



**Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017**  
**12:30 p.m. (CT)/1:30 p.m. (ET)**  
**Cotton Bowl Stadium**  
**Dallas, Texas**



Year: 8th (Began in 2011)  
 TV: ESPN  
 Radio: Heart of Dallas Bowl Network  
 Teams: Big Ten (home) vs. Big 12 (visitor)  
 Executive Director: Brant B. Ringler

**MEDIA INFORMATION**

Media Contact: Art Garcia  
 Phone: (817) 797-8379  
 Email: artd1992@gmail.com  
 Website: [theheartofdallasbowl.com](http://theheartofdallasbowl.com)

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

	Times CT
<b>Thursday, Aug. 31</b>	
Buffalo @ Minnesota (BTN)	6 pm
Tulsa @ #10 Oklahoma State (FS1)	6:30 pm
#2 Ohio State @ Indiana (ESPN)	7 pm
<b>Friday, Sept. 1</b>	
#8 Washington @ Rutgers (FS1)	7 pm
Utah State @ #9 Wisconsin (ESPN)	8 pm
<b>Saturday, Sept. 2</b>	
Ball State @ Illinois (BTN)	11 am
Wyoming @ Iowa (BTN)	11 am
Bowling Green @ Michigan State (ESPNU)	11 am
Maryland @ #23 Texas (FS1)	11 am
Akron @ #6 Penn State (ABC)	11 am
Nevada @ Northwestern (BTN)	2:30 pm
#11 Michigan vs. #17 Florida (ABC)	2:30 pm
UTEP @ #7 Oklahoma (FOX)	2:30 pm
Eastern Washington @ Texas Tech	3 pm
Liberty @ Baylor (FS2)	6 pm
Southeast Missouri State @ Kansas (ESPN3)	6 pm
Central Arkansas @ #20 Kansas State (ESPN3)	6:10 pm
#16 Louisville vs. Purdue (FOX)	6:30 pm
Arkansas State @ Nebraska (BTN)	7 pm
Northern Iowa @ Iowa State	7 pm
Jackson State @ TCU (FOX)	7 pm

# WEEKLY NOTES

Aug. 29, 2017

**AT A GLANCE**

**BIG TEN**

The 122nd season of Big Ten football commences this weekend with all 14 schools kicking off 2017. For the first time since 1996, there will be a conference matchup on the opening weekend of the season as No. 2 Ohio State visits Indiana on Thursday. **Big Ten Standings** [here](#):

**BIG 12**

All 10 conference programs are in action this week, starting with an instate matchup as Tulsa visits No. 10 Oklahoma State on Thursday night. **Big 12 Standings** [here](#):

**STAYING NEUTRAL**

The first Saturday features a pair of Big Ten teams competing at neutral sites. Michigan faces Florida at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, while Purdue takes on Louisville at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

**SOONERS GOING FOR 3-PEAT**

Oklahoma was picked to finish at the top of the standings for the second consecutive year in the Big 12 football preseason poll, voted on by media. It's the fifth time since 2011 that the Sooners topped the preseason poll. OU has captured a Big 12-record 10 league titles, including the last two.

**BOWLING IN THE USA**

The Big Ten will continue to feature the largest bowl lineup in conference history. This season, the bowl lineup is highlighted by 16 potential bowl destinations in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Tennessee and Texas.

**DON'T SLEEP ON TCU**

The Horned Frogs are not ranked in the preseason Associated Press or Amway USA Today Coaches polls for the first time since 2014. TCU went on to post a 12-1 record while winning a Big 12 title and defeating Ole Miss 42-3 in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl.

**BACK TO BACK FOR LIONS?**

Penn State was crowned Big Ten champ last season after its 38-31 victory over Wisconsin in the Championship Game. It was the Nittany Lions' fourth Big Ten title and first since 2008. Penn State has never repeated as league champs in program history.

**IN THE NEWS**

Ned Seaton (@MERCnewsroom) of the *Manhattan Mercury* writes about the notion circulated this spring and summer that Bill Snyder would muddle through cancer treatments for a few months, then quit just before the season. Get the real scoop [here](#):

Mike Miller (@MikeMillerHT) of *The Bloomington Herald-Times* lets us know that Indiana coach Tom Allen wants his Hoosiers to look past hype of the Ohio State mega game. Continue reading [here](#):

Jerry Hill (@ViewFromHill) of *baylorbears.com* writes that Matt Rhule has made it clear in his short time at Baylor that jobs are there for the taking. "I'll always play the best player, no matter who they are or what age," Rhule said. Read more [here](#):

Don Markus (@SportsProf56) of the *Baltimore Sun* writes that Maryland named Tyrrell Pigrome as starting QB for the opener at No. 23 Texas. The whole story [here](#):

**TICKETS ON SALE**

Tickets for the 2017 Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl will be on sale soon at [www.heartofdallasbowl.com](http://www.heartofdallasbowl.com). Tickets range from \$25 for a general admission seat, to \$75 for a reserved lower bowl seat and \$125 for a mid-field chair back seat.

**HOLIDAY CHEER IN BIG D**

The eighth annual Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl will be played on Tuesday, Dec. 26, at the historic Cotton Bowl Stadium on the grounds of Fair Park. This year's Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl featuring teams from the Big Ten and Big 12 is slated to kick off at 12:30 p.m. CT (1:30 p.m. ET), and televised nationally on ESPN.

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