Mid-American Conference Football Weekly Release October 1, 2018

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MAC Standings

			Conference						Overall			
WEST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A
Northern Illinois	2	0	1.000	W2	1-0	1-0	2	3	.400	W1	1-1	1-2
Western Michigan	1	0	1.000	W1	0-0	1-0	3	2	.600	W3	1-1	2-1
Ball State	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0	2	3	.400	W1	2-1	0-2
Toledo	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	2	2	.500	L1	2-1	0-1
Central Michigan	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1	1	4	.200	L1	1-1	0-3
Eastern Michigan	0	2	.000	L2	0-1	0-1	2	3	.400	L3	1-1	1-2
EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A
Buffalo	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0	4	1	.800	L1	2-1	2-0
Miami	1	1	.500	L1	0-1	1-0	1	4	.200	L1	0-3	1-1
Akron	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	2	1	.667	L1	1-0	1-1
Ohio	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	2	2	.500	W1	2-0	0-2
Kent State	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1	1	4	.200	L3	1-0	0-4
Bowling Green	0	1	.000	L1	0-1	0-0	1	4	.200	L2	1-2	0-2

OHIO'S OFFENSE SETS SCHOOL RECORD IN 58-42 WIN OVER UMASS
The Ohio Bobcats set a new program record with 664 yards of total offense in a 58-42 win over UMass on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Peden Stadium. It marked the second consecutive year for Ohio to score 58 points against UMass (58-50 win at UMass on Sept. 30, 2017) as the Bobcats had 394 total rushing yards, which is the most since 393 yards in a 38-10 win on Nov. 8, 2017 vs. Toledo.

Ohio junior quarterback **Nathan Rourke** had a career-high 189 yards rushing and one touchdown, while throwing for 270 yards and three touchdowns on 27-of-32 passing in the victory. Rourke has 24 career touchdowns, which places him seventh all-time in program history. Senior running back **Maleek Irons** had a career-high 140 yards and two touchdowns, his third career multi-rushing touchdown game.

MAC WEEKLY NOTES
• Western Michigan defeated Miami, 40-39, as quarterback **Jon Wassink** threw for a career-high 439 yards and five touchdowns, while rushing for a sixth score, the game winner with 2:53 left in regulation. Wassink became the first Bronco since Zach Terrell in 2016 against Buffalo to throw for over 400 yards in a game.
• Western Michigan freshman receiver **Jayden Reed** set a single-game school record with four receiving touchdowns on seven receptions and a career-high 137 yards. Reed tied the school record set by Greg Jennings back in 2005 against Ball State. In addition, receiver **D'Wayne Eskridge** had seven receptions and 141 yards, marking the second time this season the Broncos have had two 100-yard receivers.
• NIU defeated Eastern Michigan 26-23 in (3OT), which marked the third consecutive year both teams have ended in overtime. NIU extended its winning streak over Eastern Michigan to 11 consecutive games dating back to the 2007 season. NIU running back **Tre Harbison** had 32 carries for 136 yards and the game-winning touchdown in the third overtime period.
• Miami opened its game against Western Michigan with a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by **Maurice Thomas**. It marked the first kickoff return for a score in 21 years, since DeMarrio Jones took a kickoff 88 yards for a score against Kent State in 1997. It also was the first kickoff return to open a game for Miami since 1986 when Chris Thomas took the opening kickoff 96 yards for a touchdown against Ball State.
• Ball State quarterback **Riley Neal** threw for 402 yards and four touchdowns on 30-of-50 passing in leading the Cardinals to a 52-24 win over Kent State. Neal became the seventh quarterback in school history to throw for over 400 yards in a single game. He accounted for five touchdowns with four passing and another rushing with a 31-yard score. His favorite target was his former high school teammate, **Riley Miller**, who had 11 receptions for 208 yards. Miller became the first Cardinal receiver to top 200 yards receiving in a single game since Willie Snead in 2012, also against Kent State.

MAC Storylines

• The Week 6 schedule witnesses the MAC move into league play with six games on Saturday, Oct. 6. Two of the six games are crossovers with Buffalo at Central Michigan at Noon ET (CBS Sports Network) and Bowling Green at Toledo at 3:30 pm ET (ESPN+) in the Battle of the I-75 Trophy. In each of the last eight consecutive years (2010-2017), the MAC West Division has bested the East Division in regular season head-to-head crossover games. This season the West Division leads the East Division, 2-1.

• Ohio head coach Frank Solich earned his 99th career victory in leading the Bobcats program after a 58-42 win over UMass. Solich aims for his 100th career victory this Saturday, Oct. 6 at Kent State at 3:30 pm ET on ESPN+.

• Buffalo had the fifth-largest crowd in UB Stadium history with 23,671 in attendance as the Bulls suffered a 42-13 loss to Army to fall to 4-1 overall on the season.

• Last week MAC program's went 1-4 in five non-conference contests. The MAC had its three week streak of a win over a Big Ten opponent snapped during Central Michigan's 31-20 loss at No. 21 Michigan State. Previously the MAC had defeated three Big Ten opponents in consecutive weeks (Purdue, Northwestern, Rutgers).

This Week's MAC Schedule
Saturday, October 6
*Buffalo at Central Michigan, Noon ET (CBS Sports Network)
*Eastern Michigan at Western Michigan, Noon ET (ESPN+)
*NIU at Ball State, 3:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
*Bowling Green at Toledo, 3:30 pm ET (ESPN+)
*Miami at Akron, 3:30 pm ET (ESPN+)
*Ohio at Kent State, 3:30 pm ET(ESPN+)

Saturday, October 13
*Akron at Buffalo, Noon ET (CBS Sports Network)
*Toledo at Eastern Michigan, Noon ET (ESPN+)
*Kent State at Miami, 2:30 pm ET (ESPN+)
*Ball State at Central Michigan, 3:00 pm ET (ESPN3)
*Western Michigan at Bowling Green, 3:00 pm ET (ESPN+)
*Ohio at NIU, 3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT (ESPN+)

Last Week's MAC Games
Army 42, Buffalo 13
Georgia Tech 63, Bowling Green 17
No. 21 Michigan State 31, Central Michigan 20
Ohio 58, UMass 42
*Ball State 52, Kent State 24
*Western Michigan 40, Miami 39
*NIU 26, Eastern Michigan 23 (3OT)
Fresno State 49, Toledo 27
Bye: Akron

*Mid-American Conference contest

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SINCE 2005 EVERYTHING BUT THE PRE-GAME MEAL

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MAC PROGRAMS WITH SUSTAINED FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Three MAC programs – NIU, Ohio and Toledo -- have sustained success over a 10 and 15-year period and currently rank among the FBS leaders in the MAC and college football, while a fourth program, Western Michigan, joins these MAC programs among the FBS leaders in college football and the MAC over the recent five-year period.

All four programs have been no stranger to college football's postseason bowl system. NIU has received a bowl invitation in nine of the last ten seasons, while Ohio has been bowl eligible for each of the last nine consecutive years, with eight bowl invitations. Toledo has been bowl eligible for the last eight consecutive years, with seven bowl invitations. Western Michigan has been bowl eligible in each of the last four staight years, with three bowl invitations.

Most Wins in FBS – 15 years (2004-18)

FBS Rank	MAC Program	No. Wins
t-24th	NIU	118 wins

note: Toledo (110 wins) and Ohio (103 wins) during this time frame.

Most Wins in FBS – 10 years (2009-18)

FBS Rank	MAC Program	No. Wins
t-14th	NIU	87 wins
t-23rd	Toledo	79 wins

Note: Ohio (76 wins) during this time frame.

Most Wins in FBS – 5 years (2014-18)

FBS Rank	MAC Program	No. Wins
t-12th	Toledo	41 wins
t-24th	Western Michigan	38 wins

Note: NIU (34) and Ohio (33 wins) during this time frame.

TWO MAC RECEIVERS LEAD NATION IN RECEPTION STREAK

The MAC is home to two of college football's leading wide receivers with the longest current reception streak in the nation. Toledo senior wide receiver **Cody Thompson** (34 games) is tied for second in the country, while Bowling Green's **Scott Miller** (29 games) is tied for 11th in the country.

Thompson currently ranks fourth in Toledo history in career receiving yards with 2,837 career receiving yards. This season Thompson has collected 10 receptions for 172 yards (17.2 avg.) and four touchdowns.

Miller had 117 yards last week at Georgia Tech and became the 17th program in Falcon history to eclipse 2,000 career receiving yards. Miller has 2,078 career receiving yards and has posted eight games with 100 or more yards receiving in a single-game. This season Miller has played in four games with 31 receptions for 359 yards (11.6 avg.) and three touchdowns.

MAC SECURES $1 MILLION GRANT FOR CLEVELAND SCHOOLS

The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) proudly announced 179 semifinalists for the 2018 William V. Campbell Trophy®. The award recognizes an individual as the best football scholar-athlete in the nation.

Representing the MAC are seven student athletes: senior offensive lineman **Alex Joss** (Ball State); senior defensive lineman **Mitch Stanitzek** (Central Michigan); senior defensive lineman **Jeremiah Harris** (Eastern Michigan); senior linebacker **Matt Bahr** (Kent State); senior offensive tackle **Max Scharping** (Northen Illinois); senior wide receiver **Cody Thompson** (Toledo); and senior center **John Keenoy** (Western Michigan).

The NFF will announce 12-14 finalists on Oct. 31, and each of them will receive an $18,000 postgraduate scholarship as a member of the 60th NFF National Scholar-Athlete Class. The finalists will travel to New York City for the 61st NFF Annual Awards Dinner on Dec. 4, where their accomplishments will be highlighted in front of one of the most powerful audiences in all of sports. Live during the event, one member of the class will be declared as the winner of the 29th William V. Campbell Trophy® and have his postgraduate scholarship increased to $25,000.

Nominated by their schools, which are limited to one nominee each, candidates for the awards must be a senior or graduate student in their final year of playing eligibility, have a GPA of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, have outstanding football ability as a first team player or significant contributor and have demonstrated strong leadership and citizenship. The class is selected each year by the NFF Awards Committee, which is comprised of a nationally recognized group of media, College Football Hall of Famers and athletics administrators.

MAC Players of the Week

East Division

**Nathan Rourke, Offensive Player of the Week
Ohio, Junior, Quarterback**

Ohio junior quarterback Nathan Rourke (Oakville, Ontario, Canada) got the job done with both his arms and his legs in a 58-42 victory over UMass on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Peden Stadium, rushing for a career-high 189 yards and a touchdown on 16 attempts. He also passed for 270 yards and three touchdowns, going 27-of-32 through the air with one interception.

**Khalil Hodge, Defensive Player of the Week;
Buffalo, Senior, Linebacker**

Buffalo senior linebacker Khalil Hodge (Stockton, Calif.) tied a career-high 20 tackles in a 42-13 loss to Army. He had three solo stops and assisted on 17 others.

Maurice Thomas, Special Teams Player of Week; Miami, Junior, Kickoff Returner

Miami junior kickoff returner Maurice Thomas (Oxford, Ohio) broke two school records on Saturday in a 40-39 loss to Western Michigan. Thomas opened the game with a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, the longest kick return in Yager Stadium history. He had seven returns for 237 yards, an average of 33.9 per return. The 237 return yards in a single game are the most-ever by a RedHawk.

West Division

**Jayden Reed, Offensive Player of the Week
Western Michigan, Freshman, Wide Receiver**

Western Michigan freshman wide receiver Jayden Reed (Aurora, Ill.) had four touchdowns, seven catches and 137 yards receiving in a 40-39 win at Miami on Saturday. Reed's four touchdown receptions tied the school record set by Greg Jennings in 2005. Reed becomes just the second freshman ever in the history of the MAC to catch four touchdowns in a game, joining former Miami player Sam Martin. It was the third time 100-plus yard receiving game.

Antonio Jones-Davis, Defensive Player of the Week; Northern Illinois, Junior, Linebacker

Northern Illinois junior linebacker Antonio Jones-Davis (Vero Beach, Fla.) led a tremendous defensive effort in a 26-23 (3OT) win at Eastern Michigan. Jones-Davis led the team with 13 tackles, two quarterback sacks, a career-high 3.5 tackles for loss at critical moments, broke up two passes and recovered a fumble.

Jake Julien, Special Teams Player of Week; Eastern Michigan, Sophomore, Punter

Eastern Michigan sophomore punter Jake Julien (Barrie, Ontario, Canada) was called upon nine times for an average of 43.8 yards per kick in a 26-23 (3OT) loss vs. Northern Illinois on Sept. 29. The 394 yards via punt ranks 17th most in program history. Additionally, he boomed a long of 55 yards and pinned once pinned the Huskies inside the 20-yard line.

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

Rushing Touchdowns:
t-14th **Kevin Marks- Buffalo**: 6 TDs, 299 yds., 64 attempts

Rushing Yards:
25th **LeVante Bellamy-Western Michigan**: 455 yds., 62 attempts, 3 TDs

Total Passing Yards:
11th **Jon Wassink-Western Michigan**: 1,423 yds., 105-167 passing, 13 TDs
26th **Riley Neal-Ball State**: 1,241 yds., 115-199 passing, 8 TDs
32nd **Tyree Jackson-Buffalo**: 1,204 yds., 88-150 passing, 16 TDs

Passing Touchdowns:
5th **Tyree Jackson-Buffalo**: 16 TDs, 1,204 yds., 88-150 passing
t-11th **Jon Wassink-Western Michigan**: 13 TDs, 1,423 yds., 105-167 passing
t-14th **Jarret Doege-Bowling Green**: 12 TDs, 1,196 yds., 124-193 passing
t-28th **Mitchell Guadagni-Toledo**: 10 TDs, 757 yds., 45-71 passing

Passing Efficiency:
4th **Mitchell Guadagni-Toledo**: 196.6 rating; 45-71 pass, 757 yds, 10 TDs
25th **Tyree Jackson-Buffalo**: 157.3 rating; 88-150 pass, 1,204 yds, 16 TDs
27th **Jon Wassink-WMU**: 156.5 rating; 105-167 pass, 1,423 yds, 13 TDs

Total Receiving Yards
20th **Riley Miller-Ball State**: 439 yds., 30 rec., 1 TD
32nd **K.J. Osborn-Buffalo**: 410 yds., 23 rec., 6 TDs
37th **D'Wayne Eskridge-Western Michigan**: 401 yds., 17 rec., 2 TDs
40th **Jayden Reed-Western Michigan**: 397 yds., 26 rec., 6 TDs
43rd **Papi White-Ohio**: 392 yds., 22 rec., 4 TDs
47th **Blake Banham-Eastern Michigan**: 387 yds., 26 rec., 2 TDs

Receiving Touchdowns
t-5th **K.J. Osborn-Buffalo**: 6 TDs
t-5th **Jayden Reed-Western Michigan**: 6 TDs
t-28th **Diontae Johnson-Toledo**: 4 TDs
t-28th **Cody Thompson-Toledo**: 4 TDs
t-28th **Jon'Vea Johnson-Toledo**: 4 TDs
t-28th **Quintin Morris-Bowling Green**: 4 TDs

Receiving Yards Per Game:
17th **Papi White-Ohio**: 22 rec., 392 yds., 4 TDs, (98.0 avg.)
26th **Scott Miller-Bowling Green**: 31 rec., 359 yds., 3 TDs, (89.8 avg.)
30th **Riley Miller-Ball State**: 30 rec, 439 yds, 1 TD, (87.8 avg.)

Receptions Per Game:
7th **Scott Miller-Bowling Green**: 31 rec., 359 yds., 3 TD, (7.8 cpg)
t-31st **Riley Miller-Ball State**: 30 rec., 439 yds., 1 TD, (6.0 cpg)

Scoring:
10th **Louie Zervos-Ohio**: 43 points, (10.8 ppg)
t-28th **Jameson Vest-Toledo**: 36 points, (9.0 ppg)

Points Responsible For:
t-7th **Tyree Jackson-Buffalo**: 96 points
t-12th **Jon Wassink-Western Michigan**: 90 points
t-15th **Jarret Doege-Bowling Green**: 86 points
t-27th **Mitch Guadagni-Toledo**: 72 points

Total Tackles:
3rd **Khalil Hodge-Buffalo**: 67 tackles, 13.4 tackles per game
8th **Malik Fountain-Central Michigan**: 62 tackles, 12.4 tackles per game
t-22nd **Matt Bahr - Kent State**: 53 tackles, 10.6 tackles per game
25th **Antonio Jones-Davis - NIU**: 50 tackles, 10.0 tackles per game

Interceptions:
t-2nd **Alvin Davis-Akron**: 3 interceptions
t-16th **Cameron Lewis-Buffalo**: 2 interceptions
t-16th **Jamal Parker-Kent State**: 2 interceptions

Passes Defended:
14th **Brian Bell-Akron**: 5 passes defensed, 1.7 per game
t-32nd **Alvin Davis-Akron**: 4 passes defensed, 1.3 per game

Sacks:
t-5th **Chuck Harris-Buffalo**: 6.0 sacks, 1.20 per game
t-16th **Sutton Smith-NIU**: 5.0 sacks, 1.0 per game
t-27th **Maxx Crosby-Eastern Michigan**: 3.5 sacks, 0.88 per game

OFFENSE
• Ball State **QB Riley Neal** had a career-high 402 yards passing and tied a career-high four touchdown passes in a 52-24 win over Kent State. It marked the seventh time in Ball State history a player has passed for at least 400 yards. He also led the team in rushing with 61 yards, which included a 31-yard touchdown run.

• Kent State **QB Woody Barrett** threw for 314 yards and one touchdown in a 52-24 loss at Ball State. His 314 yards passing and 30 completions were the most by a Kent State quarterback since 2014.

• Bowling Green **QB Jarret Doege** completed 27-44 passing for a career-high 305 yards and two touchdowns in a 63-17 loss at Georgia Tech. Doege has accounted for multiple touchdowns in nine-consecutive games.

• Northern Illinois **RB Tre Harbison** scored the game-winning touchdown on a one-yard run in the third overtime in a 26-23 win at Eastern Michigan. He rushed for a career-high 136 yards on 32 carries. Harbison averaged 4.2 yards per carry in the game, and added a two-yard catch.

• Toledo **WR Jon'Vea Johnson** caught six passes for 112 yards and two touchdowns in a 49-27 loss at Fresno State.

DEFENSE
• Eastern Michigan **LB Kyle Rachwal** had a career-high 16 tackles, two tackles-for-loss, and an interception in a 26-23 (3OT) loss to NIU. He was part of a defensive effort that allowed only 70 total offensive yards in the second half.

• Central Michigan **LB Malik Fountain** led with 15 tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss in a 31-20 loss at Michigan State.

• Kent State **LB Matt Bahr** had a season-high 14 tackles, one sack and 1.5 tackles for loss in a 52-24 loss at Ball State.

• Toledo **S Khalil Robinson** had a career-high 11 tackles and one pass defensed in a 49-27 loss at Fresno State.

• Ball State **LB Jaylin Thomas** totaled six tackles, two sacks and one interception in a 52-24 win over Kent State. Thomas was part of defense that came up with two fourth down stops in the second half.

• Ohio **DB Javon Hagan** made his fifth career interception in the fourth quarter to help seal Ohio's 58-42 victory over UMass. Hagan also finished with five total tackles in the victory.

SPECIAL TEAMS
• Ohio **K Louie Zervos** went 3-for-3 on field goals in a 58-42 victory over UMass. Zervos had a long of 36 yards and also went 6-for-6 on extra point attempts.

• Toledo **KR Jameson Vest** kicked two field goals of 46 and 43 yards in a 49-27 loss at Fresno State. The two field goals increased his total to 61 career field goals and moved him into third place on Toledo's career field goal list.

• Central Michigan **K Ryan Tice** was perfect in a 31-20 loss at Michigan State, going 2-for-2 on field goals and 2-for-2 on extra points. Tice had a pair of 40-yard field goals.

• Northern Illinois **PR Cole Tucker** had a career high five returns for 44 yards to average 8.8 yards per return in a 26-23 (3OT) win at Eastern Michigan. Tucker's 27-yard punt return on his first return in the first quarter was NIU's longest since 2015. His return set up the Huskies' first score of the game – a 43-yard field goal.

• Buffalo **P Evan Finegan** averaged 51 yards on four punts in a 42-13 loss to Army. Finegan recorded two punts over 60 yards, including a 63-yarder to tie his career high. Two of his four punts were downed inside the 20-yard line.

MAC BOWL NOTES AND 2017 SEASON

• Toledo won the 2017 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game with a 45-28 win over Akron on Dec. 2, 2017. The win was Toledo's first championship since 2004 and the 11th football title in program history. The Rockets have been a model of consistency in winning as Toledo has won at least nine games in six of the last seven years, and the 2017 record of 11-3 is the ninth time in Toledo history to win at least 10 games in a season.

• Five MAC programs received bowl invitations in the 2017 bowl season -- Toledo (11-3), Akron (7-7), Ohio (9-4), Central Michigan (8-5) and Northern Illinois (8-5). The MAC record for bowl invitations in a single-season is seven in both the 2012 and 2015 bowl seasons.

• Toledo (Dollar General Bowl), Akron (Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl), Ohio (Bahamas Bowl), Central Michigan (Famous Idaho Potato Bowl) and Northern Illinois (Quick Lane Bowl) represented the MAC in the 2017 bowl season.

• This marked the 10th time in MAC history to have five or more programs receive a bowl invitation (2004, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017) in a single-season.

• In the previous seven bowl seasons, the MAC has a record of 12-28 in 40 bowl games – 2017 (1-4); 2016 (0-6); 2015 (3-4); 2014 (2-3); 2013 (0-5); 2012 (2-5); 2011 (4-1) as all 12 MAC programs have appeared in a bowl game during this span (2011-17).

• Akron (7-7, 6-2) won the MAC East Division for the first time since 2005. Akron secured its third MAC East Division title as the Zips were bowl eligible for the second time in the last three years, also a school record.

• Over the last three seasons, the MAC has witnessed six different programs participate in the Marathon MAC Football Championship Game. In 2015 Bowling Green defeated NIU, 34-14, while 2016 witnessed Western Michigan with a 29-23 win over Ohio and Toledo defeated Akron, 45-28 in the 2017 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game.

• In 2017 the MAC had 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).

MAC 2017 BOWL RESULTS

• Cheribundi Tart Bowl Boca Raton Bowl (Boca Raton, Fla.) Florida Atlantic 50, Akron 3
• Famous Idaho Potato Bowl (Boise, Ida.) Wyoming 37, Central Michigan 14
• Bahamas Bowl (Nassau) Ohio 41, UAB 6
• Dollar General Bowl (Mobile, Ala.) Appalachian State 34, Toledo 0
• Quick Lane Bowl (Detroit, Mich.) Duke 36, Northern Illinois 14

MAC NON-CONFERENCE WINS

Entering Week Six, the MAC has seven FBS wins with wins over Purdue, Northwestern and Rutgers from the Big Ten Conference; Temple (American Athletic Conference); Nevada (Mountain West), Georgia State (Sun Belt Conference) and independent UMass.

The MAC concluded its non-conference regular season schedule last season with 11 FBS wins. The MAC record is 16 FBS wins in 2012, while the Conference posted 14 FBS wins in both the 2016 and 2008 seasons.

In 2017, the MAC also has four 'Autonomous Conference' wins over Nebraska and Rutgers (Big Ten) and Kansas twice (Big 12). Among peer Conferences during the 2017 regular season, the MAC posted a 1-1 record against the American Athletic, Mountain West and Sun Belt Conferences, along with a record 3-4 vs. Conference USA.

MAC WITH ONE NEW HEAD COACH FOR 2018

Kent State named Sean Lewis as head coach on Dec. 21, 2017 to replace Paul Haynes, who was Kent State's head coach for five seasons (2013-17).

Kent State: Sean Lewis: Kent State named Sean Lewis to lead the Golden Flashes on Dec. 21, 2017. Lewis became the 22nd head football coach at Kent State after serving as the co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Syracuse. His background stretches from his four-year playing career at Wisconsin under Barry Alvarez, to winning the 2015 Marathon MAC Championship as the co-offensive coordinator at Bowling Green.

Lewis' ascension has led him to become the youngest Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) head coach in the nation at the age of 31. That distinction was previously held by Oklahoma's Lincoln Riley at age 34. Lewis has spent his last six seasons alongside head coach Dino Babers at Syracuse (2016-17), Bowling Green (2014-15) and Eastern Illinois (2012-13).

Lewis' coaching career began as the offensive coordinator for his alma mater Richards High School in Illinois. He transitioned to the college level in 2010 as tight ends coach at Division II University of Nebraska Omaha. He made his first MAC stop in 2011 as a graduate assistant for the University of Akron. Lewis earned a bachelor's degree from Wisconsin in agricultural sciences in 2007.

MAC PROGRAMS IN BOWL GAMES

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

2011-17 MAC Programs and Years Invited to Bowl Games

Program	Years
Northern Illinois (6):	2011; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2017
Ohio (6):	2011; 2012; 2013; 2015; 2016; 2017
Toledo (6):	2011; 2012; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017
Central Michigan (5):	2012; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017
Bowling Green (4):	2012; 2013; 2014; 2015
Western Michigan (4):	2011; 2014; 2015; 2016
Akron (2):	2015; 2017
Ball State (2):	2012; 2013
Buffalo (1):	2013
Kent State (1):	2012
Eastern Michigan (1):	2016
Miami (1):	2016
former: Temple (1):	2011

Year; MAC Programs Invited to Bowl Games

2011: Northern Illinois; Ohio; Toledo; Western Michigan; Temple
2012: Northern Illinois; Kent State; Ohio; Bowling Green; Ball State; Central Michigan; Toledo
2013: Northern Illinois; Bowling Green; Ball State; Ohio; Buffalo
2014: Northern Illinois; Bowling Green; Toledo; Central Michigan; Western Michigan
2015: Bowling Green; Northern Illinois; Toledo; Western Michigan; Central Michigan; Ohio; Akron
2016: Western Michigan, Ohio, Toledo, Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Miami
2017: Toledo, Akron, Ohio, Central Michigan; Northern Illinois.

MAC COLLABORATIVE REPLAY SYSTEM

The 2018 football season is the first time the MAC is using a conference-wide collaborative replay system. In conjunction with the Big Ten, all MAC stadiums will have two (2) monitors on the sideline to assist with replay of game action during reviews, similar to the NFL. The MAC experimented with sideline monitors the past two seasons during select games at the University of Akron and Central Michigan University. The monitor allows the referee to view video while in conversation with the replay official. The decision is still made by the replay official in the booth. The Big Ten and MAC are the only FBS conferences utilizing this program.

MAC MEDIA/TV TIMEOUT CLOCK

This marks the second season for the MAC with a Media/TV Timeout clock. The MAC is the first FBS Conference to mandate this league-wide with a Media/TV Timeout clock visible in each stadium to assist with pace of play. The Media/TV Timeout Clock enhances the in-game experience for fans while also providing the institutions a true stoppage time -- from beginning of the television commercial break to returning to play. Following the success of this pilot program, other FBS conferences have followed suit in 2018, including the Big Ten. The 2017 season saw the MAC's average game time reduced to 3:20, shaving nearly five minutes from the previous season

MAC WIDE RECEIVERS CONTINUE TO SHINE

The depth of the MAC at the wide receiver position continues to blossom with plenty of playmakers at this skill position. In 2017, Toledo's **Diontae Johnson**; Buffalo's **Anthony Johnson** and Miami's **James Gardner** all had breakout seasons.

Buffalo's Anthony Johnson was the top target by both Tyree Jackson and Drew Anderson last season for the Bulls. Buffalo finished with a 6-6 overall record, 4-4 in the MAC, and Johnson opened plenty of eyes within the MAC and the entire country. Johnson led the MAC with 1,356 yards receiving (17.8 avg.) and 14 touchdowns, while his 76 catches ranked second in the league. Johnson collected four touchdown receptions in a win at Ball State on Nov. 16, 2017, which tied for third most in MAC single-game history. Johnson's 14 touchdowns ranks tied for 11th best in MAC single-season history and his 1,356 yards receiving is 19th most in MAC single-season history.

Toledo's Diontae Johnson as a sophomore last season became Logan Woodside's top target after the season ending injury to Cody Thompson. Johnson led the Rockets with 74 receptions for 1,278 yards (17.3 avg.) and 13 touchdowns. Johnson ranked second in the MAC with his 1,278 yards and 13 touchdowns, while his 74 catches ranked third in the league. Johnson's 13 touchdowns is tied for 17th most in a single-season in MAC history, while his 1,278 yards receiving ranks tied for 22nd most in MAC history.

Miami's James Gardner led the RedHawks last season with his 47 receptions for 927 yards (19.7 avg.) and 11 touchdowns. Gardner had perhaps his finest game of the year on the road at No. 22 ranked Notre Dame on Sept. 30, 2017 with five catches for 115 yards and two touchdowns. Gardner's 11 receiving touchdowns ranked third in the MAC and are tied for 29th most in single-season in MAC history.

MAC Among Sack & TFL Leaders In The Nation Last Season

In 2017, the MAC witnessed four different defensive players rank among the leaders in college football in sacks and tackles for loss – NIU's Sutton Smith, Ball State's Anthony Winbush, Central Michigan's Joe Ostman and Eastern Michigan's Maxx Crosby. Winbush and Ostman are currently in NFL camps, while Smith and Crosby enter the 2018 campaign as redshirt juniors.

The MAC had four of the top six defensive players in total sacks last season as Smith's 16 led the nation, while Ostman's 14 sacks ranked second, Winbush's 11.5 ranked fourth and Crosby's 11 sacks ranked tied for sixth most in the country. All four also ranked among the nation's best in tackles for loss as Smith's 29.5 tackles for loss led the nation, Ostman's 20.5 tackles for loss ranked seventh, while Winbush and Crosby each had 16.5 tackles for loss.

Smith led the nation and the MAC with 16 sacks and 29.5 tackles for loss on his way to consensus All-American status last season. Smith's 16 sacks tied for second most in a single-season in MAC history.

2017 MAC ALL-AMERICANS

The MAC was represented in 2017 with All-American honors.

The Associated Press:
• Second-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
USA Today:
• First-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
Sports Illustrated:
• Second-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
CBS Sports:
• Second-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
Walter Camp Football Foundation:
• First-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
• Second-Team All-American: Western Michigan OT Chukwuma Okorafor
The Sporting News:
• Second-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
Football Writers Association of America (FWAA):
• First-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith
• First-Team All-American: Western Michigan OT Chukwuma Okorafor
American Football Coaches Association (AFCA):
• Second-Team All-American: Northern Illinois DE Sutton Smith

NIU'S SUTTON SMITH CONSENSUS ALL-AMERICAN

Northern Illinois defensive end **Sutton Smith** was a 2017 Consensus All-American, as determined by the NCAA. Smith became the ninth MAC player earn Consensus All-American status.

To be selected as a Consensus All-American, a player must be named to the first team of at least two of the five selected All-America teams, announced over the last week by the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA), Associated Press, Football Writers Association of America (FWAA), The Sporting News and Walter Camp Foundation. Second team selections are used to break ties. Players who earned the honor were listed on the most first team All-America teams, competing against players at that position only.

Smith is actually one of five defensive linemen on the 2017 Consensus All-America team as he and Maurice Hurst of Michigan tied for the final spot. The St. Charles, Mo. native was named a first team All- American by Walter Camp and the FWAA, and was a second team selection on the AP, AFCA and Sporting News teams.

Smith is the fourth NIU player – joining Jordan Lynch, Jimmie Ward and Shuwan Lurry – to garner first team All-America recognition in the last five seasons, surpassing the total number of Huskie All-Americans in the school's FBS history.

Smith is the most decorated defensive player in NIU football history and in addition to the five All-America teams mentioned above, was selected to six more All-America teams by media organizations.

Smith was the 2017 MAC Defensive Player of the Year was also a finalist for the Ted Hendricks Award as the nation's best defensive end. He finished the season and led the MAC with 29.5 tackles for loss and 16 sacks. He was 2.5 tackles for loss shy of the NCAA single season record of 32, set by Western Michigan's Jason Babin in 2003.

MAC Consensus All-Americans

1971 Mel Long, Toledo, DT
1995 Brad Maynard, Ball State, P
1996 Brad Maynard, Ball State, P
1997 Randy Moss, Marshall, WR
2000 Dwight Smith, Akron, DB
2010 Eric Page, Toledo, KR/AP
2012 Dri Archer, Kent State, KR/AP
2016 Corey Davis, Western Michigan, WR
2017 Sutton Smith, Northern Illinois, DE

OHIO'S SOLICH THIRD ON MAC CAREER WINS LIST

Ohio head coach Frank Solich and his Bobcats finished 2017 with a 9-4 overall record and a second-place finish in the East Division. Ohio improved to 2-2 this year with a 58-42 win over UMass. Solich continues to rise up the MAC career head coaching win list with 99 wins, which ranks third most in MAC history.

Solich has been the model for consistency in coaching in the MAC. Solich arrived in Athens, Ohio in 2005 and now is in his 14th season running the Bobcats program. Solich and the Ohio Bobcats have garnered a bowl appearance in eight of the last nine seasons and nine of his 13 seasons at Ohio. Solich has a 99-73 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. **99, Frank Solich, Ohio, 2005-present**

MAC VS BIG TEN OPPONENTS

Buffalo's 42-13 win at Rutgers on Sept. 22, Akron's 39-34 win at Northwestern on Sept. 15 and Eastern Michigan's 20-19 win at Purdue on Sept. 8, 2018, the MAC extended its streak of a regular season win vs. Big Ten opponents in each of the last 13 consecutive seasons (2006-2018), the longest streak in MAC history.

During this 13-year stretch, **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 (3); Penn State (1), Purdue (6) and Rutgers (2) for a total of 29 wins during this span of time.

In 2017, the MAC had two wins vs. Big Ten opponents -- NIU's 21-17 win at Nebraska on Sept. 16, 2017 and Eastern Michigan's 16-13 win at Rutgers on Sept. 9, 2017.

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: NIU beat Nebraska; Eastern Michigan beat Rutgers
2018: EMU beat Purdue; Akron beat Northwestern; Buffalo beat Rutgers

TOLEDO WINS 2017 MARATHON MAC CHAMPIONSHIP

Toledo capped an historic season with a resounding 45-28 victory over Akron at Ford Field in Detroit on Dec. 2, 2017 to claim their 11th MAC Championship and first since 2004. In the 100th anniversary season of their founding as a football program, and the two-year anniversary of the hiring of Jason Candle as head coach, the Rockets dominated the game from start to finish, scoring three times in the second quarter to take a 28-0 lead into the locker room at halftime. Toledo outgained the Zips, 561-396, holding them to just 98 yards of total offense in the first half. The 561 yards of total offense are the third-most in a MAC Championship Game.

Toledo quarterback Logan Woodside, who threw for 307 yards and four touchdowns, was named the Offensive Player of the Game. Receiver Diontae Johnson led the receiving corps with nine receptions for 118 yards and two scores, followed by Jon'Vea Johnson (six receptions, 103 yards, and a touchdown).

Running back Terry Swanson piled up 180 yards and two TDs. On the other side of the ball, defensive end Zach Quinn led the Rockets with 10 tackles, defensive end Olasunkanmi Adeniyi added three tackles for loss and a forced fumble, and cornerback Trevon Mathis came up with an interception and a key pass breakup.

FBS HEAD COACHES LEADING THEIR ALMA MATER

The MAC has three of the 22 FBS head coaches that are leading their alma mater's football programs this 2018 season.

Western Michigan second-year head coach Tim Lester posted a 6-6 overall record during his first season in Kalamazoo. Lester joined Western Michigan 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 fourth-year head coach John Bonamego was named the program's 28th head coach on Feb. 9, 2015. Bonamego led the Chippewas to an 8-5 overall record last season, and has compiled a 21-18 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.

Ball State third-year head coach Mike Neu led the Cardinals to a 2-10 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. Neu served two seasons as the quarterback coach for the New Orleans Saints (2014-15).

FBS Head Coaches Leading Their Alma Mater

Troy Calhoun, Air Force; Bryan Harsin, Boise State; **Mike Neu, Ball State; John Bonamego, Central Michigan; 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; Scott Frost, Nebraska; Mate Luke, Ole Miss; Jonathan Smith, Oregon State; Paul Chryst, Wisconsin; Bary Odom, Missouri; Mark Richt, Miami; Nick Rolovich, Hawaii; Scott Satterfield, App State; Kalani Sitake, BYU; Kirby Smart, Georgia; Jeff Tedford, Fresno State.

OHIO'S ZERVOS ONE OF MAC'S MOST ACCURATE

Ohio junior placekicker Louie Zervos has been a key figure in the success of the Ohio Bobcats during the last three seasons. This year Zervos has already made 8-of-9 attempts. Zervos in two seasons had converted 44-of-53 field goal attempts for an 83.0% percentage which ranks second best in MAC history. In 2017, Zervos converted 15-of-18 field goal attempts and totaled 106 total points. He already holds the MAC record with 29 field goals made set during his freshman year in 2016 when he connected on 29-of-35 field goal attempts for 122 total points.

MAC 2018 BOWL PARTNERS

2018 Bowl Season:
• Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl/PlayStation Fiesta Bowl (College Football Playoff Host Bowls)
• Dollar General Bowl (Mobile, Ala.; vs. Sun Belt)
• Famous Idaho Potato Bowl (Boise, Ida.; vs. Mountain West)
• Raycom Media Camellia Bowl (Montgomery, Ala.; vs. Sun Belt)
• Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl (Nassau, Bahamas; vs. Conference USA)
• Frisco Bowl (Frisco, Texas; vs. American Athletic Conference)
• Secondary to Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl (Boca Raton, Fla.)
• Secondary to Quick Lane Bowl (Detroit, Mich.)
• Secondary to ESPN owned and operated bowl games

2019 Bowl Season:
• College Football Playoff Host Bowls
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• Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl (vs. Conference USA)
• Secondary to Quick Lane Bowl (Detroit, Mich.)
• Secondary to ESPN owned and operated bowl games

MAC 2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

The 2018 football schedule will feature 16 nationally televised games during late October and November on ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN+, ESPN3 and CBS Sports Network as the conference race unfolds in both the East and West divisions.

The regular season will conclude with the 22nd Marathon MAC Football Championship game on Friday, Nov. 30 at 7:00 pm ET (ESPN2) in Detroit. This will mark the 15th Marathon MAC Football Championship game at Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions, Super Bowl XL, and 2009 NCAA Men's Final Four.

For the 11th 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, Notre Dame and BYU. In addition, the Conference will also face opponents from the American Athletic Conference, Conference USA, Mountain West Conference, Sun Belt Conference and Independents Army and UMass.

MAC programs will face five non-conference foes that finished in the final AP Top 25 poll: Penn State (9), Notre Dame (11), Miami-Fla. (13), Michigan State (15) and Northwestern (17).

A total of 12 non-conference games will feature a Big Ten opponent (Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Maryland; Michigan; Michigan State; Minnesota; Nebraska; Northwestern; Penn State; Purdue; Rutgers). The MAC will face foes from the ACC (5—Florida State, Georgia Tech, Miami (Fla.), Syracuse, Virginia), SEC (2—Kentucky, Ole Miss), Pac-12 (2-Oregon, Utah), Big 12 (2—Iowa State; Kansas); and Independent Notre Dame, BYU, Army (3 games) and UMass.

The MAC will also face opponents from the American Athletic Conference (3— Cincinnati (2), Temple), Mountain West (3—Fresno State, Nevada, San Diego State), Conference USA (2—Marshall, Western Kentucky) and Sun Belt Conference (1—Georgia State). The MAC will host 10 games against FBS non-conference opponents.

MAC WITH SIX STUDENTS PICKED IN 2017 NFL DRAFT

The MAC had six draft selections in the 2018 NFL Draft. Western Michigan OT Chukwuma Okorafor was the highest player selected as the Pittsburgh Steelers made him a third-round selection, 92nd overall. Also from the Broncos, DB Sam Beal was selected by the New York Giants during the July NFL Supplemental Draft.

In recent years the MAC had students selected among the top five overall in the NFL Draft. In the last six years (2013-18), the MAC has had three players selected in the top five in the NFL Drafts.

In the 2017 NFL Draft, Western Michigan wide receiver Corey Davis was selected as the fifth overall selection in the first round by the Tennessee Titans. Davis' selection was the highest ever for Western Michigan and tied the second-highest in MAC history.

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 2018 NFL Draft

3rd (92) OL Chukwuma Okorafor (Western Mich.) by Pittsburgh
5th (157) TE Tyler Conklin (Central Michigan) by Minnesota
5th (170) DB/KR Darius Phillips (Western Mich.) by Cincinnati
7th (227) LB Quentin Poling (Ohio) by Miami
7th (249) QB Logan Woodside (Toledo) by Cincinnati

MAC Students Selected In 2018 NFL Supplemental Draft

3rd DB Sam Beal (Western Michigan) by the New York Giants

WINS OVER NON-CONFERENCE FBS OPPONENTS

In 2017 the MAC earned 11 non-conference FBS wins. The MAC set the Conference single-season record with 16 wins over FBS opponents during the 2012 season, and also posted 14 wins in both the 2008 and 2016 seasons.

Regular Season Wins vs. non-conference FBS opponents:
Year: Wins; FBS Opponents Defeated:

2018: 7: Purdue, Temple; Northwestern; Rutgers; Nevada; Georgia State; UMass

2017: 11; Nebraska, Rutgers, Kansas (2); Charlotte, UAB; Nevada; Tulsa; 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-Fayette

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 11 former head coaches from the MAC in a current FBS head coaching position–including three of the last four National Champion's with 2017 and 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 2018 season, 23 of the 131 FBS coaches (17.6%) will be either current or former MAC head coaches. The 23 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).
Sun Belt – Doug Martin-New Mexico State (Kent State).

MAC MEDIA 2018 FOOTBALL PRESEASON POLL

Earlier this summer members of the media selected Ohio and Northern Illinois to win the East and West Divisions respectfully in the 2018 MAC Football Media Preseason Poll. Ohio was selected to win the 2018 Marathon MAC Football Championship Game.

In the East Division, Ohio was selected first with a league-best 140 total points. Following the Bobcats, the Buffalo Bulls finished second with 112 points, while the Miami RedHawks finished third with 95 points. Defending MAC East Champion Akron Zips finished fourth with 74 points, followed by Bowling Green and Kent State.

In the West Division, Northern Illinois was selected first in the Division with 133 total points. Following the Huskies, defending West Champion Toledo finished second with 125 points, while the Western Michigan Broncos were third with 87 points. Eastern Michigan ranked fourth with 67 points, followed by Central Michigan and Ball State.

2018 MAC MEDIA Football Preseason Poll
MAC East Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Ohio (21)	140
2. Buffalo (1)	112
3. Miami (2)	95
4. Akron	74
5. Bowling Green	58
6. Kent State	25

MAC West Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Northern Illinois (15)	133
2. Toledo (7)	125
3. Western Michigan (1)	87
4. Eastern Michigan	67
5. Central Michigan (1)	58
6. Ball State	34

MAC FOOTBALL COACHES PRESEASON POLL

MAC Head Football Coaches have provided their own 2018 Preseason Poll and based upon voting by all 12 head coaches Ohio and NIU have been selected to win the East and West Divisions respectfully, with Ohio winning the Marathon MAC Football Championship Game.

In the East Division, a margin of 11 points separated first-place and second-place. Ohio was selected first with 70 total points followed by second-place Buffalo with 59 points. Miami was selected third followed by Akron, Bowling Green and Kent State.

In the West Division, the margin was also only one point as Northern Illinois was selected in first-place with 61 points followed by second-place Toledo with 60 points. Western Michigan was picked third followed by Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan and Ball State.

2018 MAC HEAD COACHES Football Preseason Poll
MAC East Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Ohio (10)	70
2. Buffalo (2)	59
3. Miami	42
4. Akron	36
5. Bowling Green	29
6. Kent State	16

MAC West Division

Team (First Place Votes)	Points
1. Northern Illinois (5)	61
2. Toledo (3)	60
3. Western Michigan (1)	45
4. Eastern Michigan (1)	35
5. Central Michigan (1)	33
6. Ball State (1)	18

ESPN+ TO FEATURE MAC EVENTS IN 2018

ESPN+ is the premium multi-sport, direct-to-consumer video service from The Walt Disney Company's Direct-to-Consumer and International (DTCI) segment in conjunction with ESPN. It offers fans thousands of additional live events, on-demand content and original programming not available on ESPN's linear TV or digital networks.

Fans subscribe to ESPN+ for just $4.99 a month (or $49.99 per year) through the ESPN App or ESPN.com. The ESPN App also provides fans separate access to all of ESPN's "TV Everywhere" streaming of its linear television networks (ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, etc.) and ESPN3 – to fans with a pay TV subscription. ESPN+ and ESPN's authenticated streaming is also available on ESPN.com.

MAC fans who have any questions about the new ESPN App or ESPN+, may contact ESPN customer care:

- Online: support.espn.com
- Phone: 1-888-549-ESPN
- ESPN App: Live Chat Feature
- ESPN Customer Support Available: 9am-1am ET, 7 days a week

FORMER MAC ALUM RANDY MOSS INDUCTED INTO PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Joining the list of MAC alum heading to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, former Marshall wide receiver Randy Moss will increase this number to three, as Moss will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame as a member of the 2018 Hall of Fame Class. Moss, who was named MAC Offensive Player of the Year in 1997, posted 78 catches for 1,709 yards and 28 touchdowns with Marshall in 1996 and added 96 receptions for 1,820 yards and 26 touchdowns in 1997.

Moss was selected in the first round, 21st overall, of the 1998 NFL Draft by the Minnesota Vikings. Moss spent 14 seasons in the NFL with Minnesota, Oakland, New England, Tennessee and San Francisco and amassed 982 career receptions for 15,292 yards and 156 touchdowns and was selected to five Pro Bowls. Moss becomes the third former MAC football standout to be selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Moss joins Jason Taylor of Akron and former Kent State linebacker Jack Lambert of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Moss was a member of the Marshall Thundering Herd, who competed in the MAC before departing after the 2004 season.

MAC PART OF NEW COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF ERA

The 2018 college football season enters the fifth 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 (Capital One Orange Bowl; Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic) and the College Football Playoff National Championship will be played in the Bay Area (Levi Stadium) on Jan. 7.

The two Semifinals and four other premier bowl games AllState Sugar Bowl (Jan. 1), Rose Bowl presented by Northwestern Mutual (Jan. 1), PlayStation Fiesta Bowl (Jan. 1) and the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl (Dec. 29) 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.

The highest ranked program by the Selection Committee from either the MAC, American Athletic, Conference USA, Mountain West or Sun Belt Conferences will play annually in one of the premier bowl games.

MAC Week Five Quick Recaps:

Army 42, Buffalo 13 -- Buffalo suffered its first loss of the season on Saturday afternoon, falling to Army, 42-13, in front of 23,671 fans at UB Stadium. The game couldn't have started better for the Bulls. K.J. Osborn took a screen pass from Tyree Jackson and sprinted 53 yards down the sideline for a touchdown to give Buffalo a 7-0 lead less than two minutes into the game.

On Army's ensuing possession, Brandon Williams came up with an interception near midfield and the Bulls were back in business. However, while Buffalo was able to move the ball into scoring position, it wasn't able to capitalize and the Black Knights took over. Army drove the length of the field on its next possession to tie the game, 7-7, late in the first quarter. The Bulls struggled to stop Army's triple-option offense and another rushing touchdown midway through the second quarter gave the Black Knights the lead for good, 14-7.

Fresno State 49, Toledo 27 -- Toledo junior quarterback Mitchell Guadagni threw for 59 yards and ran for 55 in one half of action but it wasn't enough to counter a strong offensive effort by Fresno State as the Bulldogs knocked off Toledo, 49-27, at Bulldog Stadium in Fresno Saturday night. Gudagni was shaken up on a play late in the second quarter. Although he did return to action after missing one play, he did not play in the second half. He finished with 6-of-10 passing for 59 yards and one touchdown. Sophomore Eli Peters took over for Guadagni, completing 10-of-21 passes for 179 yards and two touchdowns.

Toledo (2-2) held a 13-7 lead early in the second quarter but Fresno State controlled the game after that. The Bulldogs (3-1) led 28-13 at halftime, then effectively put the game out of reach with touchdowns on their first three possessions of the second half. Fresno held the edge in total offense, 554-375.

Ball State 52, Kent State 24 -- Ball State was in attack mode Saturday against Kent State, and it started from the word go. Riley Neal took the first snap from scrimmage and hit Riley Miller 52 yards down the sideline. That proved to be just the beginning. It was the Riley show for most of the afternoon in the MAC opener at Scheumann Stadium.

Ball State unleashed the downfield passing game en route to a 52-24 victory behind career days from both of the former Yorktown High School teammates. The Riley duo hooked up 11 times for 208 yards, as Miller became the first Cardinal to reach the 200-yard receiving mark since Willie Snead in 2012, also against Kent State. Neal recorded just the seventh 400-yard passing game in program history, completing 30 of 50 passes for a personal-high 402 yards and accounting for five total touchdowns.

No. 21 Michigan State 31, Central Michigan 20 -- Central Michigan scored 17 fourth-quarter points after falling into a 31-3 deficit on Saturday before succumbing to 21st-ranked Michigan State, 31-20, on Saturday before 73,752 at Spartan Stadium. Michigan State dominated through three quarters, holding a near 2-to-1 possession-time advantage and grinding out two third-quarter scoring drives in upping its lead to 31-3. The Chippewas got a 10-yard touchdown pass from Tommy Lazzaro to Julian Hicks, a 40-yard Ryan Tice field goal, and a 29-yard touchdown pass from Jonathan Ward to Tony Poljan in the fourth quarter to make it interesting

But after Poljan's touchdown reception, the first of his career, with 6:44 left, the Chippewas never got the ball back as Michigan State simply ran out the clock with a 13-play, 67-yard drive during which the Spartans picked up five first downs. And save for the fourth-quarter stretch in which the Chippewas covered an onside kick and scored 17 points, the final drive was indicative of how the day went. Michigan State finished with 23 first downs to Central Michigan's 13, and a 345-245 edge in total yardage.

Western Michigan 40, Miami 39 -- For the fourth straight year Western Michigan begin MAC play with a 1-0 record after a thrilling 40-39 victory over Miami at Yager Stadium on Saturday. It was a career day for freshman wide receiver Jayden Reed who tied the single-game school record with four receiving touchdowns on seven receptions and a career-high 137 yards. Reed tied the school record set by Greg Jennings back in 2005 against Ball State. Reed averaged 19.6 yards per catch against the RedHawks and connected on touchdown passes of 10, 33, 27 and five. Through five games, Reed has amassed six receiving touchdowns which matches the amount by 2016 NFL Draft No. 5 overall pick Corey Davis had during his entire freshman campaign.

Returning to the field after missing the past two games due to injury, junior D'Wayne Eskridge led with seven receptions and 141 yards. It's the second time this season Eskridge has went over 100 yards receiving, recording 240 yards in the season opener against Syracuse. It was the second time this season the Broncos have had two 100-yard receivers. Quarterback Jon Wassink threw for a career-high 439 yards and five touchdowns. He also rushed for a sixth touchdown, which would be the game-winner with 2:53 left in the fourth quarter. He completed 27-of-42 passes. Wassink became the first Bronco since Zach Terrell in 2016 against Buffalo to throw for over 400 yards in a game.

Ohio 58, UMass 42 -- Ohio (2-2) bounced back on Saturday, Sept. 29 downing UMass 58-42 in an offensive showdown at Peden Stadium. Ohio's 58 points, set a new Peden Stadium record for points in a game. The Bobcats finished the game with a total of 664 offensive yards, setting a new program record.

Ohio junior quarterback Nathan Rourke finished with a career-high 23 completions for 270 yards and three passing touchdowns. On the ground, Rourke recorded a career-high 189 rushing yards with one touchdown. Maleek Irons finished the game with 13 carries for a career-high 140 yards and two touchdowns. A.J. Ouellette finished with 70 yards on 12 carriers and one touchdown, while Papi White finished with six catches for 84 yards and two touchdowns.

NIU 26, Eastern Michigan 23 (3OT) -- On his 32nd carry of the game, NIU tailback Tre Harbison powered through the Eastern Michigan defense for a one-yard touchdown run in the third overtime period, giving the Huskies a hard-fought 26-23 victory over the Eagles in Ypsilanti. NIU (2-3, 2-0 MAC) defeated Eastern Michigan (2-3, 0-2) for the 11th consecutive year, including the last three in overtime.

After winning in just one overtime period in 2016 and 2017, the teams battled for three extra periods in 2018. Eastern Michigan's Chad Ryland made a 28-yard field goal with three seconds on the clock in regulation to send the game into overtime. The score was the Eagles' first in more than 51 minutes of game time, since the 6:26 mark of the first period, and came at the end of a 13-play, 60-yard drive.

Georgia Tech 63, Bowling Green 17 -- Bowling Green was defeated by Georgia Tech, 63-17, on Saturday at Bobby Dodd Stadium in Atlanta. Falcons quarterback Jarret Doege finished with a career-high 305 passing yards as he completed 27-of-44 passing. By registering one touchdown pass and one touchdown run, Doege has accounted for multiple touchdowns in nine-straight games.

Scott Miller entered today's game with 1,961 receiving yards in his career. With his 117 yards today, he becomes the 17th player in program history to eclipse 2,000 career receiving yards. Miller currently sits at 2,078 yards receiving for his career. Miller has now posted 100-plus receiving yards eight times in his career. In the season opener at Oregon, he recorded 166 receiving yards.

Buffalo (4-1; 1-0 MAC) at Central Michigan (1-4, 0-1; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • Noon ET • Mt. Pleasant, Mich. • Kelly/Shorts Stadium (30,255)
CBS Sports Network
Series: Central Michigan leads 7-1

Head Coach: Lance Leipold
Career: 126-30 (11th year)   at Buffalo: 17-24 (4th year)
Football Contact: Jon Fuller, 716-645-6762, jfuller3@buffalo.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Kevin Marks (64 att., 299 yds., 6 TDs)
Pass: QB Tyree Jackson (88-150 passing, 1,204 yards, 16 TDs)
Rec.: WR K.J. Osborn (23 rec., 410 yds., 6 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Khalil Hodge (67 tackles, 3.0 tfl)
Sacks: DE Chuck Harris (28 tackles, 7.0 tfl, 7.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Cameron Lewis (12 tackles, 0.5 tfl, 2 INT)

Notes: Buffalo lost 42-13 to Army on Sept. 29...LB Khalil Hodge tied a career high with 20 tackles...QB Tyree Jackson was 10-24 passing for 152 yards and one touchdown...Buffalo offense had a season-low 255 yards of offense...DL Chuck Harris added his sixth sack of the season...Fifth largest crowd at UB Stadium of 23,671 turned out for the game.

Head Coach: John Bonamego
Career: 22-22 (4th year)   at Central Michigan: 22-22 (4th year)
Football Contact: Rob Wyman, 989-774-3041, wyman1rd@cmich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Jonathan Ward (60 att., 182 rushing yds., 0 TDs)
Pass: QB Tommy Lazzaro (39-72 passing, 363 yds., 3 TDs)
Rec.: WR Cameron Cole (13 rec., 145 yds., 0 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Malik Fountain (62 tackles, 4.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Sacks: DL Mike Danna (24 tackles, 5.0 tfl, 4.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Xavier Crawford (12 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Central Michigan lost 31-20 at Michigan State on Sept. 29...Chippewas scored 17 fourth quarter points...Central Michigan posted 182 yards passing and 63 yards rushing...QB Tommy Lazzaro was 19-34 passing for 153 yards and one touchdown...LB Malik Fountain led with 15 tackles.

Eastern Michigan (2-3, 0-2; MAC) at Western Michigan (3-2, 1-0; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • Noon ET • Kalamazoo, Mich. • Waldo Stadium (30,200)
ESPN+
Series: Western Michigan leads 33-18-2

Head Coach: Chris Creighton
Career: 156-83 (22nd year)   at Eastern Michigan: 17-37 (5th year)
Football Contact: Greg Steiner, 734-487-0317, gsteiner2@emich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Shaq Vann (68 att., 264 yds., 2 TDs)
Pass: QB Tyler Wiegers (71-111 passing, 877 yds., 4 TDs)
Rec.: WR Blake Banham (26 rec., 387 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Kyle Rachwal (47 tackles, 5.5 tfl, 2 INT)
Sacks: DE Maxx Crosby (16 tackles, 6.0 tfl, 4.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Kevin McGill (13 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Eastern Michigan lost 26-23 (3OT) to NIU on Sept. 29...LB Kyle Rachwal had a career-high 16 tackles and one interception...WR Arthur Jackson III led with five receptions for 56 yards...RB Shaq Vann led with 18 carries for 68 yards...Marked the third consecutive year both Eastern Michigan and NIU contests went to overtime.

Head Coach: Tim Lester
Career: 49-31 (8th year)   at Western Michigan: 9-8 (2nd year)
Contact: Kristin Keirns, 269-387-4123, kristin.keirns@wmich.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB LeVante Bellamy (62 att., 455 yards, 3 TDs)
Pass: QB Jon Wassink (105-167 passing, 1,423 yards, 13 TDs)
Rec.: WR Jayden Reed (26 rec., 397 yards, 6 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Alex Grace (33 tackles, 7.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Sacks: DL Ali Fayad (13 tackles, 4.0 tfl, 4.0 sacks)
Int.: DB A.J. Thomas (29 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Western Michigan won 40-39 over Miami on Sept. 29...QB Jon Wassink threw for a career-high 439 yards and five touchdowns, also rushed for a sixth touchdown...Wassink became the first Bronco since Zach Terrell in 2016 against Buffalo to throw for over 400 yards in a game...WR D'Wayne Eskridge had 7 receptions for 141 yards, while WR Jayden Reed had 7 receptions for 137 yards and four touchdowns.

Northern Illinois (2-3, 2-0; MAC) at Ball State (2-3, 1-0; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • 3:00 pm ET • Muncie, Ind. • Scheumann Stadium (22,500)
ESPN3
Series: NIU leads 23-20-2

Head Coach: Rod Carey
Career: 46-26 (6th year)   at NIU: 46-26 (6th year)
Football Contact: Donna Turner, 815-753-9513, donnaturner@niu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Tre Harbison (68 att., 371 rushing yds., 1 TD)
Pass: QB Marcus Childers (83-152 passing, 661 yds., 7 TDs)
Rec.: WR D.J. Brown (25 rec., 250 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB A. Jones-Davis (50 tackles, 5.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: DE Sutton Smith (24 tackles, 10.5 tfl, 5.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Albert Smalls (3 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: NIU won 26-23 (3OT) at Eastern Michigan on Sept. 29...Marked the third consecutive year to play Eagles to overtime...Marked 11th consecutive win over Eastern Michigan...Defense held Eagles to 3-18 on third downs...QB Marcus Childers was 20-35 passing for 121 yards...RB Tre Harbison had 32 carries for 136 yards and one touchdown.

Head Coach: Mike Neu
Career: 8-21 (3rd year)   at Ball State: 8-21 (3rd year)
Contact: Mike Clark, 765-285-8904, maclark4@bsu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB James Gilbert (73 att., 342 yards rushing, 4 TDs)
Pass: QB Riley Neal (115-199 passing, 1,241 yds., 8 TDs)
Rec.: WR Riley Miller (30 rec., 439 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Jacob White (39 tackles, 5.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Sacks: LB Christian Albright (25 tackles, 3.5 tfl, 3.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Ray Wilborn (27 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1 INT)

Notes: Ball State won 52-24 over Kent State on Sept. 29...WR Riley Miller led with 11 receptions for 208 yards to become the first Cardinal receiver to top 200+ yards since Willie Snead in 2012...QB Riley Neal posted a career-high 402 yards passing on 30-50 passing and four touchdowns...Neal became just the seventh Ball State quarterback to throw for over 400 yards.

Bowling Green (1-4; 0-1 MAC) at Toledo (2-2; 0-0; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Toledo, Ohio • Glass Bowl (26,038)
ESPN+
Series: Series tied 39-39-4

Head Coach: Mike Jinks
Career: 7-22 (3rd year)   at Bowling Green: 7-22 (3rd year)
Football Contact: Jason Knavel, 419-372-7075, jknavel@bgsu.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Andrew Clair (86 att., 291 rushing yds., 1 TD)
Pass: QB Jarret Doege (124-193 passing, 1,196 yards, 12 TDs)
Rec.: WR Quintin Morris (24 rec., 290 yds., 4 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Brandon Harris (47 tackles, 1.0 tfl)
Sacks: DL Roland Walder (16 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Int.: DB Marcus Milton (21 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Falcons lost 63-17 at Georgia Tech on Sept. 29...QB Jarret Doege had a career-high 305 yard passing and one touchdown...Also added a rushing touchdown and has accounted for multiple touchdowns in nine-straight games...WR Scott Miller had 117 yards receiving, becoming the 17th player in program history to eclipse 2,000 career receiving yards.

Head Coach: Jason Candle
Career: 23-9 (3rd year)   at Toledo: 23-9 (3rd year)
Contact: Paul Helgren, 419-530-4918, paul.helgren@utoledo.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Shakif Seymour (35 att., 119 yds., 2 TDs)
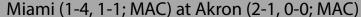Pass: QB Michael Guadagni (45-71 passing, 757 yds., 10 TDs)
Rec.: WR Diontae Johnson (15 rec., 267 yds., 4 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: DE Jamal Hines (21 tackles, 3.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Sacks: DL Reggie Howard (18 tackles, 4.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Tycen Anderson (17 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Toledo lost 49-27 at Fresno State on Sept. 29...QB Mitchell Guadagni was 6-10 passing for 59 yards and one touchdown in the first half...QB Eli Peters took over for Guadagni and completed 10-21 passing for 179 yards and two touchdowns...Fresno State outgained Toledo 554-375 in total offensive yards.

Miami (1-4, 1-1; MAC) at Akron (2-1, 0-0; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Akron, Ohio • InfoCision Stadium - Summa Field (27,881)
ESPN+
Series: Miami leads 17-9-1

Head Coach: Chuck Martin
Career: 90-44 (11th year)   at Miami: 16-37 (5th year)
Football Contact: Dave Meyer, 513-529-4329, meyerd@miamioh.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Alonzo Smith (52 att., 240 yds., 1 TD)
Pass: QB Gus Ragland (90-154 passing, 1,017 yds., 8 TDs)
Rec.: WR Jack Sorenson (22 rec., 360 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB De'Andre Montgomery (44 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Sacks: DL Doug Costin (20 tackles, 5.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: LB Brad Koenig (42 tackles, 5.5 tfl, 3.0 sacks, 1 INT)

Notes: Miami lost 40-39 to Western Michigan on Sept. 29...KR Maurice Thomas opened the game with a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown for the first time since 1986...QB Gus Ragland threw for 294 yards and three touchdowns...WR Jack Sorenson led with nine catches for 156 yards.

Head Coach: Terry Bowden
Career: 173-107-2 (25th year) at Akron: 33-45 (7th year)
Contact: Cathy Bongiovi, 330-972-6106, cathyb@uakron.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Van Edwards (43 att., 185 rushing yds., 2 TDs)
Pass: QB Kato Nelson (45-82 passing, 662 yards, 6 TDs)
Rec.: WR Jonah Morris (10 rec., 182 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:
Tackles: LB John Lako (28 tackles, 1.5 tfl)
Sacks: LB Josh Ward (6 tackles, 3.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Alvin Davis (17 tackles, 3 INT)

Notes: Akron had a bye week last week and last played with a 26-13 loss at Iowa State on Sept. 22...QB Kato Nelson was 12-of-28 passing for 153 yards and a touchdown, and also led with 15 carries for 56 yards...WR Nate Stewart led with a career-high four receptions for a career-high 52 yards...LB Ulysees Gilbert led the defense with 12 tackles.

Ohio (2-2, 0-0; MAC) at Kent State (1-4, 0-1; MAC)
Saturday, October 6, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Kent, Ohio • Dix Stadium (25,319)
ESPN+
Series: Ohio leads 43-25-2

Head Coach: Frank Solich
Career: 157-92 (20th year)   at Ohio: 99-73 (14th year)
Contact: Mike Ashcraft, 740-593-1299, ashcraft@ohio.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB AJ Ouellette (64 att., 234 yards, 2 TDs)
Pass: QB Nathan Rourke (53-98 passing, 738 yds., 6 TDs)
Rec.: WR Papi White (22 rec., 392 yds., 4 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: S Javon Hagan (26 tackles, 1 INT)
Sacks: DL Cole Baker (8 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)
Int.: LB Evan Croutch (27 tackles, 2.5 tfl, 1 INT)

Notes: Ohio won 58-42 over UMass on Sept. 29...Ohio offense set a school record with 664 yards of total offense...RB Maleek Irons rushed for a career-high 140 yards and two touchdowns...WR Papi White had six catches for 84 yards and two touchdowns...RB A.J. Ouellette added 12 carries for 70 yards and one score.

Head Coach: Sean Lewis
Career: 1-4 (1st year)   at Kent State: 1-4 (1st year)
Football Contact: Aaron Chimenti, 330-672-8468, achiment@kent.edu

Offense:
Rush: RB Justin Rankin (64 att., 338 rushing yds; 3 TDs)
Pass: QB Woody Barrett (115-192 passing, 1,140 yards, 5 TDs)
Rec.: WR Mike Carrigan (23 rec., 290 yds., 2 TDs)

Defense:
Tackles: LB Matt Bahr (53 tackles, 4.5 tfl, 1.0 sacks)
Sacks: DE Theo Eboigbe (11 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)
Int.: DB Jamal Parker (39 tackles, 2 INT)

Notes: Kent State lost 52-24 at Ball State on Sept. 29...Flashes posted 461 yards of total offense...QB Woody Barrett had a career-high 30 completions and 314 yards passing, the most by a Kent State quarterback since 2014...RB Justin Rankin rushed for 75 yards and two touchdowns...LB Matt Bahr led with 14 tackles and one sack.

SEVENTY-SEVEN (71) FORMER MAC STUDENTS ON NFL ROSTERS

NFL Team	Yr.	MAC School
Arizona (1)		
LB Gabe Martin-IR	2	Bowling Green
Baltimore (1)		
WR Willie Snead	4	Ball State
Carolina (1)		
OL Taylor Moton	2	Western Michigan
Chicago (1)		
LB Khalil Mack	5	Buffalo
Cincinnati (2)		
DB Darius Phillips	R	Western Michigan
TE Mason Schreck	2	Buffalo
Cleveland (2)		
DB T.J. Carrie	5	Ohio
LB Justin Currie-IR	2	Western Michigan
Dallas (3)		
S Kavon Frazier	3	Central Michigan
LB Justin March-Lillard	4	Akron
QB Cooper Rush	2	Central Michigan
Denver (1)		
K Brandon McManus	5	Temple
Detroit (6)		
LB Nick Bellore	8	Central Michigan
WR Kenny Golladay	2	Northern Illinois
OL T.J. Lang	10	Eastern Michigan
DB Rolan Milligan-PS	1	Toledo
K Matt Prater	12	Central Florida
TE Michael Roberts	2	Toledo
Green Bay (4)		
RB Darius Jackson	3	Eastern Michigan
RB Joel Bouagnon-PS	1	Northern Illinois
DB Quinten Rollins-IR	4	Miami (Ohio)
DL Muhammad Wilkerson	8	Temple
Houston (1)		
OL Greg Mancz	3	Toledo

	Yr.	
Indianapolis (1)		
DE Tarell Basham	2	Ohio
Jacksonville (2)		
LB Blair Brown	2	Ohio
DB Barry Church	9	Toledo
Kansas City (4)		
OL Eric Fisher	6	Central Michigan
RB Kareem Hunt	2	Toledo
OL Ryan Hunter-PS	R	Bowling Green
OL Andrew Wylie	1	Eastern Michigan
Los Angeles Chargers (3)		
DB Jahleel Addae	6	Central Michigan
LB Jatavis Brown	3	Akron
TE Antonio Gates	16	Kent State
Miami (2)		
LB Quentin Poling-PS	R	Ohio
OL Josh Sitton	11	Central Florida
Minnesota (3)		
WR Chad Beebe-PS	R	Northern Illinois
TE Tyler Conklin	R	Central Michigan
OT Storm Norton-PS	1	Toledo
New England (1)		
WR Julian Edelman	10	Kent State
New Orleans (1)		
WR Tommylee Lewis	3	Northern Illinois
N.Y. Giants (4)		
DB Sam Beal-IR	R	Western Michigan
OL John Greco	11	Toledo
WR Alonzo Russell-PS	1	Toledo
DT Kristjan Sokoli-IR	2	Buffalo
N.Y. Jets (1)		
OL Brian Winters	6	Kent State
Oakland (2)		
DB Rashaan Melvin	6	Northern Illinois
LB Tahir Whitehead	7	Temple
Philadelphia (2)		
OL Brandon Brooks	7	Miami (Ohio)
DL Joe Ostman-PS	R	Central Michigan

	Yr.	
Pittsburgh (8)		
LB Keion Adams-PS	2	Western Michigan
DE Ola Adeniyi-IR	R	Toledo
WR Antonio Brown	9	Central Michigan
RB Jarvion Franklin-PS	R	Western Michigan
FB Roosevelt Nix	4	Kent State
OL Chukwuma Okorafor	R	Western Michigan
QB Ben Roethlisberger	15	Miami (Ohio)
DL L.T. Walton	4	Central Michigan
San Francisco (2)		
OT Joe Staley	12	Central Michigan
DB Jimmie Ward	5	Northern Illinois
Seattle (2)		
WR Brandon Marshall	13	Central Florida
OL Elijah Nkansah-PS	R	Toledo
Tampa Bay (3)		
WR Sergio Bailey-IR	R	Eastern Michigan
DL Demone Harris-PS	R	Buffalo
DL Pat O'Connor-PS	1	Eastern Michigan
Tennessee (7)		
WR Corey Davis	2	Western Michigan
RB David Fluellen	2	Toledo
P Brett Kern	11	Toledo
OL Josh Kline	6	Kent State
WR Tajae Sharpe	3	UMass
LB Robert Spillane-PS	R	Western Michigan
QB Logan Woodside-PS	R	Toledo

PS - Practice Squad; IR - Injured-Reserve List (As of NFL Rosters on Sept. 6, 2018) Currently there are 71 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

The West is currently 2-1 over the East in crossover games in 2018. In 2017, the East and West Divisions faced each other in 18 crossover regular season games and the West Division finished with an 11-7 advantage. Over the previous 10 years (2008-2017), 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 nine of the last 10 years. The West holds a 120-60 (.667%) regular season record in crossover games over the East during that span.

The West Division has a 6-4 lead in the last 10 Marathon MAC Football Championship Games. From the West Division, Toledo (2017), Western Michigan (2016), Northern Illinois (2011, 2012, 2014) and Central Michigan (2009) have won the Conference Championship six 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
2018 West 2-1; TBD on Nov. 30, 2018
2017 West 11-7; Toledo (West) def. Akron (East), 45-28.
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 -- Mike Ashcraft (ashcraft@ohio.edu) -- 740.593.1299

West Division
Ball State -- Mike Clark (maclark4@bsu.edu) -- 765.285.8242
Central Michigan--Rob Wyman (wyman1rd@cmich.edu)--989.774.3041
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) -- 269.387.3065

2018 Akron Zips (2-1, 0-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Nebraska	8:00 pm ET	FOX	Cancelled due to weather
Sat., Sept. 8	Morgan State	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 41-7
Sat., Sept. 15	at Northwestern	7:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	W, 39-34
Sat., Sept. 22	at Iowa State	Noon ET	FSN	L, 13-26
Sat., Oct. 6	* Miami	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 17-9-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Buffalo	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	Buffalo leads 10-7
Sat., Oct. 20	*at Kent State	TBA	TBA	Akron leads 34-24-2
Sat., Oct. 27	*Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 16-9-1
Thur., Nov. 1	*NIU	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	NIU leads 9-5
Sat., Nov. 10	*at Eastern Michigan	TBA	TBA	Akron leads 19-12
Sat., Nov. 17	*Bowling Green	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 16-8
Fri., Nov. 23	*at Ohio	TBA	TBA	Ohio leads 20-13-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Ball State Cardinals (2-3, 1-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Thur., Aug. 30	Central Connecticut State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 42-6
Sat., Sept. 8	at Notre Dame	3:30 pm ET	NBC	L, 16-24
Sat., Sept. 15	at Indiana	Noon ET	Big Ten Network	L, 10-38
Sat., Sept. 22	Western Kentucky	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	L, 20-28
Sat., Sept. 29	*Kent State	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 52-24
Sat., Oct. 6	*NIU	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	NIU leads 23-20-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Central Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	CMU leads 25-24-1
Sat., Oct. 20	*Eastern Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	BSU leads 34-23-1
Thur., Oct. 25	*at Ohio	7:00 pm ET	ESPN2/CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 15-9
Wed., Oct. 31	*at Toledo	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2	Toledo leads 23-19-1
Tue., Nov. 13	*Western Michigan	6:00 pm ET	ESPN2	WMU leads 25-19
Tue., Nov. 20	*at Miami	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN+	Miami leads 18-12-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Bowling Green Falcons (1-4, 0-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Oregon	8:00 pm ET	Pac-12 Network	L, 24-58
Sat., Sept. 8	Maryland	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 14-45
Sat., Sept. 15	Eastern Kentucky	4:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 42-35
Sat., Sept. 22	*Miami	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 23-38
Sat., Sept. 29	at Georgia Tech	Noon ET	ACC RSN	L, 17-63
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Toledo	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Series tied 39-39-4
Sat., Oct. 13	*Western Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	BGSU leads 32-18-3
Sat., Oct. 20	*at Ohio	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	BGSU leads 40-27-2
Tue., Oct. 30	*Kent State	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 60-19-6
Sat., Nov. 10	*at Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 21-19
Sat., Nov. 17	*at Akron	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 16-8
Fri., Nov. 23	*Buffalo	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 11-4

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Buffalo Bulls (4-1, 1-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	Delaware State	6:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 48-10
Sat., Sept. 8	at Temple	3:30 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 36-29
Sat., Sept. 15	*Eastern Michigan	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 35-28
Sat., Sept. 22	at Rutgers	Noon ET	Big Ten Network	W, 42-13
Sat., Sept. 29	Army	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 13-42
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Central Michigan	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	CMU leads 7-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Akron	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	Akron leads 11-6
Sat., Oct. 20	*at Toledo	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 7-2
Tue., Oct. 30	*Miami	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 14-6
Tue., Nov. 6	*Kent State	7:30 pm ET	ESPNU	Buffalo leads 12-11
Wed., Nov. 14	*at Ohio	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Ohio leads 14-10
Fri., Nov. 23	*at Bowling Green	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 11-4

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Central Michigan Chippewas (1-4, 0-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Kentucky	3:30 pm ET	ESPNU	L, 20-35
Sat., Sept. 8	Kansas	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 7-31
Sat., Sept. 15	*at NIU	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 16-24
Sat., Sept. 22	Maine	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 17-5
Sat., Sept. 29	at Michigan State	Noon ET	FS1	L, 20-31
Sat., Oct. 6	*Buffalo	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	CMU leads 7-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Ball State	3:00 pm ET	ESPN3	CMU leads 25-24-1
Sat., Oct. 20	*Western Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	WMU leads 48-39-2
Sat., Oct. 27	*at Akron	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 16-9-1
Sat., Nov. 3	*at Eastern Michigan	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 60-29-6
Sat., Nov. 10	*Bowling Green	TBA	TBA	BGSU leads 22-18
Fri., Nov. 23	*at Toledo	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 25-18-3

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Eastern Michigan Eagles (2-3, 0-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Fri., Aug. 31	Monmouth	6:30 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 51-17
Sat., Sept. 8	at Purdue	Noon ET	Big Ten Network	W, 20-19
Sat., Sept. 15	*at Buffalo	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 28-35
Sat., Sept. 22	at San Diego State	10:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 20-23 OT
Sat., Sept. 29	*NIU	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 23-26 (3OT)
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Western Michigan	Noon ET	ESPN+	WMU leads 33-18-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*Toledo	Noon ET	ESPN+	Toledo leads 34-11
Sat., Oct. 20	*at Ball State	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	BSU leads 34-23-2
Sat., Oct. 27	Army	TBA	TBA	Army leads 7-1
Sat., Nov. 3	*Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 60-29-6
Sat., Nov. 10	*Akron	TBA	TBA	Akron leads 19-12
Fri., Nov. 23	*at Kent State	TBA	TBA	Kent State leads 17-13

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Kent State Golden Flashes (1-4, 0-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Illinois	12:00 pm ET	Big Ten Network	L, 24-31
Sat., Sept. 8	Howard	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 54-14
Sat., Sept. 15	at Penn State	Noon ET	FS1	L, 10-63
Sat., Sept. 22	at Ole Miss	Noon ET	SEC Network	L, 17-38
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Ball State	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 24-52
Sat., Oct. 6	*Ohio	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Ohio leads 43-25-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Miami	2:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 48-17
Sat., Oct. 20	*Akron	TBA	TBA	Akron leads 34-24-2
Tue., Oct. 30	*at Bowling Green	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	BGSU leads 60-19-6
Tue., Nov. 6	*at Buffalo	7:30 pm ET	ESPNU	Buffalo leads 12-11
Thur., Nov. 15	*Toledo	6:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	Toledo leads 25-21
Fri., Nov. 23	*Eastern Michigan	TBA	TBA	KSU leads 17-13

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Miami RedHawks (1-4, 1-1)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	Marshall	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 28-35
Sat., Sept. 8	Cincinnati (at Paul Brown Stadium)	8:00 pm ET	Raycom/ESPN3	L, 0-21
Sat., Sept. 15	at Minnesota	3:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	L, 3-26
Sat., Sept. 22	*at Bowling Green	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 38-23
Sat., Sept. 29	*Western Michigan	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	L, 39-40
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Akron	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 17-9-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Kent State	2:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 48-17
Sat., Oct. 20	at Army	Noon ET	TBA	Miami leads 3-2
Tue., Oct. 30	*at Buffalo	8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 14-6
Wed., Nov. 7	*Ohio	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 52-40-2
Wed., Nov. 14	*at NIU	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	NIU leads 9-7
Tue., Nov. 20	*Ball State	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/ESPN+	Miami leads 18-11-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Northern Illinois Huskies (2-3, 2-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Iowa	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	Big Ten Network	L, 7-33
Sat., Sept. 8	Utah	7:30 pm ET/6:30 pm CT	ESPNews	L, 6-17
Sat., Sept. 15	*Central Michigan	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN+	W, 24-16
Sat., Sept. 22	at Florida State	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPNU	L, 19-37
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Eastern Michigan	6:00 pm ET/5:00 pm CT	ESPN+	W, 26-23 (3OT)
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Ball State	3:00 pm ET/2:00 pm CT	ESPN3	NIU leads 23-20-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*Ohio	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN+	NIU leads 11-10
Sat., Oct. 27	at BYU	TBA	TBA	First Meeting
Thur., Nov. 1	*at Akron	7:00 pm ET/6:00 pm CT	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	NIU leads 9-5
Wed., Nov. 7	*Toledo	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	Toledo leads 31-14
Wed., Nov. 14	*Miami	TBA	ESPN2/ESPNU	NIU leads 9-8
Tue., Nov. 20	*at Western Michigan	7:00 pm ET/6:00 pm CT	ESPNU/ESPN+	WMU leads 24-19

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Ohio Bobcats (2-2, 0-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	Howard	2:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 38-32
Sat., Sept. 15	at Virginia	3:00 pm ET	ACC Network Extra	L, 31-45
Sat., Sept. 22	at Cincinnati	Noon ET	ESPNU	L, 30-34
Sat., Sept. 29	UMass	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 58-42
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Kent State	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Ohio leads 43-25-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at NIU	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	NIU leads 11-10
Sat., Oct. 20	*Bowling Green	2:00 pm ET	ESPN3	BGSU leads 40-27
Thur., Oct. 25	*Ball State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN2/CBS Sports Network	BSU leads 15-9
Thur., Nov. 1	*at Western Michigan	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	WMU leads 33-28-1
Wed., Nov. 7	*at Miami	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami leads 52-40-2
Wed., Nov. 14	*Buffalo	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Ohio leads 13-11
Fri., Nov. 23	*Akron	TBA	TBA	Ohio leads 19-14-1

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Toledo Rockets (2-2, 0-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	VMI	7:00 pm ET	ESPN3	W, 66-3
Sat., Sept. 15	Miami (Fla.)	Noon ET	ESPN2	L, 24-49
Sat., Sept. 22	Nevada	Noon ET	CBS Sports Network	W, 63-44
Sat., Sept. 29	at Fresno State	10:30 pm ET	ESPNU	L, 27-49
Sat., Oct. 6	*Bowling Green	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Series tied 39-39-4
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Eastern Michigan	Noon ET	ESPN+	Toledo leads 34-11
Sat., Oct. 20	*Buffalo	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 7-3
Thur., Oct. 25	*at Western Michigan	7:00 pm ET	ESPN2/CBS Sports Network	Toledo leads 41-30
Wed., Oct. 31	*Ball State	7:30 pm ET	ESPN2	Toledo leads 23-19-1
Wed, Nov. 7	*at NIU	7:00 pm ET/8:00 pm ET	ESPN2/ESPNU	Toledo leads 31-14
Thur., Nov. 15	*at Kent State	6:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	Toledo leads 25-21
Fri., Nov. 23	*Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 25-18-3

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Western Michigan Broncos (3-2, 1-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Fri., Aug. 31	Syracuse	6:00 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	L, 42-55
Sat., Sept. 8	at Michigan	Noon ET	FS1	L, 3-49
Sat., Sept. 15	Delaware State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 68-0
Sat., Sept. 22	at Georgia State	2:00 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 34-15
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Miami	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	W, 40-39
Sat., Oct. 6	*Eastern Michigan	Noon ET	ESPN+	WMU leads 33-17-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Bowling Green	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	BGSU leads 32-18-3
Sat., Oct. 20	*at Central Michigan	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	WMU leads 48-38-2
Thur., Oct. 25	*Toldo	7:00 pm ET	ESPN2/CBS Sports Network	Toledo leads 43-30
Thur., Nov. 1	*Ohio	7:00 pm ET	ESPNU/CBS Sports Network	WMU leads 33-28-1
Tue., Nov. 13	*at Ball State	6:00 pm ET	ESPN2	WMU leads 25-19
Tue., Nov. 20	*NIU	TBA	TBA	WMU leads 24-18

*Mid-American Conference game

2018 Non-Conference Opponents

ACC (5): (0-5)
Florida State (NIU): L, 19-37
Georgia Tech (Bowling Green): L, 17-63
Miami (Toledo): L, 24-49
Syracuse (Western Michigan): L, 42-55
Virginia (Ohio): L, 31-45

American Athletic (3): (1-2)
Cincinnati (Miami; Ohio): L, 0-21; L 30-34
Temple (Buffalo): W, 36-29

Big Ten (12): (3-8)
Illinois (Kent State): L, 24-31
Indiana (Ball State): L, 10-38
Iowa (NIU): L, 7-33
Maryland (Bowling Green): L, 14-45
Michigan (Western Michigan): L, 3-49
Michigan State (Central Michigan): L, 20-31
Minnesota (Miami): L, 3-26
Nebraska (Akron): Cancelled
Northwestern (Akron): W, 39-34
Penn State (Kent State): L, 10-63
Purdue (Eastern Michigan): W, 20-19
Rutgers (Buffalo): W, 42-13

Big 12 (2): (0-2)
Iowa State (Akron): L, 13-26
Kansas (Central Michigan): L, 7-31

Conference USA (2): (0-2)
Marshall (Miami): L, 28-35
Western Kentucky (Ball State): L, 20-28

Mountain West (3): (1-2)
Fresno State (Toledo): L, 27-49
Nevada (Toledo): W, 63-44
San Diego State (Eastern Michigan): L, 20-23 OT

Pac-12 (2): (0-2)
Oregon (Bowling Green): L, 24-58
Utah (NIU): L, 6-17

SEC (2): (0-2)
Kentucky (Central Michigan): L, 20-35
Ole Miss (Kent State): L, 17-38

Sun Belt (1): (1-0)
Georgia State (Western Michigan): W, 34-15

Independent (6): (1-2)
Army (3) (Buffalo; Eastern Michigan; Miami): L, 13-42
BYU (NIU)
Notre Dame (Ball State): L, 16-24
UMass (Ohio): W, 58-42

FCS Opponents (I-AA)

Big South (1): (1-0)
Monmouth (Eastern Michigan): W, 51-17

Colonial Athletic (1): (1-0)
Maine (Central Michigan): W, 17-5

MEAC (5): (5-0)
Delaware State (Buffalo; Western Michigan): W, 48-10; W, 68-0
Howard (Ohio; Kent State): W, 38-32; W, 54-14
Morgan State (Akron): W, 41-7

Northeast (1): (1-0)
Central Connecticut (Ball State): W, 42-6

Ohio Valley (1): (1-0)
Eastern Kentucky (Bowling Green): W, 42-35

Southern (1): (1-0)
VMI (Toledo): W, 66-3

MAC Students on 2018 Preseason Watch Lists

WALTER CAMP AWARD (Best College Football Player)
WR Diontae Johnson (Toledo)

MAXWELL AWARD (Outstanding College Football Player)
RB James Gilbert (Ball State)
WR Anthony Johnson (Buffalo)
WR James Gardner (Miami)
QB Nathan Rourke (Ohio)

CHUCK BEDNARIK AWARD (Defensive Player of the Year)
LB Ulysees Gilbert III (Akron)
LB Khalil Hodge (Buffalo)
DE Maxx Crosby (Eastern Michigan)
LB Sutton Smith (Northern Illinois)

BILETNIKOFF AWARD (Top Wide Receiver)
James Gardner (Miami); Justin Hall (Ball State);
Anthony Johnson (Buffalo); Diontae Johnson (Toledo);
Scott Miller (Bowling Green); Kwadarrius Smith (Akron);
Cody Thompson (Toledo)

BRONKO NAGURSKI AWARD (Defensive Player of the Year)
DE Maxx Crosby (Eastern Michigan)
LB Ulysees Gilbert III (Akron)
LB Khalil Hodge (Buffalo)
DE Sutton Smith (Northern Illinois)

DICK BUTKUS AWARD (Best Linebacker)
Khalil Hodge (Buffalo)

EARL CAMPBELL TYLER ROSE AWARD (Top Offensive Player)
QB Jarret Doege (Bowling Green)

LOU GROZA AWARD (Outstanding Kicker)
Jameson Vest (Toledo)
Louie Zervos (Ohio)

TED HENDRICKS AWARD (Top Defensive End)
Maxx Crosby (Eastern Michigan)
Sutton Smith (Northern Illinois)

PAUL HORNUNG AWARD (Most Versatile Player)
RB Andrew Clair (Bowling Green)
RB Malik Dunner (Ball State)
WR Diontae Johnson (Toledo)

MANNING AWARD (Best Quarterback)
Nathan Rourke (Ohio)
Gus Ragland (Miami)

JOHN MACKEY AWARD (Best Tight End)
Nate Becker (Miami)
Nolan Givan (Ball State)
Tyler Mabry (Buffalo)
Giovanni Ricci (Western Michigan).

DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD (Top Quarterback)
Tyree Jackson (Buffalo)
QB Nathan Rourke (Ohio)

OUTLAND AWARD (Top Interior Lineman)
OG Luke Juriga (Western Michigan); C John Keenoy (Western Michigan);
OG Jimmy Leatiota (Eastern Michigan); OT Joe Lowery (Ohio);
OT Max Scharping (NIU)

RIMINGTON TROPHY (Most Outstanding Center)
Andrew Poenitsch (Ball State); James O'Hagan (Buffalo);
Dakota Tallman (Eastern Michigan); Danny Godlevske (Miami);
Luke Shively (Northern Illinois); John Keenoy (Western Michigan)

RAY GUY AWARD (Best College Punter)
Derek Adams (Kent State)

JIM THORPE AWARD (Best Defensive Back)
S Kyron Brown (Akron)
S Javon Hagan (Ohio)

JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD (Top Quarterback)
Tyree Jackson (Buffalo)
Gus Ragland (Miami)

DOAK WALKER AWARD (Top Running Back)
LeVante Bellamy (Western Michigan); Jamauri Bogan (Western Michigan);
Andrew Clair (Bowling Green); Ian Eriksen (Eastern Michigan);
Emmanuel Reed (Buffalo); Kenny Young (Miami)

WUERFFEL TROPHY (Best Community Service)
QB Riley Neal (Ball State); DL Mitch Stanitzek (Central Michigan);
OL Jeremy Hickey (Eastern Michigan); LB Matt Bahr (Kent State);
WR James Gardner (Miami); OL Max Scharping (NIU);
WR Cody Thompson (Toledo); RB Jamauri Bogan (Western Michigan);
DB Justin Tranquill (Western Michigan)