

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. 17**.....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. 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

POPEYES BAHAMAS BOWL WEEK 12 NOTEBOOK

MAcTion EDITION (November 11-12)

PASSPORT STAMPED (BOWL ELIGIBLE): Bowling Green (6-3), Central Michigan (6-4), Louisiana Tech (7-3), Marshall (9-0), Northern Illinois (7-2), Rice (6-3), Toledo (6-3), Western Michigan (6-3). **AT CUSTOMS (ONE WIN SHY):** Middle Tennessee (5-4), Ohio (5-5), UAB (5-5), UTEP (5-4).

MAcTion THIS WEEK: The MAC continues its' mid-week action with two games each Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday night, a battle of the top two teams in the West Division is on tap as division leader Toledo (6-3, 5-0 MAC) goes to DeKalb for a showdown with Northern Illinois (7-2, 4-1 MAC). The Huskies are tied for second in the West with Western Michigan. Also, Akron (4-5, 2-3 MAC) heads to Buffalo (3-6, 1-4 MAC) in a East Division game. Wednesday night, East Division leader Bowling Green (6-3, 4-1 MAC) hosts Kent State (1-8, 0-5 MAC), and Ball State (3-6, 2-3 MAC) heads to Amherst to face UMass (2-7, 2-3 MAC). Saturday, Miami (2-8, 2-4 MAC) goes to Central Michigan (6-4, 4-2 MAC), and Western Michigan (6-3, 4-1 MAC) will try to run its win streak to five as it hosts cross-state rival Eastern Michigan (2-7, 1-4 MAC).

C-USA THIS WEEK: Conference USA begins its week Thursday night as Southern Miss (3-7, 1-5 C-USA) goes to UTSA (2-7, 1-4 C-USA). Saturday, the biggest game of the day is in Huntington as No. 21 *USA Today/AP* and East Division leaders Marshall (9-0, 5-0 C-USA) host surging Rice (6-3, 4-1 C-USA), which has won six straight. Two other teams that are one win shy of bowl eligibility will try to reach six wins as Middle Tennessee (5-4, 4-1 C-USA) heads to FIU (3-7, 2-4 C-USA) and UTEP (5-4, 3-2 C-USA) hosts North Texas (3-6, 1-4 C-USA). In the only non-conference game, Army (3-6) visits WKU (4-5, 2-4 C-USA). The Hilltoppers kept their bowl hopes alive with a come-from-behind victory over UTEP last Saturday.

FRANKLIN MINT: Western Michigan freshman RB **Jarvion Franklin** has 1,330 yards rushing, fourth in FBS. He has 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).

STREAKING: Twelve FBS teams are on winning streaks of at least five games, and C-USA is home to three: Marshall (10, including last season's Military Bowl), Rice (six) and Louisiana Tech (five). C-USA is the only league with three teams on winning streaks of five or more games.

C-USA STANDINGS



EAST DIVISION

	C-USA	Overall
* Marshall	5-0	9-0
Middle Tennessee	4-1	5-4
UAB	3-3	5-5
FIU	2-4	3-7
WKU	2-4	4-5
Old Dominion	2-4	4-6
Florida Atlantic	2-4	3-7

WEST DIVISION

	C-USA	Overall
* Louisiana Tech	6-0	7-3
* Rice	4-1	6-3
UTEP	3-2	5-4
North Texas	1-4	3-6
UTSA	1-4	2-7
Southern Miss	1-5	3-7

* - 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 12 SCHEDULE

CONFERENCE USA

Thursday, November 13

* Southern Miss at UTSA (CBSSN)

Saturday, November 15

Army at WKU (CBSSN)

* Rice at Marshall (FSN)

* Middle Tennessee at FIU (ASN)

* North Texas at UTEP (FS1)

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 11

* Akron at Buffalo (ESPNU)

* Toledo at Northern Illinois (ESPN2)

Wednesday, November 12

* Kent State at Bowling Green (ESPN2)

* Ball State at UMass (ESPNU)

Saturday, November 15

* Miami at Central Michigan (ESPN3)

* Eastern Michigan at Western Michigan (ESPN3)

(TV/digital network in parentheses)

* - 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 11 RESULTS

CONFERENCE USA

Saturday, November 8

* Louisiana Tech 40, UAB 24

* Rice 17, UTSA 7

* Old Dominion 38, FIU 35

* WKU 35, UTEP 27

* North Texas 31, Florida Atlantic 10

* Marshall 63, Southern Miss 17

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

* - conference games



UAB senior kick returner J.J. Nelson returned his third kickoff for a touchdown, a 100-yard effort in a loss to Louisiana Tech. Nelson was C-USA Week 11 Special Teams Player of the Week. (Photo Credit: UAB Athletics)

WEEK 11 INDIVIDUAL HONORS

QB Brandon Doughty, WKU: The senior completed 23 of 34 passes for 324 yards and three TDs while helping to erase a 13-point deficit in a 35-27 victory over UTEP for C-USA Offensive Player of the Week honors.

DB Wonderful Terry, WKU: The junior intercepted a fourth-quarter pass and returned it 90 yards for the game-winning TD in a 35-27 victory over UTEP for C-USA Defensive Player of the Week honors.

KR J.J. Nelson, UAB: The senior returned a kickoff 100 yards for a TD, his third return score of the season, and had 200 all-purpose yards in a loss to Louisiana Tech 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

Media Member (Organization) - Date:	C-USA vs. MAC Matchup
ESPN.com (Brett McMurphy) - Nov. 9:	Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo
ESPN.com (Mark Schlabach) - Nov. 9:	Marshall vs. Toledo
SI.com (Zac Ellis) - Nov. 11:	Middle Tennessee vs. Akron
NFL.com (Mike Huguenin) - Nov. 11:	UAB vs. Bowling Green
FOXSports.com (Stuart Mandel) - Nov. 11:	Louisiana Tech vs. Bowling Green
Athlon Sports (Steven Lassin) - Nov. 11:	Middle Tennessee vs. Northern Illinois
Phil Steele Magazine - Nov. 10:	Louisiana Tech vs. Central Michigan
The Sporting News (Bill Bender) - Nov. 10:	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan
Orlando Sentinel (Brant Parsons) - Nov. 9:	UTEP vs. Bowling Green
SB Nation (Jason Kirk) - Nov. 9:	Marshall vs. Bowling Green
CBSSports.com (Jerry Palm) - Nov. 9:	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan
CollegeFootballNews.com (Pete Fiutak) - Nov. 9:	Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo
USA Today (Erick Smith) - Nov. 5:	Middle Tennessee vs. Toledo
NationalFootballPost.com (Dave Miller) - Nov. 3:	Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan