



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**USC, Texas and Virginia Tech Retain Top Three Spots; For the First Time Virginia Tech Receives a First-Place Ranking in the Harris Interactive College Football Poll**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—October 30, 2005—Today's **Harris Interactive College Football Poll<sup>SM</sup>** shows the **Top 25** results compiled from rankings submitted by its panel of former coaches, players and administrators, and former and current media. USC (No. 1), Texas (No. 2) and Virginia Tech (No. 3) retain their top rankings. Alabama and Miami each move up one spot to No. 4 and No. 5, respectively, while Georgia drops to No. 11 following yesterday's loss to Florida.

**Highlights of the October 30 Harris Interactive College Football Poll**

Ranking	Team	Record	Points	Previous Game (Weekend of Oct. 29)	Next Game* (Weekend of Nov. 5)	Previous Week's Rank
1	USC (96)	8-0	2,808	Beat Washington State 55-13	Stanford	1
2	Texas (16)	8-0	2,714	Beat Oklahoma State 47-28	at Baylor	2
3	Virginia Tech (1)	8-0	2,613	Beat No. 12 Boston College 30-10	No. 5 Miami (FL)	3
4	Alabama	8-0	2,453	Beat Utah State 35-3	at Mississippi State	5
5	Miami	6-1	2,290	Beat North Carolina 34-16	at No. 3 Virginia Tech	6
6	UCLA	8-0	2,198	Beat Stanford 30-27 (OT)	at Arizona	7
7	LSU	6-1	2,171	Beat North Texas 56-3	Appalachian State	8
8	Florida State	7-1	1,947	Beat Maryland 35-27	North Carolina State	9
9	Notre Dame	5-2	1,865	idle	Tennessee	10
10	Penn State	8-1	1,818	Beat Purdue 33-15	No. 14 Wisconsin	11
11	Georgia	7-1	1,712	Lost to No. 17 Florida 14-10	idle	4
12	Ohio State	6-2	1,572	Beat No. 23 Minnesota 45-31	Illinois	13
13	Oregon	7-1	1,364	idle	No. 21 California	14
14	Wisconsin	8-1	1,362	Beat Illinois 41-24	at No. 10 Penn State	15
15	Florida	6-2	1,238	Beat No. 4 Georgia 14-10	Vanderbilt	17
16	Texas Tech	7-1	1,142	Beat Baylor 28-0	Texas A&M	16
17	Auburn	6-2	988	Beat Mississippi 27-3	at Kentucky	19
18	West Virginia	6-1	897	idle	Connecticut (Wed. Nov. 2)	18
19	TCU	8-1	736	Beat San Diego State 23-20	Colorado State	20
20	Boston College	6-2	719	Lost to No.3 Virginia Tech 30-10	at North Carolina	12
21	California	6-2	600	idle	at No. 13 Oregon	21
22	Michigan	6-3	431	Beat No. 22 Northwestern 33-17	idle	NR
23	Fresno State	6-1	414	Beat Hawaii 27-13	San Jose State	24
24	Colorado	6-2	242	Beat Kansas State 23-20	Missouri	NR
25	Louisville	5-2	156	idle	Pittsburgh (Thurs. Nov. 3)	NR

\*All games played on Saturday unless otherwise noted

**Other teams receiving votes:** Georgia Tech (5-2) 80, Northwestern (5-3) 43, UTEP (6-1) 38, Michigan State (5-3) 24, Minnesota (5-3) 23, Tennessee (3-4) 16, Arizona State (4-4) 10, Oklahoma (5-3) 10, Rutgers (6-2) 7, Virginia (4-3) 7, South Carolina (5-3) 5, Stanford (4-3) 4, Boise State (6-2) 3, Iowa State (5-3) 3, Colorado State (5-3) 1, Iowa (5-3) 1.

**Dropped out of the Top 25:** Prev. ranked No. 22 Northwestern (5-3, lost to prev. unranked Michigan 33-17); Prev. ranked No. 23 Minnesota (5-3, lost to then No. 13 Ohio State 45-31); Prev. ranked No. 25 Tennessee (3-4, lost to prev. unranked South Carolina 16-15).

## Poll Methodology and Process

The 2005 Harris Interactive College Football Poll is comprised of former players, coaches, administrators and current and former media who have committed to submitting votes for the top 25 college football teams each week. These panelists were randomly selected from among more than 300 nominations submitted by the Conference offices and Notre Dame. The panel has been designed to be a statistically valid representation of all 11 Division I-A Conferences and independent institutions.

Today, 113 poll participants ranked the top 25 college football teams. On October 16, Harris Interactive® announced that it had dismissed one member from the Harris Interactive College Football Poll<sup>SM</sup> panel. This panelist was released for not participating fully and honoring the commitments for panel member participation. The former panelist's name will not be released, and Harris Interactive will not replace this panelist. The poll will continue with 113 panelists who will rank the Top 25 teams each Sunday during the 2005 college football season, through December 4<sup>th</sup>.

The 11 Division I-A Conference Commissioners and Notre Dame Athletics Director Kevin White did not accept the Harris Interactive recommendation to apply to the rankings a standard statistical practice so as to prevent potential instability, error, or bias associated with unusual voting patterns. Each week, once Harris Interactive conducts its thorough verification process, the individual rankings will stand as submitted.

Weekly rankings and other information about the poll and the poll participants can be found at [www.harrisinteractive.com/bcspoll](http://www.harrisinteractive.com/bcspoll) and [www.bcsfootball.org](http://www.bcsfootball.org). Following the final Harris Interactive College Football Poll rankings release of the season on December 4<sup>th</sup>, the individual participant votes for their final rankings will also be released.

### About Harris Interactive®

Harris Interactive Inc. (<http://www.harrisinteractive.com>) is the 13<sup>th</sup> largest and fastest-growing market research firm in the world, perhaps best known for *The Harris Poll*<sup>®</sup> and for pioneering and engineering Internet-based research methods. The Rochester, New York-based global research company blends premier strategic consulting with innovative and efficient methods of investigation, analysis and application, conducting proprietary and public research globally to help clients achieve clear, material and enduring results.

Blending science and art, Harris Interactive combines its intellectual capital and one of the world's largest online panels of respondents, with premier Internet survey technology and sophisticated research methods to market leadership through its US, Europe (<http://www.harrisinteractive.com/europe>) and Asia offices, its wholly owned subsidiary, Novatris in Paris (<http://www.novatris.com>), and through an independent global network of affiliate market research companies. EOE M/F/D/V

To become a member of the Harris Poll Online<sup>SM</sup> and be invited to participate in future online surveys, go to <http://www.harrispollonline.com>.

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