

# 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

- Nov. 17**.....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 12 NOTEBOOK

### C-USA EDITION (November 13-15)

**PASSPORT STAMPED (BOWL ELIGIBLE):** Bowling Green (7-3), Central Michigan (6-4), Louisiana Tech (7-3), Marshall (9-0), Northern Illinois (8-2), Rice (6-3), Toledo (6-4), Western Michigan (6-3). **AT CUSTOMS (ONE WIN SHY):** Middle Tennessee (5-4), Ohio (5-5), UAB (5-5), UTEP (5-4).

**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.

**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).

**MACTION RECAP:** Wednesday night, Bowling Green (7-3, 5-1 MAC) clinched the conference's East Division title and a berth in the Marathon MAC Championship Game on Dec. 5 after a 30-20 victory over Kent State (1-9, 0-6 MAC), and UMass (3-7, 3-4 MAC) defeated Ball State (3-7, 2-4 MAC) 24-10. Tuesday, Northern Illinois (8-2, 5-1 MAC) pulled into a tie for the West lead after beating division rival Toledo (6-4, 5-1 MAC) 27-24, and Buffalo (4-6, 2-4 MAC) kept its bowl hopes alive with a 55-24 victory over Akron (4-6, 2-4 MAC).

**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.

**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).

## 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	5-1	7-3
Ohio	3-3	5-5
UMass	3-3	3-7
Buffalo	2-4	4-6
Akron	2-4	4-6
Miami	2-4	2-8
Kent State	0-6	1-9

### WEST DIVISION

	MAC	Overall
* Northern Illinois	5-1	8-2
* Toledo	5-1	6-4
* Western Michigan	4-1	6-3
* Central Michigan	4-2	6-4
Ball State	2-4	3-7
Eastern Michigan	1-4	2-7

\* - bowl eligible

# - clinched division title

**WEEK 12 SCHEDULE/RESULTS**

**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**

\* Buffalo 55, Akron 24

\* Northern Illinois 27, Toledo 24

**Wednesday, November 12**

\* Bowling Green 30, Kent State 20

\* UMass 24, Ball State 10

**Saturday, November 15**

\* Miami at Central Michigan (ESPN3)

\* Eastern Michigan at Western Michigan (ESPN3)

(TV/digital network in parentheses)

\* - conference games

**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 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**.

**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**
  - USA Today (Erick Smith) - Nov. 12: ..... Middle Tennessee 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 Lissan) - 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**
  - NationalFootballPost.com (Dave Miller) - Nov. 3: ..... Middle Tennessee vs. Western Michigan**