



10 PTP "Customers" Headed To Bowls

Here's a rundown of the bowl games:

SMU vs. Nevada
Hawaii Bowl
December 24
7 p.m. ESPN



Texas A&M vs. Georgia
Independence Bowl
Shreveport
December 28
4 p.m. ESPN



Houston vs. Air Force
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth
December 31
11 a.m. ESPN



OU vs. Stanford
Sun Bowl
El Paso
December 31
1 p.m. CBS



Missouri vs. Navy
Texas Bowl
Houston
December 31
2:30 p.m. ESPN



#19 Oklahoma St. vs. Ole Miss
Cotton Bowl
Arlington
January 2
1 p.m. FOX



Texas Tech vs. Michigan St.
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
January 2
8 p.m. ESPN



#4 TCU vs. #6 Boise State
Tostitos Fiesta Bowl
January 4
7 p.m. FOX



#2 Texas vs. #1 Alabama
BCS National Championship
January 7
7 p.m. ABC



All Times Central

Black Friday – What's In A Name?

Black Friday is the Friday following Thanksgiving Day in the United States, which is the beginning of the traditional Christmas shopping season. The term dates back to at least 1966, although its usage was primarily on the East coast.

The term "Black Friday" originated in Philadelphia in reference to the heavy traffic on that day. More recently, merchants and the media have used it instead to refer to the beginning of the period in which retailers go from being in the red (i.e., posting a loss on the books) to being in the black (i.e., turning a profit).

The term has become more common in other parts of the country since 2000. Because Thanksgiving falls on the fourth Thursday in



November in the United States, Black Friday occurs between the 23rd and the 29th of November. According to Reuters, in 2007 135 million people participated in the Black Friday shopping rush.

Retailers often decorate for the Christmas and holiday season weeks beforehand. Many retailers open extremely early, with most of them typi-

cally opening at 5 a.m. or even earlier. Some of the larger retailers such as Sears, Best Buy, Macy's and Wal-Mart have been reported to open as early as midnight on the start of Black Friday in localized areas and remain open for 24 hours throughout the day until midnight the following Saturday. Recently, Black Friday has become a casting call for sale hunters working under pressure and many end up in physical confrontations over the last "bargain" on the shelf.

Although Black Friday has served as the unofficial beginning of the Christmas season at least since the start of the modern Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1924, the term "Black Friday" has been traced back only to the 1960s.



Buffett hitches up with Fort Worth's BNSF

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad celebrated its 100th birthday in a big way - \$44 billion big. The November announcement of BNSF's acquisition by Berkshire Hathaway, the largest in the investment giant's history, was most popular with stockholders. Berkshire's CEO Warren Buffett said in a state-

ment, "Our country's future prosperity depends on having an efficient and well-maintained railroad system. Conversely, America must grow and prosper for all railroads to do well."

Stockholder shares will be converted either into a cash payment of \$100 per share or a variable portion of stock in Berkshire Hathaway.

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back to work. At the holiday season, that is the one thing that's on my mind - 10% of us are without a job. Put yourself in that slot and be thankful for all the "headaches" you get to face every day wherever you work.

For us at PTP, 2010 presents opportunities. We have to get busy getting to know our new friends in Kansas, western Missouri and north central Arkansas. Welcome to the Professional Turf Products family! We are all very excited to be part of your great states and look forward to getting to know you. We've already met many of you and we'd like to thank all of you for your patience during our transition.

For those of you in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana, we've shared many holiday seasons and, on behalf of the entire PTP team, I want to thank you for your business, your friendship and your passion for the business that makes our jobs so enjoyable.

This issue of PTP Clippings contains a lot of information on our products and our people at PTP - check pages 4 and 5 for complete information on PTP's people and how to access our products, services and parts. Take it and put it up in your office for quick reference.

Speaking of parts, this is the "part" of year to get annual maintenance work completed on your machines. The **TORO Performance Parts Program** features great prices on all the genuine TORO parts you need. That's why we've named this edition the *Performance Parts Edition*. All the info you need on parts is included. If you have questions, please call our Customer Support department or your Account Executive - all their phone numbers are included on page 5.

Ten college football teams in PTP's territory are going to bowl games - a complete bowl schedule of PTP Teams is here for you on page 2 along with a story on San Antonio's new soccer complex on page 7. And

be sure to check out the great photo from Prairie Dunes Country Club in Hutchinson, Kansas on page 7 and their Toro Reelmaster 5400-D fairway mowers striping the fairways in formation.

As for me - what I want for Christmas is your email address. Now that PTP covers all or part of six states, we want to make sure we have all our customers' emails so we can alert you on our services, new products and special customer offerings that will come along in 2010. Send it in today and we'll enter you in our monthly contest for prizes! Look on the front page for more info!

Again, thank you for your business! Merry Christmas and Happy 2010 to you and yours.