



# FORWARD PROGRESS

The Official E-Newsletter of the Military Bowl presented by Northrop Grumman

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## Show Your Gratitude for the Troops This Thanksgiving

Happy Thanksgiving from the Military Bowl presented by Northrop Grumman! The core mission of the bowl is to generate awareness and support for the USO and the service men and women it benefits. As we enjoy the holiday at home with our families, we want to take the time to give thanks for those who protect our freedom-- especially those who cannot share this Thanksgiving with their own. Check out the [Military Appreciation](#) section of our website for more information on how you can participate in our efforts to support the troops this holiday season.

## SGT Stripes Completes World Tour

SGT Stripes has been a busy character lately with recent travels around the globe. He joined the 121 Expeditionary Fighter Squadron from the District of Columbia Air National Guard, Andrews Air Force Base, MD, on a US Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon. Lt. Col. Chris Sheppard, a fighter pilot with the Air National Guard and a Northrop Grumman employee, who piloted the flyover at last year's Military Bowl, sent photos from SGT Stripes visit to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan, where he joined Lt. Col. Sheppard in the cockpit before a mission in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. Just prior, SGT Stripes spent two weeks in Japan with National Baseball Hall of Famer Cal Ripken, Jr. during a Sports Diplomacy Program on behalf of the United States Department of State. Keep up with his adventures on the Military Bowl's [Facebook page](#) or by following [SGTStripesMB](#) on Twitter.



## Bowl Representatives Scout UNC at Virginia Tech

Military Bowl representatives Chris Cole and John Skipper traveled to Blacksburg last Thursday for the Hokies' 24-21 victory over the Tar Heels. Long-time Virginia Tech Athletic Director Jim Weaver visited with the bowl's VT representative, John Skipper, while Chris Cole, who is the bowl's North Carolina representative, met with UNC Athletic Director Bubba Lawrence. Cole will travel to Chapel Hill for UNC's season finale with Duke this weekend, as the Heels remain a strong candidate for the Military Bowl.



## USO Holiday Greetings

The Military Bowl team headed to BWI last week to film holiday greetings from the troops in conjunction with the USO. Service men and women preparing to head overseas were given the opportunity to record a message for loved ones, to be aired throughout the region during the holiday season. Greetings will be featured on Comcast SportsNet (Washington and Baltimore) from December 5-28, and on ABC7 from December 19-28.



## Bowl Eligibility Updates: Week 13

The ACC is up to seven bowl eligible teams headed into Week 13. Wake Forest and Miami became the seventh and eighth teams to reach the six win mark, but Miami announced Sunday it would remove itself from bowl contention due to its ongoing NCAA investigation. NC State can attain eligibility with a win over Maryland this week, ensuring the eight teams needed for ACC participation in the Military Bowl. Navy's loss to San Jose State last weekend dashed the Mids' hope of a ninth-straight bowl appearance, opening up the slot for an at-large team in the Military Bowl lineup.



## Maryland at North Carolina State; 12:30 p.m. ET on ESPN3

NCSU must win its season finale to be bowl eligible and remain in contention for a Military Bowl berth. The Wolfpack are coming off an impressive 37-13 victory over the Atlantic Division-champion Clemson Tigers. NCSU quarterback Mike Glennon (graduate of Westfield High School in Centreville, VA) threw three touchdown passes in the win and will test a young Maryland secondary. In a recent interview, Glennon stressed the importance of the Maryland game. "Our goal is to make it to a bowl game and this one [Clemson] means nothing if we don't finish it."



DECEMBER 28  
4:30 PM  
RFK STADIUM

Week 13  
Preview

Saturday, Nov. 26

Maryland at NC State 12:30 p.m. ET on ESPN3

Duke at North Carolina 3:30 p.m. ET on ESPN3

Vanderbilt at Wake Forest 3:30 p.m. ET on ESPNU



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