

# Bowled over - big-time college football from the sixties to the BCS era

The University of North Carolina Press - Bowled Over



Description: -

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## Bowled Over: Big

Keeping the debate over the soul of college football alive, *Bowls, Polls, and Tattered Souls* is the perfect book for sparking lively conversation among friends and fans.

## Subject Matter

For nearly a century, bowl games were the purview of only the very best teams, but a steady proliferation of new bowl games required more teams, with 70 participating teams by the , then 80 participating teams by the . You could trim back on the regular season. On November 27, 2009, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram ran a story that said that Rep.

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The experience and results of the non-AQ teams in BCS bowl games had been cited as a strong objective example of a much closer parity between the AQ and non-AQ teams than most AQ teams and fans would have admitted. The school has also had a stellar 12 unanimous All-American selections and won the national championship in 1942. In short, a must-read for anyone interested in the big picture of the business of college football.

## College Football: 'Bowled Over'

Steven Travers places the game within a discussion of American society as a whole, providing a fascinating run-down of the interplay between football, pop culture, and history, thereby bringing an intellectual flavor to a game of brawn. Opportunity, Entitlement, and Exploitation -- 6. The heart of the book examines a handful of decisions by the NCAA in the early seventies--to make freshmen eligible to play, to lower admission standards, and, most critically, to replace four-year athletic scholarships with one-year renewable scholarships--that helped transform student-athletes into athlete-students and turned the college game into a virtual farm league for professional football.

## The Page 99 Test: Michael Oriard's

Under the BCS, a single defeat was extremely detrimental to a team's prospects for a national championship, although critics pointed out regularly that history shows non-AQ conference teams were hurt far more than AQ conference teams when they lost a game. Tennessee also claims six national championships, including two AP titles. Michigan is one of those programs that has been so dominant for so long that anything less than championship contention makes for a disappointing season.

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TCU would defeat Wisconsin 21—19 in the , once again calling into question the claim of AQ conference superiority.

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