

Husky-Miami tie marks second time since 1936

(AP) — Want a 2-for-1 deal? Try the latest Associated Press college football poll.

Two teams — Miami and Washington — are tied for No. 1. It's the first time that's happened in 51 years, and only the second time since the poll started in 1936.

After improving to 6-0 with easy wins Saturday, Miami and Washington each received 1,517 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Miami got one more first-place vote than Washington (31-30), but the Hurricanes were third on two ballots compared to one third-place vote for the Huskies.

Last week, Washington edged Miami by one point, with both schools receiving 30 first-place votes.

While the teams are now tied in the AP poll, Miami continued to hold a one-point lead in the USA Today-CNN coaches' survey.

The last tie for first in the AP poll was Oct. 27, 1941, when Minnesota and Texas shared the top spot. The only other first-place draw was between Texas A&M and Southern Cal on Nov. 27, 1939.

Miami routed Texas Christian 45-10 Saturday for its 24th straight win, while Washington cruised past Oregon 24-3 for its 20th victory in a row.

Washington had a chance to pad its margin after moving to the Oregon 1 in the final seconds, but coach Don James decided to let the clock run out.

"I couldn't care less about the polls," he said. "Everyone cares except us."

Miami coach Dennis Erickson echoed the thought.

"I don't care about the polls," he said. "All we can do is win all of our games and we should be national champion."

And what if Miami and Washington both go undefeated for the second straight year?

"Then we both should be national champions, just like we were last year,"

Erickson said.

Everyone voted Miami or Washington No. 1 in the AP poll except Corky Simpson of the Tuscon (Ariz.) Citizen, who continued to put Alabama on top.

The fourth-ranked Tide impressed other voters, too, after beating Tennessee 17-10 in Knoxville. The win moved Alabama (7-0) closer to No. 3 Michigan (5-0-1), which beat Indiana 31-3.

Texas A&M (6-0) remained No. 5 after downing Rice 35-9. Rounding out the Top 10 are Florida State (6-1), Georgia (6-1), Nebraska (4-1), Colorado (5-0-1) and Notre Dame (4-1-1).

Huskies look forward to non-Pac-10 game

SEATTLE (AP) — The Washington Huskies take a break from the Rose Bowl race this week and coach Don James is looking at it as just that — a break from the Pacific-10 Conference race.

The Huskies (6-0), tied for first place with Miami in The Associated Press poll, will play Pacific (2-5) in a non-conference game at Husky Stadium Saturday. After a string of three straight Pac-10 games, Washington is playing the last of three non-conference games.

"I'm glad we don't have to get out and prepare for another big game," James admitted Monday. "It just seems like we've had big game, big game, big game."

Leading the Pac-10 with a 4-0 record, Washington has played three Pac-10 foes in a row. The Huskies scored a 24-3 victory at Oregon last Saturday.

Although Washington is a prohibitive favorite, James said the Big West Tigers from Stockton, Calif., present a new challenge because they have the run-and-shoot offense.

"It's like looking at the Houston Oilers with Warren Moon," James said.

James said a game against an opponent with a good passing attack will help prepare the Huskies for their final four Pac-10 foes; No. 16 Stanford, No. 21 Arizona, Oregon State and No. 13 Washington State.

"It'll give us an opportunity to play a lot of pass defense," James said. "We'll just go out and work on it and work on it."

Despite Washington's role as a huge favorite against Pacific, James said he doesn't think his players will overlook the Tigers.

"They're a pretty mature bunch," he said. "I don't think they're looking for days off. If you don't get better today and

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— Don James, Washington head coach

tomorrow, then you aren't going to beat the best teams on your schedule."

James said Mark Brunell will start his second straight game against Pacific. Against Oregon, Brunell started in place of Billy

Joe Hobert and completed nine of 15 passes for 151 yards and a touchdown. He also ran for a score.

Washington may be able to keep some injured players out of the Pacific game. Fullback Darius Turner suffered an ankle sprain in the Oregon game and inside linebacker James Clifford suffered a shoulder injury in practice last week. Both Turner and Clifford sat out the second half against Oregon.

James said he didn't know if either Turner or Clifford would be able to play against Pacific.

James said there was a chance the Huskies could get tailback Jay Barry back this week. Barry has missed the past three games because of a broken toe.

WSU, USC players earn conference honors

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. (AP) — Deron Pointer of Washington State earned Pacific-10 player of the week honors with a 98-yard kickoff return, the longest in the league this season, the conference announced Monday.

He shared the honors with University of Southern California tackle David Webb, who made eight unassisted tackles, and the entire Arizona offensive line, the first so honored by the league.

In Washington's 30-17 defeat of UCLA, Pointer returned the second-half kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown that gave the Cougars the lead for good. It was one of three Pointer returned for a total of 147 yards.

Arizona's offensive line was recognized for its role in the Wildcats' 21-6

upset over No. 8-ranked Stanford. Arizona rushed for 256 yards for three touchdowns against Stanford, which had allowed only three rushing scores in the previous six games.

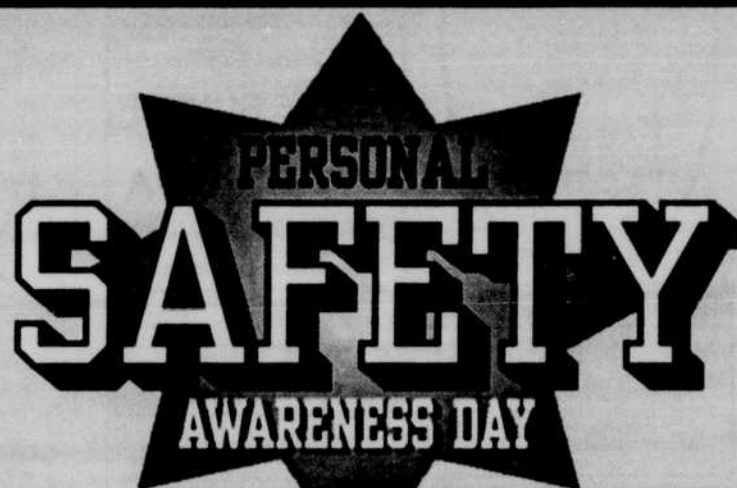
The conference noted that the following offensive players saw most of the action: Paul Stamer, Hicham El-Mashtoub, Eric Johnson, Warner Smith, Mike Clasca, Mike Heemsbergen, Joe Smigiel and Mu Tagoal.

USC's Webb was recognized for making eight unassisted tackles, including two for losses and one quarterback sack, in the Trojan's 27-24 victory over California.

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