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MAC Standings

			Conference						Overall			
WEST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A
Toledo	2	0	1.000	W2	1-0	1-0	5	1	.833	W2	3-0	2-1
Northern Illinois	2	0	1.000	W2	1-0	1-0	4	2	.667	W2	2-1	2-1
Western Michigan	2	1	.667	L1	1-1	1-0	4	3	.571	L1	3-1	1-2
Central Michigan	1	2	.333	L1	0-2	1-0	3	4	.429	W1	1-2	2-2
Eastern Michigan	0	2	.000	L2	0-1	0-1	2	4	.333	L4	1-1	1-3
Ball State	0	2	.000	L2	0-0	0-2	2	4	.333	L3	2-0	0-4
EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A
Akron	3	0	1.000	W3	1-0	2-0	4	3	.571	W3	2-1	2-2
Ohio	2	1	.667	W1	0-1	2-0	5	2	.714	W1	2-1	3-1
Buffalo	1	2	.333	L2	0-2	1-0	3	4	.429	L2	2-2	1-2
Miami	1	2	.333	L2	0-1	1-1	2	5	.286	L3	1-2	1-3
Kent State	1	2	.333	W1	1-1	0-1	2	5	.286	W1	2-1	0-4
Bowling Green	1	2	.333	L1	0-2	1-0	1	6	.143	L1	0-3	1-3

MAC Storylines

• Week Eight features six league games this Saturday, Oct. 21, including two more cross over games with Akron at Toledo at Noon ET and NIU at Bowling Green at 2:00 pm ET on ESPN3. The Akron at Toledo game will be broadcast by Raycom and available on WTOL TV in Toledo, WUAB TV-43 in Cleveland and ESPN3.

• Toledo quarterback **Logan Woodside** was named a semifinalist for the 2017 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award. The award honors the top quarterback from all divisions for his accomplishments both on and off the field. Woodside leads the MAC in passing yards (287.3 per game) and passing efficiency (157.1) for the 5-1 Rockets this season.

• This year the MAC has 11 FBS wins, including four wins over Autonomous Conferences with two wins vs. Big Ten opponents (Nebraska, Rutgers) and two wins over Big 12 opponents (both wins over Kansas).

• This season in MAC crossover games the East and West Division are tied at 4-4 and will play 18 crossover games during the regular season. The MAC West has had the upper hand in crossover regular season games against the MAC East, winning the head-to-head regular season series in eight of the last nine years (2008-2016) as the West holds a 109-53 (.673%) regular season record over the East during that span.

MAC WEEKLY NOTES
• Ohio quarterback **Nathan Rourke** rushed for another three touchdowns in a 48-30 win at Bowling Green. Rourke is tied for second in the country with 12 rushing touchdowns.
• NIU's 14-13 win at Buffalo was the first win by the Huskies with 14 points or less in 29 years. The last time NIU won with only 14 points was Sept. 10, 1988 with a 14-10 win over Middle Tennessee State. Huskies quarterback **Marcus Childers** accounted for 303 yards of total offense in the win at Buffalo.
• Akron earned a 14-13 win at Western Michigan on Sunday, Oct. 15. The game was postponed on Saturday, Oct. 14 after heavy rains and lightning made Waldo Stadium unplayable. The teams returned on Sunday and the Zips snapped Western Michigan's nine-game home winning streak, which was tied for the fifth longest current streak in FBS. The Broncos last home loss was Nov. 11, 2015 against Bowling Green.
• Western Michigan running back **Jarvion Franklin** rushed for 130 yards on 31 carries, the 18th 100-yard rushing game of his career. Franklin is 43 yards shy of breaking the program's all-time career rushing yards record by Robert Sanford. Franklin has 4,177 career rushing yards.
• Toledo running back **Terry Swanson** rushed for 145 yards and two touchdowns, his 14th 100-yard rushing game of his career in a 30-10 win at Central Michigan. Toledo rushed for 310 yards, the most since Jan. 4, 2015 against Arkansas State in the GoDaddy.com Bowl. Toledo is off to a 2-0 league start for the fourth consecutive year.

HUSKIES SUTTON SMITH LEADS NATION IN TFLS AND SACKS
Northern Illinois sophomore defensive end **Sutton Smith** continues to make an impact as he made four tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks and a forced fumble in a 14-13 win at Buffalo. For the year, Smith increased his season totals with 16.0 tackles for loss and 8.5 sacks this season as both totals lead the nation. A native of St. Joseph, Mo., Smith and the Huskies are off to a 4-2 start, 2-0 in MAC play and will travel to Bowling Green this Saturday, Oct. 21 at 3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT on ESPN3.

MARATHON MAC FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TICKETS ON SALE
Tickets are on sale for the 21st annual Marathon MAC Football Championship Game, scheduled for Saturday, December 2, 2017 at Ford Field in Detroit. Kick time and television will be announced in mid-November. The matchup features the champions of the MAC East and West Divisions, and will be the 14th hosted by Ford Field since 2004. Tickets are available at the following outlets: fordfield.com, by phone at (877) 212-8898 and in person at the Ford Field Ticket Office Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Prices for the lower bowl are $20 sideline, $15 corner and $10 general admission end zone.

This Week's MAC Schedule

Saturday, October 21
*Akron at Toledo, Noon ET
(ESPN3/Raycom/WTOL TV Toledo/WUAB TV Cleveland)
*Kent State at Ohio, 2:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
*NIU at Bowling Green, 2:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
*Western Michigan at Eastern Michigan, 2:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
*Buffalo at Miami, 2:30 pm ET (ESPN3)
*Central Michigan at Ball State, 3:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
* Mid-American Conference contest

Last Week's MAC Games
Army 28, Eastern Michigan 27
*Akron 14, Western Michigan 13
*Kent State 17, Miami 14
*NIU 14, Buffalo 13
*Ohio 48, Bowling Green 30
*Toledo 30, Central Michigan 10
Bye: Ball State

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The MAC has partnered with collegepressbox.com to continue media services and provide access to information on the conference and our membership including rosters, bios, game notes, depth charts, stats, quotes, flipcards, media schedules and more.

TOLEDO'S THOMPSON RECEPTION STREAK

Toledo senior wide receiver Cody Thompson ranks tied for eighth in the nation for the longest current reception streak in the nation. Thompson extended his streak to 30 consecutive games, however suffered a leg injury vs. Eastern Michigan on Oct. 7 and is expected to miss the remainder of the regular season.

MAC GRADUATE PATCHES DEBUT IN 2017

The 2017 football season will witness 56 MAC football student athletes that have already earned their undergraduate degrees provided with a new and unique 'MAC Graduate Patch' on their football jersey.

Every MAC football program is represented with a MAC graduate and Toledo led the Conference and ranked fifth among FBS football programs with 13 graduates this season. Kent State was second in the MAC with 10 graduates and ranked tied for 15th nationally. During this upcoming 2017-18 season, all MAC graduates across the Conference's 23 sponsored sports will be provided the 'MAC Graduate Patch'.

MAC-CFP FOUNDATION PROVIDE FUNDING FOR MEMBERSHIP

The MAC is providing funding for its entire 12-member institutions to establish a community-based program to continue to build positive relationships within each campus community.

During the 2017-18 academic year, the MAC is providing $60,000 -- $5,000 for each athletic program – for academic initiatives at elementary and/or secondary schools. This is the first year of the MAC's community program and will become an annual event.

"I am extremely pleased to see the diversity of community programs our athletic programs have partnered for this upcoming season," said MAC Commissioner, Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher. "Our students, coaches and athletic administrators support their campus communities with events throughout the year and this opportunity only enhances our support within each community."

The funding for the grant is provided through the MAC's partnership with the College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation.

MAC SECURES $1 MILLION GRANT FOR CLEVELAND SCHOOLS

The MAC announced on Sept. 18 that it has secured a $1 million-dollar grant to the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) over a five-year period for TEACHing Cleveland, a program to focus on teacher recruitment, mentoring and retention.

The MAC secured funding for this program from the College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation through its Extra Yard for Teachers platform with a $500,000 contribution toward TEACHing Cleveland. The MAC also secured $250,000 from The George Gund Foundation over the next five years and $150,000 from the Cleveland Foundation over the next three years. The MAC will reapply for additional funding from the Cleveland Foundation in three years.

"The Mid-American Conference is proud to partner with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District to provide funding for this important initiative," said MAC Commissioner Dr. Jon Steinbrecher. "Teachers are a critical factor in a child's educational success. Through TEACHing Cleveland we will facilitate greater retention of quality teachers to the betterment of the students and to the betterment of Cleveland. I want to thank and applaud the collaborative efforts of the College Football Playoff Foundation, the Cleveland Foundation and The George Gund Foundation in sharing our vision in support Cleveland schools."

This grant provides the CMSD and the Cleveland Teachers Union an opportunity to collaborate in recruiting, developing and retaining new teachers to best support the Cleveland area students and community.

"Increasingly, we are seeing the most talented and dedicated teachers electing to teach in urban school districts, and this funding will be instrumental in our efforts to support and retain those teachers in Cleveland," said Cleveland Metropolitan School District CEO Eric Gordon. "While the choice to educate disadvantaged children is enormously challenging, our goal is to ensure teaching in Cleveland is equally rewarding."

The TEACHing Cleveland program will develop programs to assist in the recruitment of highly skilled teachers, foster new teacher development, focusing on culture, exposure to successful practitioners and as a result increasing retention rates.

MAC Players of the Week

East Division

Nathan Rourke, Offensive Player of the Week
Ohio, Sophomore, Quarterback

Ohio sophomore quarterback Nathan Rourke (Ontario, Canada) rushed for three touchdowns and threw for another touchdown in a 48-30 win at Bowling Green. Rourke led Ohio with 143 rushing yards and threw for 105 yards on 7-22 passing. Rourke had a career-long 75-yard rush for a touchdown and also moved into seventh place on Ohio's single-season rushing touchdown list.

Khalil Hodge, Defensive Player of the Week;
Buffalo, Junior, Linebacker

Buffalo junior linebacker Khalil Hodge (Stockton, Calif.) had a game-high 19 tackles and added one sack in a 14-13 loss to Northern Illinois on Saturday. He spearheaded a defensive effort that held NIU to only 14 points. The junior linebacker had seven solo stops and assisted on 12 others. He now leads the nation in tackles per game, averaging 14.4 tackles per game.

Kyle Kramer, Special Teams Player of Week;
Miami, Sophomore, Punter

Miami sophomore punter Kyle Kramer (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) averaged 43.2 yards per punt on six punts in Saturday's 17-14 loss at Kent State. Kramer had five punts downed inside the opponents 20-yard line, including one punt downed at the Kent State five-yard line and another inside the one-yard line. He added a 59-yard punt as well, the longest punt of the contest.

West Division

Brogan Roback, Offensive Player of the Week
Eastern Michigan, Senior, Quarterback

Eastern Michigan senior quarterback Brogan Roback (Maumee, Ohio) guided the offense in a heartbreaking 28-27 loss at Army on Oct. 14. Roback finished 19-of-27 passing for 229 yards and a career-high four touchdown passes, including one that was a season-high 45 yards. It was the first four-TD game for an Eastern Michigan player since 2011. Roback moved into second on the all-time Eastern Michigan passing TD list.

Bobby Jones IV, Defensive Player of the Week
Northern Illinois, Senior, Linebacker

Northern Illinois senior linebacker Bobby Jones IV (Miami Gardens, Fla.) led another magnificent effort by the Huskie defense in a 14-13 win at Buffalo. Jones led with six tackles, four solo, and two of the Huskies' four sacks on the day. NIU, which ranks seventh in the country in total defense, gave up just 39 rushing yards in the game, including only one yard in the second half.

Jameson Vest, Special Teams Player of Week;
Toledo, Junior, Kicker

Toledo junior kicker Jameson Vest (Peachtree City, Ga.) made a 41-yard field goal in a driving rainstorm in a 30-10 win at Central Michigan. Vest also averaged 55.0 yards on six kickoffs.

Statistical Leaders (TOP 25) -- Where they rank Nationally in Bowl Subdivision (FBS)

Rushing Yards:
20th **A.J. Ouellette-Ohio**: 656 yards, 109 attempts, 5 TDs

Rushing Touchdowns:
t-2nd **Nathan Rourke-Ohio**: 12 TDs, 440 yds., 69 attempts
t-26th **Terry Swanson-Toledo**: 7 TDs, 532 yds., 100 attempts

Total Passing Yards:
18th **Shane Morris-Central Michigan**: 1,767 yds., 154-279 passing, 12 TDs
19th **Logan Woodside-Toledo**: 1,724 yds., 121-191 passing, 11 TDs

Passing Touchdowns:
t-24th **Jon Wassink-Western Michigan**: 13 TDs, 1,221 yds., 108-169 passing
t-30th **Gus Ragland-Miami**: 12 TDs, 1,398 yds., 96-180 passing
t-30th **Shane Morris-CMU**: 12 TDs, 1,767 yds., 154-279 passing

Passing Efficiency:
15th **Logan Woodson-Toledo**: 157.1 rating; 121-191 pass, 1,724 yds, 11 TDs

Receiving Yards Per Game:
8th **Anthony Johnson-Buffalo**: 44 rec., 771 yds., 5 TDs, (110.1 avg.)
10th **Cody Thompson-Toledo**: 28 rec., 537 yds., 4 TDs, (107.4 avg.)

Total Receiving Yards
4th **Anthony Johnson-Buffalo**: 771 yds., 44 rec., 5 TDs
15th **James Gardner-Miami**: 602 yds., 29 rec., 6 TDs
27th **Mark Chapman-Central Michigan**: 556 yds., 39 rec., 3 TDs

Receiving Touchdowns
t-13th **James Gardner-Miami**: 6 TDs
t-25th **Diontae Johnson-Toledo**: 5 TDs
t-25th **Anthony Johnson-Buffalo**: 5 TDs
t-25th **Keishawn Watson-Western Michigan**: 5 TDs

Receptions Per Game:
t-18th **Justin Hall-Ball State**: 42 rec., 479 yds., 2 TDs, (7.0 per game)
t-26th **Anthony Johnson-Buffalo**: 44 rec., 771 yds., 5 TDs, (6.3 per game)
t-28th **Sergio Bailey-Eastern Michigan**: 37 rec., 518 yds., 4 TD, (6.2 pg)

Scoring:
10th **Jameson Vest-Toledo**: 62 points, (10.3 ppg)
t-11th **Nathan Rourke-Ohio**: 72 points, (10.3 ppg)

Points Responsible For:
t-7th **Nathan Rourke-Ohio**: 120 points
t-14th **Jon Wassink-Western Michigan**: 108 points
t-30th **Gus Ragland-Miami**: 90 points

Total Tackles:
1st **Khalil Hodge-Buffalo**: 101 tackles, 14.4 tackles per game
t-14th **Ulysees Gilbert - Akron**: 68 tackles, 9.7 tackles per game

Interceptions:
t-5th **Demetrius Monday-Kent State**: 4 interceptions
t-5th **Josh Cox-Central Michigan**: 4 interceptions
t-12th **Jawuan Johnson-Northern Illinois**: 3 interceptions
t-12th **Kahlil Robinson-Toledo**: 3 interceptions

Passes Defensed:
t-5th **Bradd Ellis-Ohio**: 12 passes defensed, 1.7 per game

Sacks:
1st **Sutton Smith-NIU**: 8.5 sacks, 1.42 per game
2nd **Anthony Winbush-Ball State**: 7.5 sacks, 1.25 per game
13th **Joe Ostman-Central Michigan**: 6.0 sacks, 0.86 per game

Tackles For Loss:
1st **Sutton Smith-NIU**: 16.0 tackles for loss, 2.7 per game
t-5th **Anthony Winbush-Ball State**: 10.5 tackles for loss, 1.8 per game

Forced Fumbles:
t-3rd **Anthony Winbush- Ball State**: 3 forced fumbles, 0.50 per game
t-7th **Quentin Poling- Ohio**: 3 forced fumbles, 0.43 per game
t-7th **Joe Ostman- Central Michigan**: 3 forced fumbles, 0.43 per game

Other Top Performers (WEEK SEVEN)

OFFENSE
• Toledo **RB Terry Swanson** finished with a season-high 145 rushing yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries in a 30-10 win at Central Michigan. His two touchdowns were 48 and 22 yards, with both coming on fourth down plays. It was the 14th 100-yard rushing performance of his career. Swanson also moved up on the Toledo career rushing yards list, passing Casey McBeth (1991-94) and moving into seventh place. He now has 2,738 career rushing yards.

• Western Michigan **RB Jarvion Franklin** rushed for over 100 yards for the 18th time in his career, finishing with 31 carries for 130 yards in a 14-13 loss to Akron. With 4,177 career yards, Franklin is 43 yards away from breaking Robert Sanford's school record for most career rushing yards.

• NIU **QB Marcus Childers** made his first career start and led a 14-13 win at Buffalo, running for one touchdown and passing for another while compiling 303 yards of total offense. Childers completed 20-of-31 passes for 224 yards and was not intercepted, and also ran 27 times and totaled 79 net yards.

• Kent State **WR Mike Carrigan** had 101 yards receiving and 61 yards rushing in a 17-14 victory over Miami. His 84-yard touchdown in the third quarter proved to be the difference-making score as both teams were held scoreless in the fourth.

• Akron **TE Kobie Booker** made his first career start and scored his first collegiate touchdown on a 13-yard reception in a 14-13 win at Western Michigan.

DEFENSE
• Eastern Michigan **LB Kyle Rachwal** finished second on the team with 11 tackles, including four solo stops, in a 28-27 loss at Army. He also played a big part in holding Army to zero completions (0-for-5), as he tallied a big pass breakup right outside of the end zone.

• Toledo **LB Jack Linch** had four tackles, one tackle for loss and his first career interception in a 30-10 win at Central Michigan.

• Ohio **DB Bradd Ellis** recorded the second pick-six of his season returning an interception for 15-yards in a 48-30 win at Bowling Green. Ellis also had three solo tackles, a fumble recovery and a quarterback hurry in the outing.

• Akron **LB Ulysees Gilbert III** had 10 tackles and a two-yard sack to end the game and seal a 14-13 victory at Western Michigan.

• Western Michigan **LB Robert Spillane** had eight tackles and led with two tackles for loss for six yards in a 14-13 loss to Akron.

• Kent State **LB James Alexander** the Flashes keep Miami scoreless in the second half of a 17-14 victory. He led the team with 3.0 tackles for loss, including a sack.

SPECIAL TEAMS
• NIU **P Matt Ference** punted seven times in a 14-13 Buffalo for a 44.4-yard average. Two of Ference's punts forced the Bulls to start inside their 20, at the two and eight-yard lines, respectively, following drives in the third and fourth quarter with the Huskies clinging to a 14-13 lead. He had a 50-yard punt in the game and just one of his punts was returned.

• Ohio **P Michael Farkas** had eight punts for 324 yards averaging 40.5 yards per punt with a long of 57 in a 48-30 win at Bowling Green. Farkas also pinned two punts inside the 20-yard line with no touchbacks and held Bowling Green to just two returns for a total of 26-yards.

• Akron **KOR Deltron Sands** had two kickoff returns for 46 yards, including a 29-yard return, in a 14-13 win at Western Michigan. The two returns, the 46 yards, and the long are all career highs.

MAC BOWL NOTES AND 2016 SEASON

• Western Michigan won the 2016 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game with a 29-23 win over Ohio on Dec. 2. The win was Western Michigan's first championship since 1988 and the second football title in program history.

• Western Michigan entered the bowl season ranked No. 12 in the Associated Press Top 25 Poll and No. 14 in the Amway/USA Today Coaches Poll. The No. 12 AP ranking was the highest in the MAC since Ball State was ranked No. 12 on Nov. 30, 2008 after a 12-0 start.

• Western Michigan lost a 24-16 decision to No. 8 Wisconsin in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic on Jan. 2. Western Michigan ended the season ranked No. 15 in the AP Poll with a 13-1 record.

• The Broncos were also ranked No. 15 in the sixth and final College Football Playoff ranking on Dec. 4.

• Western Michigan's 13-0 mark after the Marathon MAC Football Championship was the first for the MAC since former member Marshall finished the 1999 season with a 13-0 record and a No. 10 ranking in the Associated Press Top 25 Poll.

• Six MAC programs received bowl invitations during the 2016 bowl season -- Western Michigan (13-1), Toledo (9-4), Ohio (8-6), Eastern Michigan (7-6), Central Michigan (6-7) and Miami (6-7). The MAC record for bowl invitations in a single-season is seven in both the 2012 and 2015 bowl seasons.

• Western Michigan (Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic), Ohio (Dollar General Bowl), Toledo (Raycom Media Camellia Bowl), Eastern Michigan (Popeyes Bahamas Bowl), Central Michigan (Miami Beach Bowl) and Miami (St. Petersburg Bowl) represented the MAC in bowl games in 2016.

• This marked the ninth time in MAC history to have five or more programs receive a bowl invitation (2004, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016) in a single-season.

• In the previous six bowl seasons, the MAC has a record of 11-24 in 35 bowl games – 2016 (0-6); 2015 (3-4); 2014 (2-3); 2013 (0-5); 2012 (2-5); 2011 (4-1) as every MAC football program (13 total – all 12 plus former member, Temple) has appeared in a bowl game during this span (2011-16).

• Ohio (8-6, 6-2 MAC) won the MAC East Division for the fourth time in the last 11 seasons under head coach Frank Solich. The Marathon MAC Football Championship Game with Western Michigan and Ohio ended a streak of the previous three games (2013-2015) featuring Northern Illinois vs. Bowling Green.

MAC 2016-17 BOWL RESULTS

• Raycom Media Camellia Bowl (Montgomery, Ala.)
  Appalachian State 31, Toledo 28
• Miami Beach Bowl (Miami, Fla.) Tulsa 55, Central Michigan 10
• Popeyes Bahamas Bowl (Nassau) ODU 24, Eastern Michigan 20
• Dollar General Bowl (Mobile, Ala.) Troy 28, Ohio 23
• St. Petersburg Bowl (St. Petersburg, Fla.)
  Mississippi State 17, Miami 16
• Goodyear Cotton Bowl (Arlington, Texas)
  No. 8 Wisconsin 24, No. 12 Western Michigan 16

2016 MAC NON-CONFERENCE WINS

Last season, the MAC concluded its non-conference regular season schedule with 14 FBS wins, which tied for second most for the MAC since 2000. The MAC posted 16 FBS wins in 2012, while the 14 FBS wins in 2016 matched the 2008 mark.

In 2016, the MAC had four 'Power Five' wins over Northwestern and Illinois (Big Ten) and Oklahoma State and Kansas (Big 12). Among peer Conferences, the MAC posted a 3-2 regular season record vs. Conference USA and Sun Belt Conference, a 3-3 record vs. Mountain West and 0-3 vs. the American Athletic Conference.

MAC WITH ONE NEW HEAD COACH FOR 2017

Western Michigan named Tim Lester as head coach on Jan. 13, 2017 to replace P.J. Fleck, who accepted the Minnesota head coaching position.

Western Michigan: Tim Lester: Lester was named head football coach in Kalamazoo on Jan. 13, 2017. Lester was a four-year starter at quarterback at Western Michigan from 1996-99, leading the Broncos to a Marathon MAC Football Championship game appearance his senior season. Lester also made a stop as an assistant coach at his alma mater during the 2005 and 2006 seasons.

Lester began his coaching career in 2003 and most recently was the quarterbacks coach at Purdue in 2016. Lester came to the Boilermakers from Syracuse, where he served as quarterbacks coach from 2013 to 2015 and doubled as offensive coordinator in 2014 and 2015 as well.

Prior to working at Syracuse, Lester was the head coach at Division III Elmhurst (Illinois) College from 2008 to 2012. Over five seasons, he posted a 33-19 record for a .635 winning percentage, second highest in school history. In his final season in 2012, he led the Blue Jays to a 10-2 record and a CCIW conference championship as well as Elmhurst's first-ever NCAA playoff appearance. It was just the third championship in school history and the first title since 1980. Lester was named the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin Coach of the Year that season.

Lester finished his Western Michigan career ranked fourth in FBS history in passing yards (11,299) and sixth in touchdown passes (89). Lester set 17 school passing records and eight MAC records. Following his senior season, in which he threw for 3,639 yards and 34 touchdowns, Lester participated in the 1999 Blue-Gray Classic.

As an assistant coach at Western Michigan he coached quarterback Tim Hiller to MAC Freshman of the Year accolades in 2005. Lester was Western Michigan's first QB to throw for over 11,000 career yards and Hiller went on to become the second.

MAC PROGRAMS IN BOWL GAMES

In the last six bowl seasons, every MAC football program received a bowl invitation. Leading the way are Northern Illinois, Ohio and Toledo with bowl invitations in five of the last six bowl seasons.

2011-16 MAC Programs and Years Invited to Bowl Games

Northern Illinois (5):	2011; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015
Ohio (5):	2011; 2012; 2013; 2015; 2016
Toledo (5):	2011; 2012; 2014; 2015; 2016
Bowling Green (4):	2012; 2013; 2014; 2015
Western Michigan (4):	2011; 2014; 2015; 2016
Central Michigan (4):	2012; 2014; 2015; 2016
Ball State (2):	2012; 2013
Akron (1):	2015
Buffalo (1):	2013
Kent State (1):	2012
Eastern Michigan (1):	2016
Miami (1):	2016
former: Temple (1):	2011

MIAMI SETS FBS MARK

Miami ended the 2016 regular season riding a six-game winning streak to end the regular season bowl eligible with a 6-6 overall record, 6-2 in the MAC for a tie for first place in the MAC East Division. Miami set the record as the only program in FBS history to begin a season 0-6, then win six consecutive games to finish 6-6 overall and receive a bowl invitation.

Miami was bowl eligible for the first time since the 2010 season. Miami ended the year with a 17-16 loss to Mississippi State in the St. Petersburg Bowl on Dec. 26, 2016.

WOODSIDE RISING AMONG UT CAREER RECORDS

Toledo senior quarterback Logan Woodside had an impressive 2016 as a starting quarterback and has set several school passing records at the University of Toledo. Last season, Woodside was 289-418 passing (69.1%) for 4,129 yards passing and 45 touchdowns as the Rockets finished with a 9-4 overall record, 6-2 in the MAC and an invitation to the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl.

Woodside's 45 touchdown passes ranked second among MAC all-time leaders and set the school record, while his 4,129 yards passing ranked as sixth-best in MAC single season history and ranked fourth overall in the nation last season. A native of Frankfurt, Ky., Woodside threw for 505 yards at BYU last season, which ranks tied for seventh highest in a single-game in MAC history.

Woodside's accuracy as a passer during his career (65.1%) ranks seventh among the MAC all-time passing list and his 69.1% last season ranked tied for eighth-best in MAC single season completion percentage. Already this season, Woodside and the Rockets are off to a 5-1 start and he has thrown for 1,724 yards and 11 touchdowns.

PHILLIPS SETS MAC RECORD FOR INT'S FOR TDS

Western Michigan senior defensive back Darius Phillips had a historic season last year with his four interceptions for 263 yards, including three returned for touchdowns. Phillips led the team and was tied for the lead in the MAC with his four interceptions. His 263 interceptions return yards last season was second-most in MAC history and increased his career interception yards total to 313 yards, which ranks tied for second in MAC all-time annals.

A native of Detroit, Mich., Phillips' three interceptions returned for a touchdown is tied for the MAC single-season record and increased his career total to four interceptions returned for a touchdown, which also ranks tied for first in the MAC all-time history.

YOUNG KICKERS SET MAC RECORDS IN 2016

The 2016 season was a record setting performance by placekickers, let lone freshmen placekickers, as two first-year kickers rewrote the MAC record book. Ohio's Louie Zervos set the MAC record with 29 field goals made as a freshman.

Western Michigan's Butch Hampton set the MAC record for most points in a single season by a kicker with 128 total points. Hampton (128 points) and Zervos (122 points) were the top two leading scorers in the MAC as Hampton converted 19-24 field goals and 71-73 PATs, while Zervos connected on 29-35 field goals and 35-38 PATs.

Both Hampton and Zervos made five field goals in a single-game last season, which tied for fourth in MAC history, as Hampton converted five field goals in a 29-23 win over Ohio in the Marathon MAC Football Championship Game on Dec. 2, 2016 at Ford Field, also a Championship Game record, and Zervos nailed five field goals in a 37-21 win at Kansas on Sept. 10, 2016.

EASTERN MICHIGAN TIED FBS RECORD TURNAROUND

For the first time since the 1987 season, Eastern Michigan headed to a bowl game as the Eagles accepted an invitation to the 2016 Popeyes Bahamas Bowl. Eastern Michigan dropped a 24-20 decision to Conference USA opponent Old Dominion on Dec. 23 at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium in Nassau, Bahamas.

This was EMU's second Division I bowl appearance in the history of the program. Eastern Michigan's last appearance in a bowl game was in 1987 when it traveled to Fresno, Calif. and defeated San Jose State, 30-27, handing the Spartans their only loss of the season.

The Eagles entered the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl following one of the most successful seasons in its 125-year history. Eastern Michigan finished with a winning record for the first time since 1995, most wins (seven) since 1989, and its first bowl appearance since 1987. The Eagles tied the FBS mark for biggest turnarounds in 2016, improving on its win total from one win in 2015, to its seven wins during the 2016 season.

2016 MAC ALL-AMERICANS

The MAC was represented in 2016 with All-American honors.
The Associated Press:
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
USA Today:
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
Sports Illustrated:
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
CBS Sports:
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
Walter Camp Football Foundation:
• Second-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
The Sporting News:
• Second-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
Football Writers Association of America (FWAA):
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
• First-Team All-American: Toledo TE Michael Roberts
• Second-Team All-American: Western Michigan OL Taylor Moton
American Football Coaches Association (AFCA):
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan WR Corey Davis
• Second-Team All-American: Western Michigan OL Taylor Moton

DAVIS SETS FBS CAREER RECEIVING YARDS RECORD

Last year, Western Michigan wide receiver Corey Davis posted his third straight 1,400-yard season as he finished 2016 with a career-high 97 catches for 1,500 yards and 19 touchdowns, which led all FBS in receiving touchdowns.

Davis is the all-time leading FBS receiver in history with 5,285 yards in four seasons and is the first receiver in FBS history with four seasons of 900+ yards. Davis ended 2016 as the all-time leading receiver in FBS history with 5,285 yards. He ended his college career with 332 receptions for 5,285 and 52 touchdowns. He is the only player in FBS history with 300 catches, 5,000+ yards and 50+ TDs.

Davis was named the MAC Offensive Player of the Year. Davis was a four-time All-MAC player and is the first Bronco wide receiver to be named MAC Offensive Player of the Year since Greg Jennings in 2005.Davis led Western Michigan to a 13-1 record in 2016 and the first New Year's Six Bowl berth in program history, playing in the 2017 Goodyear Cotton Bowl.

DAVIS FIRST BRONCO CONSENSUS ALL-AMERICAN

Western Michigan wide receiver Corey Davis earned the title of NCAA Consensus All-American in 2016 after being named to the first team in three of the five official organizations used to determine the honor. Davis became the first player in Western Michigan history and the first from the MAC since Dri Archer (Kent State, 2012) to earn the honor and the eighth league selection in MAC history.

Davis earned Consensus All-American status after receiving first team all-america honors from the Associated Press, American Football Coaches Association and Football Writers Association of America. He was named Second-Team All-American from the Sporting News and the Walter Camp Football Foundation, the other two official organizations in the pool. To be considered a Consensus All-American one must receive three first-team honors from the above mentioned organizations.

Davis posted his third straight 1,400-yard season as he finished 2016 with a career-high 97 catches for 1,500 yards and 19 touchdowns, which led all FBS in receiving touchdowns. Davis is the all-time leading FBS receiver in history with 5,285 yards in four seasons and is the first receiver in FBS history with four seasons of 900+ yards.

Davis ended his college career with 332 receptions for 5,285 and 52 touchdowns. He is the only player in FBS history with 300 catches, 5,000+ yards and 50+ TDs. Davis was selected by the Tennessee Titans as the fifth overall selection of the 2017 NFL Draft.

MAC Consensus All-Americans

1971 Mel Long, Toledo, DT	2000 Dwight Smith, Akron, DB
1995 Brad Maynard, Ball State, P	2010 Eric Page, Toledo, KR/AP
1996 Brad Maynard, Ball State, P	2012 Dri Archer, Kent St., KR/AP
1997 Randy Moss, Marshall, WR	2016 Corey Davis, WMU, WR

OHIO'S SOLICH THIRD ON MAC CAREER WINS LIST

Ohio head coach Frank Solich and his Bobcats finished 2016 with an 8-6 overall record and won the East Division Crown and this season is off to a 5-2 start after the Bobcats earned a 48-30 win at Bowling Green. Solich continues to rise up the MAC career head coaching win list with 93 wins, which ranks third most in MAC history.

Solich has been the recent model for consistency in coaching in the MAC. Solich arrived in Athens, Ohio in 2005 and now in his 13th season running the Bobcats program has garnered a bowl appearance in seven of the last eight seasons and eight of his 12 seasons at Ohio. Solich has a 93-69 career coaching record at Ohio.

Most MAC Head Coaching Wins, Career
1. 110, Herb Deromedi, Central Michigan, 1978-93
2. 108, Bill Hess, Ohio, 1958-77
3. **93, Frank Solich, Ohio, 2005-present**

MAC VS BIG TEN OPPONENTS

With Eastern Michigan's 16-13 win at Rutgers and NIU's 21-17 win at Nebraska, the MAC has won a regular season game vs. a Big Ten opponent in each of the last 12 consecutive seasons (2006-17), the longest streak in MAC history.

During this 12-year span, MAC teams have defeated 12 different Big Ten teams—Illinois (3); Indiana (5); Iowa (3); Maryland (1); Michigan (1); Michigan State (1); Minnesota (2); Nebraska (1); Northwestern (2); Penn State (1), Purdue (5) and Rutgers (1) -- for a total of 26 wins during this span.

2006: Ohio beat Illinois
2007: BGSU beat Minnesota; WMU defeated Iowa
2008: WMU beat Illinois; CMU beat Indiana; Toledo beat Michigan; Ball State beat Indiana
2009: NIU beat Purdue; Central Michigan beat Michigan State
2010: Toledo beat Purdue; NIU beat Minnesota
2011: Ball State beat Indiana
2012: Ohio beat Penn St.; Ball State beat Indiana; CMU beat Iowa
2013: NIU beat Purdue; NIU beat Iowa
2014: BGSU beat Indiana; NIU beat NW; CMU beat Purdue
2015: BGSU beat Maryland and Purdue
2016: WMU beat Northwestern and Illinois
2017: EMU beat Rutgers; NIU beat Nebraska

WMU WINS 2016 MARATHON MAC CHAMPIONSHIP

Western Michigan lineback Robert Spillane intercepted a pass with 51 seconds remaining, and No. 13 Western Michigan remained undefeated at 13-0, holding off Ohio 29-23 on Dec. 2 at Ford Field to win its first MAC title in football since 1988. The Broncos led 23-7 at halftime, but Ohio rallied and had the ball in Western Michigan territory in the final minute when Spillane intercepted Greg Windham's pass over the middle.

Ohio never led but didn't do much on offense until the final quarter, but still came close to their first MAC Championship since 1968. Instead, Western Michigan became the first undefeated team to win the MAC title since Marshall in 1999. The crowd of 45,615 set a Marathon MAC Football Championship game record.

Western Michigan's Corey Davis had eight catches for 144 yards, including a 70-yard touchdown reception in the second quarter. Butch Hampton kicked five field goals to set a Marathon MAC Football Championship game record, the last a 34-yarder for a 29-23 lead with 1:24 left.

NFF HONOR SOCIETY HONORS 30 MAC STUDENTS

The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) announced the members of the 2017 NFF Hampshire Honor Society, which is comprised of college football players from all divisions of play who each maintained a cumulative 3.2 GPA or better throughout their college careers. The MAC was represented with 30 students honored by the National Football Foundation, including three-time All-MAC quarterback Zach Terrell of Western Michigan, who also was honored with the 2016 William V.

FBS HEAD COACHES LEADING THEIR ALMA MATER

The MAC has four of the 21 FBS head coaches that are leading their alma mater's football programs this 2017 season.

Western Michigan first-year head coach Tim Lester comes to Kalamazoo after serving as quarterbacks coach at Purdue. Lester was a four-year starter at quarterback at Western Michigan from 1996-99, leading the Broncos to a Marathon MAC Football Championship game appearance his senior season.

Central Michigan third-year head coach John Bonamego was named the program's 28th head coach on Feb. 9, 2015. Bonamego led the Chippewas to a 6-7 overall record last season, and has compiled a 13-13 overall record at Central Michigan. Bonamego was a wide receiver/quarterback as a walk-on who earned varsity letters in 1985-86 and twice earned the Iron Man Award as the defensive scout team player of the year. He brings 27 years of coaching experience, with 16 years in the NFL.

Kent State fifth-year head coach Paul Haynes has a 12-35 overall record since being named the program's 21st head coach on Dec. 18, 2012. Haynes walked on at Kent State in 1987 and played four seasons for the Golden Flashes (1987-91) and ended his career with 440 tackles, seventh-best in school history.

Ball State second-year head coach Mike Neu led the Cardinals to a 4-8 record last year and returns to Muncie where he played quarterback for four seasons (1990-93) and was the 1993 MAC Offensive Player of the Year. Neu has 15 years of coaching experience with stops in the National Football League, Division I FBS football and the arena leagues. Most recently, Neu served the previous two seasons as the quarterback coach for the New Orleans Saints.

FBS Head Coaches Leading Their Alma Mater

Troy Calhoun, Air Force; Bryan Harsin, Boise State; **Mike Neu, Ball State; John Bonamego, Central Michigan; Paul Haynes, Kent State; Tim Lester, Western Michigan;** Jim Harbaugh, Michigan; Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern; Mike Gundy, Oklahoma State; David Shaw, Stanford; Kliff Kingsbury, Texas Tech; Matt Wells, Utah State; Sean Kugler, UTEP; Paul Chryst, Wisconsin; Bary Odom, Missouri; Mark Richt, Miami; Nick Rolovich, Hawaii; Scott Satterfield, App State; Kalani Sitake, BYU; Kirby Smart, Georgia and Jeff Tedford, Fresno State.

MAC HISTORY IN TOP 25 RANKINGS NATIONAL POLLS

Western Michigan ended the 2016 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game with a 13-0 record and an invitation to the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic. Entering the bowl season, Western Michigan was ranked No. 12 (AP), No. 14 (Amway/USA Today Coaches Poll) and No. 15 in the College Football Playoff Ranking.

Western Michigan's No. 12 (AP) ranking on Dec. 4, 2016 was the highest ranking since Ball State was ranked No. 12 (AP) after finishing the 2012 season (Nov. 30) with a 12-0 record. Western Michigan finished the season with a 13-1 overall record and ranked No. 15 in the AP Top 25 Poll.

MAC Highest Ever Ranking (Top 10) in National Polls:
• No. 10 (AP) – Miami – Jan. 2 end of the 1974 season (10-0-1).
• No. 10 (AP) – Miami – Jan. 5 end of the 2003 season (13-1).
• No. 10 (BCS) – NIU – Oct. 19 after a 7-0 start in 2003.
• No. 10 (AP) – Marshall (former member) on Jan. 5 end of 1999 (13-0).

MAC 2017 BOWL PARTNERS
2017 Bowl Season:
• Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl/PlayStation Fiesta Bowl/Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (College Football Playoff)
• Dollar General Bowl (Mobile, Ala.; vs. Sun Belt)
• Raycom Media Camellia Bowl (Montgomery, Ala.; vs. Sun Belt)
• Famous Idaho Potato Bowl (Boise, Ida.; vs. Mountain West)
• Bahamas Bowl (Nassau, Bahamas; vs. Conference USA)
• Secondary to Quick Lane Bowl (Detroit, Mich.)
• Secondary to Boca Raton Bowl (Boca Raton, Fla.)
• Secondary to Frisco Bowl (Frisco, Texas)

MAC 2017 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

The 2017 football schedule will feature 22 nationally televised games during late October and November on ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN3 and CBS Sports Network as the conference race unfolds in both the East and West divisions.

The regular season will conclude with the 21st Marathon MAC Football Championship game on Saturday, Dec. 2nd at a time to be determined from Ford Field in Detroit. This will mark the 14th Marathon MAC Football Championship game at Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions, Super Bowl XL, and the 2009 NCAA Men's Final Four.

For the 10th year in a row, league schools will face a formidable non-conference slate of opponents from the following Football Bowl Subdivision conferences – ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12, SEC and Notre Dame. In addition, the Conference will also face opponents from the American Athletic Conference, Conference USA, Mountain West Conference, Sun Belt Conference and Independent Notre Dame and Army.

Last year's MAC champion Western Michigan was ranked No. 15 in the final Associated Press Top 25 Poll. MAC programs will face six non-conference foes that finished in the final AP Top 25 poll: Clemson (1), USC (3), Penn State (7), Miami (20), Louisville (21) and San Diego State (25).

A total of nine non-conference games will feature a Big Ten opponent (Illinois; Michigan State (2); Minnesota; Nebraska; Northwestern; Penn State; Purdue; Rutgers). The MAC will face foes from the ACC (6—Boston College (2), Clemson, Louisville, Miami, Syracuse), SEC (1—Kentucky), Pac-12 (1-USC), Big 12 (3—Iowa State; Kansas (2)); and Independent Notre Dame & Army (2).

The MAC will also face opponents from the American Athletic Conference (2— Cincinnati, Tulsa), Mountain West (2—Nevada, San Diego State), Conference USA (7—Charlotte, Florida Atlantic, Marshall (2), Middle Tennessee, UAB, Western Kentucky) and Sun Belt Conference (2—Idaho, Troy). This season the MAC will host nine games against FBS non-conference opponents.

MAC TIES DRAFT RECORD WITH 11 IN 2017 NFL DRAFT

The MAC had 11 draft selections in the 2017 NFL Draft to tie a MAC modern era (seven rounds) record for the most students drafted in an NFL Draft (2005 NFL Draft). Highlighting the 2017 NFL Draft was Western Michigan wide receiver Corey Davis selected as the fifth overall selection in the first round by the Tennessee Titans. Davis' selection marks the third time in the last five years to have a MAC student selected in the top five overall of the first round.

In 2014, Buffalo Bulls linebacker Khalil Mack was the fifth overall selection by the Oakland Raiders in the 2014 NFL Draft. Mack's selection was the highest ever for the Buffalo program and the second-highest ever selection for a MAC student-athlete.

In 2013, Central Michigan offensive tackle Eric Fisher became the first MAC football player to be selected as the overall No. 1 selection in the NFL Draft. The Kansas City Chiefs selected Fisher as No.1 choice in the 2013 NFL Draft. The previous highest player drafted from the MAC was Marshall quarterback Byron Leftwich, who was selected No. 7 overall by Jacksonville in 2003.

MAC Students Selected In 2017 NFL Draft

1st rd (5th)   WR Corey Davis (Western Michigan) by Tennessee
2nd rd (64th) OL Taylor Moton (Western Michigan) by Carolina
3rd rd (80th)   DE Tarell Basham (Ohio) by Indianapolis
3rd rd (86th)   RB Kareem Hunt (Toledo) by Kansas City
3rd rd (96th)   WR Kenny Golladay (Northern Illinois) by Detroit
4th rd (127th) TE Michael Roberts (Toledo) by Detroit
5th rd (148th) LB Blair Brown (Ohio) by Jacksonville
7th rd (244th) DT Treyvon Hester (Toledo) by Oakland
7th rd (248th) LB Keion Adams (Western Michigan) by Pittsburgh
7th rd (250th) DL Pat O'Connor (Eastern Michigan) by Detroit
7th rd (251st) TE Mason Schreck (Buffalo) by Cincinnati

WINS OVER NON-CONFERENCE FBS OPPONENTS

This season the MAC has 11 FBS wins, including two wins each over programs from the Big Ten (Nebraska, Rutgers) and Big-12 (Kansas twice).

In 2016 the MAC earned 14 non-conference FBS wins and topped the 2015 season total of 12 FBS wins. The 14 wins in 2016 tied for second-most since the 2000 season. The MAC set the Conference single-season record with 16 wins over FBS opponents during the 2012 season.

Regular Season Wins vs. non-conference FBS opponents:
Year: Wins; FBS Opponents Defeated:
2017: 11; Nebraska; Kansas (2); Rutgers; Tulsa; Nevada; UAB; Charlotte; Idaho; Florida Atlantic; UMass
2016: 14; Northwestern, Arkansas State, Georgia State, Oklahoma State, Kansas, Illinois, Fresno State, UNLV, Marshall, Charlotte, Army, Florida Atlantic, Georgia Southern, Wyoming.
2015: 12; Arkansas; Maryland; Iowa State; Purdue; FAU; Marshall; Wyoming; UNLV; Idaho; Arkansas State; Louisiana; FIU
2014: 8; Purdue; Northwestern; Indiana; Idaho (2); UNLV, Pitt; Army
2013: 10; Iowa; Purdue; Virginia; UConn; Tulsa; Marshall; Army; North Texas; Idaho; Navy
2012: 16; Penn State; Wyoming; Idaho; New Mexico St.; Army (4); UConn; Marshall; Indiana; Iowa; South Florida; Kansas; Cincinnati; Rutgers
2011: 10; Indiana; Army (4); UConn; Idaho; New Mexico State; Marshall; Maryland
2010: 7; Minnesota; Purdue; Marshall; Colorado State; UConn; Army; Louisiana-Lafayette
2009: 9; Michigan State; Purdue; Colorado; Florida International; Troy; UTEP; North Texas; Army; Navy
2008: 14; Navy; Indiana (2); Western Kentucky; Michigan; Idaho; Illinois; Syracuse; Army (3); Pittsburgh; Wyoming; UTEP
2007: 10; Navy; Army (2); Idaho; Iowa State (2); Iowa; Minnesota; Syracuse; La-Lafayette
2006: 11; Temple (5); Kansas; Virginia; North Carolina State; North Texas; FIU; Illinois
2005: 9; Army; Louisiana-Lafayette; Temple (4); Pittsburgh; Middle Tennessee State; Cincinnati
2004: 3; Temple (2); Kentucky
2003: 9; Kansas State; Northwestern; Colorado State; Cincinnati; Purdue; Maryland; Alabama; Iowa State; Pittsburgh
2002: 10; Rutgers; Troy; North Carolina; Cincinnati; UConn; Missouri; Kansas; Wyoming; Wake Forest; UNLV
2001: 11; UConn (2); Army; Cincinnati; Missouri; Temple (2); Minnesota; Northwestern; South Florida; Navy
2000: 9; Central Florida (2); Vanderbilt; Minnesota; UConn (2); Navy; Penn State; Iowa

MAC HEAD COACHES IN HIGH DEMAND

Football programs continue to take notice of MAC head coaches. There are 12 former head coaches from the MAC in a current FBS head coaching position–including two of the last three National Champion's with 2015 Alabama's Nick Saban (Toledo) and 2014 Ohio State's Urban Meyer (Bowling Green), and nearly one-third of the ACC (four total).

For the 2017 season, 24 of the 130 FBS coaches (18.5%) will be either current or former MAC head coaches. The 24 current FBS coaches include the current 12 MAC head football coaches and 12 former MAC head football coaches.

ACC – Steve Addazio-Boston College (Temple), Dave Doeren-NC State (Northern Illinois), Dave Clawson-Wake Forest (Bowling Green), Dino Babers-Syracuse (Bowling Green).
Big Ten – Urban Meyer-Ohio State (Bowling Green), P.J. Fleck-Minnesota (Western Michigan).
Big 12 – Matt Campbell-Iowa State (Toledo).
Ind. – Brian Kelly-Notre Dame (Central Michigan), Mark Whipple (UMass).
SEC-Nick Saban-Alabama (Toledo), Butch Jones-Tennessee (Central Michigan)
Sun Belt – Doug Martin-New Mexico State (Kent State).

MAC MEDIA 2017 FOOTBALL PRESEASON POLL

Earlier this summer members of the media selected Toledo and Ohio to win the West and East Divisions respectfully in the 2017 MAC Football Media Preseason Poll. Toledo was selected to win the 2017 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game.

In the East Division, defending East Division Champion Ohio was selected first with 131 total points, only two points greater that second-place selection Miami RedHawks with 129 total points. Bowling Green finished third with 88 points, followed by Akron with 79 points, then Buffalo and Kent State.

In the West Division, Toledo was selected first in the Division and led the entire poll with 142 total points. Following the Rockets, defending West Champion Western Michigan finished second with 107 points, while the NIU Huskies were third with 89 points. Eastern Michigan ranked fourth with 74 points, followed by Central Michigan and Ball State.

2017 MAC MEDIA Football Preseason Poll

MAC East Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Ohio (11)	131
2. Miami (12)	129
3. Bowling Green (1)	88
4. Akron	79
5. Buffalo	41
6. Kent State	36

MAC West Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Toledo (22)	142
2. Western Michigan (1)	107
3. Northern Illinois (1)	89
4. Eastern Michigan	74
5. Central Michigan	62
6. Ball State	30

MAC FOOTBALL COACHES PRESEASON POLL

MAC Head Football Coaches have provided their own 2017 Preseason Poll and based upon voting by all 12 head coaches Ohio and Toledo have been selected to win the East and West Divisions respectfully.

In the East Division, a margin of only eight points separated first-place and second-place. Ohio was selected first with 69 total points followed by second-place Miami with 61 points. Bowling Green was selected third followed by Akron, Buffalo and Kent State.

In the West Division, the margin was also only eight points as Toledo was selected in first with 66 points followed by second-place Western Michigan with 58 points. Northern Illinois was picked third followed by Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan and Ball State

2017 MAC HEAD COACHES Football Preseason Poll

MAC East Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Ohio (9)	69
2. Miami (3)	61
3. Bowling Green	45
4. Akron	41
5. Buffalo	20
6. Kent State	16

MAC West Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Toledo (7)	66
2. Western Michigan (2)	58
3. Northern Illinois (1)	45
4. Eastern Michigan	35
5. Central Michigan (1)	31
6. Ball State (1)	17

AKRON'S JASON TAYLOR INDUCTED INTO THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME IN CANTON, OHIO

Former Akron Zips defensive lineman Jason Taylor was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame as part of the class of 2017 on Aug. 5, 2017 in Canton, Ohio. Taylor, who spent 13 of his 15 seasons in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins, is the first Zips player elected to the Hall of Fame and the second in the history of the MAC, joining Kent State linebacker Jack Lambert of Pittsburgh.

Taylor was selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility. A third-round pick out of Akron in the 1997 NFL draft, Taylor ended his career in 2011 as the Miami Dolphins' all-time leader in sacks and forced fumbles. A six-time Pro Bowl selection and three-time AP All-Pro first-team choice, Taylor was named the 2006 NFL Defensive Player of the Year and was selected as the Walter Payton Man of the Year in 2007.

MAC & CBS SPORTS NETWORK MULTI-YEAR DEAL

In June of 2015, the MAC and CBS Sports Network announced a multi-year deal to televise college football and basketball games from the Mid-American Conference. The deal, which begins this season and continues through 2018-19, is through a sublicense agreement with ESPN.

CBS Sports Network will air up to 12 football and 12 basketball games per year. CBS Sports Network, the 24-hour home of CBS Sports, is available across the country through local cable, video and telco providers and via satellite on DirecTV Channel 221 and Dish Network Channel 158.

MAC AND ESPN ANNOUNCE HISTORIC 13-YEAR RIGHTS EXTENSION DEAL THROUGH 2016-27 SEASON

In 2014, the MAC and ESPN announced a 13-year rights agreement that will be the largest and most extensive agreement in the history of the Conference. The extension, which adds provisions to the remaining three years of the original national rights agreement and adds an additional 10 years to the deal with ESPN, brings long-term security to the MAC through the 2026-27 academic year.

This agreement provides ESPN with exclusive television and digital distribution rights for all MAC sporting events, and guarantees coverage of every football game, and select men's and women's basketball and Olympic sporting events through the 2026-27 academic season.

The MAC Football Championship Game and the MAC football regular season is the foundation for the national deal with ESPN. The 2017 MAC football regular season will be highlighted by national coverage of 22 mid-week games during the month of November on ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN3. The Marathon MAC Football Championship Game is Saturday, Dec. 2.

MAC PART OF NEW COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF ERA

The 2017 college football season enters the fourth year of the current four-team playoff era with the College Football Playoff. The two College Football Playoff Semifinals will be played in bowl games this year (Allstate Sugar Bowl; Rose Bowl presented by Northwestern Mutual) and the College Football Playoff National Championship will be played in Atlanta on Jan. 8.

The two Semifinals and four other premier bowl games Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (Dec. 29), Capital One Orange Bowl (Dec. 30), PlayStation Fiesta Bowl (Dec. 30) and the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl (Jan. 1) highlight the annual bowl season calendar. The Semifinal games will rotate among these six different bowls. All MAC programs will join every FBS team in college football with equal access to the playoff based upon its performance. No team will qualify automatically.

The College Football Playoff Selection Committee will choose four teams for the playoffs based on body of work, strength of schedule, head-to-head results, comparison of results against common opponents, championships won and other factors.

MAC Week Seven Quick Recaps:

Army 28, Eastern Michigan 27 -- Eastern Michigan dropped another heartbreaking one-possession contest, this time by one point, 28-27, to Army West Point Saturday afternoon, at Michie Stadium. The Eagles scored with less than a minute left to go down one, but the two-point conversion was stopped just an inch short to deal Eastern Michigan its fourth straight close loss of the season.

The Eagle offense highlighted the game for Eastern Michigan, as it put up 364 total yards, its second-highest output of the season, including a season-high 135 yards on the ground. Leading the ground attack was junior Ian Eriksen who tallied the first 100-yard game of the season for an Eastern Michigan back, finishing with 107 yards on 20 carries. It was the third 100-yard game of his career, and put him over the 1,000-yards milestone for his career.

NIU 14, Buffalo 13 -- Over the years, Northern Illinois has won games in a multitude of ways, from overtime wins to high scoring shoot-outs, by running over opponents and with goal-line stands.

To find a game even remotely close to Saturday's 14-13 Huskie victory at Buffalo, though, go back to Sept. 10, 1988 – 29 years ago – to find the last time NIU won a game with 14 points or less. On that day, NIU defeated Middle Tennessee State 14-10.

Saturday's win saw NIU score a pair of touchdowns on back-to-back possessions in the second quarter, and Buffalo record a first quarter field goal and 10 second quarter points. The halftime score stood at 14-13.

A Huskie defense that has proven its second half mettle throughout the year, came up big once again, stopping six Buffalo drives in the second half, including one inside the NIU 20 as the Bulls missed a 34-yard field goal. Linebacker Jawuan Johnson stopped another drive with his third interception of the season and the rest was just hard-nosed, tough-against-the-run defense.

Buffalo finished the game with 39 yards rushing and netted just one in the second half.   The Bulls, who lost their starting quarterback just before halftime, gained 113 yards passing in the second half after totaling 229 in the first. NIU defenders totaled four sacks and held Buffalo to just two conversions on 14 third-down tries.

Akron 14, Western Michigan 13 -- Rain and flooding postponed the game, but didn't deter the teams, as Akron and Western Michigan took the football field for MAC action on Sunday at Waldo Stadium. On a chilly and rainy afternoon, Akron upset the defending MAC champions, 14-13.

Akron, the only undefeated team in the MAC East, improved to 4-3 overall and 3-0 in MAC play, while Western Michigan fell to 4-3 overall and 2-1 in the MAC. Senior running back Manny Morgan led the Zips' rushing efforts with 12 carries for 53 yards. Senior quarterback Thomas Woodson went 13-of-24 for 127 yards and a touchdown. Senior captain wide receiver A.J. Coney led the receivers with three receptions for 38 yards.

Defensively, sophomore defensive back Alvin Davis II led the Zips with 12 tackles, while junior linebacker Ulysees Gilbert III had 10 tackles and a sack that sealed the win with 12 seconds remaining.

Jarvion Franklin led Western Michigan with 130 yards rushing on 31 carries. Quarterback Jon Wassink was 17-of-29 for 182 yards and a touchdown, while wide receiver D'Way Eskrdige had seven catches for 93 yards and a touchdown.

Akron opened the fourth quarter with the ball. On the 32, Woodson threw an interception. The Broncos took advantage of Akron's first turnover. Six plays later, Jon Wassink threw a long bomb to D-Way Eskridge for a 50-yard touchdown. The extra point brought Western Michigan within four, 14-10, with 10:38 to go in the game.

MAC Week Seven Quick Recaps:

Toledo 30, Central Michigan 10 -- Toledo senior running back Terry Swanson rushed for a career-high 177 yards and two touchdowns as Toledo dominated Central Michigan, 30-10, on a rainy afternoon in Mt. Pleasant. A driving rain limited the passing games for both teams, forcing both teams to lean on the running game.

Toledo was able to sustain a consistent attack on the ground despite missing three starters on the offensive line, while the Rocket defense bottled up the Central Michigan runners and forced Chippewa quarterback Shane Morris into a sub-par performance.

Toledo (5-1, 2-0 MAC) gained 431 yards of total offense. Senior quarterback Logan Woodside managed the game well, completing 10-of-18 passes for 89 yards, as Toledo leaned on the running game more than at any time this season. Shakif Seymour added a career-best 119 rushing yards, all in the fourth quarter.

Kent State 17, Miami 14 -- A pair of third-quarter touchdown passes by George Bollas and second-half shutout by the Kent State defense highlighted a second-half comeback as the Golden Flashes edged Miami for a 17-14 win on Homecoming at Dix Stadium.

Trailing 14-3 going into the break, Haynes challenged his players by reaching back to the morning's speeches.

The Flashes trimmed the deficit to three points on a Bollas' 4-yard scoring throw to Justin Rankin with 8:43 to play in the third quarter. Bollas and Mike Carrigan then combined to give Kent State the lead for good with 37 seconds to play in the third as Carrigan pulled in a short throw and sprinted 84 yards to the end zone.

Earlier in the game, Carrigan turned a broken play on a reverse into a 61-yard run that set up a 23-yard Shane Hynes field goal that broke a scoreless tie with 12:07 to play in the second quarter.

Kent State's front four on defense recorded all three of their sacks as the Flashes protected the three-point lead during the fourth quarter. The game with Nick Faulkner and Theo Eboigbe combining to drop Miami quarterback Billy Bahl as the Dix Stadium clock ticked down to zero.

Ohio 48, Bowling Green 30 -- Ohio's defense forced four turnovers and sophomore quarterback Nathan Rourke scored a total of four touchdowns as the Ohio football team defeated Bowling Green 48-30 on Saturday afternoon at Doyt Perry Stadium.

With three rushing touchdowns, Rourke moved to seventh all-time in single-season rushing touchdowns at Ohio. He's totaled 12 rushing touchdowns so far this season and finished the game with 143 rushing yards, leading the Bobcats, and completed seven passes for 105 yards.

Ohio took the lead for good when Rourke broke free for a 75-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter. The Bobcats finished the day with 335 rushing yards, a season-high. The last time Ohio eclipsed 300 rushing yards was at Kansas in 2016 (329).

The win improved Ohio to 5-2 on the year and 2-1 in the MAC. The four turnovers, two fumbles and two interceptions, resulted in 21 points for the Bobcats. Redshirt senior cornerback Bradd Ellis and middle linebacker Dylan Conner each had an interception.

Redshirt junior running back A.J. Ouellette picked up 123 yards on the ground, along with two touchdowns. It marked the fourth game this season that Ouellette rushed for over 100 yards. Redshirt junior Andrew Meyer led the Bobcats at wide receiver with three receptions for 84 yards and a touchdown. The touchdown came early in the fourth quarter when Meyer and Rourke connected for the 40-yard score.

Akron (4-3, 3-0; MAC) at Toledo (5-1; 2-0 MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • Noon ET • Toledo, Ohio • Glass Bowl (26,038)
Raycom/WTOL TV Toledo/WUAB TV Cleveland/ESPN3
Series: Toledo leads 10-9

Head Coach: Terry Bowden
Career: 168-102-2 (24th year)   at Akron: 28-40 (6th year)
Contact: Cathy Bongiovi, 330-972-6106, cathyb@akron.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Warren Ball (75 att., 332 rushing yds., 4 TDs)
Pass: QB Thomas Woodson (115-202 passing, 1,251 yards, 9 TDs)
Rec.: WR Tra'Von Chapman (26 rec., 208 yds., 0 TD)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Ulysses Gilbert (68 tackles, 4.5 tfl, 4.0 sacks, 1 INT)
Sacks: LB Ulysses Gilbert (68 tackles, 4.5 tfl, 4.0 sacks, 1 INT)
Int.: LB John Lako (36 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 2 INT)

Notes: Akron won 14-13 at Western Michigan on Oct. 14...Zips' first win over Western Michigan since 2007, snapping a three- game series streak....QB Thomas Woodson went 13-24 passing for 127 yards and a touchdown...RB Manny Morgan led with 12 carries for 53 yards and one touchdown.

Head Coach: Jason Candle
Career: 15-5 (2nd year)   at Toledo: 15-5 (2nd year)
Contact: Paul Helgren, 419-530-4918, paul.helgren@utoledo.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Terry Swanson (100 att., 532 yds., 7 TDs)
Pass: QB Logan Woodside (121-191 passing, 1,724 yards, 11 TDs)
Rec.: WR Diantae Johnson (30 rec., 492 yds., 5 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: S Jordan Williams (30 tackles, 1.0 tfl)
Sacks: LB Ja'Wuan Woodley (26 tackles, 2.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks, 1 INT)
Int.: DB Khalil Robinson (12 tackles, 3 INT)

Notes: Toledo won 30-10 at Central Michigan on Oct. 14...Toledo ground game accounted for 310 yards, the most since Jan. 4, 2015 against Arkansas State in the GoDaddy.com Bowl...RB Terry Swanson had 145 yards rushing and two touchdowns, the 14th 100-yard rushing performance of his career.

Kent State (2-5, 1-2; MAC) at Ohio (5-2, 2-1; MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • 2:00 pm ET • Athens, Ohio • Peden Stadium (24,000)
ESPN3
Series: Ohio leads 42-25-2

Head Coach: Paul Haynes
Career: 13-39 (5th year)   at Kent State: 13-39 (5th year)
Football Contact: Aaron Chimenti, 330-672-8468, achiment@kent.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Justin Rankin (56 att., 197 rushing yds; 0 TDs)
Pass: QB George Bollas (36-70 passing, 476 yards, 2 TDs)
Rec.: RB Justin Rankin (17 rec., 135 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Jim Jones (58 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: LB Jim Jones (58 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Demetrius Monday (18 tackles, 4 INT)

Notes: Kent State won 17-14 over Miami on Oct. 14...QB George Bollas was 9-14 passing for 154 yards and one touchdown...WR Mike Carrigan had a career high 101 yards receiving on three catches and one touchdown and added a 61-yard rushing touchdown...Kent State scored 14 points in the third quarter, the most this season.

Head Coach: Frank Solich
Career: 151-88 (19th year)   at Ohio: 93-69 (13th year)
Contact: Anthony Reynolds, 740-593-1298, reynola1@ohio.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB AJ Ouellette (109 att., 656 yds., 5 TDs)
Pass: QB Nathan Rourke (89-157 passing, 1,078 yds., 8 TDs)
Rec.: WR Brendan Cope (26 rec., 347 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Quentin Poling (63 tackles, 6.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: LB Evan Croutch (46 tackles, 5.0 tfl, 4.0 sacks)
Int.: LB Chad Moore (41 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Ohio won 48-30 at Bowling Green on Oct. 14...Ohio's first win at Bowling Green since 2011...Ohio had a season-high 335 rushing yards, the most rushing yards since 329 at Kansas in 2016...QB Nathan Rourke finished with three rushing touchdowns for the third game this season...Rourke ranks 7th on Ohio's single-season chart with 12 rushing touchdowns, and has 19 total touchdowns this season.

Northern Illinois (4-2, 2-0; MAC) at Bowling Green (1-6, 1-2; MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • 2:00 pm ET • Bowling Green, Ohio • Doyt L. Perry Stadium (24,000)
ESPN3
Series: Bowling Green leads 12-8

Head Coach: Rod Carey
Career: 40-21 (5th year)   at NIU: 40-21 (5th year)
Football Contact: Donna Turner, 815-753-9513, donnaturner@niu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Jordan Huff (85 att., 450 rushing yds., 1 TD)
Pass: QB Marcus Childers (34-54 passing, 355 yds., 4 TDs)
Rec.: WR Christian Blake (23 rec., 279 yds., 3 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Bobby Jones (54 tackles, 8.0 tfl, 4.0 sacks)
Sacks: DL Sutton Smith (32 tackles, 16.0 tfl, 10.0 sacks)
Int.: LB Jawuan Johnson (44 tackles, 7.5 tfl, 1.0 sack, 3 INT)

Notes: NIU won 14-13 at Buffalo on Oct. 14...Last time NIU won a game with 14 points or less was 29 years ago -- Sept. 10, 1988 with a 14-10 win over Middle Tennessee State...QB Marcus Childers made first career start and was 20-31 passing for 224 yards and one touchdown, and also rushed for 79 yards on 27 carries and one score.

Head Coach: Mike Jinks
Career: 5-14 (2nd year)   at Bowling Green: 5-14 (2nd year)
Football Contact: Jason Knavel, 419-372-7075, jknavel@bgsu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Josh Cleveland (94 att., 490 rushing yds., 2 TDs)
Pass: QB James Morgan (89-200 passing, 1,189 yds., 8 TDs)
Rec.: WR Scott Miller (37 rec., 401 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Brandon Harris (52 tackles, 3.0 tfl)
Sacks: DL Kyle Junior (27 tackles, 5.5 tfl, 3.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Clint Stephens (15 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Falcons lost 48-30 to Ohio on Oct. 14...RB Andrew Clair rushed for a career-high 148 yards on 18 carries and a career-high two touchdowns...WR Scott Miller led with six receptions for 95 yards...K Jake Suder was 3-3 in field goal attempts as he converted kicks from 42, 34 and 32 yards.

Western Michigan (4-3, 2-1; MAC) at Eastern Michigan (2-4, 0-2; MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • 2:00 pm ET • Ypsilanti, Mich. • Rynearson Stadium (30,200)
ESPN3
Series: WMU leads 32-18-2

Head Coach: Tim Lester
Career: 43-26 (7th year)   at Western Michigan: 4-3 (1st year)
Contact: Kristin Keirns, 269-387-4123, kristin.keirns@wmich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Jarvion Franklin (121 att., 538 yards, 6 TDs)
Pass: QB Jon Wassink (108-169 passing, 1,221 yards, 13 TDs)
Rec.: WR Keishawn Watson (28 rec., 250 yards, 5 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: DL Asantay Brown (57 tackles, 5.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: LB Robert Spillane (46 tackles, 5.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Darius Phillips (22 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Western Michigan lost 14-13 to Akron on Oct. 14...Loss snapped Western Michigan's nine-game home winning streak at Waldo Stadium which was the fifth longest in FBS...RB Jarvion Franklin rushed for 130 yards on 31 carries and this 18th career 100-yard rushing performance... QB Jon Wassink was 17-29 passing for 182 yards and one touchdown.

Head Coach: Chris Creighton
Career: 151-77 (21st year)   at Eastern Michigan: 12-31 (4th year)
Football Contact: Greg Steiner, 734-487-0317, gsteiner2@emich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Ian Eriksen (60 att., 249 yds., 4 TDs)
Pass: QB Brogan Robach (137-223 passing, 1,509 yards, 9 TDs)
Rec.: WR Sergio Bailey II (37 rec., 518 yds., 4 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: DB Vince Calhoun (47 tackles)
Sacks: DL Maxx Crosby (28 tackles, 7.5 tfl, 5.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Brody Hoying (31 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 2 INT)

Notes: Eastern Michigan lost 28-27 at Army on Oct. 14...Eagles gained 364 yards of total offense...QB Brogan Roback threw for 229 yards and a career-high four touchdowns...RB Ian Eriksen had a season-high 107 yards on 20 carries...WR Sergio Bailey II led with eight receptions for 99 yards and two touchdowns.

Buffalo (3-4, 1-2; MAC) at Miami (2-5, 1-2; MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • 2:30 pm ET • Oxford, Ohio • Yager Stadium (24,286)
ESPN3
Series: Miami leads 13-2

Head Coach: Lance Leipold
Career: 119-27 (10th year)   at Buffalo: 10-21 (3rd year)
Football Contact: Jon Fuller, 716-645-6762, jfuller3@buffalo.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Emmanual Reed (109 att., 439 yards, 5 TDs)
Pass: QB Drew Anderson (66-106 passing, 1,039 yards, 10 TDs)
Rec.: WR Anthony Johnson (44 rec., 771 yds., 5 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Khalil Hodge (101 tackles, 3.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: DL Chuck Harris (42 tackles, 3.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Ryan Williamson (44 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Buffalo lost 14-13 to NIU on Oct. 14...WR Anthony Johnson led with seven catches for 140 yards...QB Drew Anderson was 13-18 passing for 191 yards and one touchdown before leaving late in the first half due to injury...QB Kyle Vantrease entered and was 8-16 passing for 153 yards...LB Khalil Hodge led with 19 tackles.

Head Coach: Chuck Martin
Career: 87-38 (10th year)   at Miami: 13-31 (4th year)
Football Contact: Dave Meyer, 513-529-4329, meyerd@miamioh.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Kenny Young (89 att., 441 yds., 2 TDs)
Pass: QB Gus Ragland (96-180 passing, 1,398 yds., 12 TDs)
Rec.: WR James Gardner (29 rec., 602 yds., 6 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB De'Andre Montgomery (51 tackles, 3.0 tfl, 1 INT)
Sacks: LB Brad Koenig (55 tackles, 6.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Tony Reid (40 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Miami lost 17-14 at Kent State on Oct. 14...QB Billy Bahl was 12-29 passing for 174 yards and two touchdowns...WR James Gardner led with three receptions for 67 yards and one score...RB Alonzo Smith rushed for 96 yards on 14 carries.

Central Michigan (3-4, 1-2; MAC) at Ball State (2-4, 0-2; MAC)
Saturday, October 21, 2017 • 3:00 pm ET • Muncie, Ind. • Scheumann Stadium (22,500)
ESPN3
Series: Tied 24-24-1

Head Coach: John Bonamego
Career: 16-17 (3rd year)   at Central Michigan: 16-17 (3rd year)
Football Contact: Jim Knight, 989-774-3277, jim.knight@cmich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Jonathan Ward (83 att., 363 rushing yds., 2 TDs)
Pass: QB Shane Morris (154-279 passing, 1,767 yards, 12 TDs)
Rec.: WR Mark Chapman (39 rec., 556 yds., 3 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Alex Briones (54 tackles, 4.0 tfl, 1.0 sack, 2 INT)
Sacks: DL Joe Ostman (40 tackles, 9.5 tfl, 6.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Josh Cox (48 tackles, 4 INT)

Notes: Chippewas lost 30-10 to Toledo on Oct. 14...QB Shane Morris was 17-37 passing for 182 yards and one touchdown...WR Mark Chapman led with five receptions for 71 yards...LB Malik Fountain led with 12 tackles and LB Michael Oliver added 10 tackles...DE Joe Ostman added his sixth sack of the season.

Head Coach: Mike Neu
Career: 6-12 (2nd year)   at Ball State: 6-12 (2nd year)
Contact: Mike Clark, 765-285-8904, maclark4@bsu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Caleb Huntley (78 att., 388 yards rushing, 3 TDs)
Pass: QB Riley Neal (67-99 passing, 659 yds., 6 TDs)
Rec.: WR Justin Hall (42 rec., 479 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Damon Singleton (36 tackles, 4.5 tfl)
Sacks: DE Anthony Winbush (27 tackles, 10.5 tfl, 7.5 sacks, 3 ff)
Int.: DB Bryce Crosby (33 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Cardinals are coming off a bye week and last played with a 31-3 loss at Akron on Oct. 7...RB Caleb Huntley became the first Cardinal to reach 100 yards rushing this season, as he finished with a career-high 129 yards...WR Justin Hall led with seven receptions for 48 yards and has led in receptions and receiving yards for five straight weeks.

SEVENTY-SEVEN (77) FORMER MAC STUDENTS ON NFL ROSTERS

Arizona (2)
LB Bryson Albright-PS	1	Miami	
DB Ronald Zamort-IR	1	Western Michigan	

Atlanta (1)
DE JT Jones-PS	R	Miami

Carolina (1)
OL Taylor Moton	R	Western Michigan

Chicago (1)
OL Josh Sitton	10	Central Florida

Cincinnati (1)
TE Mason Schreck-IR	R	Buffalo

Cleveland (2)
RB Darius Jackson-IR	2	Eastern Michigan
DB Najee Murray-PS	R	Kent State

Dallas (4)
DT Richard Ash-PS	2	Western Michigan
LB Jayrone Elliott	4	Toledo
S Kavon Frazier	2	Central Michigan
QB Cooper Rush	R	Central Michigan

Denver (1)
K Brandon McManus	4	Temple

Detroit (10)
LB Nick Bellore	7	Central Michigan
WR Kenny Golladay	R	Northern Illinois
OL Zac Kerin	3	Toledo
OL T.J. Lang	9	Eastern Michigan
DB Rolan Milligan-PS	1	Toledo
OL Storm Norton-PS	R	Toledo
DL Pat O'Connor-PS	R	Eastern Michigan
K Matt Prater	11	Central Florida
TE Michael Roberts	R	Toledo
LB Tahir Whitehead	6	Temple

Green Bay (2)
DL Izaah Lunsford-PS	R	Bowling Green
DB Quinten Rollins	3	Miami (Ohio)

Houston (2)
DB Bryce Jones-PS	R	Akron
OL Greg Mancz	2	Toledo

Indianapolis (3)
DE Tarell Basham	R	Ohio
DB Rashaan Melvin	5	Northern Illinois
OL Andrew Wylie-PS	R	Eastern Michigan

Jacksonville (2)
LB Blair Brown	R	Ohio
DB Barry Church	8	Toledo

Kansas City (3)
OL Eric Fisher	5	Central Michigan
RB Kareem Hunt	R	Toledo
LB Frank Zombo	8	Central Michigan

Los Angeles Chargers (4)
DB Jahleel Addae	5	Central Michigan
LB Jatavis Brown	2	Akron
TE Antonio Gates	15	Kent State
RB Branden Oliver	4	Buffalo

Miami (1)
LB Justin March	3	Akron

Minnesota (1)
RB Bronson Hill-PS	1	Eastern Michigan

New England (2)
WR Julian Edelman-IR	9	Kent State
OL Willie Beavers-PS	2	Western Michigan

New Orleans (4)
WR Tommylee Lewis	2	Northern Illinois
OL Kristjan Sokoli-PS	2	Buffalo
WR Willie Snead	2	Ball State
OL Martin Wallace	2	Temple

N.Y. Giants (3)
LB Cap Capi	1	Akron
WR Roger Lewis	2	Bowling Green
WR Brandon Marshall	12	Central Florida

N.Y. Jets (4)
LB Freddie Bishop-PS	2	Western Michigan
WR JoJo Natson-PS	1	Akron
DT Muhammad Wilkerson	7	Temple
OL Brian Winters	5	Kent State

Oakland (3)
DB Travis Carrie	4	Ohio
DL Treyvon Hester	R	Toledo
LB Khalil Mack	4	Buffalo

Philadelphia (2)
OL Brandon Brooks	6	Miami (Ohio)
DE Steven Means	3	Buffalo

Pittsburgh (7)
LB Keion Adams-IR	R	Western Michigan
WR Antonio Brown	8	Central Michigan
LB James Harrison	15	Kent State
FS Mike Mitchell	9	Ohio
FB Roosevelt Nix	3	Kent State
QB Ben Roethlisberger	14	Miami (Ohio)
DL L.T. Walton	3	Central Michigan

San Francisco (3)
DT Chris Jones	4	Bowling Green
OT Joe Staley	11	Central Michigan
DB Jimmie Ward	4	Northern Illinois

Seattle (1)
RB Thomas Rawls	3	Central Michigan

Tampa Bay (2)
WR Bernard Reedy	1	Toledo

Tennessee (6)
FB Joe Bacci-IR	R	Central Michigan
WR Corey Davis	R	Western Michigan
RB David Fluellen	1	Toledo
P Brett Kern	10	Toledo
OL Josh Kline	5	Kent State
WR Tajae Sharpe-IR	2	UMass

PS - Practice Squad; IR - Injured-Reserve List (As of NFL Rosters on Sept. 6, 2017) Currently there are 77 former MAC students on rosters across the National Football League.

In the 2017 NFL Draft, Western Michigan WR Corey Davis was selected as the fifth overall selection in the first round by Tennessee. Davis marks the third time in the last five years to have a MAC student selected in the top five overall of the first round.

Buffalo LB Khalil Mack was the fifth overall selection by Oakland in the 2014 NFL Draft. Central Michigan OT Eric Fisher became the first MAC football player to be selected as the overall No. 1 selection in the NFL Draft. Kansas City selected Fisher as No.1 choice in the 2013 NFL Draft.

MAC EAST VS. MAC WEST
In 2017, the East and West Divisions will face each other in 18 crossover regular season games. So far the East and West Divisions are tied 4-4.

Over the previous nine years (2008-2016), the MAC West has had the upper hand in crossover regular season games against the MAC East, winning the head-to-head regular season series in eight of the last nine years as the West holds a 109-53 (.673%) regular season record in crossover games over the East during that span.

The West Division has a 5-4 lead in the last nine Marathon MAC Football Championship Games. From the West Division, Western Michigan (2016), Northern Illinois (2011, 2012, 2014) and Central Michigan (2009) have won the Conference Championship five times, while the East Division has won four crowns with Bowling Green (2015, 2013), Miami (2010) and Buffalo (2008).

Year; Regular Season East vs. West; MAC Champion
2016 West 12-6; Western Michigan (West) def. Ohio (East), 29-23.
2015 West 11-7; Bowling Green (East) def. NIU (West), 34-14.
2014 West 15-3; NIU (West) def. Bowling Green (East), 51-17.
2013 West 12-6; Bowling Green (East) def. NIU (West), 47-27.
2012 West 12-6; NIU (West) def. Kent State (East) 44-37 in 2 OT.
2011 West 14-4; NIU (West) def. Ohio (East), 23-20.
2010 West 12-6; Miami (East) def. NIU (West), 26-21.
2009 East 11-7; Central Michigan (West) def. Ohio (East), 20-10.
2008 West 14-4; Buffalo (East) def. Ball State (West), 42-24.

MAC ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS CONTACTS

Mid-American Conference:
Ken Mather, kmather@mac-sports.com (216-566-4622)

East Division
Akron: Cathy Bongiovi, cathyb@uakron.edu (330.972.6106)
Bowling Green: Jason Knavel, jknavel@bgsu.edu (419.372.7075)
Buffalo: Jon Fuller, jfuller3@buffalo.edu (716.645.6762)
Kent State: Aaron Chimenti, achiment@kent.edu (330.672.8468)
Miami: Dave Meyer, meyerd@miamioh.edu (513.529.4329)
Ohio: Anthony Reynolds, reynola1@ohio.edu (740.593.1298)

West Division
Ball State: Michael Clark, maclark4@bsu.edu (765.285.8904)
Central Michigan: Jim Knight, knigh2je@cmich.edu (989.774.3277)
Eastern Michigan: Greg Steiner, greg.steiner@emich.edu (734.487.0318)
Northern Illinois: Donna Turner, donnaturner@niu.edu (815.753.9513)
Toledo: Paul Helgren, paul.helgren@utoledo.edu (419.530.4918)
Western Michigan: Kristin Keirns, kristin.keirns@wmich.edu (269-387-4123)

2017 Akron Zips (4-3, 3-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	at No. 6 Penn State	Noon ET	ABC	L, 0-52
Sat., Sept. 9	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 52-3
Sat., Sept. 16	Iowa State	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 14-41
Sat., Sept. 23	at Troy	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 17-22
Sat., Sept. 30	*at Bowling Green	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 34-23
Sat., Oct. 7	*Ball State	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 31-3
Sat., Oct. 14	*at Western Michigan	3:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	W, 14-13
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Toledo	Noon ET	ESPN3/WTOL Toledo/WUAB Cleveland	Toledo leads 10-9
Sat., Oct. 28	*Buffalo	11:30 am ET	CBS Sports Network	Buffalo leads 10-6
Tue., Nov. 7	*at Miami	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 16-9-1
Tue., Nov. 14	*Ohio	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	Ohio leads 20-12-1
Tue., Nov. 21	*Kent State	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	Akron leads 33-24-2

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Ball State Cardinals (2-4, 0-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat, Sept. 2	at Illinois	Noon ET	Big Ten Network	L, 21-24
Sat., Sept. 9	UAB	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 51-31
Sat., Sept. 16	Tennessee Tech	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 28-13
Sat., Sept. 23	at Western Kentucky	7:00 pm ET	Stadium/C-USA TV	L, 21-33
Sat., Sept. 30	*at Western Michigan	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 3-55
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Akron	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 3-31
Sat., Oct. 21	*Central Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Series tied 24-24-1
Thur., Oct. 26	*Toledo	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Toledo leads 22-19-1
Thur., Nov. 2	*at Eastern Michigan	6:00 pm ET	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 34-22-1
Thur., Nov. 9	*at NIU	7:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	NIU leads 22-20-2
Thur., Nov. 16	*Buffalo	7:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 9-1
Tue., Nov. 21	*Miami	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	Miami leads 17-12-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Bowling Green Falcons (1-6, 1-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	at Michigan State	Noon ET	ESPNU	L, 10-35
Sat., Sept. 9	South Dakota	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 27-25
Sat., Sept. 16	at Northwestern	7:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	L, 7-49
Sat., Sept. 23	at Middle Tennessee	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 13-24
Sat., Sept. 30	*Akron	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 23-34
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Miami	2:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 37-29
Sat., Oct. 14	*Ohio	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 30-48
Sat., Oct. 21	*NIU	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	BGSU leads 12-8
Tue., Oct. 31	*at Kent State	7:30 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 59-19-6
Tue., Nov. 7	*at Buffalo	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 11-3
Wed., Nov. 15	*Toledo	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	BGSU leads 39-38-4
Tue., Nov. 21	*at Eastern Michigan	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	BGSU leads 25-12-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Buffalo Bulls (3-4, 1-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Thur., Aug. 31	at Minnesota	7:00 pm ET	Big Ten Network	L, 7-17
Sat., Sept. 9	at Army	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 17-21
Sat., Sept. 16	Colgate	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 33-10
Sat., Sept. 23	Florida Atlantic	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 34-31
Sat., Sept. 30	*at Kent State	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 27-13
Sat., Oct. 7	*Western Michigan	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 68-71 (7OT)
Sat., Oct. 14	*Northern Illinois	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 13-14
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Miami	2:30 pm ET	ESPN3	Miami leads 13-6
Sat, Oct. 28	*at Akron	11:30 am ET	CBS Sports Network	Akron leads 10-6
Tue., Nov. 7	*Bowling Green	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 11-3
Thur., Nov. 16	*at Ball State	7:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 9-1
Fri., Nov. 24	*Ohio	TBA	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network/ESPN3	Ohio leads 14-9

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Central Michigan Chippewas (3-4, 1-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Thur., Aug. 31	Rhode Island	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 30-27 (3OT)
Sat., Sept. 9	at Kansas	4:00 pm ET	FSN	W, 45-27
Sat., Sept. 16	at Syracuse	3:30 pm ET	ACC Network Extra	L, 17-41
Sat., Sept. 23	*Miami	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 14-31
Sat., Sept. 30	at Boston College	1:00 pm ET	ACC Network Extra	L, 8-28
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Ohio	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 26-23
Sat., Oct. 14	*Toledo	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 10-30
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Ball State	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Series tied 24-24-1
Wed., Nov. 1	*at Western Michigan	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2	WMU leads 48-38-2
Wed., Nov. 8	*Eastern Michigan	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	CMU leads 59-29-6
Tue., Nov. 14	*at Kent State	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	CMU leads 23-11
Fri., Nov. 24	*Northern Illinois	TBA	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network/ESPN3	CMU leads 28-23-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Eastern Michigan Eagles (2-4, 0-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Fri., Sept. 1	Charlotte	6:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 24-7
Sat., Sept. 9	at Rutgers	3:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	W, 16-13
Sat., Sept. 23	*Ohio	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 20-27 (2OT)
Fri., Sept. 30	at Kentucky	4:00 pm ET	SEC Network	L, 20-24
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Toledo	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 15-20
Sat., Oct. 14	at Army	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 27-28
Sat., Oct. 21	*Western Michigan	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	WMU leads 32-18-2
Thur., Oct. 26	*at Northern Illinois	7:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	NIU leads 31-14-2
Thur., Nov. 2	*Ball State	7:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 34-22-2
Wed., Nov. 8	*at Central Michigan	7:00 pm or 7:30 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	CMU leads 59-29-6
Wed., Nov. 15	*at Miami	7:00 pm or 8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	MIA leads 19-4
Tue., Nov. 21	*Bowling Green	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	BGSU leads 25-12-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Kent State Golden Flashes (2-5, 1-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	at No. 5 Clemson	12:00 pm ET	ESPN	L, 3-56
Sat., Sept. 9	Howard	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 38-31
Sat., Sept. 16	at Marshall	6:30 pm ET	Stadium	L, 0-21
Sat., Sept. 23	at No. 19 Louisville	Noon ET	ACC Reg. Sports Network	L, 3-42
Sat., Sept. 30	*Buffalo	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 27-13
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Northern Illinois	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 3-24
Sat., Oct. 14	*Miami	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 17-14
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Ohio	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Ohio leads 42-25-1
Tue., Oct. 31	*Bowling Green	7:30/8 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 59-19-6
Wed., Nov. 8	*at Western Michigan	7/7:30/8 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	WMU leads 34-20-1
Tue., Nov. 14	*Central Michigan	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	CMU leads 23-11
Tue., Nov. 21	*at Akron	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	UA leads 33-24-2

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Miami RedHawks (2-5, 1-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	at Marshall	6:30 pm ET	Stadium	L, 26-31
Sat., Sept. 9	Austin Peay	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 31-10
Sat., Sept. 16	Cincinnati	8:00 pm ET	WXIX TV; WUAB TV/ESPN3	L, 17-21
Sat., Sept. 23	*at Central Michigan	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 31-14
Sat., Sept. 30	at No. 22 Notre Dame	5:00 pm ET	NBCSN	L, 17-52
Sat., Oct. 7	*Bowling Green	2:30 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 29-37
Sat., Oct. 14	*at Kent State	3:30 PM ET	ESPN3	L, 14-17
Sat., Oct. 21	*Buffalo	2:30 pm ET	ESPN3	Miami leads 13-6
Tue., Oct. 31	*at Ohio	7:30/8 PM ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 52-39-2
Tue., Nov. 7	*Akron	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Mlami leads 16-9-1
Wed., Nov. 15	*Eastern Michigan	7/8 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	Miami leads19-4
Tue., Nov. 21	*at Ball State	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN3	Miami leads 17-11-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Northern Illinois Huskies (4-2, 2-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Fri., Sept. 1	Boston College	9:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 20-23
Sat., Sept. 9	Eastern Illinois	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 38-10
Sat., Sept. 16	at Nebraska	Noon ET	Fox Sports 1	W, 21-17
Sat., Sept. 30	at No. 19 San Diego State	10:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 28-34
Sat., Oct. 7	*Kent State	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN3	W, 24-3
Sat., Oct. 14	*at Buffalo	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN3	W, 14-13
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Bowling Green	2:00 pm ET/1:00 pm CT	ESPN3	BGSU leads 12-9
Thur., Oct. 26	*Eastern Michigan	7:00 pm ET/6:00 pm CT	CBS Sports Network	NIU leads 31-14-2
Thur., Nov. 2	*at Toledo	6:00 pm ET/5:00 pm CT	ESPNU/CBSSN	UT leads 30-14
Thur., Nov. 9	*Ball State	7:00 pm ET/6:00 pm CT	CBSSN	NIU leads 22-20-2
Wed., Nov. 15	*Western Michigan	6:00/7:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	WMU leads 24-18
Fri., Nov. 24	*at Central Michigan	TBA	ESPNU/ESPN3/CBSSN	CMU leads 28-23-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Ohio Bobcats (5-2, 2-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	Hampton	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 59-0
Fri., Sept. 8	at Purdue	8:00 pm ET	Fox Sports Net	L, 21-44
Sat., Sept. 16	Kansas	Noon ET	ESPNU	W, 42-30
Sat., Sept. 23	*at Eastern Michigan	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 27-20 (2OT)
Sat., Sept. 30	at UMass	3:30 pm ET	Eleven Sports	W, 58-50
Sat., Oct. 7	*Central Michigan	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 23-26
Sat., Oct. 14	*at Bowling Green	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 48-30
Sat., Oct. 21	*Kent State	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Ohio leads 42-25-2
Tue., Oct. 31	*Miami	7:30 or 8 pm ET	ESPN3/ESPNU	Miami leads 52-39-2
Wed., Nov. 8	*Toledo	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3/ESPNU	UT Leads 31-20-1
Tue., Nov. 14	*at Akron	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	Ohio leads 19-13-1
Fri., Nov. 24	*at Buffalo	TBA	ESPNU/ESPN3/CBSSN	Ohio leads 13-10

2017 Toledo Rockets (5-1, 2-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Thur., Aug. 31	Elon	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 47-13
Sat., Sept. 9	at Nevada	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 37-24
Sat., Sept. 16	Tulsa	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 54-51
Sat., Sept. 23	at No. 14 Miami (Fla.)	3:30 pm ET	ACC Reg. Sports Network	L, 30-52
Sat., Oct. 7	*Eastern Michigan	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	W, 20-15
Sat., Oct. 14	*at Central Michigan	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 30-10
Sat., Oct. 21	*Akron	Noon ET	ESPN3/WTOL Toledo/WUAB Cleveland	Toledo leads 10-9
Thur., Oct. 26	*at Ball State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	Toledo leads 22-19-1
Thur., Nov. 2	*NIU	6:00 pm ET	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	Toledo leads 30-14
Wed., Nov. 8	*at Ohio	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	Toledo 31-20-1
Wed., Nov. 15	*at Bowling Green	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	BGSU leads 39-38-4
Fri., Nov. 24	*Western Michigan	TBA	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network/ESPN3	Toledo leads 40-30

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Western Michigan Broncos (4-3, 2-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 2	at No. 4 USC	5:15 pm ET	PAC-12 Network	L, 31-49
Sat., Sept. 9	at Michigan State	3:30 pm ET	BigTen Network	L, 14-28
Sat., Sept. 16	Idaho	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 37-28
Sat., Sept. 23	Wagner	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 49-14
Sat., Sept. 30	*Ball State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 55-3
Sat., Oct. 7	*at Buffalo	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 71-68 (7OT)
Sat., Oct. 14	*Akron	3:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 13-14
Sat., Oct. 21	*at Eastern Michigan	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	WMU leads 32-17-2
Wed, Nov. 1	*Central Michigan	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2	WMU leads 48-37-2
Wed., Nov. 7	*Kent State	7/7:30/8 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	WMU leads 34-20-1
Sat., Nov. 15	*at Northern Illinois	7/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU/CBSSN	WMU leads 24-17
Fri., Nov. 25	*at Toledo	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 42-30

*Mid-American Conference game

2017 Non-Conference Opponents

ACC (6): (0-6)
Boston College (2) (NIU; Central Michigan): (0-2; L, 20-23; L, 8-28)
Clemson (Kent State): (0-1, L, 3-56)
Louisville (Kent State): (0-1, L, 3-42)
Miami (Toledo): (0-1, L, 30-52)
Syracuse (Central Michigan): (0-1; L, 17-41)

American Athletic (2): (1-1)
Cincinnati (Miami): (0-1; L, 17-21)
Tulsa (Toledo): (1-0), W, 54-51)

Big Ten (9): (2-7)
Illinois (Ball State): (0-1, L, 21-24)
Michigan State (2) (BGSU; WMU): (0-2, L, 10-35; L, 14-28)
Minnesota (Buffalo): (0-1, L, 7-17)
Nebraska (NIU): (1-0, W, 21-17)
Northwestern (Bowling Green): (0-1, L, 7-49)
Penn State (Akron): (0-1, L, 0-52)
Purdue (Ohio): (0-1, L, 21-44)
Rutgers (Eastern Michigan): (1-0, W, 16-13)

Big 12 (3): (2-1)
Iowa State (Akron): (0-1, L, 14-41)
Kansas (2) (Central Michigan; Ohio): (2-0, W, 45-27; W, 42-30)

Conference USA (7): (3-4)
Charlotte (Eastern Michigan): (1-0, W, 24-7)
Florida Atlantic (Buffalo): (1-0, W, 34-31)
Marshall (2) (Miami; Kent State): (0-2, L, 26-31; L, 0-21)
Middle Tennessee (Bowling Green): (0-1, : L, 13-24)
UAB (Ball State): (1-0, W, 51-31)
Western Kentucky (Ball State): (0-1, L, 21-33)

Mountain West (2): (1-1)
Nevada (Toledo): (1-0, W, 37-24)
San Diego State (NIU): (0-1, L, 28-34)

Pac 12 (1): (0-1)
USC (Western Michigan): (0-1, L, 31-49)

SEC (1): (0-1)
Kentucky (Eastern Michigan): (0-1, L, 20-24)

Sun Belt (2): (1-1)
Idaho (Western Michigan): (1-0, W. 37-28)
Troy (Akron): (0-1, L, 17-22)

Independent (3): (0-3)
Army (2) (Buffalo; Eastern Michigan): (0-2, L, 17-21; L, 27-28)
Notre Dame (Miami): (0-1, L, 17-52)

FCS Opponents (I-AA)

Colonial Athletic (2): (2-0)
Elon (Toledo): (1-0, W, 47-13)
Rhode Island (Central Michigan): (1-0, W, 30-27 (3OT)

MEAC (2): (2-0)
Hampton (Ohio): (1-0, W, 59-0)
Howard (Kent State): (1-0, W, 38-31)

Missouri Valley (1): (0-1)
South Dakota (Bowling Green): (0-1, L, 27-35)

Northeast (1): (1-0)
Wagner (Western Michigan): (1-0, W, 49-14)

Ohio Valley (3): (3-0)
Austin Peay (Miami): (1-0, W, 31-10)
Eastern Illinois (NIU): (1-0), W, 38-10)
Tennessee Tech (Ball State): (1-0, W, 28-13)

Patriot League (1): (1-0)
Colgate (Buffalo): (1-0, W, 33-10)

Southwestern Athletic Conference (1): (1-0)
Arkansas Pine-Bluff (Akron): (1-0, W, 52-3)

MAC Students on 2017 Preseason Watch Lists

WALTER CAMP AWARD (Best College Football Player)
RB Jarvion Franklin (Western Michigan)

MAXWELL AWARD (Outstanding College Football Player)
RB James Gilbert (Ball State)
QB Logan Woodside (Toledo)

CHUCK BEDNARIK AWARD (Defensive Player of the Year)
DB Heath Harding (Miami)

BILETNIKOFF AWARD (Top Wide Receiver)
Sergio Bailey II (Eastern Michigan)
James Gardner (Miami)
Anthony Johnson (Buffalo)
Jon'Vea Johnson (Toledo)
Scott Miller (Bowling Green)
Cody Thompson (Toledo)
Corey Willis (Central Michigan)

BRONKO NAGURSKI AWARD (Defensive Player of the Year)
DB Shawun Lurry (NIU)
DB Heath Harding (Miami)
LB Ulysees Gilbert III (Akron)

LOU GROZA AWARD (Outstanding Kicker)
Louie Zervos (Ohio)

PAUL HORNUNG AWARD (Most Versatile Player)
DB Darius Phillips (Western Michigan)

MANNING AWARD (Best Quarterback)
Logan Woodside, Toledo
Brogan Roback, Eastern Michigan
Nathan Rourke, Ohio

JOHN MACKEY AWARD (Best Tight End)
Tyler Conklin (Central Michigan)
Donnie Ernsberger (Western Michigan)
Troy Mangen (Ohio)
Ryan Smith (Miami)
Shane Wimann (NIU)

DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD (Top Quarterback)
Logan Woodside (Toledo)

OUTLAND AWARD (Top Interior Lineman)
C John Keenoy (Western Michigan)
C Jake Pruehs (Ohio)
RG Jimmy Leatiota (Eastern Michigan)
RT Elijah Nkansah (Toledo)
LT Chukwuma Okorafor (Western Michigan)
OL Max Scharping (NIU)

RIMINGTON TROPHY (Most Outstanding Center)
LaVonne Gauthney (Akron)
Tim McAuliffe (Bowling Green)
James O'Hagan (Buffalo)
Austin Doan (Central Michigan)
Dakota Tallman (Eastern Michigan)
Nathan Puthoff (Kent State)
Danny Godlevske (Miami)
Luke Shively (NIU)
Jake Pruehs (Ohio)
John Keenoy (Western Michigan)

RAY GUY AWARD (Best College Punter)
Joseph Davidson, Bowling Green
Derek Adams (Kent State)

JIM THORPE AWARD (Best Defensive Back)
Shawun Lurry (NIU)
Amari Coleman (Central Michigan)
Heath Harding (Miami)

DOAK WALKER AWARD (Top Running Back)
Jarvion Franklin (Western Michigan)
Jamauri Bogan (Western Michigan)
James Gilert (Ball State)
Terry Swanson (Toledo)
Shaq Vann (Eastern Michigan)

WUERFFEL TROPHY (Best Community Service)
WR A.J. Coney (Akron)
DB Zach Guiser (Akron)
OL Vinnie Palazeti (Ball State)
DL Joe Ostman (Central Michigan)
DL Jeremiah Harris (Eastern Michigan)
LB Matt Bahr (Kent State)
WR James Gardner (Miami)
OL Max Scharping (NIU)
WR Cody Thompson (Toledo)
RB Jamauri Bogan (Western Michigan)