

Southern Methodist Takes Lead, Displacing Army in Gridiron Poll

Mustangs Up From Third, While Oklahoma Falls a Notch—Tennessee, Northwestern and Cornell Move Into First Ten

Southern Methodist's unbeaten Mustangs galloped to the top of the standings yesterday in The Associated Press weekly poll to determine the country's No. 1 college football team.

The Southwest Conference power, which made stubborn Rice a 42-to-21 victim Saturday night, gained 96 first-place nominations from the 246 voting sports critics. Army, leader the past two weeks, dropped to second place despite its 49-0 conquest of Harvard while Oklahoma, the former runner-up, slipped to third, the place formerly held by Southern Methodist.

Kentucky remained in fourth place and the top ten was completed by California, Ohio State, Texas, Tennessee, Northwestern and Cornell in that order.

Tennessee, Northwestern and Cornell are newcomers to the present first ten, replacing Stanford, Maryland and Washington, all of whom were defeated last Saturday.

Rote the Big Producer

With Kyle Rote as their big producer, the Mustangs have romped over five opponents from five different circuits. In order, they have defeated Georgia Tech, Ohio State, Missouri, Oklahoma A. & M. and Rice. In building their unblemished record, the Texans have scored 184 points to 61 for their opponents.

They are idle this week while preparing for their annual tussle with Texas, seventh in the weekly rankings for the past two weeks.

Army's fall from the top followed its easy conquest of inept Harvard. The cadets, unbeaten now through twenty-four games, had a 42-0 edge at the half before Coach Earl Blaik sent in his reserves. Oklahoma also suffered in prestige despite a lopsided victory. The Sooners measured Kansas State, 58-0, for their twenty-fifth straight victory.

The voting was the second heaviest in the fifteen years of the poll, being exceeded only by the 275 votes of last week. Only one ballot listed Notre Dame, former darling of the voters. It was for eighth

place and the resultant three points dropped the Irish, beaten last Saturday by Indiana for the second loss this season, into a tie for thirty-ninth place with Louisiana State, Yale, Iowa and Virginia.

Indiana, Notre Dame's conqueror, hopped into nineteenth place on the strength of the victory.

Rises Eleven Notches

Biggest jump of the week, however, was registered by unbeaten Northwestern. The Wildcats leaped from twentieth place a week ago to ninth on the strength of a 28-23 victory over Pittsburgh. It was the fourth triumph for the Evanston eleven.

Tennessee's climb was almost as sensational. The Volunteers, pre-season favorites for the Southeastern Conference title but licked by Mississippi State, sky-rocketed from eighteenth to eighth place by nipping Alabama, 14 to 9.

Before its defeat by the Hoosiers, Notre Dame was in eleventh place. The Irish topped the first 1950 poll and led every week during the 1949 season.

The top teams (figures in brackets indicate first-place votes):

	Points.
1—Southern Methodist (96).....	2,071
2—Army (84)	1,991
3—Oklahoma (35)	1,974
4—Kentucky (15)	1,286
5—California (2)	1,223
6—Ohio State (2)	1,121
7—Texas	782
8—Tennessee	345
9—Northwestern	333
10—Cornell (2)	313
Second ten—11, Miami (Fla.) (8),	298;
12, Illinois (1), 250;	13, Texas
A. and M., 169;	14, Michigan, 146;
15, Michigan State, 102;	16, Clemson, 72;
17, Wake Forest, 67;	18, U. C. L. A.,
64;	19, Indiana, 60;
20, Florida (1), 54.	

Others receiving votes were:

Washington 53, Princeton 52, Kansas 47, Rice 40, Stanford 32, Wyoming 32, Pennsylvania 30, Maryland 26, Vanderbilt 23, Georgia 17, Nebraska 8, North Carolina 8, West Texas State 7, Loyola of Los Angeles 6, Duke 6, Georgia Tech 4, Alabama 4, Tulane 4, Notre Dame 3, Louisiana State 3, Virginia 3, Yale 3, Iowa 3, Wisconsin 2, Lewis and Clark 2, North Carolina State 1, Washington and Lee 1, South Carolina 1, Wichita 1, Xavier of Cincinnati 1.