

The Luck of the Irish by Thomas S.

Lou Holtz, Elmer Layden, Frank Leahy, Knute Rockne, Ara Parseghian, Dan Devine. What do all of these men have in common? They all were head coaches at the University of Notre Dame and they all won National Championships. Current coach Brian Kelly has the Fighting Irish in position to win another. His team has gone undefeated so far and is ranked number one in the country. With their regular season games over, the Irish are basically a lock to be selected to go to the BCS National Championship. The only question is who will they play? Experts predict it will be the winner of the SEC (Southeastern Conference) championship. This year the SEC championship features the number two and three teams Georgia ranked third and Alabama ranked second. This should be a classic showdown between two stingy defenses and smash mouth running games. Both teams are led by veteran quarterbacks who have been solid all year. One thing is for sure this should be a very low scoring game. No matter who wins the winner won't be excited to go up against the mighty Notre Dame defense.

The Irish's defense has been arguably the best in the country all year and very consistent. The defense has saved the offense on multiple occasions. The offense has been adjusting to a new freshman quarterback in Everett Golson. His play has been better than expected though. The Irish have gotten very lucky winning lots of close games. This has been result of the outstanding play of defense. This defense in led by Heisman (Player of the year) candidate Manti Te'o. He suffered a tragedy in the early part of the season when both his girlfriend and grandmother died in the same week. He was offered time off but the star linebacker refused to miss a game. He thought the best way to honor his family would be on the field. Manti has been emotionally charged all year and the tragedy could be a major part of his success. Te'o has the Irish a win away from triumph. No matter the result of the Heisman race, I'm sure that Manti Te'o would just be pleased to go to the Championship game and bring back a trophy to South Bend, Indiana for the fans. He will be ready to take down any opponent whether it's Alabama, Georgia, or someone else.