

Cumberland faces a long road trip into the hills of Virginia for Saturday's Mid-South Conference game with the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

Live radio coverage begins at 4:30 p.m. on WANT FM-98.9.

The Cavaliers lead the series between the two programs 8-7. In the last meeting, Cumberland won 27-20 in Wise, back on Oct. 17, 2009.

UVa.-Wise enters Saturday's game 1-3 overall in the wake of last week's 38-20 loss to Pikeville. The Cavs are giving up an average of 28 points per game and 415 yards per game. Senior linebacker Derek Comer leads the Mid-South Conference in tackles with 40.5 tackles (33 solo stops). The total ranks Comer seventh nationally in tackles per game with 12.

Seventh year CU head coach Dewayne Alexander's Bulldogs have posted a 35-31 record to this point in his career and stand 2-1 on the season following last week's thrilling 36-30 overtime victory over Belhaven.

Cumberland features a powerful rushing attack that enters play averaging 235 yards on the ground per game. Leading the charge is senior wingback Lemeco Miller who has rushed for 275 yards on 55 carries in the first three games of the season. The Huntsville, AL native has averaged five yards per carry while rushing for four touchdowns.

When turning to the air, Cumberland relies on sophomore quarterback Reed Gurchiek (Mt. Juliet) who has thrown for 323 yards and three touchdowns.

Redshirt senior B.J. Stewart is Gurchiek's favorite target to this point in the year as the tight end has used his 6-5 frame to haul in eight receptions for 131 yards and two scores.

On defense, the Bulldogs are allowing 31.7 points per game while allowing 402 yards of total offense per contest.

Cumberland has had a difficult time stopping the run as the defensive unit has allowed 276 rushing yards per game while giving up eight rushing touchdowns.

Individually, senior linebacker Connor McChurch leads the team in tackles with 28 while also being tied for the team lead in tackles for loss with 3.5.

In addition, defensive backs Michael Hagewood and Grant Jones have each accumulated more than 20 total stops to this point in the season. Overall, the unit has forced five turnovers, four of which have come via fumble recoveries.