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AP Top 25 College Football Teams Week 2

By Sebastien Veilleux

The new AP TOP 25 college football poll is out and it's pretty much as expected. Ohio State

remains number one. Texas is number two. These two teams go to war this week in Texas. One will be left standing with championship hopes. Last season it was a great game. Texas managed to take home the win and it propelled them to the national championship. USC makes a move from 6th in the preseason to 3rd. They looked very impressive in their win this week.

Auburn and Notre Dame are tied for fourth. Notre Dame was #2 in the preseason poll, so they slip a few notches here. Their game against Georgia Tech was not impressive. I thought they might slip down a few more places because of their "just get by" game play. I don't even know how they received 8 first place votes. That's 8 people who evidently don't watch the actual games.

West Virginia moves into the 6 slot after their lights out victory over hapless Marshall. Florida is 7 and LSU 8. Coming in at number 9 is Florida State who is fresh off their grueling battle against Miami. Neither offense looked impressive in that game. It was all about defense. I'm kind of surprised that Florida State is ranked lower than teams like West Virginia who simply ran up the score against a non-existent opponent.

The big surprise is California. They are ranked 22nd and shouldn't be in the top 25 at all. They got destroyed this week by Tennessee. Speaking of Tennessee, they moved all the way up to 11th. Here's the entire AP Top 25 for this week.

1. Ohio State 2. Texas 3. USC 4. Auburn 5. Notre Dame 6. West Virginia 7. Florida 8. LSU 9. Florida State 10. Michigan 11. Tennessee 12. Georgia 13. Louisville 14. Iowa 15. Oklahoma 16. Virginia Tech 17. Miami (FL) 18. Clemson 19. Penn State 20. Oregon 21. Nebraska 22. California 23. TCU 24. Texas Tech 25. Arizona State

The best matchups this week for the Top 25 are:

– #1 Ohio State at #2 Texas – #21 Nebraska at #3 USC – #19 Penn State at #4 Notre Dame – #24 Texas Tech at UTEP (UTEP received a couple Top 25 votes)

Worth Noting:

Alabama just missed the cut. They received 96 votes. #25 Arizona State received 134 votes and nudged them out. Georgia Tech received 27 votes for their staunch performance against #4 Notre Dame.

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College Football Top 25

By Sebastien Veilleux

Recently the AP Top 25 was released for the upcoming 2006 college football season. There were a few surprises, but it was solid overall. The rankings, which we'll go over in a moment, will likely change after week one. Two of the big teams in this ranking—Ohio State and Texas—go at it in week two on September 9. Last year's meeting between these two teams was monumental and perhaps decided the national championship. Had Texas lost that game, most of the country would not be as familiar with Vince Young.

Still, the 2006 NFL Draft took a lot out of the Ohio State Buckeyes. Are they really the number one team? How about Notre Dame? Is it time to jump on their bandwagon? Will they bring back the glory days gone by? Here's the current AP top 25 for college football.

1. Ohio State 2. Notre Dame 3. Texas 4. Auburn 5. West Virginia 6. USC 7. Florida 8. LSU 9. California 10. Oklahoma 11. Florida State 12. Miami 13. Louisville 14. Michigan 15. Georgia 16. Iowa 17. Virginia Tech 18. Clemson 19. Penn State 20. Nebraska 21. Oregon 22. TCU 23. Tennessee 24. Arizona State 25. Texas Tech

My only gripe is that Miami is listed lower than Florida State. Miami is clearly the better team. Once the season starts, this will be one of the listing spots that changes. Also, I'm not so high on Texas. They are riding a lot of emotion from last season, including emotion in the voting. They lost their field general in Vince Young and that's going to hurt. We'll find out how real they are in week two when the Ohio State Buckeyes come to town.

Why is USC ranked 6th? They lost key players and replacements are largely unproven. Again, this is preseason respect since they got into the championship game last season. USC's first test comes in their second game on September 16 against Nebraska. That's a home game for USC. USC averaged 49.1 points per game last season, but that's going to drop.

The preseason Top 25 is basically a bunch of guessing using last year's performances as a guide. There's a good chance that 80% of these teams will move after their first games. Some won't even be on the Top 25 come week two. College football is going to be exciting right out of the gate. It's quite possible that we end up with a Notre Dame vs. Ohio State championship game.

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