

2008 Rowe Bowl Contest

Back for its 15th year, it's the 2008 Rowe Bowl Contest. Entry fee is going up to \$20 and the deadline is 5:00 PM (Central), Friday, December 19. Also, there is a limit of five entries per person. Lastly, I've increased the number of payouts to the top 10 contestants (see below). Please forward or copy this e-mail to anyone you think would be interested in participating (spouses, friends, clients, etc.). Last year we had over 400 entries. You enter your picks at my website. You can also find past results and the standings as the games are completed. My website is: <http://www.markrowecontest.com/RoweBowlIndex.htm>.

I don't even know where to start this year. Those of you who have been in the contest over the years know that I take this opportunity to rant about the BCS. It's stupid and we have always needed a playoff system. This year it is personal. I know Florida is a good team but they lost to an 8-4 Mississippi at home. Texas lost to an 11-1 Texas Tech on the road on a last second play. By the way, Mississippi's QB was a second stringer at UT. Now I have to root for OU to not do their typical BCS game choke and actually win the national championship so I can have a legitimate argument that UT got robbed. The whole thing sucks. Here's what the brackets would look like based on the BCS standings:

1	Oklahoma
16	BYU
8	Penn State
9	Boise State

2	Florida
15	Georgia
7	Texas Tech
10	Ohio State

3	Texas
14	Georgia Tech
6	Utah
11	TCU

4	Alabama
13	Oklahoma State
5	USC
12	Cincinnati

Of course the semi-finals and final game would be good but just look at the quarterfinal games – OU with a rematch against Boise St., UT versus undefeated Utah, Florida and TT scoring 50 each, and two of the better defenses with Alabama against USC. That would be a good weekend of football. Of course it would take away from that exciting Florida Atlantic – Central Michigan tilt so better the way it is now.

Here is your chance to once again prove your football knowledge (or lack thereof). The rules are simple. Each bowl game is listed along with the point spread. Go to the entry form at my website (see above) and pick the team you think will cover the spread for each game. The spread indicates how much one team is supposed to beat another. For example, Florida is favored by 2.5 points over OU. If you think Florida will win by 3 points or more then pick Florida. If you think Florida will win by 2 or less points or not win at all then pick OU. The tiebreaker will be based on the combined score of the OU-Florida game. If you think the score will be 37 to 27 then type 64 (37 + 27) in the tie breaker box.

Entry fee is \$20 and the payoff will be 1st place - 35%, 2nd place - 30%, 3rd place - 20%, 4th place – 10%, and 5th place – 5%. Also, places 6 through 10 will get their entry fee back.