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November 23, 2021

Top 10 teams get busy; Oklahoma State moves into Top 5

Manheim, Pennsylvania – The top 10 teams in the nation went a combined 10-1 last week, with the only loss coming to another Top 10 team as the NWCA Division I Coaches Poll was released on Tuesday.

The movement within the Top 10 is primarily due to Ohio State's 17-13 win at Virginia Tech on Friday. The win moved the Buckeyes (2-0) to No. 8, while it dropped the Hokies (1-1) to No. 10. Ohio State picked up swing match victories at 125 pounds and 285 pounds to knock off Virginia Tech in front of 4,500 fans in Blacksburg. The Hokies rebounded to beat Gardner-Webb the following day in Cassell Coliseum.

Top-ranked Iowa opened its season with a 32-12 win over No. 21 Princeton before a sold-out crowd at iconic Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Expect crowds of over 14,000 on the regular this season as all the Hawkeye wrestling season tickets have sold out. The win was

Iowa's 19th in a row, the longest dual win streak currently in Division I.

Second-ranked Penn State (3-0) beat Army West Point 32-7 in Rec Hall, while Missouri won its 15th in a row to improve to 3-0 on the season and 3-0 against its new Big 12 rivals. The Tigers topped Air Force 39-3. Fourth-ranked Michigan (3-0) won a pair of duals in New York, first beating Columbia 34-3 before heading to Western New York to beat Buffalo 31-3.

Oklahoma State (2-0) moved to No. 5 after dispensing with then-No. 11 Minnesota 23-10 in Minneapolis.

Despite the 34-6 win over West Virginia, NC State (1-0) slid one spot to No. 6. Seventh-ranked Arizona State opened its dual schedule with a 22-12 win over then-No. 17 Oklahoma. Nebraska (3-0) moved up a spot after beating then-No. 13 North Carolina. Peyton Robb's upset win over returning NCAA champion Austin O'Connor highlighted the Husker win.

Other ranked action saw Stanford head coach Rob Koll's return to Cornell and it was his former squad that came away victorious 30-9. The big result there saw Cornell's Julian Ramirez upend returning 165-pound NCAA champion Shane Griffith of Stanford 3-2.

Lehigh (2-1) re-emerged into the Top 25 coming in at No. 22 this week after beating then-No. 15 Pittsburgh 26-9 in Grace Hall. Pittsburgh (3-1) dropped to No. 23, but quickly rebounded to beat Maryland on Monday night.

This week: An abbreviated schedule is on tap this week as the Thanksgiving Holiday will limit the amount of wrestling opportunities. Ohio State hosts Division II Notre Dame College on Tuesday and we won't have any Division I competition until Saturday. The Garden State Grapple is a new event that will take place at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey – home of the NHL's New Jersey Devils. No. 15 Rutgers will face Hofstra and No. 14 North Carolina, while No. 19 Wisconsin will take on Hofstra and North Carolina in a set of double duals on Saturday night. Army West Point heads to the Midwest to take on No. 13 Iowa State, along with California Baptist. Oregon State will also head to Iowa to take on the top-ranked Hawkeyes. On Sunday, Drexel heads to Stillwater to take on fifth-ranked Oklahoma State while South Dakota State heads to the Twin Cities to face No. 12 Minnesota.

Methodology: The NWCA Division I Wrestling Coaches Poll is voted on by two coaches from each Division I wrestling conference. Each first-place vote is worth 25 points, 24 points for a second-place vote, 23 for a third-place vote and so on through to one point for

a 25th-place vote. The poll is based on dual meet results.

NWCA Division I Wrestling Coaches Poll November 23, 2021

Rank	Team (First)	Record	Points	Conference	Previous
1	Iowa (14)	(1-0)	350	Big Ten	1
2	Penn State	(3-0)	336	Big Ten	2
3	Missouri	(3-0)	315	Big 12	3
4	Michigan	(3-0)	302	Big Ten	4
5	Oklahoma State	(2-0)	287	Big 12	6
6	NC State	(1-0)	286	ACC	5
7	Arizona State	(1-0)	272	Pac-12	7
8	Ohio State	(2-0)	253	Big Ten	9
9	Nebraska	(3-0)	231	Big Ten	10
10	Virginia Tech	(1-1)	228	ACC	11
11	Cornell	(1-0)	211	EIWA	12
12	Minnesota	(0-1)	182	Big Ten	11
13	Iowa State	(0-0)	176	Big 12	13
14	North Carolina	(3-2)	149	ACC	14
15	Rutgers	(6-0)	147	Big Ten	18
16	Northern Iowa	(0-0)	138	Big 12	16
17	Purdue	(6-0)	111	Big Ten	20
18	Oklahoma	(2-1)	110	Big 12	17
19	Wisconsin	(2-0)	76	Big Ten	22
20	Illinois	(0-0)	67	Big Ten	19
21	Princeton	(0-1)	63	EIWA	21
22	Lehigh	(2-1)	56	EIWA	NR
23	Pittsburgh	(2-1)	46	ACC	15
24	Stanford	(1-2)	41	Pac-12	23
25	Northwestern	(0-0)	38	Big Ten	25

Others Receiving Votes: Wyoming 34, Cal Poly 15, Campbell 13, Central Michigan 10, Virginia 3, Appalachian State, Oregon State 2.

Dropped Out: No. 24 Wyoming (0-0).

Upcoming Coaches Poll Release Dates for 2021-22: Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14, Dec. 21, Jan. 4, Jan. 11, Jan. 18, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, Feb. 8, Feb. 15, Feb. 22.

Mid-Major Poll Release Dates to be announced.

Questions related to historical polls can be sent to Jason Bryant
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