



December 6, 2015

AUBURN AND MEMPHIS SELECTED TO PLAY IN THE 10TH ANNUAL BIRMINGHAM BOWL

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Auburn University, representing the Southeastern Conference, and the University of Memphis from the American Athletic Conference will meet in the 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl, game officials announced Sunday.

The Birmingham Bowl will be played Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015, at noon (ET)/11 a.m. (CT) at historic Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala. The game will air nationally on ESPN and ESPN Radio.

The 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl will be the third meeting between the two schools. Memphis won both prior meetings in 1975 and 1976.

“We are pleased to select the Auburn Tigers and the Memphis Tigers to play in the 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl,” said Mark Meadows, Executive Director of the Birmingham Bowl. “We have a fantastic match-up featuring two teams who are just a few hours from our city. We know that these fan bases will generate a lot of excitement for our 10th bowl game at historic Legion Field, and the people of Birmingham will show both sets of Tiger fans what true southern hospitality is while they are in town.”

Auburn (6-6, 2-5 SEC) will be appearing in its 39th bowl, but this will be the first appearance in the Birmingham Bowl. Auburn is familiar with Legion Field, playing almost 100 games at the historic stadium. Auburn’s last game at Legion Field was against the University of Alabama in 1998.

Auburn head coach Gus Malzahn said his team is looking forward to coming to Birmingham for the game.

“We look forward to playing a very good Memphis team in the Birmingham Bowl on December 30. We have a tremendous fan base in Birmingham, and we are excited to play in front of them,” said Coach Malzahn. “With a large number of our team from the state of Alabama, it will also be a great opportunity for those players to compete before their family and friends.”

“We are excited about the chance to play in the 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl in a great city where so many Auburn supporters and fans live. We look forward to enjoying an Auburn Family reunion in the Magic City, which is well known for its Southern hospitality and great people,” said Auburn Athletics Director Jay Jacobs.

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Memphis (9-3, 5-3 American) is also making its first appearance in the Birmingham Bowl, but it is not their first trip to Birmingham. The Tigers have played in eight games at Legion Field since 1999, most recently in 2012 against UAB. Memphis was in the national spotlight during the 2015 season, where the Tigers earned the highest ranking in school history at #13.

Interim head coach Darrell Dickey will lead the Tigers in the Birmingham Bowl.

“We are excited to play in the great city of Birmingham. The game presents an opportunity for Tiger Nation to travel a relatively short distance and support Memphis Football,” said Coach Dickey. “The game will provide our student-athletes a fantastic bowl opportunity during the holidays. We look forward to playing in historic Legion Field on December 30th.”

“Playing a formidable opponent from the Southeastern Conference will provide our student-athletes a great opportunity. We look forward to Tiger Nation traveling to Birmingham for a fantastic bowl game experience,” said Memphis Director of Athletics Tom Bowen.

The Birmingham Bowl is one of 13 owned and operated bowl games by ESPN Events, a division of ESPN.

Tickets to the 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl are on sale now and may be purchased by phone at 877-464-9529 and online at www.birminghambowl.com. They are available at the Legion Field Box Office now through game day. Ticket and travel packages are also available through PrimeSport, the official ticket exchange provider, VIP Hospitality & Fan Travel provider of the 10th Annual Birmingham Bowl. For more information, visit primesport.com. Corporate packages, which include premium ticket locations, hospitality benefits, and corporate exposure, are available by calling 205-733-3776, [ext. 102](tel:205-733-3776).

ESPN Events □ ESPN Events, a division of ESPN, owns and operates a large portfolio of collegiate sporting events worldwide. The roster includes three Labor Day weekend college football games; 13 college bowl games, 10 college basketball events and two college award shows, which accounts for approximately 250-plus hours of programming, reaches almost 64 million viewers and attracts over 700,000 attendees each year. With satellite offices in Boca Raton, Boise, Birmingham, Dallas-Fort Worth, Albuquerque, St. Petersburg and Las Vegas, ESPN Events builds relationships with conferences, schools and local communities, as well as providing unique experiences for teams and fans.

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Collegiate Basketball AdvoCare Invitational (Walt Disney World Resort near Orlando, Fla.); Armed Forces Classic (Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan); DIRECTV Wooden Legacy (Orange County, Calif.); *College Basketball*

Awards Presented by Wendy's (Los Angeles); Gildan Charleston Classic (South Carolina); Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic (Honolulu); Jimmy V Men's Classic Presented by Corona (New York City); Jimmy V Women's Classic Presented by Corona (Storrs, Conn.); NIT Season Tip-Off (Brooklyn, N.Y.); Puerto Rico Tip-Off (San Juan) and State Farm Champions Classic (Chicago)

For more information, visit the official website, Facebook, Twitter or YouTube pages.

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