

SPORTS

Wake up, pollsters! The 'Purple Haze' is No. 1

So who is the No. 1 team in college football? The Associated Press Top 25 poll says Notre Dame is, followed by Washington and then Houston.

But really, now. Who has the best college football team in the land?

It isn't the Fighting Irish at Notre Dame, who lost to Stanford — in a game where the Cardinal band didn't do something offensive, politically or morally, that is — and should have lost to Michigan State. (Notre Dame did beat Michigan and Miami, however.)

It can't be Michigan, a team that has lost almost as many times this season as they did in Bo's whole career.

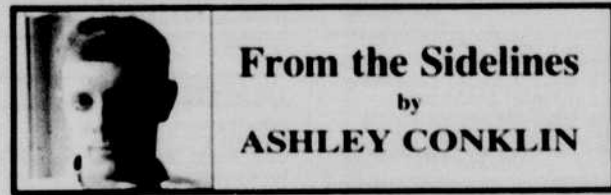
It certainly isn't Auburn, who was drubbed by Florida Saturday by a 48-7 count.

It definitely isn't the most overrated team in the country, Nebraska, who trailed Oregon State 7-3 at halftime, and was run over by a Buffalo called "Public Bienenmy No. 1" at Lincoln, Neb., last week.

It isn't Bienenmy and mates at Colorado, who have tied Tennessee, lost to Illinois and then should have lost to Missouri. When will those officials ever call another game, anyway?

It won't be Illinois, who lost Jeff George, lost to Arizona and was beaten out of the Rose Bowl race by Iowa. The Illini are more concerned about whether their basketball program will ever play a game again after all those nasty things like illegal \$1,000 handshakes to recruits.

Speaking of crime, it isn't Miami Vice, er ... the Miami Hurricanes, who have lost to pass-happy Ty Detmer and were also beaten by a Rocket at South Bend, Ind. That's Raghib Ismail, not his brother the Missile, who plays for Syracuse.



From the Sidelines
by
ASHLEY CONKLIN

It isn't that Detmer-led Brigham Young team that lost its undefeated season thanks to a bunch of Ducks at Oregon.

Houston and Florida might have the best teams around, but they won't be in the Cotton and Sugar Bowls, or any other bowls thanks to some more little penalties the NCAA threw at them.

The No. 1 team in the land could have come from a basketball conference called the ACC. But there isn't a Santa Claus this year, Virginia, because you lost to the Yellow Jackets, or Ramblin' Wreck, whatever Georgia Tech goes by these days.

Georgia Tech, No. 1? They tied North Carolina. No, J.R. Reid is a Charlotte Hornet and he did not miss two free throws to win the game.

I'm sure you're ready for the answer by now, so the winner of the No. 1 team in the land has a defensive nickname in tribute of the great guitar legend, Jimi Hendrix.

That's right, the "Purple Haze" defense of Washington, and the rest of the team as well, wins the lottery pick for No. 1.

Those darn AP voters haven't recognized this, I know. But hey, even the production manager at my paper knows the Huskies are No. 1, and who could doubt that?

No one. I guess we have to forgive those people who vote on the polls. They think football is played only as far west as Oklahoma or Nebraska. No one in the Pacific Northwest can play football because it's a tough game.

Pollsters in East Rutherford, N.J., Pittsburgh or Miami can talk all they want about tough, but the Huskies are tough.

They have allowed an average of only 65.7 rushing yards per game this season. Consider for a moment the rushing teams they have played — USC, Colorado, Arizona. Consider the passing teams they have played who can also run the ball — Oregon, Stanford. The pollsters are right. Ricky Ervin, Bienenmy, Art Greathouse, Michael Bates, Sean Burwell, Glyn Milburn and Tommy Vardell can't run the ball on anybody, can they?

How tough are the Huskies? They lost their leading tackle in linebacker James Clifford and don't even miss him. The front three of Travis Richardson, John Cook and Steve Emtman are so good they probably could have saved Bud Carson's job with the Cleveland Browns.

Think Mike Singletary of the Chicago Bears is a ferocious competitor? Ask a back or quarterback what it's like to get hit by a linebacking corps of Chico Fraley, Brett Collins, Donald Jones and Dave Hoffman. Ouch.

Throw in the best running back in the country in Greg Lewis and you can forget about stopping the Huskies. I'd rather be in Saudi Arabia worrying about Saddam Hussein than being the next victim of the "Dawg Pound."

Washington is No. 1. No other team even comes close.

Ducks move up to No. 20, Huskies check in at No. 2

Oregon's football team climbed two more notches in this week's Associated Press Top 25 poll as the Ducks moved up to No. 20.

The Ducks were No. 22 last week and have now been in the poll for three straight weeks after dropping out for one week following a 38-17 loss to Washington.

It is the first time Oregon has been ranked for three consecutive weeks in the poll since 1959, when the Ducks appeared in the poll for five straight weeks. The Ducks went 8-2 that year, but missed out on a bowl bid.

Notre Dame has reclaimed the No. 1 position this week after previously top-ranked Virginia lost to Georgia Tech Saturday by a 41-38 score. Virginia fell to 11th this week while Georgia Tech jumped from 16th to seventh.

Washington is ranked second

this week, the first time a Pac-10 school has been that high since USC was No. 2 two years ago. The Huskies were seventh a week ago.

The Ducks are also the second-highest Pac-10 team in the poll as USC fell from 21st to 23rd by tying California 31-31 Saturday. The Golden Bears are Oregon's opponent this Saturday and received 13 votes to check in at No. 32 in the overall voting.

One other Pac-10 school, Arizona, also received votes as the Wildcats were 29th with 19 votes. Arizona was ranked 23rd last week, but suffered a 54-10 loss to Washington over the weekend.

Following Notre Dame and Washington in the poll are Houston, Colorado and Miami. Iowa, Georgia Tech, Brigham Young, Tennessee and Florida round out the top 10.

The Top Twenty Five

By The Associated Press

The Top Twenty Five teams in the Associated Press 1990 college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 3, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and last week's rankings:

Rank	Team	Record	Pts	Pvs
1	Notre Dame (37)	7-1-0	1,456	2
2	Washington (13)	8-1-0	1,403	7
3	Houston (5)	8-0-0	1,337	6
4	Colorado (5)	8-1-1	1,310	9
5	Miami, Fla.	6-2-0	1,228	8
6	Iowa	7-1-0	1,129	13
7	Georgia Tech	7-0-1	1,074	16
8	Brigham Young	7-1-0	1,039	10
9	Tennessee	5-1-2	980	11
10	Florida	7-1-0	949	15
11	Virginia	7-1-0	924	1
12	Florida St.	6-2-0	845	12
13	Nebraska	8-1-0	818	3
14	Texas	6-1-0	782	14
15	Auburn	6-1-1	650	4
16	Mississippi	8-1-0	600	17
17	Illinois	6-2-0	568	5
18	Clemson	8-2-0	509	18
19	Michigan	5-3-0	438	20
20	Oregon	7-2-0	362	22
21	Penn St.	6-2-0	279	24
22	Louisville	8-1-1	224	25
23	USC	6-2-1	148	21
24	Michigan St.	4-3-1	106	—
25	Wyoming	9-1-0	84	19

Other receiving votes: Texas A&M 19, Ohio St. 71, Oklahoma 36, Arizona 73, Colorado St. 18, Syracuse 17, California 13, S. Mississippi 4, Toledo 3, San Jose St. 2, Minnesota 1, North Carolina 1.

Hockey team beats UW, game finishes with brawl

The Club Sports hockey team made its collegiate season debut a successful one Saturday night, as Oregon downed Washington 3-2 before a crowd of about 500 at Lane County Ice.

It was a rare game in that it was a full-contact game, a rarity among Club Sports college hockey teams.

Oregon skated out to a 2-0 lead after one period as Brad Paris and Ben Bartscht scored goals on assists from Dan Baker and Chris Hoffman, respectively.

Washington came back to tie the game 2-2 after the second period but Oregon added a third period goal to take the game. Mike Rousell scored the winning goal on an assist from Kurt Giesler.

Coordinator Scott Brown

said that there were 20 minutes worth of penalty minutes in the game, which ended in a bench-clearing brawl. Although it was a full-contact game, Brown said the penalty times was a high amount.

Brown, who founded hockey as a Club Sport at Oregon last year, said the biggest problem the team is having this year is not having a coach.

"We're still playing without a coach," Brown said. "I'm just the coordinator, not the coach."

Oregon will be back in action Friday when it takes on the Eugene Blues at LCI at 5:15 p.m. Oregon will be trying to avenge an earlier 5-1 loss to the Blues.

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