

Army Keeps Rating as No. 1 Team, 34 Points Ahead of Notre Dame Gets 57 First-Place Votes to 31 in Poll of Writers, but 36 Rate Elevens Even— Georgia Ranked Third, U. C. L. A. Fourth

The nation's sports writers had just as much trouble yesterday deciding whether Army or Notre Dame was the best team in the country as the cadets and Irish had in finding out themselves last Saturday—but when the debate was ended, the "experts" gave it to Army in the closest kind of photo finish.

Forced to split out the two mightiest moleskin machines in the nation after their scoreless thriller, the writers apparently went on the old sports theory that "a champ is a champ until he's beaten." As a result, they voted the Army in front by exactly thirty-four points in what was probably as hot a battle of ballots as the weekly Associated Press poll has had.

Altogether, 143 sports writers from coast to coast—and the Stars and Stripes sports editor in Germany for good measure—went to the ballot box with their selections for the top ten teams in the nation. Of these, Army drew fifty-seven undisputed first-place votes to thirty-one for the Fighting Irish. And, hitting a new high for the poll, thirty-six writers voted for a first-place deadlock between the two teams, unable to see it one way or the other.

Far Ahead of Field

Basing the count on the usual system of 10 points for a first-place ballot, 9 for a second, 8 for a third, etc., Army finished with 1,300½ points to 1,266½ for Notre Dame. The rest of the field was far out of it, although Georgia's unbeaten, untied Bulldogs, coming fast in the stretch, showed even more power than a week ago in holding on to the third spot in the ranking.

The nineteen first place votes the cadets and Irish didn't get were tossed to the country's only major undefeated, untied outfits—Georgia and the University of California at Los Angeles. The Bulldogs picked up twelve of them, half a dozen more than they had last week, and the Pacific Coast Conference pace-setters collected seven, four more than their top-spot vote of a week ago.

The 7-0 tumble of Rice before Arkansas after its stratospheric success over Texas, tumbled the Owls all the way out of the top ten, enabling Pennsylvania's Quakers, who face Army next Saturday, to climb from ninth to fifth place in the poll with 646 points, as a result of their 41-6 romp over Columbia.

Texas, thumping Baylor, held onto sixth place with 531 points, as Georgia Tech moved up to seventh by joining the not-so-exclusive list of teams which have whipped Navy. Tennessee, nosing out Mississippi, dropped from seventh to eighth, and Illinois moved up from tenth to ninth. Replacing Rice in the select set was a second Western Conference member, the Michigan Wolverines, who returned to the fold by taking tenth place as a result of their 55-7 mauling of Michigan State.

Standing of the Teams

Standing of the top ten teams (points based on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 system of counting):

Team.	First Place Votes.	First Place Ties.	Pts.
1—Army	57	36	1,300½
2—Notre Dame..	31	36	1,266½
3—Georgia	12	..	1,061½
4—U. C. L. A....	7	..	961½
5—Pennsylvania. . .	..	..	646
6—Texas . . . . .	..	..	531
7—Georgia Tech. . .	..	..	350
8—Tennessee . . . .	..	..	315
9—Illinois . . . . .	..	..	224
10—Michigan . . . . .	..	..	212½

The second ten: 11—Louisiana State, 149½; 12—Southern California, 96; 13—Ohio State, 93; 14—Rice, 86½; 15—North Carolina, 75; 16—Iowa, 60; 17—Arkansas, 48; 18—Yale, 42; 19—Holy Cross, 36; 20—Duke, 27.

Others receiving one or more points: Northwestern, 26; Delaware, 20; Tulsa, 19; Boston College, 14; Indiana, 6½; Muhlenberg and Hardin-Simmons, 6 each; Missouri and William and Mary, 5 each; Kansas, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Rutgers, 4 each; Wake Forest and Virginia, 3 each; North Carolina State, Kentucky and Tulane, 2 each; St. Norbert's (Wis.), California, Nevada and Guilford, 1 each.