

2010 FCS COACHES POLL

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Montana New No.1 in Coaches Poll

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – It only took Montana one week into the 2010 season to claim the No. 1 ranking in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches Poll. The Grizzlies received 16 of the 27 first-place votes and 662 points overall. Montana spent three weeks last season atop the poll.

Montana is coming off an impressive 73-2 victory over Western State, in which the Grizzlies defense held their opponent to under 100 total yards of offense and tied an NCAA record with four interceptions returned for touchdowns.

Southern Illinois jumped three spots to claim second in the poll after a 70-7 victory over Quincy last week. The Salukis received 598 total points to finish ahead of Appalachian State with 585 points and a first-place vote.

The preseason No. 1 Villanova Wildcats fell to fourth in the polls after losing 31-24 to cross-town rival Temple. The Wildcats received eight first-place votes and 579 points overall. New Hampshire finished fifth in the voting to round out the top-five.

The biggest jump in the rankings was made by Jacksonville State, as they received two first-place votes and moved 11 spots to No. 6. The Gamecocks pulled off the biggest upset in the first week of football with a 49-48 double-overtime thriller against Ole Miss. Jacksonville State outscored the Rebels 21-3 in the fourth quarter to force the overtime, and the Gamecocks opted for the two-point conversion in the second overtime to capture the win. It was the first time the Gamecocks have defeated a Football Bowl Subdivision since they beat Arkansas State in 2001. The 21-point comeback was also the largest comefrom-behind victory for Jacksonville State in school history.

Rounding out the Top 10 are Richmond, Elon, South Dakota State and McNeese State.

New to the poll this week are Massachusetts (No. 20) and North Dakota State (No. 21). Prairie View A&M, Cal-Poly and Holy Cross all fell out of the rankings.

Nine conferences are represented in the poll. The Colonial Athletic Association leads the way with seven teams, followed by the Big Sky with five ranked teams. The Missouri Valley has four teams in the Top 25, and the Southern, Southland and Ohio Valley Conferences each have two representatives. The Mid-Eastern Atlantic and Big South Conferences, along with the Patriot League, have one team in this week's poll.

FCS Coaches Poll is based exclusively on a voting panel of head coaches in the FCS under the cooperation of the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) and the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) and is administered by the Southern Conference.

2010 FCS Coaches Week 1 Poll (September 6, 2010)

Team (No. 1 Votes)		Record	Points	Last Week
1.	Montana (16)	1-0	662	2
2.	Southern Illinois	1-0	598	5
3.	Appalachian State (1)	1-0	585	3
4.	Villanova (8)	0-1	579	1
5.	New Hampshire	1-0	518	9
6.	Jacksonville State (2)	1-0	516	17
7.	Richmond	0-1	478	6
8.	Elon	0-1	443	7
9.	South Dakota State	0-0	426	10
10.	McNeese State	1-0	378	11
11.	James Madison	1-0	357	15
12.	Stephen F. Austin	0-1	353	8
13.	Northern Iowa	0-0	336	13
14.	William & Mary	0-1	285	4
15.	Eastern Washington	0-1	273	14
16.	South Carolina State	0-1	264	12
17.	Delaware	1-0	234	19
18.	Liberty	1-0	216	20
19.	Weber State	0-1	184	18
20.	Massachusetts	1-0	163	NR
21.	North Dakota State	1-0	138	NR
22.	Eastern Illinois	0-1	134	16
23.	Montana State	1-0	115	24
24.	Northern Arizona	1-0	107	23
25.	Colgate	1-0	81	22

Others receiving votes (points in parentheses): Prairie View A&M (79), Holy Cross (67), Cal-Poly (47), Illinois State (28), Penn (23), Missouri State (17), Georgia Southern (12), Harvard (11), Albany (9), Furman (9), Texas State (8), Arkansas-Pine Bluff (6), Bethune-Cookman (5), Southern Utah (5), Tennessee State (5), Southeastern Louisiana (4), Alabama State (3), Florida A&M (3), Gardner-Webb (3), Austin Peay (2), Dayton (2), Bucknell (1), Butler (1), UC Davis (1), Youngstown State (1)