

Southern Maryland Athletic Conference

WESTLAKE

★★★

Coach: Dominic Zaccarelli
2005: 8-3, 8-2
Starters: 4/5

Injuries to starters last season gave RBs Kenard Harris and Albert Hanks a chance to prepare for more featured roles this year. LB A.J. Gross shores up an athletic defense.

NORTHERN

★★★

Coach: A.J. Berberian
2005: 7-3, 7-3
Starters: 6/5

The Patriots ran on more than 75 percent of their plays last season. The reason: senior RB **A.J. Brown** (1,324 yards) and road paving OL Brian Willhide.

CHOPTICON

★★★

Coach: Tony Lisanti
2005: 7-3, 7-3
Starters: 8/4

One of the conference's surprise teams last season. Third-year starting QB Justin McVerry has a 6-5, 220-pound target in TE Ivan Cerkez.

McDONOUGH

★★★

Coach: Dave Bradshaw
2005: 6-5, 6-4
Starters: 6/6

The Rams lost All-Met A.J. Wallace but added a 6-5 receiver and Maryland-bound transfer Derek Drummond, who should thrive in McDonough's spread offense.



CALVERT

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Coach: Marc Watson
2005: 5-5, 5-5
Starters: 7/7

Calvert made waves by winning its final four games last year. Watson believes QB Anthony Lorenzano has the makeup of a 2,000-yard passer.

GREAT MILLS

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Coach: Bill Griffith
2005: 3-7, 3-7
Starters: 7/7

QB Cody Kohn, the SMAC's leading passer last season, returns for his fourth varsity season and should connect often with big-play WR Will Smith, who emerged last year.

LACKEY

★★

Coach: Doug Lamb*
2005: 9-3, 8-2
Starters: 3/3

The Chargers have reached the 3A final in two of the past three seasons. Junior RB-LB Mike Johnson (1,200 rushing yards), will lead on both sides of the ball.

LA PLATA

★★

Coach: Chris Davidson
2005: 3-7, 3-7
Starters: 8/8

The Warriors have a pair of 6-3 receivers in Darrell Robinson and Marcus James Jr., and depth in the backfield with speedy RBs Marcus Smoot and Robert Watley.

PATUXENT

★★

Coach: Steve Crouse
2005: 5-5, 5-5
Starters: 4/7

LBs Steve Sanders and Brian Turner should flourish in the attacking 3-5 scheme that Patuxent debuted during an upset of Westlake at the end of last season.

THOMAS STONE

★★

Coach: Kevin Heider*
2005: 7-4, 7-3
Starters: 5/5

The Cougars will showcase some of their versatility with Wiley Brown and Frank Carter, who can play either wide receiver or running back.

HUNTINGTOWN

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Coach: Jerry Franks
2005: 1-9, 1-9
Starters: 7/5

The Hurricanes head into this year with a strong crop of upperclassmen. Seniors Gene McKenzie, Jack Cholak and Kyle Waters return to stabilize the offensive line.

LEONARDTOWN

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Coach: Brett Johnson*
2005: 0-10, 0-10
Starters: 4/4

RB JaQuan Shields, a burner with a 4.4 40-yard dash time, could surprise. Junior WR Michael Hebb (6-1, 190) gives the Raiders another strong offensive option.