
Big 10

Posted by Hengst - 2007/12/11 11:31

So this morning on DJ and PK they were talking about a caller who called in to rip the mtn west. Typical BCS vs. Non-BCS shpeel. The caller also happened to be a big 10 fan.

My question is this, is there anyone who actually think the big 10 was good this year? There is a reason that Michigan lost to Appalachian State and then proceeded to knock everyone in the Big 10 around besides Ohio State. The big 10 was horrible this year. OSU is going to be slaughtered by LSU. They're not even as good as they were last year, and we saw what Florida did to them then.

The Big 10 might be the worst BCS conference this year. We saw what Oregon did to Michigan, is there any doubt what USC would do to OSU if they played?

You might be able to make an argument for the Big East being worse, but I think West Virginia could probably beat any team in the big 10.

This is why these conferences don't want a playoff. Some of them would be exposed for being the pretenders that they really are.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by MajorCougar - 2007/12/11 11:40

We've been railing on Hawaii's schedule. Take a look at OSU's schedule:

OOC games: Younstown State, Akron, @Washington, Kent State.
7 home games, including Wisconsin and Illinois (they lost to Illinois).
Conference play that include mediocre to bad teams such as Minnesota, MSU, Purdue, & Northwestern.

Penn State and Michigan were a HUGE disappointment.

If BYU had that schedule, I wouldn't be surprised if they had gone undefeated: Illinois is a running team; Wisconsin and Michigan lean that way. BYU has been phenomenal against the run this year - INCLUDING Air Force.

I'm not saying that the MWC as any better; I'm saying that OSU is overrated, and does not deserve to play in the NC game, just because of a cakewalk.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by Hengst - 2007/12/11 11:45

MajorCougar wrote:

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Nice to see that we are in agreement on something MajorCougar ;-):woohoo:

your right though, there were several two loss teams which could have been selected for the BCS title game which played tougher schedules.

Look at MSU, they lost to the same team twice!!!

Or, Oklahoma knocked off the #1 team the day before the final BCS poles. As "Hope is Emo" would say, "the system is brooken!"

Re:Big 10

Posted by bball - 2007/12/11 11:53

Yes, Ohio State will again be embarrassed in the NC game. Why did the weak schedule work against Hawaii but work for Ohio State? We all know the answer, it isn't about the schedule, it's about getting the favored BCS schools into the NC game--period. This is a closed club, and that club does not include any newcomers like Kansas, Missouri, or West Virginia. Did you hear all the whining about the TV ratings if Kansas (or Missouri) played West Virginia for the NC? There's your answer folks.

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/11 12:01

I am in Big10 country and I have to say the attitude is that it is the best (which is to be expected) most competitive conference, yada yada. When people ask me my team (they expect me to say Ohio St or Mich.) and I tell them BYU they look at me like I am strange. I believe that ALL the conferences are weak to a degree. I think the majority of football programs ride the shirt tails of the "elite" programs. And when one of the "elite" teams loses to an underling that underling then gets special attention and if they beat all the rest of the underlings then it is granted "elite" status during that year (i.e. Kansas, S. Fla, Ill).

I think BYU is better than at least 85% of ALL football teams. And they then transpose that "elite" status to conferences to separate the BCS from the non-BCS. I use as an example of this "elite" designation. John Beck was consistently labeled with a weak arm while many of the BCS QB's were touted with good or above average arm strength. This year they are touting Kehl's lack of speed when in fact he is one of the fastest OLB's in the country. Most of the players on BYU's team are at least as fast, as strong, as talented as nearly all BCS players. The problem is the media has hyped the players that the BCS teams have collected giving them "elite" status to go with their "elite" team, in their "elite" conference. Another problem is then the non-bcs teams are compared to these "elite" teams and players (and some like Reggie Bush are elite), instead of to the whole conference.

So in sumation I think BYU would have finished in the top three and maybe first had they been in the Big 10 because we have athletes just as good as theirs, facilities that are as good or better, a diehard fanbase, and a great coaching staff. We just lack the label "elite" which is a title that the media and their type refuse to give to any team outside the BCS. Thus they give the title "best non-bcs team" which can infer that ALL bcs teams are still better but in the "lower" conferences they are good. BTW who owns/controls the BCS and who owns the media? :ohmy:

Re:Big 10

Posted by jaga97 - 2007/12/11 12:04

I think the MWC is hands down a better conference this year.

Unfortunately the only head to head battle was the worst team in the MWC against one of the best Big teams UNLV VS Wisconsin.

UNLV almost won that game.

It is embarrassing for the Big 10 to list teams they lost to this year

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Appalacian State
Washington State

Bowling Green
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It is even more embarrassing when you look at who they beat

Eastern Illinois
Akron Twice
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Northern Illinois
Florida International
Youngstown State
Northeastern
UAB
Temple
Kent State
Ball State 4 times
Notre Dame twice
Syracuse twice
Western Illinois
Central Michigan
Citadel
Buffalo

Re:Big 10

Posted by AFCOUG83 - 2007/12/11 12:27

if BYU played in the big 10 this year i think they would be able to beat the lower level teams, and probably go 3-2 with Michigan, Ohio St, Wisconsin, Illinois and Penn St., maybe 2-3 or 4-1 depending on where the games were played. Going 9-2 against the Big 10 would be awesome for a school not in a BCS conference in a rebuilding year.

Re:Big 10

Posted by Conosticator - 2007/12/11 12:52

Face it, the only thing "Big" about the Big-10 this year is their name and it just proves their inability to count. BYU would consistently finish in the top 3 in the Big-10 even in a rebuilding year. B)

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/11 13:01

Conosticator wrote:

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I have to disagree. They would finish in the top 3 in just about every conference! :)

Re:Big 10

Posted by Hengst - 2007/12/11 13:03

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I don't know about every year. The big 10 does have an occasional "up" year with some good teams. Just like every conference. This was not that year though.

Re:Big 10

Posted by mormonrasta - 2007/12/11 13:23

I hate the Big 10. If Big 10 fan starts popping off about their strength acknowledge that they are indeed better than the MAC (16-2 this year), but against everybody else they are not all that.

As a conference they won nearly 80 percent of their nonconference games, but they are 3-3 against teams with winning records. That's right the Big 10 has played ONLY SIX TEAMS that finished the season with winning records. They are the Hawaii of conferences.

When the best nonconference win this season came against Central Michigan you know your conference is weak. Look for the Big 10 to have at least 5 losses this coming bowl season.

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/11 13:24

Hengst wrote:

imuakahuku wrote:

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Even on their "up" year they are so-so. Last year was an "up" year and MI and OSU got crushed.

OSU - Lost

MI - Lost

Perdue - Lost

Wisc - Won

Penn st - Won

MSU - none

Ill - none

Minn - Lost

Iowa - Lost

Ind - none

NW - none

2- 5 in Bowls during an "up" year.

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/11 13:37

mormonrasta wrote:

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They had 5 bowl losses last season! I expect more this year in a down year.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by jeremygeorge - 2007/12/11 13:44

jaga97 wrote:

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Jaga,
I'm asking you because you've already done the leg work. What are some of the good teams that the Big 10 beat? I'm assuming you only listed the junk teams that they beat. They had to have beat at least a few good teams, right? The only thing that keeps me at all positive about the Big 10 is that that part of the country has some of the best people around.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by Hengst - 2007/12/11 13:48

jeremygeorge wrote:

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The people there are definitely passionate about their football. All most as much as the south. They fill up stadiums even when their teams aren't great. Too bad cougar fans can be so fair weather sometimes.

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by penncougar - 2007/12/11 13:48

imuakahuku wrote:

mormonrasta wrote:

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Michigan vs Florida - We've all seen how well Michigan does with running QB's, and they'll have to face a healthy Tebo

Purdue vs Central Michigan - I saw central michigan in their conf. championship game and they looked good. At least good enough to beat Purdue.

Michigan State vs Boston College - Matt Ryan will tear the MSU defense apart, plus their pissed off for not being in a better bowl.

Penn State vs Texas A&M - This is a toss up for me. I think both teams are nothing special.

Indiana vs Oklahoma State - Indiana fell apart the second half of the year and only made it to a bowl on a weak occ schedule. However, they are playing for their fallen coach. I'll give them a victory based on that alone.

Wisconsin vs Tenn. - Erik Ainge will destroy Wisconsin. Tenn was one of the hottest teams the second half of the year, but PJ Hill will be back in the game. I still think Tenn wins.

So that makes 7 bowl games and I thin the record will be 1-6, maybe 2-5 if Penn State pulls through. Wow, 1-6 with the lone victory by Indiana. This truly is a sorry year for the little 11

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by Uncle Iroh - 2007/12/11 13:55

I have our corporate officers from Ohio in the office this week. (I'm sneaking a little board time in right now while they are busy). They were giving me a bad time for being a Y fan. Then they proceeded to rip on the Big 10. They both were saying that OSU will get smoked by LSU, and that the other teams in the Big 10 would lose their bowl games. I didn't say anything, (mostly because I think they are baiting me, and I value my job), but I completely agree. I think they are consistently the most over hyped conference year in and year out.

I hope they go 0 for in the bowls.

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by Conosticator - 2007/12/11 14:01

Hengst wrote:

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I have to disagree. They would finish in the top 3 in just about every conference! :)

I don't know about every year. The big 10 does have an occasional "up" year with some good teams. Just like every conference. This was not that year though.

Was it in the "modern era"? :laugh: :laugh:

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by jaga97 - 2007/12/11 14:23

jeremygeorge wrote:

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Not really.

The only wins I did not list were:
Washington State at Wisconsin
Nevada at Northwestern
Pittsburgh at Michigan State
Ohio State at Washington

They had 2 games that they could have proved themselves but lost to Oregon and Missouri

Pathetic!

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by DeafBYUSports - 2007/12/11 15:58

penncougar wrote:

Lets look at who they'll play.

OSU vs LSU - no brainer, ohio state will lose

DeafBYUSports - I agree

Michigan vs Florida - We've all seen how well Michigan does with running QB's, and they'll have to face a healthy Tebo

DeafBYUSports - Don't forget the Heisman Jinx History in the bowl game. Only 2 in last 10 years are the Southern Cal have won Heisman and the bowl games.

I am going to go with Michigan in this one.

Purdue vs Central Michigan - I saw central michigan in their conf. championship game and they looked good. At least good enough to beat Purdue.

DeafBYUSports - I disagree and Purdue will win this one.

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DeafBYUSports - I agree with BC over Mich. State

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DeafBYUSports - I am going to go with Penn St. in this one.

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DeafBYUSports - This is a tossed up... Hmmm at first I think Wisc. will win but Tennessee may come out on top at the end.

My Big 10 prediction is 3-4.

Re:Big 10

Posted by WinnemuccaCougar - 2007/12/11 16:22

MajorCougar wrote:

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I agree this year the Big 10 is far over rated and the last three years the Big east has been, but I don't agree that we would have coasted through the Big 10 especially considering our loss to Tulsa.

Bronco admitted the D just wasn't prepared well enough for that game. A mistake he will not make very often. Playing OSU and WISC. I think this year would have been difficult. Next year is a different story in a rebuilding year we go 10-2. Look out BCS next year we're coming.

Re:Big 10

Posted by Cougy_Monster - 2007/12/11 16:22

I couldn't agree more. The Big 10 is very overrated (as is every bcs conference). It all starts with the preseason polls every year and continues through the bowl cartel series game.

It makes no logical sense to say a team (eg ohio st) is good because they beat a team that you also say is good (insert any Big10 team name here). As long as the media is convinced that the bowl "championship" series conferences are superior, they will continue to give more credit for in-conference wins than we'll get in the MWC. That leaves room to schedule OOC games with suck st and still get into the NC game. The only solution to this bias, IMHO, is a playoff. That would allow non-bcs conferences the chance to consistently beat up on the cartel teams. It would probably take a decade to convince the media that the bcs conferences aren't all that.

Now, the yewts come to Ann Arbor next year so we'll see how a mid-tier MWC team performs against Michigan. I have no doubt that yewtah would beat 9 of the 11 big10 teams in SLC. I don't know how they'll do in the Big House though with 111,000 yellow-clad fans cheering on the new head coach. I'll be at the game, dressed in yellow....hoping somehow the yewts and the big10 can lose in the same day.

If every big10 team were required to schedule a home-away series with a MWC team every year, I think the MWC would turn a lot of heads. The bcs conferences really protect themselves by scheduling a home-and-nothing game with non-bcs schools. Very few teams have the respect that BYU does in getting even home-away contracts with big-name schooles.

Re:Big 10

Posted by MajorCougar - 2007/12/11 17:25

WinnemuccaCougar wrote:

MajorCougar wrote:

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I was assuming that we would play OSU's schedule (therefore, we would not play ourselves... :S)

As for Wisconsin, UNLV almost won their game with them... UNLV!

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by happyvalleycougar - 2007/12/12 08:06

penncougar wrote:

imuakahuku wrote:

mormonrasta wrote:

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Did I miss the email saying Illinois left the Big10? Can't forget the BCS game that they snuck into. I predict another USC win over the Big10.

I am at graduate school at Penn State right now. When I saw their OOC schedule this year, I almost gagged. Penn State at one point was ranked in the top ten, after beating powerhouse Buffalo 45-24. And yes, the game was that close. When you let Buffalo score 3 touchdowns, you shouldn't be ranked in the top ten, especially when you are counting on your defense.

As for the bowl projections, Ohio State, Wis, Mich State, Mich, and Ill will all lose. Penn State depends on Morelli, the QB. He has moments of brilliance, but most of the time isn't all that great. The other games are a toss up. Why don't we try and schedule bowl games with the Big10, rather than the PAC10. I think it would be easier to win that way.... Oh wait, we already had the discussion on dumbing down the schedule...

=====

Re:Big 10

Posted by penncougar - 2007/12/12 08:21

I'm originally a happy valley native and still know many people up there as well as have many friends with season tickets. I was shocked how many of them sent out emails for their tickets to ooc games to see if anyone wanted to buy them. The only game that didn't happen for was notre dame, because at that point no one realized how horrible they truly were going to be. I also agree that the PSU - Texas A&M game depends on how Morelli plays. When he's on, PSU is great, and when he's off, their defense keeps them in most games.

I also apologize for forgetting Illinois - USC in an earlier post, but I don't really think we even need to comment on that game.

Even so, modifying my prediction for Illinois, the little 11 will go 1-7 or 2-6 during the bowl season.

Re:Big 10

Posted by Hawkeye-Coug - 2007/12/12 08:30

Virtually every single rating system has the Big 10 as the worst AQ conference this year. The Big 10 being the worst BCS conference this year is fact, and not even worthy of debate.

<http://www.mratings.com/cf/compare.htm>

However, they do have some defense of their consistently bad bowl record. They usually play SEC teams in SEC country. It is an effective home game for the SEC team. Thus, some of their bad record just comes because they are playing road games in bowl games. The Big 10 should be pushing for a playoff because they would be able to get southern teams to play in cold weather for the first two rounds, giving them a distinct advantage.

Also, though the SEC is the highest rated conference, remember that they played about a million games vs. the SunBelt this year, and are only 7-7 against other BCS conferences. By way of reference, the MWC won 8 games against BCS teams this year. So, the SEC is on top by default, not performance. But since their bowl games are simply home games against Big 10 teams, it is unlikely they will get knocked off.

Go Cougs!!!!!!!

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/12 09:40

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Where is wolfie when you need him. I'm sure he could find a site that proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that the MWC and BYU in particular played the weakest schedule and the 8 wins were not really wins but actually losses but somehow appear on the score sheet as wins.

BTW look at where all the OOC games are played for those BCS teams. I think Fla leaves their stadium once a year at most for an OCC game. If you are not FLA St or Miami you can forget about a home and home unless you are sec but that's only because the conf makes them do it! In six seasons they have played four ooc away games. Three at Fla St.

and one at Miami.

Re:Big 10

Posted by mormonrasta - 2007/12/12 18:02

The BIG 10 is actually the 3rd best BCS conference according to this guy!?!?

http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2007/writers/bill_trocchi/12/12/conference.rankings/index.html

He has the Pac-10 the worst. He doesn't count wins over BYU, Utah, and Boise State as quality wins, but he does have ISU's win over Iowa as a quality win.

Re:Big 10

Posted by Mingjai - 2007/12/13 00:27

The Big Ten is definitely in a down year, but I actually think it's not as bad as everyone says. I've been living in the Big Ten for over 4 years now, and I follow Big Ten football--it's a fun and competitive league. I don't know why everyone hates the Big Ten so much on this board--there's a lot of tradition and passion in Big Ten football--a lot more passionate than what I've seen from the Pac 10. Michigan, Ohio State, Penn State, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Purdue are football schools and have no problem packing their 65,000-105,000 seat stadiums every week. Michigan State, Illinois, and Indiana are basketball schools, but draw decently in football. Minnesota is a hockey school that will draw a lot better when it joins its Big Ten brethren in building on on-campus stadium (the Dome sucks). And Northwestern--well--they're the brains of the conference.

Anyway, I'd say this year, the Big Ten is better than the ACC and Big East, and competitive with the Pac 10 (which I think is overrated this year). The SEC and Big XII are the top 2 in that order. None of this is saying much because the bottom 4 BCS leagues have all been unimpressive this year. If the Big Ten is an average BCS league, going about .500 in the bowls wouldn't be unexpected.

Conference strength is all cyclical. From 2002 through 2005, the Big Ten was probably competitive with the SEC. Let's not forget, as good as everyone says the SEC is, the Big Ten has won the last three Capital One Bowls, which pits Big Ten #2 versus SEC #2. Iowa beat LSU, and Wisconsin beat Auburn and Arkansas. The Outback Bowl, which is Big Ten #3 versus SEC #3/4 has basically been decided by a touchdown or less the past six games (except for Iowa's blowout of Florida in 2003).

Re:Big 10

Posted by Mars - 2007/12/13 03:31

BYU would have won the Big Ten this year.

Air Force is good enough to come in 3rd behind Ohio State.

As a conference, their offenses, especially passing, are terrible and they can't stop the spread offense. They also schedule like scared little pansies, and for good reason.

Re:Big 10

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/12/13 07:01

Mars wrote:

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As a conference, their offenses, especially passing, are terrible and they can't stop the spread offense. They also schedule like scared little pansies, and for good reason.

To be fair, all the BCS confs schedule like scared little pansies except maybe the PAC-10 (and I have the Pac-10!). Again the BCS confs are nothing special. What makes the SEC a better conf is that they have more than two or three consistently decent to good teams.

SEC Fla, Ga, LSU, Tenn (sometimes), Auburn and Ark a littlebit.

B10 OSU, Mich, and Wisc (sometimes)

P10 USC, and then two other teams between (OSU, Cal, AZst, Ore, Wa)

B12 Texas, OK

BE WV, Lou (but not this year but I think they whole conf is overrated)

The rest of the BCS teams have occasional good years but generally dwell in mediocrity or the cellar.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by MajorCougar - 2007/12/13 08:50

Mingjai wrote:

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It isn't necessarily passion that makes a good conference. In the Big 10's case, it's the Big \$\$\$ and a chance to play in the National "Championship" game that makes a difference.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by etyotx - 2007/12/13 09:51

Let's see:

Awful Big-Ten teams:

Minnesota (1-11, 0-8; losses include: Bowling Green at home, FAU, Northwestern, and FCS's ND State)

Northwestern (3-5, 6-6; lost to Duke, the worst BCS team that doesn't end in "ota")

Bad Big-Ten teams:

Purdue

Michigan State

Indiana

Iowa

Wisconsin
Michigan

Mediocre Big-Ten teams:
Penn State
Illinois

Marginally good Big-Ten teams:
Ohio State

Good Big-Ten teams:

Great Big-Ten teams:

Phenomenal Big-Ten teams:

These last three categories would have been empty last year, too. It's unfortunate that OSU has been in the NC game these two years. I don't understand why ANYONE would think that BCS is anything other than a big joke or a "good ol' boys" club.

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Re:Big 10

Posted by Phillycougar - 2007/12/13 10:16

etyotx wrote:
Let's see:

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Minnesota (1-11, 0-8; losses include: Bowling Green at home, FAU, Northwestern, and FCS's ND State)
Northwestern (3-5, 6-6; lost to Duke, the worst BCS team that doesn't end in "ota")

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Great post! The part about loosing to Duke the worst BCS team taht doesn't end in "ota" made me LOL. :laugh:

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Re:Big 10

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2007/12/13 10:28

Last year the SEC played the Big 10 in 3 bowl games. The record was 2 wins for the Big 10 and 1 win for the SEC (Florida over OSU). The SEC isn't that much ahead of everyone else. The Big 10 is marginal at best, and they had a winning record against the SEC in bowl games last year (and neither of those big 10 teams was first or second in their conference).

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Re:Big 10

Posted by PlayoffDude - 2007/12/14 13:28

The Big Ten has been hiding between WEAK, no SUPER WEAK non-conference schedules for a couple of years now. The Big Ten was not much better last year. Ohio St., Michigan, and Wisconsin were better, but those big three are weaker this year and the rest of the Big Ten certainly did not improve.

The beautiful thing this year is, look at the Big 10's bowl schedule.

Ohio St. v. LSU = LSU blow out

Illinois v. USC = USC blow out
Michigan v. Florida = Florida blow out
Michigan St. v. Boston College = Boston College blow out
Wisconsin v. Tennessee = Tennessee win

The only gimmie game is Purdue/C.Michigan (Purdue already destroyed C. Michigan in regular season)...

The Big Ten's next best match-ups are Penn St/Texas A&M and Indiana/Oklahoma St. Neither of which is an easy Big Ten win.

I predict the Big Ten goes 2-6 in bowl games this year, the majority of the losses will be embarrassing scores. That will hurt Big Ten recruiting to ensure that the Big Ten continues to weaken. Then, an 11-1 or even 12-0 Ohio St. will be meaningless to voters, because who wants to see the top teams coming out of the Big Ten get destroyed in bowl games every year?

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