

Top 3 teams remain constant as PSU places 18th in AP poll

By RICK SCOPPE
AP Sports Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina, which has won three straight since a tough loss at Nebraska, made The Associated Press college football rankings yesterday for the first time this season. And Coach Joe Morrison had no doubt where the credit belonged.

"It's a tribute to our players and coaches," Morrison said yesterday after the Gamecocks were ranked 19th. "We just want to be up there in the Top 20 at the end of the year, too."

"Sure, we're glad to be ranked in the Top 20," he said. "It's nice to know people across the country have been paying attention to our team this season."

South Carolina, which lost to Nebraska, 30-21 taking a 21-13 lead into the final period, beat East Carolina 34-12 this past weekend to run its record to 5-2 and make the Top 20 for the first time since early 1985.

South Carolina plays host to North Carolina State Saturday, stunned Clemson 30-28 to knock the Tigers from their No. 7 spot in the poll.

Quarterback Todd Ellis, who completed 21-of-33 passes for a school-record 425 yards against East Carolina, said the Gamecocks deserve a spot in the Top Twenty.

"I think that we've shown we can play with some of the best teams in the country this year," he said. "The important thing now is to keep improving and stay up there in the rankings the rest of the year."

The top six teams remained the same in this week's poll, while

Top 20 Poll

The Top 20 teams in the Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, record through games of Oct. 24, total points based on 20-19-18-17-16-15-14-13-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 and last week's ranking:

| Rank | Team | Record | Pts | Pvs |
|------|-----------------|--------|-------|-----|
| 1 | Oklahoma (40) | 7-0-0 | 1,176 | 1 |
| 2 | Nebraska (13) | 7-0-0 | 1,134 | 2 |
| 3 | Miami, Fla. (7) | 5-0-0 | 1,108 | 3 |
| 4 | Florida State | 6-1-0 | 986 | 4 |
| 5 | LSU | 6-0-1 | 952 | 5 |
| 6 | Auburn | 6-0-1 | 900 | 6 |
| 7 | UCLA | 6-1-0 | 842 | 8 |
| 8 | Syracuse | 7-0-0 | 774 | 9 |
| 9 | Notre Dame | 5-1-0 | 732 | 10 |
| 10 | Florida | 5-2-0 | 612 | 11 |
| 11 | Indiana | 6-1-0 | 546 | 15 |
| 12 | Georgia | 6-2-0 | 491 | 12 |
| 13 | Tennessee | 5-1-1 | 466 | 13 |
| 14 | Clemson | 6-1-0 | 459 | 7 |
| 15 | Ohio State | 5-1-1 | 327 | 16 |
| 16 | Alabama | 5-2-0 | 279 | 17 |
| 17 | Oklahoma State | 6-1-0 | 187 | 19 |
| 18 | Penn State | 6-2-0 | 184 | 18 |
| 19 | South Carolina | 5-2-0 | 112 | — |
| 20 | Michigan State | 4-2-1 | 110 | 14 |

Other receiving votes: Arizona State 92, Texas A&M 39, Pitt 30, Arkansas 23, Air Force 11, Michigan 8, Wyoming 8, Texas 4, Iowa 3, San Jose State 3, Oregon 1, Southern California 1.

Michigan fell out for the second time in three weeks.

Top-rated Oklahoma's 24-6 victory over Colorado earned the Sooners 40-of-60 first-place votes and 1,176 of a possible 1,200 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and sportscasters.

Nebraska, a 56-3 winner over Kansas State, received 13 first-place votes and 1,134 points while the other seven first-place ballots went to Miami of Florida, which defeated Cincinnati 48-10 and totaled 1,108.

Oklahoma, Nebraska and Miami

are ranked 1-2-3 for the fifth week in a row. Last week, Oklahoma led Nebraska 42-12 in first-place votes and 1,179-1,134 in points.

Florida State and LSU were idle last weekend and received 986 and 952 points, respectively. Auburn remained No. 6 with 900 by defeating Mississippi State, 38-7.

'We've shown we can play with some of the best.'

—Todd Ellis, South Carolina QB

But Clemson fell seven spots to No. 14 after its loss to North Carolina State. UCLA beat California 42-18 and moved up from eighth place to seventh with 842 points, Syracuse crushed Colgate 52-6 and climbed from ninth to eighth with 774 points and Notre Dame jumped from 10th to ninth with 732 by downing Southern California 26-15.

Florida made the Top 10 for the first time this year. The Gators, 11th a week ago, were idle but rose to 10th place with 612 points.

The Second 10 consists of Indiana, Georgia, Tennessee, Clemson, Ohio State, Alabama, Oklahoma State, Penn State, South Carolina and Michigan State.

Last week, it was Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Michigan State, Indiana, Ohio State, Alabama, Penn State, Oklahoma State and Michigan.

Michigan, which fell out of the rankings two weeks ago but got back in last week, dropped out again by losing to Indiana 14-10.

PSU Network affiliates not worried

Although Dean Jordan is leaving the University and his position as the director of the Intercollegiate Athletics Network, affiliate radio station managers are not concerned about the future of the Network.

"Dean has designed the affiliation system so that someone could step in and maintain the same level of association and excellence... he has laid the groundwork," said Phillip Condrion affiliate station manager at WARM-AM Wilkes Barre/Scranton.

Jordan is resigning from his position as co-ordinator of radio and television media at the University to become director of broadcasting for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Under Jordan's direction during the past one and a half years, the PSU Sports Network assumed full in-house operations and grew to include 68 affiliate stations.

State College radio station WRSC-AM's general manager Robert Zimmerman agreed relations between affiliate stations and the Network should remain the same if Jordan's replacement follows through with Jordan's work.

"The wheels are set in motion," he said

Jordan, too, believes the Network will remain strong after his departure.

"I really don't think anything is going to happen, the relationships are pretty solid," Jordan said.

Jordan said although he appreciates the people he has worked with at the University, he is ready to assume his new duties in Pittsburgh on Nov. 23.

"I'm anxious to get started, but I hate leaving Penn State, the people here have been just super to me... it's not my style to leave something so quickly, but in this case I had no other choice," he said.

By Diane A. Davis

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