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EV1.NET HOUSTON BOWL EXTENDS ALLIANCE WITH THE BIG 12 CONFERENCE AND ADDS THE BIG EAST CONFERENCE AND NOTRE DAME TO ITS 2006-2009 MATCHUP

HOUSTON, TX – The **EV1.net Houston Bowl** recently signed agreements with both the **Big 12 Conference** and the **Big East Conference and Notre Dame** to participate in the EV1.net Houston Bowl for the 2006 through 2009 seasons. One team from each conference will be chosen to participate in the annual college football match-up in Reliant Stadium. The Big 12 Conference is already a participant and will annually send their #6 pick (after the BCS) to the game and possibly their #5 pick (after the BCS) in one of the years of the agreement. The Bowl will have the second/third selection after the Big East Conference Champion in addition to the opportunity to host Notre Dame as a participant in the game in one of the four years of the agreement.

“The EV1.net Houston Bowl is looking forward to continuing our relationship with the Big 12 Conference and a new beginning with the Big East Conference and alliance with Notre Dame in our annual battle at Reliant Stadium,” said Shea Guinn, Chairman of the Board for the Houston Bowl Foundation. “This match up will enable us to continue the progress that the Houston Bowl Foundation has made over the past year in establishing the game as a great annual Houston event. We are excited about these new partnerships and are anticipating fantastic post-season college football along with some great bowl games in the years to come for Houstonians to enjoy.”

“We are excited to be joining the Houston Bowl Foundation as they build the Bowl into a premier college football event,” said Mike Tranghese, Commissioner of the Big East Conference. “This partnership will allow us to bring the great tradition of Big East football to Houston and will also be a great opportunity to showcase our teams in a top tier market in the best stadium in the country.”

“We are pleased to have renewed our Houston Bowl agreement. Big 12 teams have been part of the bowl since its inception and we very much appreciate the continued opportunity to have a presence in Houston,” said Kevin Weiberg, Commissioner of the Big 12 Conference. “The city of Houston continues to play an important role in Big 12 postseason football, including hosting the Big 12 Championship Game for the second time, on December 3, this year. Our teams enjoy being in Houston and playing in a state-of-the art facility. The hospitality extended to us has been terrific. We very much look forward to the challenge of playing against a top team from the Big East Conference.”

This year’s EV1.net Houston Bowl will take place on Saturday, December 31, 2005 and will kick-off at 1:30 pm CST in Houston’s own Reliant Stadium. End 2005 with a BANG! For more information and ticket packages, visit www.houstonbowl.net.