

# Sports

## Basketball back in Brevard!



Photo by J. Billingsley



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*Above: (Right) Freshman guard Jermichael Tanner knifes through the Tusculum defense during the first half of Saturday's 75-64 loss to Tusculum. The game was the home opener for the Tornados, who were led by Jonathan Whitson's 21 points.*

*(Left) Senior forward Holly Krogman fights with a Tusculum defender during Saturday's women's basketball game. The BC women's team fell to Tusculum by a final score of 81-52, evening BC's record out to 3-3 on the young season.*

## Bowl system gives fans mythical champ

by Joseph Chilton  
Managing Editor

The regular season has been completed, the conference champions have been crowned, and in the next month two of the nation's best college football teams are going lay it all on the line in order to bring home what every American boy dreams of helping his university win: the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl.

I hope that I am not the only sports fan that finds that sentence frightening. The state of college football in Division I-A, or Football Bowl Sub-Division, or Football Bureaucracy Subdivision, or whatever the NCAA terms it has reached the point where there can be no real champion, just 32 teams who won their bowl game arguing about who is the best.

Every year fans are told that the BCS formula has been modified, that a real college football champion will finally be crowned. And every year the infallible computer formula seems to spit out a national championship game match up that is approved by approximately the same percentage of the American populace as is Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

This season the team that heading into the final week of the season was the overwhelming favorite to finish in the top spot of the BCS standings, Missouri, failed to secure a spot in one of the four "prestigious" BCS bowl games. At the same time, Hawaii went undefeated but will be unable to win the national title because of the conference they play in (so much for last year's Boise State team proving that the

underdog sometimes should have been the favorite).

It is an interesting coincidence that there are 64 teams playing in bowl games this season, as that is the exact number of teams in the NCAA basketball tournament. While a 64 team playoff is obviously too long to advocate in football, it only makes sense for college football to follow the lead every other sport that NCAA sanctions and have an official championship tournament.

Ohio State and LSU will play for the BCS championship this season. But with the parity that has occurred on gridirons across the nation this year, there is no way of knowing if the winner of that game is truly the NCAA's best team. Any of the 32 bowl winners could be the best team in the country for all we know, even the winner of

the PapaJohns.com bowl (though I doubt it.).

This was a season that featured South Florida, Connecticut, Missouri, and Kansas all seeming as if they would rise out of historical mediocrity and into the national spotlight. In the end, though, the BCS chose two perennial powers with debatable merits. If this has taught us anything, it is that it is impossible for a computer to determine two teams that are at such a higher level than the rest of their competition that a match between the two will produce a clear national champion. It has taught us it is about time for office pools to start up featuring the NCAA football bracket. But then again, that's what last year was supposed to teach us.