



LOUISIANA TECH

9-3, 6-2 C-USA



MIAMI

6-6, 4-4 ACC



2019 WALK-ON'S INDEPENDENCE BOWL GAME NOTES

Thursday, December 26, 2019 • 3 p.m. CST • Independence Stadium • Shreveport, La.

I-BOWL INFORMATION

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The 2019 Walk-On's Independence Bowl Media Guide, as well as Louisiana Tech and Miami media and bowl guides, are available digitally on the Walk-On's Independence Bowl website. Follow the link below and find the header *2019 Media Center*.

MATERIALS: [IndependenceBowl.org/media-center-credentials/](http://independencebowl.org/media-center-credentials/)

LIVE STATS: <http://independence.statbroadcast.com/>

WiFi: Internet is available in the press box and media work room in the south endzone of Independence Stadium.

- Network Name: MEDIA
- Password: I2019Bowl

BY THE NUMBERS

18 Last year's Walk-On's Independence Bowl re-wrote the record books, as there were a total of 18 Independence Bowl records tied or broken between the two teams. Seven individual records were broken, including three records apiece by Duke QB Daniel Jones and Duke WR T.J. Rahming. Jones set new records for passing yards, passing TDs and total TDs, while Rahming broke Kevin Faulk's long-time all-purpose yardage record and set a new receiving yards record with 240. As a team, Duke set the I-Bowl record for most points scored in a game, as well as most points scored in the third quarter and second half.

10 There were 10 Independence Bowl alumni drafted in the 2019 NFL, including three players taken in the first round. Former Duke QB and 2018 Offensive Player of the Game Daniel Jones was selected 6th-overall by the New York Giants, while former Florida State defensive end Brian Burns and NC State center Garrett Bradbury were drafted by the Carolina Panthers and the Minnesota Vikings, respectively.

40.4 Over the last 10 years, the winning team of the Independence Bowl has averaged 40.4 points per game - including an I-Bowl record 56 scored by Duke last year.

INDEPENDENCE BOWL HISTORY

- Established in 1976 during the nation's bicentennial celebration, the Independence Bowl is the 11th-oldest college football bowl game and is celebrating its 44th year.
- The game will be broadcasted on ESPN - marking the 28th-consecutive year the Independence Bowl will be broadcast on the ESPN family of networks.
- The bowl has featured four Pro Football Hall of Famers, 19 College Football Hall of Famers and 71 first round picks in the NFL Draft - including three in the 2019 NFL Draft. 2018 Offensive Player of the Game Daniel Jones was selected 6th-overall by the New York Giants in the 2019 NFL Draft.
- Seven different coaches who have coached in the Independence Bowl have also won a college football national championship.
- The Independence Bowl Foundation is a community-based non-profit organization with about 400 members.
- Through partnership with the Willis-Knighton Health System, the Independence Bowl awards two \$2,500 scholarships to a graduating senior from a Caddo Parish Public School and a Bossier Parish Public School. This is the 14th year of the program.

TODAY'S MATCHUP

- Louisiana Tech makes its fifth appearance in Independence Bowl history - tying Ole Miss for the most appearances in Independence Bowl history. The Bulldogs have a 2-1-1 record in their previous four appearances. La Tech's last trip came in 2008 vs. Northern Illinois (17-10 La Tech).
- Louisiana Tech is making their sixth-consecutive bowl appearance under head coach **Skip Holtz**. Tech enters the 2019 bowl season as one of only two FBS programs with five consecutive bowl wins (Wisconsin). The Bulldogs are playing in their 12th bowl game in program history, with a record of 7-3-1 in their first 11 bowls.
- The Bulldogs played in the lone tie game in Independence Bowl history - tying Maryland 34-34 in the 1990 Independence Bowl.
- Miami is making its second-ever appearance in the Independence Bowl, with its last trip being in 2014 vs. South Carolina (24-21 South Carolina).
- The 2019 Walk-On's Independence Bowl is Miami's seventh-consecutive bowl appearance and 43rd bowl appearance in school history (20-22 record). Their last bowl win came in the 2016 Russell Athletic Bowl over West Virginia, 31-14.
- Miami head coach **Manny Diaz** was the Louisiana Tech defensive coordinator in 2014 under La Tech head coach **Skip Holtz**. Miami defensive coordinator **Blake Baker** took over as the Bulldogs' defensive coordinator following Diaz's departure to Mississippi State. Baker served as La Tech's DC from 2015-2018.
- This is the fifth-ever matchup between Louisiana Tech and Miami (Miami is 4-0). Their last game against each other came in 2004, and they previously played in Independence Stadium in a regular season tilt in 2003 (Miami won 48-9).
- The ACC sports a 6-5-1 record in 12 Independence Bowl appearances and have won each of the last four Independence Bowl's dating back to Virginia Tech in 2015.
- C-USA holds a record of 0-1 in the I-Bowl. Southern Miss fell to FSU 42-13 in 2017.