

# PASSPORT TO KICKOFF



@TheBahamasBowl  
Popeyes Bahamas Bowl

2014 POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL ■ DECEMBER 24, 2014; NOON ET **ESPN** ■ POPEYESBAHAMASBOWL.COM

## POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL COMMUNICATIONS

**Chris Pika**  
Director of Communications  
chris.pika@bahamasbowl.com  
678-908-4853 (cell)

## POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL IMPORTANT DATES

- Nov. 10** ..... Popeyes Bahamas Bowl media credential applications available at [PopeyesBahamasBowl.com](http://PopeyesBahamasBowl.com)
- Dec. 5** ..... Marathon MAC Football Championship - Detroit, Mich. (Ford Field)
- Dec. 6** ..... Conference USA Football Championship - Site TBA
- Dec. 7** ..... Selection Sunday
- Dec. 11-12** ... Team Site Visits
- Dec. 12** ..... Credential applications close
- Dec. 20** ..... Team Arrivals
- Dec. 21-23** .. Team Practices
- Dec. 23** ..... Popeyes Bahamas Bowl Press Conference
- Dec. 24** ..... Popeyes Bahamas Bowl (Noon ET; Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium; Nassau, Bahamas - ESPN)

## #PASSPORTKICKOFF

#PassportToKickoff is not only our hashtag, but a reminder that all U.S. citizens must have a valid passport to travel to the **Bahamas & the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl**. For passport info: [passports.state.gov](http://passports.state.gov)

## POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL WEEK 11 NOTEBOOK

### C-USA EDITION (November 8)

**PASSPORT STAMPED (BOWL ELIGIBLE):** Bowling Green (6-3), Central Michigan (6-4), Louisiana Tech (6-3), Marshall (8-0), Northern Illinois (7-2), Toledo (6-3), Western Michigan (6-3). **AT CUSTOMS (ONE WIN SHY):** Middle Tennessee (5-4), Ohio (5-5), Rice (5-3), UAB (5-4), UTEP (5-3).

**THIS SATURDAY:** All six Conference USA games are Saturday. No. 22 *USA Today*/No. 23 AP and East Division leaders Marshall (8-0, 4-0 C-USA) will try to keep its perfect season alive at Southern Miss (3-6, 1-4 C-USA). West Division leader Louisiana Tech (6-3, 5-0 C-USA) is at UAB (5-4, 3-2 C-USA). The Bulldogs have won four straight, and the Blazers need one victory for bowl eligibility. Rice (5-3, 3-1 C-USA), the hottest team in C-USA with a five-game win streak and needing one victory for bowl eligibility, hosts UTSA (2-6, 1-3 C-USA). UTEP (5-3, 3-1 C-USA), also one win shy of bowl eligibility, goes to WKU (3-5, 1-4 C-USA). FIU (3-6, 2-3 C-USA) heads to Old Dominion (3-6, 1-4 C-USA), and Florida Atlantic (3-6, 2-3 C-USA) plays at North Texas (2-6, 0-4 C-USA).

**MACTION RECAP:** Two MAC teams reached bowl eligibility Tuesday. Bowling Green (6-3, 3-1 MAC) beat Akron (4-5, 2-3 MAC) 27-10 on the road, and Toledo (6-3, 5-0 MAC) continues to lead the East Division after a 30-20 victory at Kent State (1-8, 0-5 MAC). Wednesday, Ohio (5-5, 3-3 MAC) beat Buffalo (3-6, 1-4 MAC) 37-14 at home, and Northern Illinois (7-2, 4-1 MAC) beat Ball State (3-6, 2-3 MAC) 35-21. The MAC has no Saturday games this week.

**TOSSING IT AROUND:** Conference USA is second in FBS in quarterbacks with 20 or more TD passes with four (Pac-12 has six); WKU's **Brandon Doughty** is tied for fourth with 25, Old Dominion's **Taylor Heinicke** is tied for eighth with 23, Louisiana Tech's **Cody Sokol** is 12th with 22 and Marshall's **Rakeem Cato** is tied for 18th with 20.

**YARDS IN CHUNKS FOR C-USA:** UAB has seven scrimmage plays of 70 yards or longer, the most 70+ in FBS. Marshall has nine scrimmage plays of 60 yards or longer, the most 60+ in FBS. Marshall (11), UAB (10) and Middle Tennessee (8) each have at least eight scrimmage plays longer than 50 yards.

**FRANKLIN MINT:** Western Michigan freshman RB **Jarvion Franklin** has 1,330 yards rushing, the second-most yards by a freshman in MAC history, trailing only former Temple RB **Bernard Pierce** (1,361) in 2009. Franklin leads the nation in both rushing TDs (22) and scoring (132 pts.; 14.7 ppg).

## C-USA STANDINGS



### EAST DIVISION

	C-USA	Overall
* Marshall	4-0	8-0
Middle Tennessee	4-1	5-4
UAB	3-2	5-4
FIU	2-3	3-6
Florida Atlantic	2-3	3-6
WKU	1-4	3-5
Old Dominion	1-4	3-6

### WEST DIVISION

	C-USA	Overall
* Louisiana Tech	5-0	6-3
Rice	3-1	5-3
UTEP	3-1	5-3
UTSA	1-3	2-6
Southern Miss	1-4	3-6
North Texas	0-4	2-6

\* - bowl eligible

## MAC STANDINGS



### EAST DIVISION

	MAC	Overall
* Bowling Green	4-1	6-3
Ohio	3-3	5-5
Akron	2-3	4-5
UMass	2-3	2-7
Miami	2-4	2-8
Buffalo	1-4	3-6
Kent State	0-5	1-8

### WEST DIVISION

	MAC	Overall
* Toledo	5-0	6-3
* Northern Illinois	4-1	7-2
* Western Michigan	4-1	6-3
* Central Michigan	4-2	6-4
Ball State	2-3	3-6
Eastern Michigan	1-4	2-7

\* - bowl eligible

**WEEK 11 SCHEDULE/RESULTS**

**CONFERENCE USA**

**Saturday, November 8**

- \* Louisiana Tech at UAB (ASN)
- \* UTSA at Rice (FSN)
- \* FIU at Old Dominion (ASN)
- \* UTEP at WKU
- \* Florida Atlantic at North Texas (FCS)
- \* Marshall at Southern Miss (ASN)

**MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**Tuesday, November 4**

- \* Bowling Green 27, Akron 10
- \* Toledo 30, Kent State 20

**Wednesday, November 5**

- \* Ohio 37, Buffalo 14
- \* Northern Illinois 35, Ball State 21

(TV/digital network in parenthesis)

- \* - conference games

**POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL PARTICIPANT SELECTION**

The highest-ranked conference champion by the College Football Playoff Selection Committee from the American Athletic, Conference USA, Mid-American, Mountain West or Sun Belt will play annually in one of the College Football Playoff bowls (**VIZIO Fiesta, Cotton & Chick-fil-A Peach** bowls for the 2014 season) if it is not selected for the Playoff Semifinals.

C-USA's champion will select which bowl it would like to attend, and the remainder of the selections will follow, with no particular set order of bowls. C-USA has 2014 tie-ins with the **Popeyes Bahamas, Boca Raton, Gildan New Mexico, Hawai'i** and **Zaxby's Heart of Dallas** bowls, with a secondary tie-in with the **Duck Commander Independence Bowl** (if either ACC or SEC does not have enough eligible teams).

The **GoDaddy Bowl** has first choice of a MAC bowl-eligible team, and the remainder of the selections will follow, with no particular set order of bowls. The MAC has 2014 tie-ins with **Popeyes Bahamas, Boca Raton, Famous Idaho Potato, GoDaddy** and **Raycom Media Camellia** bowls, with secondary tie-ins with the **San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl** (if Navy is not bowl-eligible), ESPN owned-and-operated bowls (such as **Gildan New Mexico, Bitcoin St. Petersburg** or **Birmingham** bowls) and the **Quick Lane Bowl** (if either ACC or Big Ten does not have enough eligible teams).

The participants for the **2014 Popeyes Bahamas Bowl** will be announced **Sunday, December 7**.

**WEEK 10 RESULTS**

**CONFERENCE USA**

**Saturday, November 1**

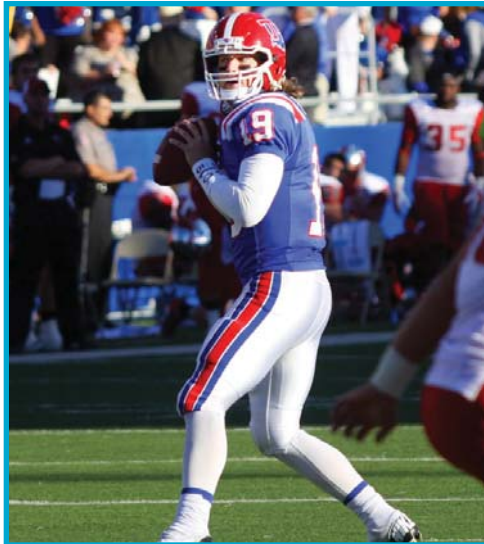
- \* Rice 31, FIU 17
- \* Louisiana Tech 59, WKU 10
- BYU 27, Middle Tennessee 7
- \* UAB 31, Florida Atlantic 28
- Vanderbilt 42, Old Dominion 28
- \* UTEP 35, Southern Miss 14

**MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, November 1**

- \* Central Michigan 38, Eastern Michigan 7
- \* Western Michigan 41, Miami 10

- \* - conference games



**Louisiana Tech senior quarterback Cody Sokol threw for five scores and ran for another in a big victory over WKU for Conference USA Offensive Player of the Week honors. (Photo Credit: LA Tech Athletics)**

**WEEK 10 INDIVIDUAL HONORS**

**QB Cody Sokol, Louisiana Tech:** The senior completed 30-of-42 passes for 335 yards and five TDs and ran for a TD in a 59-10 win over WKU for C-USA Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**DE Zach Patt, Rice:** The senior was credited with a school-record five sacks, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery in a 31-17 win at FIU for C-USA Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**KR Autrey Golden, UTEP:** The junior returned a kickoff for a TD for the fifth time in his career, a 98-yard return in the third quarter, in a 35-14 victory over Southern Miss for C-USA Special Teams Player of the Week recognition.

**RB A.J. Ouellette, Ohio:** The freshman had 155 rushing yards on 29 carries and two TDs and catcaught two passes for 11 yards in a 37-14 win over Buffalo for MAC East Division Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**DB Nick Johnson, Bowling Green:** The freshman had nine tackles, two interceptions and three pass breakups in a 27-10 win at Akron for MAC East Division Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**K Josiah Yazdani, Ohio:** The junior made all three of his field-goal attempts of 19, 28 and 33 yards and all three PAT kicks to help the Bobcats defeat Buffalo, 37-14 for MAC East Division Special Teams Player of the Week recognition.

**RB Jarvion Franklin, Western Michigan:** The freshman had 182 yards and three TDs on 29 carries in a 41-10 win at Miami for MAC West Division Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**DB Anthony Brooks, Northern Illinois:** The sophomore had four tackles, one pass break-up and a key interception return for a TD in a 35-21 win at Ball State for MAC West Division Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**K Jeremiah Detmer, Toledo:** The senior made all three of his field-goal attempts of 26, 28 and 45 yards and three PATs in a 30-20 win at Kent State for MAC West Division Special Teams Player of the Week recognition.

**POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA PREDICTIONS**

<b>Media Member (Organization) - Date:</b>	<b>C-USA vs. MAC Matchup</b>
<b>ESPN.com (Brett McMurphy) - Nov. 2:</b>	Louisiana Tech vs. Western Michigan
<b>ESPN.com (Mark Schlabach) - Nov. 2:</b>	Marshall vs. Northern Illinois
<b>USA Today (Erick Smith) - Nov. 5:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo
<b>SI.com (Zac Ellis) - Nov. 4:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Akron
<b>NFL.com (Mike Huguenin) - Nov. 4:</b>	UAB vs. Bowling Green
<b>FOXSports.com (Stuart Mandel) - Nov. 4:</b>	Louisiana Tech vs. Bowling Green
<b>Athlon Sports (Steven Lissan) - Nov. 4:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan
<b>The Sporting News (Bill Bender) - Nov. 3:</b>	Rice vs. Western Michigan
<b>Phil Steele Magazine - Nov. 3:</b>	Louisiana Tech vs. Northern Illinois
<b>NationalFootballPost.com (Dave Miller) - Nov. 3:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan
<b>Brant Parsons (Orlando Sentinel) - Nov. 2:</b>	UTEP vs. Bowling Green
<b>SB Nation (Jason Kirk) - Nov. 2:</b>	Marshall vs. Toledo
<b>CBSsports.com (Jerry Palm) - Nov. 2:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan
<b>CollegeFootballNews.com (Pete Fiutak) - Nov. 2:</b>	Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo