

2020 FIU Football Preview



Head Coach (Yr)
Butch Davis (4)
Offensive Coord.
Rich Skrosky (4)
Co-Def Coord.
Jerod Kruse (2)
Jeff Copp (2)
Conference/Div
CUSA/East

Team Profile	#	Rk
2020 Team Power Rating	56.1	109
Power Ratings Diff vs Last Year	-4.6	116
2020 Strength of Schedule	57.7	123
2020 Season Win Projection	6.1	74
Returning Starters (OFF/DEF)	10 (4/6)	117
Return Starting QB (YES/NO)	NO	
Returning Production %	44%	123
Returning Offense Production	30%	129
Returning Defense Production	59%	84
2020 Recruiting (Signees)	22	74
2020 Roster Talent Rank		76

2020 Offense/Defense Analysis

FIU started playing football in 2002 and current head coach Butch Davis inherited a program that was just 17-43 SU in the five seasons prior to his arrival. Davis, who previously coached at Miami knew the area well and now has led FIU to three straight bowl games. Last year FIU notched their biggest win in school history with a 30-24 upset of Miami as 3-TD underdogs.

This season, Davis might have to pull off his best coaching yet as the Panthers are one of the least experienced teams in the country with only 10 starters returning. On offense, QB James Morgan departs after getting drafted in the 4th round by the N.Y. Jets. Also gone are the Panthers top two rushers Anthony Jones and Napoleon Maxwell who combined for 1,572 rush yards and 18 TD's. Wide receiver could be a position of strength as the Panthers return their leading receiver Shemar Thornton and bring in Georgia transfer J.J. Hollomon.

The defense is in better shape thanks to the return of twin brothers Richard and Richard Dames in the secondary as they combined for 115 tackles, 10 TFL's and four INT's. Also keep an eye out on Boise St transfer LB Tyson Maeya who recorded 166 tackles, 12 TFL's and five sacks in 33 career games.

Despite the inexperience, the schedule isn't overly difficult. Our current projections have the Panthers clear favorites in four games, clear underdogs in four games and it will depend on those four toss-up games on whether or not Davis can make it four straight bowl appearances.

2020 Schedule with BP Projected Lines

Date	Opponent	Line	Win %	Line	Total	Score	W/L/O/U
9/3	J'Ville St	-16.6	90%				
9/12	at UCF	28.6	4%				
9/19	at Old Dom	-4.7	64%				
9/26	at Liberty	1.2	48%				
10/3							
10/10	Middle Tenn	0.6	49%				
10/17	at Charlotte	1.4	48%				
10/24	at UMass	-17.7	92%				
10/31	Marshall	5.6	35%				
11/7	at UTEP	-15.2	87%				
11/14	Florida Atl	7.1	32%				
11/21	at W Kentucky	13.8	18%				
11/28	La Tech	2.1	45%				
Projected Wins		6.12					

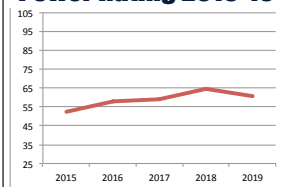
Last 5 Year Records

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Straight Up	5-7	4-8	8-5	9-4	6-7	32-31
Home	4-1	2-5	5-1	4-3	5-1	20-11
Away	1-6	2-3	2-3	4-1	0-5	9-18
Neutral	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-0	1-1	3-2
Conference	3-5	4-4	5-3	6-2	3-5	21-19
Non-Conf	2-2	0-4	3-2	3-2	3-2	11-12
ATS	6-5	5-7	6-7	10-3	4-9	31-30
Home Fav	3-1	0-0	0-2	2-3	2-4	7-11
Home Dog	0-0	3-4	4-0	2-0	0-0	9-4
Away Fav	0-1	0-2	0-0	4-0	0-1	4-4
Away Dog	3-3	2-1	2-3	1-0	1-3	9-10
Conference	4-3	5-3	4-4	6-2	2-6	21-18
Non-Conf	2-2	0-4	2-3	4-1	2-3	10-13
O/U	6-5	7-5	8-5	8-5	6-7	35-27

ATS Stat

FIU is on a 8-0 ATS run as a home underdog with an average cover of 14.8 ppg. FIU could be a home dog 4 times this year!

End of Season Power Rating 2015-19



2019 Stats

	FIU	Rk	Opp	Rk
Rushing				
YPC	4.4	66	5.0	111
YPG	165.2	63	198.6	106
Passing				
Comp %	57.3%	90	54.7%	19
YPA	7.1	86	6.6	23
YPG	211.8	83	195.0	17
TD-INT	14-6		16-12	
Total				
YPP	5.6	81	5.7	69
YGP	377.1	91	393.6	69
Scoring				
PPG	26.5	83	27.2	63
3rd Down				
%	38.0%	88	39.3%	66
Red Zone				
TD %	50.9%	110	64.0%	87
Scoring %	76.4%	107	90.0%	116
KO Ret				
Avg	16.0	122	21.5	86
Punt Ret				
Avg	20.8	3	-0.4	1
Sacks				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	21	96	14	5
TFL's				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	68	89	63	22
Net Punt				
Avg	41.0	18		
4th Down				
Off	Rk			
Att P/Gm	1.8	46		
Turnovers				
Margin	+3	42		
Penalties				
Per Game	6.1	64		

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Scoring Quarter-By-Quarter

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	OT	Total
FIU	61	122	78	80	3	344
Opp	83	70	99	96	6	354

2019 Stat Margins

	Margin	+/-	Rk
Rush YPC	-0.6	99	
Pass YPA	+0.5	55	
YPP	-0.1	81	
YGP	-16.5	81	
Scoring	-0.7	76	

2019 Individual Stats

	Att	Yds	%	Ratio
Passing				
James Morgan	357	2560	58.0	14-5
Kaylan Wiggins	27	172	55.6	0-0
Rushing				
Att Yds	YPC	TD		
Anthony Jones	187	867	4.6	9
Napoleon Maxwell	128	675	5.3	9
Receiving				
Rec Yds	YPC	TD		
Shemar Thornton	51	668	13.1	5
Austin Maloney	33	639	19.4	2
Tony Gaiter	50	622	12.4	4
Maurice Alexander	25	298	11.9	1
Defense				
Tkl	Sks	TFL	Int	
Sage Lewis	93	1	4	3
Jamal Gates	85	1	3	1
Olin Cushion	65	0	1	1
Richard Dames	59	0	6	4
Richard Dames	56	1	3	0
S. Thomas-Oliver	54	2	2	1
Kicking				
FG	LG	XP		
Jose Borregales	21-29	53	37-39	
Punting				
Avg	I20	50+	BLK	
Tommy Heatherly	43.0	15	15	0

2019 Game-By-Game Recap

Teams	Open	Close	Score	ATS
FIU	55.5	58.5	14	Under: 2.5
Tulane	-3	-3	42	Cover: 25
-Tulane had 28-16 first down and 545-267 yard edges.				
W. Kentucky	61.5	57	20	Cover: 14
FIU	-12	-8	14	Under: 23
-FIU had a 1st and Goal and the WKU 2-yard line in the 4Q but managed ZERO points.				
-FIU used two different QB's.				
New Hampshire	43.5	43.5	17	Cover: 1.5
FIU		-14.5	30	Over: 3.5
-FIU had a 437-370 yard edge including 310-146 on the ground. FIU actually trailed 17-13 mid-3Q and got a punt return TD late.				
-FIU QB Kaylan Wiggins was 12 of 18 for 127 yards but added 187 yards rushing and 2 TD's.				
FIU	53.5	51.5	31	Over: 22.5
Louisiana Tech	-9	-7	43	Cover: 5
-Lots of late point spread drama. FIU got a back-door TD with :51 left (trailed 36-31 as a 7-point dog) only to see LT return the onside kick for a TD.				
-LT had a 565-526 yard edge including 275-132 on the ground. It was a 0-0 game after the first quarter and FIU actually led 24-20 in the middle of the 3Q.				
-FIU QB Morgan back from injury, threw for 394 yards.				
Massachusetts	65	69.5	0	Under: 25.5
FIU	-25	-27.5	44	Cover: 16.5
-FIU dominated with 26-5 first down and 541-115 yard edges including 278-38 on the ground.				
-FIU led 34-0 at halftime.				
Charlotte	62	57.5	23	Over: 13.5
FIU	-4.5	-5.5	48	Cover: 19.5
-FIU had a 510-330 yard edge including 350-217 rushing.				
UTEP	52.5	51.5	17	Cover: 9.5
FIU	-20.5	-24.5	32	Under: 2.5
-UTEP had a 17-15 first down edge but FIU had a 335-283 yard edge.				
FIU	-2.5	-2	17	Over: 9.5
Middle Tenn	56.5	57.5	50	Cover: 35
-MT had 496-319 yard edges including 471-89 on the ground. The Blue Raiders were also +4 in TO's.				
-MT outscored FIU 36-0 in the second half.				
-MT had 3 rushers top 100 yards.				
Old Dominion	49	47.5	17	Cover: 10.5
FIU	-17	-17.5	24	Under: 6.5
-FIU had 20-13 first down and 383-233 yard edges.				
FIU	61.5	59	7	Under: 15
Florida Atlantic	-10.5	-12	37	Cover: 18
-FAU had 30-16 first down and 579-304 yard edges including 261-112 on the ground.				
Miami (FL)	-18.5	-20.5	24	Over: 3.5
FIU	47.5	50.5	30	Cover: 26.5
Misleading Final: Miami had 26-17 first down and 413-297 yard edges. Miami was -3 in TO's.				
-Miami was also stopped on downs on 4&1 at the FIU 1-yard line and 4&1 at the FIU 18.				
-FIU -- a team mostly composed of Florida kids, many of whom grew up wanting to play for Miami -- pulled off easily the most significant victory in its program's history by stunning Miami 30-24 at Marlins Park, a stadium built on the soil where Miami was once the most unbeatable force in college football.				
-The Panthers were brash (14 penalties for 144 yards) and not intimidated. They also weren't afraid to manipulate the rules a bit, with no fewer than five instances of players going down with what appeared to be injuries that just happened to come at times where slowing down Miami would be advantageous including two where Miami was going for it on fourth down.				
FIU	51.5	50	27	Cover: 6.5
Marshall	-8	-9.5	30	Over: 7
-Marshall had a 23-17 first down edge but FIU a 322-290 yard edge. Marshall led 17-7 entering the 4Q.				
Florida Intl	62	60.5	26	Under: 0.5
Arkansas State	-3	-1	34	Cover: 7
AST had 31-23 first down and 525-444 yard edges.				
FIU QB James Morgan threw for 312 yards but 2 INT's.				

2015 (SU: 5-7, ATS: 6-5, O/U: 6-5)

Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/3	at UCF	+13	15-14	W u49
9/12	at Indiana	+8	22-36	L o56
9/19	NC Central	-21	39-14	W o46
9/26	at Louisiana Tech	+14	17-27	L u55
10/3	at Massachusetts	+2	14-24	L u57
10/10	UTEP	-14	52-12	W o45
10/17	at Middle Tenn	+11	34-42	W o53
10/24	Old Dominion	-13	41-12	W o52
10/31	at Florida Atlantic	-2	17-31	L u50
11/7	Charlotte	-17	48-31	L o52
11/14	at Marshall	+10	0-52	L u53
11/21	Western Kentucky	+18	7-63	NA 66

*WKU game was suspended before end.

2016 (SU: 4-8, ATS: 5-7, O/U: 7-5)

Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/3	Indiana	+10	13-34	L u64
9/9	Maryland	+11	14-41	L u56
9/16	at Massachusetts	-1	13-21	L u48
9/23	at Rice	+8	14-53	L o53
9/30	Charlotte	+4	33-31	W o53
10/7	at Middle Tenn	+9	17-37	L u53
10/14	Tulane	+13	23-10	W u51
10/21	at Marshall	+16	41-30	W o47
11/4	UTSA	+6	14-7	W u51
11/11	Old Dominion	-10	30-37	L o48
11/18	at Florida Atl	+14	24-52	L o65
11/25	W Kentucky	+3	41-17	W o56
12/2	Massachusetts	+1	63-45	W o56
12/21	at Temple	+7	3-28	L u56

2017 (SU: 8-5, ATS: 6-7, O/U: 8-5)

Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/2	at UCF	+17	17-61	L o56
9/9	at Alcorn St	-18	17-10	L u58
9/16	at Indiana	Cancelled		
9/23	at Rice	+2	13-7	W u52
9/30	Charlotte	-10	30-29	L o48
10/7	at Middle Tenn	+9	17-37	L u53
10/14	Tulane	+13	23-10	W u51
10/21	at Marshall	+16	41-30	W o47
11/4	UTSA	+6	14-7	W u51
11/11	Old Dominion	-10	30-37	L o48
11/18	at Florida Atl	+14	24-52	L o65
11/25	W Kentucky	+3	41-17	W o56
12/2	Massachusetts	+1	63-45	W o56
12/21	at Temple	+7	3-28	L u56