

# PASSPORT TO KICKOFF



@TheBahamasBowl  
f Popeyes Bahamas Bowl

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

## POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL COMMUNICATIONS

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## POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL IMPORTANT DATES

- Oct. 28** ..... First Football College Playoff Poll released
- Nov. 3** ..... 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. 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)

## #PASSPORTTOKICKOFF

#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 6 NOTEBOOK

**THIS WEEKEND:** The Week 6 schedule begins Thursday night when in-state C-USA rivals Florida Atlantic and FIU battle for the Shula Bowl. Both schools look to go 2-0 in the East and keep pace with division leader Middle Tennessee (2-0), which hosts Southern Miss on Saturday. Also Saturday, lone C-USA unbeaten Marshall (4-0) begins conference play at Old Dominion in an East Division game, UTEP opens league play with a division game at West leader Louisiana Tech (1-0) and UAB is at WKU. Six conference games highlight the Saturday MAC schedule: West Division leader Toledo (2-0) travels to Western Michigan, Buffalo plays at Bowling Green in a game between two of the East tri-leaders, and the other East leader, Ohio, is at Central Michigan. Northern Illinois, which has the MAC's best overall record (3-1) and a 27-game home win streak, opens league play at home vs. Kent State, Central Michigan is at Akron and UMass travels to Miami for an East Division game.

**POWER-FUL MAC:** The MAC has four victories over Power Five (ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and SEC) conference opponents, which is tied for first (Mountain West) among the Group of Five conferences. The MAC has victories over Big Ten foes Indiana, Northwestern and Purdue, and last Saturday, Akron got its first victory over a Power Five/BCS conference automatic qualifier since 2008 with a 21-10 victory at Pittsburgh.

**OWLS FLY PAST ROADRUNNERS:** Florida Atlantic had a furious fourth-quarter comeback to beat UTSA 41-37 last Saturday in both schools' C-USA opener when Owls QB **Jaquez Johnson** threw a 15-yard TD to WR **Nate Terry** with 20 seconds left. Trailing 37-27, the Owls' comeback began when Johnson hit WR **Lucky Whitehead** for a 21-yard TD with 4:10 left. After a punt, Johnson led the Owls on a 93-yard drive for the winning TD. UTSA returned the ensuing kickoff to the Owls 13, but FAU DB **Cre'ven LeBlanc** broke up a pass in the end zone as time expired.

**WHOLE LOTTA YARDS:** Last Saturday, Bowling Green beat UMass on the road 47-42 in a game that featured 1,306 total offense yards, third-most in MAC history. Bowling Green had 668 total yards to UMass' 638, 589 from the arm of grad student QB **Blake Frohnapfel**. Frohnapfel was 39-of-61 passing with five TDs for the Minutemen.

**FBS NATIONAL LEADERS:** WKU senior QB **Brandon Doughty** is second in pass yards (1,846) and passing yards per game (461.5). Western Michigan freshman RB **Jarvion Franklin** is first in rush TDs (11) and scoring (66 points).

## C-USA STANDINGS



### EAST DIVISION

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

### WEST DIVISION

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

## MAC STANDINGS



### EAST DIVISION

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

### WEST DIVISION

	MAC	Overall
Toledo	2-0	3-2
Northern Illinois	0-0	3-1
Western Michigan	0-0	2-2
Eastern Michigan	0-0	1-3
Central Michigan	0-1	2-3
Ball State	0-1	1-3

**WEEK 6 SCHEDULE**

**CONFERENCE USA**

**Thursday, October 2**

\* Florida Atlantic at FIU (FSN)

**Saturday, October 4**

\* Marshall at Old Dominion (FSN)  
 \* Southern Miss at Middle Tenn. (ASN)  
 North Texas at Indiana (BTN)  
 New Mexico at UTSA (ASN)  
 \* UTEP at Louisiana Tech (FCS)  
 \* UAB at WKU  
 Hawai'i at Rice (ASN)

**MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, October 4**

Ball State at Army (CBSSN)  
 \* Eastern Michigan at Akron (ESPN3)  
 \* UMass at Miami (ESPN3)  
 \* Buffalo at Bowling Green (ESPN3)  
 \* Ohio at Central Michigan (ESPN3)  
 \* Kent State at Northern Illinois (ESPN3)  
 \* Toledo at Western Michigan (ESPN3)

(TV/digital network in parenthesis)

\* - conference games

**POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL PARTICIPANT SELECTION**

The highest-ranked team by the College Football Playoff Selection Committee from either the American Athletic, Conference USA, MAC, Mountain West or Sun Belt will play annually in one of the College Football Playoff bowls.

Conference USA's champion will select which bowl it would like to attend, and the remainder of the selections will follow after that, 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 **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 Mid-American Conference will provide a bowl-eligible team for the **Popeyes Bahamas Bowl**. The MAC has 2014 tie-ins with **Popeyes Bahamas, Boca Raton, Famous Idaho Potato, GoDaddy** and **Raycom Media Camellia** bowls, with a secondary tie-in with the **San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl** (if Navy is not bowl-eligible or the Mountain West does not have enough eligible teams).

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

**WEEK 5 RESULTS**

**CONFERENCE USA**

**Friday, September 26**

\* Middle Tennessee 41, Old Dominion 28

**Saturday, September 27**

Kansas State 58, UTEP 28  
 \* FIU 34, UAB 20  
 WKU 36, Navy 27  
 Auburn 45, Louisiana Tech 17  
 \* Florida Atlantic 41, UTSA 37  
 \* Rice 41, Southern Miss 23

**MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, September 27**

Akron 21, Pittsburgh 10  
 Virginia Tech 35, Western Michigan 17  
 Ohio 34, Eastern Illinois 19  
 \* Bowling Green 47, UMass 42  
 Virginia 45, Kent State 13  
 \* Buffalo 35, Miami 27  
 \* Toledo 42, Central Michigan 28

\* - conference games



**UMass grad student QB Blake Frohnapfel completed 39-of-61 passes for a MAC- and school-record 589 yards and five touchdowns at home against Bowling Green. (Photo Credit: UMass Athletics)**

**WEEK 5 INDIVIDUAL HONORS**

**QB Jaquez Johnson, Florida Atlantic:** The junior completed 24-of-34 passes for 295 yards and three TDs, and he also ran for a score in a 41-37 victory over UTSA for C-USA Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**DB Richard Leonard, FIU:** The senior had three tackles and a pair of interceptions, including a 25-yard return for a TD, in a 34-20 victory at UAB for C-USA Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**S Kevin Byard, Middle Tennessee:** The junior returned his first career punt 76 yards for a TD in a 41-28 victory at Old Dominion for C-USA Special Teams Player of the Week recognition.

**QB Blake Frohnapfel, UMass:** The graduate student completed 36-of-61 passes for a UMass and MAC single-game record 589 yards and 5 TDs in a loss to Bowling Green for MAC East Division Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**LB Jatavis Brown, Akron:** The junior had 11 tackles (nine solo) and an 8-yard sack in a 21-10 victory at Pittsburgh for MAC East Division Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**K Tyler Tate, Bowling Green:** The junior scored 11 points on two FGs and five PATs in a 47-42 victory at UMass for MAC East Division Special Teams Player of the Week recognition.

**QB Logan Woodside, Toledo:** The sophomore completed 23-of-34 passes for a career-high 339 yards and two TDs in a 42-28 win over Central Michigan for MAC West Division Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**DB Ronald Zamort, Western Michigan:** The junior had three tackles, one interception, one pass breakup and two passes defended in a loss at Virginia Tech for MAC West Division Defensive Player of the Week honors.

**P Ron Coluzzi, Central Michigan:** The sophomore had three punts over 50 yards, averaging 52.7 yards, in a loss at Toledo for MAC West Division Special Teams Player of the Week.

**POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA PREDICTIONS**

**Media Member (Organization) - Date:** ..... **C-USA vs. MAC Matchup**  
**ESPN.com (Brett McMurphy) - Sept. 28:** ..... North Texas vs. Western Michigan  
**ESPN.com (Mark Schlabach) - Sept. 28:** ..... Marshall vs. Toledo  
**CollegeFootballNews.com (Pete Fiutak) - Oct. 1:** ..... UTEP vs. Northern Illinois  
**USA Today (Erick Smith) - Oct. 1:** ..... Florida Atlantic vs. Ohio  
**NFL.com (Mike Huguenin) - Sept. 30:** ..... Old Dominion vs. Ohio  
**The Sporting News (Bill Bender) - Sept. 29:** ..... UTEP vs. Akron  
**SB Nation (Jason Kirk) - Sept. 29:** ..... Marshall vs. Toledo  
**Phil Steele Magazine - Sept. 29:** ..... Louisiana Tech vs. Toledo  
**Brant Parsons (Orlando Sentinel) - Sept. 28:** ..... WKU vs. Bowling Green  
**CBSSports.com (Jerry Palm) - Sept. 28:** ..... UTSA vs. Central Michigan  
**SI.com (Zac Ellis) - Aug. 27:** ..... Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo  
**FOXSports.com (Stuart Mandel) - Aug. 26:** ..... Florida Atlantic vs. Northern Illinois  
**NationalFootballPost.com (Dave Miller) - Aug. 25:** ..... Marshall vs. Toledo