

Iowa climbs to top of AP poll, Pac-10 left out

The University of Iowa, which once set an NCAA record of 19 consecutive nonwinning seasons from 1962-80, is ranked No. 1 in the Associated Press college football poll for the first time since 1961.

The Hawkeyes walloped Iowa State 57-3 Saturday and vaulted from third place to the top in Monday's weekly AP poll following No. 1-ranked Auburn's 38-20 loss to Tennessee and runner-up Oklahoma's 13-7 squeaker over Minnesota.

Iowa, 3-0, received 35 of 59 first-place votes and 1,111 of a possible 1,180 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and sportscasters. Oklahoma, which played its first game of the season last weekend, received 13 first-place votes and 1,046 points.

Meanwhile, Auburn plummeted from first place to 14th while Tennessee, Georgia, Baylor and Texas made the Top Twenty for the first time this season. Dropping out were UCLA, Maryland, Southern California and Virginia.

Behind Iowa and Oklahoma in the Top Ten are Southern Methodist, Florida State, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, Michigan, LSU, Penn State and Arkansas.

The jump to the top for Iowa capped a rise from virtual obscurity in Hayden Fry's seven years as head coach. The Hawkeyes were fourth in the 1985 preseason poll and third, fourth or fifth in each regular-season poll. They had defeated Drake 58-0 and Northern Illinois 58-20 before crushing Iowa State.

Ironically, Fry had pleaded following the Iowa State game: "Don't put us No. 1. That might be the kiss of death for us."

When advised of Iowa's new ranking on Monday, he chuckled and said:

"That's a little bit unbelievable at the University of Iowa. When we came here seven years ago we were in the worst 10."

Then, he added: "Seriously, I think it's super-great. I really don't put a lot of value in early-season rankings, but I'd like to see us there at the end of the season. We're honored to be No. 1 and we'll try our best to stay there."

Iowa plays Michigan State at home this Saturday. The string of 19 nonwinning seasons has since been broken by Rice, which had 21 in a row entering the 1985 campaign.

Southern Methodist, a 56-21 winner over Texas

Christian, jumped from sixth place to third with six first-place votes and 1,001 points. Florida State rallied from a 20-10 fourth-quarter deficit to nip Kansas 24-20 and remained No. 4 with one first-place ballot and 928 points.

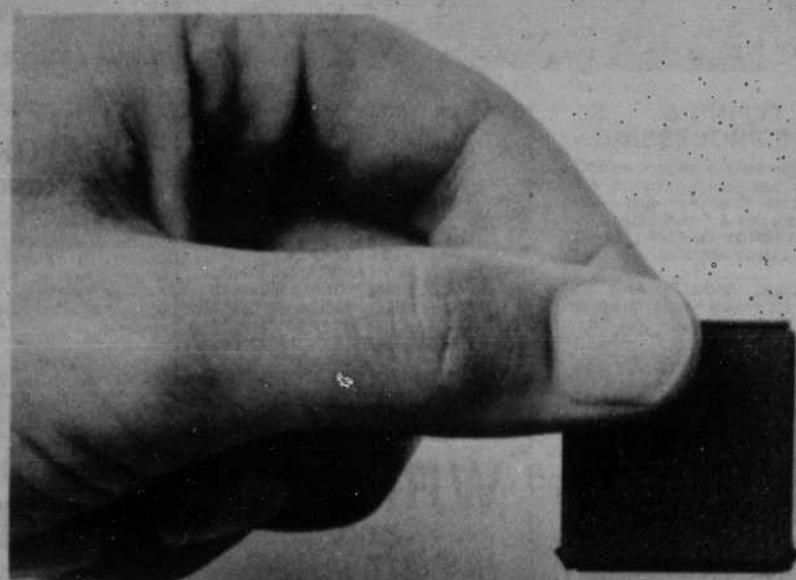
Ohio State remained in fifth place with 921 points by whipping Washington State 48-32 and Oklahoma State climbed from seventh to sixth with one first-place vote and 850 points by trouncing Miami of Ohio 45-10.

Michigan shot from 12th to seventh by blanking No. 17 Maryland 20-0 and received the remaining three first-place votes and 842 points.

LSU, Penn State and Arkansas held onto the eighth, ninth and 10th spots. LSU, which was idle, received 670 points while Penn State totaled 640 after downing Rutgers 17-10 and Arkansas received 616 after trimming New Mexico State 45-13.

The Second Ten consists of Florida, Alabama, Nebraska, Auburn, Brigham Young, Tennessee, Air Force, Georgia, Baylor and Texas.

The Pac-10 had no teams in the poll this week after USC lost to Arizona State 24-0 and UCLA dropped a 21-14 decision to the Washington Huskies. The Pac-10's accumulative record versus non-conference opponents is 9-12-1.



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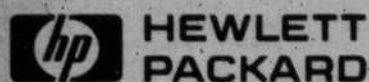
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