



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



Year: 8th (Began in 2011)

TV: ESPN

Radio: Heart of Dallas Bowl Network

Teams: Big Ten (home) vs. Big 12 (visitor)

Executive Director: Brant B. Ringler

MEDIA INFORMATION

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UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 11

	Times CT
Indiana @ Illinois (BTN)	11 am
Nebraska @ Minnesota (FS1)	11 am
Rutgers @ #7 Penn State (BTN)	11 am
#24 Michigan State @ #6 Ohio State (FOX)	11 am
Texas Tech vs. Baylor	11 am
#11 Okla. State @ #15 Iowa State (ABC/ESPN2)	11 am
West Virginia @ Kansas State (ESPN2)	2:30 pm
Michigan @ Maryland (BTN)	2:30 pm
Iowa @ #9 Wisconsin (ABC)	2:30 pm
Kansas @ Texas (LHN)	5 pm
Purdue @ Northwestern (ESPN2)	6 pm
#8 TCU @ #5 Oklahoma (FOX)	7 pm

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WEEKLY NOTES

Nov. 8, 2017

AT A GLANCE

BIG TEN

Michigan State and Ohio State are tied for first in the East Division standings with 5-1 records heading into their matchup Saturday afternoon in Columbus. Michigan and Penn State are close behind the Spartans and Buckeyes in the East Division with identical 4-2 conference records.

Big Ten Standings [here](#).

BIG 12

The Big 12's top two teams, No. 5 Oklahoma and No. 8 TCU will battle on Saturday in front of a prime time national FOX audience. Since TCU joined the league in 2012, all five contests between the two have been decided by a touchdown or less.

Big 12 Standings [here](#).

400 BECOMING HABIT FOR LEWERKE

Michigan State's Brian Lewerke threw for 400 yards Saturday against Penn State, one week after throwing for a school-record 445 yards against Northwestern. Lewerke is the first Spartan quarterback to post consecutive 400-yard passing games and the third Big Ten student in the past 20 years to pull off that feat (Purdue's Drew Brees in 1998; Northwestern's C.J. Bacher in 2007).

BIG 12 BOWLING

Iowa State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, TCU and West Virginia are all bowl eligible. Kansas State is one win away. Texas and Texas Tech need two wins in their final three games and face each other in their regular season finales.

IF IT'S OT, IT'S A 'W' FOR N'WESTERN

Northwestern became the first FBS program ever to win three consecutive overtime games after the Wildcats' 31-24 victory at Nebraska. During the win, Northwestern running back Justin Jackson became the school's all-time leader in total touchdowns (39) and also moved into sixth place on the Big Ten's career rushing list (4,927 yards).

WHAT A CATCH

The Big 12 is home to the top two active receivers for consecutive games with a catch. Allen Lazard (Iowa State) tops the list with 44 straight games while James Washington (Oklahoma State) is second with 41.

IN THE NEWS

Tommy Birch (@TommyBirch) of the *Des Moines Register* recounts the story of Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy penning a letter to Iowa State's Joel Lanning after he led the Cyclones to an upset win over Oklahoma earlier this season. Oh yeah, ISU and OSU hook up this week. Read more [here](#).

Marc Morehouse (@MarcMorehouse) of the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* writes the upcoming Iowa-Wisconsin clash is all about bloody knuckles and fullbacks. Points should be hard to come by. Bruises, not so much. Get the skinny [here](#).

Matt Jennings (@MattAJennings) of *Diehards.com* writes that TCU's defense will be the best Oklahoma QB Baker Mayfield has faced in this season. Find out why [here](#).

Mike Carmin (@CarminJC) of the *Lafayette Journal & Courier* writes that Purdue quarterback Elijah Sindelar flirted with the idea of moving to tight end if it would help the team out. While it might have, the sophomore is needed at QB. More [here](#).

TICKETS ON SALE

Tickets for the 2017 Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl are now on sale at www.heartofdallasbowl.com. Tickets range from \$25 for a general admission seat, to \$75 for a reserved lower bowl seat and \$125 for a mid-field chair back seat.

Fans will again be able to help thank first responders by "Sponsoring a Responder." Fans can choose to purchase "additional" tickets for \$15 that will be distributed to first responder members and their families. These generous ticket sponsors will be recognized during the game on Dec. 26.

HIGHER CAUSE

The Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl is the first bowl game in the country to honor First Responders. Groups honored include firefighters, police and EMS personnel; with tributes during each quarter, and presentations throughout the event. The pre-game fan fest also brings together first responder groups from all over North Texas, with a tailgate outside Cotton Bowl Stadium, showcasing hardware from participating units and community organizations.