

## Beer, Buckeyes on tap at health investor conference

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What do Ohio State football and health-care investing have in common?

The two will come together in an unconventional way Monday evening at a San Francisco bar.

The folks at BioEnterprise, the region's bioscience business development group, are attending the JPMorgan Healthcare Investor Conference in San Francisco. BioEnterprise President Baiju Shah invited about 50 venture capitalists who went to school in the region or who have some other local tie to gather in a corner of [Lefty O'Doul's](#), a Geary Street bar.

By Friday afternoon, about 30 of the investors had said they would attend the event to watch the [Ohio State-LSU BCS Championship](#) game.

"It's a different way to meet with people and fellowship," Shah said.

The conference is an "event of the year" for health-care investors, Shah said. BioEnterprise will use it to start discussing deals in the first half of the year.

The number of conference participants from Cleveland -- and the number of meetings scheduled by investors with those participants -- have increased significantly in the last few years, Shah said.

"You can't not see Cleveland people in the lobbies, in the meetings and at the events," Shah said, calling the Northeast Ohio contingent of about 25 people a "critical mass and presence" at the conference.