



26TH ANNUAL 68 VENTURES BOWL

ARKANSAS STATE (7-5, 5-3 SUN BELT) VS. BOWLING GREEN (7-5, 6-2 MID-AMERICAN)
THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 2024 | HANCOCK WHITNEY STADIUM | MOBILE, ALA. | 8:00 PM

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Arkansas State and Bowling Green will meet in the 26th annual 68 Ventures Bowl December 26th at Hancock Whitney Stadium.

BGSU is playing in the 68 Ventures Bowl for the fourth time. A-State is playing in the game for the fifth time but the first since 2015.

The game will be televised by ESPN with kickoff set for 8:00 p.m. (CT). Clay Matvick (play-by-play), Roddy Jones (analyst) and Ashley Stroehlein (sideline reporter) will call the game to a national audience.

The game will also air on the 68 Ventures Bowl Radio Network with Mike Grace calling play-by-play. Terry Harvin will serve as the analyst and Randy Kennedy will be on the sidelines for his sixth national broadcast of the game. Grace will be the executive producer for the 25th season.

SERIES HISTORY

Bowling Green leads the all-time series against Arkansas State, 1-0, after a 17-0 win in 1974. Arkansas State was an NCAA DII team playing in the Southland Conference in 1974.

ARKANSAS STATE BOWL HISTORY

Arkansas State is 7-10-1 all-time in bowl games, 4-7 in FBS bowl matchups. Last year at the Camellia Bowl, the Red Wolves were dealt a 21-19 setback against Northern Illinois. The 68 Ventures Bowl marks A-State's fifth appearance in the Mobile-based bowl sporting a 2-2 record in the previous four appearances.

A-State played in seven bowl games from 1951-70, including the Pecan Bowl (1968, 1969, 1970), Tangerine Bowl (1952, 1954) and Refrigerator Bowl (1951, 1952). In the FBS era, the Red Wolves played in the New Orleans Bowl (2005, 2015), the GoDaddy Bowl (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014), Cure Bowl (2016), Camellia Bowl (2017, 2019, 2023) and Arizona Bowl (2018).

SUN BELT BOWLING IN 2024

Seven Sun Belt programs will participate in Bowl Season in 2024, marking the third-straight year that it paces all non-autonomy conferences in bowl representation (Marshall was the eighth team invited to a bowl before opting out). The Sun Belt produced seven Bowl Season participants in 2022 and a conference-record and national-best 12 in 2023.

With Marshall's 31-3 win over Louisiana in

the 2024 Hercules Tires Sun Belt Football Championship Game, the conference boasts multiple 10-win teams for the seventh-straight season and for the fourth-straight year had multiple teams reach the mark prior to Bowl Season.

SUN BELT BOWL HISTORY

Prior to the start of 2024 Bowl Season, SBC schools own a .571 Bowl Season winning percentage during the College Football Playoff era, trailing only the SEC (.584).

SUN BELT IN MOBILE

14 different Sun Belt member schools have played in the 68 Ventures Bowl. The conference is 10-4 all-time with Appalachian State, Arkansas State, Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Louisiana, Middle Tennessee, South Alabama, Southern Miss and Troy representing the league since the partnership began in the 2009 season (Jan. 6, 2010 game date).

BOWLING GREEN BOWL HISTORY

BGSU is playing in the 68 Ventures Bowl for the fourth time. The Falcons previously appeared in Mobile in 2004 and 2008 when it was the GMAC Bowl. Most recently, BGSU faced Georgia Southern in 2015 when it was the GoDaddy Bowl.

The 68 Ventures Bowl marks BGSU's 16th all-time bowl appearance.

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE BOWLING IN 2023

The Mid-American Conference (MAC) will have seven institutions for the 2024 bowl season.

This marks the ninth time in MAC history to have six or more programs receive a bowl invitation (2012, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024) in a single-season. This also marks the 15th time in MAC history to have five or more programs receive a bowl invitation (2004, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024) in a single-season.

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE BOWL HISTORY

Current members of the MAC have combined for 133 bowl appearances entering 2024 Bowl Season. The teams have gone 47-80 all-time.

Game Information

Date: Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024

Time: 8:05 p.m. CST

Location: Mobile, Alabama

Stadium: Hancock Whitney Stadium

Television: ESPN (Clay Matvick, Roddy Jones, Ashley Stroehlein)

Radio: 68 Ventures Bowl Radio Network (Mike Grace, Terry Harvin & Randy Kennedy)

Live Stats

<http://68venturesmedia.statbroadcast.com>

Wireless Internet

Network: HWSPressBox
Password: the68venturesbowl

MVP Voting

All voting for the four individual postgame awards (MVP, Offensive MFP, Defensive MVP and Special Teams MVP) is done online. The web site to vote is:

<http://statb.us/vote/98>

Post Game Procedures

The 68 Ventures Bowl trophy presentation will take place on the stage platforms in the south end zone.

The post game press conferences will be on the second floor of the Athletic Administration Building at the north end of the stadium. The losing team will go first followed by the winning team. The press conference will be streamed online.

MAC IN MOBILE

The MAC representative has gone 9-12 all-time in Mobile. The nine victories are one behind the Sun Belt Conference for the most by any single conference in the previous 25 68 Ventures Bowls.

Three years ago, Eastern Michigan became the 12th different MAC team to be invited to Mobile.

A MAC school has not won in Mobile since Toledo on Jan. 4, 2015 – a span of seven-consecutive losses.

HIGH SCORING GAMES COME WITH THE TERRITORY IN MOBILE

Mobile has had a penchant for high-scoring games. Through 24 games, the teams have combined for 1,519 total points, an average of 63.3 points per game. The average score has been 40.9-22.4.

The lowest winning score came in 2013 when Arkansas State defeated Kent State 17-13.

SHUTOUTS RARE IN LOWER ALABAMA

There has been just one shutout in the 25 previous 68 Ventures Bowls, with that occurring seven years ago when App State defeated Toledo 34-0 in 2017. Two other times, the losing team failed to reach double digits – Ohio in 2007 and Bowling Green in 2008 – with both

squads managing just seven points.

TIGHT BALL GAMES

There have been six games decided by 7 points or less and three of those by 3-points or fewer.

OVERTIME HAS HAPPENED TWICE BUT NOT SINCE 2010

There have been two overtime games in 68 Ventures Bowl history. Arguably the most exciting contest in the 25-year history of the game happened in 2001 when Marshall outlasted East Carolina, 64-61, in double overtime in the highest-scoring bowl game in NCAA history. Eight years later Central Michigan defeated Troy, 44-41, also in double overtime

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

A-State has 13 players listed on its roster who attended high school in Alabama, including five who hail from within two hours of Mobile.

Two Falcons call Alabama home. All-MAC cornerback Jacorey Benjamin hails from Mobile, though his family later moved to the Houston, Texas, area where he attended high school. RB Justin Pegues is from Birmingham and attended Thompson HS.

Harold Fannin Jr. Officially Named BGSU's First Consensus All-American

The NCAA officially announced its record book and recognized Bowling Green's tight end Harold Fannin Jr. as the consensus All-America tight end for 2024. This is not an original team but compiled from the five All-America teams that make up Consensus All-America team. Fannin is the first football consensus All-American in BGSU program history.

To be a consensus All-American in college football a player must be named to a first team on three or more of the following All-America teams: Walter Camp Football Foundation, AFCA, Associated Press, Football Writers Association of America and The Sporting News. Fannin earned first-team accolades on all the teams except for The Sporting News, where he was named to the second team.

Only one other student-athlete in BGSU history was named a consensus All-American and it was in men's basketball. Fannin joins BGSU men's basketball's Wyndol Gray (1945). Gray and Don Otten led BGSU to the NIT final in 1945 where the Falcons fell to George Mikan and DePaul. Gray later played in the NBA for the Boston Celtics. Gray was from Akron, Ohio, which is near Fannin's hometown of Canton.

Fannin (Jr., Canton, Ohio) was a finalist for the John Mackey Award and was the only tight end to be a semifinalist for the Biletnikoff Award. Fannin ranks No. 2 in the nation with 1,342 receiving yards and leads all tight ends nationally in 21+ offensive categories, including receptions (100), yards after catch (750), first downs (64), broken tackles (31), and receiving touchdowns (9). According to Pro Football Focus, Fannin also ranks No. 1 in pass routes grade (96.1) among all receivers. Nationally, he is additionally ranked No. 2 in receptions, No. 2 in broken tackles, No. 2 in first downs, and No. 2 in yards after catch.

Fannin ranks second all-time in FBS history for single-season receiving yards by a tight end. He needs just 11 yards to surpass the FBS record of 1,352 yards, set by Texas Tech's Jace Amaro in 2013. Fannin set the regular-season receiving yards record by a tight end at Ball State in game No. 11, while Amaro set the current record in his bowl game. With 100 receptions this season, Fannin is third all-time in single-season catches by a tight end. He needs 12 more receptions to break the record held by Rice's James Casey, who totaled 111 in 2008.

Fannin joins Mark Dowdell as the only Falcon tight ends to be named first-team All-MAC multiple times. Dowdell earned the accolades in 1983 and 1984. Fannin also earned the honor last season. BGSU has had four first-team All-MAC tight ends in head coach Scot Loeffler's six seasons.

Fannin was also named the MAC's Vern Smith Leadership Award winner, the MAC Offensive Player of the Year and first-team All-MAC. Fannin is the first tight end in FBS history to be named an overall Player of the Year for a conference. He is only the second tight end in FBS history to be named a league's Offensive Player of the Year, joining Rutgers' Marco Battaglia, who in 1995 was the Big East Offensive Player of the Year and a unanimous All-American. The 1995 Big East Defensive Player of the Year opposite Battaglia was current Bowling Green defensive line coach Cornell Brown (Virginia Tech).



BACK IN PRIME TIME FOR SECOND-CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The 26th 68 Ventures Bowl kicks off in primetime for the 21st time overall.

THE WORLDWIDE LEADER

For the 26th time, the game will be televised on ESPN. The network provides a national – and global – audience to showcase the programs and the Port City of Mobile.

Clay Matvick will serve as the play-by-play commentator, with Roddy Jones as the analyst and Ashley Stroehlein providing sideline commentary. This will be the first visit to Mobile for all three.

HANCOCK WHITNEY STADIUM

This 2024 68 Ventures Bowl marks the fourth year the game has been played at Hancock Whitney Stadium on the University of South Alabama campus. The 25,450-seat venue was completed in 2020 following a little less than two years of construction and a cost of \$78 million.

The facility features 11 luxury suites, 44 loge boxes, ample concourse space, Musco LED lighting, and Daktronics High-Definition Video and Ribbon Boards.

From 1999-2020, the first 22 Mobile bowl games were played at historic Ladd-Peebles Stadium near downtown Mobile.

68 VENTURES SIGNS ON WITH MOBILE BOWL GAME

In May 2023, 68 Ventures signed on to be the title sponsor of the Mobile bowl game. 68 Ventures (68V) is the parent company for numerous operating businesses along the Gulf Coast which focus on development, investment and construction. Headquartered in Daphne, Ala., 68V is a purpose driven, culturally focused organization with a strong operational track record that has resulted in it becoming the largest single-family developer within the region, deploying well over a billion dollars in capital, and reaching the rank of one of the top 100 private home builders.

The subsequent name change marked the seventh in the history of the Mobile-based bowl game. It was previously known as the Mobile Alabama Bowl, GMAC Bowl, GoDaddy.com Bowl, GoDaddy Bowl, Dollar General Bowl and for the past four years, the Lending Tree Bowl.

“We’ve had a long history of great title sponsors and are thrilled to have 68 Ventures joining us. The sponsorship by 68 Ventures will allow the Bowl to continue and increase our year-round charitable efforts in the community, and this partnership will allow both organizations to elevate and grow our local community involvement and impact.” said Jerry Silverstein, Bowl President.

“We are thrilled to be part of such a prestigious event and for the incredible opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of our community. As a native Mobilian, former college football player and entrepreneur that still calls coastal Alabama home, it’s an honor to join forces with the City of Mobile to make this year’s game an unforgettable experience for the teams and their fans. The sacrifices these athletes make to compete at this level is a source of inspiration to us, and we look forward to celebrating them by bringing an energy to this year’s game that only a local partner can provide. We are humbled to be selected to take part in the college football bowl experience and excited to contribute to this tradition of excellence, both on and off the field.” said Nathan Cox, 68 Ventures Founder & CEO.

“This bowl game title sponsorship will allow 68 Ventures to shine a spotlight upon the Gulf Coast as a region with business opportunities abound and a quality-of-life component no other place can rival.” said Adam Campbell, 68 Ventures President.



Mid-American Standings

	Conf.	Pct.	All	Pct.
Ohio	7-1	.875	10-3	.769
Miami	7-1	.875	8-5	.615
Buffalo	6-2	.750	8-4	.667
Bowling Green	6-2	.750	7-5	.583
Western Michigan	5-3	.625	6-6	.500
Northern Illinois	4-4	.500	7-5	.583
Toledo	4-4	.500	7-5	.583
Akron	3-5	.375	4-8	.333
Eastern Michigan	2-6	.250	5-7	.417
Central Michigan	2-6	.250	4-8	.333
Ball State	2-6	.250	3-9	.250
Kent State	0-8	.000	0-12	.000



Sun Belt Standings

WEST				
	Conf.	Pct.	All	Pct.
Louisiana	7-1	.875	10-3	.769
Arkansas State	5-3	.625	7-5	.583
Texas State	5-3	.625	7-5	.583
South Alabama	5-3	.625	6-6	.500
ULM	3-5	.375	5-7	.417
Troy	3-5	.375	4-8	.333
Southern Miss	0-8	.000	1-11	.083
EAST				
	Conf.	Pct.	All	Pct.
Marshall	7-1	.875	10-3	.769
Georgia Southern	6-2	.750	8-4	.667
James Madison	4-4	.500	8-4	.667
Old Dominion	4-4	.500	5-7	.417
Coastal Carolina	3-5	.375	6-6	.500
App State	3-5	.375	5-6	.455
Georgia State	1-7	.125	3-9	.250

SUN BELT VS. MAC

Entering the 2024 Bowl Season, the Sun Belt Conference and Mid-American Conference have met in a bowl game 30 times, with the SBC holding a 17-13 head-to-head lead.

Prior to Buffalo’s win over Georgia Southern in the 2022 Camelia Bowl, the SBC had won the last 10 postseason matchups dating back to 2015. The MAC held a 10-5 record from 2004-14.

The Arkansas State-Bowling Green matchup is one of just two during 2024 Bowl Season pitting a Sun Belt Conference school against one from the Mid-American Conference.

Bowl	Date	Sun Belt school	MAC school
IS4S Salute To Veterans	Dec. 14	South Alabama	Western Michigan
68 Ventures	Dec. 26	Arkansas State	Bowling Green

68 Ventures Bowl Continues To Shine A Light On The Port City

The idea of a college football bowl game in Mobile was formulated decades ago with a simple presumption. Why not bring together a community's love for football, along with its proven know-how on throwing a party as the originators of Mardi Gras, for a bowl game to celebrate the region's festive spirit?

What a special marriage this has been.

The 68 Ventures Bowl featuring the Arkan-

vement as the first local presenting sponsor in the bowl's history. The company, located on the Eastern Shore, has grown into one of the nation's top 100 private home builders with more than \$250 million in assets in its company portfolio.

The bowl game has been a great one which has been embraced by the city and is known for its great student-athlete and fan experience.



The bowl folks and the people in the community have capitalized on the rich history of the city of Mobile and the options for entertainment for everyone involved during the week. That history will be on display this year as the teams will ride on Mardi Gras parade floats from their hotels to the stadium on game day.

Speaking of entertainment, the 68 Ventures Bowl game is the grand finale

of multiple events in four days, from when the teams arrive on December 22. As always, the week will feature the one-of-a-kind Mardi Gras style parade, sponsored by Greer's Markets and AL.com, which has been the signature public event before the game in downtown Mobile.

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Memorable Moments in Mobile Bowl Game History

Dec. 22, 1999

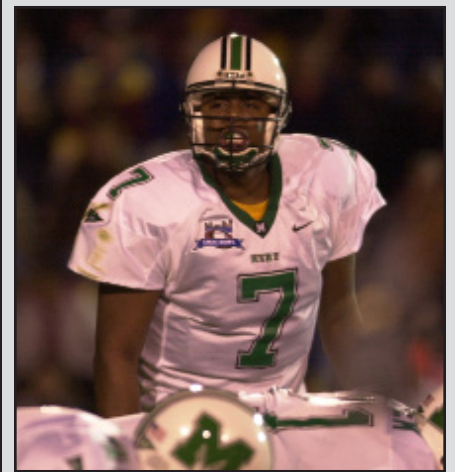
The inaugural Mobile Alabama Bowl featured LaDanian Tomlinson leading TCU to a 28-14 win over East Carolina. The Horned Frogs held the Pirates to minus-16 yards rushing.

Dec. 20, 2000

Tomlinson and the Horned Frogs were back a year later where he earned MVP honors with 188 yards rushing on 28 carries and two TD. But Southern Miss came away with a 28-21 victory scoring the final 14 points as Jeff Kelly threw the game-winning touchdown pass with 8 seconds left, connecting on a 29-yard pass to Kenneth Johnson. The 7-7 halftime score represented the lowest scoring first half in Mobile bowl history.

Dec. 19, 2001

Byron Leftwich leads Marshall to 64-61 OT win over East Carolina. They trailed 38-8 at halftime before he finished by tying the NCAA Bowl Game record of 576 passing yards. Still the highest scoring bowl game in NCAA history and is the third-largest deficit overcome to win. ECU's 61 points as a loser are the most by a losing team in NCAA Bowl Game history. The game saw four defensive TD scored, including a pick-6 and scoop-and-score by the Pirates on the first two Marshall possessions. Leftwich and ECU quarterback David Garrard would go on to be teammates with the Jacksonville Jaguars from 2003-07.



Dec. 18, 2002

Leftwich led the Thundering Herd to a dominating 38-15 win over Louisville, becoming the first player in NCAA history to throw four TD passes in back-to-back bowl games. He finished with 249 passing yards and did much of it without being able to step with his plant foot after aggravating a November shin injury.

Dec. 18, 2003

Ben Roethlisberger threw four touchdowns to lead Miami-Ohio to a 49-28 win over Louisville. The RedHawks finished the year with a 12-1 record.

Dec. 22, 2004

The seventh GMAC Bowl saw the nation's No. 4 ranked offense in Bowling Green run away from Memphis, 52-35, on a rain-soaked field. The Falcons put up 558 yards and scored 17-straight points to open the second half. Omar Jacobs passed for 356 yards and five TD.

Jan. 6, 2008

Tulsa defeats Bowling Green 63-7 for a 56-point margin of victory, which stood as an NCAA bowl game record until last year's 65-7 national championship margin by Georgia over TCU. Tulsa QB Paul Smith tossed five TD and 312 yards for has his NCAA record 14th-consecutive 300-yard passing game.

Jan. 6, 2010

Andrew Aguila of Central Michigan makes five field goals, including the game-winner, to lift the Chippewas over Troy 44-41 in 2OT. Troy's Michael Taylor made a 46-yard FG with 31 seconds left to send the game into overtime. He later had a 31-yarder blocked in the second OT, opening the door for Aguila to make the winner from 37 yards. Dan LeFevour threw for 395 yards to surpass 4,000 in a season, becoming just the 41st quarterback to achieve the feat. Antonio Brown played for CMU in that game before being one of best receivers in the NFL during the 2010s. He had 403 all-purpose yards in the game with 22 rushing, 178 receiving and 203 on kickoff returns, including a 95-yarder for a TD.

Jan. 6, 2013

Kent State went 11-2 and appeared in a bowl game for the first time in 40 years. Arkansas State won 17-13.

I did not know that!' when you tell them. So, that brings a little nostalgia and a history element, and the players get to experience a fun time. The parade has been something where people who have come to the bowl game and experienced a parade like that for the first time, then have come back to Mobile during Mardi Gras season. It has been a huge hit."

The 68 Ventures Bowl holds special distinction in the vast array of bowl games throughout the nation. The highest-scoring bowl game in the sport's history was played in Mobile on December 19, 2001. Then known as the GMAC Bowl, the Marshall Thundering Herd rallied behind quarterback Byron Leftwich from a 38-8 halftime deficit to beat East Carolina 64-61 in double overtime in front of a sellout crowd of 40,139 at Ladd-Peebles Stadium.

"I would say that has to be our all-time most exciting game," said Silverstein, who joined with former college football coach and ESPN analyst Mike Gottfried to lead the effort in bringing a bowl game to Mobile. "People still talk about that game, and it remains a record for combined points." It was one of two double OT games in the bowl's history. The other was Central Michigan's 44-41 win against Troy in the 2010 game.

Fast forward two years ago: Southern Mississippi running back Frank Gore Jr., son of the former five-time NFL All-Pro running back by the same name, rushed for a Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) record 327 yards in the Ea-

gles' 38-24 victory against Rice. No running back had gained that many yards before in a bowl game.

Gore and Leftwich are among a large number of star college players and future NFL stars who played in the game. The second

year of the bowl game featured TCU's LaDarian Tomlinson, who was inducted in 2017 into the Pro Football Hall of Fame after a stellar career with the San Diego Chargers and New York Jets.

Former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, soon-to-be Hall of Famer, played in the 2003 game as quarterback for Miami (Ohio) University, leading the team to a

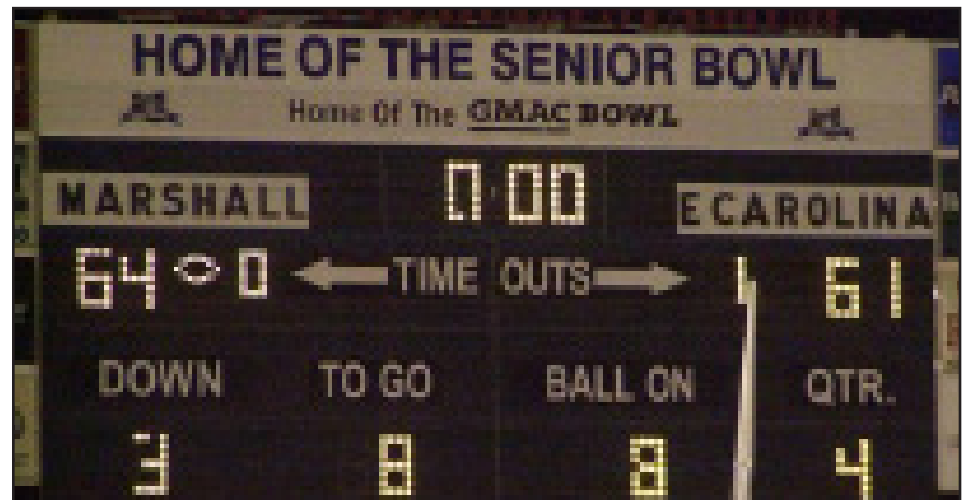
49-28 win against Louisville in a game that attracted the second largest crowd (40,620) in the bowl's history.

"A few years ago we looked at this and we had 52 players who had played in this game who were on active NFL rosters," Silverstein said. "And for a small game like ours, that is a lot of good players, and it shows you that great players come from all over."

When Silverstein and Gottfried teamed up to help start the bowl game proposal for Mobile, the college football landscape was far different than today. The inaugural 1999 game was called the Mobile Alabama Bowl. It became the 23rd bowl game on the schedule.

This year will feature 42 bowl games from Dec. 14 through the College Football Playoff.

"There are many cities across the country



that would love to have a college football bowl game,” Silverstein said. “We are very fortunate to have ours and maintain it through the years. It couldn’t be done without the support of the community, the city of Mobile and the county.”

Silverstein and Gottfried worked with former Mobile Mayor Mike Dow in the mid-1990’s to bring the idea of a bowl game to fruition. It occurred during a time where the number of NCAA Division I football teams was growing, new conferences were formed, and other conferences expanded.



Conference USA became one of the bowl tie-in conferences, led by its former commissioner Mike Slive, who later went on to become SEC commissioner. In that era, the up-start conferences and expanding conferences were urged by their member schools to help create additional bowl games and tie-ins for their conferences.

“Not having a college team here at that time (South Alabama started football in 2009) or a pro team, we were definitely cautious on how we put it together to give this bowl some longevity,” Silverstein said. “We needed to make sure we stayed in the space of who we were and tried not to do more than what we are with our marketplace.”

“The mayor of Mobile at the time (Dow) charged us to go figure it out to see what it was going to take. We went at it, formed it and put it together, said Silverstein.”

Gottfried later teamed with his wife, Mickey, to form Team Focus in 2000, a cost-free, community outreach program to mentor young men growing up without fathers in their lives. Team Focus is one of the bowl’s many charitable partners.

The bowl’s community involvement includes the Mobile County Spelling Bee, Art Contest, Big Day of Giving, Extra Yard for Teachers and a give-back day for the participating institutions where players serve at local

food banks, participate in a Flight Works Alabama museum tour and classroom lesson with Team Focus members, and visit children in the hospital. “There is a lot to this bowl game beyond football. We provide a year-round community impact,” said Silverstein.

The staff working the 68 Ventures Bowl planned a full array of activities for the participating teams all week leading up to the game itself. The mission is to balance the football preparation and focus with a fun set of events the teams enjoy and remember to enhance

the bowl experience. The quest is to also incorporate an educational experience of Mobile’s history and attractions so the teams can understand what makes the city special.

“You have an entertainment district downtown in Mobile that is within walking distance of the

hotels where the teams are staying and many of the out-of-town fans will be,” Erdmann said. “We are also fortunate to live and work in a place with a climate like ours where it might be 60 degrees at kickoff (Dec. 23).” Erdmann continued, “I think all of that lends to the enjoyment of the fans and the teams. I think the support of the city and our community and the sincere attention paid to the game has made it last. There are not a lot of bowl games out there which have been in existence for a quarter of a century.”

Jan. 5, 2014

After a Ball State TD with 1:33 to play put the Cardinals ahead 20-16, Arkansas State went 59 yards in 1:01 for a game-winning TD with 32 seconds left and a 23-20 win.

Jan. 4, 2015

Toledo defeats Arkansas State 63-44 in a game that saw a combined three defensive TD scored. Current Cleveland Browns running back Kareem Hunt rushed for 271 yards and had a bowl record five rushing TD for the Golden Flashes. Hunt was the No. 4 trending item on Twitter that night. The game is the second-highest scoring game in Mobile bowl history & the fifth-highest in an NCAA Bowl.

Dec. 18, 2021

Liberty scored 43 unanswered points as Malik Willis threw for 231 yards and rushed for 58 more with a combined five TD (3 passing, 2 rushing). Rain and lightning disrupted pregame activities with three different stoppages. The start of the game was even delayed 15 minutes due to the weather. The game was the first at Hancock Whitney Stadium following 22 bowls at Ladd-Peebles Stadium.

Dec. 17, 2022

Frank Gore rushed for NCAA Bowl Game record 329 yards and two TD, while adding an 18-yard TD pass in Southern Miss’ 38-24 win over Rice.



FUN FACTS

First Game: December 22, 1999
TCU 28, East Carolina 14

Wildest Game: Dec. 19, 2001
Marshall 64, East Carolina 61

Latest Game Date: Jan. 8, 2012
Northern Illinois 38, Arkansas State 20

Earlier Game Date: Dec.17, 2022
Southern Miss 38, Rice 24



68 VENTURES BOWL RECORD BOOK

TEAM RECORDS

MOST APPEARANCES: 4

Arkansas State, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

MOST GAMES WON: 3

Southern Miss, 2000, 2007, 2022

MOST GAMES LOST: 2

Louisville, 2003 vs. Miami
Louisville, 2003 vs. Marshall
East Carolina, 1999 vs. TCU
East Carolina, 2001 vs. Marshall
Arkansas State, 2012 vs. NIU
Arkansas State, 2015 vs. Toledo

TOTAL YARDS/PLAYS

Total yards gained (game): 1,151 Marshall (649) vs. East Carolina (492), 2001
Total yards gained (team): 649 Marshall, 2001 vs. East Carolina
Most rushing/passing plays (game): 180 Marshall(104) vs. East Carolina(76), 2001

FIRST DOWNS

Most first downs (game): 59 Marshall(36) vs. East Carolina(23), 2001
Most first downs (team): 36 Marshall, 2001 vs. East Carolina
Fewest first downs: 9 Ball State, 2009 vs. Tulsa

PASSING

Most passing attempts (game): 113 CMU(56) vs. Troy(57),2010
Most passing attempts (team): 70 Marshall, 2001 vs. East Carolina
Most pass completions (game): 65 CMU(33) vs. Troy(32), 2010
Most pass completions (team): 41 Marshall, 2001 vs. East Carolina
Most yards gained passing (game): 798 CMU(395) vs Troy(403), 2010
Most yards gained passing (team): 576 Marshall, 2001 vs. East Carolina
Fewest passes attempted (team): 19 TCU, 1999 vs. East Carolina
Fewest passes completed (team): 10 TCU, 2000 vs. Southern Miss
Consecutive completions (team): 12 Miami (Ohio), 2020 vs. Louisiana

RUSHING

Most yards rushing (game): 577 Tulsa(482) vs. Ball State(95), 2009
Most yards rushing (team): 482 Tulsa,2009 vs. Ball State
Least yards rushing (team): 16 East Carolina,1999 vs TCU

SCORING

Most points scored in a quarter:
1st Quarter
East Carolina (21) vs. Marshall, 2001
Miami, (Ohio) (21) vs. Louisville, 2003
Memphis (21) vs. BGSU, 2004
Tulsa (21) vs. BGSU, 2008

Toledo (21) vs. Arkansas State, 2015
2nd Quarter
Louisville (21) vs. Miami, (Ohio), 2003
BGSU (21) vs. Memphis, 2004
Toledo (21) vs. UTEP, 2005
Southern Miss (21) vs. Ohio, 2007
3rd Quarter
Marshall (28) vs. East Carolina, 2001
4th Quarter
Toledo (21) vs. Arkansas State 2015
Most points scored in a half
1st Half: East Carolina (38) vs. Marshall, 2001
2nd Half: Marshall (56) vs. East Carolina, 2001
Most combined points (game): 125 Marshall (64) vs. East Carolina (61), 2001(2OT)
Highest scoring bowl game in NCAA history
Most points (team): 64 Marshall (64) vs. East Carolina (61), 2001
Fewest combined points (game): 30 Arkansas State (17) vs. Kent State (13), 2013

KICKING

Most punts (game): 15 NIU (8) vs. Arkansas State (7), 2012
Fewest punts (game): 3 CMU (1) vs. Troy (2), 2010
Best team punting average: 50.2 Marshall (6) vs. Louisville, 2002
Most field goal attempts: 6 CMU (6) vs. Troy, 2010
Most field goals: 5 CMU (5) vs. Troy, 2010

PENALTIES

Most Penalties (combined): 27 Marshall (17) vs. Louisville (10) total yards (235), 2002
Most penalties (team): 17 Marshall, 147 yards vs. Louisville, 2002
Most yards penalized (combined): 235 yds Marshall vs. Louisville, 2002
Most yards penalized (team): 147 yds Marshall vs. Louisville, 2002
Fewest yards penalized: 14 yds BGSU, 2004 vs. Memphis

TURNOVERS

Most fumbles (combined): 4 Marshall (3) vs. East Carolina (1), 2001
BGSU (4), vs. Tulsa (0), 2008
Most fumbles (team): 4 Louisville vs. Marshall, 2002
BGSU vs. Tulsa, 2008
Most fumbles lost: 4 BGSU vs. Tulsa, 2008
Most passes intercepted (game): 6 MTSU (2) vs Miami, (Ohio) (4), 2011
Most passes intercepted (team): 4 Miami, (Ohio) (4) vs. MTSU, 2011



68 VENTURES BOWL RECORD BOOK

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS/ALL-TIME RESULTS

Most plays: 82 yds

Byron Leftwich, Marshall vs. East Carolina, 2001, 70 pass, 12 rush

Most yards gained: 566 yds

Byron Leftwich, Marshall vs. East Carolina, 2001, 576 pass, (-10) rush

Most points scored: 30

Kareem Hunt, Toledo vs. Arkansas State, 2015 (ties NCAA bowl record)

RUSHING

Longest run from scrimmage: 88 yds

Lionel Gates, Louisville vs. Miami, 2003

Longest TD run from scrimmage: 88 yds

Lionel Gates, Louisville vs. Miami, 2003

Most yards gained rushing: 329 yds

Frank Gore, Southern Miss vs. Rice, 2022 (NCAA bowl record)

Most Rushing TDs: 5

Kareem Hunt, Toledo vs. Arkansas State, 2015 (ties NCAA bowl record)

PASSING

Longest pass: 70 yds

Austin Boucher to A. Robinson

Miami, (Ohio) vs. MTSU, 2011

Longest TD pass: 66 yds

Fredi Knighten to Tres Houston

Arkansas St. vs. Toledo, 2015

Most TD passes thrown: 5

Omar Jacobs, BGSU vs. Memphis, 2004

Bruce Gradkowski, Toledo vs. UTEP, 2005

Paul Smith, Tulsa vs. BGSU, 2008

Fredi Knighten, Arkansas St. vs. Toledo, 2015

Most passing attempts: 70

Byron Leftwich, Marshall vs. ECU, 2001

Most completions: 41

Byron Leftwich, Marshall vs. ECU, 2001

Most passing yards: 576 yds

Byron Leftwich Marshall vs. ECU, 2001

Most interceptions thrown: 4

Dwight Dasher, MTSU vs. Miami, (Ohio), 2011

Consecutive Completions: 12

Brett Gabbert, Miami, 2020 vs. Louisiana

RECEIVING

Most receptions: 15

Denero Marriott, Marshall vs. ECU, 2001

Most receiving yards: 234

Denero Marriott, Marshall vs. ECU, 2001

KICKING

Most punts (game): 8

Chris Miller, Tulsa vs. Ball State, 2009

Highest punting average: 50.2

Curtis Head, Marshall (6 punts)

Longest punt: 65 yds

Britt Barefoot, Southern Miss vs Ohio, 2007

Shortest punt: 12 yds

Neely Sullivant, Arkansas State vs. NIU, 2012

Most FG attempts: 6

Andrew Aguila, CMU vs. Troy, 2010

Most FG made: 5

Andrew Aguila, CMU vs. Troy, 2010

Longest FG: 44 yds

Andrew Aguila, CMU vs. Troy, 2010

ALL-TIME RESULTS

Date	Results	Attendance
*** Ladd-Pebbles Stadium ***		
Dec. 22, 1999	TCU 28, East Carolina 14	34,200
Dec. 20, 2000	Southern Miss 28, TCU 21	40,300
Dec. 19, 2001	Marshall 64, East Carolina 61 (2 OT)	40,139
Dec. 18, 2002	Marshall 38, Louisville 15	40,646
Dec. 18, 2003	Miami (Ohio) 49, Louisville 28	40,620
Dec. 22, 2004	Bowling Green 52, Memphis 35	40,160
Dec. 21, 2005	Toledo 45, UTEP 13	35,422
Jan. 7, 2007	Southern Miss 28, Ohio 7	38,751
Jan. 6, 2008	Tulsa 63, Bowling Green 7	36,932
Jan. 6, 2009	Tulsa 45, Ball State 13	32,816
Jan. 6, 2010	Central Michigan 44, Troy 41 (2 OT)	34,486
Jan. 6, 2011	Miami (Ohio) 35, Middle Tenn. 21	38,168
Jan. 8, 2012	Northern Ill. 38, Arkansas State 20	38,734
Jan. 6, 2013	Arkansas State 17, Kent State 13	37,913
Jan. 5, 2014	Arkansas State 23, Ball State 20	36,119
Jan. 4, 2015	Toledo 63, Arkansas State 44	36,811
Dec. 23, 2015	Georgia So. 58, Bowling Green 27	28,656
Dec. 23, 2016	Troy 28, Ohio 23	32,377
Dec. 23, 2017	Appalachian State 34, Toledo 0	28,706
Dec. 22, 2018	Troy 42, Buffalo 32	31,818
Jan. 6, 2020	Louisiana 27, Miami (Ohio) 17	29,212
*** Hancock Whitney Stadium ***		
Dec. 26, 2020	Georgia State 39, Western Ky. 21	5,128
Dec. 18, 2021	Liberty 56, Eastern Michigan 20	15,186
Dec. 18, 2022	Southern Miss 38, Rice 24	20,512
Dec. 23, 2023	South Alabama 59, Eastern Michigan 10	20,926
Dec. 26, 2024	Arkansas State 38, Bowling Green 31	19,582

RECORDS BY CONFERENCE

Conference	Record
Independents	1-0 (.000)
Sun Belt	11-4 (.733)
WAC	1-1 (.500)
MAC	9-13 (.409)
C-USA	4-7 (.364)
American	0-1 (.000)



68 VENTURES BOWL RECORD BOOK

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Date	Kickoff	Time of Game	Temp.	Weather	Coin Toss
Dec. 22, 1999	7:06 pm	2:38	43	Clear	ECU deferred; TCU received
Dec. 20, 2000	7:08 pm	3:30	36	Clear	TCU deferred; USM received
Dec. 19, 2001	7:00 pm	4:27	60	Clear	Marshall received
Dec. 18, 2002	7:00 pm		50	Clear	
Dec. 18, 2003	6:40 pm	3:18	61	Clear	Miami (Ohio) received
Dec. 22, 2004	7:00 pm	3:35	61	Cloudy	BG deferred; Memphis received
Dec. 22, 2005	7:06 pm	3:33	43	Clear	UTEP received
Jan. 7, 2007	7:06 pm	3:09	70	Cloudy	USM deferred; Ohio received
Jan. 6, 2008	7:05 pm	3:28	65	Clear	Tulsa deferred; BGSU received
Jan. 6, 2009	7:01 pm	3:15	71	Cloudy	Tulsa deferred; Ball State received
Jan. 6, 2010	6:06 pm	4:00	38	Clear	CMU deferred; Troy received
Jan. 6, 2011	7:00 pm	3:31	46	Clear	MT deferred; Miami (Ohio) received
Jan. 8, 2012	8:00 pm	3:53	64	Ptly cloudy	NIU deferred; Ark. State received
Jan. 6, 2013	8:00 pm	3:07	48	Ptly cloudy	Kent deferred; Ark. State received
Jan. 5, 2014	8:05 pm	3:19	61	Cloudy	Ark. St. deferred; Ball St. received
Jan. 4, 2015	8:00 pm	3:34	54	Cloudy	Toledo deferred; Ark. St. received
Dec. 23, 2015	7:00 pm	3:34	72	Cloudy	BG deferred; Ga. So. received
Dec. 23, 2016	7:00 pm	3:32	63	Mst cloudy	Troy deferred; Ohio received
Dec. 23, 2017	6:00 pm	3:13	67	Cloudy	Toledo deferred; App St. received
Dec. 22, 2018	6:00 pm	3:34	53	Clear	Troy deferred; Buffalo received
Jan. 6, 2020	6:30 pm	3:12	58	Clear	La. deferred; Miami (Ohio) received
Dec. 26, 2020	2:30 pm	3:26	53	Sunny	WKU deferred; Ga. State received
Dec. 18, 2021	4:45 pm	3:50	71	Rain	Liberty deferred; EMU received
Dec. 17, 2022	4:50 pm	3:58	47	Cloudy	Rice deferred; USM received
Dec. 23, 2023	6:00 pm	3:36	64	Cloudy	EMU deferred; USA received
Dec. 26, 2024	8:00 pm	3:33	60	Cloudy	BG deferred; Ark. State received

Quickest Scores

Date	Time	Team	Play	Game Play No.
Dec. 19, 2001	14:03	ECU	Ty Hunt 12-yd INT return	2nd - Followed a Leftwich sack
Dec. 23, 2016	13:34	Troy	Jordan Chunn 1-yd RUN	6th - Followed an Ohio 3-and-out
Dec. 22, 2018	13:12	UB	Jaret Patterson 11-yd RUN	6th
Dec. 17, 2022	12:20	USM	Trey Lowe 19-yd PASS	6th
Dec. 22, 2018	11:47	Troy	Sawyer Smith 60-yd PASS	9th - Followed Buffalo score on 6th play
Jan. 8, 2012	11:22	ASU	Brian Davis 32-yd FG	8th
Dec. 22, 1999	11:11	ECU	David Garrard 58-yd PASS	6th - Followed a TCU 4-play opening drive
Dec. 23, 2023	10:50	USA	Diego Gujardo 46-yf FG	12th

Quickest offensive score is Buffalo in 2018, scoring in 1:48.

Fewest plays needed for an offensive score is 6 by both Buffalo in 2018 and Southern Miss in 2022.

Late Game Plays That Played A Part In the Outcome

Date	Play	Score
Dec. 20, 2000	Jeff Kelly 29-yd TD pass to Kenneth Johnson with 8 seconds left	28-21 USM win
Dec. 19, 2001	Byron Leftwich 11-yard TD pass to Darius Watts with 7 seconds left	51-51
	Byron Leftwich 8-yard TD pass to Josh Davis in second OT	64-61 Marshall win
Jan. 6, 2010	Troy 46-yard FG ties game with 31 seconds left	34-34
	CMU Andrew Aguila 37-yard FG in second OT	44-41 CMU win
Jan. 4, 2014	Arkansas State 38-yard FG was blocked as time expired	23-20 Ball State win