

88 WRITERS RANK MINNESOTA AT TOP

Gophers Retain First Place in Football Poll, With Texas A. and M. Next

STANFORD A CLOSE THIRD

Boston College Fourth and Michigan Fifth—Penn Is Ranked 10th on List

By The Associated Press.

Though Minnesota definitely declared itself out of the Rose Bowl picture yesterday, the Western Conference football champions figure very importantly in one post-season contest.

The Golden Gophers again are the No. 1 team of the country in this week's seventh Associated Press ranking poll, and from the results of the balloting are favorites to finish in that position when the final votes are cast next week. Yet there still are three teams — similarly undefeated and untied — which stand some slight chance of beating them out.

Minnesota, on top for the third straight week, got 88 of the 170 first-place votes this time (only two of the country's experts rated them worse than fourth), to accumulate 1,562 points. Only 448 points, however, separate the Gophers from fourth-place Boston College, with Texas A. and M. and Stanford second and third with 1,476 and 1,264 respectively.

All three of these teams complete their regular schedules this week—the Aggies against Texas on Thursday in a game where victory will make them the first team to lead the Southwest Conference for two straight years; Stanford against California Saturday, the big one the Indians need for undisputed claim to the Coast Conference title and the Rose Bowl nomination, and Boston against Holy Cross the same afternoon, a game which will find the Eagles heavily favored to finish with a clean slate and then get a Sugar Bowl invitation.

This week's first ten has a strong Midwestern tinge and is likely to retain that to the end. In addition to Minnesota, there is Michigan, one of the Gophers' two victims, in fifth place: Northwestern, beaten twice but a big winner over Notre Dame in its finale, seventh, and Nebraska, the Big Six champion, eighth.

Rounding out the list are sixth-place Tennessee, which will be favored to complete three regular seasons without defeat when it meets Vanderbilt Saturday; Georgetown, ninth, and Ivy League champion Penn, tenth, with only two points less than the Hoyas.

The standings (points figured on 10-9-8-7-6, etc., basis):

	1st Place Votes.	Points.
1—Minnesota	88	1,562
2—Texas A and M.	41	1,476
3—Stanford	15	1,264
4—Boston College	15	1,114
5—Michigan	3	1,042
6—Tennessee	8	959
7—Northwestern	396
8—Nebraska	391
9—Georgetown	229 $\frac{3}{4}$
10—Penn	227 $\frac{3}{4}$

Second Ten—11, Mississippi State, 177 13-14; 12, Washington, 135 3-7; 13, Cornell, 87 3-7; 14, Fordham, 85; 15, Santa Clara, 59 3-7; 16, Southern Methodist, 34; 17, Alabama, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$; tie for 18, Texas Tech and Lafayette, 7 each; tie for 20, Duke and Hardin-Simmons, 5 each.

Also Ran—Utah, 4; Oklahoma, 3; Pacific Lutheran, Rice, Notre Dame, Clemson, 2 each; St. Mary's and Duquesne, 1 each.