

AP Poll Declares Orangemen Champs

By WILL GRIMSLEY
Associated Press Sports Writer

Syracuse University—unbeaten, untied and virtually unchallenged—is the 1959 college football champion, winner by a sweeping majority in The Associated Press' final poll.

The Orangemen from upstate New York, who completed their perfect season with a 36-8 rout of UCLA in Los Angeles Saturday, drew 134 of the 201 first place votes cast by sports writers and broadcasters.

Mississippi received the next highest total—47—and no other team, including 1958 champion Louisiana State, got more than six.

LSU finished third in the final standings, followed by Texas, Georgia, Wisconsin, Texas Christian, Washington, Arkansas and Alabama. Penn State finished 12th in the final poll.

Syracuse will receive The Associated Press trophy emblematic of the national championship—the first Eastern team to win the honor since Army in 1945.

Superbly coached by Ben Schwartzwalder, a former West Virginia center, the Orangemen swept through a 10-game schedule, scoring at least three times on every foe and dominating final college statistics.

They led the nation in total offense, rushing offense, total defense, defense against rushing and in scoring. They piled up 340 points and yielded 59.

They demonstrated such poise and power, even to three-team depth that some selectors gave Syracuse the first two places on the ballot and let other teams follow after that.

Three voters gave the No. 1 designation to Syracuse's reserve team with the regulars rated No. 2.

The Orangemen were the only major team to complete the season without defeat or tie. They

will play Texas in the Cotton Bowl Jan 1.

They demonstrated their championship qualities in the final game of the season. With the regular schedule over for most of the other teams, they took their No. 1 rating against upset-bent UCLA before a national television audience.

This was a perfect spot for the jitters. But Syracuse—its second team showing as much speed and finesse as the first—rolled over the Uclans easily and held the cotitle holder of the Pacific Coast's Big Five Conference to minus 13 yards on the ground.

In total offense, Syracuse averaged more than 450 yards a game and went above the 300 mark in rushing alone.

1. Syracuse 134 (10-0) 1768
2. Mississippi 47 (9-1) 1444
3. Louisiana State 6 (9-1) 1284
4. Texas 1 (9-1) 1028
5. Georgia 3 (9-1) 876
6. Wisconsin 5 (7-2) 724
7. Texas Christian (8-2) 580
8. Washington (9-1) 428
9. Arkansas (8-2) 301
10. Alabama 5 (7-1-2) 257
11. Clemson (8-2) 239
12. Penn State (8-2) 190
13. Illinois (5-3-1) 104
14. Southern California (8-2) 94
15. Oklahoma (7-3) 68
16. Wyoming (9-1) 60
17. Notre Dame (5-5) 46
18. Missouri (6-4) 40
19. Florida (6-4) 34
20. Pittsburgh (6-4) 30

Vega Schedules 3 Big Meets

Armando Vega, Nittany Lion EIGL and NCAA all-around gymnastics champion, will see plenty of action when he goes on tour for the United States Olympic Fund for three weeks starting this Saturday when he performs at a benefit in Phoenix, Ariz.

Champion gymnasts throughout the entire nation will make the trip to the Arizona capital. All money will go to the Olympic fund which is used to sponsor American participation in the 1960 competition.

From Phoenix, Vega will travel to Reno, Nev., for a second performance for the fund on Dec. 19.

One week later, the Lion captain will head for Florida where he will compete in the preliminaries for a berth on the Olympic squad. Vega, who was a member of the 1956 Olympic squad, will perform against such top gymnasts as John Beckner, rated as the best in the country, and Abe Grossfield, University of Illinois star who was runnerup to Vega in the national tournament.

Fifth Intersectional foe

Alabama, Penn State's opponent in the Liberty Bowl, will be the fifth intersectional foe of the year for the Nittany Lions. The Lions own '59 triumphs over Missouri (Big Eight), V.M.I. (Southern champion), Illinois (Big Ten), and West Virginia (Southeastern). Alabama is a member of the powerful Southeastern Conference.

Lucas Is State's 9th AA

Richie Lucas is Penn State's ninth All-American. Others named to various teams were W. T. Dunn in 1926; Bob Higgins, 1919; Charley Way, 1920; Glenn Killinger, 1921; Joe Bedenk, 1923; Leon Gajecki, 1940; Steve Suhey, 1947; Sam Tamburo, 1948; and Sam Valentine, 1956.

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