

DateBook

You have December to work on the house (or watch basketball). Starting this weekend, it's college football season. Here are The Post's recommendations on the best ways to spend your fall Saturdays.

THIS WEEK



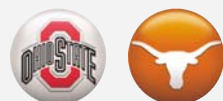
Florida State at Miami (Monday)

Miami Coach Larry Coker, below left, and Florida State's Bobby Bowden get an early chance to silence fans' grumbling, and seize the inside track in the ACC.

Others: Notre Dame at Georgia Tech, Cal at Tennessee, Southern Cal at Arkansas



SEPT. 9



Ohio State at Texas

Dramatic victory vaulted Longhorns toward last year's national title; Buckeyes hope to do the same this time around.

Others: Penn State at Notre Dame, Clemson at Boston College

SEPT. 16

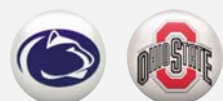


LSU at Auburn

The best game of the season's best weekend, this means more than SEC West supremacy; the winner will be a true title contender.

Others: Miami at Louisville, Clemson at Florida State, Michigan at Notre Dame, Nebraska at Southern Cal, Oklahoma at Oregon, Iowa State at Iowa, Maryland at West Virginia (Sept. 14)

SEPT. 23



Penn State at Ohio State

With a win here and at Texas two weeks earlier, the top-ranked Buckeyes will have avenged both of last season's losses.

Others: Colorado at Georgia, Notre Dame at Michigan State

SEPT. 30



Ohio State at Iowa

If Michigan doesn't rebound this season, this may be the real Big Ten title game. If Coach Jim Tressel's Buckeyes are unscathed after this game, running the table becomes realistic.

Other: Auburn at South Carolina



OCT. 7



Texas vs. Oklahoma

The Red River Shootout might not have quite the luster it has had in recent years, but the winner is still looking at gaining control of the Big 12 South, which means the inside track to a BCS bowl berth.

Others: Oregon at California, LSU at Florida, Michigan State at Michigan

OCT. 14

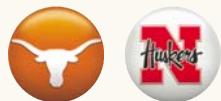


Florida at Auburn

Could this be a preview of the SEC championship game? Can either team get through this brutal conference undefeated?

Others: Michigan at Penn State, Virginia Tech at Boston College (Oct. 12)

OCT. 21

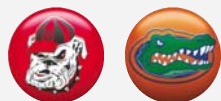


Texas at Nebraska

There's a decent chance of a rematch of this one in the Big 12 championship game.

Others: Iowa at Michigan, Boston College at Florida State

OCT. 28



Georgia vs. Florida

The Georgia president doesn't want to call this the World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party anymore, so bring your own Yoo-hoo.

Others: Texas at Texas Tech, Clemson at Virginia Tech (Oct. 26)



NOV. 4



West Virginia at Louisville (Nov. 2)

If Louisville beats Miami in September, this could be a battle of undefeated teams, with a national title game berth on the line.

Other: Virginia Tech at Miami

NOV. 11

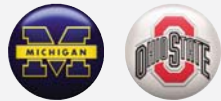


Oregon at Southern Cal

The Trojans could be undefeated entering this game, the first of a brutal three-game stretch.

Other: Georgia at Auburn

NOV. 18



Michigan at Ohio State

The Wolverines have lost four of the past five in this rivalry; the Buckeyes might need this one to get to the BCS title game.

Others: California at USC, Auburn at Alabama

NOV. 25



Notre Dame at Southern Cal

Will it compare to last year's game? Of course not. But both teams could have plenty on the line again.

Others: Florida at Florida State, Boston College at Miami (Nov. 23)

BOWL SCHEDULE

| Date | Bowl | Location | Affiliations | Time | TV |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------|--|------------|-------------|
| Dec. 19 | Poinsettia Bowl | San Diego | MWC No. 2/3 vs. at-large | 8 p.m. | ESPN2 |
| Dec. 21 | Las Vegas Bowl | Las Vegas | MWC vs. Pac-10 No. 4/5 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 22 | New Orleans Bowl | Lafayette, La. | Sun Belt champion vs. C-USA | 8 p.m. | ESPN2 |
| Dec. 23 | Birmingham Bowl | Birmingham | Big East or MAC vs. C-USA | 1 p.m. | ESPN2 |
| Dec. 23 | New Mexico Bowl | Albuquerque | MWC No. 4 vs. WAC No. 3 | 4:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 23 | Fort Worth Bowl | Fort Worth | C-USA No. 4 vs. MWC No. 3 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 24 | Hawaii Bowl | Honolulu | Pac-10 No. 6 vs. WAC No. 3 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 26 | Motor City Bowl | Detroit | MAC vs. Big Ten No. 7 | 7:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 27 | Emerald Bowl | San Francisco | ACC No. 5/6 vs. Pac-10 No. 4/5 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 28 | Independence Bowl | Shreveport, La. | Big 12 7/8 vs. SEC No. 8 | 4:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 28 | Holiday Bowl | San Diego | Pac-10 No. 2 vs. Big 12 No. 3 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 28 | Texas Bowl | Houston | Big East vs. Big 12 | 8 p.m. | NFL Network |
| Dec. 29 | Music City Bowl | Nashville | ACC No. 5 vs. SEC No. 6 | 1 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 29 | Sun Bowl | El Paso | Big 12, Big East or Note Dame vs. Pac-10 No. 3 | 2 p.m. | CBS |
| Dec. 29 | Liberty Bowl | Memphis | SEC vs. C-USA champion | 4:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 29 | Insight Bowl | Tempe, Ariz. | Big Ten No. 6 vs. Big 12 No. 6 | 7:30 p.m. | NFL Network |
| Dec. 29 | Champs Sports Bowl | Orlando | ACC No. 4 vs. Big Ten No. 4/5 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 30 | Meineke Bowl | Charlotte | Big East No. 3 or Navy vs. ACC No. 5/6 | 1 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 30 | Alamo Bowl | San Antonio | Big Ten No. 4/5 vs. Big 12 No. 4/5 | 4:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 30 | Chick-fil-A Bowl | Atlanta | ACC No. 2 vs. SEC No. 5 | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Dec. 31 | MPC Computers Bowl | Boise, Idaho | WAC vs. ACC No. 8 | 7:30 p.m. | ESPN |
| Jan. 1 | Outback Bowl | Tampa | Big Ten No. 3 vs. SEC No. 3 | 11 a.m. | ESPN |
| Jan. 1 | Cotton Bowl | Dallas | SEC No. 3 vs. Big 12 No. 2 | 11:30 a.m. | FOX |
| Jan. 1 | Capital One Bowl | Orlando | Big Ten vs. SEC | 1 p.m. | ABC |
| Jan. 1 | Gator Bowl | Jacksonville, Fla. | ACC No. 3 vs. Big 12, Big East No. 2 or Notre Dame | 1 p.m. | CBS |
| Jan. 1 | Rose Bowl | Pasadena, Calif. | BCS (Pac-10 champion) vs. BCS (Big Ten champion) | 5 p.m. | ABC |
| Jan. 1 | Fiesta Bowl | Glendale, Ariz. | BCS vs. BCS | 8:30 p.m. | FOX |
| Jan. 2 | Orange Bowl | Miami | BCS vs. BCS | 8 p.m. | FOX |
| Jan. 3 | Sugar Bowl | New Orleans | BCS vs. BCS | 8 p.m. | FOX |
| Jan. 6 | International Bowl | Toronto | Big East No. 4/5 vs. MAC No. 2/3 | Noon | ESPN2 |
| Jan. 7 | GMAC Bowl | Mobile, Ala. | C-USA No. 2 vs. MAC | 8 p.m. | ESPN |
| Jan. 8 | BCS National Championship | Glendale, Ariz. | BCS No. 1 vs. BCS No. 2 | 8 p.m. | FOX |