

ncaa bowl games

by Nathan Teada

Alabama won the SEC championship game over Tim Tebow's Gators by overpowering the reigning national champion. The loss brought sadness to some and joy to others like Senior Ressim Semerdjiev. "When Florida lost and Tim Tebow cried, it brought joy to my heart." This loss to the Gators confirmed that they will win a new national championship this year. With the win, the Tide locked up the spot as the best team in the country. Texas also won their conference; they beat Nebraska on a last-second field goal as time expired. This set the stage for one of the most controversial championship games in years. Many wanted to see TCU or Boise State in the national championship, as they have dominated every opponent every week. The game



should still be great, as both teams match up well. I like Texas in this game, as they are proven and experienced.

Instead, TCU and Boise State will play together in

the Fiesta Bowl. This is a huge blow to the mid-major, as two of them will play each other instead of them playing a major team and earning some long overdue respect. Senior Alex Wallace said it best, "This year showed the huge flaw of the BCS system by matching up TCU and Boise State. Matching up the two mid-majors doesn't allow the two schools to prove how good they truly are against top competition." Look for this game to be a very high-scoring game, as both teams have explosive offenses and special teams. Once again, I will side with the Texas team on this game because TCU has a better defense that can make a stop when it has to.

Oregon had a huge win the Civil War over Oregon State sent the Ducks to the Rose Bowl, against Ohio State. This should be an interesting game as it will be intriguing to see if Ohio State can stop the best spread offense in the country. Ohio State has a long layoff between their last game and the Rose Bowl so they may be a little rusty. The Ducks win this game pretty easily as the Buckeyes will not match up with the much quicker Ducks.



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The Orange Bowl looks to be the most lopsided. It faces the slower and slumping Iowa Hawkeyes versus the fast and surging Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. Georgia Tech's offense is based on the triple option, an offense similar to the Green Knights offense a few seasons ago. This offense will and should confuse the opponent especially when the opponent, does not have the athleticism to match up, which Iowa does not. I think Georgia Tech wins big. Florida's tough loss to Alabama sent them to the Sugar Bowl against undefeated Big East Champion, Cincinnati Bearcats. This has the potential to be a great game.

The Bearcats passing attack has looked great all year; the question has always been whether it was the quarterback or the weak defenses. This looks to be the test that Senior Quarterback Tony Pike needs to prove that it that the passing game is that good. The being said I still think Florida will and can step up and make the big plays against this offense. Plus the Bearcats' defense has been suspect all year and Tim Tebow should take advantage of this in his last game as a college player. Florida wins this one because of and for Tim Tebow.

ingram wins heisman

by Nathan Teada

It is funny to think that a twenty pound bronze trophy could have so much of an impact on a college kid's life as the Heisman Trophy does. The Heisman Trophy is the most prestigious individual award in all of sports. It is given to the collegiate athlete who leads his team both on and off the field. Senior Aldo Boscia said it best, "The Heisman is the equivalent of the MVP in the NFL- if they were not getting paid millions and getting arrested off the field." The Heisman Trophy is not just a statistical award, but more of a leadership award. It is given to a player who can put his team on his back and will them to victory week after week.

This year was the closest Heisman trophy race ever. It was difficult to predict this award because it is based on votes by past winners and by notable media people, but then to add in the fact that five teams will be undefeated at the end of the regular season, and each team has its own individual leader who deserves the award; it makes the award all but impossible to predict. The front runner was Alabama running back, Mark Ingram. He is on, arguably, the best team in the country, and, all but one week, has led his team to victory by his constant efforts on and off

the field. Most teams began putting eight players up front to stop him but his determination has willed him past the defenders.

Tim Tebow became the first underclassman to win the award. He won it his sophomore year as Florida won the national championship. This year, Florida looks for another championship, and Tebow looks to become the second player ever to win two Heismans. While his numbers are not as great as they once were, his



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leadership is the best in the country. On and off the field, he lives excellence.

Finally, surprising Stanford has a viable candidate in running back Tony Gerhart. Gerhart does everything that Mark Ingram does, except maybe a little better. The only reason he did not win over Ingram was because Ingram plays better teams, and his team is undefeated.

Senior Mike Nasatka thinks a little differently than I do. "Ndamukong Suh should have won it because he is not getting enough credit being a DT, and winning the Heisman as a defensive player is difficult to do." Nasatka is right, only one other player in college football history has won this award as a defensive player, Charles Woodson did in 1997. That being said, Nasatka has a great point. Suh was double-teamed on almost every play this year and is still putting up fantastic numbers and leading his team. Once again, he did not win because he plays for an average team and has not led his team into the national championship hunt.

After Alabama won the SEC championship, that locked up the Heisman for Ingram.