MILITARY BOWL PRESENTED BY NORTHPROP GRUMMAN
COMMENTS FROM TEAMS ANNOUNCEMENT CONFERENCE CALL

WAKE FOREST COACH DAVE CLAWSON
We’re absolutely thrilled, excited and honored that we’ve been invited to the Military Bowl to
play in this year’s game. A major goal of ours at Wake Forest is to go to a bowl.

(Clawson coached Bowling Green to the Military Bowl in 2012) In 2012, we just had an
absolutely great experience. It’s extremely well run, lots of things for our players and activities.
When our team found out this is where we were going, we were very excited.

It will be a very challenging game for us. We’re looking forward to it.

Part of it is, for our team, we have a number of guys from the DMV area. It’s a great game for
our fan base. Certainly the ability of the Wake Forest fan base to get to D.C. and when it is, that
makes it a much better trip too. This was the one we were hoping to get and from the team’s
reaction that was true. We’d have been thrilled with wherever we ended up and happy to be in a
bowl, but this was the one our players wanted to be in. And we like the challenge of the
opponent.

Preparing for a bowl, there are always two goals. The Number One goal is you want to win the
game and finish your season on a high note and finish as bowl champion. But the other part is
that you really want the players to enjoy the bowl experience and have something they can
enjoy and have great memories of. … We want our players to enjoy it, but we’re also there with
the purpose of winning a football game.

TEMPLE COACH MATT RHULE
On behalf of our entire team, all the Temple Owl players, all our support staff, and everyone at
Temple University, President Richard Englert and the athletic administration, I know how excited
we are to come back to Annapolis.

I have tremendous respect for the ACC. I see what Clemson and Florida State have done and
see the leaders in the conference and what they have done on a national stage. But the true
measure of a conference is the parity they have. And it’s nice for us to play a regional opponent.

(Asked about the Temple senior class) They’re champions. It’s nice to sum someone up in one
word. They are champions on and off the field. They were able to do what needed to be done.

Without studying Wake Forest, I know we’re going up against some coaches who have been
doing it for a long time. So I know we have our work cut out for us.

We have a what’s next mentality and what’s next is finals and school. We want them to finish as
strong as they can from an academic perspective and we’ll get started on practice this weekend.
I know how excited they will be to play so close to home and so many of our kids are from that area.

**MILITARY BOWL PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STEVE BECK**

It was electric and exciting [at the American championship game] and I think Temple’s fans will be excited to come back down in a couple weeks.

*(Was there concern about Temple having just played in Annapolis in the AAC title game?)*

There of course was a lit bit of concern but it would have been more if they would have lost. But they won, are having their best season ever, it’s only two hours away and with the fans who showed up [Saturday]? And the teams stay in D.C., so you can have a D.C. flavor or an Annapolis flavor.

Having a ranked team means a lot. It’s great to have a ranked team. Over the last several years, our game is on an incline and we want that to continue. Having quality ranked teams is important for doing that. And having Wake Forest is great as well, a power conference team.

*(What were the decisive factors for choosing Wake Forest?)* I think the biggest thing was the feeling we got that Wake Forest really wanted to come. If you saw Twitter and the emotion of the kids when they announced they were going to the Military Bowl, I don’t know if we would have gotten that emotion from the other two schools we considered. Wake is not that far away and they haven't been to a bowl since 2011. They're hungry. We’re hoping and thinking we got them at the right time. The biggest thing was their desire to want to come here.