

## Notre Dame's bowl appearance puts Lizzy Seeberg story back in the news

Dennis Coday | Dec. 7, 2012 NCR Today

Early this year Melinda Henneberger, a political writer for the *Washington Post* and lead writer on the *Post's* She the People blog, approached *NCR* with a story.

Two years before, in 2010, Lizzy Seeberg, a 19-year-old freshman at Saint Mary's College, situated across the street from the University of Notre Dame, committed suicide after accusing a Notre Dame football player of sexually assaulting her. Seeberg reported the incident to campus police, but they did not interview the student athlete in question for another 15 days — five days after her death.

Six months later the university held a closed-door disciplinary hearing at which the player testified. He was found "not responsible." And he kept playing football.

On Jan. 7 this young man will be on the field as Notre Dame faces Alabama in the BCS National Championship game in Miami, and as a result, has generated renewed interest in the story *NCR* ran last March: [Reported sexual assault at Notre Dame campus leaves more questions than answers](#) [1]

A Notre Dame graduate from a family of Notre Dame graduates, Henneberger has been critical of her alma mater's handling of sex assault cases.

Henneberger wrote about the story again on the *Washington Post* website: [Why I won't be cheering for old Notre Dame](#) [2], and she was on "Hardball with Chris Matthews" on MSNBC: [Accountability in the World of Football](#) [3]. The clip of that show is below. Sorry you have to watch an ad first.

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[1] <http://ncronline.org/news/accountability/reported-sexual-assault-notre-dame-campus-leaves-more-questions->

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[2] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/she-the-people/wp/2012/12/04/why-i-wont-be-cheering-for-old-notre-dame/>

[3] [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3036697/ns/msnbc\\_tv-hardball\\_with\\_chris\\_matthews/#50109699](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3036697/ns/msnbc_tv-hardball_with_chris_matthews/#50109699)

[4] <http://www.nbcnews.com>

[5] <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032507>

[6] <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032072>