Sugar Bowl 2009: Will Alabama spoil Utah Perfect Season?

Contributed by Steve Hastings
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The 2009 Sugar Bowl sponsored by Allstate features the No. 6 Utah Utes vs. No. 4 Alabama Crimson Tide and will take place on Friday January 2nd, at 8:15 PM EST live from New Orleans. Sportsbook.com has Alabama –9 point favorites over the undefeated Utah squad. The line originally opened with the Crimson Tide being a 10.5 point favorite.

“The BCS system could have one undefeated team at the end of the season that will not be crowned National Champions should Utah upset Alabama in the 2009 Sugar Bowl,” stated Point-Spreads.com Publisher Thomas Jensen. “The bookies are not giving any respect to Utah’s perfect season hence the opening number showing the Ute’s as 10.5 point underdogs, however early bettors have moved the line down to 9 points so clearly the dog is getting a little early action from the professionals. With pride on the line, I expect a close match up but Alabama will spoil Utah’s perfect season aspirations.”

Bet on the 2009 Sugar Bowl at Sportsbook.com today. A loss (both straight up and against the spread) vs. Florida cost Alabama a shot at the national championship, meaning hello Sugar Bowl. Before that untimely loss, the Crimson Tide were riding a 12-game wining streak (9-3 ATS over that span). Utah got its invite thanks to a perfect 12-0 record straight up this year (7-3-1 ATS).

When Alabama is favored by more than 8-points, as they are here, they are only 7-13 ATS in those games. The Crimson Tide have played 15 UNDERS the last 20 times they have been a favorite of more than 8 points, including five straight in the last five starts.

Quite the opposite, Utah is a perfect 11-0 ATS the last 11 times they have been a dog of 8 points or more and have played six-straight OVERS in the same situation. Like the three other BCS bowl games scheduled for this week, the betting action is nearly split evenly with Utah getting 51% of the volume.

Get the latest live 2009 Sugar Bowl Betting Odds here.