



Bowl Season Game Notes – December 17, 2021

First-time Dance Partners

This year's Bowl Season features 18 match ups in which the teams had never previously played each other. There are five other bowl games in which there was only one previous meeting.

Bowl Season Gameday Live

Bowl Season is excited to introduce Bowl Season Gameday Live — the best way for any college football fan to follow all the bowl games this year. Bowl Season Gameday Live is a landing page at BowlSeason.com where fans can access live coverage of each and every bowl game. The page includes live tv broadcasts, radio and real-time stats for every bowl game in action that day and throughout Bowl Season. Bowl Season Gameday Live can be accessed at BowlSeason.com.

Bowl Season Radio

Bowl Season and First Team Ventures have joined together to form [Bowl Season Radio](#), which will provide exclusive live national radio/audio play-by-play coverage for 18 college bowl games this season. Bowl Season Radio will air on terrestrial radio stations throughout the country, as well as Sirius XM satellite radio. In addition, the games will stream live on Tune-In, Audacy and The Varsity Network apps.

The 2021-22 Bowl Season Radio schedule includes (satellite radio channel):

Bahamas Bowl (Sirius 137 XM 202)	Military Bowl presented by Peraton (SXM 84)
Tailgreeter Cure Bowl (Sirius 137 XM 202)	TicketSmarter Birmingham Bowl (SXM 84)
Cricket Celebration Bowl (SXM 84)	SERVPRO First Responder Bowl (SXM 84)
Radiance Technology Independence Bowl (SXM 84)	Wasabi Fenway Bowl (Sirius 137 XM 202)
LendingTree Bowl (SXM 81)	Duke's Mayo Bowl (Sirius 137 XM 202)
Myrtle Beach Bowl (SXM 84)	SBS Distribution Las Vegas Bowl (SXM 83)
Tropical Smoothie Café Frisco Bowl (SXM 84)	Tony the Tiger Sun Bowl (Sirius 137 XM 202)
Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl (SXM 84)	Outback Bowl (SXM 83)
Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl (SXM 84)	TaxAct Texas Bowl (SXM 84)

Bowl Season Stories

Bowl Season launched its official **podcast** this year – Bowl Season Stories. Executive Director Nick Carparelli hosts entertaining segments with Bowl Season legends, college football media and bowl executive directors, discussing their bowl memories and great moments, and celebrating all that is great about Bowl Season. Guests have included Tony Dorsett, Kirk Herbstreit, Rocket Ismail and Joel Klatt, among others. Subscribe wherever you get podcasts or go to bowlseason.com/podcasts to listen to this year's shows.

Bowl Season Newsletter

[Click here to read](#) the latest version of Bowl Season's official newsletter - KICKOFF

Bowl Season Schedule

[Click here to access](#) the entire Bowl Season schedule.



GAME NOTES



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TODAY'S GAMES

Bahamas Bowl – 12:00 p.m. ET

Middle Tennessee (6-6) vs. Toledo (7-5)

Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium – Nassau, Bahamas - ESPN

Middle Tennessee (Conference USA)

- Since turning FBS in 1999, the Blue Raiders are 3-4 vs the MAC
- The Bahamas Bowl will mark the 13th bowl Middle Tennessee has participated in during its football history but ninth in the FBS era. They have a 3-9 bowl record.
- The Blue Raiders had three first team selections, two on the second team, and four honorable mention picks. Safety Reed Blankenship, defensive back Quincy Riley and punt returner Jaylin Lane were the three Blue Raiders on the first unit.

Toledo (MAC)

- Toledo is 11-7 all-time in bowl games and has a streak of 12 consecutive seasons without a losing record as well as 11 straight years of being bowl eligible.
- Eleven members of the University of Toledo football team earned All-MAC honors. The 11 honorees are the most for Toledo since placing 12 players on All-MAC teams in 2016.
- For the Rockets, their six turnovers, two interceptions and four lost fumbles, are the fewest lost by any team at the FBS level.
- Toledo had both the number one scoring offense and the number one scoring defense in the MAC.

Odds and Ends

- The Bahamas Bowl is the longest-running international bowl game in college football history. It debuted in 2014.
- This is the first-ever meeting between Middle Tennessee and Toledo.

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Tailgreeter Cure Bowl – 6:00 p.m. ET
Northern Illinois (9-4) vs. Coastal Carolina (10-2)
Exploria Stadium - Orlando, Florida – ESPN2

Northern Illinois (MAC)

- The MAC Champion Huskies are making their fourth trip to the Sunshine State, which includes appearances in the 2012 Orange Bowl, 2014 and 2018 Boca Raton Bowl.
- NIU will make its 19th appearance all-time in a postseason bowl, and its 14th appearance as a FBS team. The Cure Bowl appearance will be NIU's 11th bowl game in the last 14 seasons.
- The Huskies are ranked fifth nationally in rushing offense (234.2), ninth in red zone offense (.920) and 10th in time of possession (33:03).
- NIU completed a “worst to first” regular season in 2021 with an eight-game improvement in the win column, tied for the second-best improvement in FBS.

Coastal Carolina (Sun Belt)

- The Chanticleers are making their second-straight appearance in the Tailgreeter Cure Bowl. They made their postseason debut last season in a Top 25 matchup vs. Liberty.
- The prolific Coastal Carolina offense leads the nation in team passing efficiency (190.63) and third down conversion pct. (.541).
- Quarterback Grayson McCall was selected as the Sun Belt Player of the Year for the second-straight season after totaling 2,558 yards through the air and 23 touchdowns.

Odds and Ends

- The Cure Bowl is a platform to help raise funds for cancer research. Since 2015, the bowl has raised a collective \$3.88 million.
- This is the first time the two programs are meeting on the football field.

Conference Teams in Bowls:

- SEC: 13
- ACC: 10
- Big Ten: 9
- Conference USA: 8
- Mountain West: 8
- MAC: 8
- American Athletic: 7
- Big 12: 7
- Pac 12: 6
- Sun Belt: 4
- Independents: 4

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Next Games Up

- RoofClaim.com Boca Raton Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18/11:00 a.m. ET, ESPN)
Western Kentucky vs. Appalachian State
- Cricket Celebration Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18/12:00 p.m. ET, ABC)
South Carolina State vs. Jackson State
- PUBG Mobile New Mexico Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18/2:15 p.m. ET, ESPN)
UTEP vs. Fresno State
- Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18/3:30 p.m. ET, ABC)
UAB vs. No. 13 BYU
- LendingTree Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18/5:45 p.m. ET, ESPN)
Eastern Michigan vs. Liberty
- Jimmy Kimmel LA Bowl presented by Stifel (Saturday, Dec. 18/7:30 p.m. ET, ABC)
Utah State vs. Oregon State
- R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl (Saturday, Dec. 18, 9:15 p.m. ET, ESPN)
No. 23 Louisiana vs. Marshall

