



## **Auburn Pulls Away In Second Half Against Memphis To Win 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Birmingham Bowl, 31-10**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. ---- Behind a strong rushing attack and solid defensive play, Auburn (7-6) pulled away from Memphis (9-4) in the third quarter to win the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Birmingham Bowl 31-10.

Memphis tied Auburn at 10-10 on a Reggie Ball 53-yard interception return for a touchdown heading into halftime. That score held until a Jeremy Johnson touchdown pass to Jason Smith put Auburn ahead 17-10 late in the third quarter.

Johnson came off the Auburn bench to run and pass for touchdowns while Coach Gus Malzahn's defense held Memphis quarterback [Paxton Lynch](#) in check throughout Auburn's 31-10 victory.

Johnson opened the fourth quarter with a 5-yard touchdown run to put Auburn ahead 24-10. Birmingham Bowl MVP [Jovon Robinson](#), put the game away with a 4-yard touchdown set up by Marcus Davis' 56-yard punt return early in the fourth. Robinson finished with 126 yards on 27 carries.

Memphis quarterback Paxton Lynch, who threw for 3,776 yards in 2015, finished the game 16-of-37 for 108 yards, his lowest passing total since the Tigers' opener against Missouri State. Auburn's defense held Memphis' offense to 205 yards and no touchdowns as Memphis was attempting to earn back-to-back 10-win seasons for the first time in school history.