

2017-18

BOWL SEASON
PREVIEW & FANTASY
GUIDE



College Fantasy Football
Knowledge, Strategy, and Passion Required

2017 Bowl Season Player Rankings

Quarterbacks

1. Lamar Jackson, Louisville v Mississippi State
2. Riley Ferguson, Memphis v Iowa State
3. Mason Rudolph, Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
4. Khalil Tate, Arizona v Purdue
5. Baker Mayfield, Oklahoma v Georgia
6. Justice Hansen, Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
7. JT Barrett, Ohio State v USC
8. Quinton Flowers, South Florida v Texas Tech
9. Nathan Rourke, Ohio v UAB
10. Drew Lock, Missouri v Texas
11. John Wolford, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
12. Nick Shimonek, Texas Tech v South Florida
13. Tyler Rogers, New Mexico State v Utah State
14. Sam Darnold, USC v Ohio State
15. **Tyler Huntley, Utah v West Virginia
16. Trace McSorley, Penn State v Washington
17. McKenzie Milton, Central Florida v Auburn
18. Ben Hicks, SMU v Louisiana Tech
19. Josh Rosen, UCLA v Kansas State
20. Brent Stockstill, Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
21. D'Eriq King, Houston v Fresno State
22. Mike White, Western Kentucky v Georgia State
23. Brandon Wimbush, Notre Dame v LSU
24. Luke Falk, Washington State v Michigan State
25. Logan Woodside, Toledo v Appalachian State
26. Zach Abey, Navy v Virginia
27. Justin Herbert, Oregon v Boise State
28. Kyle Kempt, Iowa State v Memphis
29. AJ Erdely, UAB v Ohio
30. Keytaon Thompson, Mississippi State v Louisville
31. Taylor Lamb, Appalachian State v Toledo
32. Jarrett Stidham, Auburn v Central Florida
33. Mason Fine, North Texas v Troy
34. Kurt Benkert, Virginia v Navy
35. Josh Jackson, Virginia Tech v Oklahoma State
36. Manny Wilkins, Arizona State v North Carolina State
37. Kelly Bryant, Clemson v Alabama
38. Malik Rosier, Miami v Wisconsin
39. Brett Rypien, Boise State v Oregon
40. J'mar Smith, Louisiana Tech v SMU
41. Brian Lewerke, Michigan State v Washington State
42. Jason Driskel, FAU v Akron
43. Jake Browning, Washington v Penn State
44. Skylar Thompson, Kansas State v UCLA
45. Nick Stevens, Colorado State v Marshall
46. Ahmad Bradshaw, Army v San Diego State
47. Marcus Childers, Northern Illinois v Duke
48. Elijah Sindelar, Purdue v Arizona
49. Chris Chugunov, West Virginia v Utah
50. Shane Morris, Central Michigan v Wyoming
51. Jalen Hurts, Alabama v Clemson
52. Nick Starkel, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
53. Ryan Finley, North Carolina State v Arizona State
54. Jake Fromm, Georgia v Oklahoma
55. Frank Natile, Temple v FIU
56. Chase Litton, Marshall v Colorado State
57. Daniel Jones, Duke v Northern Illinois
58. Kenny Hill, TCU v Stanford
59. Kwadra Griggs, Southern Mississippi v Florida State
60. Sam Ehlinger, Texas v Missouri
61. Clayton Thorson, Northwestern v Kentucky
62. James Blackman, Florida State v Southern Mississippi
63. Kato Nelson, Akron v FAU
64. Alex McGough, FIU v Temple
65. Troy Williams, Utah v West Virginia
66. Jordan Love, Utah State v New Mexico State
67. **Josh Allen, Wyoming v Central Michigan
68. Thomas Woodson, Akron v FAU
69. Marcus McMaryion, Fresno State v Houston
70. Nathan Stanley, Iowa v Boston College
71. KJ Costello, Stanford v TCU
72. Jake Bentley, South Carolina v Michigan
73. Danny Etling, LSU v Notre Dame
74. Darius Wade, Boston College v Iowa
75. Conner Manning, Georgia State v Western Kentucky
76. Shane Buechele, Texas v Missouri
77. Brandon Silvers, Troy v North Texas
78. Alix Hornibrook, Wisconsin v Miami
79. Stephen Johnson, Kentucky v Northwestern
80. Christian Chapman, San Diego State v Army
81. Kellen Mond, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
82. Brandon Peters, Michigan v South Carolina

**--track player's availability

Defense / Special Teams

1. Florida State v Southern Miss
2. Iowa v Boston College
3. Wisconsin v Miami
4. Michigan v South Carolina
5. Florida Atlantic v Akron
6. Wyoming v Central Michigan
7. Alabama v Clemson
8. Boston College v Iowa
9. San Diego State v Army
10. Fresno State v Houston
11. Western Kentucky v Georgia State
12. Duke v Northern Illinois
13. Northwestern v Kentucky
14. South Carolina v Michigan
15. LSU v Notre Dame
16. Clemson v Alabama
17. Troy v North Texas
18. Houston v Fresno State
19. Stanford v TCU
20. Georgia State v Western Kentucky
21. Colorado State v Marshall
22. Oregon v Boise State
23. Temple v FIU
24. UAB v Ohio
25. Utah v West Virginia
26. Georgia v Oklahoma
27. Ohio v UAB
28. Central Michigan v Wyoming
29. TCU v Stanford
30. Auburn v Central Florida
31. Washington State v Michigan State
32. Northern Illinois v Duke
33. Michigan State v Washington State
34. Ohio State v USC
35. Marshall v Colorado State
36. Notre Dame v LSU
37. Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
38. Penn State v Washington
39. Boise State v Oregon
40. FIU v Temple
41. Miami v Wisconsin
42. Kansas State v UCLA
43. Army v San Diego State
44. Oklahoma v Georgia
45. West Virginia v Utah
46. North Texas v Troy
47. Southern Miss v Florida State
48. SMU v Louisiana Tech
49. Arizona v Purdue
50. North Carolina State v Arizona State
51. Kentucky v Northwestern
52. Washington v Penn State
53. Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
54. Toledo v Appalachian State
55. Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
56. Louisiana Tech v SMU
57. Louisville v Mississippi State
58. Texas v Missouri
59. Wake Forest v Texas A&M
60. Mississippi State v Louisville
61. Navy v Virginia
62. Appalachian State v Toledo
63. Texas Tech v South Florida
64. Central Florida v Auburn
65. Virginia Tech v Oklahoma State
66. Iowa State v Memphis
67. Utah State v New Mexico State
68. Virginia v Navy
69. Texas A&M v Wake Forest
70. Arizona State v North Carolina State
71. USC v Ohio State
72. South Florida v Texas Tech
73. Missouri v Texas
74. Purdue v Arizona
75. Memphis v Iowa State
76. Akron v Florida Atlantic
77. New Mexico State v Utah State
78. UCLA v Kansas State

PLEASE NOTE: Confidence Points are based on winners, not against the spread.

Running Backs

1. Devin Singletary, FAU v Akron
2. Rashaad Penny, San Diego State v Army
3. Royce Freeman, Oregon v Boise State
4. Justice Hill, Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
5. Benny Snell, Kentucky v Northwestern
6. Saquon Barkley, Penn State v Washington
7. Myles Gaskin, Washington v Penn State
8. Bryce Love, Stanford v TCU
9. **Kerryon Johnson, Auburn v Central Florida
10. Jalin Moore, Appalachian State v Toledo
11. AJ Dillon, Boston College v Iowa
12. Larry Rose, New Mexico State v Utah State
13. Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin v Miami
14. **Rodney Anderson, Oklahoma v Georgia
15. Terry Swanson, Toledo v Appalachian State
16. Ito Smith, Southern Mississippi v Florida State
17. David Montgomery, Iowa State v Memphis
18. Derrius Guice, LSU v Notre Dame
19. Dalyn Dawkins, Colorado State v Marshall
20. Ronald Jones, USC v Ohio State
21. Sony Michel, Georgia v Oklahoma
22. Darrell Henderson, Memphis v Iowa State
23. Nick Chubb, Georgia v Oklahoma
24. Justin Jackson, Northwestern v Kentucky
25. **Alexander Mattison, Boise State v Oregon
26. Spencer Brown, UAB v Ohio
27. Jordan Chunn, Troy v North Texas
28. Akrum Wadley, Iowa v Boston College
29. Justin Stockton, Texas Tech v South Florida
30. Lajuan Hunt, Utah State v New Mexico State
31. Aeris Williams, Mississippi State v Louisville
32. Kam Martin, Auburn v Central Florida
33. Boston Scott, Louisiana Tech v SMU
34. Zack Moss, Utah v West Virginia
35. Ish Witter, Missouri v Texas
36. Demario Richard, Arizona State v North Carolina State
37. JK Dobbins, Ohio State v USC
38. Warren Wand, Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
39. Josh Adams, Notre Dame v LSU
40. **Izzy Matthews, Colorado State v Marsahll
41. Tyler King, Marshall v Colorado State
42. Nic Smith, North Texas v Troy
43. Travis Homer, Miami v Wisconsin
44. Jonathan Ward, Central Michigan v Wyoming
45. Darius Tice, South Florida v Texas Tech
46. Xavier Jones, SMU v Louisiana Tech
47. Justin Crawford, West Virginia v Utah
48. Matt Colburn, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
49. Jordan Huff, Northern Illinois v Duke
50. LJ Scott, Michigan State v Washington State
51. D'Ernest Johnson, South Florida v Texas Tech
52. Cam Akers, Florida State v Southern Mississippi
53. Malcolm Perry, Navy v Virginia
54. Darnell Woolfolk, Army v San Diego State
55. Terelle West, Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
56. Nyheim Hines, North Carolina State v Arizona State
57. Patrick Taylor, Memphis v Iowa State
58. Travis Etienne, Clemson v Alabama
59. Kyle Hicks, TCU v Stanford
60. Brittain Brown, Duke v Northern Illinois
61. Kennedy McKoy, West Virginia v Utah
62. Alex Barnes, Kansas State v UCLA
63. Darrel Williams, LSU v Notre Dame
64. Jacques Patrick, Florida State v Southern Mississippi
65. Jamal Morrow, Washington State v Michigan State
66. Damien Harris, Alabama v Clemson
67. Reggie Bonnafon, Louisville v Mississippi State
68. Chris Evans, Michigan v South Carolina
69. Shakif Seymour, Toledo v Appalachian State
70. Daniel Young, Texas v Missouri
71. **AJ Ouellette, Ohio v UAB
72. Keion Davis, Marshall, v Colorado State
73. David Hood, Temple v FIU
74. Karan Higdon, Michigan v South Carolina
75. Juwan Washington, San Diego State v Army
76. Jordan Ellis, Virginia v Navy
77. JJ Taylor, Arizona v Purdue
78. Alex Gardner, FIU v Temple
79. Ke'Mon Freeman, SMU v Louisiana Tech
80. Otis Anderson, Central Florida v Auburn
81. Markell Jones, Purdue v Arizona
82. Mike Weber, Ohio State v USC
83. Mulbah Car, Houston v Fresno State
84. Josh Jacobs, Alabama v Clemson
85. **Dorian Brown, Ohio v UAB
86. Anthony Gargiulo, Navy v Virginia
87. Larry Roundtree, Missouri v Texas
88. Cameron Scarlett, Stanford v TCU
89. Trayveon Williams, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
90. Tony Pollard, Memphis v Iowa State
91. Adrian Killins, Central Florida v Auburn
92. Soso Jamabo, UCLA v Kansas State
93. Bo Scarbrough, Alabama v Clemson
94. Kellen Overstreet, Wyoming v Central Michigan
95. Kell Walker, Army v San Diego State
96. Nick Wilson, Arizona v Purdue
97. Julian Ross, Ohio v UAB
98. Duke Catalon, Houston v Fresno State
99. Trey Sermon, Oklahoma v Georgia
100. Shaun Wilson, Duke v Northern Illinois
101. Ryquell Armstead, Temple v FIU
102. Steven Peoples, Virginia Tech v Oklahoma State
103. Glenn Smith, Georgia State v Western Kentucky
104. Tavien Feaster, Clemson v Alabama
105. DJ Knox, Purdue v Arizona
106. DeShawn McCleave, Virginia Tech v Oklahoma State
107. Keith Ford, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
108. AJ Turner, South Carolina v Michigan
109. Jon Hilliman, Boston College v Iowa
110. Trey Woods, Wyoming v Central Michigan
111. Zach Green, Arizona v Purdue
112. Stephen Carr, USC v Ohio State
113. Bolo Olorunfunmi, UCLA v Kansas State
114. Jordan Mims, Fresno State v Houston
115. Manny Morgan, Akron v FAU
116. D'Andre Ferby, Western Kentucky v Georgia State
117. Kalen Ballage, Arizona State v North Carolina State
118. Abdul Adams, Oklahoma v Georgia
119. James Butler, Iowa v Boston College
120. Josh Hokit, Fresno State v Houston
121. Tre Harbison, Northern Illinois v Duke
122. Gerald Holmes, Michigan State v Washington State
123. Tavares Thomas, Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
124. Brad Anderson, Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
125. Jeffery Wilson, North Texas v Troy
126. Dillon Birden, Houston v Fresno State

****--check player's availability**

Receivers / Tight Ends

1. Anthony Miller, Memphis v Iowa State
2. Jordan Lasley, UCLA v Kansas State
3. James Washington, Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
4. Keke Coutee, Texas Tech v South Florida
5. Diontae Johnson, Toledo v Appalachian State
6. Trey Quinn, SMU v Louisiana Tech
7. Courtland Sutton, SMU v Louisiana Tech
8. Michael Gallup, Colorado State v Marshall
9. Cedrick Wilson, Boise State v Oregon
10. Jaylen Samuels, North Carolina State v Arizona State
11. Allen Lazard, Iowa State v Memphis
12. Darren Carrington, Utah v West Virginia
13. Ty Lee, Middle Tennessee v Arkansas State
14. Ka'Raun White, West Virginia v Utah
15. **Thomas Owens, FIU v Temple
16. Korey Robertson, Southern Mississippi v Florida State
17. Emanuel Hall, Missouri v Texas
18. Tavares Martin, Washington State v Michigan State
19. Tabari Hines, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
20. Cam Phillips, Virginia Tech v Oklahoma State
21. Jaleel Scott, New Mexico State v Utah State
22. Jaylen Smith, Louisville v Mississippi State
23. Nacarius Fant, Western Kentucky v Georgia State
24. Penny Hart, Georgia State v Western Kentucky
25. Linell Bonner, Houston v San Diego State
26. Corey Willis, Central Michigan v Wyoming
27. Tre'Quan Smith, Central Florida v Auburn
28. David Sills, West Virginia v Utah
29. Marquez Valdes-Scantling, South Florida v Texas Tech
30. Teddy Veal, Louisiana Tech v SMU
31. Dylan Cantrell, Texas Tech v South Florida
32. Marcell Ateman, Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
33. Kelvin Harmon, North Carolina State v Arizona State
34. Christian Kirk, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
35. Gary Jennings, West Virginia v Utah
36. J'Mon Moore, Missouri v Texas
37. Steven Dunbar, Houston v San Diego State
38. KeeSean Johnson, San Diego State v Houston
39. Kalib Woods, FAU v Akron
40. Byron Pringle, Kansas State v UCLA
41. Olamide Zaccheaus, Virginia v Navy
42. Marquise Brown, Oklahoma v Georgia
43. N'Keal Harry, Arizona State v North Carolina State
44. Mark Andrews, Oklahoma v Georgia
45. Calvin Ridley, Alabama v Clemson
46. Deon Yelder, Western Kentucky v Georgia State
47. Ike Lewis, Appalachian State v Toledo
48. Deontay Burnett, USC v Ohio State
49. Ryan Davis, Auburn v Central Florida
50. **Dante Pettis, Washington v Penn State
51. Adonis Jennings, Temple v FIU
52. Tyler Conklin, Central Michigan v Wyoming
53. Cameron Echols-Luper, Western Kentucky v Georgia State
54. Willie Wright, FAU v Akron
55. Nyqwan Murray, Florida State v Southern Mississippi
56. Albert Okwuegbunam, Missouri v Texas
57. TJ Vasher, Texas Tech v South Florida
58. Damion Ratley, Texas A&M v Wake Forest
59. James Proche, SMU v Louisiana Tech
60. JJ Arcega-Whiteside, Stanford v TCU
61. **Tyre Brady, Marshall v Colorado State
62. DJ Chark, LSU v Notre Dame
63. Tyler Vaughns, USC v Ohio State
64. DaeSean Hamilton, Penn State v Washington
65. Noah Fant, Iowa v Boston College
66. Auden Tate, Florida State v Southern Mississippi
67. Mark Chapman, Central Michigan v Wyoming
68. Shun Brown, Arizona v Purdue
69. Jakobi Meyers, North Carolina State v Arizona State
70. Deon Cain, Clemson v Alabama
71. Ron'quavion Tarver, Utah State v New Mexico State
72. Justin McClinnis, Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
73. Raelon Singleton, Utah v West Virginia
74. Davontavean Martin, Washington State v Michigan State
75. KJ Hill, Ohio State v USC
76. CJ Johnson, Wyoming v Central Michigan
77. Chris Murray, Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
78. Javon Wims, Georgia v Oklahoma
79. Michael Pittman, USC v Ohio State
80. Kevin Stepherson, Notre Dame v LSU
81. Kwadarrus Smith, Akron v FAU
82. Michael Lawrence, North Texas v Troy
83. **Jake Roh, Boise State v Oregon
84. TJ Rahming, Duke v Northern Illinois
85. Ryan Yuracheck, Marshall v Colorado State
86. Jon'Vea Johnson, Toledo v Appalachian State
87. Andre Levrone, Virginia v Navy
88. Braxton Berrios, Miami v Wisconsin
89. Felton Davis, Michigan State v Washington State
90. Dezmon Patmon, Washington State v Michigan State
91. Dillon Mitchell, Oregon v Boise State
92. Dillon Stoner, Oklahoma State v Virginia Tech
93. Mike Gesicki, Penn State v Washington
94. Hakeem Butler, Iowa State v Memphis
95. CeeDee Lamb, Oklahoma v Georgia
96. Scotty Washington, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
97. Papi White, Ohio v UAB
98. Rico Bussey, North Texas v Troy
99. Anthony Muse, New Mexico State v Utah State
100. Blake Mack, Arkansas State v Middle Tennessee
101. **Harrison Bryant, FAU v Akron
102. Turner Smiley, North Texas v Troy
103. Parris Campbell, Ohio State v USC
104. Terry Godwin, Georgia v Oklahoma
105. Keith Kirkwood, Temple v FIU
106. Thomas Hennigan, Appalachian State v Toledo
107. Kaden Smith, Stanford v TCU
108. Bryan Edwards, South Carolina v Michigan
109. Austin Wolf, Toledo v FAU
110. Deondre Douglas, Troy v North Texas
111. Andre Wilson, UAB v Ohio
112. Jalen Guyton, North Texas v Troy
113. Anthony Mahoungou, Purdue v Arizona
114. Equanimeous St. Brown, Notre Dame v LSU
115. Armanti Foreman, Texas v Missouri
116. Kyle Williams, Arizona State v North Carolina State
117. Dez Fitzpatrick, Louisville v Mississippi State
118. Darius Slayton, Auburn v Central Florida
119. KaVaontae Turpin, TCU v Stanford
120. Johnnie Dixon, Ohio State v USC
121. Cam Serigne, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
122. Detrich Clark, Colorado State v Marshall
123. Marcus Simms, West Virginia v Utah
124. Sean McKeon, Michigan v South Carolina
125. Cody White, Michigan State v Washington State
126. Alex Bachman, Wake Forest v Texas A&M
127. Bennett Skowronek, Northwestern v Kentucky
128. Troy Fumagalli, Wisconsin v Miami
129. Rhashid Bonnette, Louisiana Tech v SMU
130. **Brendan Cope, Ohio v UAB
131. Mikah Holder, San Diego State v Army
132. Hunter Renfrow, Clemson v Alabama
133. Dedrick Snelson, Central Florida v Auburn
134. Shane Wimann, Northern Illinois v Duke
135. Olabisi Johnson, Colorado State v Marshall
136. Jacob Breeland, Oregon v Boise State
137. Theo Howard, UCLA v Kansas State
138. Doni Dowling, Virginia v Navy
139. Marchie Murdock, Iowa State v Memphis
140. Tommy Sweeney, Boston College v Iowa
141. Travon Chapman, Akron v FAU
142. Nick Easley, Iowa v Boston College
143. Jeff Thomas, Miami v Wisconsin
144. Darrius Scott, FIU v Temple
145. Pharoah McKeever, FIU v Temple
146. Garrett Dickerson, Northwestern v Kentucky
147. Garrett Johnson, Kentucky v Northwestern
148. Austin Conway, Wyoming v Central Michigan
149. Hayden Hurst, South Carolina v Michigan
150. Jordan Akins, Central Florida v Auburn
151. Kobay White, Boston College v Iowa
152. Marcus Baugh, Ohio State v USC

Gildan New Mexico Bowl

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Saturday December 16 (4:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Colorado State -5.5 (58)

Projected Score: Colorado State 32-26

Colorado St.
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—33.8
Rush yds/gm—211.1
Pass yds/gm—289.9

Defense

Pts/gm—27.5
Rush yds/gm—182.8
Pass yds/gm—243.1

Marshall
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—26.3
Rush yds/gm—132.0
Pass yds/gm—237.8

Defense

Pts/gm—19.3
Rush yds/gm—125.4
Pass yds/gm—212.3

Quarterback

Nick Stevens

Season Stats: 3479 pass yds, 27 TD; 139 rush yds, 2 TD

Stevens accounted for at least three touchdowns in seven of twelve games and topped the 300-yard passing mark seven times this year. After throwing at least one INT in each of the first four games of 2017, Steven has not thrown a pick in six of the last eight games.

Running Backs

Dalyn Dawkins

Season Stats: 216 att., 1349 yds, 8 TD; 23 rec., 310 yds, TD

Dawkins finished the regular season rushing for 120-plus yards in seven of the Rams' last eight games and had at least 30 receiving yards four of the last six games.

Izzy Matthews

Season Stats: 122 att., 583 yds, 8 TD; 12 rec., 140 yds, TD

Matthews missed the last two games of the season with a collarbone injury and it is not known if he will be healthy for the bowl game.

Rashaad Boddie

Season Stats: 44 att., 254 yds, 4 TD; rec., 8 yds

Boddie scored two touchdowns in each of the Rams' last two games with Izzy Matthews sidelined with an injury.

Receivers

Michael Gallup

Season Stats: 94 rec., 1345 yds, 7 TD

Gallup topped 100 yards receiving six times and caught at least seven passes in a game eight times, but consistency was an issue. He only scored in five of twelve games and he finished with fewer than 60 receiving yards in three of the last five games.

Olabisi Johnson

Season Stats: 35 rec., 476 yds, 2 TD

Johnson topped the 40-yard mark seven times this year and caught at least five passes four times.

Detrich Clark

Season Stats: 37 rec., 456 yds, 4 TD

Clark caught at least four passes in a game six times and topped the 50-yard mark five times, but he has not scored since the fifth game of the year.

Dalton Fackrell (TE)

Season Stats: 20 rec., 275 yds, 6 TD

Fackrell never caught more than three passes in a game, but he scored in six of the last eight games of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

COS wins—@ Utah St.

COS Losses—@ Alabama, @ Wyoming, Boise St.

MAR Wins—@ Middle Tenn., Western Kentucky

MAR Losses—@ NC St., FIU, @ FAU, Southern Miss

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 New Mexico 23 UTSA 20

2015 Arizona 45 Nevada 37

2014 Utah State 21 UTEP 6

2013 Colorado State 48 Washington State 45

2012 Arizona 49 Nevada 48

Quarterback

Chase Litton

Season Stats: 2853 pass yds, 23 TD; 17 rush yds, TD

Litton accounted for two or more touchdowns in eight of twelve games, but he struggled down the stretch with turnovers, throwing 9 interceptions over the last five games.

Running Backs

Tyler King

Season Stats: 152 att., 714 yds, 6 TD; 11 rec., 96 yds

King didn't play in the first two games of the year and rushed for at least 70 yards seven times. He had at least 13 rush attempts in eight straight games, but only totaled 16 carries in the last two games.

Keion Davis

Season Stats: 161 att., 671 yds, 5 TD; 19 rec., 134 yds

Davis had at least 10 carries in the last nine games of the year, but only topped the 100-yard mark once. He did score a touchdown in three of the last six games.

Receivers

Tyre Brady

Season Stats: 56 rec., 777 yds, 7 TD

Brady had at least five receptions six times this year and missed the last two games with an injury. He is the Herd's best receiver when healthy.

Marcel Williams

Season Stats: 35 rec., 476 yds, 2 TD

Williams caught at least four passes in seven of eleven games this year.

Willie Johnson

Season Stats: 37 rec., 456 yds, 4 TD

Johnson caught at least three passes seven times, but only topped the 60-yard mark twice.

Ryan Yuracheck (TE)

Season Stats: 20 rec., 275 yds, 6 TD

Yurachek's had three multiple-TD games this year and caught at least three passes in ten of twelve games.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Colorado State

Against the Spread: Marshall +5.5

Marshall lost their last three games by a combined total of eight points. Their defense should keep them close, but Colorado State's two offensive playmakers (RB Dawkins & WR Gallup) will be the difference.

Confidence Pick

7

Las Vegas Bowl Presented by GEICO

Las Vegas, Nevada

Saturday December 16 (3:30 pm ET / ABC)

Betting Lines: Oregon -7 (59.5)

Projected Score: Oregon 33-26

Boise St.
(10-3)



Oregon
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—332.1
Rush yds/gm—145.9
Pass yds/gm—254.5

Defense

Pts/gm—22.5
Rush yds/gm—125.8
Pass yds/gm—210.8

Offense

Pts/gm—36.7
Rush yds/gm—268.0
Pass yds/gm—186.3

Defense

Pts/gm—28.3
Rush yds/gm—129.9
Pass yds/gm—229.9

Quarterback

Brett Rypien

Season Stats: 2515 pass yds, 14 TD

Leading up to the regular-season finale, Rypien had thrown for at least 250 yards in four consecutive games and threw at least 3 TD passes in three of four games. In the regular-season finale and conference championship game, both against Fresno State, Rypien did not account for one touchdown and the Broncos were held to a total of 34 points.

Running Backs

Alexander Mattison

Season Stats: 209 att., 1074 yds, 12 TD; 28 rec., 284 yds, TD

Mattison rushed for 100 yards in every game he received 19 or more carries. He caught three or more passes five times and scored at least one touchdown in seven of the Broncos' last nine games.

Ryan Wolpin

Season Stats: 99 att., 377 yds, 4 TD; 9 rec., 88 yds

Wolpin's season-high rushing is 51 yards, but he has scored a touchdown in three of the last five games.

Receivers

Cedrick Wilson

Season Stats: 73 rec., 1290 yds, 6 TD

Wilson carries a three-game streak of 100-yards receiving into the Las Vegas Bowl. The senior receiver caught at least five passes in six of the last seven games..

AJ Richardson

Season Stats: 33 rec., 494 yds, 2 TD

Richardson caught three or more passes in four of the last six games.

Jake Roh (TE)

Season Stats: 39 rec., 410 yds, 9 TD

Roh scored a touchdown in seven of eleven games this year, but missed the last two games with a foot injury.

Quarterback

Justin Herbert

Season Stats: 1750 pass yds, 13 TD; 166 rush yds, 5 TD

The Ducks are 6-1 in games that Herbert has started this year. In the six games that Herbert started and finished, he passed for at least 250 yards five times and accounted for three or more touchdowns three times.

Running Backs

Royce Freeman

Season Stats: 244 att., 1475 yds, 16 TD; 14 rec., 164 yds

Freeman rushed for at least 120 yards nine times this year, and all 16 of his rushing touchdowns were scored in games that Herbert was healthy (six games).

Kani Benoit

Season Stats: 80 att., 573 yds, 10 TD; 6 rec., 36 yds

Benoit had three 100-yard games, but each of those games were blowout wins against S. Utah, Cal, and Oregon State.

Tony Brooks-James

Season Stats: 86 att., 485 yds, 2 TD; 11 rec., 136 yds, TD

Like Benoit, Brooks-James' best games were Oregon wins of 20-plus points.

Receivers

Charles Nelson

Season Stats: 30 rec., 392 yds, TD

Nelson missed some games due to an injury, but caught at least four passes in three of the last five games.

Dillon Mitchell

Season Stats: 33 rec., 374 yds, 4 TD

Mitchell only caught three passes when Herbert was out with an injury. The sophomore receiver caught six passes in each of the last two games of the year.

Jacob Breeland (TE)

Season Stats: 17 rec., 311 yds, 5 TD

Breeland only caught more than one pass in a game three times this year, but he found the endzone in three of the last four games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Boise St wins—Troy, @ San Diego St, Wyoming, @ Utah St, @ Colorado St, Fresno St

Boise St Losses—@ Washington St, Virginia, @ Fresno St

Oregon Wins—@ Wyoming, Utah, Arizona

Oregon Losses—@ Arizona St, Washington St, @ Stanford, @ UCLA, @ Washington

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Oregon

Against the Spread: Boise State +7

The Ducks are undoubtedly better with Justin Herbert at quarterback, but there may be too many distractions now that the Ducks need to find another coach. The Broncos will take any advantage they can get.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 San Diego State 34 Houston 10
2015 Utah 35 BYU 28
2014 Utah 45 Colorado State 10
2013 USC 45 Fresno State 20
2012 Boise State 28 Washington 26

Confidence Pick

6

AutoNation Cure Bowl

Orlando, Florida

Saturday December 16 (2:30 pm ET / CBSSN)

Betting Lines: Western Kentucky -6 (52)

Projected Score: Western Kentucky 29-23

**Western
Kentucky
(6-6)**



Offense

Pts/gm—26.2
Rush yds/gm—66.1
Pass yds/gm—333.7

Defense

Pts/gm—26.8
Rush yds/gm—172.6
Pass yds/gm—201.1

**Georgia St.
(6-5)**



Offense

Pts/gm—19.7
Rush yds/gm—114.5
Pass yds/gm—270.2

Defense

Pts/gm—25.5
Rush yds/gm—149.0
Pass yds/gm—242.4

Quarterback

Mike White

Season Stats: 3826 pass yds, 24 TD; 6 TD rushing

White struggled early in the year, throwing only two TD passes in the first five games. In the last seven games of 2017, White threw 2 or more TD passes six times and 3 or more TD passes four times.

Running Backs

D'Andre Ferby

Season Stats: 112 att., 362 yds, 8 TD; 11 rec., 62 yds

Ferby was the team's No. 1 RB down the stretch, carrying the ball at least 12 times in the final four games, but he never did top the 70-yard mark in any game this season.

Jakairi Moses

Season Stats: 60 att., 249 yds, 2 TD; 19 rec., 154 yds

Moses should backup Ferby in the bowl game with Quinton Baker out for the year.

Receivers

Nacarius Fant

Season Stats: 67 rec., 634 yds, 4 TD

Fant was the closest thing QB Mike White had to a go-to receiver down the stretch, as Fant racked up 35 receptions in the last four games of the year.

Lucky Jackson

Season Stats: 37 rec., 592 yds, 3 TD

Jackson had three 100-yard games and recorded five or more receptions five times.

Cameron Echols-Luper

Season Stats: 42 rec., 473 yds, 4 TD

Echols-Luper caught at least five passes in his last four games and caught a TD pass in four of his last five games.

Quin Jernighan

Season Stats: 34 rec., 365 yds, 3 TD

Jernighan caught at least three passes in each of the last six games of the year

Deon Yelder (TE)

Season Stats: 47 rec., 576 yds, 5 TD

Yelder caught at least three passes in all but one game in which he played this year and scored a touchdown in five of his last eight games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

WKU wins—Middle Tennessee

WKU Losses—La Tech, FAU, @ Marshall, @ FIU

Georgia St Wins—None

Georgia St Losses—@ Penn St, Troy, Appalachian St

Quarterback

Conner Manning

Season Stats: 2870 pass yds, 13 TD; 99 rush yds, TD

Manning has topped 250 yards passing seven times this season, but only recorded four multiple-TD games, leading a Panthers offense that averaged less than three touchdowns per game.

Running Backs

Glenn Smith

Season Stats: 147 att., 521 yds, 3 TD; 43 rec., 342 yds, TD

Smith had at least 15 carries in five of the last nine games and had three or more receptions seven times.

Kyler Neal

Season Stats: 62 att., 181 yds, 4 TD; 11 rec., 120 yds

Neal scored a rushing touchdown in four of the last six games in which he played, but did not record a carry in the last two games of the year.

Taz Bateman

Season Stats: 53 att., 176 yds; 13 rec., 148 yds, TD

Bateman missed the last six games of the regular season and his status for the bowl game is unknown.

Receivers

Penny Hart

Season Stats: 73 rec., 1094 yds, 8 TD

Hart caught at least five passes in nine of eleven games, topped 130 yards receiving four times, and had a stretch during the season in which he scored a touchdown in six consecutive games.

Tamir Jones

Season Stats: 30 rec., 328 yds

Jones caught three or more passes five times and only topped 40 yards receiving twice.

Todd Boyd

Season Stats: 16 rec., 195 yds

Ari Werts (TE)

Season Stats: 22 rec., 275 yds

Werts recorded seven multiple-catch games, but has not found the endzone this season.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Western Kentucky

Against the Spread: Western Kentucky -6

Both teams have respectable losses, but neither have any wins they can brag about. If Georgia State doesn't get back WR Penny Hart, who is questionable, that's an advantage for the WKU defense.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Arkansas State 31 Central Florida 13

2015 San Jose State 27 Georgia State 16

2014

2013

2012

Confidence Pick

18

Raycom Media Camellia Bowl

Montgomery, Alabama

Saturday December 16 (8 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Arkansas State -3.5 (62.5)

Projected Score: Arkansas State 33-29

**Middle
Tennessee**
(6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—24.8
Rush yds/gm—144.2
Pass yds/gm—252.7

Defense

Pts/gm—24.3
Rush yds/gm—136.6
Pass yds/gm—212

Arkansas St.
(7-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—38.5
Rush yds/gm—157.0
Pass yds/gm—340.7

Defense

Pts/gm—24.9
Rush yds/gm—137.5
Pass yds/gm—242.3

Quarterback

Brent Stockstill

Season Stats: 2870 pass yds, 13 TD; 99 rush yds, TD

Stockstill missed six games in the middle of the season due to an injury, but returned and threw three TD passes in three of the last four games of the year.

Running Backs

Terelle West

Season Stats: 147 att., 521 yds, 3 TD; 43 rec., 342 yds, TD

West ran for 170 yards and two touchdowns in the season-finale against Old Dominion. If Tavares Thomas and Brad Anderson are unable to play, he should once again get the bulk of the carries in the MTSU backfield.

Tavares Thomas

Season Stats: 62 att., 181 yds, 4 TD; 11 rec., 120 yds

Thomas took over as the team's top RB in Week 11, totaling 287 rushing yards and scoring four touchdowns in back-to-back weeks. However, the converted LB did not play in the season finale and remains questionable leading up to the bowl game.

Brad Anderson

Season Stats: 53 att., 176 yds; 13 rec., 148 yds, TD

The freshman was the Blue Raiders' starter at running back for most of the season, but he has been sidelined with a leg injury since Week 11 and is questionable for the bowl game.

Receivers

Ty Lee

Season Stats: 73 rec., 1094 yds, 8 TD

With star receiver Richie James sidelined almost the entire season with an injury, Lee was the team's top receiver. The sophomore WR had three 100-yard games and caught six or more passes eight times.

Patrick Smith

Season Stats: 30 rec., 328 yds

Smith caught three or more passes six times this year.

Shane Tucker

Season Stats: 16 rec., 195 yds

Tucker had at least 50 yards receiving in three of the last four games.

Quarterback

Justice Hansen

Season Stats: 3630 pass yds, 34 TD; 388 rush yds, 6 TD

Hansen accounted for three or more touchdowns in nine of eleven games this year. Five of his six rushing touchdowns were in the last three games of the year.

Running Backs

Warren Wand

Season Stats: 125 att., 669 yds, 6 TD; 13 rec., 121 yds

Wand missed a couple of games in the second half of the season, but returned and carried the ball at least 19 times in each of the last three games and topped 130 yards rushing in two of those matchups.

Johnston White

Season Stats: 85 att., 407 yds, 3 TD; 14 rec., 132 yds

White had at least nine carries in eight of the last nine games of the year.

Receivers

Justin McInnis

Season Stats: 42 rec., 693 yds, 3 TD

McInnis had at least 60 yards receiving in five of the last seven games of the year and 26 of his 42 receptions were recorded in the last five games of the year.

Chris Murray

Season Stats: 45 rec., 645 yds, 9 TD

Murray caught at least four passes in four of the last five games and had a TD reception in five of the last eight games.

Omar Bayless

Season Stats: 31 rec., 428 yds, 6 TD

Bayless had at least 35 yards receiving eight times.

Kendrick Edwards

Season Stats: 33 rec., 378 yds, 3 TD

Edwards caught at least three passes seven times.

Blake Mack (TE)

Season Stats: 46 rec., 609 yds, 7 TD

Mack caught at least five passes six times this year. He has only scored one TD in the past six games after scoring at least one TD in the first five games of 2017.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

MSU wins—FIU

MSU Losses—@ FAU, @ UAB, Marshall, @ W. Kentucky

Ark St Wins—@ New Mexico State

Ark St Losses—@ SMU, Troy

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Arkansas State

Against the Spread: Arkansas State -3.5

Middle Tennessee just never could pull things together. The loss of WR Richie James early in the year was their biggest loss, but trying to settle into a RB rotation even became a problem. Arkansas State is healthier and QB Justice Hansen spreads the ball around.....a lot. The Red Wolves shouldn't have any problems scoring.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Appalachian State 33 Toledo 28

2015 Appalachian State 31 Ohio 29

2014 Bowling Green 33 South Alabama 28

2013

2012

Confidence Pick

19

R + L Carriers New Orleans Bowl

New Orleans, Louisiana
Saturday December 16 (1 pm ET / ESPN)
Betting Lines: Troy -6 (62)
Projected Score: Troy 34-28

North Texas
(9-4)



Troy
(10-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—35.9
Rush yds/gm—176.0
Pass yds/gm—291.0

Defense

Pts/gm—33.8
Rush yds/gm—208.1
Pass yds/gm—223.1

Offense

Pts/gm—30.0
Rush yds/gm—150.6
Pass yds/gm—266.7

Defense

Pts/gm—17.5
Rush yds/gm—114.8
Pass yds/gm—225.3

Quarterback

Mason Fine

Season Stats: 3749 pass yds, 28 TD; 75 rush yds, TD
Fine passed for 3 or more TDs six times this year, but he only did it once on the road. In four of the last six games, Fine never threw more than one TD pass. The sophomore QB did have six 300-yard passing games, but he also threw at least one INT in 10 of 13 games.

Running Backs

Jeffery Wilson

Season Stats: 188 att., 1215 yds, 16 TD; 24 rec., 168 yds
Wilson was the team's best player throughout the 2017 season and it's likely he will miss the bowl game with an ankle injury.

Nic Smith

Season Stats: 132 att., 665 yds, 6 TD; 17 rec., 135 yds, 2 TD
If Wilson misses the bowl game, Smith should have a major role in the offense. In Week 13, the freshman ran for 178 yards and a TD in a 30-14 win over Rice

Receivers

Jalen Guyton

Season Stats: 48 rec., 764 yds, 9 TD
Guyton topped 100 yards receiving in three of the first six games, but only had four receptions over the last four weeks of the season.

Michael Lawrence

Season Stats: 56 rec., 749 yds, 3 TD
Lawrence only had one 100-yard receiving game this year, but he caught at least four passes in six of the last eight games and topped the 60-yard mark eight times.

Rico Bussey

Season Stats: 43 rec., 613 yds, 6 TD
In the last six weeks, Bussey caught 6 or more passes three times, topped 60 yards receiving five times, and scored in four different games.

Turner Smiley

Season Stats: 31 rec., 575 yds, 4 TD
In the last three games, Smiley totaled 13 receptions for 287 yards and 3 TDs.

Quarterback

Brandon Silvers

Season Stats: 2985 pass yds, 13 TD; 49 rush yds, 4 TD
Silvers only threw 2 or more TD passes in a game three times, but he did it in each of the last two games of the year. The senior quarterback topped 250 yards passing six times.

Running Backs

Jordan Chunn

Season Stats: 154 att., 774 yds, 10 TD; 28 rec., 204 yds
Chunn had three 100-yard rushing games this year, but his numbers took a dip after suffering an injury in the middle of the season. Even though he scored at least one rushing TD in three of the last four games, Chunn only totaled 53 carries during that stretch.

Josh Anderson

Season Stats: 71 att., 331 yds, 4 TD; 12 rec., 89 yds
Other than when he started for an injured Jordan Chunn, only once did Anderson have more than six rushing attempts in a game.

Receivers

Deondre Douglas

Season Stats: 48 rec., 628 yds, 4 TD
Douglas caught three or more passes ten times this year and topped the 50-yard receiving mark in six of the last ten games.

Damion Willis

Season Stats: 31 rec., 485 yds, TD
Willis finished with 40 yards or more receiving six times.

Emanuel Thompson

Season Stats: 38 rec., 420 yds
Thompson had 24 receiving yards or less in five of the last six games.

Tevaris McCormick

Season Stats: 32 rec., 314 yds, 2 TD
McCormick caught 3 or more passes in a game seven times, but only topped the 40-yard mark once.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

North Texas wins—UAB, @ USM, @ LA Tech, Army

North Texas Losses—@ SMU, @ Iowa, @ FAU (2)

Troy Wins—@ NM St, Akron, @ LSU, Georgia St, @ Ark. St

Troy Losses—@ Boise St

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Troy

Against the Spread: Troy -6

There are two reasons to like Troy in this matchup. First, RB Jordan Chunn should be rested and ready to run against a North Texas defense that gives up 200-plus on the ground. Second, the loss of RB Jeffrey Wilson will be too much to overcome against a stout Troy defense that has not given up more than 25 points in any one game.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Southern Mississippi 28 LA Lafayette 21
2015 Louisiana Tech 47 Arkansas State 28
2014 Louisiana-Lafayette 16 Nevada 3
2013 Louisiana-Lafayette 24 Tulane 21
2012 Louisiana-Lafayette 43 East Carolina 34

Confidence Pick

30

Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl

Boca Raton, Florida

Tuesday December 19 (7 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Florida Atlantic -22.5 (61.5)

Projected Score: Florida Atlantic 42-20

Florida Atlantic
(10-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—39.8
Rush yds/gm—283.2
Pass yds/gm—208.7

Defense

Pts/gm—24.2
Rush yds/gm—165.8
Pass yds/gm—242.5

Akron
(7-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—23.6
Rush yds/gm—108.5
Pass yds/gm—220.9

Defense

Pts/gm—26.3
Rush yds/gm—197.2
Pass yds/gm—234.9

Quarterback

Jason Driskel

Season Stats: 1977 pass yds, 13 TD; 360 rush yds, 6 TD

Driskel passed for at least 220 yards in each of the Owls' last four games and threw 2 or more TD passes in four of the last seven games.

Running Backs

Devin Singletary

Season Stats: 275 att., 1796 yds, 29 TD; 18 rec., 185 yds, TD

Singletary has rushed for 100 yards or more in eleven consecutive games, has scored two or more TDs in ten consecutive games, and has been virtually unstoppable in Kendal Briles' offense.

Gregory Howell

Season Stats: 103 att., 690 yds, 5 TD

Howell is a change-of-pace back that may only get a significant amount of carries if FAU can put some distance between themselves and Akron.

Receivers

Willie Wright

Season Stats: 49 rec., 586 yds, 4 TD

Wright has two 100-yard games and has caught four or more passes in eight of the past ten games.

Kalib Woods

Season Stats: 20 rec., 540 yds, 4 TD

Woods didn't record a reception until the last five games of the season and still led the team with three 100-yard receiving games. He also scored at least one TD in three of the last four games of the year.

Kamrin Solomon

Season Stats: 29 rec., 317 yds, TD

Solomon caught four or more passes in five of ten games this year.

John Franklin

Season Stats: 7 rec., 95 yds, TD; 229 rush yds, 2 TD

games of the year

Harrison Bryant (TE)

Season Stats: 32 rec., 408 yds, 5 TD

Bryant's status for the bowl game is still up in the air, but he did have a TD reception in five of his last nine games.

Quarterback

Thomas Woodson

Season Stats: 1777 pass yds, 14 TD; TD rushing

Woodson was the Zips' starting QB most of the season before being suspended for three games due to disciplinary reasons. He did play a little in the MAC Championship Game, which makes starting the bowl game a possibility.

Kato Nelson

Season Stats: 909 pass yds, 8 TD; 177 rush yds, TD

Nelson gave the Akron offense a dual-threat at the quarterback position when he took over for Woodson. Since Woodson played in the MAC Championship Game, the door is open for both QBs to play in the bowl game.

Running Backs

Manny Morgan

Season Stats: 99 att., 393 yds, 4 TD; 12 rec., 58 yds

Morgan rushed for at least 40 yards in the last four games of the year and scored a touchdown in three of those games.

Van Edwards

Season Stats: 94 att., 348 yds, 2 TD; 8 rec., 33 yds

Edwards split carries with Morgan in the last two games of the year

Receivers

Kwadarrius Smith

Season Stats: 34 rec., 726 yds, 7 TD

Smith had three or more receptions eight times and finished the season with three 100-yard games.

AJ Coney

Season Stats: 41 rec., 523 yds, 3 TD

Coney caught three or more passes in seven consecutive games, but he never had more than two receptions in any of the last four games.

Tra'Von Chapman

Season Stats: 50 rec., 456 yds, 2 TD

Chapman had three or more receptions nine times, but never had more than 70 yards receiving in any game this year.

Austin Wolf

Season Stats: 30 rec., 450 yds, 5 TD

Wolf had 40 or more receiving yards in 8 of 11 games and scored a TD in three of the last five games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

FAU wins—Mid. Tenn., No. Texas (2), @ W. Kent., Marshall, @ LA Tech, FIU

FAU Losses—Navy, @ Wisconsin

Akron Wins—Ohio

Akron Losses—@ Penn St, Iowa St, @ Troy, @ Toledo, Toledo (MAC Champ)

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Florida Atlantic

Against the Spread: Florida Atlantic -22.5

The Owls are currently on a nine-game win streak, they are playing in their home state, and they will have the best player on the field, RB Devin Singletary.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Western Kentucky 51 Memphis 31

2015 Toledo 32 Temple 17

2014 Marshall 52 Northern Illinois 23

2013

2012

Confidence Pick

39

DXL Frisco Bowl

Frisco, Texas

Wednesday December 20 (8 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: SMU -5 (70)

Projected Score: SMU 38-33

SMU
(7-5)



Louisiana Tech
(6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—40.2
Rush yds/gm—185.8
Pass yds/gm—308

Defense

Pts/gm—35.5
Rush yds/gm—213.3
Pass yds/gm—273.4

Offense

Pts/gm—28.8
Rush yds/gm—175.5
Pass yds/gm—231.8

Defense

Pts/gm—26.7
Rush yds/gm—177.4
Pass yds/gm—215.8

Quarterback

Ben Hicks

Season Stats: 3442 pass yds, 32 TD; 79 rush yds, TD

Hicks passed for at least 250 yards in all but two games this year and threw four TD passes in a game five times, including the last three games of the year. Surprisingly, Hicks was more elusive in the second half of the season, rushing for 130 yards in the last five games of the season.

Running Backs

Xavier Jones

Season Stats: 170 att., 1019 yds, 9 TD; 12 rec., 70 yds

Jones had at least 13 rushing attempts in eight of the last nine games, which resulted in three 100-yard rushing games and seven touchdowns during that stretch.

Ke'Mon Freeman

Season Stats: 126 att., 527 yds, 11 TD

Freeman scored a touchdown in seven of the first eight games of 2017, but only scored in one of the last four games.

Braeden West

Season Stats: 65 att., 512 yds, 2 TD; 18 rec., 185 yds

Receivers

Trey Quinn

Season Stats: 106 rec., 1191 yds, 12 TD

Over a five-game stretch in the middle of the year, Quinn hauled in 68 receptions for 606 yards. His receiving stats leveled off in November, but the sure-handed junior still hauled another 7 TDs over the last five games.

Cortland Sutton

Season Stats: 62 rec., 1017 yds, 12 TD

Sutton was more of a boom-or-bust receiver during the 2017 season. He had six 100-yard receiving games and four multiple-TD games, but also finished with fewer than 50 yards receiving five times.

James Proche

Season Stats: 40 rec., 816 yds, 6 TD

Proche benefited as the third receiving option in an offense with Trey Quinn and Courtland Sutton. He finished the year with three 100-yard games and caught a TD pass in three of the last four games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

SMU wins—North Texas, Ark St

SMU Losses—@ TCU, @ Houston, UCF, @ Navy, @ Memphis

LA Tech Wins—@ W. Kentucky

LA Tech Losses—Miss St, @ So. Carolina, @ UAB, v USM, No. Texas, FAU

Quarterback

J'mar Smith

Season Stats: 2758 pass yds, 13 TD; 356 rush yds, 5 TD

Smith certainly had ups and downs this year. He only accounted for two or more touchdowns in four of twelve games, but was more effective in the running game during the second half of the season, rushing for at least one touchdown in four of the last six games. He only threw five INTs, but completed less than 60% of his passes in all but three games.

Running Backs

Boston Scott

Season Stats: 163 att., 937 yds, 8 TD; 20 rec., 181 yds, TD

Scott took over as the primary ball carrier down the stretch, logging at least 16 carries in each of the last five games, and has scored a touchdown in six consecutive games heading into the Frisco Bowl.

Jarred Craft

Season Stats: 111 att., 516 yds, 3 TD; 13 rec., 74 yds, 2 TD

Craft rushed for at least 80 yards in the first three games of the year, but has not topped the 50-yard mark since. He scored three of his five TDs in the first game of the year.

Receivers

Teddy Veal

Season Stats: 69 rec., 832 yds, 5 TD

Veal has six or more receptions in seven of the last ten games and totaled three 100-yard receiving games in 2017.

Rhashid Bonnette

Season Stats: 32 rec., 576 yds, 2 TD

Bonnette averaged 18.0 yards per reception and had at least 50 yards receiving in each of the last four games. However, he hasn't scored since the third week of the season.

Kam McKnight

Season Stats: 17 rec., 166 yds, TD; 42 rush yds, 3 TD

McKnight is only valuable if he's getting touches in the running game and his three rushing TDs were in the first half of the season.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Louisiana Tech

Against the Spread: Louisiana Tech +5

Even though the Bulldogs are 6-6, they lost at South Carolina by 1, at UAB by 1, to North Texas by 1, and to USM by seven in double OT. Chad Morris' departure to Arkansas may be the distraction Louisiana Tech needs to pull out a close one.

Bowl Game Results (Formerly Miami Beach Bowl; Last 5 Years)

2016 Tulsa 55 Central Michigan 10
2015 Western Kentucky 45 South Florida 35
2014 Memphis 55 BYU 48
2013
2012

Confidence Pick

9

Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl

St. Petersburg, Florida
Thursday December 21 (8 pm ET / ESPN)
Betting Lines: Temple -7 (56)
Projected Score: Temple 32-25

Florida International (8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—27.5
Rush yds/gm—165.1
Pass yds/gm—238.5

Defense

Pts/gm—28.5
Rush yds/gm—173.8
Pass yds/gm—242.8

Temple (6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—24.8
Rush yds/gm—136.0
Pass yds/gm—251.6

Defense

Pts/gm—27.7
Rush yds/gm—181.8
Pass yds/gm—210.0

Quarterback

Alex McGough

Season Stats: 2791 pass yds, 17 TD; 214 rush yds, 5 TD
Driskel passed for at least 220 yards in each of the Owls' last four games and threw 2 or more TD passes in four of the last seven games.

Running Backs

Alex Gardner

Season Stats: 171 att., 765 yds, 6 TD; 17 rec., 70 yds
Gardner had two 100-yard games, topped the 70-yard mark six times, and scored a touchdown in four of the last six games.

Shawdarrius Phillips

Season Stats: 98 att., 453 yds, 4 TD; 9 rec., 66 yds, TD
Phillips best two games of the season were the last two against WKU and UMass, rushing for a total of 139 yards and scoring three touchdowns.

Napoleon Maxwell

Season Stats: 70 att., 425 yds, 5 TD; 4 rec., 11 yds
Maxwell had at least 60 rushing yards four times, but finished with fewer than 25 yards rushing seven times.

Receivers

Thomas Owens

Season Stats: 59 rec., 887 yds, 6 TD
Owens finished the season with four 100-yard receiving games and caught 6 or more passes six times, despite missing the last three games with a knee injury. His status for the bowl game is still unknown.

Darrius Scott

Season Stats: 18 rec., 274 yds, 2 TD
Scott finished with at least 40 yards receiving in each of the last four games.

Bryce Singleton

Season Stats: 16 rec., 223 yds, 3 TD
Singleton had 6 receptions for 111 yards and 3 TDs in the last game of the season.

Pharoah McKeever (TE)

Season Stats: 26 rec., 294 yds, 3 TD
In the last eight games of the year, McKeever caught 4 or more passes four times and finished with 40 or more receiving yards four times.

Quarterback

Frank Nutile

Season Stats: 1346 pass yds, 11 TD; 46 rush yds, TD
Nutile accounted for at least two touchdowns in each of the last four games of the year and topped 200 yards passing in each of his five starts. Temple's only win over a bowl-eligible team was with Nutile at quarterback.

Running Backs

David Hood

Season Stats: 116 att., 562 yds, 4 TD; 25 rec., 172 yds, TD
Hood was more of a factor down the stretch, rushing for at least 80 yards in each of the last three games and scoring a touchdown in two of the last three games.

Ryquell Armstead

Season Stats: 141 att., 553 yds, 4 TD; 12 rec., 64 yds
Armstead never did perform up to preseason expectations, as he finished with fewer than 30 yards rushing six times.

Receivers

Adonis Jennings

Season Stats: 39 rec., 691 yds, 7 TD
Jennings had at least three receptions in nine games, had 88 or more receiving yards in three of the last four games, and scored a TD in five of the last seven games.

Isaiah Wright

Season Stats: 41 rec., 595 yds, 3 TD
Wright recorded 3 or more receptions nine times, but only topped 50 yards receiving once in the last six games.

Keith Kirkwood

Season Stats: 39 rec., 575 yds, 7 TD
Kirkwood finished six games with at least 60 yards receiving and had a TD catch in each of the last four games.

Ventell Bryant

Season Stats: 28 rec., 273 yds

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

FIU Wins—@ Marshall, W. Kentucky

FIU Losses—@ UCF, @ MTSU, @ FAU

Temple Wins—Navy

Temple Losses—@ Notre Dame, @ USF, Houston, @ Army, UCF

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Florida International

Against the Spread: Florida International +7

FIU has been disrespected all season and the point spread for this game just adds fuel to that fire. The Panthers may not get back WR Thomas Owens, but a game in their home state is a nice advantage this time of year.

Bowl Game Results (Formerly Bitcoin St. Petersburg Bowl; Last 5 Years)

2016 Mississippi State 17 Miami (OH) 16
2015 Marshall 16 Connecticut 10
2014 North Carolina State 34 Central Florida 27
2013 East Carolina 37 Ohio 20
2012 Central Florida 38 Ball State 17

Confidence Pick

8

Bahamas Bowl

Nassau, Bahamas

Friday December 22 (12:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Ohio -7.5 (57)

Projected Score: UAB 32-25

Ohio
(8-4)



UAB
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—38.9
Rush yds/gm—244.2
Pass yds/gm—186.8

Defense

Pts/gm—25.8
Rush yds/gm—111.4
Pass yds/gm—261.8

Offense

Pts/gm—29.6
Rush yds/gm—189.7
Pass yds/gm—174.4

Defense

Pts/gm—24.3
Rush yds/gm—169.8
Pass yds/gm—188.0

Quarterback

Nathan Rourke

Season Stats: 2018 pass yds, 15 TD; 882 rush yds, 21 TD

Rourke finished the season as one of the premiere fantasy quarterbacks in the FBS, accounting for a total of 36 TDs. The sophomore QB ran for two or more touchdowns seven times and passed for two or more touchdowns five times.

Running Backs

AJ Ouellette

Season Stats: 184 att., 980 yds, 7 TD; 9 rec., 84 yds, TD

Ouellette was steady all season long until the season finale, when he got dinged up and left the game early. He rushed for at least 70 yards in eight of the last ten games and scored a touchdown in six of twelve games.

Dorian Brown

Season Stats: 99 att., 605 yds, 7 TD; 3 rec., 16 yds

Brown has had his moments running the ball, topping the 100-yard mark in two of his last four games, but he missed the last game of the year with a hip injury and is questionable for the bowl game.

Julian Ross

Season Stats: 54 att., 211 yds, 3 TD; 2 rec., 13 yds

Ross will get carries if Brown is unable to play in the bowl game.

Receivers

Papi White

Season Stats: 32 rec., 525 yds, 2 TD

White missed four games in the middle of the season and still led the team with 525 receiving yards.

Brendan Cope

Season Stats: 35 rec., 494 yds, 4 TD

Cope had two 100-yard games, but missed the season-finale with an ankle injury and could miss the bowl game.

Andrew Meyer

Season Stats: 29 rec., 433 yds, 2 TD

Meyer had at least 40 yards receiving in five games this year.

Quarterback

AJ Erdely

Season Stats: 2077 pass yds, 16 TD; 289 rush yds, 13 TD

Erdely's 16 passing touchdowns may not jump out at you, but his 29 total touchdowns is a big reason why the Blazers find themselves in a bowl game their first season back in the FBS. The junior quarterback accounted for 3 or more touchdowns in seven of twelve games.

Running Backs

Spencer Brown

Season Stats: 237 att., 1292 yds, 10 TD; 3 rec., 16 yds

Brown became a workhorse in the middle of the season, logging 20 or more carries in five of the last eight games. Brown, a freshman, topped 120 yards rushing six times and scored at least one touchdown in seven of twelve games.

James Noble

Season Stats: 49 att., 271 yds; 3 rec., 25 yd

Donnie Lee

Season Stats: 27 att., 111 yds, TD; 17 rec., 156 yds, TD

Noble and Lee usually split carries backing up starter Spencer Brown

Receivers

Andre Wilson

Season Stats: 48 rec., 619 yds, 6 TD

Wilson caught three or more passes nine times and finished with at least 40 yards receiving seven times. He also had two 100-yard games in the middle of the season.

Collin Lisa

Season Stats: 29 rec., 384 yds, TD

Lisa caught three or more passes five times, topped 40 yards receiving five times, and had one 100-yard game.

Ronnie Turner

Season Stats: 24 rec., 195 yds, TD

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: UAB

Against the Spread: UAB +7.5

Ohio lost three games by seven points or less and UAB lost two games by three points or less. But this is a bowl game in the Bahamas, so will one of these teams really take this game serious? Last year, we felt Old Dominion's program had something to prove. This year, we can say the same for UAB, who qualified for a bowl game in their first season back in the FBS.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Ohio Wins—Toledo

Ohio Losses—Central Michigan, Akron

UAB Wins—LA Tech, Middle Tennessee, So. Miss

UAB Losses—North Texas

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Old Dominion 24 Eastern Michigan 20

2015 Western Michigan 45 Middle Tennessee 31

2014 Western Kentucky 49 Central Michigan 48

2013

2012

Confidence Pick

17

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl

Boise, Idaho

Friday December 22 (4 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Wyoming -1 (45.5)

Projected Score: Wyoming 23-22

**Central
Michigan
(8-4)**



Offense

Pts/gm—29.7
Rush yds/gm—143.8
Pass yds/gm—248.2

Defense

Pts/gm—26.8
Rush yds/gm—190.6
Pass yds/gm—188.2

**Wyoming
(7-5)**



Offense

Pts/gm—22.3
Rush yds/gm—107.8
Pass yds/gm—179.2

Defense

Pts/gm—17.8
Rush yds/gm—172.2
Pass yds/gm—160.7

Quarterback

Shane Morris

Season Stats: 2908 pass yds, 26 TD; 127 rush yds, 3 TD

Morris accounted for two or more touchdowns in nine of twelve games and passed for 200 or more yards seven times. Morris led the Chippewas to a 5-0 finish down the stretch, accounting for 16 touchdowns during that stretch.

Running Backs

Jonathan Ward

Season Stats: 167 att., 9 yds, 6 TD; 41 rec., 361 yds, 2 TD

In the last five games of the year, Ward topped the 130-yard rushing mark three times and scored eight touchdowns.

Romello Ross

Season Stats: 51 att., 197 yds, TD; rec., 9 yds

Don't expect Ross to have a big role in the bowl game unless Ward gets injured.

Receivers

Mark Chapman

Season Stats: 54 rec., 805 yds, 5 TD

Chapman caught four or more passes nine times, topped 70 yards receiving six times, and scored a touchdown in each of the last two games of the year.

Corey Willis

Season Stats: 42 rec., 625 yds, 9 TD

Willis missed time in the first half of the season with an injury, but still caught five or more passes six times and scored at least one touchdown in each of the last five games of the year.

Eric Cooper

Season Stats: 25 rec., 260 yds, 2 TD

Cooper caught at least three passes in a game four times.

Tyler Conklin (TE)

Season Stats: 28 rec., 406 yds, 5 TD

Conklin missed the first five games of the year recovering from an injury suffered in preseason camp. He topped the 100-yard mark twice and scored a touchdown in four of the seven games in which he played.

Quarterback

Josh Allen

Season Stats: 1658 pass yds, 13 TD; 207 rush yds, 5 TD

The Cowboys lost the last two games of the season playing without Allen, who had a shoulder injury. If he returns for the bowl game, Allen will be needed more for his leadership and ability to manage the game because Wyoming's strength in 2017 has been their defense. The junior quarterback only had three multiple passing TD games this year.

Nick Smith

Season Stats: 471 pass yds, 2 TD; 22 rush yds, TD

Smith would get the start if Allen is unable to play in the bowl game.

Running Backs

Trey Woods

Season Stats: 133 att., 474 yds, 2 TD; 4 rec., 74 yds

Since Woods' 135-yard performance against Hawaii on September 23rd, he has not rushed for more than 55 yards in a game. However, the Cowboys remain committed to the run and it will be interesting to see if coaches ride the hot hand between Woods and Overstreet in the bowl game.

Kellen Overstreet

Season Stats: 88 att., 396 yds, 3 TD; 3 rec., 39 yds

Overstreet averaged 14 carries per game over the last three games of the season and finished with 139 rushing yards in the season finale at San Jose State. Expect Overstreet and Woods to split carries in the bowl game.

Receivers

Austin Conway

Season Stats: 58 rec., 520 yds, 2 TD

As the team's leading receiver, Conway had two 100-yard games and caught four or more passes eight times, but he has not found the endzone since Week 5.

CJ Johnson

Season Stats: 27 rec., 468 yds, 6 TD

Johnson only caught four or more passes three times, but he did finish the season with two 100-yard games and led the team with six receiving touchdowns.

Austin Fort (TE)

Season Stats: 9 rec., 110 yds, 3 TD; rush TD

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Wyoming

Against the Spread: Wyoming -1

The fact that Wyoming's defense only allows 17 points per game is not the reason we like the Cowboys. It has been reported that Wyoming QB Josh Allen will declare for the NFL draft and he could use a stock boost going into the offseason. This game will be his last chance to quiet his critics.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

CMU wins—Ohio, No. Illinois

CMU Losses—Boston College, Toledo

Wyoming Wins—Utah St, Colorado St,

Wyoming Losses—Iowa, Oregon, Boise St, Fresno St

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Idaho 61 Colorado State 50

2015 Akron 23 Utah State 21

2014 Air Force 38 Western Michigan 24

2013 San Diego State 49 Buffalo 24

2012 Utah State 41 Toledo 15

Confidence Pick

21

Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl

Fort Worth, Texas

Saturday December 23 (3:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: San Diego State -6 (50)

Projected Score: San Diego State 28-22

Army
(8-3)



San Diego St.
(10-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—44.0
Rush yds/gm—156.2
Pass yds/gm—359.8

Defense

Pts/gm—32.7
Rush yds/gm—188.5
Pass yds/gm—274.9

Offense

Pts/gm—30.4
Rush yds/gm—252.3
Pass yds/gm—157.9

Defense

Pts/gm—18.4
Rush yds/gm—110.4
Pass yds/gm—193.1

Quarterback

Ahmad Bradshaw

Season Stats: 259 pass yds, TD; 1472 rush yds, 11 TD

Going into Army's annual rivalry game against Navy, Bradshaw has gone over 100 yards rushing six times in 2017 and has scored a rushing touchdown in all but two games. In his last three games, Bradshaw has rushed for at least 240 yards in two of his last three games.

Running Backs

Darnell Woolfolk

Season Stats: 124 att., 668 yds, 11 TD

After rushing for at least 70 yards and a touchdown in each of Army's first three games of the year, Woolfolk missed three games due to injury. In the five games he played after returning from injury, Woolfolk scored a total of seven rushing touchdowns. Up until the Army-Navy game, Woolfolk has scored at least one rushing touchdown in seven of eight games.

Kell Walker

Season Stats: 76 att., 553 yds, 6 TD; 5 rec., 111 yds

Walker missed the season opener, but in the ten games in which he has played this year, the sophomore running back topped the 100-yard rushing mark twice and totaled more than 40 yards of offense seven times. He also leads the team in receptions and receiving yards.

Andy Davidson

Season Stats: 94 att., 517 yds, 4 TD

Davidson was extremely valuable when Woolfolk missed three games due to injury. His only two 100-yard rushing games were in Woolfolk's absence. In games that Davidson backup up Woolfolk, he still topped the 50-yard rushing mark three times.

Receivers

None

****Note: This was published before the Annual Army-Navy Game**

Quarterback

Christian Chapman

Season Stats: 1848 pass yds, 13 TD; rush TD

Even though Chapman has only thrown 13 TD passes this year, he's been consistent, throwing for a score in all but two games this season. He only topped the 200-yard mark passing three times this year and four times he did not even reach the 100-yard mark. The Aztecs offense is built around the running game, so Chapman is counted on for his leadership and ability to manage the game.

Running Backs

Rashaad Penny

Season Stats: 275 att., 2027 yds, 19 TD; 18 rec., 142 yds, 2 TD

Penny rushed for at least 100 yards in all but two games this year and the Aztecs lost both of those games in back-to-back weeks. After those losses at home to Boise State and Fresno State, Penny ran for 200-plus yards in each of the last four games of the season to become the only player in the FBS to reach the 2,000-yard rushing milestone before the bowl season.

Juwan Washington

Season Stats: 122 att., 715 yds, 7 TD; 3 rec., 39 yds

Washington had some fantasy success running as Rashaad Penny's backup, particularly at the end of the year. The sophomore RB topped the 50-yard rushing mark seven times this season and scored at least one rushing touchdown in each of the last four games of the year.

Receivers

Mikah Holder

Season Stats: 43 rec., 602 yds, 2 TD

San Diego State is a run-first, run-often offense, but Holder was QB Christian Chapman's go-to receiver. Holder's yardage totals aren't overly impressive, but he did catch three or more passes eight times and reached the 50-yard receiving mark five times.

Fred Trevillion

Season Stats: 9 rec., 273 yds, 2 TD

Four of Trevillion's receptions were in the last four games of the year. He averaged 32.6 yards per reception.

Kahale Warring

Season Stats: 18 rec., 248 yds, 3 TD

Most of Warring's production was in the first half of the year, but after failing to catch a pass over a four-week span, Warring caught five balls in the last two games of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Army Wins—Temple, Duke

Army Losses—@ Ohio State, @ North Texas

San Diego St Wins—@ Arizona St, Stanford, N. Illinois

San Diego St Losses—Boise St, Fresno St

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: San Diego State

Against the Spread: N/A

Due to the Army-Navy game, there was no line available for this matchup before Dec. 9.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016	Louisiana Tech 48 Navy 45
2015	California 55 Air Force 36
2014	Houston 35 Pitt 34
2013	Navy 24 Middle Tennessee 6
2012	Rice 33 Air Force 14

Confidence Pick

22

Birmingham Bowl

Birmingham, Alabama

Saturday December 23 (12 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: South Florida -2.5 (67)

Projected Score: South Florida 35-32

South Florida (9-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—38.3
Rush yds/gm—265.4
Pass yds/gm—243.3

Defense

Pts/gm—22.5
Rush yds/gm—126.4
Pass yds/gm—216.2

Quarterback

Quinton Flowers

Season Stats: 2600 pass yds, 21 TD; 972 rush yds, 10 TD

Flowers biggest statistical games of the year were the final three games of the 2017 season, when he accounted for 1,382 yards of offense and 10 TDs. Flowers' three 300-yard passing games occurred in the last four weeks of the season. The senior quarterback threw at least two TD passes in a game eight times this season, rushed for 100 yards or more five times, and scored at least one rushing touchdown in all but three games.

Running Backs

Darius Tice

Season Stats: 162 att., 878 yds, 11 TD; 2 rec., 13 yds

Tice had at least twelve carries in nine of eleven games, topped the 100-yard mark three times, reached the 80-yard rushing mark six times, and frequently found the endzone, scoring in nine of eleven games.

D'Ernest Johnson

Season Stats: 177 att., 745 yds, 7 TD; 10 rec., 128 yds, 2 TD

Johnson had at least 15 carries in seven of eleven games, finished the year with three 100-yard games, and scored at least one touchdown in six of eleven games.

Receivers

Marquez Valdes-Scantling

Season Stats: 50 rec., 746 yds, 5 TD

Valdes-Scantling was the team's best receiver in 2017, as he topped the 150-yard receiving mark twice and finished with at least 90 receiving yards five times. The senior receiver scored five touchdowns and had at least five catches of 30 yards or more

Tyre McCants

Season Stats: 30 rec., 598 yds, 5 TD

McCants had at least 30 yards receiving in six of eleven games and caught a TD pass in five of eleven games, including the last two games of the year.

Darnell Salomon

Season Stats: 28 rec., 465 yds, 4 TD

Salomon's only 100-yard game was the season finale at Central Florida, when he caught five passes for 139 yards and a touchdown. The sophomore receiver had at least 40 yards receiving in each of the last seven games. He also caught a TD pass in three of the last five games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

South Florida Wins—Temple

South Florida Losses—Houston, @ UCF

Texas Tech Wins—Arizona St, @ Houston, @ Texas

Texas Tech Losses—Okla St, @ West Virginia, Iowa St, @ Oklahoma, Kansas St, TCU

Texas Tech (6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—34.3
Rush yds/gm—141.6
Pass yds/gm—326.8

Defense

Pts/gm—31.8
Rush yds/gm—154.3
Pass yds/gm—279.8

Quarterback

Nic Shimonek

Season Stats: 3547 pass yds, 30 TD; rush TD

Shimonek led a comeback win at Texas in the final game of the season that earned the Red Raiders a bowl bid. Shimonek struggled at times throughout the year, but he did throw at least two TD passes in nine of twelve games and had seven 300-yard passing games.

Running Backs

Justin Stockton

Season Stats: 114 att., 694 yds, 6 TD; 25 rec., 203 yds, TD

In ten games, Stockton topped the 100-yard rushing mark three times and totaled over 100 yards of offense five times.

Tre King

Season Stats: 121 att., 588 yds, 4 TD; 16 rec., 89 yds

King had a productive five-game stretch during the season, but he only had five carries in the last two games of the year.

Desmond Nisby

Season Stats: 61 att., 274 yds, 7 TD;

Nisby scored seven touchdowns during a five-game stretch in the middle of the year, but has not scored in Tech's last five games.

Receivers

Keke Coutee

Season Stats: 82 rec., 1242 yds, 9 TD

Coutee caught eight or more passes six times, had four 100-yard games, topped the 80-yard mark eight times, and caught a TD pass in seven of twelve games.

Dylan Cantrell

Season Stats: 67 rec., 790 yds, 6 TD

Cantrell caught at least six passes in seven of twelve games and topped 70 yards receiving five times.

Cameron Batson

Season Stats: 55 rec., 464 yds, 5 TD

Batson finished the season with six games of 50 yards or more receiving.

TJ Vasher

Season Stats: 24 rec., 461 yds, 5 TD

TJ Vasher was a late-season surprise, as he caught a TD pass in four of the last seven games of 2017.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Texas Tech

Against the Spread: Texas Tech +2.5

Texas Tech's comeback at Texas salvaged a bowl bid, but more importantly, restored QB Nic Shimonek's confidence. You have to wonder if USF can bounce back after a gut-wrenching loss to UCF a couple of weeks ago.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 South Florida 46 South Carolina 39 OT
2015 Auburn 31 Memphis 10
2014 Florida 28 East Carolina 10
2013 Vanderbilt 41 Houston 24
2012 Ole Miss 38 Pitt 17

Confidence Pick

11

Dollar General Bowl

Mobile, Alabama

Saturday December 23 (7 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Toledo -7.5 (63)

Projected Score: Toledo 35-28

Appalachian St.
(8-4)



Toledo
(11-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—33.4
Rush yds/gm—215.0
Pass yds/gm—223.3

Defense

Pts/gm—21.9
Rush yds/gm—147.1
Pass yds/gm—211.7

Offense

Pts/gm—39.2
Rush yds/gm—218.0
Pass yds/gm—291.9

Defense

Pts/gm—25.6
Rush yds/gm—166.4
Pass yds/gm—213.0

Quarterback

Taylor Lamb

Season Stats: 2606 pass yds, 27 TD; 539 rush yds, 5 TD

Lamb, a four-year starter, may have had his best season as a Mountaineer in 2017. The senior quarterback had four 300-yard passing games, seven 40-yard rushing games, and accounted for two or more touchdowns in nine of twelve games.

Running Backs

Jalin Moore

Season Stats: 161 att., 912 yds, 9 TD; 12 rec., 163 yds, TD

Moore battled through injuries throughout most of the 2017 season and only played in ten games. Through the first seven games, Moore only topped the 60-yard rushing mark one time. However, Moore ran for at least 100 yards in each of his last three games and scored six touchdowns during that stretch.

Marcus Williams

Season Stats: 88 att., 432 yds, 2 TD; 4 rec., 27 yds

Williams had two 100-yard games filling in for an injured Jalin Moore, but now that Moore is healthy again, don't expect Williams to get a ton of carries in the bowl game.

Receivers

Ike Lewis

Season Stats: 47 rec., 666 yds, 8 TD

In the last seven games of 2017, Lewis had at least five catches in five different games, two 100-yard receiving games, four 80-yard games, six 60-yard games, and recorded a TD reception in five different games.

Thomas Hennigan

Season Stats: 44 rec., 556 yds, 7 TD

Hennigan had at least 50 yards receiving in seven of the last ten games of 2017.

TJ Watkins

Season Stats: 21 rec., 295 yds, TD

Watkins had at least 40 yards receiving in two of his last three games.

Quarterback

Logan Woodside

Season Stats: 3758 pass yds, 28 TD; 65 rush yds, TD

In his senior season, Woodside had seven 300-yard passing games and eight multiple-TD passing games. Up until the second-to-last game of the year, Woodside had only thrown two interceptions.

Running Backs

Terry Swanson

Season Stats: 231 att., 1319 yds, 14 TD; 17 rec., 168 yds

Swanson carried the ball at least twenty times in eight of twelve games, topped the 100-yard rushing mark eight times, and finished the year with five multiple-TD games.

Shakif Seymour

Season Stats: 113 att., 704 yds, 12 TD; 7 rec., 90 yds, TD

The freshman flashed his talent often throughout the 2017 season, topping the 50-yard rushing mark eight times and scoring at least one touchdown in seven of twelve games.

Art Thompkins

Season Stats: 102 att., 618 yds, 2 TD; 14 rec., 110 yds

80 of Thompkins 102 carries were in the first seven games of the year.

Receivers

Diontae Johnson

Season Stats: 72 rec., 1257 yds, 13 TD

Johnson was QB Logan Woodside's favorite target in 2017, as he topped 100 yards receiving six times and caught at least one TD pass in nine of thirteen games.

Jon'Vea Johnson

Season Stats: 41 rec., 675 yds, 5 TD

Johnson was productive down the stretch as defense keyed in on teammate Diontae Johnson. The junior wideout had at least 55 yards receiving in each of the last five games.

Danzel McKinley-Lewis

Season Stats: 22 rec., 311 yds, 3 TD

Jordan Fisher (TE)

Season Stats: 18 rec., 266 yds

Fisher had six games of at least 25 yards receiving in 2017.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

App St Wins—NM St, @ Georgia St.

App St Losses—@ Georgia, Wake Forest

Toledo Wins—@ C. Michigan, Akron, N. Illinois, Akron (MAC Champ)

Toledo Losses—@ Miami, @ Ohio

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Toledo

Against the Spread: Appalachian State +7.5

This is a rematch from their bowl game last year when Appalachian State knocked off Toledo 33-28. If there is an edge, it's the revenge factor for Toledo, but we're expecting another close one.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Troy 28 Ohio 23
2015 Georgia Southern 58 Bowling Green 27
2014 Toledo 63 Arkansas State 44
2013 Arkansas State 23 Ball State 20
2012 Arkansas State 17 Kent State 13

Confidence Pick

20

Hawai'i Bowl

Honolulu, HI

Sunday December 24 (8:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Houston -2.5 (50)

Projected Score: Houston 26-24

Fresno State
(9-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—26.7
Rush yds/gm—156.8
Pass yds/gm—229.9

Defense

Pts/gm—17.2
Rush yds/gm—116.6
Pass yds/gm—202.4

Houston
(7-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—28.4
Rush yds/gm—175.5
Pass yds/gm—260.6

Defense

Pts/gm—23.0
Rush yds/gm—149.5
Pass yds/gm—268.1

Quarterback

Marcus McMaryion

Season Stats: 2384 pass yds, 14 TD; 252 rush yds, 2 TD

All 14 of McMaryion's TD passes were totaled in six games, which means he failed to throw a TD pass in seven different games.

However, he did get hot late, accounting for 9 total touchdowns in the last four games of the season.

Running Backs

Jordan Mims

Season Stats: 143 att., 609 yds, 6 TD; 11 rec., 119 yds

As the Bulldogs' leading rusher, Mims had at least ten rushing attempts and 40 yards rushing in eight of the last nine games of the season.

Josh Hokit

Season Stats: 117 att., 519 yds, 7 TD; 12 rec., 98 yds

Phillips best two games of the season were the last two against As the Bulldogs' second-leading rusher, Hokit had at least 9 carries and 40 yards rushing in seven of the last eight games of the season.

Ronnie Rivers

Season Stats: 95 att., 473 yds, 5 TD; 18 rec., 121 yds, TD

Looking at the distribution of carries, it is clear that Fresno State rotates their running backs frequently. Rivers topped the 50-yard mark three times in 2017.

Receivers

KeeSean Johnson

Season Stats: 69 rec., 918 yds, 8 TD

Johnson caught five or more passes nine times, had four 100-yard receiving games, nine 50-yard receiving games, and three multiple-TD games.

Da'Mari Scott

Season Stats: 53 rec., 543 yds, TD

In 2017, Scott had three or more receptions ten times, finished with at least 40 yards receiving eight times, and rushed for 91 yards.

Jamire Jordan

Season Stats: 21 rec., 482 yds, 3 TD

Jordan had two or more receptions seven times and had 40 yards or more receiving six times.

Jared Rice

Season Stats: 16 rec., 304 yds, 2 TD

Rice had at least 30 yards receiving in each of the last four games of the year.

Quarterback

D'Eriq King

Season Stats: 1125 pass yds, 5 TD; 341 rush yds, 8 TD

King led the Cougars to a come-from-behind win at South Florida in Week 10 and has kept the starting job. In the last four games of the season, King threw for at least 225 yards three times, rushed for at least 80 yards twice, and accounted for three or more touchdowns three times.

Running Backs

Duke Catalon

Season Stats: 138 att., 621 yds, 8 TD; 14 rec., 87 yds, TD

Catalon had his best production over a three-game stretch in the middle of the season, when he carried the ball at least 20 times in each game and scored a total of six touchdowns. In the last four games of the year, Catalon only totaled 26 carries for 129 yards.

Mulbah Car

Season Stats: 73 att., 372 yds, 3 TD; 5 rec., 27 yds

Car missed a significant amount of time this year, but he received most of the carries in the Houston backfield over the last four weeks of the season. The sophomore RB topped 70 yards rushing in two of the last three games.

Dillon Birden

Season Stats: 60 att., 333 yds, 4 TD; 8 rec., 65 yds

Dillon's 5.6 yards per carry led the team and he topped 80 yards rushing in three of the six games in which he played, but he missed the last four games of the year and could miss the bowl game with an elbow injury.

Receivers

Steven Dunbar

Season Stats: 66 rec., 873 yds, 3 TD

Dunbar caught at least six passes in nine of eleven games and posted better fantasy numbers in the second half of the season. In the last six games of the year, Dunbar had three 100-yard receiving games and posted his only three TD receptions of the year.

Linell Bonner

Season Stats: 73 rec., 850 yds, 4 TD

Bonner caught at least six passes in nine of ten games this year and topped the 100-yard receiving mark four times. The senior receiver had at least 98 yards receiving in four of the last five games of 2017.

Courtney Lark

Season Stats: 9 rec., 205 yds, 2 TD

Lark averaged 22.8 yards per catch and topped the 60-yard mark twice in the last four weeks.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Houston Wins—@ Arizona, @ Temple, SMU, @ USF, Navy

Houston Losses—Texas Tech, Memphis

Fresno St Wins—@ San Diego St, @ Wyoming, Boise St

Fresno St Losses—@ Alabama, @ Washington, @ Boise State

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Houston

Against the Spread: Houston -2.5

Last year, Houston played another MWC team in a bowl game, San Diego State, and got crushed. However, they were going through a transition when HC Tom Herman left for Texas. That isn't happening this year. As for Fresno State, making the MWC Championship Game may have already been their reward.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Hawaii 52 Middle Tennessee 35

2015 San Diego State 42 Cincinnati 7

2014 Rice 30 Fresno State 6

2013 Oregon State 38 Boise State 23

2012 SMU 43 Fresno State 10

Confidence Pick

10

Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl

Dallas, Texas

Tuesday December 26 (1:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Utah -7 (57.5)

Projected Score: Utah 32-25

Utah
(6-6)



West Virginia
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—29.5
Rush yds/gm—161.3
Pass yds/gm—256.4

Defense

Pts/gm—23.9
Rush yds/gm—139.8
Pass yds/gm—214.0

Offense

Pts/gm—36.3
Rush yds/gm—160.3
Pass yds/gm—324.8

Defense

Pts/gm—31.6
Rush yds/gm—204.8
Pass yds/gm—247.8

Quarterback

Tyler Huntley

Season Stats: 2246 pass yds, 15 TD; 480 rush yds, 4 TD
Huntley missed the last game of the year with an injury and there is a slight chance he won't be ready for the bowl game. If Huntley does happen to play, the Utes will have a huge advantage at the quarterback position.

Troy Williams

Season Stats: 812 pass yds, 2 TD; 75 rush yds, 4 TD
Utah was able to win two games this year with Williams at quarterback, including the last game of the year against Colorado, which made them bowl-eligible.

Running Backs

Zack Moss

Season Stats: 194 att., 1023 yds, 9 TD; 28 rec., 234 yds
Moss really shouldered the load in the second half of the season, as he rushed for at least 140 yards in three of the last seven games and scored two rushing touchdowns in three of the last four games.

Devonta'e Henry-Cole

Season Stats: 53 att., 266 yds, 2 TD;

Receivers

Darren Carrington

Season Stats: 66 rec., 918 yds, 6 TD
Carrington had at least 99 yards receiving in four of the first five games of the year, but injuries slowed him down the stretch. The long break should allow Carrington to be healthy for the bowl game.

Raelon Singleton

Season Stats: 34 rec., 479 yds, 4 TD
Singleton had at least 50 yards receiving in six of the last seven games in which he played and had three receptions of 40 yards or more.

Demari Simpkins

Season Stats: 27 rec., 337 yds, TD
Simpkins caught three or more passes in four of the last seven games.

Siaosi Wilson

Season Stats: 26 rec., 294 yds, 3 TD
Wilson had two or more receptions in seven of eleven games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

West Virginia Wins—Texas Tech, Iowa State, @ Kansas St

West Virginia Losses—Virginia Tech, @ TCU, Oklahoma St, Texas, @ Oklahoma

Utah Wins—@ Arizona, UCLA

Utah Losses—Stanford, @ USC, Arizona State, @ Oregon, Wash St, @ Washington

Quarterback

Chris Chugunov

Season Stats: 407 pass yds, 2 TD
Chugunov will lead the West Virginia offense into its bowl matchup against Utah after starter Will Grier was lost to a finger injury in the second-to-last game of the year. Fortunately, Chugunov will have nearly a month to prepare for the bowl game because he wasn't impressive in his two outings at the end of the year.

Running Backs

Justin Crawford

Season Stats: 190 att., 1061 yds, 7 TD; 8 rec., 38 yds
Crawford had five straight 100-yard rushing games to start the year and totaled seven 100-yard games in 2017. Expect the Mountaineers to lean heavily on running game in their bowl matchup against Utah.

Kennedy McKoy

Season Stats: 111 att., 565 yds, 7 TD; 9 rec., 73 yds
Kennedy McKoy ran for 137 yards and 3 TDs in the season finale at Oklahoma, which may have been a preview of WVU's offensive game plan for the Dallas Bowl.

Receivers

Gary Jennings

Season Stats: 94 rec., 1030 yds, TD
The knock on Jennings was that he did not catch a TD pass in the last eleven games of the year, but he caught at least six passes in ten games and topped the 60-yard receiving mark nine times.

David Sills

Season Stats: 60 rec., 980 yds, 18 TD
Sills was a TD machine in 2017, totaling seven multiple-TD games and catching at least six passes in six different games.

Ka'Raun White

Season Stats: 58 rec., 678 yds, 11 TD
White caught four or more passes in ten of twelve games, had four 100-yard receiving games, and caught at least 1 TD pass in nine of twelve games.

Marcus Simms

Season Stats: 32 rec., 630 yds, 5 TD
Simms topped the 50-yard receiving mark eight times and had 6 receptions of at least 30 yards.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Utah

Against the Spread: Utah -7

West Virginia will be without QB Will Grier, but a month is a long time to get Chris Chugunov ready. However, Utah has a lot of talent returning next year and this game could be their springboard into 2018.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Army 38 North Texas 31
2015 Washington 44 Southern Mississippi 31
2014 Louisiana Tech 35 Illinois 18
2013 North Texas 36 UNLV 14
2012 Oklahoma State 58 Purdue 14

Confidence Pick

23

Quick Lane Bowl

Detroit, Michigan

Tuesday December 26 (5:15 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Duke -4.5 (47.5)

Projected Score: Duke 26-22

Duke
(6-6)



Northern Illinois
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—25.8
Rush yds/gm—167.9
Pass yds/gm—210.2

Defense

Pts/gm—20.8
Rush yds/gm—160.6
Pass yds/gm—174.8

Offense

Pts/gm—30.2
Rush yds/gm—187.3
Pass yds/gm—197.1

Defense

Pts/gm—20.8
Rush yds/gm—112.3
Pass yds/gm—215.8

Quarterback

Daniel Jones

Season Stats: 2439 pass yds, 12 TD; 432 rush yds, 6 TD

You cannot overlook the fact that 2017 has been a bad year for the sophomore quarterback. Jones' 11 INTs and 55% completion percentage pretty much sums up his year. However, he did help Duke earn a bowl bid by winning the last two games of the year and accounting for three TDs in each of those games.

Running Backs

Shaun Wilson

Season Stats: 146 att., 743 yds, 5 TD; 32 rec., 241 yds, 3 TD

Wilson ran for at least 50 yards and a touchdown in each of the first four games of the year, but failed to run for a TD in any of Duke's last eight games. However, he did have three receiving TDs in the last five weeks of the year.

Brittain Brown

Season Stats: 117 att., 660 yds, 6 TD; 12 rec., 150

Brown had three 90-plus yard rushing games in 2017 and ran for a score in each of Duke's final three games.

Receivers

TJ Rahming

Season Stats: 61 rec., 733 yds, TD

Rahming caught eight or more passes four times this year and topped the 100-yard receiving mark three times. Unfortunately, Rahming only found the endzone one time.

Johnathan Lloyd

Season Stats: 37 rec., 364 yds, TD

Lloyd finished the year with five 40-plus yard receiving games and his only TD reception with in the season opener.

Chris Taylor

Season Stats: 20 rec., 284 yds, TD

Taylor had at least 30 yards receiving five times and his only receiving TD was in Week 2.

Daniel Helm (TE)

Season Stats: 26 rec., 294 yds, 3 TD

Helm had two or more receptions in six different games and caught a TD pass in each of the last two games of the year.

Quarterback

Marcus Childers

Season Stats: 1440 pass yds, 15 TD; 454 rush yds, 5 TD

Childers, a freshman, started eight games in 2017 and accounted for two or more touchdowns six times. He also had four 200-yard passing games and six 40-plus yard rushing games.

Running Backs

Jordan Huff

Season Stats: 127 att., 740 yds, 4 TD; 7 rec., 43 yds, 2 TD

Huff missed three games in the second half of the season due to injury, so he only played in nine games. The senior running back had three 100-yard rushing games and returned from injury to score four TDs in the team's last three games.

Tre Harbison

Season Stats: 42 att., 231 yds, 2 TD; 2 rec., 54 yds

Harbison was Huff's primary backup late in the year and he rushed for at least 50 yards in three of the last four games.

Marcus Jones

Season Stats: 82 att., 347 yds, 3 TD

Receivers

Spencer Tears

Season Stats: 39 rec., 461 yds, 4 TD

Tears led the team in receptions and receiving yards, as he caught at least three passes nine times and topped the 40-yard receiving mark six times.

Chad Beebe

Season Stats: 28 rec., 417 yds, TD

Beebe had five 30-plus yard receiving games in 2017.

Christian Blake

Season Stats: 38 rec., 414 yds, 4 TD

Blake caught three or more passes six times, but only topped 30 yards receiving three times.

DJ Brown

Season Stats: 38 rec., 342 yds, 3 TD

Brown had seven 3-catch games this year.

Shane Wimann (TE)

Season Stats: 30 rec., 283 yds, 7 TD

Wimann caught at least four passes for 30-plus yards five times in 2017. He also caught a TD pass in seven of twelve games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Duke Wins—Northwestern, @ Wake Forest

Duke Losses—Miami, @ Virginia, Florida St, @ Va Tech, @ Army

NIU Wins—None

NIU Losses—Boston College, @ San Diego St, @ Toledo, @ Central Michigan

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Duke

Against the Spread: Duke -4.5

Simply put, Duke's wins over Northwestern, Georgia Tech, and Wake Forest was better than anything we could find to make us consider NIU.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Boston College 36 Maryland 30

2015 Minnesota 21 Central Michigan 14

2014 Rutgers 40 North Carolina 21

Confidence Pick

35

Cactus Bowl

Tempe, Arizona

Tuesday December 26 (9 pm ET / ESPM)

Betting Lines: Kansas State -2.5 (63.5)

Projected Score: Kansas State 33-30

Kansas St.
(7-5)



UCLA
(6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—32.1
Rush yds/gm—186.7
Pass yds/gm—181.7

Defense

Pts/gm—25.8
Rush yds/gm—121.8
Pass yds/gm—310.3

Offense

Pts/gm—33.8
Rush yds/gm—120.3
Pass yds/gm—345.3

Defense

Pts/gm—36.8
Rush yds/gm—282.7
Pass yds/gm—206.1

Quarterback

Skylar Thompson

Season Stats: 662 pass yds, 5 TD; 263 rush yds, 3 TD

After wins over Oklahoma State and Iowa State to end the season, Thompson is likely to start at quarterback against UCLA. He accounted for six touchdowns in those two wins.

Alex Delton

Season Stats: 585 pass yds, 2 TD; 342 rush yds, 5 TD

It's unknown if Delton will play in the bowl game, but don't rule him out if healthy because he's a weapon in short-yardage situations.

Running Backs

Alex Barnes

Season Stats: 134 att., 702 yds, 6 TD; 4 rec., 28 yds

Barnes was the Wildcats' best running back, as he topped the 80-yard rushing mark five times in 2017.

Dalvin Warmack

Season Stats: 47 att., 249 yds, 3 TD; 2 rec., 33 yds

25 of Warmack's 47 carries were recorded in the last three games of the season, so it would be a surprise to see him worked into the rotation for the bowl game.

Winston Dimel

Season Stats: 15 att., 63 yds, 4 TD; 7 rec., 82 yds, TD

Dimel is used almost exclusively in short-yardage or goaline situations.

Receivers

Byron Pringle

Season Stats: 28 rec., 705 yds, 6 TD

Pringle thrived in the second half of the season, topping the 70-yard receiving mark in five of the last seven games of the year. He also had five TD receptions in the last four games.

Isaiah Zuber

Season Stats: 51 rec., 510 yds, 4 TD

Zuber had at least 40 yards receiving in six of twelve games this year.

Dominique Heath

Season Stats: 17 rec., 147 yds

Quarterback

Josh Rosen

Season Stats: 3717 pass yds, 26 TD; 2 TD

Statistically, this was Rosen's best year as a collegiate quarterback, as he passed for 400 or more yards four times and 300 or more yards seven times. His 26 passing TDs are already a career high.

Devon Modster

Season Stats: 376 pass yds, 2 TD

Running Backs

Bolu Olorunfunmi

Season Stats: 105 att., 542 yds, 5 TD; 8 rec., 105 yds

Olorunfunmi had at least ten rushing attempts in seven games and he finished with 50 yards or more rushing six times.

Soso Jamabo

Season Stats: 88 att., 447 yds, 6 TD; 16 rec., 198 yds

Jamabo missed three games this year, but he had at least nine rushing attempts five times and scored a TD in six of nine games.

Receivers

Jordan Lasley

Season Stats: 61 rec., 1136 yds, 8 TD

Imagine what Lasley's numbers would have looked like had he not missed four games. In eight games this year, Lasley reached the 100-yard receiving mark six times, the 140-yard receiving mark five times, and the 200-yard receiving mark twice. In the last three games of the year, Lasley totaled 593 receiving yards and five touchdowns.

Theo Howard

Season Stats: 48 rec., 475 yds, 3 TD

Howard had at least 30 yards receiving in seven of twelve games.

Austin Roberts (TE)

Season Stats: 19 rec., 220 yds, 2 TD

Roberts missed the last game of the year, but he had six receptions in each of the two previous games and totaled 115 yards receiving.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Kansas St Wins—@ Texas Tech, @ Oklahoma St, Iowa St

Kansas St Losses—@ Texas, TCU, Oklahoma, West Virginia

UCLA Wins—Texas A&M, Oregon, Arizona State

UCLA Losses—@ Memphis, @ Stanford, @ Arizona, @ Washington, @ Utah, @ USC

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Kansas State

Against the Spread: Kansas State -2.5

This will be an interesting matchup between two teams with contrasting styles. UCLA has QB Josh Rosen, but will the Bruins' defense be able to slow down the Kansas State running game? What we do know is that the Bruins did not win one game away from home this year.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Baylor 31 Boise State 12

2015 West Virginia 43 Arizona State 42

2014 Oklahoma State 30 Washington 22

2013 Kansas State 31 Michigan 14

2012 Michigan State 17 TCU 16

Confidence Pick

24

Walk-On's Independence Bowl

Shreveport, Louisiana

Wednesday December 27 (1:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Florida State -15.5 (49)

Projected Score: Florida State 32-17

Florida St.
(6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—26.7
Rush yds/gm—150.8
Pass yds/gm—192.8

Defense

Pts/gm—21.9
Rush yds/gm—136.0
Pass yds/gm—201

Southern Miss
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—30.5
Rush yds/gm—189.0
Pass yds/gm—249.3

Defense

Pts/gm—23.0
Rush yds/gm—132.3
Pass yds/gm—189.8

Quarterback

James Blackman

Season Stats: 1997 pass yds, 15 TD

Blackman had four 200-yard passing games and four multiple passing TD games, but his accuracy is the key offensive success. In games that Blackman completed less than 61% of his passes, the Seminoles were 2-5. When he completed more than 61% of his passes, the Noles were 4-0.

Running Backs

Cam Akers

Season Stats: 181 att., 930 yds, 7 TD; 15 rec., 102 yds

Akers had four 100-yard rushing games this year and scored six of his seven touchdowns in the last four games of the season.

Jacques Patrick

Season Stats: 118 att., 687 yds, 6 TD; 19 rec., 145 yds

Patrick topped the 90-yard rushing mark four times this year, and like Cam Akers, found the endzone with greater frequency at the end of the year. Patrick scored five rushing touchdowns in the last four weeks of the season.

Receivers

Nyqwan Murray

Season Stats: 40 rec., 604 yds, 4 TD

Murray caught four or more passes five times in 2017 and scored at least one touchdown in four of the last seven games of year.

Auden Tate

Season Stats: 35 rec., 464 yds, 7 TD

Tate has not exactly been a yardage monster this year, but he was banged up for most of the season and still managed to catch a TD pass in seven of eleven games.

Keith Gavin

Season Stats: 26 rec., 265 yds

Singleton had 6 receptions for 111 yards and 3 TDs in the last game of the season.

Ryan Izzo (TE)

Season Stats: 14 rec., 258 yds, 3 TD

Izzo had at least 35 yards receiving in four of ten games this year.

Quarterback

Kwadra Griggs

Season Stats: 1793 pass yds, 15 TD; 231 rush yds, 2 TD

Griggs led USM to three straight wins at the end of the season and was impressive in doing so. In nine games this year, the junior quarterback threw three or more TD passes three times and threw two or more TD passes five times.

Running Backs

Ito Smith

Season Stats: 232 att., 1321 yds, 13 TD; 36 rec., 370 yds, 2 TD

Smith totaled over 100 yards of offense in ten of twelve games this year even though he was held to less than 100 yards rushing five times. The senior running back finished the season with seven 100-yard games and topped the 150-yard rushing mark in each of the last three games of year. He also scored at least one touchdown in ten of twelve games.

Tez Parks

Season Stats: 51 att., 278 yds, TD; 10 rec., 84 yds, TD

Parks did not play in four games this year, but he had at least six touches in six of eight games.

Receivers

Korey Robertson

Season Stats: 72 rec., 1070 yds, 11 TD

In 2017, Robertson caught five or more passes in eight of twelve games, topped 100 yards receiving five times, and had at least seven catches of 30 yards or more. In the last six games of the year, Robertson had at least six receptions in every game, topped 100 yards receiving four times, and scored six touchdowns.

Allenzae Stagers

Season Stats: 43 rec., 469 yds, 5 TD

Stagers caught at least four passes in eight of twelve games and topped 60 yards receiving four times.

Quez Watkins

Season Stats: 23 rec., 337 yds, 2 TD

Watkins had at least four receptions and 60 yards receiving in three different games.

Isaiah Jones

Season Stats: 22 rec., 191 yds

Jones had two or more receptions eight times in 2017.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Florida St Wins—Wake Forest, @ Duke

Florida St Losses—Alabama, NC St, Miami, Louisville, @ Boston College, @ Clemson

USM Wins—@ LA Tech, @ Marshall

USM Losses—Kentucky, North Texas, UAB

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Florida State

Against the Spread: Southern Miss +15.5

There is no doubt that Florida State is the more talented team, but there cannot be a lot of enthusiasm in the program after everything that transpired with former HC Jimbo Fisher. We are not used to seeing Florida State and Independence Bowl in the same sentence. However, for Southern Miss, playing against Florida State is their Super Bowl.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 North Carolina State 41 Vanderbilt 17

2015 Virginia Tech 55 Tulsa 52

2014 South Carolina 24 Miami 21

2013 Arizona 42 Boston College 19

2012 Ohio 45 UL Monroe 14

Confidence Pick

38

New Era Pinstripe Bowl

Bronx, New York

Wednesday December 27 (5:15 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Iowa -3 (46)

Projected Score: Iowa 25-22

Boston College
(7-5)



Iowa
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—26.2
Rush yds/gm—224.2
Pass yds/gm—162.8

Defense

Pts/gm—22.5
Rush yds/gm—198.4
Pass yds/gm—199.7

Offense

Pts/gm—28.3
Rush yds/gm—142.4
Pass yds/gm—197.8

Defense

Pts/gm—19.9
Rush yds/gm—142.1
Pass yds/gm—213.3

Quarterback

Darius Wade

Season Stats: 528 pass yds, 2 TD; TD

After Anthony Brown was lost for the remainder of the year with a knee injury, Wade stepped in and led the Eagles to consecutive wins in the last two games of the season. He passed for 248 yards and a touchdown in the 42-14 win at Syracuse.

Running Backs

AJ Dillon

Season Stats: 268 att., 1432 yds, 13 TD

Dillon, a freshman, was absolutely incredible in the second half of the season. In the last eight games of the year, Dillon had at least 23 rushing attempts in seven of those games, he topped 190 yards rushing four times, and scored 12 rushing touchdowns.

Jon Hilliman

Season Stats: 163 att., 622 yds, 5 TD; 23 rec., 150 yds, 2 TD

Hilliman was overshadowed by the success of AJ Dillon, but he still managed to run for at least 50 yards in five games this year.

Receivers

Kobay White

Season Stats: 32 rec., 396 yds, 2 TD

White, another freshman, was able to top the 40-yard receiving mark six times this year.

Jeff Smith

Season Stats: 23 rec., 278 yds

Michael Walker

Season Stats: 19 rec., 168 yds, TD

Tommy Sweeney (TE)

Season Stats: 29 rec., 375 yds, 3 TD

Sweeney had two or more receptions in nine of the last ten games of 2017 and had four 50-yard receiving games.

Quarterback

Nathan Stanley

Season Stats: 2338 pass yds, 25 TD

Stanley threw two or more TD passes seven times and passed for at least 175 yards ten times in leading the Hawkeyes to wins over four 2017 bowl teams, including a 55-24 win over Ohio State that ultimately kept the Buckeyes out of the CFP.

Running Backs

Akrum Wadley

Season Stats: 230 att., 1021 yds, 9 TD; 26 rec., 329 yds, 3 TD

Akrum had five 100-yard rushing games this year, but because of his ability to catch the ball out of the backfield, totaled over 100 yards of offense in seven of twelve games and caught at least two passes in eight of twelve games.

James Butler

Season Stats: 81 att., 364 yds, TD; 4 rec., 47 yds

Butler missed four games in the middle of the 2017 season, but he rushed for at least 30 yards in seven of eight games this year.

Toren Young

Season Stats: 45 att., 193 yds, 2 TD; rec., 23 yds

Receivers

Nick Easley

Season Stats: 50 rec., 498 yds, 4 TD

Easley led the Hawkeyes in receptions and receiving yards, as he caught at least four passes in eight of twelve games and finished with at least 40 yards receiving in six of twelve games.

Matt VandeBerg

Season Stats: 27 rec., 375 yds, 2 TD

VandeBerg had at least two receptions in all but one game.

TJ Hockenson

Season Stats: 23 rec., 311 yds, 3 TD

Hockenson had at least 30 yards receiving five times.

Noah Fant (TE)

Season Stats: 28 rec., 486 yds, 10 TD

Fant caught three or more passes in five of the last seven games of the year and had at least one TD reception in five of the last six games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

BC wins—@ N. Illinois, C. Michigan, @ Louisville, @ Virginia, Florida St

BC Losses—Wake Forest, Notre Dame, @ Clemson, VaTech, NC St

Iowa Wins—Wyoming, @ Iowa St, North Texas, Ohio St

Iowa Losses—Penn St, @ Michigan St, @ Northwestern, @ Wisconsin, Purdue

theCFfsite Picks:

Winner: Iowa

Against the Spread: Iowa -3

Iowa can be a little more two dimensional on offense than Boston College and the Hawkeye's defense is built to handles the Eagles' smash-mouth style.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Northwestern 31 Pitt 24

2015 Duke 44 Indiana 41 (OT)

2014 Penn State 31 Boston College 30 (OT)

2013 Notre Dame 29 Rutgers 16

2012 Syracuse 38 West Virginia 14

Confidence Pick

28

Foster Farms Bowl

Santa Clara, California

Wednesday December 27 (8:30 pm ET / FOX)

Betting Lines: Arizona -3.5 (65.5)

Projected Score: Arizona 35-31

Purdue
(6-6)



Arizona
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—24.2
Rush yds/gm—150.9
Pass yds/gm—239.5

Defense

Pts/gm—19.3
Rush yds/gm—133.3
Pass yds/gm—237.6

Offense

Pts/gm—41.8
Rush yds/gm—324.4
Pass yds/gm—170.1

Defense

Pts/gm—34.1
Rush yds/gm—187.3
Pass yds/gm—276.6

Quarterback

Elijah Sindelar

Season Stats: 1703 pass yds, 14 TD

Sindelar led Purdue to an upset win at Iowa and a win at home against Indiana in the final two weeks of the season to make the Biolermakers bowl eligible. Sindelar threw at least two TD passes in each of the last three games of year

Running Backs

Markell Jones

Season Stats: 92 att., 480 yds, TD; 11 rec., 50 yds

Jones rushed for at least 50 yards in four of the last eight games of 2017 and his 217-yard explosion in the season finale against Indiana should give him a lot of confidence heading into the bowl game.

DJ Knox

Season Stats: 79 att., 460 yds, TD; 12 rec., 102 yds, 2 TD

Knox rushed for at least 40 yards in four of the last six games of the year.

Receivers

Anthony Mahoungou

Season Stats: 34 rec., 570 yds, 6 TD

Mahoungou caught three or more passes six times and scored at least one touchdown in four of his last five games.

Jackson Anthrop

Season Stats: 44 rec., 391 yds, 5 TD

Anthrop caught four or more passes in six of twelve games and had three 50-yard plus receiving games.

Gregory Phillips

Season Stats: 30 rec., 275 yds

Phillips caught three or more passes five times in 2017, but did not have one TD reception.

Terry Wright

Season Stats: 29 rec., 274 yds

Brycen Hopkins (TE)

Season Stats: 23 rec., 324 yds, 3 TD

Hopkins caught three or more passes five times this year, but could miss the bowl game with a back injury.

Cole Herdman (TE)

Season Stats: 19 rec., 316 yds, 3 TD

Herdman had at least 20 yards receiving in six of eleven games.

Quarterback

Khalil Tate

Season Stats: 1289 pass yds, 9 TD; 1353 rush yds, 12 TD

Tate was one of the more exciting players in college football this year. The sophomore quarterback ran for at least 140 yards in six straight games before fizzling out in the last games of the year. During that six-game stretch, Tate accounted for 19 total touchdowns (11 rush / 8 pass) and ran for a combined total of 1,207 yards.

Running Backs

JJ Taylor

Season Stats: 136 att., 828 yds, 5 TD; 10 rec., 46 yds, 2 TD

Taylor had two 100-yard games, ran for at least 50 yards in eight of twelve games, and scored at least one touchdown in six of twelve games.

Nick Wilson

Season Stats: 120 att., 585 yds, 6 TD; rec., 6 yds

Wilson had two 100-yard rushing games, ran for at least 50 yards in four of his last six games, and scored at least one touchdown in two of the last three games.

Zach Green

Season Stats: 65 att., 310 yds, 11 TD; 4 rec., 11 yds

Green only had more than seven carries twice this year, but he led the team in rushing touchdowns, scoring at least one rushing TD in nine of eleven games.

Receivers

Shun Brown

Season Stats: 39 rec., 511 yds, 5 TD

Brown had at least three receptions seven times and had a TD reception in five of his last nine games.

Tony Ellison

Season Stats: 33 rec., 496 yds, 3 TD

Ellison had six 50-yard receiving games in 2017.

Tyrell Johnson

Season Stats: 21 rec., 261 yds

Singleton had 6 receptions for 111 yards and 3 TDs in the last game of the season.

Bryce Wolma

Season Stats: 28 rec., 241 yds, 2 TD

Wolma had four or more receptions in his first three games of 2017, but did not catch more than three passes in a game the rest of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Arizona wins—UCLA, Wash St

Arizona Losses—Houston, Utah, @ USC, @ Oregon, @ Arizona St

Purdue Wins—Ohio, @ Missouri, @ Iowa

Purdue Losses—Louisville, Michigan, @ Wisconsin, @ Northwestern

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Arizona

Against the Spread: Arizona -3.5

Purdue's defense did a pretty good job against Louisville QB Lamar Jackson in the season-opener. However, this game won't have the excitement of a Week 1 game and the Boilermakers must travel to the west coast, where Arizona is most comfortable.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Utah 26 Indiana 24

2015 Nebraska 37 UCLA 29

2014 Stanford 45 Maryland 21

2013 Washington 31 BYU 16

2012 Arizona State 62 Navy 28

Confidence Pick

26

Academy Sports & Outdoors Texas Bowl

Houston, Texas

Wednesday December 27 (9 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Missouri -3 (60.5)

Projected Score: Missouri 32-29

Texas
(6-6)



Missouri
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—29.2
Rush yds/gm—141.8
Pass yds/gm—266.5

Defense

Pts/gm—21.7
Rush yds/gm—105.7
Pass yds/gm—257.9

Offense

Pts/gm—39.3
Rush yds/gm—199.6
Pass yds/gm—311.9

Defense

Pts/gm—31.8
Rush yds/gm—163.5
Pass yds/gm—261.8

Quarterback

Sam Ehlinger

Season Stats: 1803 pass yds, 10 TD; 368 rush yds, 2 TD

In the eight games in which Ehlinger played, the freshman quarterback passed for at least 200 yards six times and had two 100-yard rushing performances.

Shane Buechele

Season Stats: 1350 pass yds, 6 TD; 87 rush yds, 2 TD

The coaches will evaluate Ehlinger and Buechele throughout practices leading up to the bowl game before naming a starter.

Running Backs

Daniel Young

Season Stats: 69 att., 325 yds, 3 TD; 10 rec., 89 yds

Young played a significant role in the offense over the last five games of the year. The freshman running back ran for at least 50 yards in four of those games and scored a touchdown in three of them.

Toneil Carter

Season Stats: 53 att., 252 yds, 3 TD; 6 rec., 31 yds, TD

Carter has played sparingly in 2017 only received more than six carries in a game twice.

Kyle Porter

Season Stats: 72 att., 231 yds, 4 TD; 5 rec., 33 yds, TD

Receivers

Collin Johnson

Season Stats: 51 rec., 725 yds, 2 TD

Johnson caught four or more passes six times and caught three or more passes eight times, but has only scored one touchdown since the season opener.

Lil' Jordan Humphrey

Season Stats: 37 rec., 431 yds, TD; 41 rush yds, TD

Humphrey had five or more touches in four of the last five games of the year..

Reggie Hemphill-Mapps

Season Stats: 36 rec., 400 yds

Singleton had 6 receptions for 111 yards and 3 TDs in the last game of the season.

Armanti Foreman

Season Stats: 27 rec., 261 yds, 4 TD

Foreman had five receptions and a touchdown in four different games this year.

Quarterback

Drew Lock

Season Stats: 3695 pass yds, 43 TD; 111 rush yds, TD

Lock threw at least three touchdown passes in nine of twelve games, including each of the last eight games of the year. Five times he passed for at least 350 yards and he ran for at least 25 yards in three of the last four games of the year.

Running Backs

Ish Witter

Season Stats: 171 att., 992 yds, 5 TD; 11 rec., 87 yds, TD

Witter carried the ball at least 16 times in each of the last eight games of the year. During that stretch, the senior running back had four 100-yard games and scored at least one touchdown in five of the last six games.

Larry Roundtree

Season Stats: 112 att., 629 yds, 6 TD; 2 rec., 20 yds

Roundtree had at least twelve carries in five of the last six games of the year. He ran for at least 50 yards in each one of those games and scored at least one touchdown in three of the last four.

Receivers

J'Mon Moore

Season Stats: 60 rec., 1017 yds, 10 TD

Moore caught three or more passes in ten of twelve games and scored at least one touchdown in eight of twelve games.

Moore's high yards-per-catch average (17.0) allowed him to record five 80-plus yard receiving games.

Emanuel Hall

Season Stats: 33 rec., 817 yds, 8 TD

In the last eight games of the year, Hall had five 100-yard games and three multiple-TD games. He also had four or more catches in five of the last eight games.

Johnathon Johnson

Season Stats: 38 rec., 639 yds, 5 TD

Albert Okwuegbunam (TE)

Season Stats: 25 rec., 372 yds, 11 TD

Eleven of Okwuegbunam's 25 receptions resulted in a touchdown. In the last six games of 2017, the freshman TE had three multiple-TD games.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Texas

Against the Spread: Texas +3

We know Missouri was one of the highest scoring teams in the FBS this year, but they are the only bowl team to not win a game against a team that was bowl eligible. Seven wins over seven non-bowl eligible teams. The Longhorns almost beat USC, Oklahoma, and Oklahoma State.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Texas wins—@ Iowa St, Kansas St, @ W. Virginia

Texas Losses—@ USC, Oklahoma, Oklahoma St, @ TCU, Texas Tech

Missouri Wins—None

Missouri Losses—South Carolina, Purdue, Auburn, @ Kentucky, @ Georgia

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Kansas State 33 Texas A&M 28

2015 LSU 56 Texas Tech 27

2014 Arkansas 31 Texas 7

2013 Syracuse 21 Minnesota 17

2012 Texas Tech 34 Minnesota 31

Confidence Pick

12

Military Bowl

Annapolis, Maryland

Thursday December 28 (1:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Virginia -1 (56)

Projected Score: Virginia 28-27

Virginia
(6-6)



Navy
(6-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—23.8
Rush yds/gm—98.8
Pass yds/gm—257.3

Defense

Pts/gm—26.7
Rush yds/gm—178.3
Pass yds/gm—179.6

Offense

Pts/gm—30.4
Rush yds/gm—347.5
Pass yds/gm—91.2

Defense

Pts/gm—29.2
Rush yds/gm—159.8
Pass yds/gm—240.0

Quarterback

Kurt Benkert

Season Stats: 3062 pass yds, 25 TD

Benkert had seven 250-yard passing games in 2017 and threw three or more TD passes in six of twelve games.

Running Backs

Jordan Ellis

Season Stats: 204 att., 799 yds, 6 TD; 20 rec., 118 yds, TD

Ellis had at least 13 carries in nine of twelve games, had at least 50 yards rushing in eight of twelve games, and caught two or more passes in five of twelve games.

Receivers

Olamide Zaccheaus

Season Stats: 80 rec., 833 yds, 5 TD; 182 rush yds, TD

Zaccheaus had at least four catches in every game this year, topped the 50-yard receiving mark nine times, and scored a touchdown in six of twelve games. Zaccheaus also had at least three rushing attempts in six different games.

Andre Levrone

Season Stats: 31 rec., 662 yds, 7 TD

Levrone caught at least two passes in ten of twelve games, had at least 50 yards receiving six times, and had a reception of 30 yards or more in seven different games.

Doni Dowling

Season Stats: 48 rec., 632 yds, 5 TD

Dowling caught least five passes in six of twelve games and had at least 50 yards receiving six times.

Joe Reed

Season Stats: 21 rec., 232 yds, 2 TD

Evan Butts (TE)

Season Stats: 30 rec., 256 yds, 2 TD

Butts had at least two receptions in nine of twelve games and topped 20 yards receiving seven times.

Quarterback

Zach Abey

Season Stats: 803 pass yds, 7 TD; 1322 rush yds, 14 TD

Abey started the year with seven consecutive 100-yard rushing games. In those seven games, the junior quarterback accounted for three or more touchdowns five times. Abey did not have a 100-yard rushing game over the last month of the season, which included games at Temple, at Notre Dame, and at Houston.

Garret Lewis

Season Stats: 195 pass yds, 2 TD; 47 rush yds

Lewis would likely play in the bowl game if Navy falls behind and is forced to throw the ball.

Running Backs

Malcolm Perry

Season Stats: 92 att., 818 yds, 8 TD; 12 rec., 301 yds, 2 TD

Perry is dangerous with the ball in his hands, as he averaged 8.9 yards per carry this year. Head Coach Ken Niumatalolo described Perry as being one of the more talented players he has ever coached. Perry's speed allows the offense to be a little more creative in their play-calling.

Chris High

Season Stats: 116 att., 494 yds, 2 TD

High had five 50-yard rushing games and he carried the ball at least ten times in 8 of 9 games in which he played.

Anthony Gargiulo

Season Stats: 71 att., 383 yds, 3 TD; rec., 21 yds

Gargiulo had at least 70 yards rushing in each of the last three games leading up to the annual matchup against Army.

Receivers

Tyler Carmona

Season Stats: 14 rec., 381 yds, 4 TD

Carmona had at least 40 yards receiving in six of eleven games this year.

****Note: This was published before the Annual Army-Navy Game.**

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Virginia wins—@ Boise St, Duke

Virginia Losses—Boston College, @ Louisville, @ Miami, Virginia Tech

Navy Wins—FAU, SMU

Navy Losses—@ Memphis, UCF, @ Temple, @ Notre Dame, @ Houston

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Navy

Against the Spread: N/A

Navy's running game vs. Virginia's passing game in a meaningless bowl game. We'll take the guys that are trained in self-motivation and self-discipline.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Wake Forest 34 Temple 26

2015 Navy 44 Pitt 28

2014 Virginia Tech 33 Cincinnati 17

2013 Marshall 31 Maryland 20

2012 San Jose State 29 Bowling Green 20

Confidence Pick

16

San Diego Co. Credit Union Holiday Bowl

San Diego, California

Thursday December 28 (9 pm ET / FS1)

Betting Lines: Washington State -3 (45)

Projected Score: Washington State 24-21

Washington St. (9-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—31.4
Rush yds/gm—71.7
Pass yds/gm—374.8

Defense

Pts/gm—24.4
Rush yds/gm—146.2
Pass yds/gm—167.4

Michigan St. (9-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—23.1
Rush yds/gm—162.9
Pass yds/gm—215.4

Defense

Pts/gm—20.3
Rush yds/gm—101.3
Pass yds/gm—196.5

Quarterback

Luke Falk

Season Stats: 3593 pass yds, 30 TD

In 2017, Falk had seven 300-yard passing games and threw at least three touchdown passes seven times. He did get replaced by backup QB Tyler Hilinski twice and failed to throw more than one touchdown pass in four of twelve games.

Running Backs

Jamal Morrow

Season Stats: 86 att., 522 yds, 4 TD; 56 rec., 479 yds, 5 TD

Morrow was effective as both a runner and a receiver, as he ran for at least 50 yards six times and topped 25 yards receiving in eight of twelve games. Morrow also scored at least one touchdown in seven different games.

James Williams

Season Stats: 89 att., 381 yds, TD; 61 rec., 417 yds, 3 TD

Williams had at least ten receptions in three of the first four games of the year, but he only totaled more than 50 yards of offense one time in the last seven games of 2017.

Gerard Wicks

Season Stats: 32 att., 156 yds, TD; 14 rec., 72 yds

Receivers

Tavares Martin

Season Stats: 70 rec., 831 yds, 9 TD

Martin caught at least five passes seven times this year, had three 100-yard receiving games, and topped the 60-yard mark seven times, which included the last three games of 2017.

Renard Bell

Season Stats: 36 rec., 525 yds, 3 TD

Bell had three 100-yard games, but only topped the 50-yard mark once in the last seven games.

Kyle Sweet

Season Stats: 50 rec., 481 yds, 2 TD

Sweet caught four or more passes in eight games this year and had 40 yards or more receiving seven times.

Dezmon Patmon

Season Stats: 31 rec., 341 yds, TD

Patmon had at least four receptions and 40 yards receiving in four of the last five games of the year.

Davontavean Martin

Season Stats: 24 rec., 315 yds, 4 TD

In the last five games of the year, Martin caught at least three passes four times, topped the 60-yard mark three times, and scored at least one touchdown in three different games..

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Wash St wins—Boise St, USC, @ Oregon, Stanford, @ Utah

Wash St Losses—@ Arizona, @ Washington

Mich St Wins—Iowa, @ Michigan, Penn St

Mich St Losses—Notre Dame, @ Northwestern, @ Ohio St

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Minnesota 17 Washington State 12
2015 Wisconsin 23 USC 21
2014 USC 45 Nebraska 42
2013 Texas Tech 37 Arizona State 23
2012 Baylor 49 UCLA 26

Quarterback

Brian Lewerke

Season Stats: 2580 pass yds, 17 TD; 485 rush yds, 5 TD

In 2017, Lewerke had two 400-yard passing games, topped 200 yards passing six times, and accounted for two or more touchdowns in eight of twelve games.

Running Backs

LJ Scott

Season Stats: 183 att., 788 yds, 6 TD; 18 rec., 120 yds, TD

Scott had at least 14 carries in eight of eleven games, ran for at least 100 yards twice, ran for at least 80 yards four times, and scored at least one touchdown in four of the last seven games of the year.

Madre London

Season Stats: 79 att., 287 yds, 3 TD; 9 rec., 62 yds, TD

London had three 50-yard rushing games, but never ran for more than 22 yards in any of the last six games of the year

Gerald Holmes

Season Stats: 73 att., 285 yds, TD

Holmes had at least ten carries and 50 yards rushing in each of the last two games of the year.

Receivers

Felton Davis

Season Stats: 51 rec., 658 yds, 8 TD

Davis had at least four receptions in seven of twelve games and had at least 72 receiving yards in three of the last five games of the year.

Darrell Stewart

Season Stats: 48 rec., 486 yds, 2 TD

Stewart's versatility allowed him to get at least five touches in eight of twelve games this year (48 rec. / 20 rush att.).

Cody White

Season Stats: 32 rec., 449 yds, 2 TD

White caught at least five passes in four of the last six games of the year and had at least 42 yards receiving in four of the last five.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Michigan State

Against the Spread: Michigan State +3

We wonder which Washington State team will show up, the team that won nine games, or the team that lost three games by an average of 27 points. The memory of the Cougars' disappointing bowl loss last year left a bad taste on our mouths.

Confidence Pick

5

Camping World Bowl

Orlando, Florida

Thursday December 28 (5:15 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Oklahoma State -5.5 (63)

Projected Score: Oklahoma State 34-29

Oklahoma St.
(9-3)



Virginia Tech
(9-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—46.3
Rush yds/gm—183.3
Pass yds/gm—392.3

Defense

Pts/gm—31.1
Rush yds/gm—131.8
Pass yds/gm—268.5

Offense

Pts/gm—28.8
Rush yds/gm—167.2
Pass yds/gm—236.9

Defense

Pts/gm—13.5
Rush yds/gm—118.1
Pass yds/gm—187.2

Quarterback

Mason Rudolph

Season Stats: 4553 pass yds, 35 TD; 29 rush yds, 10 TD

Rudolph accounted for three or more touchdowns in eleven of twelve games, accounted for four or more touchdowns in eight of twelve games, and totaled ten 300-yard passing games. Rudolph had at least one rushing touchdown in eight of twelve games.

Running Backs

Justice Hill

Season Stats: 245 att., 1347 yds, 14 TD; 30 rec., 191 yds, TD

Hill had seven 100-yard rushing games, had at least two receptions in nine games, and scored at least one touchdown in all but two games.

JD King

Season Stats: 97 att., 466 yds, 4 TD; 8 rec., 50 yds, TD

King had at least 40 rushing yards in five of eleven games and scored at least one touchdown in four different games.

Receivers

James Washington

Season Stats: 69 rec., 1423 yds, 12 TD

Washington caught at least six passes in eight of twelve games, had eight 100-yard receiving games, and caught a TD pass in nine different games. The senior receiver battled through an ankle injury towards the end of the year and should be fully recovered for the bowl game.

Marcell Ateman

Season Stats: 54 rec., 1049 yds, 8 TD

Ateman caught at least four passes in all but one game and had six 100-yard receiving games. Ateman also had three games with multiple-TD receptions.

Jalen McCleskey

Season Stats: 49 rec., 633 yds, 5 TD

McCleskey had two 100-yard receiving games and seven games with at least 40 yards receiving.

Dillon Stoner

Season Stats: 40 rec., 541 yds, 5 TD

Stoner had two 100-yard receiving games in 2017. He also had at least 40 yards receiving in each of the last four games of the year and caught a TD pass in each of the last three games.

Quarterback

Josh Jackson

Season Stats: 2743 pass yds, 19 TD; 274 rush yds, 4 TD

Jackson threw at least three TD passes in three of the first seven games of the year, but never threw more than 1 TD pass in any of the last five games of 2017. However, the freshman quarterback had a rushing touchdown in three of the last five games.

Running Backs

Travon McMillian

Season Stats: 104 att., 439 yds, 2 TD; 12 rec., 173 yds, 3 TD

McMillian totaled more than 50 yards of offense in five of twelve games.

DeShawn McCleese

Season Stats: 90 att., 406 yds, 3 TD; 9 rec., 66 yds

McCleese had at least 13 carries and 70 yards rushing in three of the last five games of the year.

Steven Peoples

Season Stats: 60 att., 211 yds, 2 TD

Peoples missed six games this year, but he showed that he was healthy in the season finale, rushing for 71 yards on 22 carries in a 10-0 win at Virginia.

Receivers

Cam Phillips

Season Stats: 71 rec., 964 yds, 7 TD

Phillips caught at least five passes in eight of twelve games and had five 100-yard receiving games this year.

Sean Savoy

Season Stats: 39 rec., 454 yds, 4 TD

Savoy caught four or more passes six times and totaled more than 50 yards of offense in four of twelve games.

Eric Kumah

Season Stats: 23 rec., 252 yds, TD

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Oklahoma St wins—@ Texas Tech, @ Texas, @ W. Virginia, @ Iowa St

Oklahoma St Losses—TCU, Oklahoma, Kansas St

Virginia Tech Wins—W. Virginia, @ Boston College, Duke, @ Virginia

Virginia Tech Losses—Clemson, @ Miami

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Oklahoma State

Against the Spread: Oklahoma State -5.5

The Hokies are only giving up 13 points per game, but the Cowboys' offense is better at scoring points than the Virginia Tech defense is at not allowing points. Oklahoma State is far from a lock, but if they race ahead by two or three scores, that 5.5 points will be on cruise control.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Miami 31 West Virginia 14
2015 Baylor 49 North Carolina 38
2014 Clemson 40 Oklahoma 6
2013 Louisville 36 Miami 9
2012 Virginia Tech 13 Rutgers 10 (OT)

Confidence Pick

29

Valero Alamo Bowl

San Antonio, Texas

Thursday December 28 (9 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: TCU -2.5 (49)

Projected Score: TCU 26-23

Stanford
(9-4)



TCU
(10-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—32.0
Rush yds/gm—205.8
Pass yds/gm—184.3

Defense

Pts/gm—21.5
Rush yds/gm—170.7
Pass yds/gm—228.1

Offense

Pts/gm—33.2
Rush yds/gm—176.2
Pass yds/gm—237.7

Defense

Pts/gm—17.6
Rush yds/gm—99.8
Pass yds/gm—228.7

Quarterback

KJ Costello

Season Stats: 1361 pass yds, 11 TD; 99 rush yds, 3 TD
Costello played his best at the end of the year. He threw for at least 175 yards in each of the last four games of the season, which included matchups against Washington, Notre Dame, and USC. He threw seven touchdown passes in the last three games.

Running Backs

Bryce Love

Season Stats: 237 att., 1973 yds, 17 TD; 6 rec., 33 yds
Love proved his toughness playing on a bad ankle the last five games of the year. Even though the ankle injury limited his snaps on the field, Love topped the 100-yard rushing mark in all but one game. Love ran for at least 150 yards seven times and scored at least one rushing touchdown in all but one game.

Cameron Scarlett

Season Stats: 86 att., 385 yds, 8 TD; 4 rec., 89 yds
Scarlett had four 50-yard rushing games backing up starter Bryce Love.

Receivers

JJ Arcega-Whiteside

Season Stats: 43 rec., 720 yds, 6 TD
Arcega-Whiteside had at least 60 yards receiving in six of ten games and caught a TD pass in five of ten games.

Trenton Irwin

Season Stats: 40 rec., 444 yds, 2 TD
Irwin had at least 30 yards receiving in nine of Stanford's 13 games.

Dalton Schultz (TE)

Season Stats: 20 rec., 204 yds, 3 TD
Schultz had at least two receptions in seven of eleven games this year.

Kaden Smith (TE)

Season Stats: 23 rec., 414 yds, 5 TD
Smith was one of Costello's favorite targets at the end of the year, as the sophomore had at least three receptions, 40 yards receiving, and a touchdown in each of the last three games of the year.

Quarterback

Kenny Hill

Season Stats: 2838 pass yds, 21 TD; 265 rush yds, 4 TD
Hill threw three or more touchdown passes in a game three times this year, but he had trouble finding the endzone away from home. 17 of Hill's 21 touchdown passes were at home. The senior quarterback only threw 4 TD passes in six road games this year.

Running Backs

Kyle Hicks

Season Stats: 133 att., 595 yds, 4 TD; 22 rec., 266 yds, TD
Hicks did not have a 100-yard rushing game all year, but he totaled more than 70 yards of offense in seven of ten games. Hicks will be more valuable in the bowl game if Darius Anderson does not return from a foot injury.

Darius Anderson

Season Stats: 128 att., 768 yds, 8 TD; 9 rec., 57 yds
Anderson had at least 60 yards rushing in seven of ten games this year, but he may not recover fast enough from a foot injury to play in the bowl game.

Sewo Olonilua

Season Stats: 59 att., 272 yds, 7 TD
Olonilua has been used predominantly as a short-yardage back and scored at least one rushing touchdown in five different games.

Receivers

John Diarse

Season Stats: 33 rec., 543 yds, 3 TD
Diarse caught three or more passes in six of thirteen games.

KaVontae Turpin

Season Stats: 38 rec., 382 yds, TD; 93 rush yds, 2 TD
Turpin had at least four receptions in six of thirteen games, but may be a bigger threat in the return game.

Jalen Reagor

Season Stats: 28 rec., 407 yds, 7 TD
Reagor had at least 30 yards receiving in eight of thirteen games.

Desmon White

Season Stats: 38 rec., 390 yds, 4 TD
White caught five passes in a game four times, but only topped the 50-yard receiving mark once.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Stanford Wins—UCLA, Arizona St, @ Utah, Oregon, Washington, Notre Dame

Stanford Losses—@ USC, @ San Diego St, @ Wash St, USC (P12 Champ)

TCU Wins—SMU, @ Oklahoma St, W. Virginia, @ Kansas St, Texas, @ Texas Tech,

TCU Losses—@ Iowa St, @ Oklahoma, Oklahoma (B12 Champ)

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Stanford

Against the Spread: Stanford +2.5

Whether Stanford RB Bryce Love plays or not, this game will likely come down to quarterback play, and we feel more confident in KJ Costello than Kenny Hill.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Oklahoma State 38 Colorado 8
2015 TCU 47 Oregon 41 (3OT)
2014 UCLA 40 Kansas State 35
2013 Oregon 30 Texas 7
2012 Texas 31 Oregon State 27

Confidence Pick

13

Belk Bowl

Charlotte, North Carolina
Friday December 29 (1 pm ET / ESPN)
Betting Lines: Wake Forest -3 (64.5)
Projected Score: Wake Forest 33-31

Wake Forest (7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—33.7
Rush yds/gm—184.2
Pass yds/gm—266.6

Defense

Pts/gm—26.3
Rush yds/gm—191.7
Pass yds/gm—252.6

Texas A&M (7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—31.1
Rush yds/gm—159.0
Pass yds/gm—230.6

Defense

Pts/gm—28.7
Rush yds/gm—164.6
Pass yds/gm—224.1

Quarterback

John Wolford

Season Stats: 2792 pass yds, 25 TD; 615 rush yds, 10 TD
Wolford finished the year with five 250-yard passing games and accounted for three or more touchdowns in seven of eleven games. The senior quarterback had at least 40 yards rushing in eight of eleven games and scored a rushing touchdown in eight of eleven games.

Running Backs

Matt Colburn

Season Stats: 145 att., 754 yds, 6 TD; 10 rec., 59 yds
In the last five games of the season, Colburn had three 120-plus yard rushing games and scored at least one rushing touchdown in three of those games.

Cade Carney

Season Stats: 56 att., 219 yds, TD; 3 rec., 31 yds
Carney (lower-body) remains questionable for the bowl game.

Arkeem Byrd

Season Stats: 74 att., 378 yds, TD
Byrd had at least 20 yards rushing in eight of ten games this year.

Receivers

Tabari Hines

Season Stats: 45 rec., 625 yds, 5 TD
After Greg Dortch's season-ending injury, Hines took over as John Wolford's go-to receiver. In the last three weeks of the season, Hines caught 23 passes for 323 yards and four touchdowns.

Scotty Washington

Season Stats: 36 rec., 573 yds, 2 TD
Washington had at least six reception in three of the last five games of the year and two 100-yard receiving games during that stretch.

Cam Serigne (TE)

Season Stats: 35 rec., 444 yds, 8 TD
Serigne had five 50-yard receiving games and caught at least three passes in his last seven games of the year.

Alex Bachman

Season Stats: 16 rec., 281 yds, 3 TD
Bachman had at least 90 yards receiving and a touchdown in two of the last four games of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Wake Forest Wins—@ Boston College, @ App St, Louisville, NC St

Wake Forest Losses—Florida St, @ Clemson, @ Notre Dame

Texas A&M Wins—S. Carolina

Texas A&M Losses—@ UCLA, Alabama, Miss St, Auburn, @ LSU

Quarterback

Nick Starkel

Season Stats: 1294 pass yds, 10 TD; rush TD
Starkel regained the starting job late in the season after getting injured in Week 1. The redshirt freshman accounted for two or more touchdowns in each of the last four games of the year.

Kellen Mond

Season Stats: 1375 pass yds, 8 TD; 340 rush yds, 3 TD
We wouldn't rule out the possibility of both quarterbacks playing in the bowl game with the Aggies transitioning between head coaches.

Running Backs

Trayveon Williams

Season Stats: 166 att., 733 yds, 7 TD; 19 rec., 180 yds
Williams didn't flash much of his big-play ability this year and only topped the 100-yard rushing mark one time since the season opener at UCLA, when he ran for 203 yards.

Keith Ford

Season Stats: 122 att., 493 yds, 11 TD; 12 rec., 71 yds
Ford did not produce many chunk plays in 2017, but he was fairly consistent in finding the endzone, scoring in seven of twelve games.

Receivers

Christian Kirk

Season Stats: 58 rec., 730 yds, 7 TD
Kirk caught at least four passes in ten of twelve games, topped the 60-yard mark six times, and scored in six of twelve games.

Damion Ratley

Season Stats: 26 rec., 603 yds, 6 TD
Ratley had at least 40 yards receiving in eight of the Aggies' last ten games and caught six TD passes in the last four games of the year.

Jhamon Ausbon

Season Stats: 38 rec., 459 yds, 2 TD
Ausbon had at least 40 yards receiving in five of twelve games.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Wake Forest

Against the Spread: Wake Forest -3

There will be excitement throughout the Texas A&M fanbase with the arrival of new head coach Jimbo Fisher, but fans don't play the game and the plays may be ready to close the book on 2017.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Virginia Tech 35 Arkansas 24
2015 Mississippi State 51 North Carolina State 28
2014 Georgia 37 Louisville 14
2013 North Carolina 39 Cincinnati 17
2012 Cincinnati 48 Duke 34

Confidence Pick

27

Hayundai Sun Bowl

El Paso, Texas

Friday December 29 (3 pm ET / CBS)

Betting Lines: NC State -6 (59.5)

Projected Score: NC State 33-27

Arizona St.
(7-5)



NC State
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—31.9
Rush yds/gm—179.9
Pass yds/gm—247.7

Defense

Pts/gm—31.3
Rush yds/gm—178.9
Pass yds/gm—268.1

Offense

Pts/gm—30.6
Rush yds/gm—177.4
Pass yds/gm—271.8

Defense

Pts/gm—24.8
Rush yds/gm—132.3
Pass yds/gm—244.9

Quarterback

Manny Wilkins

Season Stats: 2918 pass yds, 17 TD; 269 rush yds, 6 TD

Wilkins accounted for two or more touchdowns in nine of twelve games this year. The junior quarterback passed for at least 250 yards six times, rushed for at least 25 yards six times, and scored six rushing touchdowns in the last nine games of the year.

Running Backs

Demario Richard

Season Stats: 185 att., 977 yds, 12 TD; 7 rec., 65 yds

Richard finished the year with four consecutive 100-yard games. He totaled 598 rushing yards in those four games. The senior running back also scored at least one rushing touchdown in nine of ASU's last ten games.

Kalen Ballage

Season Stats: 153 att., 657 yds, 6 TD; 19 rec., 81 yds

Ballage topped the 40-yard rushing mark nine times this year and topped the 75-yard mark four times, but he only found the endzone twice in the last nine games of the season.

Receivers

N'Keal Harry

Season Stats: 73 rec., 1000 yds, 7 TD

Harry caught at least five passes in eight of twelve games, had two 100-yard receiving games, topped the 60-yard mark nine times, and scored at least one touchdown in six different games.

Kyle Williams

Season Stats: 59 rec., 678 yds, 6 TD

Williams caught at least four passes in nine of twelve games, had two 100-yard receiving games, and topped the 50-yard mark six times.

Jalen Harvey

Season Stats: 33 rec., 558 yds, TD

Harvey had six 40-yard receiving games this year.

Quarterback

Ryan Finley

Season Stats: 3200 pass yds, 16 TD; 195 rush yds, 3 TD

Finley had five 300-yard passing games, accounted for two or more touchdowns in five of twelve games, and rushed for at least 35 yards in a game five times.

Running Backs

Nyheim Hines

Season Stats: 181 att., 1040 yds, 9 TD; 25 rec., 124 yds

Hines had five 100-yard rushing games in 2017. The junior running back topped the 80-yard mark eight times and scored at least one rushing touchdown in seven of twelve games. Hines also caught two or more passes eight times.

Reggie Gallaspy

Season Stats: 105 att., 436 yds, 5 TD; 12 rec., 49 yds

Gallaspy carried the ball at least ten times in half of NC State's games this season. Eight times the junior running back finished with at least 30 yards rushing.

Receivers

Kelvin Harmon

Season Stats: 65 rec., 993 yds, 4 TD

Harmon caught at least five passes in eight of twelve games this year. He finished the season with six 100-yard games and had a catch of at least 30 yards or more in five different games.

Jakobi Meyers

Season Stats: 56 rec., 651 yds, 4 TD

Meyers had three 100-yard games this year. The sophomore receiver had at least seven receptions and 90 yards receiving in three of the last four games of the year.

Stephen Louis

Season Stats: 34 rec., 468 yds, 2 TD

Louis missed the last two games of the year and is questionable with an ankle injury.

Jaylen Samuels (TE)

Season Stats: 69 rec., 551 yds, 4 TD; 383 rush yds, 11 TD

Samuels was one of the most valuable players of the 2017 fantasy season. Listed as a tight end, Samuels was utilized in the backfield and scored eleven rushing touchdowns. He caught at least three passes in all but one game, totaled 70 yards or more of offense in nine of twelve games, and scored at least one touchdown in all but two games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Arizona St Wins—NM St, Oregon, Washington, @ Utah, Arizona

Arizona St Losses—San Diego St, @ Texas Tech, USC, @ UCLA

NC St Wins—Marshall, @ Florida St, Louisville, @ Boston College

NC St Losses—South Carolina, @ Notre Dame, Clemson, @ Wake Forest

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: NC State

Against the Spread: NC State -6

Arizona State hired Herm Edwards to replace Todd Graham, but the rest of the staff has been asked to stay, which is good for the players and their bowl preparation. However, we are more concerned about the negative vibe surrounding the hire and whether or not the players feel the same way.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Stanford 25 North Carolina 23
2015 Washington State 20 Miami 14
2014 Arizona State 36 Duke 31
2013 UCLA 42 Virginia Tech 12
2012 Georgia Tech 21 USC 7

Confidence Pick

25

Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl

Nashville, Tennessee

Friday December 29 (4:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Northwestern -7.5 (51)

Projected Score: Northwestern 29-22

Kentucky
(7-5)



Northwestern
(9-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—25.8
Rush yds/gm—169.8
Pass yds/gm—181.1

Defense

Pts/gm—28.6
Rush yds/gm—162.2
Pass yds/gm—263.5

Offense

Pts/gm—29.7
Rush yds/gm—160.9
Pass yds/gm—244.3

Defense

Pts/gm—19.8
Rush yds/gm—111.3
Pass yds/gm—247.6

Quarterback

Stephen Johnson

Season Stats: 2048 pass yds, 10 TD; 358 rush yds, 3 TD

Johnson led an offense built around the running game. The senior quarterback had three 200-yard passing games and accounted for two or more touchdowns five times. However, Johnson only accounted for a total of two touchdowns in the last six games of the year.

Running Backs

Benny Snell

Season Stats: 256 att., 1318 yds, 18 TD; 10 rec., 72 yds

Snell followed up his 1,000-yard freshman season with an even better 1,300-yard sophomore season. He scored at least one touchdown in nine of twelve games, had six multiple-TD games, and racked up 12 rushing touchdowns in the last five weeks of the season. The Kentucky offense is built around Benny Snell

Sihiem King

Season Stats: 72 att., 334 yds, 2 TD; 12 rec., 75 yds

King had three 60-yard rushing games this year and carried the ball at least five times in eight different games.

Receivers

Garrett Johnson

Season Stats: 46 rec., 500 yds, 2 TD

Johnson caught at least four passes in seven of twelve games and topped 40 yards receiving six times.

Tavin Richardson

Season Stats: 22 rec., 282 yds, TD

Richardson had at least three receptions and 40 yards receiving in three of the last four games of the year.

Blake Bone

Season Stats: 13 rec., 234 yds, 2 TD

Quarterback

Clayton Thorson

Season Stats: 2809 pass yds, 15 TD; 29 rush yds, 8 TD

In 2017, Thorson had three 300-yard passing games, six 200-yard passing games, and accounted for two or more touchdowns in seven of twelve games. The junior quarterback had at least one rushing touchdown in five of the last seven games of the year.

Running Backs

Justin Jackson

Season Stats: 255 att., 1154 yds, 9 TD; 43 rec., 266 yds

Jackson had at least one rushing touchdown in half of Northwestern's games. The senior running back had a total of six 100-yard rushing games this year, including three 140-plus yard rushing games in the last four weeks of the season.

Jeremy Larkin

Season Stats: 75 att., 391 yds, 5 TD; 11 rec., 115 yds

As Jackson's primary backup, Larkin totaled at least 40 yards of offense in six of twelve games.

Receivers

Bennett Skowronek

Season Stats: 42 rec., 619 yds, 5 TD

Skowronek caught at least three passes in seven different games, had two 100-yard receiving games, and scored a touchdown in three of the Wildcats' last five game this year.

Flynn Nagel

Season Stats: 47 rec., 483 yds, 2 TD

Nagel caught at least three passes in ten of twelve games and topped 40 yards receiving five times.

Macan Wilson

Season Stats: 32 rec., 446 yds, TD

Wilson caught three or more passes in six of twelve games and topped the 50-yard mark four times.

Garrett Dickerson (TE)

Season Stats: 37 rec., 401 yds, 4 TD

Dickerson caught at least three passes in eight of twelve games, had 25 or more yards receiving eight times, and scored three touchdowns in the last two weeks of the 2017 season.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Kentucky Wins—@ USM, @ South Carolina, Missouri

Kentucky Losses—@ Miss St, @ Georgia, Louisville

Northwestern Wins—Iowa, Michigan St, Purdue

Northwestern Losses—@ Duke, @ Wisconsin, Penn St

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Northwestern

Against the Spread: Northwestern -7.5

Even though Kentucky has RB Benny Snell, as long as the Northwestern defense can keep the Kentucky offense one-dimensional, they should have the advantage.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Tennessee 38 Nebraska 24

2015 Louisville 27 Texas A&M 21

2014 Notre Dame 31 LSU 28

2013 Ole Miss 25 Georgia Tech 17

2012 Vanderbilt 38 North Carolina 24

Confidence Pick

36

NOVA Home Loans Arizona Bowl

Tucson, Arizona

Friday December 29 (5:30 pm ET / CBSSN)

Betting Lines: Utah State -4 (61)

Projected Score: Utah State 32-28

New Mexico St.
(6-6)



Utah St.
(6-6)



Offense

Pts/gm—29.6
Rush yds/gm—101.2
Pass yds/gm—352.6

Defense

Pts/gm—30.5
Rush yds/gm—164.8
Pass yds/gm—232.8

Offense

Pts/gm—31.0
Rush yds/gm—170.1
Pass yds/gm—223.7

Defense

Pts/gm—27.0
Rush yds/gm—219.9
Pass yds/gm—181.9

Quarterback

Tyler Rogers

Season Stats: 3825 pass yds, 26 TD; 4 rush yds, 7 TD

Rogers had three 400-yard passing games and eight 300-yard passing games in 2017. The senior quarterback did miss one game due to injury and scored at least one rushing touchdown in seven of eleven games. Rogers accounted for three or more touchdowns in eight of eleven games this year.

Running Backs

Larry Rose

Season Stats: 171 att., 807 yds, 9 TD; 49 rec., 474 yds, 2 TD

Rose only had two 100-yard rushing games this year, but he caught 49 passes, which helped boost his offensive numbers. The senior running back totaled 100-plus yards of offense in seven of eleven games and scored all eleven of his touchdowns in the last eight games in which he played.

Jason Huntley

Season Stats: 64 att., 403 yds, TD; 344 rec., 444 yds, 2 TD

Huntley totaled over 120 yards of offense three times in 2017 backing up Rose.

Receivers

Jaleel Scott

Season Stats: 73 rec., 1042 yds, 8 TD

Scott caught at least six passes in eight of the eleven games in which he played. The senior receiver had at least 130 yards receiving four times and scored at least one touchdown in six of eleven games.

OJ Clark

Season Stats: 44 rec., 492 yds, 3 TD

Clark had at least 50 yards receiving five times, but is questionable to play in the bowl game with a shoulder injury.

Anthony Muse

Season Stats: 37 rec., 443 yds, 2 TD

Muse had at least 70 yards receiving in three of the last six games of the year and caught a TD pass in two of the last four games.

Johnathan Boone

Season Stats: 26 rec., 351 yds, TD

Conner Cramer

Season Stats: 32 rec., 275 yds, 2 TD

Quarterback

Jordan Love

Season Stats: 1377 pass yds, 8 TD; 164 rush yds, 2 TD

Love wasn't the starter for most of the season, but he led the Aggies to three wins in the season's final five games. The freshman quarterback accounted for at least two touchdowns in three of the last five games of the year.

Kent Myers

Season Stats: 1278 pass yds, 8 TD; 291 rush yds, 5 TD

It wouldn't be surprising to see Myers play a good bit in his final game at Utah State.

Running Backs

LaJuan Hunt

Season Stats: 149 att., 695 yds, 10 TD; 27 rec., 162 yds, TD

Hunt was a different player in the second half of the season. In the last five games of the year, Hunt had three 100-yard rushing games and scored eight touchdowns.

Receivers

Ron'quavion Tarver

Season Stats: 40 rec., 472 yds, 7 TD

Tarver had four games of at least 75 yards receiving and he caught a TD pass in three of the last four games of the year.

Dax Raymond (TE)

Season Stats: 36 rec., 414 yds, TD

Raymond caught at least three passes in seven of eleven games and topped 40 yards receiving six times.

Jordan Nathan

Season Stats: 25 rec., 324 yds, 2 TD

Braelon Roberts

Season Stats: 18 rec., 253 yds, 3 TD

Roberts had at least 50 yards receiving in two of the last three games of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

New Mexico St Wins—None

New Mexico St Losses—@ Arizona St, Troy, @ App St, Ark St,

Utah St Wins—None

Utah St Losses—@ Wisconsin, @ Wake Forest, Colorado St, Wyoming, Boise St

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: New Mexico State

Against the Spread: New Mexico State +4

This is the only game of the bowl season in which neither team had a win over another 2017 bowl participant during the season. We were more impressed with the way New Mexico State played against teams like Arizona State, Arkansas, and Troy.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Air Force 45 South Alabama 21

2015 Nevada 28 Colorado State 23

2014

2013

2012

Confidence Pick

15

Goodyear Cotton Bowl

Arlington, Texas

Friday December 29 (8:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Ohio State -7 (64.5)

Projected Score: Ohio State 36-29

Ohio State
(11-2)



USC
(11-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—42.5
Rush yds/gm—249.4
Pass yds/gm—274.2

Defense

Pts/gm—19.9
Rush yds/gm—108.8
Pass yds/gm—183.5

Offense

Pts/gm—34.5
Rush yds/gm—194.9
Pass yds/gm—294.6

Defense

Pts/gm—26.3
Rush yds/gm—158.3
Pass yds/gm—246.5

Quarterback

JT Barrett

Season Stats: 2939 pass yds, 35 TD; 732 rush yds, 10 TD

Barrett will play his final game in a Buckeye uniform. The senior quarterback had three 300-yard passing games, accounted for three or more touchdowns in eleven of thirteen games, and accounted for four or more touchdowns in six of thirteen games. Barrett also had seven 60-yard rushing games.

Running Backs

JK Dobbins

Season Stats: 181 att., 1364 yds, 7 TD; 22 rec., 135 yds, TD

As a freshman, Dobbins had six 100-yard rushing games. He had at least 88 yards rushing in nine of thirteen games and scored a touchdown in seven of thirteen games.

Mike Weber

Season Stats: 96 att., 608 yds, 10 TD; 9 rec., 78 yds

Weber was banged up for most of the first half of the season, but still managed to produce two 100-yard rushing games in 2017 and scored ten touchdowns in the last nine games.

Receivers

Parris Campbell

Season Stats: 39 rec., 587 yds, 3 TD

Campbell led the team in receiving yards and had two 100-yard receiving games, both were in the first half of the season. Campbell never had a 60-yard receiving game in any of the Buckeyes' last nine games.

KJ Hill

Season Stats: 55 rec., 546 yds, 3 TD

Hill led the team in receptions and caught four or more passes in six of thirteen games.

Terry McLaurin

Season Stats: 28 rec., 434 yds, 6 TD

McLaurin only caught more than two passes in a game four times, but he caught a TD pass in six different games.

Johnnie Dixon

Season Stats: 18 rec., 422 yds, 8 TD

Dixon scored eight touchdowns on 18 receptions.

Binjimen Victor

Season Stats: 23 rec., 349 yds, 7 TD

Victor only caught more than two passes in a game four times, but he, like McLaurin, caught a TD pass in six different games.

Marcus Baugh (TE)

Season Stats: 24 rec., 264 yds, 5 TD

Baugh had a touchdown reception in five of the last eight games of the year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Ohio St Wins—Army, Penn St, Michigan St, @ Michigan, Wisconsin (B10 Champ)

Ohio St Losses—Oklahoma, @ Iowa

USC Wins—Stanford, Texas, Utah, @ Arizona St, Arizona, UCLA, Stanford (PAC12 Champ)

USC Losses—@ Wash St, @ Notre Dame

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Wisconsin 24 Western Michigan 16

2015 Alabama 38 Michigan State 0

2014 Michigan State 42 Baylor 41

2013 Missouri 41 Oklahoma State 31

2012 Texas A&M 41 Oklahoma 13

Quarterback

Sam Darnold

Season Stats: 3787 pass yds, 26 TD; 100 rush yds, 5 TD

Darnold had seven 300-yard passing games and threw three or more touchdown passes in a game five times. Nine of Darnold's twelve INTs were in the first half of the season, so it seems he improved his decision making significantly over the course of the year.

Running Backs

Ronald Jones

Season Stats: 242 att., 1486 yds, 18 TD; 14 rec., 187 yds, TD

Jones had nine 100-yard rushing games, scored at least one touchdown in all but one game, and had six multiple-TD games.

Stephen Carr

Season Stats: 63 att., 363 yds, 3 TD; 16 rec., 189 yds

Carr missed five games this year, but he did total over 45 yards of offense in six of the games in which he played.

Receivers

Deontay Burnett

Season Stats: 74 rec., 975 yds, 9 TD

Burnett caught at least six passes in eight games, had four 100-yard receiving games, seven 75-plus yard receiving games, and scored a touchdown in seven of thirteen games.

Tyler Vaughns

Season Stats: 51 rec., 690 yds, 5 TD

Vaughns had at least 65 yards receiving in six of the last nine games of the year.

Steven Mitchell

Season Stats: 41 rec., 644 yds, 4 TD

Mitchell caught at least four passes in eight of eleven games and had at least 60 yards receiving six times.

Michael Pittman

Season Stats: 20 rec., 335 yds, 2 TD

Pittman had at least 59 receiving yards in three of the last four games of the year.

Tyler Petite (TE)

Season Stats: 22 rec., 305 yds, 3 TD

Wimann caught at least four passes for 30-plus yards five times in 2017. He also caught a TD pass in seven of twelve games.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Ohio State

Against the Spread: Ohio State -7

The best thing that happened to the Buckeyes in their bowl pairing was getting matched up against a team with a storied tradition, which should give them enough motivation to take care of business on the field.

Confidence Pick

31

PlayStation Fiesta Bowl

Glendale, Arizona

Saturday December 30 (4 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Penn State -2 (55)

Projected Score: Penn State 28-26

Penn State
(10-2)



Washington
(10-2)



Offense

Pts/gm—41.6
Rush yds/gm—167.4
Pass yds/gm—285.8

Defense

Pts/gm—15.5
Rush yds/gm—119.2
Pass yds/gm—210.2

Offense

Pts/gm—36.9
Rush yds/gm—189.8
Pass yds/gm—221.8

Defense

Pts/gm—14.5
Rush yds/gm—92.3
Pass yds/gm—185.1

Quarterback

Trace McSorley

Season Stats: 3228 pass yds, 26 TD; 431 rush yds, 11 TD

In 2017, McSorley passed for at least 280 yards in seven of twelve games, passed for two or more touchdowns nine times, accounted for three or more touchdowns ten times, and scored a rushing touchdown in nine of twelve games.

Running Backs

Saquon Barkley

Season Stats: 199 att., 1134 yds, 16 TD; 47 rec., 594 yds, 3 TD

Barkley was probably the Heisman front-runner after the first half of the year, but his rushing numbers down the stretch didn't look Heisman-esque. Even though Barkley only had four 100-yard rushing games, he still totaled over 100 yards of offense in seven of twelve games and had eight multiple-TD games.

Tommy Stevens

Season Stats: 27 att., 190 yds, 4 TD; 9 rec., 61 yds, 2 TD

Miles Sanders

Season Stats: 25 att., 176 yds, TD

Steven and Sanders are worth having on your watch list in case Barkley decides to skip the bowl game, which seems to a lot more common now. Stevens did score five touchdowns in the last two games of the year.

Receivers

DaeSean Hamilton

Season Stats: 48 rec., 747 yds, 7 TD

Hamilton caught at least three passes in nine of twelve games, had two 100-yard receiving games, and totaled at least 40 yards receiving in all but two games.

Juwan Johnson

Season Stats: 48 rec., 635 yds, TD

Johnson caught at least four passes in seven of twelve games and had at least 60 yards receiving in half of Penn State's games, but only had one receiving touchdown all year.

DeAndre Thompkins

Season Stats: 26 rec., 404 yds, 3 TD

Thompkins had at least 48 yards receiving in five of the last six games in which he played.

Mike Gesicki (TE)

Season Stats: 51 rec., 501 yds, 9 TD

Gesicki caught at least four passes in eight of twelve games, had at least 35 yards receiving eight times, and scored five touchdowns in the last three weeks of the season.

Quarterback

Jake Browning

Season Stats: 2544 pass yds, 18 TD; 40 rush yds, 6 TD

In 2017, Browning improved his completion percentage compared to last year, threw fewer interceptions than he did in '15 and '16, and was sacked far less than he was last year. However, from a fantasy perspective, the junior quarterback threw 25 fewer touchdowns than a year ago. Browning only had one 300-yard passing game and accounted for two or more touchdowns in seven of twelve games.

Running Backs

Myles Gaskin

Season Stats: 208 att., 1282 yds, 19 TD; 18 rec., 228 yds, 3 TD

If Gaskin rushes for 18 yards in the bowl game, he will have three consecutive 1,300-yard rushing seasons. He had six 100-yard rushing games this year, scored at least two touchdowns in a game six times, and scored at least one touchdown in all but one game.

Lavon Coleman

Season Stats: 85 att., 396 yds, 4 TD; 12 rec., 155 yds, 3 TD

Coleman had at least 40 total yards of offense in seven of twelve games and scored a touchdown in five different games.

Salvon Ahmed

Season Stats: 60 att., 387 yds, 3 TD

Ahmed had at least 80 yards rushing in two of the last four games of the year.

Receivers

Dante Pettis

Season Stats: 62 rec., 721 yds, 7 TD

Pettis had at least 80 yards receiving in five of twelve games and is definitely the Huskies' best receiver. He suffered a leg injury in the last game of the year and is questionable for the bowl game. Losing Pettis would be a major blow to the Washington offense and Special Teams.

Will Dissly

Season Stats: 19 rec., 230 yds, 2 TD

Dissly caught two or more passes five times.

Aaron Fuller

Season Stats: 20 rec., 230 yds

Fuller had at least 3 catches in three of the last four games.

Hunter Bryant (TE)

Season Stats: 22 rec., 331 yds, TD

Bryant missed the last four games of the year with a leg injury and may miss the bowl game.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Penn St Wins—Akron, Georgia St, @ Iowa, @ Northwestern, Michigan,

Penn St Losses—@ Ohio St, @ Michigan St

Washington Wins—Fresno St, UCLA, Oregon, Utah, Wash St

Washington Losses—@ Arizona St, @ Stanfor

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Penn State

Against the Spread: Penn State -2

There was so much attention given to the Alabama-Ohio State debate, that many have overlooked the fact that Penn State lost two road games by a combined total of four points.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Clemson 31 Ohio State 0
2015 Ohio State 44 Notre Dame 28
2014 Boise State 38 Arizona 30
2013 Central Florida 52 Baylor 42
2012 Oregon 35 Kansas State 17

Confidence Pick

32

Capital One Orange Bowl

Miami, Florida

Saturday December 30 (8 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Wisconsin -6.5 (45)

Projected Score: Wisconsin 26-19

Miami
(10-2)



Wisconsin
(12-1)



Offense

Pts/gm—29.5
Rush yds/gm—159.7
Pass yds/gm—245.8

Defense

Pts/gm—19.9
Rush yds/gm—146.1
Pass yds/gm—213.7

Offense

Pts/gm—33.8
Rush yds/gm—229.2
Pass yds/gm—187.0

Defense

Pts/gm—13.2
Rush yds/gm—92.6
Pass yds/gm—160.6

Quarterback

Malik Rosier

Season Stats: 2917 pass yds, 25 TD; 427 rush yds, 5 TD

Rosier threw for at least 250 yards in six of the first seven games of the year, but did not reach the 200-yard passing mark in any of the last five games of the year. The junior quarterback did account for at least three touchdowns in seven of twelve games.

Running Backs

Travis Homer

Season Stats: 151 att., 902 yds, 7 TD; 18 rec., 219 yds, TD

Homer took over as the teams' lead back when starter Mark Walton was lost for the year. The sophomore running back had three 100-yard games in 2017 finished with at least 90 total yards of offense seven times. Homer scored at least one touchdown in six of twelve games.

DeeJay Dallas

Season Stats: 33 att., 148 yds, 2 TD; 3 rec., 70 yds

Dallas had at least 40 yards of offense in four of the last six games of the year.

Receivers

Braxton Berrios

Season Stats: 52 rec., 634 yds, 9 TD

Berrios caught at least four passes in seven of twelve games and topped the 50-yard receiving mark seven times this year.

Jeff Thomas

Season Stats: 16 rec., 326 yds, 2 TD

Thomas averaged 20.4 yards per reception in 2017 and his big-play ability will be needed in the bowl game with WR Ahmmon Richards and TE Christopher Herndon out with injuries

Darrell Langham

Season Stats: 11 rec., 209 yds, 2 TD

If healthy, Langham will need to help fill the void in the Miami passing game.

Michael Irvin (TE)

Season Stats: 8 rec., 74 yds

Irvin caught three passes in the ACC Championship Game and will be needed in the bowl game with starting TE Christopher Herndon out with an injury.

Quarterback

Alex Hornibrook

Season Stats: 2386 pass yds, 21 TD

Hornibrook is two touchdown passes away from throwing the most TD passes in a season since Russell Wilson threw 33 TD passes in 2011. Joel Stave threw 22 TD passes in 2012. In 2017, Hornibrook had five 200-yard passing games and threw two or more TD pass in a game six times.

Running Backs

Jonathan Taylor

Season Stats: 273 att., 1847 yds, 13 TD; 7 rec., 82 yds

There may not have been a more impactful freshman in the country than Jonathan Taylor. Taylor had three 200-yard rushing games, nine 100-yard rushing games, scored at least one rushing touchdown in nine of thirteen games, and never finished a game with fewer than 70 yards of total offense.

Garrett Groshek

Season Stats: 57 att., 294 yds, 2 TD

Groshek had five 40-yard rushing games in a backup role.

Chris James

Season Stats: 44 att., 223 yds, TD

James will have a spot in the running back rotation with Bradrick Shaw out for the bowl game.

Receivers

Danny Davis

Season Stats: 21 rec., 362 yds, 2 TD

Davis had at least 35 yards receiving and caught at least one pass of 27 yards or more in six of nine games this year.

Kendric Pryor

Season Stats: 11 rec., 149 yds, TD

Pryor had at least 40 total yards of offense in four of the last six games of the year.

Troy Fumagalli (TE)

Season Stats: 43 rec., 516 yds, 4 TD

Fumagalli caught three or more passes in eight of eleven games and had 30 or more yards receiving eight times.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Miami Wins—Toledo, @ Duke, @ Florida St, Virginia Tech, Notre Dame, Virginia

Miami Losses—@ Pitt, Clemson (ACC Champ)

Wisconsin Wins—Utah St, FAU, Northwestern, Purdue, Iowa, Michigan

Wisconsin Losses—Ohio St (B10 Champ)

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Wisconsin

Against the Spread: Wisconsin -6.5

All of the injuries that the Miami offense suffered finally caught up with them at the end of the year. The Turnover Chain may not get many opportunities to show itself against Wisconsin's run-heavy offense.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Florida State 33 Michigan 32

2015 Clemson 37 Oklahoma 17

2014 Georgia Tech 49 Mississippi State 34

2013 Clemson 40 Ohio State 35

2012 Florida State 31 Northern Illinois 10

Confidence Pick

33

TaxSlayer Bowl

Jacksonville, Florida

Saturday December 30 (12 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Louisville -6.5 (63)

Projected Score: Louisville 35-28

Louisville
(8-4)



Mississippi St.
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—39.0
Rush yds/gm—249.9
Pass yds/gm—310.6

Defense

Pts/gm—27.1
Rush yds/gm—153.9
Pass yds/gm—232.8

Offense

Pts/gm—32.1
Rush yds/gm—249.6
Pass yds/gm—170.3

Defense

Pts/gm—20.4
Rush yds/gm—127.1
Pass yds/gm—175.0

Quarterback

Lamar Jackson

Season Stats: 3489 pass yds, 25 TD; 1443 rush yds, 17 TD

In 2017, Jackson had six 300-yard passing games, nine 100-yard rushing games, and accounted for at least three touchdowns in nine of twelve games. Jackson needs 55 yards passing and 129 yards rushing to surpass his yardage totals from a year ago (3,543 passing / 1,571 rushing).

Running Backs

Malik Williams

Season Stats: 62 att., 518 yds, 4 TD; 14 rec., 136 yds

Williams had two 100-yard rushing games and two multiple-TD games in 2017.

Reggie Bonnafon

Season Stats: 86 att., 447 yds, 7 TD; 21 rec., 182 yds, TD

Bonnafon had at least 40 total yards of offense in five of the Cardinals' last six games of 2017.

Dae Williams

Season Stats: 82 att., 347 yds, 3 TD

Williams had at least 39 yards rushing in five of the last six games of the year.

Receivers

Jaylen Smith

Season Stats: 53 rec., 873 yds, 6 TD

Smith missed three games in 2017. He caught five or more passes in eight of nine games, had at least 73 yards receiving eight times, and caught a TD pass in five of nine games, including the last three games of the year.

Dez Fitzpatrick

Season Stats: 45 rec., 699 yds, 9 TD

Fitzpatrick had at least 50 yards receiving in six different games, had a reception of at least 25 yards in seven different games, and caught a TD pass in seven of twelve games.

Seth Dawkins

Season Stats: 39 rec., 604 yds, 4 TD

Dawkins caught at least three passes in nine of eleven games and had at least 50 yards receiving six times.

Charles Standberry (TE)

Season Stats: 27 rec., 296 yds, 3 TD

Standberry caught at least two passes in all but two games and had at least 20 yards receiving seven times.

Quarterback

Keytaon Thompson

Season Stats: 261 pass yds, 2 TD; 299 rush yds, 3 TD

Mississippi State lost starting quarterback Nick Fitzgerald in the final game of the season, so Thompson will get about three weeks to prepare for the bowl game. In the last game of the season, Thompson passed for 195 yards, ran for 121 yards, and accounted for two touchdowns.

Running Backs

Aeris Williams

Season Stats: 224 att., 1019 yds, 5 TD; 16 rec., 142 yds

Williams had at least 19 rushing attempts in each of the last seven games of the year, topped the 100-yard rushing mark four times this season, and topped the 70-yard rushing mark in all but three games.

Kylin Hill

Season Stats: 70 att., 364 yds, 2 TD; 4 rec., 38 yds

Hill rushed for at least 60 yards three times this year.

Receivers

Keith Mixon

Season Stats: 18 rec., 275 yds, TD

Mixon had at least 45 yards receiving three times this season, but did not play in four of the last six games of the year.

Jesse Jackson

Season Stats: 24 rec., 238 yds

Jackson caught at least two passes in eight of the last nine games of the year had at least 36 yards receiving in three of the last five games.

Dedrick Thomas

Season Stats: 20 rec., 234 yds, 4 TD

Thomas had at least 30 yards receiving in two of the last three games of the year and caught a TD pass in each of the last two games.

Jordan Thomas (TE)

Season Stats: 20 rec., 227 yds, 3 TD

Thomas had at least 20 yards receiving in four of the last six games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Miss St Wins—@ LA Tech, LSU, Kentucky, @ Texas A&M

Miss St Losses—@ Georgia, @ Auburn, Alabama

Louisville Wins—Purdue, @ Florida State, Virginia, @ Kentucky

Louisville Losses—Clemson, @ NC St, Boston College, @ Wake Forest

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Louisville

Against the Spread: Louisville -6.5

Losing quarterback Nick Fitzgerald was tough, but losing head coach Dan Mullen may be even tougher on the Bulldogs. Plus, Louisville QB Lamar Jackson will look to make up for last year's bowl game disappointment against LSU.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Georgia Tech 33 Kentucky 18

2015 Georgia 24 Penn State 17

2014 Tennessee 45 Iowa 28

2013 Nebraska 24 Georgia 19

2012 Northwestern 34 Mississippi State 20

Confidence Pick

34

AutoZone Liberty Bowl

Memphis, Tennessee

Saturday December 30 (12:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Memphis -3.5 (66.5)

Projected Score: Memphis 35-32

Memphis
(10-2)



Iowa St.
(7-5)



Offense

Pts/gm—47.7
Rush yds/gm—209.1
Pass yds/gm—339.1

Defense

Pts/gm—33.4
Rush yds/gm—196.8
Pass yds/gm—279.4

Offense

Pts/gm—29.9
Rush yds/gm—119.8
Pass yds/gm—269.5

Defense

Pts/gm—21.0
Rush yds/gm—134.3
Pass yds/gm—234.2

Quarterback

Riley Ferguson

Season Stats: 3971 pass yds, 36 TD; 43 rush yds, 6 TD

Ferguson threw for at least 275 yards in the last eleven games of the 2017 season. He topped the 300-yard passing mark six times and accounted for three or more touchdowns in eight of twelve games.

Running Backs

Darrell Henderson

Season Stats: 130 att., 1154 yds, 9 TD; 24 rec., 226 yds, 2 TD

Henderson had seven 100-yard rushing games even though he never had more than 15 carries in any one game this season. He also scored at least one touchdown in six of the last seven games of 2017.

Patrick Taylor

Season Stats: 140 att., 798 yds, 13 TD; 15 rec., 114 yds, TD

Taylor finished the year with three straight 100-yard rushing games and scored ten touchdowns in the last five games of 2017.

Tony Pollard

Season Stats: 29 att., 222 yds, 2 TD

Pollard had more receptions than rushing attempts and totaled at least 70 yards of offense in six of the last nine games.

Doroland Dorceus

Season Stats: 39 att., 201 yds, 3 TD

Receivers

Anthony Miller

Season Stats: 92 rec., 1407 yds, 17 TD; 27 rush yds

Miller caught ten or more passes four times, caught six or more passes in nine of twelve games, topped 140 yard receiving six times, and caught at least one TD pass in all but three games. Five times this year, Miller had at least 8 receptions, 90 yards receiving, and two touchdowns.

Phil Mayhue

Season Stats: 30 rec., 436 yds, 2 TD

Mayhue caught three or more passes six times this year.

Joey Magnifico

Season Stats: 21 rec., 280 yds, 3 TD

Magnifico had at least 20 yards receiving in every game in which he has recorded at least one reception.

Quarterback

Kyle Kempt

Season Stats: 1473 pass yds, 13 TD; 7 rush yds

Kempt's signature win was in Week 6 when he led the Cyclones to an upset win at Oklahoma in his first start of the season. Kempt threw at least two touchdown passes in four of seven games and passed for at least 200 yards in four of seven games.

Running Backs

David Montgomery

Season Stats: 234 att., 1094 yds, 11 TD; 35 rec., 228 yds

Montgomery is the engine that makes the Iowa State offense click. He carried the ball at least 20 times in eight of twelve games and had six 100-yard rushing games this year.

Montgomery did get injured in the last game of the year, but all signs point towards him playing in the bowl game.

Sheldon Croney

Season Stats: 42 att., 231 yds, 2 TD; 2 rec., 54 yds

Croney rushed for at least 40 yards in the last two games of the year.

Receivers

Allen Lazard

Season Stats: 61 rec., 799 yds, 9 TD

Lazard caught at least five passes in eight of twelve games, had three 100-yard receiving games, topped 60 yards receiving six times, and caught at least one TD pass in seven of twelve games.

Hakeem Butler

Season Stats: 36 rec., 586 yds, 6 TD

Butler caught at least three passes seven times, had at least 60 yards receiving five times, and caught a TD pass in three of the last five games of the year.

Marchie Murdock

Season Stats: 37 rec., 475 yds, 5 TD

Murdock caught at least four passes in six of twelve games and had 40 or more yard receiving seven times this year.

Trevor Ryan

Season Stats: 46 rec., 465 yds, TD

Ryan caught at least five passes in five different games and topped the 40-yard receiving mark six times.

Matthew Eaton

Season Stats: 21 rec., 208 yds, 4 TD

Wimann caught at least four passes for 30-plus yards five times in 2017. He also caught a TD pass in seven of twelve games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Memphis Wins—UCLA, Navy, @ Houston, SMU

Memphis Losses—@ UCF (2)

Iowa St Wins—@ Akron, @ Oklahoma, @ Texas Tech, TCU

Iowa St Losses—Iowa, @ West Virginia, Oklahoma St, @ Kansas St

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Memphis

Against the Spread: Iowa State +3.5

Memphis won't be able to run through the Iowa State defense like they did against other AAC defenses. The Cyclones will keep it close, but playing in Memphis could be the difference in the end.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Georgia 31 TCU 23
2015 Arkansas 45 Kansas State 23
2014 Texas A&M 45 West Virginia 37
2013 Mississippi State 44 Rice 7
2012 Tulsa 31 Iowa State 17

Confidence Pick

3

Outback Bowl

Tampa, Florida

Monday January 1 (12 pm ET / ESPN2)

Betting Lines: Michigan -7.5 (43)

Projected Score: Michigan 25-18

Michigan
(8-4)



South Carolina
(8-4)



Offense

Pts/gm—25.8
Rush yds/gm—186.3
Pass yds/gm—168.6

Defense

Pts/gm—18.3
Rush yds/gm—125.9
Pass yds/gm—142.7

Offense

Pts/gm—24.1
Rush yds/gm—127.3
Pass yds/gm—212.9

Defense

Pts/gm—20.8
Rush yds/gm—146.7
Pass yds/gm—227.9

Quarterback

Brandon Peters

Season Stats: 486 pass yds, 4 TD

Peters led the Wolverines into bowl eligibility by winning three consecutive games in the second half of the season. He struggled a bit in a Week 12 loss at Wisconsin and did not play in the season finale at Ohio State due to an injury. Peters is expected back for the Wolverines' bowl game against South Carolina.

John O'Korn

Season Stats: 956 pass yds, 2 TD

O'Korn played in eight games this year and only threw two touchdown passes, while tossing six interceptions.

Running Backs

Karan Higdon

Season Stats: 147 att., 929 yds, 11 TD; 7 rec., 120 yds

During a four-game stretch in the middle of the season, Higdon totaled 603 rushing yards and eight touchdowns. That four game stretch aside, Higdon had four more games of at least 50 yards rushing.

Chris Evans

Season Stats: 126 att., 661 yds, 6 TD; 14 rec., 146 yds, TD

Evans ran for at least 65 yards five times this year. In the last four weeks of the season, Evans had at least 80 yards rushing and two touchdowns in two different games.

Ty Isaac

Season Stats: 88 att., 548 yds, 2 TD

Isaac had three 100-yard rushing games in the first eight weeks of the season, but an injury has kept him out ever since and he remains questionable for the bowl game.

Receivers

Grant Perry

Season Stats: 25 rec., 307 yds, TD

Perry hasn't caught more than two passes in a game since Week 8.

Sean McKeon

Season Stats: 29 rec., 285 yds, 3 TD

McKeon caught at least three passes in six games and had a TD reception in three of the last four games of the year.

Zach Gentry

Season Stats: 15 rec., 256 yds, 2 TD

Gentry had at least 30 yards receiving in each of the last three games of the year.

Donovan Peoples-Jones

Season Stats: 16 rec., 219 yds

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Michigan Wins—@ Purdue

Michigan Losses—Michigan St, @ Penn St, @ Wisconsin, Ohio St

S. Carolina Wins—NC St, @ Missouri, LA Tech,

S. Carolina Losses—Kentucky, @ Texas A&M, @ Georgia, Clemson

Quarterback

Jake Bentley

Season Stats: 2555 pass yds, 16 TD; 86 rush yds, 6 TD

Bentley had six 200-yard passing games this year, seven multiple-TD games, and threw at least one TD pass in ten of twelve games.

Running Backs

AJ Turner

Season Stats: 92 att., 517 yds, 3 TD; 18 rec., 117 yds

Turner was an important part of the South Carolina offense during the second half of the season, as he rushed for at least 69 yards in four of the last six games and topped the 120-yard rushing mark twice.

Ty'Son Williams

Season Stats: 92 att., 460 yds, TD; 11 rec., 36 yds, TD

Williams had at least 50 yards rushing in five games this year.

Rico Dowdle

Season Stats: 60 att., 206 yds, TD

Dowdle missed the last five games of the season, but he could be healthy enough to play in the bowl game.

Receivers

Bryan Edwards

Season Stats: 59 rec., 705 yds, 4 TD

Edwards had at least 60 yards receiving in six of the last nine games of the year and caught a TD pass in three of the last four.

Shi Smith

Season Stats: 26 rec., 350 yds, 2 TD

Smith had at least 20 yards receiving in eight games.

OrTre Smith

Season Stats: 30 rec., 326 yds, 3 TD

Smith had at least 30 yards receiving in seven of the last ten games of the year and caught at least three passes in each of the last eight games.

Hayden Hurst (TE)

Season Stats: 41 rec., 518 yds, 2 TD

Hurst had at least 59 receiving yards in five of twelve games this year.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Michigan

Against the Spread: South Carolina +7.5

These teams might as well play a game of '21'. First team to 21 points wins. It's hard not to take the points in a matchup like this one.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Florida 30 Iowa 3
2015 Tennessee 45 Northwestern 6
2014 Wisconsin 34 Auburn 31 (OT)
2013 LSU 21 Iowa 14
2012 South Carolina 33 Michigan 28

Confidence Pick

4

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl

Atlanta, Georgia

Monday January 1 (12:30 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Auburn -9.5 (66.5)

Projected Score: Auburn 38-29

Auburn
(10-3)



Central Florida
(12-0)



Offense

Pts/gm—34.4
Rush yds/gm—228.2
Pass yds/gm—225.8

Defense

Pts/gm—17.3
Rush yds/gm—134.5
Pass yds/gm—177.8

Offense

Pts/gm—49.4
Rush yds/gm—201.2
Pass yds/gm—339.3

Defense

Pts/gm—25.2
Rush yds/gm—165.7
Pass yds/gm—262.8

Quarterback

Jarrett Stidham

Season Stats: 2827 pass yds, 17 TD; 178 rush yds, 4 TD

Even though Auburn relies heavily on the run game, Stidham transformed the offense by giving them something they haven't had in a few years, accuracy. Stidham's 66.7% completion percentage is the best by an Auburn quarterback since Cam Newton completed 66.1% of his passes in 2010. In 2017 Stidham had nine 200-yard passing games and threw two or more TD passes in six of thirteen games.

Running Backs

Kerryon Johnson

Season Stats: 263 att., 1320 yds, 17 TD; 23 rec., 188 yds, 2 TD

Johnson was a workhorse in 2017, as he carried the ball at least 20 times in eight of eleven games. The junior running back had eight 100-yard rushing games and scored at least one touchdown in all but one game, the SEC Championship Game.

Kam Martin

Season Stats: 68 att., 429 yds, 2 TD; 3 rec., 56 yds, TD

Martin had at least 40 yards rushing in five different games and will have a major role in the bowl game if Kerryon Johnson does not play.

Kamryn Pettway

Season Stats: 76 att., 305 yds, 6 TD

There is small chance Pettway could return for the bowl game.

Receivers

Ryan Davis

Season Stats: 76 rec., 768 yds, 5 TD

Davis caught at least six passes in eight of thirteen games and had at least 55 yards receiving eight times.

Darius Slayton

Season Stats: 24 rec., 574 yds, 5 TD

Slayton caught at least two passes in seven of the last nine games of the year and topped the 40-yard receiving mark six times.

Will Hastings

Season Stats: 20 rec., 408 yds, 3 TD

Eli Stove

Season Stats: 28 rec., 264 yds

Quarterback

McKenzie Milton

Season Stats: 3795 pass yds, 35 TD; 497 rush yds, 7 TD

Milton may have been the biggest reason UCF transformed from an 0-12 team two seasons ago into an undefeated, New Year's 6 Bowl-bound team. In 2017, Milton had seven 300-yard passing games and threw three or more TD passes in a game seven times.

Running Backs

Adrian Killins

Season Stats: 112 att., 762 yds, 10 TD; 24 rec., 166 yds, TD

The 5-foot-8 sophomore back emerges as the Knights' best running back this year. Killins had three 100-yard games and scored at least one touchdown in eight of twelve games.

Otis Anderson

Season Stats: 58 att., 456 yds, 4 TD; 28 rec., 334 yds, 2 TD

Anderson had at least 70 yards of total offense and a touchdown in five of the last six games of the year.

Taj McGowan

Season Stats: 69 att., 235 yds, 8 TD

Receivers

Tre'Quan Smith

Season Stats: 54 rec., 1082 yds, 13 TD

Smith caught at least four passes in nine of twelve games, had at least 120 receiving yards in four games, and caught at least one TD pass in eight games.

Dredrick Snelson

Season Stats: 42 rec., 656 yds, 7 TD

Snelson caught three or more passes in nine of twelve games and had 72 yards or more receiving six times.

Gabriel Davis

Season Stats: 25 rec., 353 yds, 4 TD

Davis had at least 40 yards receiving in three of the last five games.

Jordan Akins

Season Stats: 30 rec., 459 yds, 4 TD

Akins had at least 40 yards receiving in seven of ten games this year.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Auburn Wins—@ Missouri, Miss St, Georgia, Alabama

Auburn Losses—@ Clemson, @ LSU, Georgia (SEC Champ)

UCF Wins—FIU, Memphis (2), @ Navy, @ SMU, USF

UCF Losses—None

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Auburn

Against the Spread: Auburn -9.5

Auburn went from playing for a spot in the CFP to a meaningless bowl game. Central Florida is probably looking forward to this matchup against one of the 'big boys'. The problem for the Knights may just be the size and speed of the Tigers.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Alabama 24 Washington 7

2015 Houston 38 Florida State 24

2014 TCU 42 Ole Miss 3

2013 Texas A&M 52 Duke 48

2012 Clemson 25 LSU 24

Confidence Pick

37

Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl

Orlando, Florida

Monday January 1 (1 pm ET / ABC)

Betting Lines: LSU -3 (51.5)

Projected Score: LSU 27-24

LSU
(9-3)



Notre Dame
(9-3)



Offense

Pts/gm—28.1
Rush yds/gm—210.8
Pass yds/gm—201.3

Defense

Pts/gm—18.8
Rush yds/gm—126.4
Pass yds/gm—185.3

Offense

Pts/gm—35.3
Rush yds/gm—279.1
Pass yds/gm—175.8

Defense

Pts/gm—21.8
Rush yds/gm—153.2
Pass yds/gm—213.5

Quarterback

Danny Etling

Season Stats: 2234 pass yds, 14 TD; 107 rush yds, 2 TD
In 2017, Etling had five 200-yard passing games and five multiple-TD games. He's not the type of quarterback that will take over a game, but he limited his mistakes this year, only throwing two interceptions in 242 pass attempts.

Running Backs

Derrius Guice

Season Stats: 216 att., 1153 yds, 11 TD; 15 rec., 100 yds
Guice was bothered a bit during the season with a nagging ankle injury, but the junior back still pushed through and totaled five 100-yard rushing games and scored at least one rushing touchdown in seven of eleven games.

Darrel Williams

Season Stats: 136 att., 776 yds, 9 TD; 22 rec., 327 yds
Williams was more of a 1b RB for the Tigers because he certainly performed better than an average backup. The senior running back had two 100-yard rushing games, five 80-yard rushing games, and totaled more than 70 yards of offense in seven of twelve games.

Receivers

DJ Chark

Season Stats: 35 rec., 811 yds, 3 TD
Chark caught at least three passes in eight of twelve games, had four 100-yard receiving games, and had at least one 40-yard reception in six of twelve games.

Russell Gage

Season Stats: 19 rec., 270 yds, 3 TD; 217 rush yds, TD
Gage had five plays of 30 yards or more (2 run / 3 rec.).

Foster Moreau (TE)

Season Stats: 20 rec., 214 yds, 3 TD
Moreau caught at least two passes in seven of eleven games.

Quarterback

Brandon Wimbush

Season Stats: 1818 pass yds, 16 TD; 766 rush yds, 14 TD
Wimbush had three 200-yard passing games, four 100-yard rushing games, accounted for at least three touchdowns seven times, and at least one rushing touchdown in nine of the eleven games in which he played.

Running Backs

Josh Adams

Season Stats: 191 att., 1386 yds, 9 TD; 10 rec., 82 yds
Adams had seven 100-yard rushing games and five 150-yard rushing games in 2017. The junior running back scored nine touchdowns in the first eight games of the season, but did not score in any of Notre Dame's last four games of the year

Deon McIntosh

Season Stats: 65 att., 368 yds, 5 TD;
McIntosh played in seven games this year and had at least 60 yards rushing in three of them.

Dexter Williams

Season Stats: 37 att., 324 yds, 4 TD; 2 rec., 13 yds, TD
Williams had at least 20 yards rushing in each of the seven games in which he played.

Tony Jones

Season Stats: 43 att., 232 yds, 3 TD; 4 rec., 13 yds

Receivers

Equanimeous St. Brown

Season Stats: 31 rec., 468 yds, 4 TD
St. Brown caught at least three passes in five of twelve games and had at least 60 yards receiving four times.

Kevin Stepherson

Season Stats: 2198 rec., 359 yds, 5 TD
In the last six game of the year, Stepherson caught three or more passes four times, had two 100-yard receiving games, and caught at TD pass in four different games.

Chase Claypool

Season Stats: 29 rec., 402 yds, 2 TD
Claypool caught two or more passes in eight of twelve games.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

LSU Wins—Auburn

LSU Losses—Troy, @ Alabama

Notre Dame Wins—@ Boston College, @ Michigan St, USC, NC St, Wake Forest, Navy

Notre Dame Losses—Georgia, @ Miami, @ Stanford

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: LSU

Against the Spread: LSU -3

The key to a Notre Dame win may not be QB Brandon Wimbush, but rather the success that RB Josh Adams has running the ball. In each of Notre Dame's three losses, Adams was held to less than 100 yards rushing. The last RB to run for 100 yards against the Tigers was Kerryon Johnson on Oct 14.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 LSU 29 Louisville 9
2015 Michigan 41 Florida 7
2014 Missouri 33 Minnesota 17
2013 South Carolina 34 Wisconsin 24
2012 Georgia 45 Nebraska 31

Confidence Pick

14

Rose Bowl Game

Pasadena, California

Monday January 1 (5 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Georgia -1.5 (60)

Projected Score: Georgia 31-29

Georgia
(12-1)



Oklahoma
(12-1)



Offense

Pts/gm—34.9
Rush yds/gm—263.5
Pass yds/gm—170.1

Defense

Pts/gm—13.2
Rush yds/gm—112.6
Pass yds/gm—158.3

Offense

Pts/gm—44.9
Rush yds/gm—215.9
Pass yds/gm—367.4

Defense

Pts/gm—25.0
Rush yds/gm—144.1
Pass yds/gm—240.6

Quarterback

Jake Fromm

Season Stats: 2173 pass yds, 21 TD; 107 rush yds, 3 TD

Fromm usually wasn't pressed into throwing the ball because the running game was so dominant. Even though the freshman quarterback only had three 200-yard passing games, he did throw two or more TD passes in seven of thirteen games this year.

Running Backs

Nick Chubb

Season Stats: 191 att., 1175 yds, 13 TD; 3 rec., 31 yds

Georgia's stable of backs kept Chubb fresh, and most importantly, healthy. The senior running back only had one 20-carry game, but topped the 100-yard mark five times and scored at least one rushing touchdown in eight of thirteen games.

Sony Michel

Season Stats: 131 att., 948 yds, 13 TD; 5 rec., 55 yds

Chubb and Michel were the best running back duo in the country, regardless of stats. Michel will go into the CFP semifinal game 52 yards shy of 1,000. In twelve games this year, Michel had two 100-yard rushing games, seven 80-yard rushing games, and scored at least one touchdown in nine of twelve games.

D'Andre Swift

Season Stats: 73 att., 597 yds, 3 TD

Swift had at least 30 yards rushing in ten of thirteen games.

Receivers

Javon Wims

Season Stats: 38 rec., 631 yds, 6 TD

Wims caught at least three passes in seven of thirteen games, had at least 70 yards receiving five times, and caught a TD pass in four of the last six games of the year.

Terry Godwin

Season Stats: 29 rec., 540 yds, 6 TD

Godwin caught three or more passes in five of thirteen games and had at least 40 yards receiving seven times.

Mecole Hardman

Season Stats: 22 rec., 323 yds, 3 TD; 51 rush yds, TD

In the last five games of the year, Hardman caught at least three passes for forty yards. In his last five games of 2017, the sophomore receiver had five plays of 20 yards or more.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Georgia Wins—App St, @ Notre Dame, Miss St, Missouri, S. Carolina, Kentucky, Auburn (SEC Champ)

Georgia Losses—@ Auburn

Oklahoma Wins—@ Ohio St, Texas, @ Kansas St, Texas Tech, @ Oklahoma St, TCU, W. Virginia, TCU (B12 Champ)

Oklahoma Losses—Iowa St

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 USC 52 Penn State 49
2015 Stanford 45 Iowa 16
2014 Oregon 59 Florida State 20
2013 Michigan State 24 Stanford 20
2012 Stanford 20 Wisconsin 14

Quarterback

Baker Mayfield

Season Stats: 4340 pass yds, 41 TD; 310 rush yds, 5 TD

Mayfield is the favorite to win the Heisman Trophy, and rightly so. Not only are his starts more impressive than the ones he posted last year, but he led the Sooners to the CFP Playoff. In the course of doing so, Mayfield had eight 300-yard passing games and threw three or more TD passes in ten of thirteen games. He attempted 369 passes and only threw five interceptions.

Running Backs

Rodney Anderson

Season Stats: 162 att., 690 yds, 11 TD; 16 rec., 283 yds, 5 TD

We didn't really hear much about Anderson over the first six weeks of the 2017 season, but he was one of the best players in the country throughout the second half of the season. In the last eight games of the year, Anderson had five 100-yard rushing games and scored 15 touchdowns (10 rush / 5 rec.). Please note, heading into the bowl season, there has been some off-field allegations that has cast some uncertainty on Anderson's availability for the CFP.

Trey Sermon

Season Stats: 119 att., 710 yds, 5 TD; 16 rec., 139 yds, 2 TD

Sermon totaled more than 100 yards of offense four times and totaled at least 50 yards of offense in eight of thirteen games this year.

Abdul Adams

Season Stats: 59 att., 542 yds, TD; 5 rec., 80 yds, TD

Receivers

Marquise Brown

Season Stats: 49 rec., 981 yds, 6 TD

Brown caught three or more passes in nine games this year, had three 100-yard receiving games, and scored at least one touchdown in four of the last six games of the year.

CeeDee Lamb

Season Stats: 40 rec., 741 yds, 7 TD

Lamb caught at least three passes in eight of thirteen games and topped the 50-yard receiving mark eight times.

Jeff Badet

Season Stats: 25 rec., 396 yds, 3 TD

Mark Andrews (TE)

Season Stats: 58 rec., 906 yds, 8 TD

Andrews caught at least four passes in nine of thirteen games, topped 60 yards receiving eight times, and scored in seven of thirteen games.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Georgia

Against the Spread: Georgia -1.5

At first glance, it's easy to assume that Oklahoma's offense will continue to roll with QB Baker Mayfield, but we haven't forgotten about the Sooners' close wins over Texas (by 5), Kansas State (by 7), and Baylor (by 8). Georgia's defense and running game have a chance to control the tempo of the game.

Confidence Pick

2

Allstate Sugar Bowl

New Orleans, Louisiana
Monday January 1 (8:45 pm ET / ESPN)
Betting Lines: Alabama -2.5 (47)
Projected Score: Alabama 25-22

Clemson
(12-1)



Alabama
(11-1)



Offense

Pts/gm—35.4
Rush yds/gm—204.1
Pass yds/gm—244.1

Defense

Pts/gm—12.8
Rush yds/gm—112.8
Pass yds/gm—165.1

Offense

Pts/gm—39.1
Rush yds/gm—265.3
Pass yds/gm—200.1

Defense

Pts/gm—11.5
Rush yds/gm—94.1
Pass yds/gm—163.7

Quarterback

Kelly Bryant

Season Stats: 2678 pass yds, 13 TD; 646 rush yds, 11 TD

If there is one major difference between this year's Clemson team and the one that won the National Championship last year, it's at the quarterback position. However, Bryant possesses the skills to get the job done. In 2017, Bryant passed for at least 200 yards seven times, rushed for at least 60 yards six times, and accounted for two or more touchdowns eight times.

Running Backs

Travis Etienne

Season Stats: 103 att., 744 yds, 13 TD; 5 rec., 57 yds

Etienne only had more than nine carries in a game twice this year, but still rushed for at least 60 yards in seven of twelve games and scored at least one rushing touchdown in all but one game in which he played.

Tavien Feaster

Season Stats: 103 att., 659 yds, 7 TD; 10 rec., 115 yds, TD

In thirteen games this year, Feaster topped the 50-yard rushing mark seven times and scored at least one touchdown in six of Clemson's last nine games.

Adam Choice

Season Stats: 62 att., 312 yds, 6 TD

Receivers

Deon Cain

Season Stats: 52 rec., 659 yds, 6 TD

Cain had at least three receptions in ten of the last eleven games of the year, had six 50-yard receiving games, and caught a TD pass in five of the last eight.

Hunter Renfrow

Season Stats: 55 rec., 571 yds, 3 TD

Renfrow had at least four receptions in nine of thirteen games, topped 60 yards receiving five times, and caught a TD pass in two of the last three games of the year.

Ray-Ray McCloud

Season Stats: 46 rec., 502 yds, TD

McCloud caught at least four passes in six games and topped 80 yards receiving three times.

Tee Higgins

Season Stats: 17 rec., 345 yds, 2 TD

Higgins had two 80-yard receiving games in the last three weeks of the season.

Schedule Analysis (vs. 2017 Bowl Teams)

Clemson Wins—Auburn, @ Louisville, Boston College, @ Virginia Tech, Wake Forest, @ NC St, Florida St, @ S. Carolina, Miami (ACC Champ)

Clemson State Losses—None

Alabama Wins—Florida St, Fresno St, Colorado St, @ Texas A&M, LSU, @ Miss St,

Alabama Losses—@ Auburn

Quarterback

Jalen Hurts

Season Stats: 1940 pass yds, 15 TD; 768 rush yds, 8 TD

Hurts isn't flashy, but most of the time he gets the job done by minimizing mistakes. In 222 pass attempts, the sophomore quarterback only threw one interception. Hurts threw at least one TD pass in all but one game and had at least one rushing TD in seven of twelve games.

Running Backs

Damien Harris

Season Stats: 110 att., 906 yds, 11 TD; 8 rec., 66 yds

Harris had three 100-yard rushing games, six 70-yard rushing games, and scored at least one rushing touchdown in eight of twelve games.

Bo Scarbrough

Season Stats: 108 att., 549 yds, 8 TD; 14 rec., 92 yds

Scarbrough rushed for at least 40 yards in seven of twelve games and ran for a touchdown in six of twelve games.

Najee Harris

Season Stats: 55 att., 306 yds, 3 TD; 5 rec., 23 yds

Harris rushed for 40 or more yards four times.

Josh Jacobs

Season Stats: 43 att., 276 yds, TD; 12 rec., 165 yds, 2 TD

Jacobs had at least 50 yards of total offense in five of his last seven games of the year.

Receivers

Calvin Ridley

Season Stats: 55 rec., 896 yds, 3 TD

Ridley caught at least three passes in every game this year, had two 100-yard games and eight games with at least 60 yards receiving.

Jerry Jeudy

Season Stats: 13 rec., 244 yds, 2 TD

Cam Sims

Season Stats: 13 rec., 194 yds, TD

Henry Ruggs

Season Stats: 7 rec., 175 yds, 5 TD

Irv Smith (TE)

Season Stats: 13 rec., 122 yds, 3 TD

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Alabama

Against the Spread: Alabama -2.5

When you look at the both teams' offenses, you're left wondering about their ability to score points. When you look at both defenses, that fact is magnified. There are two factors in our decision to take Bama. They have a month to get healthy on defense and Clemson no longer has Deshaun Watson, who was last year's difference maker.

Bowl Game Results (Last 5 Years)

2016 Oklahoma 35 Auburn 19
2015 Ole Miss 48 Oklahoma State 20
2014 Ohio State 42 Alabama 35
2013 Oklahoma 45 Alabama 31
2012 Louisville 33 Florida 23

Confidence Pick

1

CFP National Championship Game

Atlanta, Georgia

Monday January 8 (8 pm ET / ESPN)

Betting Lines: Boise State -7.5 (66.5)

Projected Score: Boise State 37-30

Alabama
(11-1)



Georgia
(12-1)



Offense

Pts/gm—39.1
Rush yds/gm—265.3
Pass yds/gm—200.1

Defense

Pts/gm—11.5
Rush yds/gm—94.1
Pass yds/gm—163.7

Offense

Pts/gm—34.9
Rush yds/gm—263.5
Pass yds/gm—170.1

Defense

Pts/gm—13.2
Rush yds/gm—112.6
Pass yds/gm—158.3

Quarterback

Jalen Hurts

Season Stats: 1940 pass yds, 15 TD; 768 rush yds, 8 TD

Hurts isn't flashy, but most of the time he gets the job done by minimizing mistakes. In 222 pass attempts, the sophomore quarterback only threw one interception. Hurts threw at least one TD pass in all but one game and had at least one rushing TD in seven of twelve games.

Running Backs

Damien Harris

Season Stats: 110 att., 906 yds, 11 TD; 8 rec., 66 yds

Harris had three 100-yard rushing games, six 70-yard rushing games, and scored at least one rushing touchdown in eight of twelve games.

Bo Scarbrough

Season Stats: 108 att., 549 yds, 8 TD; 14 rec., 92 yds

Scarbrough rushed for at least 40 yards in seven of twelve games and ran for a touchdown in six of twelve games.

Najee Harris

Season Stats: 55 att., 306 yds, 3 TD; 5 rec., 23 yds

Harris rushed for 40 or more yards four times.

Josh Jacobs

Season Stats: 43 att., 276 yds, TD; 12 rec., 165 yds, 2 TD

Jacobs had at least 50 yards of total offense in five of his last seven games of the year.

Receivers

Calvin Ridley

Season Stats: 55 rec., 896 yds, 3 TD

Ridley caught at least three passes in every game this year, had two 100-yard games and eight games with at least 60 yards receiving.

Jerry Jeudy

Season Stats: 13 rec., 244 yds, 2 TD

Cam Sims

Season Stats: 13 rec., 194 yds, TD

Henry Ruggs

Season Stats: 7 rec., 175 yds, 5 TD

Irv Smith (TE)

Season Stats: 13 rec., 122 yds, 3 TD

Quarterback

Jake Fromm

Season Stats: 2173 pass yds, 21 TD; 107 rush yds, 3 TD

Fromm usually wasn't pressed into throwing the ball because the running game was so dominant. Even though the freshman quarterback only had three 200-yard passing games, he did throw two or more TD passes in seven of thirteen games this year.

Running Backs

Nick Chubb

Season Stats: 191 att., 1175 yds, 13 TD; 3 rec., 31 yds

Georgia's stable of backs kept Chubb fresh, and most importantly, healthy. The senior running back only had one 20-carry game, but topped the 100-yard mark five times and scored at least one rushing touchdown in eight of thirteen games.

Sony Michel

Season Stats: 131 att., 948 yds, 13 TD; 5 rec., 55 yds

Chubb and Michel were the best running back duo in the country, regardless of stats. Michel will go into the CFP semifinal game 52 yards shy of 1,000. In twelve games this year, Michel had two 100-yard rushing games, seven 80-yard rushing games, and scored at least one touchdown in nine of twelve games.

D'Andre Swift

Season Stats: 73 att., 597 yds, 3 TD

Swift had at least 30 yards rushing in ten of thirteen games.

Receivers

Javon Wims

Season Stats: 38 rec., 631 yds, 6 TD

Wims caught at least three passes in seven of thirteen games, had at least 70 yards receiving five times, and caught a TD pass in four of the last six games of the year.

Terry Godwin

Season Stats: 29 rec., 540 yds, 6 TD

Godwin caught three or more passes in five of thirteen games and had at least 40 yards receiving seven times.

Mecole Hardman

Season Stats: 22 rec., 323 yds, 3 TD; 51 rush yds, TD

In the last five games of the year, Hardman caught at least three passes for forty yards. In his last five games of 2017, the sophomore receiver had five plays of 20 yards or more.

theCFFsite Picks:

Winner: Georgia

Against the Spread: N/A

Georgia will return to the place where they won the SEC Championship to win the National Championship.

Bowl Game Results (Formerly Russell Athletic Bowl; Last 5 Years)

2016 Clemson 35 Alabama 31
2015 Alabama 45 Clemson 40
2014 Ohio State 42 Oregon 20



