

Ohio State hurdles Miami in latest poll

Omar Kelly

South Florida Sun-Sentinel (KRT)

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — The demise of four of the eight undefeated college football teams Saturday has simplified the national championship picture, but that doesn't mean Miami has a direct path back to the title game.

The latest Bowl Championship Series standings, which have Ohio State moving up three positions and jumping over Miami for the No. 2 spot, show that UM (8-0, 4-0 Big East) could be left outside

looking in, even if the Hurricanes finish undefeated.

Even though Miami stayed unbeaten and posted its school-record 30th straight win Saturday with a 42-17 victory over Rutgers, UM's struggles during that game (trailing in the fourth quarter to the Big East's perennial doormat before rallying) cost the Hurricanes dearly.

Miami, which plays Tennessee on the road Saturday, dropped to No. 2 in The Associated Press poll, and as a result of its fall, Ohio

State moved into second in the BCS with 5.57 points, 0.44 points ahead of Miami's 6.01. Oklahoma remains No. 1 with a 2.04 rating.

A component of the BCS standings includes the average of the AP media and coaches' polls. Miami is No. 1 in the coaches' poll, giving it a 1.5 poll average. If UM had stayed No. 1 in both polls, its poll average would have been 1 and that would have been enough to put UM 0.06 points ahead of the Buckeyes.

Even though the new standings

might disappoint UM fans, Miami's players and coaches aren't fazed that they have been unseated from one of the top two spots that decide which teams play in the Fiesta Bowl, which will be held in Tempe, Ariz., on Jan. 3.

"I can't be too overly concerned with what the pollsters do," coach Larry Coker said earlier in the day before the BCS standings were released. "We didn't play as well as we can play, but we're not going to apologize for a 25-point win."

The final BCS standings are re-

leased Dec. 8, and UM's players believe that gives them plenty of time to regain the voters' respect. Ohio State has games remaining at Purdue (4-5), at Illinois (3-6) and against No. 13 Michigan (7-2).

"If we win all our games, we should be (playing in the Fiesta Bowl)," junior receiver Andre Johnson said. "We are the defending national champions. We should be put in the game to defend our title."

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urday, then hit the road for the last two games of the season in Eugene and at Washington State.

Ticket tomfoolery

If you were lamenting the long lines for Oregon-Washington tickets Monday or depressed about your inability to score tickets to the Civil War, be thankful you don't have to live through the red-tape nightmare that is Beaver student ticketing.

Oregon State students are able to pick up tickets today for the Nov. 23 game against Oregon at Reser Stadium. If, that is, they could produce ticket stubs from all six of the Beaver home games to this point.

Been to all the games, but lost a ticket? If there's any left, students with five stubs can pick up their Civil War tickets Thursday. Four stubs? They can pick up the Friday leftovers.

By the way, this does include games that were played before school was in session.

If an Oregon State student has not been to one single game this

season, or washed all their ticket stubs in their jeans, he or she can scrounge for available tickets on Nov. 12, when it will be a ticket free-for-all.

So the moral of the story is, if you're trying to work an Oregon State friend for Civil War tickets, make sure it's a responsible friend who saved all of his or her stubs.

Here's to you, Wazzu

After creaming Arizona State on Saturday and watching several top teams lose, the Washington State Cougars found themselves in unfamiliar territory: the nation's top five.

Washington State jumped to No. 5 in both national polls, a school record. The Cougars were ranked No. 7 in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll in 1997, but before now have never been ranked

"We just have not made the plays that we've made over the years in the times when we need to make them... It's a difficult pill to swallow."

Rick Neuheisel
Washington football coach

higher than that.

The Cougars are alone in first place in the Pac-10, with a 5-0 conference mark. Washington State is the only team in the Pac-10 that has one loss overall. USC and Oregon have two losses.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

Volleyball

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A look back

A close look at statistics from Friday's match against Oregon State proves that the Ducks were not only the better team, but also that the team that wanted the win more.

While the Beavers won the kills battle, 65-64, they also had more errors than the Ducks, 40-32. In addition, the Ducks out-hit — percentage-wise — their in-state rivals, .177 to .134.

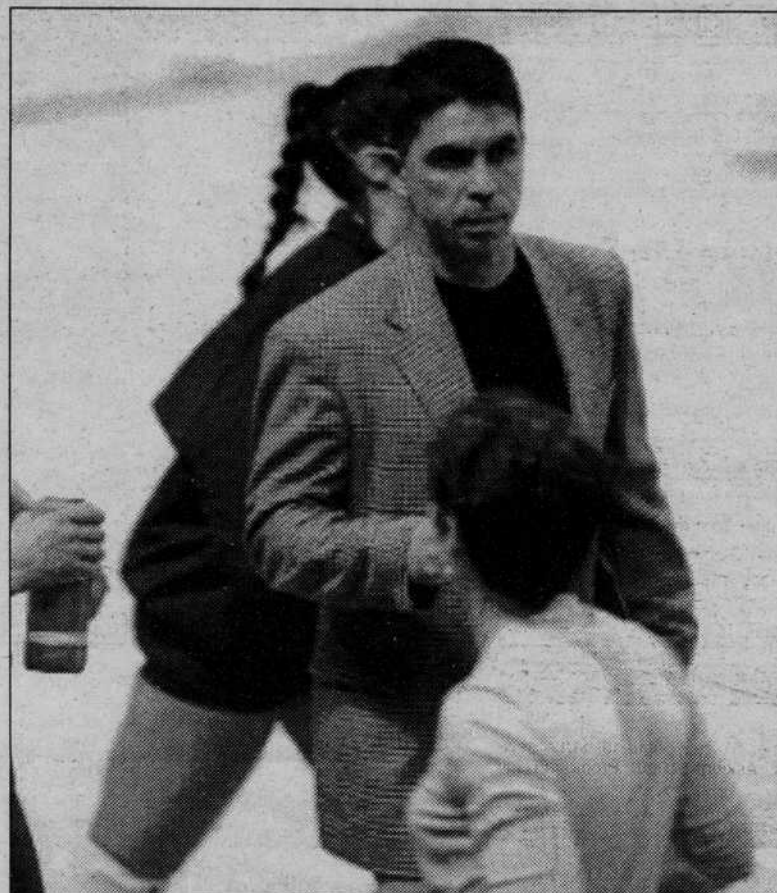
"Oregon played really well. They took care of the ball and did some nice things defensively," Oregon State head coach Nancy Somera said.

Oregon also received general output from every player who stepped on to the court, ranging from junior Diana Blank's timely block in the end for the win to junior Heather Gilmore's single solo block and four block assists.

As a team, the Ducks totaled 13 total blocks, highlighted by senior Lindsay Closs' seven block assists.

According to Ferreira, Oregon's talent had been showing through in recent matches. The win was the Ducks coming together as a whole.

"I think we've been playing well for a lot of weeks," he said. "I think we are a very, very good volleyball team that maximizes its potential, and that's the ultimate compliment that I could ask of any team. We've done that in a week in, week out



Adam Amato Emerald

Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira led the Ducks to their first 2002 Pac-10 win.

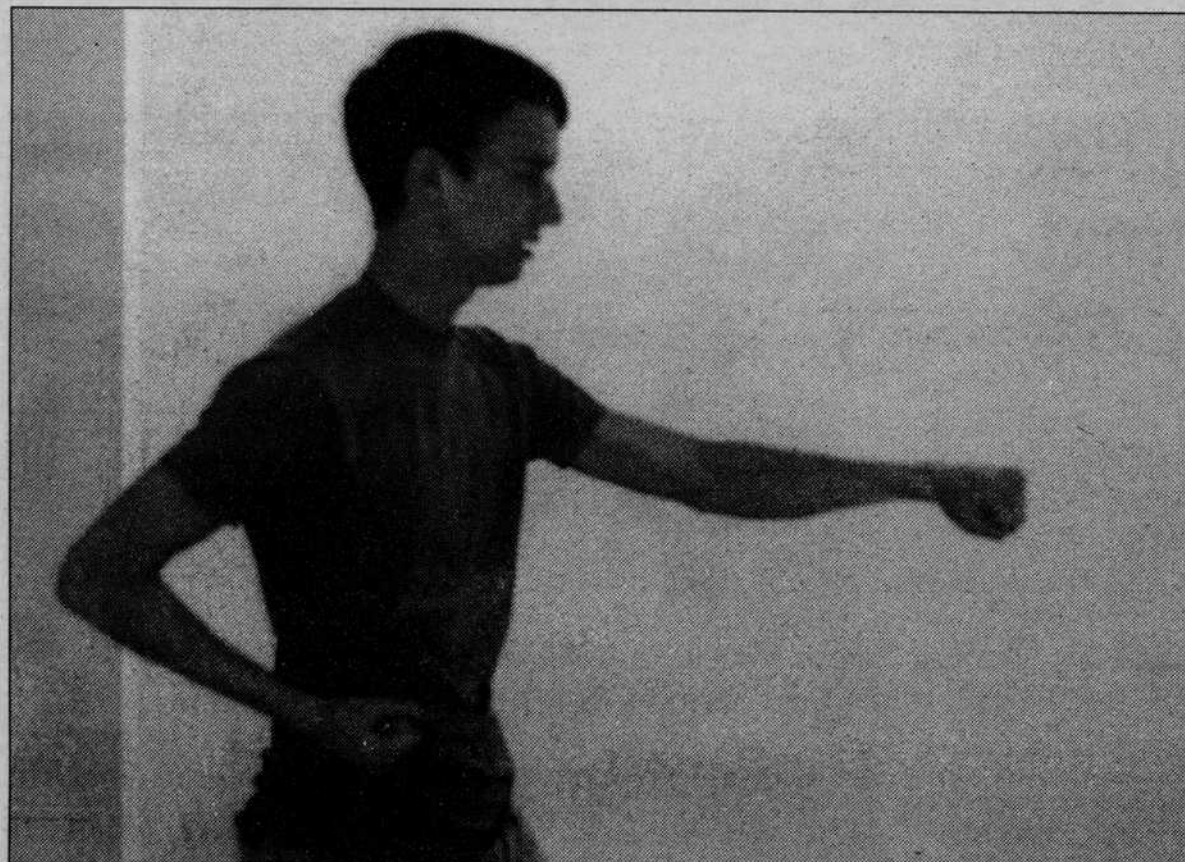
basis. I'm really impressed with the character of our athletes."

On the radar

Oregon's schedule doesn't get easy after its victory over Oregon State. On Friday, the Ducks return to McArthur Court for a match against

No. 1 USC, slated to begin at 7 p.m. No. 18 UCLA visits Saturday, with the match set to begin after the women's basketball contest, which begins at 5 p.m.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.



The members of the Club Tae Kwon Do team say they want to start scheduling competitions outside Oregon.

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Tae kwon do

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Oregon, because recently, the team hasn't traveled outside of the state.

"We have tournaments in Washington, one at Stanford and Long Beach State, and they all have really developed tae kwon do teams," Cowan said. "We are changing things a lot this year."

Competing in tae kwon do is more open than other sports. Members of respective local clubs can participate as independents against Oregon team members. The age group most commonly represented is 18 to 34 year olds..

Competitions consist of sparring and semi-choreographed routines.

"Competitions are based on form," Cowan said. "Basically we have what's like a dance routine, a set series of martial arts techniques with blocks, kicks. Competitors have a sequence that they perform which is then judged."

For those who don't know anything about tae kwon do, it is a Korean discipline that has recently become an Olympic sport.

"We emphasize kicks and also incorporate a great deal of self-discipline," Cowan said. "Tae kwon do is really structured. You learn a lot of leadership, personal growth, self control. Everyone has a great time doing it; it really is a lot of fun."

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Samantha Cowan
Tae kwon do coordinator

Scott Archer is a freelance writer for the Emerald.