



SEC, Big Ten... What College Football Is All About

A month into the 2008 college football season, summer has been quickly left behind and the pre-season rankings of the top teams have already been shuffled, and shuffled again. But one fact remains true, the SEC and Big Ten once again dominate the college football landscape, beginning with the Top 25 polls.

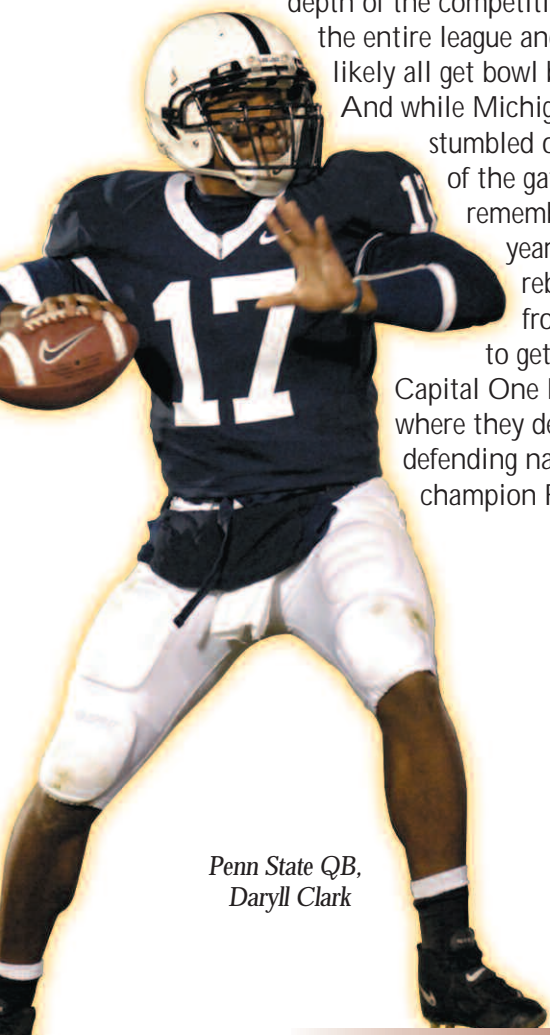
Four weeks into the season the two leagues combined to place ten teams in the Top 25, including five of the Top 10.

Battle of the Big Ten:

Early season favorite Ohio State fell at USC in September and have been plagued by an injury to their star running back begging questions as to their predicted lock on the conference title. But the emergence of freshman QB Terrelle Pryor shows the potential of a new offensive weapon that may indeed make them even better as the season progresses.

Meanwhile, Wisconsin and Penn State have become the front-runners in the league race. The Badgers have shown to be as formidable as expected, quickly climbing into the Top 10, and the No. 12 Nittany Lions have dominated opponents early showing they are ready to compete for a shot at the Rose Bowl. Don't forget about Illinois, Michigan State, Iowa, Purdue and 4-0 Northwestern all of whom add to the depth of the competition in the entire league and will likely all get bowl bids.

And while Michigan stumbled out of the gate, remember last year they rebounded from 1-2 to get to the Capital One Bowl where they defeated defending national champion Florida.



Penn State QB,
Daryll Clark

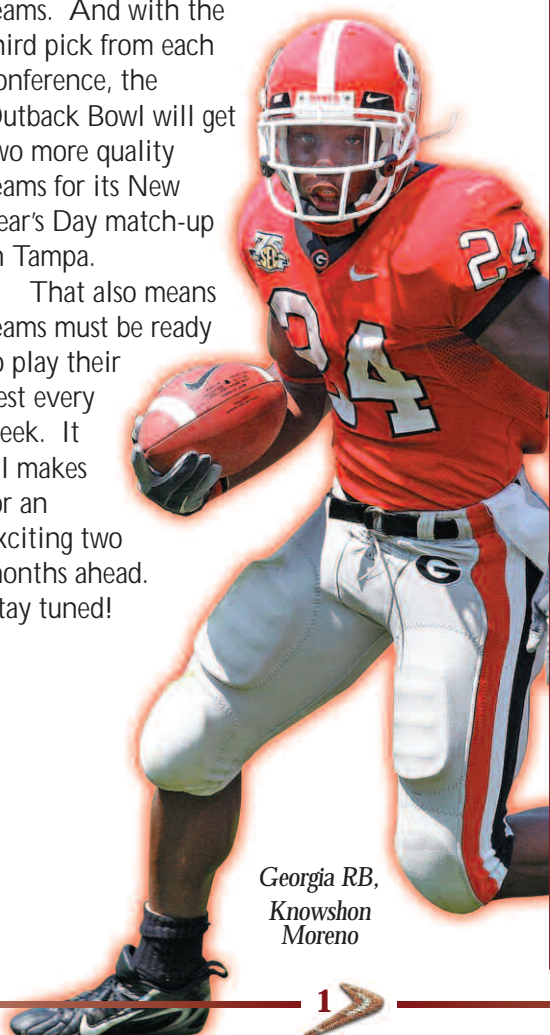
SEC the Best?

The Georgia Bulldogs were the consensus No. 1 pick by all the major polls in the pre-season. Of course that only lasted one week (even though they won their first game). Even so, four games into the season they are ranked No. 3 (AP). They are also undefeated as are No. 4 Florida, No. 5 LSU and No. 8 Alabama. Yes, three SEC teams ranked in the Top 5, four of the Top 8, six in all. That's more than any other conference.

Auburn is ranked No. 15 (AP) and even Vanderbilt is No. 21 (AP) after a 4-0 start, their first ranking since 1984. Kentucky also started on the right track with a 3-0 record and while South Carolina and Tennessee each have two early season losses (three to ranked teams), both are expected to make good bowl games this year.

Both leagues are deep with quality teams. And with the third pick from each conference, the Outback Bowl will get two more quality teams for its New Year's Day match-up in Tampa.

That also means teams must be ready to play their best every week. It all makes for an exciting two months ahead. Stay tuned!



Georgia RB,
Knowshon
Moreno

Jesse Palmer to Speak at Deloitte Luncheon

ESPN college football analyst and former Gator quarterback Jesse Palmer will be the special guest speaker at the annual **Deloitte Kickoff Luncheon** on October 1. More than 800 bowl Sponsors and Club Members are expected at the popular Outback Bowls event held at A La Carte Pavilion and catered by Outback Steakhouse.

The luncheon is known for having big-name speakers over the years such as Paul Maguire, Doug Flutie, Lou Holtz, Joe Theismann, Lee Corso, Craig James and even Joe Namath.

Palmer primarily works on ESPN2's Saturday pre-game, halftime and post-game studio coverage as well as ESPN's daily *College Football Live* show from Bristol, Conn. In addition, Palmer calls select game telecasts as an analyst. He also appears as a college football analyst on various ESPN outlets including *SportsCenter*, *ESPNEWS* and *ESPN Radio*.

Prior to joining ESPN, Jesse was an analyst and reporter for the MSG network in 2006, appearing on the network's *MSG, NY* program during the NFL season. In 2005, he served as a Super Bowl correspondent for Global Sportsnet in Toronto, Canada. In addition, Palmer appeared on ABC's *The Bachelor* program, becoming the first professional athlete to star in the popular reality-based series.

Palmer played in 27 games during his four-year career at Florida from 1998-2000. He ranks among Florida's top quarterbacks in many categories, including fourth in passing efficiency (133.14), eighth in passing (3,755 yards) and ninth in touchdown passes (31).

Palmer was selected in the fourth round of the 2001 NFL Draft by the New York Giants. In 2005, he signed with the San Francisco 49ers as a free agent for one season and signed with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League in 2006.

Jesse is a native of Nepean, Ontario and his father, Bill, was a former Canadian Football League star with the Ottawa Rough Riders.



Jesse Palmer

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Get in the Game at the Trane Feast on the Fifty

Summers over and that means it's football season! Of course part of the college football experience is the famous tailgate party and the Outback Bowl has one of the best annual tailgates of the year. In fact, you get to eat right on the field in Raymond James Stadium! OK, so it's not on game day, but the *Trane Feast on the Fifty* is a great tailgate anytime. Outback Bowl sponsors and members will bring their appetites to the stadium on Thursday, November 6, from 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. to feast on barbecue and enjoy a fun evening of socializing with about 1,300 fellow bowl supporters.

Guests will also be able to participate in interactive games like field-goal

kicking. Imagine what it's like to be in the bowl game as you look up and have to make that last second kick to win the game. The evening will be capped off with one of the best fireworks shows in the area, right inside the stadium! Our friends at Trane will once again sponsor this festive annual event.

If you are an Outback Bowl Sponsor or Member, mark your calendar now for the *Trane Feast on the Fifty* on November 6. If you're not, contact the bowl at 813-874-BOWL on how you can become a bowl supporter in time to get your own invitation to this and other bowl events throughout the year as well as the best seats in the stadium on New Year's Day.





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Bowl Supporters Celebrate Start of Season at GameWorks

Outback Bowl supporters celebrated the start of the 2008 college football season in September with the annual **Happy Hour Huddle at GameWorks** in Centro Ybor. More than 700 Bowl sponsors, Club Members, local media and other VIP guests enjoyed a wide array of food. Supporters capped off their meals with three fountain towers of chocolate fondue while hostesses served special drinks. Of course guests

also enjoyed their choice of state-of-the-art video and interactive games from horse racing to full size race cars. All in all it was a fantastic way to kickoff the season and the bowls fall event calendar. For more information on booking your special event or holiday party at GameWorks contact Martin Mann or Valarie White at 813-247-0165 or go to www.gameworks.com.



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