



# Fighting against THE TIDE

In college football's ever-changing landscape, there's one constant: The Alabama Crimson Tide. Nick Saban's juggernaut again is the favorite to win the College Football Playoff. Can Washington, then either Clemson or Ohio State, take down the giant?

## SEMIFINAL GAME 1

**PEACH BOWL**  
**Washington (12-1, Pac-12)**  
**vs Alabama (13-0, SEC)**  
 Dec. 31, 3 p.m., Atlanta, (ESPN)

**Top players**  
**Washington:** QB Jake Browning, 3,280 passing yards, 42 touchdowns, 7 INTs.  
**Alabama:** DE Jonathan Allen, 8.5 sacks, two fumble recoveries for touchdowns.  
**Last time**  
 Alabama 28, Washington 6, Dec. 25, 1986, Sun Bowl.



## SEMIFINAL GAME 2

**FIESTA BOWL**  
**Clemson (12-1, ACC)**  
**vs. Ohio State (11-1, Big Ten)**  
 Dec. 31, 7 p.m., Glendale, Arizona, (ESPN)

**Top players**  
**Clemson:** QB Deshaun Watson, 3,626 yards, 34 TDs passing; 441 yards, four TDs rushing.  
**Ohio State:** J.T. Barrett, 2,428 yards, 24 TDs passing; 847 yards, nine TDs rushing.  
**Last time**  
 Clemson 40, Ohio State 35, Jan. 2, 2013, Orange Bowl.



**ORANGE BOWL**  
**Michigan (10-2, Big Ten)**  
**vs Florida State (9-3, ACC)**  
 Dec. 30, 8 p.m., (ESPN)  
 Miami Gardens, Florida

**Top players**  
**Michigan:** LB Jabrill Peppers, 751 all-purpose yards, 72 tackles  
**Florida State:** RB Dalvin Cook, 1,620 rushing yards, 18 touchdowns  
**Last time**  
 Florida State 51, Michigan 31, Sept. 28, 1991.



**COTTON BOWL**  
**No. 8 Wisconsin (10-3, Big Ten)**  
**vs. No. 12 Western Michigan (13-0, MAC)**  
 Jan. 2, 1 p.m., (ESPN)  
 Arlington, Texas

**Top players**  
**Wisconsin:** RB Corey Clement, 1,304 yards, 14 TDs rushing.  
**Western Michigan:** QB Zach Terrell, 3,376 yards, 32 TDs passing, 3 INTs; 236 yards, 6 TDs rushing  
**Last time**  
 Wisconsin 19, Western Michigan 7, Aug. 31, 2000.



**ROSE BOWL**  
**Penn State (11-2, Big Ten) vs. Southern California (9-3, Pac-12)**  
 Jan. 2, 5 p.m., (ESPN)  
 Pasadena, California

**Top players**  
**Penn State:** RB Saquon Barkley, 1,302 yards rushing, 5.3 yards per carry, 16 TDs.  
**USC:** QB Sam Darnold, 2,633 yards passing, 26 TDs, 8 INTs, 68.1 completion percentage.  
**Last time**  
 USC 38, Penn State 24, Jan. 1, 2009.



**SUGAR BOWL**  
**No. 7 Oklahoma (10-2, Big 12)**  
**vs. No. 17 Auburn (8-4, SEC)**  
 Jan. 2, 8:30 p.m., (ESPN)  
 New Orleans

**Top players**  
**Oklahoma:** QB Baker Mayfield, 3,669 yards, 38 touchdowns, 8 INTs, 71 completion percentage.  
**Auburn:** RBs Kamryn Pettway, 1,123 yards, and Kerryon Johnson, 862 yards  
**Last time**  
 Oklahoma 40, Auburn 22, Jan. 1, 1972, Sugar Bowl.

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28**  
**Pinstripe Bowl:** New York; Northwestern (6-6) vs. Pittsburgh (8-4), 2 p.m. (ESPN)

**Russell Athletic Bowl:** Orlando, Fla.; Miami (8-4) vs. West Virginia (10-2), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Foster Farms Bowl:** Santa Clara, Calif.; Indiana (6-6) vs. Utah (8-4), 8:30 p.m. (FOX)

**Texas Bowl:** Houston; Kansas State (8-4) vs. Texas A&M (8-4), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

**THURSDAY, DEC. 29**  
**Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl:** South Florida (10-2) vs. South Carolina (6-6), 2 p.m. (ESPN)

**Belk Bowl:** Charlotte, N.C.; Virginia Tech (9-4) vs. Arkansas (7-5), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Alamo Bowl:** San Antonio; Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Colorado (10-3), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

**FRIDAY, DEC. 30**  
**Liberty Bowl:** Memphis, Tenn.; Georgia (7-5) vs. TCU (6-6), Noon (ESPN)

**Sun Bowl:** El Paso, Texas; North Carolina (8-4) vs. Stanford (9-3), 2 p.m. (CBS)

**Music City Bowl:** Nashville, Tenn.; Tennessee (8-4) vs. Nebraska (9-3), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Arizona Bowl:** Tucson, Ariz.; Air Force (9-3) vs. South Alabama (6-6), 5:30 p.m. (ASN)

**Orange Bowl:** Miami Gardens, Fla.; Florida State (9-3) vs. Michigan (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**SATURDAY, DEC. 31**  
**Citrus Bowl:** Orlando, Fla.; LSU (7-4) vs. Louisville (9-3), 11 a.m. (ABC)

**TaxSlayer Bowl:** Jacksonville, Fla.; Kentucky (7-5) vs. Georgia Tech (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

**CFP Semifinals**  
**Peach Bowl:** Atlanta; Alabama (13-0) vs. Washington (12-1), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

**Fiesta Bowl:** Glendale, Ariz.; Clemson (12-1) vs. Ohio State (11-1), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

**MONDAY, JAN. 2**  
**Outback Bowl:** Tampa, Fla.; Florida (8-4) vs. Iowa (8-4), 1 p.m. (ABC)

**Cotton Bowl Classic:** Arlington, Texas; Western Michigan (13-0) vs. Wisconsin (10-3), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

**Rose Bowl:** Pasadena, Calif.; Penn State (11-2) vs. Southern Cal (9-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)

**Sugar Bowl:** New Orleans; Oklahoma (10-2) vs. Auburn (8-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**MONDAY, JAN. 9**  
**College Football Championship:** Tampa, Fla.; Semifinal winners, 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)