

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

- Aug. 28**..... College football regular season begins
- Oct. 28**..... First Football College Playoff Poll released
- Nov. 3**..... Popeyes Bahamas Bowl media credential applications available at 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. 14**..... 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)

#PASSPORT TO KICKOFF

#PassportToKickoff is not only our hashtag, but a reminder that all U.S. citizens need a passport to travel to the Bahamas & the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl. For passport info, go to: travel.state.gov

POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL ANNOUNCED



Popeyes® Louisiana Kitchen was announced as the title sponsor of the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl on August 26.

“Popeyes is honored to partner with the Bahamas Bowl to bring this historic bowl game to college football fans everywhere,” said **Hector Munoz**, VP of Marketing for Popeyes. “Like college football, Popeyes enjoys a rich tradition and passionate fans, and we look forward to a great game and a lot of fun in the Bahamas.”

This marks the first time Popeyes has sponsored a college football bowl game and is the latest example of the brand’s increasing international reach. Over the past 40 years, Popeyes has brought its authentic, Louisiana flavors to 27 countries, and currently has more than 2,200 operating restaurants in its system.

“Popeyes has always been the best way to enjoy a college football game, so the opportunity to bring together Popeyes and college football in a tropical paradise like the Bahamas was an opportunity we did not want to miss,” Munoz said.

“We are very excited to partner with Popeyes as our inaugural title sponsor,” said **Lea Miller**, Executive Director of the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl. “We appreciate the tremendous support of Popeyes for the Bahamas Bowl, and we look forward to a great event in the Bahamas.”

C-USA STANDINGS



EAST DIVISION

	<u>C-USA</u>	<u>Overall</u>
FIU	0-0	0-0
Florida Atlantic	0-0	0-0
Marshall	0-0	0-0
Middle Tennessee	0-0	0-0
Old Dominion	0-0	0-0
UAB	0-0	0-0
WKU	0-0	0-0

WEST DIVISION

	<u>C-USA</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Louisiana Tech	0-0	0-0
North Texas	0-0	0-0
Rice	0-0	0-0
Southern Miss	0-0	0-0
UTEP	0-0	0-0
UTSA	0-0	0-0

MAC STANDINGS



EAST DIVISION

	<u>MAC</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Akron	0-0	0-0
Bowling Green	0-0	0-0
Buffalo	0-0	0-0
Kent State	0-0	0-0
Miami	0-0	0-0
Ohio	0-0	0-0
UMass	0-0	0-0

WEST DIVISION

	<u>MAC</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Ball State	0-0	0-0
Central Michigan	0-0	0-0
Eastern Michigan	0-0	0-0
Northern Illinois	0-0	0-0
Toledo	0-0	0-0
Western Michigan	0-0	0-0

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

CONFERENCE USA

Friday, August 29

Bowling Green at WKU (CBSSN)
UTSA at Houston (ESPNU)

Saturday, August 30

Bethune-Cookman at FIU (FCS)
Florida Atlantic at Nebraska (BTN)
Louisiana Tech at Oklahoma (ESPN3)
Marshall at Miami (ASN)
Savannah State at Middle Tennessee
North Texas at Texas (LHN)
Hampton at Old Dominion (ASN)
Rice at Notre Dame (ABC)
Southern Miss at Miss. State (SECN)
Troy at UAB (FCS)
UTEP at New Mexico

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Thursday, August 28

Howard at Akron (ESPN3)
Presbyterian at Northern Illinois (ESPN3)
Chattanooga at Central Michigan (ESPN3)

Friday, August 29

Bowling Green at WKU (CBSSN)

Saturday, August 30

Western Michigan at Purdue (ESPNU)
Colgate at Ball State (ESPN3)
Duquesne at Buffalo (ESPN3)
Marshall at Miami (ESPN3)
Boston College at UMass (ESPN3)
Morgan St. at Eastern Michigan (ESPN3)
* Ohio at Kent State (ESPN3)
New Hampshire at Toledo (ESPN3)

* - conference games

PRESEASON WATCH LIST SUMMARY

Several student-athletes from Conference USA and the MAC were selected to the preseason watch lists for major postseason awards during August. Here is a summary of the watch lists:

Bednarik Award (defensive player): DT James Rouse (Marshall).

Biletnikoff Award (wide receiver): Da'Ron Brown (Northern Illinois), Corey Davis (Western Michigan), Titus Davis (Central Michigan), Jamarcus Nelson (UAB), Tommy Shuler (Marshall), Jordan Taylor (Rice).

Walter Camp Award (outstanding player): QB Matt Johnson (Bowling Green), QB Rakeem Cato (Marshall).

Lou Groza Award (placekicker): Jeremiah Detmer (Toledo), Kyle Fischer (Louisiana Tech), Tyler Tate (Bowling Green), Josian Yazdani (Ohio).

Ray Guy Award (punter): James Farrimond (Rice), Sean Kelley (Florida Atlantic), Anthony Melchiori (Kent State), Hunter Mullins (UAB), Zach Paul (Akron), Tyler Williams (Marshall).

Paul Hornung Award (all-purpose player): WR Tommylee Lewis (Northern Illinois), WR Jamarcus Nelson (UAB), WR Antonio Vaughn (Old Dominion).

Rotary Lombardi Award (lineman): LB T.T. Barber (Middle Tennessee), LB Jamaal Bass (Northern Illinois), DT Brandin Bryant (Florida Atlantic), LB Justin Cherocci (Central Michigan), T Lincoln Hansen (Eastern Michigan), DT Treyvon Hester (Toledo), LB Jermaine Holmes (Marshall), G Scot Inskeep (UTEP), C Chris Jasperse (Marshall), LB Andrae Kirk (Florida Atlantic), G Cyril Lemon (North Texas), T Braden Lyons (Florida Atlantic), G Greg Mancz (Toledo), G Andy Phillips (Central Michigan), C Jacob Richard (Ball State), DE Robert Singletary (UTSA), LB Junior Sylvestre (Toledo), T Clint Van Horn (Marshall), DE Diaheem Watkins (UAB), G Mason Y'Barbo (North Texas).

Mackey Award (tight end): Kennard Backman (UAB), Luke Eakes (Northern Illinois), Mitchell Henry (WKU), Casey Pierce (Kent State), Tyreese Russell (Eastern Michigan), Eric Tomlinson (UTEP).

Maxwell Award (player of the year): QB Rakeem Cato (Marshall), QB Taylor Heinicke (Old Dominion), QB Matt Johnson (Bowling Green).

Bronko Nagurski Trophy (defensive player): DT Christian Covington (Rice).

Davey O'Brien Award (quarterback): Rakeem Cato (Marshall), Taylor Heinicke (Old Dominion), Matt Johnson (Bowling Green).


Rimington Trophy (center): Nick Beamish (Central Michigan), Jon Hoffing (Western Michigan), Alex Huettel (Bowling Green), Chris Jasperse (Marshall), Nate Leonard (UTSA), Braden Lyons (Florida Atlantic), Greg Mancz (Toledo), Donald Senat (FIU).

Outland Trophy (interior lineman): DL Christian Covington (Rice), G Cyril Lemon (North Texas).

Jim Thorpe Award (defensive back): Kevin Byard (Middle Tennessee), Bryce Callahan (Rice), Donald Celiscar (Western Michigan), D'Joun Smith (Florida Atlantic), Cam Thomas (WKU), Triston Wade (UTSA), Ryland Ward (Bowling Green).

Doak Walker Award (running back): Leon Allen (WKU), Kenneth Dixon (Louisiana Tech), Jahwan Edwards (Ball State), Bronson Hill (Eastern Michigan), Cameron Stingily (Northern Illinois).

TWEETS OF THE WEEK

 **Ralph D. Russo**
@ralphdrussoAP Follow

All the Popeyes you can eat. In the Bahamas. Greatest. Bowl. Ever.

11:04 AM - 26 Aug 2014

 **Wright Thompson**
@wrightthompson Follow

Sorry Mom. I gotta work on Christmas Eve. Covering a bowl game.
PopeyesBahamasBowl.com

10:16 AM - 26 Aug 2014

POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA PREDICTIONS

SI.com (Zac Ellis) - Aug. 27: Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo

FOXSports.com (Stuart Mandel) - Aug. 26: ...Florida Atlantic vs. Northern Illinois

CBSSports.com (Jerry Palm) - Preseason: UTSA vs. Ball State

CollegeFootballNews.com - Aug. 22: Middle Tennessee vs. Bowling Green

NFL.com (Mike Huguenin) - Aug. 22: Middle Tennessee vs. Ball State

Phil Steele Magazine - Preseason: Louisiana Tech vs. Toledo