dominion sophomore RB **Ray Lawry** has been named the Conference USA Offensive Player of the Week. The Defensive Player of the Week honor went to Marshall junior S **Tiquan Lang**, who had 17 tackles and became just the second player in league history to return two interceptions for touchdowns in the same game. The Special Teams Player of the Week award went to Charlotte junior K **Blake Brewer**, who booted three field goals to help the 49ers win at Georgia State in their FBS debut. C-USA Football Players of the Week are voted on by a panel of the league's media.

Lawry led the Monarchs to a 38-34 victory at Eastern Michigan on Saturday. The sophomore running back rushed for 223 yards, which was one yard away from ODU's single-game record. It was also the best rushing mark of any player in the FBS during opening weekend. He carried a career-best 28 times and tied his career high and school record with four touchdowns, all four coming in the second half. He had three runs of 20-yards or more and touchdown runs of 52, 2, 5 and 45 yards. The 200-yard game was his second-straight, as he ended last season with 213 yards at Florida Atlantic.

Lang racked up 17 tackles and bookended Marshall's 41-31 victory over Purdue with a pair of interception returns for touchdowns. He raced 30 yards on an interception return just seven seconds into the game and finished the scoring with a 55-yard jaunt to the end zone to give Marshall a 10-point win and its first victory over a Big Ten opponent. The two "pick-sixes" were the first for a Conference USA player since Cincinnati's Shawn Ferguson pulled off the feat in 1998.

Brewer hit all three of his field goal attempts, including what proved to be the game-winner, in the 49ers 23-20 victory at Georgia State in their FBS debut. Brewer hit kicks from 45, 35 and 22 yards and added a pair of PATs in a perfect kicking performance. He matched his own school-record for most field goals made (three) without a miss. The 45-yard kick was the ninth successful kick of his career of 40 yards or longer.

2015 WINNERS: <u>Offensive Player of the Week</u> – Sept. 7 – Ray Lawry, RB, Old Dominion. <u>Defensive Player of the Week</u> – Sept. 7 – Tiquan Lang, DB, Marshall. <u>Special Teams Player of the Week</u> – Sept. 7 – Blake Brewer, K, Charlotte.

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