

The BCS tries to cover up controversy



Caught in the Grasp
Douglas Smith
sports editor

ahead of Florida State with two weeks left in the season, but fell to number three when Florida State beat Florida. The Hurricanes won their game that week also, but still fell in the all important standings. Some people are getting sick of watching Florida State in the championship game. Somehow, that team always lucks out and finds itself in the national title hunt. To be able to watch two teams like Oklahoma and Miami in a pivotal game would be amazing to college football fans.

Oklahoma started the year ranked 20th in the Associated Press poll and worked their way through the competition to where they are at today. Miami was supposed to be good, but not that good. Quarterback Ken Dorsey has shown extreme poise, but of course it helps to have the talented Santana Moss on his team. Watching Miami has been exhilarating for the college football fan. Still, many of those fans' hearts lean toward Oklahoma, simply to have someone new win the championship.

Of course if you want to get technical about it, the Washington Huskies should have had a shot at the title game. Washington is the only team this season to successfully stall the powerful Hurricane offense and secure a victory over Miami. Washington did not play in a very great conference this year. Oregon had a good year, but the Pac-10 was not a powerhouse this year. In the final BCS standings, Washington's strength of schedule was double that of Miami. Also, their final total points in

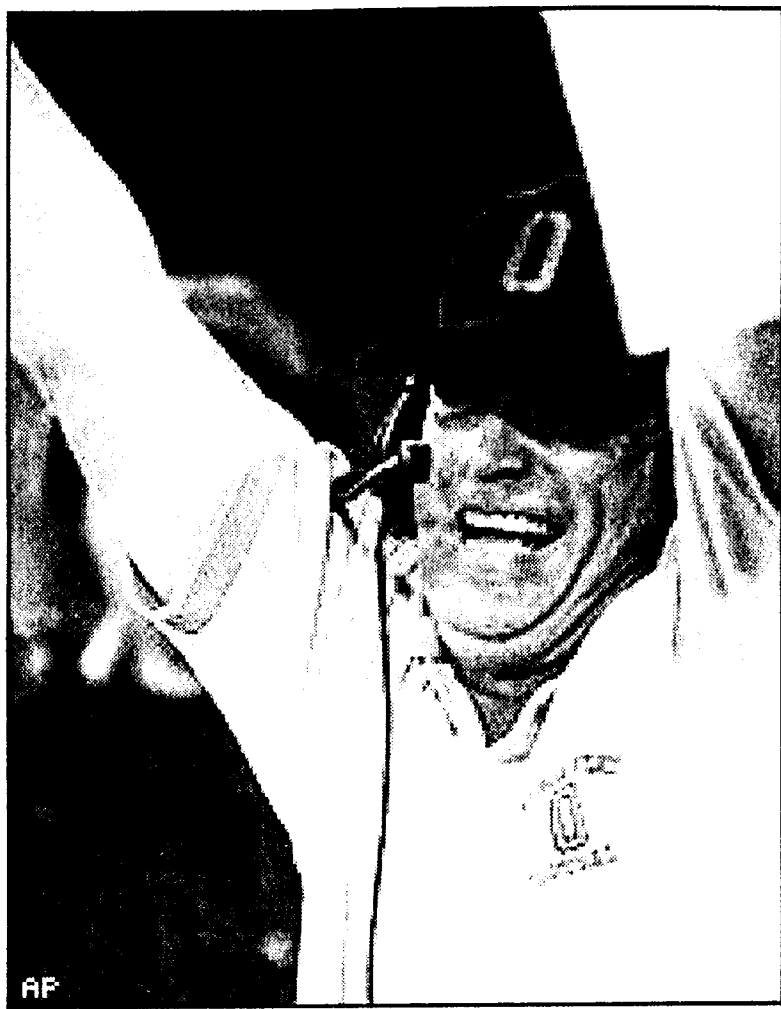
the BCS was about double that of Miami. Still, by who beat who, Washington could be considered. I'm sure they will not turn down the Rose Bowl though.

The national title game is not the only downfall of the BCS this year. Notre Dame will be playing Oregon State in one of the four BCS bowls, the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl on January 1. Notre Dame finished 11th in the final BCS Standings and still secured one of the at-large bids in the four BCS bowls. They were considered before Virginia Tech, Oregon, Nebraska, and Kansas State. Does Kansas State have anything to play for anymore? Every year they perform in the top ten college football teams and miss the BCS. Why did Notre Dame make it to a BCS bowl? That is simple. They will bring fans simply because of those golden domes they wear. The Fiesta Bowl is in Tuscon, Arizona, but Notre Dame has fans all over the country for some reason or another. Still, if those in charge of ticket sales were to send the same amount of tickets bought by Notre Dame fans to Blacksburg, Virginia, someone would buy them and make the trip. The BCS is supposed to be for the best teams in the land. Are the Fighting Irish really one of those teams?

Some may say that they are playing an Oregon State Beavers team that does not deserve to have an at-large bid in the BCS. The Beavers finished the season 10-1 and

destroyed in-state rival Oregon along the way. Also, the Beavers have a high flying offense led by quarterback Jonathan Smith and running back Ken Simonton. They are also in the top ten in kickoff returns and net punting. Even though Notre Dame will probably be the favorite, it will be hard to root against Oregon State (of course I never want Notre Dame to win anyway).

With all this controversy circling the BCS, the word of choice seems to be "tweak." Every interview with a commissioner or chairperson tells the audience that the BCS will be "tweaked" to get it right. However, the word you may begin hearing more often is "playoff." Still the teams are supposed to be extremely exciting according to analyst Terry Bowden. Apparently this is the best eight teams assembled in the short life of the Bowl Championship Series. How can this be? Florida State has been blowing opponents away. Oklahoma has been struggling. Notre Dame does not play too many tough teams. Somehow the most enticing matchup is Miami versus Florida, but only because Miami got shafted by the complicated calculations that surround the BCS. Florida has a quarterback that likes to talk trash on the other team in Rex Grossman, so hopefully that game will help the BCS live up to its hype.



Dennis Erickson led Oregon State to the Fiesta Bowl.

I don't know how many of you out there read my previous column on the Bowl Championship Series standings and exactly how that is calculated. The BCS was supposed to eliminate any controversy that college football would kick up about which team would be number one. Well, the results are in, and the BCS did not work.

Everyone that is in a high position and involved with the standings said that it worked. Well, at least one team belongs to be in the FedEx Orange Bowl that was assigned to it this past Sunday. Oklahoma is the sole undefeated team in college football, despite having a rough going of things this past couple weeks. Kansas State gave them a rough match in the Big XII Championship. The week before that, Texas A&M took the Sooners to the edge. However, Heisman Trophy candidate Josh Heupel led his team to late drives in both games that secured the victory and the spot in the Orange Bowl on January 3.

Oklahoma's opponent will be Florida State. Florida State has one loss on the year and also has a Heisman candidate, Chris Weinke, on their team. Weinke is a very mature quarterback that has always been surrounded by a talented cast. Despite dismantling number seven Florida in their last game of the season, the Seminoles' spot in the Orange Bowl is questionable.

Florida State's only loss was to Miami, who was shafted out of a possible championship game match. Miami was

Athletics to hold food drive

by Stacy Pondo
contributing writer

Behrend Athletics and the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) are holding a food drive during the men's and women's basketball game on December 9, 2000. The Behrend Lions will be hosting Penn State Altoona. The game will be televised live by Image Sports. Any person bringing canned food to the game will receive a coupon for free french fries compliments of Wendy's. All food will be donated to a local food bank.

For further information you can contact Stacy Pondo in the Behrend Athletic Department at (814) 898-6163.

Don't forget to register for the halftime contest or the "What's in the Box" contest. Each time students register for the contests they will be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing. The next home games will take place in the new year. On January 2, 2001, the men's team will host Allegheny in the Coaches versus Cancer game. Then, on January 6, 2001, the women will take on Juniata at 2:00 p.m. in Erie Hall.

THE SCOREBOARD

Behrend Scores

Men's Basketball

Penn State Behrend Classic
December 1 vs. Medaille
L 61 - 60
December 2 vs. D'Youville
W 81 - 73

Women's Basketball

Penn State Behrend Tournament
December 2 vs. Medaille
W 67 - 46
December 3 vs. Mt. Aloysius
L 65 - 55

Swimming

I.U.P. Invitational
Men finished 3
Women finished 3
(out of 3 teams)

(Standings as of December 4, 2000)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

School	Conference record	Overall
Frostburg	0-0	3-1
Lake Erie	0-0	2-3
Pitt-Bradford	0-0	2-3
Penn State Behrend	0-0	2-4
LaRoche	0-0	1-3
Penn State Altoona	0-0	0-4
Pitt-Greensburg	0-0	0-6

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

School	Conference Record	Overall
Penn State Behrend	0-0	5-2
Pitt-Greensburg	0-0	3-3
LaRoche	0-0	2-1
Lake Erie	0-0	2-3
Penn State Altoona	0-0	2-3
Pitt-Bradford	0-0	1-4
Frostburg	0-0	0-6

AMCC STANDINGS

National Football League

Games for Week 14

Sunday, December 10, 2000

1:00 PM
San Diego at Baltimore
Detroit at Green Bay
Carolina at Kansas City
New England at Chicago
Arizona at Jacksonville
Tampa Bay at Miami
Cincinnati at Tennessee
Pittsburgh at NY Giants
Philadelphia at Cleveland
4:15 PM
Minnesota at St. Louis
New Orleans at San Francisco
8:35 PM
NY Jets at Oakland
Monday, December 11, 2000
9:00 PM
Buffalo at Indianapolis

Final BCS Ranking

Rank	School	BCS Rating
1.	Oklahoma	3.30
2.	Florida State	5.37
3.	Miami (Fla.)	5.69
4.	Washington	10.67
5.	Virginia Tech	12.20
6.	Oregon State	14.68
7.	Florida	14.75
8.	Nebraska	18.22
9.	Kansas State	24.30
10.	Oregon	24.32
11.	Notre Dame	25.07
12.	Texas	27.22
13.	Georgia Tech	29.62
14.	TCU	33.01
15.	Clemson	33.17



Chris Weinke will lead Florida State in the FedEx Orange Bowl for the national title.

CLASSIFIEDS

IN STORES NOW!!
"Travis Bowen Presents...Erie Area Music Volume 1" The Compilation: featuring music from the Local Area!! Special Guests include: Manon Kelly, SKUDD, The Mollies, Self Inflicted, TRAV feat. Lilith Stabs, RICO, Sabotage theory, Jamie Daire, Double D, Organic Voodoo Machine, and more!!! At: Media Play, Dig Dio's, WestSide CDs, World of Music, Disco Round, Borders, and Earthshine.
www.angelfire.com/hiphop/highrollaz

SPRING BREAK 2001!
CANCUN & BAHAMAS. EAT, DRINK, TRAVEL FOR FREE, WANTED CAMPUS REPS! Call **USA SPRING BREAK**, toll free (877) 460.6077, for trip information and rates. **25 Continuous Years of Student Travel!**
www.springbreak.com

Wanted!
Spring Breakers! Cancun, Bahamas, Florida, & Jamaica. Call Sun Coast Vacations for a free brochure and ask how you can organize a small group and **Eat, Drink, Travel Free & Earn Cash!** Call 1-888-777-4642 or e-mail sales@suncoastvacations.com

Spring Break! Deluxe Hotels, Reliable Air, Free Food, Drinks and Parties. Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas, Mazatlan & Florida. **Travel Free and Earn Cash!** Do it on the web! Go to StudentCity.com or call 800-293-1443 for info.

Students, faculty, and staff of Penn State Behrend are welcome to place free classified ads. Please send ads to BehrColl4@aol.com

AMCC

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference

Associated Press College Basketball Top 10:

Men's Basketball

School	Record
1. Duke	7-0
2. Michigan State	5-0
3. Kansas	7-0
4. Stanford	6-0
5. Arizona	5-1
6. Tennessee	6-0
7. Seton Hall	4-0
8. Florida	3-0
9. Illinois	5-2
10. Notre Dame	4-0

Women's Basketball

School	Record
1. Connecticut	4-0
2. Tennessee	5-0
3. Duke	9-0
4. Notre Dame	6-0
5. Georgia	5-2
6. Purdue	7-1
7. Iowa State	4-0
8. Texas Tech	4-0
9. Rutgers	3-1
10. Oregon	4-0