



# Mid-American Conference Football Weekly Release September 4, 2018



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## MAC Standings

	Conference						Overall					
	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A	W	L	Pct.	Stk	H	A
<b>WEST DIVISION</b>												
Ball State	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0
Eastern Michigan	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0
Toledo	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0
Central Michigan	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1
Northern Illinois	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1
Western Michigan	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-1	0-0
<b>EAST DIVISION</b>												
Buffalo	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0
Ohio	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	1	0	1.000	W1	1-0	0-0
Akron	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0
Bowling Green	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1
Kent State	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1
Miami	0	0	.000	-	0-0	0-0	0	1	.000	L1	0-1	0-0

## MAC TO FACE TOP RANKED NON-CONFERENCE OPPONENTS

MAC programs will face six of the top ranked teams in the country this season during non-conference play courtesy of the Associated Press Top 25 Poll and the Amway/USA Today Top 25 Poll:

No. 8/8 Notre Dame vs. Ball State on Sat., Sept. 8 at 3:30 pm ET;  
No. 13/10 Penn State vs. Kent State on Sat., Sept. 15 at Noon ET;  
No. 15/13 Michigan State vs. Central Michigan on Sat., Sept. 29 (time TBA);  
No. 21/22 Michigan vs. Western Michigan on Sat., Sept. 8 at Noon ET;  
No. 22/21 Miami (Fla.) at Toledo on Sat., Sept. 15 at Noon ET;  
No. 23/-- Oregon vs. Bowling Green on Sept. 1 (Oregon 55, Bowling Green 24)

## MAC VS. BIG TEN OPPONENTS

This week the MAC will face three more Big Ten opponents -- Maryland, Michigan and Purdue. The MAC has won a regular season game vs. Big Ten opponents in each of the last 12 consecutive seasons (2006-2017), the longest streak in MAC history. Last year, the MAC had two road wins at Big Ten opponents as NIU defeated Nebraska, 21-17, on Sept. 16, 2017 and Eastern Michigan defeated Rutgers, 16-13, on Sept. 9, 2017.

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

Miami (13), Bowling Green (8), Toledo (6), Central Michigan (6) and Northern Illinois (6) have the most wins vs. Big Ten opponents.

## OHIO'S FRANK SOLICH THIRD LONGEST ACTIVE FBS HEAD COACH

Ohio head football coach Frank Solich is entering his 14th season at the helm of the Ohio Bobcat football program and currently ranks third all-time among MAC head coaches with 98 career wins. Solich also ranks tied for third among active FBS head coaches as the longest tenured current head coaches.

Only Kirk Ferentz of Iowa (1999-2018 -- 20th season), Gary Patterson of TCU (2000-18 -- 18th season) and Kyle Whittington of Utah (2004-18 -- 14th season) have held their current head coaching positions longer than Solich. Ohio is also the only FBS football program in the country that has kept its head coach, offensive coordinator (Tim Albin) and defensive coordinator (Jimmy Burrow) in place for the past 14 seasons. Solich and his Bobcats opened the season with a 38-32 win over Howard on Sept. 1. Ohio will have a bye week this week before traveling to Virginia on Saturday, Sept. 15 at 3:00 pm ET on the ACC Network Extra.

## MAC Storylines

- Five MAC programs will open their home portion of the 2018 schedule on Saturday, Sept. 8: Kansas at Central Michigan, 3:00 pm ET; Howard at Kent State, 3:30 pm ET; Morgan State at Akron, 3:30 pm ET; Maryland at Bowling Green, 6:00 pm ET and Utah at NIU, 7:30 pm ET/6:30 pm CT. Miami will host its second consecutive home game, 'The Battle for the Victory Bell' at Paul Brown Stadium, home of the NFL's Cincinnati Bengals, against annual rival Cincinnati Bearcats.

- Last week MAC program's went 5-6 in 11 contests. The Akron at Nebraska contest was cancelled due to a nearly three hour lighting and thunderstorm. More information about the game status will be provided at a later date.

- MAC programs will host three autonomous conference opponents this Saturday as Kansas (Big 12) will travel to Central Michigan (3:00 pm ET on ESPN+), Maryland (Big Ten) will head to Bowling Green (6:00 pm ET on ESPN+) and Utah (Pac-12) will visit NIU (7:30 pm ET/6:30 pm CT on ESPNNews).

- MAC programs will face opponents from the Big Ten (Maryland, Michigan, Purdue), Big 12 (Kansas), Pac-12 (Utah), American Athletic (Cincinnati, Temple) and Notre Dame. The MAC will also face two FCS opponents -- Howard and Morgan State.

## This Week's MAC Schedule

### Saturday, September 8

Eastern Michigan at Purdue, Noon ET (Big Ten Network)  
Western Michigan at Michigan, Noon ET (FS1)  
Kansas at Central Michigan, 3:00 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Ball State at Notre Dame, 3:30 pm ET (NBC)  
Buffalo at Temple, 3:30 pm ET (ESPN3)  
Howard at Kent State, 3:30 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Morgan State at Akron, 3:30 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Maryland at Bowling Green, 6:00 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Utah at NIU, 7:30 pm ET/6:30 pm CT (ESPNNews)  
Cincinnati at Miami, 8:00 pm ET (Raycom/ESPN3)  
(at Paul Brown Stadium, Cincinnati, Ohio)  
Bye: Ohio; Toledo

### Saturday, September 15

Ball State at Indiana, Noon ET (Big Ten Network)  
Kent State at Penn State, Noon ET (FS1)  
Miami (Fla.) at Toledo, Noon ET (ABC/ESPN/ESPN2/ESPNU)  
Ohio at Virginia, 3:00 pm ET (ACC Network Extra)  
Central Michigan at NIU, 3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT (ESPN+)  
Miami at Minnesota, 3:30 pm ET (Big Ten Network)  
Eastern Kentucky at Bowling Green, 4:00 pm ET (ESPN3)  
Eastern Michigan at Buffalo, 6:00 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Delaware State at Western Michigan, 7:00 pm ET (ESPN+)  
Akron at Northwestern, 7:30 pm ET (Big Ten Network)

### Last Week's MAC Games

Ball State 42, Central Connecticut State 6  
Syracuse 55, Western Michigan 42  
Eastern Michigan 51, Monmouth 17  
Illinois 31, Kent State 24  
Ohio 38, Howard 32  
Kentucky 35, Central Michigan 20  
Marshall 35, Miami 28  
Iowa 33, NIU 7  
Buffalo 48, Delaware State 10  
Toledo 66, VMI 3  
No. 24 Oregon 58, Bowling Green 24  
Akron at Nebraska -- Game Cancelled due to weather

## 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

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

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.

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### **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 won its opener with a 38-32 victory over Howard. Solich continues to rise up the MAC career head coaching win list with 98 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 98-71 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. **98, Frank Solich, Ohio, 2005-present**
4. 79, Bob Pruett, Marshall, 1997-03
5. 77, Doyt Perry, Bowling Green, 1955-64

**MAC VS BIG TEN OPPONENTS**

With two wins last year 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 -- the MAC has won a regular season game vs. Big Ten opponents in each of the last 12 consecutive seasons (2006-2017), the longest streak in MAC history.

During this 12-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 (2); Penn State (1), Purdue (5) and Rutgers (1) for a total of 26 wins during this span of time.

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

**TOLEDO WINS 2017 MARATHON MAC CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Toledo Rockets 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 (11-2) 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 by a team 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 Oluosunkanmi 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 two seasons. 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. Zervos 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
- 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)
- Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl (Boca Raton, Fla.; vs. American Athletic Conference)
- 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:**

**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-Lafayette

**2006:** 11; Temple (5); Kansas; Virginia; North Carolina State; North Texas; FIU; Illinois

**2005:** 9; Army; Louisiana-Lafayette; Temple (4); Pittsburgh; Middle Tennessee State; Cincinnati

**2004:** 3; Temple (2); Kentucky

**2003:** 9; Kansas State; Northwestern; Colorado State; Cincinnati; Purdue; Maryland; Alabama; Iowa State; Pittsburgh

**2002:** 10; Rutgers; Troy; North Carolina; Cincinnati; UConn; Missouri; Kansas; Wyoming; Wake Forest; UNLV

**2001:** 11; UConn (2); Army; Cincinnati; Missouri; Temple (2); Minnesota; Northwestern; South Florida; Navy

**2000:** 9; Central Florida (2); Vanderbilt; Minnesota; UConn (2); Navy; Penn State; Iowa

**MAC HEAD COACHES IN HIGH DEMAND**

Football programs continue to take notice of MAC head coaches. There are 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 One Quick Recaps:**

**Ohio 38, Howard 32** -- Ohio senior wide receiver Papi White racked up a career-high 154 receiving yards on a career-high eight receptions and hauled in a touchdown, and junior quarterback Quinton Maxwell threw for two scores and ran for two more as Ohio held off Howard, 38-32.

Trailing the Bison 22-17 at halftime, the Bobcats scored two touchdowns in the opening 1:37 of the second half to turn the tide of the game. Ohio wide receiver DL Knock took the second-half kickoff back 99 yards for a touchdown, tying for the third-longest return in school history and marking the longest since Daz' Patterson went 100 yards to the house against Buffalo on Oct. 6, 2012.

On Howard's ensuing drive, senior linebacker Evan Croutch made his first career interception, setting up shop for the Ohio offense at the Howard 33-yard line. Maxwell completed passes of 11 yards and 19, then kept it himself for a one-yard touchdown run, helping to give the Bobcats a 31-22 lead.

**Syracuse 55, Western Michigan 42** -- Western Michigan fell to ACC opponent Syracuse 55-42 on Friday inside Waldo Stadium, despite a 27-point halftime deficit and career performances from wide receiver D'Wayne Eskridge and quarterback Jon Wassink.

Eskridge had eight receptions for a career-high 240 yards and two touchdowns, becoming the first Bronco to have over 200 receiving yards since 2016 NFL Draft No. 5 overall pick Corey Davis. Eskridge's 240 receiving yards tied for the 12th most in a single-game in MAC history.

Quarterback Jon Wassink went 19-of-36 for a career-high 379 yards and three touchdowns and set career-highs in attempts and yards while connecting on an 84-yard touchdown pass, the longest of his career. Also coming off a season-ending injury in 2017, junior running back LeVante Bellamy returned to form rushing for 120 yards and a career-high two touchdowns on 11 rushing attempts, with a long run of 64 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter.

**Illinois 31, Kent State 24** -- Kent State began its 96th season of football by coming up just short of its first program win over a Big Ten opponent Saturday at Memorial Stadium. Illinois used 28 second-half points to top the Golden Flashes 31-24 in the 2018 season opener.

Late in the fourth quarter, the Flashes put together a 13-play drive that made it as far as the Illinois four yard line, before a fourth-and-goal pass was intercepted with 2:11 to play. Behind the first career FBS start for quarterback Woody Barrett, the Flashes outgained Illinois through the air 270-190. Lewis did not shy away from fourth down attempts on offense, going 4-for-5 on the day, including a fourth-and-nine to set up a Kent State touchdown.

**No. 24 Oregon 58, Bowling Green 24** -- Bowling Green jumped out to an early 10-0 lead in the first quarter, however Oregon scored 30 points in the second quarter to finish with a 58-24 win on Saturday night. Bowling Green quarterback Jarret Doege was 22-38 passing for 253 yards and three touchdowns, while running back Andrew Clair rushed for 113 yards on 25 carries and Scott Miller added 13 receptions for 166 yards and two scores. Bowling Green posted 389 yards of total offense on the day and created three turnovers -- two on defense and one on special teams.

**Marshall 35, Miami 28** -- Miami quarterback Gus Ragland tossed three touchdown passes and amassed 357 yards through the air to spur a valiant comeback bid, but Miami fell just short in a 35-28 setback to Marshall at Yager Stadium on Saturday night. The contest suffered a two-and-a-half-hour weather delay. Miami wide receiver Jack Sorenson amassing 106 yards through the air and running back Kenny Young hauling in a team-high six passes. Final yardage had Miami with 444 yards to Marshall's 443 and neither team turned the ball over for the evening.

**Akron at Nebraska** -- The game was cancelled following a three-hour delay for lightning and thunderstorms.

**MAC Week One Quick Recaps:**

**Eastern Michigan 51, Monmouth 17** -- A sound offensive performance coupled with a stingy defense effort from Eastern Michigan powered the Eagles to a season-opening 51-17 victory over Monmouth Friday night, Aug. 31, at "The Factory" inside Rynearson Stadium. The victory marked the third consecutive season the Eagles tasted victory in their season opener, while it marked the squad's fourth-most points in a home debut.

Eastern Michigan ran away with the win behind a balanced offensive attack featuring 302 passing yards, along with 171 rushing yards. The Eagles racked up 473 yards of offense, posting a perfect 7-for-7 mark in the red zone. Senior Blake Banham, led the team's receiving attack, finishing with 103 yards on eight receptions. Starting quarterback Tyler Wiegiers ended was 18-for-21 passing for 238 yards and two touchdowns.

**Iowa 33, NIU 7** -- Iowa turned a 3-0 halftime lead into a 33-7 victory over Northern Illinois Saturday in the season opener at Kinnick Stadium. After the teams played to a near draw in the first half, with the only score a 33-yard field goal by Iowa's Miguel Recinos with 12:20 to play in the second quarter, the Hawkeyes exploded for 30 points in the second half.

The Iowa defense, meanwhile, held NIU scoreless until the 2:12 mark of the fourth quarter when quarterback Marcus Childers hit wide receiver Jauan Wesley in the corner of the end zone from 10 yards out for the Huskies' lone score of the game.

**Toledo 66, VMI 3** -- Toledo junior Mitchell Guadagni completed 11-of-16 passes for 265 yards and three touchdowns in his debut at quarterback as Toledo rolled to a 66-3 victory over VMI before 24,136 at the Glass Bowl Saturday night. The 66 points is the second time the Rockets have scored at least 60 points in a contest under third-year head coach Jason Candle, and the sixth time Toledo has cracked the 50-point mark in his reign. It is the largest margin of victory since an 88-0 victory over Davis & Elkins in 1951.

**Kentucky 35, Central Michigan 20** -- Central Michigan held a 17-7 lead in the second quarter, however Kentucky went on to outscore the Chippewas 18-3 the rest of the way for a 35-20 final on Saturday afternoon before 49,138 fans at Kroger Field.

The Chippewas had visions of another major upset -- just like the one they pulled off two years ago at Oklahoma State -- after taking advantage of four Kentucky turnovers in seizing a 20-14 lead with just over a minute to play in the first half. But Kentucky marched 71 yards in 41 seconds, scoring on a 24-yard pass with 14 seconds left in the half to go on top, 21-20, at the break. Central Michigan quarterback Tony Poljan was 17-27 for 137 yards in the road loss.

**Buffalo 48, Delaware State 10** -- Buffalo quarterback Tyree Jackson tossed a career-high six touchdowns passes and 189 yards in just over two quarters of work to lead Buffalo to a 48-10 win over Delaware State in the season opener at UB Stadium on Saturday. The junior quarterback was responsible for the Bulls' first six touchdowns, finding four different receivers for scores. Jackson's first touchdown pass was a nine-yard toss to newcomer George Rushing, who was playing in his first game with the Bulls after joining the program from Wisconsin. On the Bulls' next possession, Jackson found a familiar target in Anthony Johnson for a 27-yard touchdown to give the Bulls a 13-0 lead.

**Ball State 42, Central Connecticut State 6** -- Ball State had a record-setting performance Thursday night in a 42-6 win over Central Connecticut. Ball State piled up a school-record 652 yards, topping a mark set more than 40 years ago (1977), and came within 12 seconds of pitching its first shutout in more than a decade.

The Cardinals three-headed running back trio of James Gilbert, Malik Dunner and Caleb Huntley all contributed more than 70 yards from scrimmage out of the backfield. Ten Ball State players caught passes, including freshman Yo'Heinz Tyler, who hauled in two second-half touchdowns.

## Eastern Michigan (1-0, 0-0; MAC) at Purdue (0-1, 0-1; Big Ten)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • Noon ET • West Lafayette, Ind. • Ross-Ade Stadium (62,500)  
Big Ten Network  
Series: Purdue leads 2-0



Head Coach: Chris Creighton  
Career: 155-80 (22nd year) at Eastern Michigan: 16-34 (5th year)  
Football Contact: Greg Steiner, 734-487-0317, gsteiner2@emich.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB Ian Eriksen (12 att., 44 yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Tyler Wieggers (18-21 passing, 238 yds., 2 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Blake Banham (8 rec., 103 yds., 1 TDs)

### Defense:

Tackles: LB Kobie Beltram (9 tackles, 0.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Sacks: LB Terry Myrick (5 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: LB Kyle Rachwal (4 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Eastern Michigan won 51-17 over Monmouth on Aug 31...Eagles racked up 473 yards of offense, posting a perfect 7-for-7 mark in the red zone...Eastern Michigan scored on its first four possessions...Eastern Michigan returns 17 starters (6 off./ 7 def./ 4 sp.) and 46 letterwinners from last year's squad that finished 5-7 overall, 3-5 in the MAC.



Head Coach: Jeff Brohm  
Career: 37-17 (5th year) at Purdue: 7-7 (2nd year)  
Contact: Matt Rector, 765-494-3196, rector@purdue.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB Rondale Moore (2 att., 79 yards rushing, 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Elijah Sindelar (18-30 passing, 196 yds., 1 TD)  
Rec.: RB Rondale Moore (11 rec., 109 yds., 1 TD)

### Defense:

Tackles: LB Markus Bailey (9 tackles)  
Sacks: NA  
Int.: NA

Notes: Purdue lost 31-27 to Northwestern on Aug. 30...True freshman Rondale Moore broke Purdue's single-game all-purpose yards record by totaling 313 yards, passing the 312 compiled by Otis Armstrong in 1972 vs. Indiana...Moore totaled 79 rushing yards, 109 receiving yards and 125 kickoff return yards in the loss to Northwestern.

## Western Michigan (0-1, 0-0; MAC) at Michigan (0-1, 0-0; Big Ten)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • Noon ET • Ann Arbor, Mich. • Michigan Stadium (107,601)  
FS1  
Series: Michigan leads 6-0



Head Coach: Tim Lester  
Career: 46-30 (8th year) at Western Michigan: 6-7 (2nd year)  
Contact: Kristin Keirns, 269-387-4123, kristin.keirns@wmich.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB LeVante Bellamy (11 att., 120 yards, 2 TDs)  
Pass: QB Jon Wassink (19-36 passing, 379 yards, 3 TDs)  
Rec.: WR D'Wayne Eskridge (8 rec., 240 yards, 2 TDs)

### Defense:

Tackles: LB Alex Grace (13 tackles, 1.0 tfl)  
Sacks: DL Ali Fayad (5 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Western Michigan lost 55-42 to Syracuse on Aug. 31...Overcame a 27-point first half deficit to cut the lead to seven points in the second half...WR D'Wayne Eskridge set a career high with 8 receptions and 240 yards, which ranked tied for 12th most yards in single game in MAC history...QB Jon Wassink threw for a career high 379 yards.



Head Coach: Jim Harbaugh  
FBS Career: 57-33 (8th year) at Michigan: 28-12 (4th year)  
Contact: David Ablauf, 734-764-6456, dablauf@umich.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB Karan Higdon (21 att., 72 yards, 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Shea Patterson (20-30 passing, 227 yards, 0 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Nico Collins (3 rec., 66 yards, 0 TDs)

### Defense:

Tackles: DB Tyree Kinnel (8 tackles)  
Sacks: DE Chase Winovich (6 tackles, 3.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: DB Brandon Watson (2 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Michigan lost 24-17 at Notre Dame on Sept. 1...QB Shea Patterson made his first career start at Michigan and was 20-30 passing for 227 yards...QB Dylan McCaffrey relieved Patterson in the fourth quarter, making his first appearance as a Wolverine and went 4-of-6 for 22 yards...DE Chase Winovich led with 6 tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss and one sack.

## Kansas (0-1, 0-0; Big 12) at Central Michigan (0-1, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 3:00 pm ET • Mt. Pleasant, Mich. • Kelly/Shorts Stadium (30,255)  
ESPN+  
Series: Kansas leads 2-1



Head Coach: David Beaty  
Career: 3-34 (4th year) at Kansas: 3-34 (4th year)  
Contact: Katy Lonergan, 785-864-7314, katyl@ku.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB Khalil Herbert (12 att., 61 rushing yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Peyton Bender (19-35 passing, 187 yds., 2 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Steven Sims (4 rec., 29 yds., 1 TD)

### Defense:

Tackles: LB Joe Dineen (16 tackles)  
Sacks: LB Kyron Johnson (3 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Kansas lost 26-23 to Nicholls State on Sept. 1...WR Steven Sims Jr. caught the first touchdown reception of the year and Sims now has 16 career touchdown receptions, which is tied with Mark Simmons (2002-05) for fifth all-time in Kansas history...LB Joe Dineen Jr. recorded his 16th-career game with 10 or more tackles after recording 16 tackles.



Head Coach: John Bonamego  
Career: 21-19 (4th year) at Central Michigan: 21-19 (4th year)  
Football Contact: Rob Wyman, 989-774-3041, wyman1rd@cmich.edu

### Offense:

Rush: RB Jonathan Ward (11 att., 46 rushing yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Tony Poljan (17-27 passing, 137 yds., 0 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Cameron Cole (4 rec., 51 yds., 0 TDs)

### Defense:

Tackles: DB Devonni Reed (14 tackles)  
Sacks: LB Michael Oliver (2 tackles, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: DB Xavier Crawford (2 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Central Michigan lost 35-20 at Kentucky on Sept. 1...QB Tony Poljan made his first career start with 17-27 passing for 137 yards and added 47 yards rushing on 16 carries...Chippewas scored 17 points in the third quarter and forced four first half turnovers to take a 20-14 lead, before Kentucky scored 21 unanswered points...WR Cameron Cole led with four catches for 51 yards.



## Ball State (1-0, 0-0; MAC) at Notre Dame (1-0; Independent)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • South Bend, Ind. • Notre Dame Stadium (80,795)

NBC  
Series: First Meeting



Head Coach: Mike Neu  
Career: 7-18 (3rd year) at Ball State: 7-18 (3rd year)  
Contact: Mike Clark, 765-285-8904, maclark4@bsu.edu

Offense:  
Rush: RB James Gilbert (14 att., 100 yards rushing, 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Riley Neal (23-30 passing, 259 yds., 2 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Justin Hall (5 rec., 38 yds., 0 TDs)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Jeremiah Jackson (7 tackles, 0.5 tfl)  
Sacks: LB Jacob White (4 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Ball State won 42-6 over Central Connecticut on Aug. 30...Ball State set a school-record with 652 yards of offense, topping a mark set more than 40 years ago (618 yards in 1977 vs. Cal Poly), and came within 12 seconds of pitching its first shutout in more than a decade...Ball State won its ninth straight home opener.



Head Coach: Brian Kelly  
Career: 220-90 (28th year) at Notre Dame: 49-33 (9th year)  
Contact: Michael Bertsch, 574-631-8642, mbertsch1@nd.edu

Offense:  
Rush: RB Jafar Armstrong (15 att., 48 yards rushing, 2 TDs)  
Pass: QB Brandon Wimbush (12-22 passing, 170 yds., 1 TD)  
Rec.: WR Chris Finke (3 rec., 55 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Te'Von Coney (10 tackles, 0.5 tfl)  
Sacks: DL Jerry Tillery (4 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)  
Int.: DL Julian Okwara (1 INT)

Notes: Notre Dame won 24-17 over Michigan on Sept. 1...Notre Dame outgained Michigan by a cumulative total of 233 yards to 90 in the first half of play, while the Irish held Michigan to just 58 yards on 33 rushing attempts for the game, an average of 1.8 yards per carry...In 12 of the last 14 games, the Irish have either forced a turnover or held an opponent to a punt on the first defensive drive of a game.

## Buffalo (1-0, 0-0; MAC) at Temple (0-1, 0-0; American)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Philadelphia, Pa. • Lincoln Financial Field (68,532)

ESPN3  
Series: Buffalo leads 12-4



Head Coach: Lance Leipold  
Career: 123-29 (11th year) at Buffalo: 14-23 (4th year)  
Football Contact: Jon Fuller, 716-645-6762, jfuller3@buffalo.edu

Offense:  
Rush: RB Emmanuel Reed (8 att., 32 yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Tyree Jackson (17-27 passing, 189 yards, 6 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Anthony Johnson (4 rec., 57 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Khalil Hodge (8 tackles, 0.5 tfl)  
Sacks: DE Ledarius Mack (3 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Buffalo won 48-10 over Delaware State on Sept. 1...QB Tyree Jackson threw for a career-high 6 TDs, including a school record five alone in the first half...The 6 TDs ranks second-most in a single-game in school history...Bulls return 16 starters (8 off./ 7 def./ 1 sp.) and 51 letterwinners from last year that finished 6-6 overall, 4-4 in the MAC.



Head Coach: Geoff Collins  
Career: 7-7 (2nd year) at Temple: 7-7 (2nd year)  
Contact: Rich Burg, 215-204-0876, rich.burg@temple.edu

Offense:  
Rush: RB Ryquell Armstead (14 att., 31 yards, 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Frank Nutile (18-32 passing, 185 yds., 1 TD)  
Rec.: WR Branden Mack (7 rec., 78 yds., 0 TDs)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Shaun Bradley (10 tackles)  
Sacks: DT Michael Dogbe (6 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)  
Int.: LB Sam Franklin (4 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Temple lost 19-17 to Villanova on Sept. 1...Temple continues its streak of blocking kicks as they lead the FBS in blocked kicks with 20 since 2014...DE Quincy Roche had both blocked kicks and also recorded a sack and five tackles total, two for loss...WR Branden Mack made his first career start and led with seven catches and 78 receiving yards.

## Howard (0-1, 0-0; MEAC) at Kent State (0-1, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Kent, Ohio • Dix Stadium (25,319)

ESPN+  
Series: Kent State leads 1-0



Head Coach: Mike London  
Career: 58-56 (10th year) at Howard: 7-5 (2nd year)  
Contact: Derek W. Bryant, 202-806-7184, derek.bryant@howard.edu

Offense:  
Rush: QB Caylin Newton (21 att., 93 rushing yds; 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Caylin Newton (26-52 passing, 439 yards, 3 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Jaquez Ezzard (8 rec., 223 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Marcellus Allison (12 tackles, 1.0 tfl)  
Sacks: LB Zamon Robinson (4 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Howard lost 38-32 at Ohio on Sept. 1...QB Caylin Newton posted 532 total yards with four total touchdowns, as he threw for a career-high 439 yards with three TDs while adding 93 yards on the ground, including a touchdown...His 532 total yards is the third-most in program history and Newton's 439 yards in the air is the most since 2001.



Head Coach: Sean Lewis  
Career: 0-1 (1st year) at Kent State: 0-1 (1st year)  
Football Contact: Aaron Chimenti, 330-672-8468, achimenti@kent.edu

Offense:  
Rush: QB Woody Barrett (18 att., 117 rushing yds; 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Woody Barrett (28-41 passing, 270 yards, 2 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Mike Carrigan (8 rec., 62 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:  
Tackles: LB Jim Jones (11 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Sacks: DE Theo Eboigbe (5 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Kent State lost 31-24 at Illinois on Sept. 1...QB Woody Barrett made his first career collegiate football start and threw for 270 yards and two touchdowns in his Kent State debut and rushed for 117 yards...Kent State returns 14 starters (6 off./ 6 def./ 2 spec.) and 49 letterwinners from last year's squad that finished 2-10 overall, 1-7 in the MAC.

# Morgan State (0-1, 0-0; MEAC) at Akron (0-0, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 3:30 pm ET • Akron, Ohio • InfoCision Stadium -- Summa Field (27,881)

ESPN+

Series: Akron leads 2-0



Interim Head Coach: Ernest T. Jones  
at Morgan State: 0-1 (1st year)  
Football Contact: Leonard Haynes, 443-885-3831  
leonard.haynes@morgan.edu

## Offense:

Rush: RB Joshua Chase (13 att., 28 rushing yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB DeAndre Harris (12-21 passing, 101 yards, 0 TDs)  
Rec.: TE Jack McCracken (3 rec., 43 yds., 0 TDs)

## Defense:

Tackles: LB Damare Whitaker (9 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Sacks: LB Rico Kennedy (8 tackles, 3.0 tfl, 2.0 sacks)  
Int.: DB Marquise Thorns (4 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Morgan State lost 36-10 to Towson on Sept. 1...QB DeAndre Harris completed 12-of-21 passes for 101 yards, including an interception...TE Jack McCracken led all receivers with 43 yards on three catches, while RB Joshua Chase added 28 yards on the ground...Morgan State had only 170 total yards of offense in the loss.



Head Coach: Terry Bowden  
Career: 171-106-2 (25th year) at Akron: 31-44 (7th year)  
Contact: Cathy Bongiovi, 330-972-6106, cathyb@uakron.edu

## Offense: (last year's leaders)

Rush: RB Van Edwards (94 att., 343 rushing yds., 2 TDs)  
Pass: QB Kato Nelson (70-40 passing, 989 yards, 8 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Kwadarius Smith (34 rec., 726 yds., 7 TDs)

## Defense: (last year's leaders)

Tackles: LB Ulysees Gilbert (140 tackles, 9.5 tfl, 6.0 sacks)  
Sacks: LB Ulysees Gilbert (140 tackles, 9.5 tfl, 6.0 sacks)  
Int.: DB Jordan George (71 tackles, 5 INT)

Notes: Akron at Nebraska on Sept. 1 was cancelled due to weather...Akron returns 15 starters (6 off./9 def./3 sp.) and 58 letterwinners from last year's squad that went 7-7 overall, 6-2 in MAC to win the East Division for the first time since 2005...Suffered a 50-3 loss to Florida Atlantic in the Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl.

# Maryland (1-0, 0-0; Big Ten) at Bowling Green (0-1, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 6:00 pm ET • Bowling Green, Ohio • Doyt L. Perry Stadium (24,000)

ESPN+

Series: Bowling Green leads 1-0



Head Coach: DJ Durkin  
Career: 11-15 (3rd year) at Maryland: 10-15 (3rd year)  
Football Contact: Dustin Semonavick, 301-314-7065, dustin@umd.edu

## Offense:

Rush: RB Tayon Fleet-Davis (7 att., 31 rushing yds., 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Kasim Hill (17-29 passing, 222 yds., 1 TD)  
Rec.: WR Tavion Jacobs (5 rec., 73 yds., 1 TD)

## Defense:

Tackles: DB Antoine Brooks (11 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1 INT)  
Sacks: DL Mbi Tanyi (4 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: LB Tre Watson (9 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Maryland won 34-29 over No. 23 Texas on Sept. 1...Matt Canada serves as interim head coach...Maryland forced three turnovers in the final 6:09 and scored the games final 10 points for the victory...QB Kasim Hill was 17-29 passing for 222 yards and one touchdown...WR Jeshawn Jones ran for a score, threw for one and caught a 65-yard TD pass.



Head Coach: Mike Jinks  
Career: 6-19 (3rd year) at Bowling Green: 6-19 (3rd year)  
Football Contact: Jason Knavel, 419-372-7075, jknavel@bgsu.edu

## Offense:

Rush: RB Andrew Clair (25 att., 113 rushing yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Jarret Doege (22-38 passing, 253 yards, 3 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Scott Miller (13 rec., 166 yds., 2 TDs)

## Defense:

Tackles: LB Brandon Harris (7 tackles)  
Sacks: DL Roland Walder (5 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: DB Marcus Milton (2 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Bowling Green lost 58-24 at Oregon on Sept. 1...WR Scott Miller posted a career-high 13 catches for a team-high 166 yards, and marked his seventh career 100+-yard receiving game...RB Andrew Clair totaled 113 yards on a career-high 25 carries, and eclipsed the 100-yard milestone in a game for the seventh times in his young career.

# Utah (1-0, 0-0; Pac-12) at Northern Illinois (0-1, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 7:30 pm ET • DeKalb, Ill. • Brigham Field at Huskie Stadium (23,595)

ESPNews

Series: First Meeting



Head Coach: Kyle Whittingham  
Career: 114-56 (1st year) at Utah: 114-56 (15th year)  
Football Contact: Liz Abel, 801-581-3511, label@huntsman.utah.edu

## Offense:

Rush: RB Zach Moss (16 att., 150 rushing yds., 1 TD)  
Pass: QB Tyler Huntley (25-40 passing, 279 yds., 4 TDs)  
Rec.: WR Britain Covey (7 rec., 79 yds., 0 TDs)

## Defense:

Tackles: DT John Penisini (6 tackles, 3.0 tfl)  
Sacks: LB Donovan Thompson (3 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: NA

Notes: Utah won 41-10 over Weber State on Aug. 30...Utah held Weber State to just 61 yards, the third lowest total in Utah history, while the Utes exploded to 587 yards of total offense with 12 different players catching a pass...Utah racked up 11 tackles for loss and seven pass pickups on defense.



Head Coach: Rod Carey  
Career: 44-25 (6th year) at NIU: 44-25 (6th year)  
Football Contact: Donna Turner, 815-753-9513, donnaturner@niu.edu

## Offense:

Rush: RB Jordan Nettles (13 att., 74 rushing yds., 0 TDs)  
Pass: QB Marcus Childers (14-25 passing, 105 yds., 1 TD)  
Rec.: WR D.J. Brown (5 rec., 38 yds., 0 TD)

## Defense:

Tackles: LB Kyle Pugh (9 tackles)  
Sacks: DE Sutton Smith (5 tackles, 1.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)  
Int.: DB Albert Smalls (1 tackle, 1 INT)

Notes: NIU lost 33-7 at Iowa on Sept. 1...NIU's seven points were its fewest scored in a game since Sept. 17, 2011 (49-7 loss to Wisconsin at Soldier Field)...NIU returns 17 starters (9 off./6 def./2 sp.) and 54 letterwinners from last year's team that went 8-5 overall, 6-2 in the MAC...NIU suffered a 36-14 loss to Duke in the 2018 Quick Lane Bowl.

# Cincinnati (1-0, 0-0; American) at Miami (0-1, 0-0; MAC)

Saturday, September 8, 2018 • 8:00 pm ET • Cincinnati, Ohio • Paul Brown Stadium (65,515)

Raycom / ESPN3

Series: Miami leads 59-56-7



Head Coach: Luke Fickell

Career: 11-15 (3rd year) at Cincinnati: 5-8 (2nd year)

Contact: Ryan Koslen, 513-556-5186, ryan.koslen@uc.edu

Offense:

Rush: RB Michael Warren (35 att., 142 yards, 3 TDs)

Pass: QB Desmond Ridder (13-24 passing, 100 yds., 0 TDs)

Rec.: RB Michael Warren (3 rec., 29 yards, 0 TDs)

Defense:

Tackles: DT Marquise Copeland (7 tackles)

Sacks: DT Cortez Broughton (6 tackles, 4.5 tfl, 3.5 sacks)

Int.: DB James Wiggins (6 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Cincinnati won 26-17 at UCLA on Sept. 1...Bearcats defense limited UCLA to 306 yards of offense...RB Michael Warren rushed for 142 yards and 3 TDs...QB Desmond Ridder threw for 100 yards and rushed for 63 yards after replacing senior starting QB Hayden Moore in the third offensive series for the Bearcats.



Head Coach: Chuck Martin

Career: 90-41 (11th year) at Miami: 16-34 (5th year)

Football Contact: Dave Meyer, 513-529-4329, meyerd@miamioh.edu

Offense:

Rush: RB Alonzo Smith (8 att., 35 yds., 1 TD)

Pass: QB Gus Ragland (25-46 passing, 357 yds., 3 TDs)

Rec.: WR James Gardner (4 rec., 62 yds., 0 TDs)

Defense:

Tackles: LB Junior McMullen (9 tackles)

Sacks: LB Brad Koenig (8 tackles, 2.0 tfl, 1.0 sack)

Int.: NA

Notes: Miami lost 35-28 to Marshall on Sept. 1...Miami posted 444 yards of total offense with no turnovers...QB Gus Ragland led with 357 yards passing and 3 TDs...Miami returns 19 starters (8 off./8 def./3 spec.) and 47 letterwinners from last year's team that went 5-7 overall, 4-4 in the MAC.

## Bye Week: Ohio (1-0, 0-0; MAC); Toledo (1-0, 0-0; MAC)



Head Coach: Frank Solich

Career: 156-90 (20th year) at Ohio: 98-71 (14th year)

Contact: Mike Ashcraft, 740-593-1299, ashcraft@ohio.edu

Offense:

Rush: RB AJ Ouellette (17 att., 59 yards, 0 TDs)

Pass: QB Quinten Maxwell (17-25 passing, 233 yds., 2 TDs)

Rec.: WR Papi White (8 rec., 154 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:

Tackles: LB Evan Croutch (9 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1 INT)

Sacks: DL Cole Baker (5 tackles, 0.5 tfl, 1.0 sack)

Int.: LB Evan Croutch (9 tackles, 1.5 tfl, 1 INT)

Notes: Ohio won 38-32 over Howard on Sept. 1...Ohio returns 15 starters (8 off./4 def./3 sp.) and 49 letterwinners from last year's team that finished 9-4 overall, including 6-2 in the MAC...Posted a 41-6 win over UAB in the 2017 Bahamas Bowl...Under Solich, Bobcats have been bowl eligible in each of the last nine consecutive years.



Head Coach: Jason Candle

Career: 22-7 (3rd year) at Toledo: 22-7 (3rd year)

Contact: Paul Helgren, 419-530-4918, paul.helgren@utoledo.edu

Offense:

Rush: RB Shakif Seymour (6 att., 25 yds., 2 TDs)

Pass: QB Michael Guadagni (11-16 passing, 265 yds., 3 TDs)

Rec.: WR Dontae Johnson (2 rec., 60 yds., 1 TD)

Defense:

Tackles: DE Jamal Hines (7 tackles, 2.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)

Sacks: DE Jamal Hines (7 tackles, 2.5 tfl, 2.0 sacks)

Int.: DB Tycen Anderson (5 tackles, 1 INT)

Notes: Toledo won 66-3 over VMI on Sept. 1...Toledo's 63-point margin of victory is its largest since 1951, when Toledo defeated Davis & Elkins 88-0, and the third-largest margin of victory in program history. Rockets return 14 starters (6 off./6 def./2 sp.) and 53 letterwinners from last year's 11-3 squad, 7-1 in the MAC...Rockets won the MAC Championship for the first time since 2004.

## Weekly Coaches Teleconference

The Mid-American Conference football coaches will be available each Monday beginning Aug. 27 through Nov. 19 for a weekly media conference call. There will be an additional football championship teleconference Nov. 26 at 10 a.m. All times listed below are Eastern.

For call in number for the media please contact Ken Mather at 216-566-4622 or kmather@mac-sports.com. The conference call will also be available at www.GetSomeMAAction.com each Monday afternoon.

9:30-9:38  
9:38-9:46  
9:46-9:54  
9:54-10:02  
10:02-10:10  
10:18-10:26  
10:26-10:34  
10:34-10:42  
10:42-10:50  
10:50-10:58  
10:58-11:06  
11:06-11:14

Terry Bowden, Akron  
Jason Candle, Toledo  
Rod Carey, Northern Illinois  
Chris Creighton, Eastern Michigan  
John Bonamego, Central Michigan  
Frank Solich, Ohio  
Chuck Martin, Miami  
Sean Lewis, Kent State  
Lance Leipold, Buffalo  
Mike Jinks, Bowling Green  
Mike Neu, Ball State  
Tim Lester, Western Michigan

## Mid-American Conference Football Contacts

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

Akron -- Cathy Bongiovi (cathyb@uakron.edu) -- 330.972.6106  
Ball State -- Mike Clark (maclark4@bsu.edu) -- 765.285.8242  
Bowling Green -- Jason Knavel (jknave1@bgsu.edu) -- 419.372.7075  
Buffalo -- Jon Fuller (jfuller3@buffalo.edu) -- 716.645.6762  
Central Michigan -- Rob Wyman (wyman1rd@cmich.edu) -- 989.774.3041  
Eastern Michigan -- Greg Steiner (greg.steiner@emich.edu) -- 734.487.0318  
Kent State -- Aaron Chimenti (achiment@kent.edu) -- 330.672.8468  
Miami -- Dave Meyer (meyerd@miamioh.edu) -- 513.529.4329  
Northern Illinois -- Donna Turner (donnaturner@niu.edu) -- 815.753.9513  
Ohio -- Mike Ashcraft (ashcraft@ohio.edu) -- 740.593.1299  
Toledo -- Paul Helgren (paul.helgren@utoledo.edu) -- 419.530.4918  
Western Michigan -- Kristin Keirns (kristin.keirns@wmich.edu) -- 269.387.3065





### 2018 Akron Zips (0-0, 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+	Akron leads 2-0
Sat., Sept. 15	at Northwestern	7:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 22	at Iowa State	TBA	TBA	Iowa State leads 1-0
Sat., Oct. 6	* Miami	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 17-9-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Buffalo	TBA	TBA	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 (1-0, 0-0)

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	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 15	at Indiana	Noon ET	Big Ten Network	Indiana leads 5-3
Sat., Sept. 22	Western Kentucky	TBA	TBA	Series tied 2-2
Sat., Sept. 29	*Kent State	TBA	TBA	BSU leads 20-7
Sat., Oct. 6	*NIU	TBA	TBA	NIU leads 23-20-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

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+	BGSU leads 1-0
Sat., Sept. 15	Eastern Kentucky	4:00 pm ET	ESPN3	EKU leads 3-1
Sat., Sept. 22	*Miami	TBA	TBA	Miami leads 43-24-5
Sat., Sept. 29	at Georgia Tech	TBA	TBA	First Meeting
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 (1-0, 0-0)

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	Buffalo leads 12-4
Sat., Sept. 15	*Eastern Michigan	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	EMU leads 6-1
Sat., Sept. 22	at Rutgers	TBA	TBA	Rutgers leads 5-1
Sat., Sept. 29	Army	TBA	TBA	Series tied 3-3
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Central Michigan	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 7-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Akron	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

Date	Opponent	Time	Television	Series/Results
Sat., Sept. 1	at Kentucky	3:30 pm ET	ESPN	L, 20-35
Sat., Sept. 8	Kansas	3:00 pm ET	ESPN+	Kansas leads 2-1
Sat., Sept. 15	*at NIU	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	CMU leads 29-23-1
Sat., Sept. 22	Maine	TBA	TBA	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 29	at Michigan State	TBA	TBA	MSU leads 7-3
Sat., Oct. 6	*Buffalo	TBA	TBA	CMU leads 7-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Ball State	TBA	TBA	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 (1-0, 0-0)

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	Purdue leads 2-0
Sat., Sept. 15	*at Buffalo	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	EMU leads 6-1
Sat., Sept. 22	at San Diego State	10:30 pm ET	CBS Sports Network	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 29	*NIU	6:00 pm ET	ESPN+	NIU leads 32-14-2
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Western Michigan	Noon ET	TBA	WMU leads 33-18-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*Toledo	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

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+	KSU leads 1-0
Sat., Sept. 15	at Penn State	Noon ET	FS1	Penn State leads 5-0
Sat., Sept. 22	at Ole Miss	TBA	TBA	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Ball State	TBA	TBA	BSU leads 20-7
Sat., Oct. 6	*Ohio	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Ohio leads 43-25-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Miami	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

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	Miami lead 59-56-7
Sat., Sept. 15	at Minnesota	3:30 pm ET	Big Ten Network	Minnesota leads 3-0
Sat., Sept. 22	*at Bowling Green	TBA	TBA	Miami leads 43-24-5
Sat., Sept. 29	*Western Michigan	3:30 pm ET	TBA	Miami leads 37-21-1
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Akron	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Miami leads 17-9-1
Sat., Oct. 13	*Kent State	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

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	ESPNNews	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 15	*Central Michigan	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN+	CMU leads 29-23-1
Sat., Sept. 22	at Florida State	TBA	TBA	FSU leads 1-0
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Eastern Michigan	6:00 pm ET/5:00 pm CT	ESPN+	NIU leads 32-14-2
Sat., Oct. 6	*at Ball State	TBA	TBA	NIU leads 23-20-2
Sat., Oct. 13	*Ohio	3:30 pm ET/2:30 pm CT	ESPN Networks	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 (1-0, 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	Virginia leads 1-0
Sat., Sept. 22	at Cincinnati	TBA	TBA	Series tied 23-23-4
Sat., Sept. 29	UMass	TBA	TBA	Ohio leads 3-0
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 Networks	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 (1-0, 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	ABC/ESPN/ESPN2/ESPNU	Miami (Fla.) leads 2-0
Sat., Sept. 22	Nevada	TBA	TBA	Toledo leads 4-0
Sat., Sept. 29	at Fresno State	TBA	ESPN Networks	Fresno State leads 2-1
Sat., Oct. 6	*Bowling Green	3:30 pm ET	ESPN+	Series tied 39-39-4
Sat., Oct. 13	*at Eastern Michigan	TBA	TBA	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 (0-1, 0-0)

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	Michigan leads 6-0
Sat., Sept. 15	Delaware State	7:00 pm ET	ESPN+	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 22	at Georgia State	TBA	TBA	First Meeting
Sat., Sept. 29	*at Miami	3:30 pm ET	TBA	Miami leads 37-21-1
Sat., Oct. 6	*Eastern Michigan	Noon ET	TBA	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	*Toledo	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): (0-1)

Florida State (NIU)  
Georgia Tech (Bowling Green)  
Miami (Toledo)  
Syracuse (Western Michigan): L, 42-55  
Virginia (Ohio)

### American Athletic (3):

Cincinnati (Miami; Ohio)  
Temple (Buffalo)

### Big Ten (12): (0-2)

Illinois (Kent State): L, 24-31  
Indiana (Ball State)  
Iowa (NIU): L, 7-33  
Maryland (Bowling Green)  
Michigan (Western Michigan)  
Michigan State (Central Michigan)  
Minnesota (Miami)  
Nebraska (Akron): Cancelled  
Northwestern (Akron)  
Penn State (Kent State)  
Purdue (Eastern Michigan)  
Rutgers (Buffalo)

### Big 12 (2)

Iowa State (Akron)  
Kansas (Central Michigan)

### Conference USA (2): (0-1)

Marshall (Miami): L, 28-35  
Western Kentucky (Ball State)

### Mountain West (3)

Fresno State (Toledo)  
Nevada (Toledo)  
San Diego State (Eastern Michigan)

### Pac-12 (2): (0-1)

Oregon (Bowling Green): L, 24-58  
Utah (NIU)

### SEC (2): (0-1)

Kentucky (Central Michigan): L, 20-35  
Ole Miss (Kent State)

### Sun Belt (1)

Georgia State (Western Michigan)

### Independent (6)

Army (3) (Buffalo; Eastern Michigan; Miami)  
BYU (NIU)  
Notre Dame (Ball State)  
UMass (Ohio)

### FCS Opponents (I-AA)

### Big South (1): (1-0)

Monmouth (Eastern Michigan): W, 51-17

### Colonial Athletic (1)

Maine (Central Michigan)

### MEAC (5): (2-0)

Delaware State (Buffalo; Western Michigan): W, 48-10  
Howard (Ohio; Kent State): W, 38-32  
Morgan State (Akron)

### Northeast (1): (1-0)

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

### Ohio Valley (1)

Eastern Kentucky (Bowling Green)

### 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)