

Beware the Myth of Inevitability!
LFF Commentary
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In politics, as with football, front-runners promote the **myth of inevitability**. The Tigers last night were the "inevitable favorites" riding the high of a perfect college season, impenetrable "D" and unstoppable big play-makers like the "Honey Badger." Until the 60 minutes where Nick and the boys of Alabama handed LSU "theirs" in one of college footballs most hyped rematch ever and arguably one of LSU's most disappointing losses ever!

Similarly, Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney, having squeaked out one of the narrowest of wins in Iowa and now polling favorably in New Hampshire, is selling the notion that his nomination is inevitable.

Romney's argument goes like this: **"I am ahead, I have the money, and I have the support of the establishment so let's not kid ourselves. Uniting behind me now will save time and money by allowing the GOP to devote its resources towards making Barack Obama a one-term president."** Didn't work for LSU Mitt!

The trouble with the myth is... it's a myth! If the Iowa caucuses or last night's BCS tromping demonstrated anything, it is just how tenuous that myth is. In the months leading up to January 3rd, victory appeared secure for Bachmann, then Cain, then Gingrich, then Paul. Victory did go to Romney, but only by a mere 8 votes. Eleventh hour surprise Rick Santorum almost pulled out the upset of the decade. What Rick Santorum lacked in resources, he more than made up for with message, sweat, and shoe leather.

The establishment clearly knows what Santorum may accomplish with just a little more time, money and recognition. Comfortably flush with both, the Romney machine is going to do whatever it takes to overcome the tepid enthusiasm that has plagued his candidacy since day one. This is why the inevitability narrative is so critical.

Republican primary voters must realize that the outcome of the nomination lies in their hands, not the pundits' or the media's. **Can Santorum be the nominee? Of course he can. So could Paul or Gingrich or any candidate that the voters decide best represent them.** In short, voters should vote their consciences. They should work for and give to the candidate who best represents their values and ideas instead of letting the likes of CNN's O'Brien of the media and the political money machines dictate who the nominee should be.

Do not fall for the myth of inevitability, but instead work hard, stay engaged and do not lose heart... a conservative will emerge.

Unlike the BCS "Game of the Century," this competition is far from over. May the best man win!