

# Down & Distance

By Eric Prisbell and News Services

## FIRST DOWN » HOW THE TOP 25 FARED

- 1. SOUTHERN CAL (4-0) DEF. WASHINGTON, 27-24**  
Stafon Johnson ran for 122 yards and a touchdown and Chauncey Washington added 106 yards and a score for the Trojans, who won for the 60th time in 64 games despite three turnovers and 16 penalties.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. Stanford.
- 2. LOUISIANA STATE (5-0) DEF. TULANE, 34-9**  
Matt Flynn shook off six sacks to throw for 258 yards, and Jacob Hester's second touchdown and Charles Scott's pair of scoring runs helped the Tigers amass 24 unanswered second-half points.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. No. 4 Florida.
- 3. OKLAHOMA (4-1) LOST AT COLORADO, 27-24**  
The Sooners, who entered the game averaging a national-best 61.5 points, led 24-7 at halftime but were outgained in the second half by the Buffaloes, 219 yards to 46. **More, D11**  
**Next:** Saturday at No. 7 Texas.
- 4. FLORIDA (4-1) LOST TO AUBURN, 20-17**  
The Gators' 11-game winning streak ended a week before next week's anticipated matchup in Baton Rouge. The defending champions lost for the first time since falling to the Tigers last season. **More, D11**  
**Next:** Saturday at No. 2 Louisiana State.
- 5. WEST VIRGINIA (4-1) LOST AT S. FLORIDA, 21-13, FRI.**  
The Mountaineers averaged 357 yards rushing in their first four games, but only managed 188 after surprisingly opening the game throwing on seven of their first 11 offensive plays.  
**Next:** Saturday at Syracuse.
- 6. CALIFORNIA (5-0) DEF. NO. 11 OREGON, 31-24**  
DeSean Jackson had 11 catches for 161 yards and two touchdowns, while Justin Forsett ran for 101 yards and another two scores for the Bears, who ended a seven-game losing streak at Autzen Stadium.  
**Next:** Oct. 13 vs. Oregon State.
- 7. TEXAS (4-1) LOST TO KANSAS STATE, 41-21**  
Longhorns Coach Mack Brown's previous worst home loss was a 35-17 defeat to Kansas State in 1999. It was also Texas's first loss in a Big 12 opener since 1998, which also came against the Wildcats. **More, D11**  
**Next:** Saturday vs. No. 3 Oklahoma.
- 8. OHIO STATE (5-0) DEF. MINNESOTA, 30-7**  
Chris Wells rushed for 116 yards and two touchdowns for the Buckeyes, who have allowed only 34 points in five easy victories. Punter A.J. Trapasso pinned Minnesota inside the 20 four times.  
**Next:** Saturday at Purdue.
- 9. WISCONSIN (5-0) DEF. MICHIGAN STATE, 37-34**  
P.J. Hill ran for 155 yards and two TDs, his fourth straight 100-yard game and 12th of his career, for the Badgers, who extended the nation's longest winning streak to 14.  
**Next:** Saturday at Illinois.
- 10. RUTGERS (3-1) LOST TO MARYLAND, 34-24**  
The loss marked the second straight year the Scarlet Knights were upset after getting into the top 10. Last year, Cincinnati surprised them a week after they reached No. 7 after upending Louisville. **More, D1**  
**Next:** Saturday vs. No. 24 Cincinnati.
- 11. OREGON (4-1) LOST TO NO. 6 CALIFORNIA, 31-24**  
With 22 seconds to go, Cameron Colvin fumbled through the end zone for a touchback. Dennis Dixon, the only Pacific-10 quarterback who had not thrown an interception, threw a pair of them late in the game.  
**Next:** Oct. 13 vs. Washington State.
- 12. BOSTON COLLEGE (5-0) DEF. MASSACHUSETTS, 24-14**  
Andre Callender ran for 115 yards and two touchdowns, and Matt Ryan threw for a score for the Eagles, who have opened with five straight wins for the first time since 1954.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. Bowling Green.
- 13. CLEMSON (4-1) LOST AT GEORGIA TECH, 13-3**  
The Tigers missed four field goals, had a punt blocked to set up the only touchdown and fumbled on a kickoff return, setting up a field goal that gave Georgia Tech a 10-point lead with 11½ minutes left.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. No. 17 Virginia Tech.
- 14. KENTUCKY (5-0) DEF. FLORIDA ATLANTIC, 45-17**  
Andre Woodson threw for a career-high five touchdowns, but his NCAA-record streak of consecutive passes without an interception ended at 325. Four receivers caught scoring throws from Woodson.  
**Next:** Thursday at No. 16 South Carolina.
- 15. GEORGIA (4-1) DEF. MISSISSIPPI, 45-7**  
Thomas Brown ran for three touchdowns and 180 yards, the highest for the Bulldogs since 2001. Georgia's total of 328 yards rushing was its most in seven years under Coach Mark Richt.  
**Next:** Saturday at Tennessee.
- 16. SOUTH CAROLINA (4-1) DEF. MISSISSIPPI STATE, 38-21**  
Given the starting job by Coach Steve Spurrier after last week's loss at LSU, freshman Chris Smelley threw for a career-best 279 yards and two touchdowns to end the Bulldogs' three-game winning streak.  
**Next:** Thursday vs. No. 14 Kentucky.
- 17. VIRGINIA TECH (4-1) DEF. NORTH CAROLINA, 17-10**  
The Hokies sacked T.J. Yates five times in the game to help overcome a struggling offense that managed just 241 yards. Tyrod Taylor finished 10 for 19 for just 66 yards. **More, D11**  
**Next:** Saturday at No. 13 Clemson.
- 18. SOUTH FLORIDA (4-0) DEF. WEST VA., 21-13, FRI.**  
The Bulls held Steve Slaton to 54 yards rushing on 13 carries and forced six turnovers to upset the Mountaineers for the second straight season before a record crowd for a USF home game (67,018).  
**Next:** Saturday at Florida Atlantic.
- 19. HAWAII (5-0) DEF. IDAHO, 48-20**  
Adam Leonard and Myron Newberry returned interceptions for touchdowns and the Warriors overcame a career-high five interceptions by Colt Brennan to improve to 5-0 for the first time since 1981.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. Utah State.
- 20. MISSOURI (4-0) WAS IDLE**  
Led by quarterback Chase Daniel, who ranks seventh in the country in total offense with 356 yards per game, the Tigers average 544 yards as a team, which ranks fifth in the country.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. No. 25 Nebraska.
- 21. PENN STATE (3-2) LOST AT ILLINOIS, 27-20**  
Anthony Morelli was 21-of-38 passing for 298 yards and a TD but was intercepted three times. The Lions lost their second straight and have upcoming games against Iowa, Wisconsin and Ohio State.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. Iowa.
- 22. ALABAMA (3-2) LOST TO FLORIDA STATE, 21-14**  
Xavier Lee came off the bench to throw a pair of touchdown passes to De'Codry Fagg in Florida State's first victory in four tries against Alabama at the first meeting between the schools since 1974.  
**Next:** Saturday vs. Houston.
- 23. ARIZONA STATE (5-0) DEF. STANFORD, 41-3**  
The Sun Devils led just 6-0 with less than three minutes left in the first half before blowing it open with a 62-yard touchdown pass and an interception return for a score on consecutive plays from scrimmage.  
**Next:** Saturday at Washington State.
- 24. CINCINNATI (4-0) AT SAN DIEGO STATE, LATE**  
Coach Brian Kelly has the Bearcats, who lead the country in turnover margin, off to their best start since 1954, when they won their first eight games, and in the national rankings for the first time in 31 years.  
**Next:** Saturday at No. 10 Rutgers.
- 25. NEBRASKA (4-1) DEF. IOWA STATE, 35-17**  
Marlon Lucky passed and ran for touchdowns, Bo Ruud scored on an interception return for the second straight week and the Huskers won their eighth straight against a Big 12 North opponent.  
**Next:** Saturday at No. 20 Missouri.

## SECOND DOWN » LOOKING AHEAD



Oklahoma's Duke Robinson (72), Allen Patrick (23) and Joe Jon Finley (19) suffered a letdown against Colorado.

# After Shocking Upsets, It's Homely at the Top

A stunning weekend in which six teams in the top 11 lost dramatically changed the season's complexion and will have wide-ranging implications for both the national championship and Heisman Trophy races.

All schools from the Big 12 and Big East have been eliminated from the national championship discussion, barring unforeseen events. Neither conference figures to have an undefeated or one-loss team ranked high enough to stay in the hunt with juggernauts from the Pacific-10 or Southeastern Conference.

Losses by Rutgers, West Virginia and Texas were surprising, but Oklahoma's loss at Colorado and Florida's home loss to Auburn were the most jaw-dropping and significant results of the season's wildest weekend. Until yesterday, the Sooners had looked dominant enough to be mentioned in the same breath as Southern Califor-

nia and Louisiana State.

Next Saturday's Red River Shootout between Oklahoma and Texas becomes a Red River Let-down after both traditional powers suffered defeats against usually inferior Big 12 North Division opponents. The Oklahoma-Texas game now has as much appeal as Saturday's Missouri-Nebraska showdown that will help decide the North Division.

Undefeated South Florida, now a Big East favorite, should rise considerably in the polls, but its national title hopes are slim. Historically, teams that start the season unranked have too far to climb to be serious national contenders.

What's more, it would have benefited the Bulls to have at least one other highly ranked Big East team left on the schedule. But the Big East's Big Three — West Virginia, Louisville and Rutgers — all have displayed fatal flaws. The Oct. 18 game between South Florida and

Rutgers has Big East implications, but not necessarily national title ramifications anymore.

In a sense, yesterday was the season opener for a Scarlet Knights team playing against its first opponent from a power conference this season. It showed. Maryland shut down running back Ray Rice in the second half, all but ruining his chance to win the Heisman.

The Heisman hopes for West Virginia's Patrick White and Steve Slaton also were significantly weakened after White was injured against South Florida on Friday and Slaton was slowed. The Heisman campaign of Louisville's Brian Brohm already had been hurt by two surprising losses.

A conference that had four Heisman hopefuls at the start of the season now has virtually none. But the season, only one month old, has had no shortage of unexpected twists.

## The Cream Rises

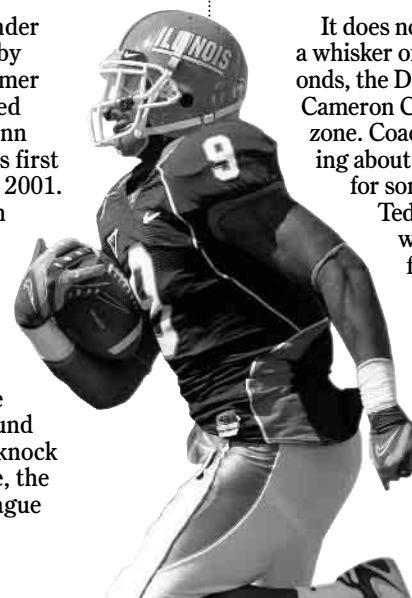
An eventful weekend further separated a lot of national championship contenders from pretenders. (Teams in gray have been virtually eliminated from title contention.)

BIG TEN	PACIFIC-10	SEC	ACC	BIG 12	BIG EAST
Ohio State Wisconsin Michigan Penn State	USC California UCLA	LSU Florida Tennessee Georgia Auburn	Virginia Tech	Texas Oklahoma	Louisville West Virginia Rutgers

## YESTERDAY'S WINNERS

### Zook, Illini Coming Up Big

Illinois is ahead of schedule under third-year coach Ron Zook. Led by freshman Arrelious Benn, the former Dunbar High standout who scored two touchdowns, Illinois beat Penn State, 27-20, yesterday to earn its first victory over a ranked team since 2001. Illinois (4-1) is 2-0 in the Big Ten for the first time since 1991. Benn had six receptions for 84 yards, including a 29-yard touchdown. Illinois also intercepted Penn State quarterback Anthony Morelli three times. Zook told reporters afterward he didn't want to say he turned around the program yet, but if they can knock off Wisconsin next week at home, the Illini could become one of the league favorites.



## YESTERDAY'S LOSERS

### Advice to Bellotti: Duck!

It does not matter that Oregon came within a whisker of tying California in the final seconds, the Ducks' chances bouncing away as Cameron Colvin fumbled the ball into the end zone. Coach Mike Bellotti likely will be hearing about this loss from the Oregon faithful for some time in Eugene. He lost to Jeff Tedford, the Golden Bears coach who was well regarded when he was offensive coordinator at Oregon under Bellotti between 1998 and 2001. In a battle of unbeaten teams yesterday, Tedford beat his former boss as Cal won at Autzen Stadium for the first time since 1987. The San Jose Mercury News already is hailing the win as the biggest of the Tedford era. Conversely, it was not the best moment for Bellotti.

## EXTRA POINTS » AROUND THE NATION

- **MICHIGAN 28, NORTHWESTERN 16:** Chad Henne hit Adrian Arrington with the go-ahead touchdown pass in the fourth quarter after a fumble recovery for the visiting Wolverines, who trailed at halftime 16-7. Henne, wearing a brace on his right knee, started after missing the previous two games and was 18 of 27 for 193 yards and three touchdowns.
- **PURDUE 33, NOTRE DAME 19:** Kory Sheets rushed for 141 yards and Curtis Painter passed for 252 yards and two touchdowns to get the host Boilermakers (5-0) got off to their best start since 2004. Notre Dame freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen threw his first career touchdown pass in the third quarter.
- **MIAMI 24, DUKE 14:** In Miami, Kyle Wright was 19 of 23 for 230 yards and two touchdowns for the Hurricanes, who won their ACC opener for the first time in three years.
- **INDIANA 38, IOWA 20:** Kellen Lewis threw two

touchdown passes and was officially credited with a third when he ran 71 yards after picking up a teammate's fumble. The Hoosiers extended Iowa's losing streak in conference play to seven and recorded their biggest victory over the Hawkeyes since a 52-20 win in 1945.

- **ARMY 37, TEMPLE 21:** In West Point, N.Y., the Black Knights' Corey Anderson returned the opening kickoff 88 yards for a touchdown and Jeremy Trimble caught a 69-yard touchdown pass from Carson Williams and returned a punt 85 yards for a score. Adam DiMichele was 23 for 42 passing for 314 yards for Temple with two touchdowns and two interceptions.
- **TEXAS A&M 34, BAYLOR 10:** Stephen McGee and Jorvorskie Lane each ran for more than 100 yards and a touchdown for the host Aggies, who rushed for 352 yards and won time of possession by more than 26 minutes to beat Baylor for the 11th time in the last 12 meetings. The

- Bears haven't won at Kyle Field since 1984.
- **CONNECTICUT 44, AKRON 10:** Andre Dixon ran 12 times for 116 yards and Tyvon Branch ran a kickoff back 97 yards for a touchdown to lead the Huskies at home. The 5-0 start is the best for a U-Conn. team since 1995, when the Huskies went 6-0 as a Division I-AA school.
- **MIAMI, OHIO 17, SYRACUSE 14:** Cory Jones carried 12 times for 125 yards and scored his first two career touchdowns as the RedHawks ended a seven-game home losing streak.
- **LOUISVILLE 29, N.C. STATE 10:** The visiting Cardinals' maligned defense forced a season-high five turnovers and Brock Bolen rushed for a career-high 112 yards and a touchdown.
- **UCLA 40, OREGON STATE 14:** In Corvallis, Ore., Ben Olson threw for 220 yards, Brandon Brezell had two touchdown receptions and the Bruins scored four fourth-quarter touchdowns to beat the Beavers for a fifth straight time.

## THIRD DOWN »

### TWO-MINUTE DRILL

## QUOTABLE

*"I've been to some crazy concerts, but that was worse than all of them. . . . I think people smelled a lot better at the concert. Those people had been sweating for a long time."*

Colorado quarterback **Cody Hawkins** on the fans storming the field after the Buffaloes' 27-24 victory over Oklahoma

*"I'm not really pleased with anything."*

Penn State Coach **Joe Paterno**, after a loss to Illinois

## BY THE NUMBERS

### 227

Career extra points for Louisville's Art Carmody, an NCAA record

### 102

Plays from scrimmage run by Iowa State, a school record, in a 35-17 loss to Nebraska during which the Cyclones held a 20-minute possession advantage

### 9

Sacks of Iowa's Jake Christensen by Indiana, four of them by end Jammie Kirlaw

### 14

Touchdown catches in five games for Texas Tech's Michael Crabtree, tying the Division I freshman season record

## NOTABLE

**Mouthing Off:** Miami quarterback Kyle Wright spent the start of the fourth quarter getting four stitches in his mouth, needing an anesthetic to numb the pain. He returned to throw a game-sealing touchdown pass to DajLeon Farr.

**Long Time Coming:** Adam Tafralis passed for four touchdowns and 330 yards to lead San Jose State to a 34-14 win over division I-AA UC Davis in the schools' first meeting since 1934, when they played to a scoreless tie.

## FOURTH DOWN » HEISMAN WATCH

### TIM TEBOW

Florida, QB  
Sophomore also has rushed for 433 yards and eight touchdowns.

	Yest.	2007
Pass	20-27	<b>85-122</b>
Yds	201	<b>1,297</b>
TD	1	<b>11</b>

### ANDRE WOODSON

Kentucky, QB  
His interception-free streak ended, but not his hopes.

	Yest.	2007
Pass	26-33	<b>112-167</b>
Yds	301	<b>1,309</b>
TD	5	<b>16</b>

### DARREN McFADDEN

Arkansas, RB  
Preseason hype and high-profile conference offset team's disappointing start.

	Yest.	2007
Rush	19	<b>105</b>
Yds	138	<b>657</b>
TD	2	<b>6</b>