



AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Head-to-Head

Three games featuring teams ranked in the AFCA Division II Coaches' Poll that highlight this weekend's action.

In the first match-up, No. 2 Grand Valley State faces its second straight Top 25 opponent when the Lakers host No. 24 Ferris State. Grand Valley State has a seven-game winning streak coming into the game. Ferris State last beat the Lakers in 1999.

The second match-up is a Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference West Division contest as No. 14 California (Pa.) travels to No. 23 Edinboro. The Vulcans lead the all-time series against Edinboro by a 37-35-2 margin after having won the last three meetings.

The third Top 25 match-up pits MIAA rivals together as No. 20 Central Missouri hosts No. 25 Washburn. The Mules own the series lead, 20-17-2, but Washburn got its last win in the series in 2006 at Warrensburg, Mo., the site of Saturday's contest.

Poll Points

Northwest Missouri State junior runningback LaRon Council rushed for a career-high 144 yards and four touchdowns in the Bearcats 42-35 win over Missouri Western State ... With its 31-7 win over C.W. Post, Edinboro earned its school record third straight road victory. The Fighting Scots are 3-0 to start the season ... Ferris State blanked Findlay, 14-0, which was the first shutout win in a 71-game stretch since recording a 35-0 triumph at home over Michigan Tech in 2001. The win also gave the Bulldogs' their first 3-0 start since the 1996 season.

TOP NINE REMAIN UNCHANGED IN DIVISION II COACHES' POLL

WACO, TEX.-- There was very little movement in the American Football Coaches Association Division II Coaches' Poll as the Top 9 teams remained in their same positions from a week ago. Valdosta State's game with Southern Arkansas was postponed due to weather concerns from Hurricane Ike, but the Blazers still hold the top spot in the poll.

No. 2 Grand Valley State received two first-place votes this week after its 36-0 blanking of then-No. 25 Saginaw Valley State. North Alabama remained in the third spot after its dominating, 45-20, win over Henderson State. No. 4 Abilene Christian beat Texas A&M-Commerce, 45-14, and received two first-place votes this week. No. 5 Nebraska-Omaha won its first MIAA game, defeating Emporia State, 41-20.

West Texas A&M dismantled NAIA member Azusa Pacific, 75-13, and remains at No. 6. Pittsburg State needed a late score to up-end Missouri Southern State, 21-14, but stays seventh in the poll. No. 8 Central Washington extended its record to 3-0 after its 31-24 win over Western Oregon. No. 9 Northwest Missouri State held off a late Missouri Western State surge to win its MIAA opener, 42-35. Bloomsburg jumps into the Top 10 this week after blanking Mercyhurst, 24-0.

Carson-Newman dominated Bentley, 59-18, and moved up one spot to No. 11, as did Indiana (Pa.), who moved one notch to No. 12 after a 63-3 thrashing of Millersville. Tuskegee beat Benedict, 37-14, and is ranked No. 13. No. 14 California (Pa.) blanked Lake Erie, 54-0, and jumped two spots in the poll. No. 15 Minnesota-Duluth is 3-0 this season after beating Southwest Minnesota State, 43-21.

Tarleton State moved up three places to No. 16 after the Texans moved to 3-0 with a 38-6 win over East Central. Delta State beat conference rival Arkansas-Monticello, 37-31, and remains at No. 17 in the poll. No. 18 Chadron State rebounded from its first loss of the season to beat Adams State, 37-26. Albany State jumped two places to No. 19 after its 41-27 victory over Kentucky State. Central Missouri moves up to No. 20 this week after the Mules edged past Truman State, 31-28.

Newberry moved up a spot to No. 21 after a dominating 41-3 win over North Greenville, while Shepherd tumbled 12 places to No. 22 after its loss to Glenville State. Edinboro jumps into the poll at No. 23 after the Fighting Scots beat C.W. Post, 31-7, and moved its record to 3-0. Ferris State is another newcomer this week, coming in at No. 24 after its 14-0 shutout of Findlay. Washburn fell seven spots to No. 25 after its loss to Fort Hays State.

Conference Breakdown: MIAA-5 (Nebraska-Omaha, Pittsburg St., Northwest Missouri St., Central Missouri, Washburn); Pennsylvania State Athletic-4 (Bloomsburg, Indiana (Pa.), California (Pa.), Edinboro); Lone Star-3 (Abilene Christian, West Texas A&M, Tarleton St.); Gulf South-3 (Valdosta St., North Alabama, Delta St.); Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic-2 (Grand Valley St., Ferris St.); South Atlantic-2 (Carson-Newman, Newberry); Southern Intercollegiate Athletic-2 (Tuskegee, Albany St.); Great Northwest Athletic-1 (Central Washington); Northern Sun Intercollegiate-1 (Minnesota-Duluth); Rocky Mountain Athletic-1 (Chadron St.); West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic-1 (Shepherd).

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**American Football Coaches Association Division II Coaches' Poll
September 16, 2008**

Rank	School (1st votes)	Rec.	Pts.	Prev.	Last Week	Next Game
1.	Valdosta St. (Ga.) (21)	2-0	642	1	at Southern Arkansas (postponed-weather)	Sept. 20 vs. Ouachita Baptist (Ark.)
2.	Grand Valley St. (Mich.) (2)	2-0	622	2	D. No. 25 Saginaw Valley St. (Mich.), 36-0	Sept. 20 vs. No. 24 Ferris St. (Mich.)
3.	North Alabama (1)	3-0	597	3	D. Henderson St. (Ark.), 45-20	Sept. 20 at West Georgia
4.	Abilene Christian (Texas) (2)	2-0	575	4	D. Texas A&M-Commerce, 45-14	Sept. 20 at Southeastern Oklahoma St.
5.	Nebraska-Omaha	2-0	549	5	D. Emporia St. (Kan.), 41-20	Sept. 20 at Missouri Southern St.
6.	West Texas A&M	3-0	503	6	D. Azusa Pacific (Calif.), 75-13	Sept. 20 vs. Southwestern Oklahoma St.
7.	Pittsburg St. (Kan.)	3-0	471	7	D. Missouri Southern St., 21-14	Sept. 20 at Missouri Western St.
8.	Central Washington	3-0	442	8	D. Western Oregon, 31-24	Sept. 20 vs. Humboldt St. (Calif.)
9.	Northwest Missouri St.	2-1	426	9	D. Missouri Western St., 42-35	Sept. 20 at Truman St. (Mo.)
10.	Bloomsburg (Pa.)	3-0	419	11	D. Mercyhurst (Pa.), 24-0	Sept. 20 vs. Kutztown (Pa.)
11.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	2-1	388	12	D. Bentley (Mass.), 59-18	Sept. 27 at No. 21 Newberry (S.C.)
12.	Indiana (Pa.)	2-0	359	13	D. Millersville (Pa.), 63-3	Sept. 20 vs. Lock Haven (Pa.)
13.	Tuskegee (Ala.)	2-0	298	14	D. Benedict (S.C.), 37-14	Sept. 20 at Stillman (Ala.)
14.	California (Pa.)	2-1	286	16	D. Lake Erie (Ohio), 54-0	Sept. 20 at No. 23 Edinboro (Pa.)
15.	Minnesota-Duluth	3-0	284	15	D. Southwest Minnesota St., 43-21	Sept. 20 at Augustana (S.D.)
16.	Tarleton St. (Texas)	3-0	242	19	D. East Central (Okla.), 38-6	Sept. 20 vs. Central Oklahoma
17.	Delta St. (Miss.)	1-1	235	17	D. Arkansas-Monticello, 37-31	Sept. 20 at Harding (Ark.)
18.	Chadron St. (Neb.)	2-1	190	20	D. Adams St. (Colo.), 37-26	Sept. 20 at Colorado St.-Pueblo
19.	Albany St. (Ga.)	3-0	162	21	D. Kentucky St., 41-27	Sept. 27 at Benedict (S.C.)
20.	Central Missouri	3-0	154	24	D. Truman St. (Mo.), 31-28	Sept. 20 vs. No. 25 Washburn (Kan.)
21.	Newberry (S.C.)	1-1	147	22	D. North Greenville (S.C.), 41-3	Sept. 20 at Midwestern St. (Texas)
22.	Shepherd (W.Va.)	2-1	110	10	Lost to Glenville St. (W.Va.), 21-14	Sept. 20 vs. Fairmont St. (W.Va.)
23.	Edinboro (Pa.)	3-0	104	NR	D. C.W. Post (N.Y.), 31-7	Sept. 20 vs. No. 14 California (Pa.)
24.	Ferris St. (Mich.)	3-0	56	NR	D. Findlay (Ohio), 14-0	Sept. 20 at No. 2 Grand Valley St. (Mich.)
25.	Washburn (Kan.)	2-1	30	18	Lost to Fort Hays St. (Kan.), 17-7	Sept. 20 at No. 20 Central Missouri

Dropped Out: West Chester (Pa.) (23), Saginaw Valley St. (Mich.) (25).

Others Receiving Votes: Catawba (N.C.), 26; Midwestern St. (Texas), 24; Wingate (N.C.), 24; West Chester (Pa.), 21; Tusculum (Tenn.), 16; Western Oregon, 11; Dixie St. (Utah), 10; West Virginia St., 9; Missouri Southern St., 5; Colorado School of Mines, 4; Fort Valley St. (Ga.), 4; Minnesota St.-Mankato, 2; Ouachita Baptist (Ark.), 2; Saginaw Valley St. (Mich.), 1.

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