



2009 FCS COACHES POLL

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Villanova Survives Top Five Test

Richmond Maintains No. 1 Ranking

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Richmond (4-0) held on to the No. 1 spot this week after being idle on Saturday, receiving 27 first-place votes and 699 points overall.

Two fellow Colonial Athletic Association teams engaged in a top 5 battle, with an undefeated record on the line. Villanova quarterback Chris Whitney threw a 55-yard touchdown pass to Brandyn Harvey 19 seconds into the Wildcats' game against then-No. 5 William & Mary to make the score 7-0. The Wildcats never trailed in their 28-17 victory, despite being outgained by the Tribe, 472-283. William & Mary had two turnovers and only scored one touchdown in five trips to the red zone. Matt Szczur rushed for two touchdowns in the Wildcats' victory.

Villanova (5-0) received one first-place vote and 664 points overall to solidify its stance at No. 2, while William & Mary (4-1) dropped to No. 8.

Montana (4-0) was also idle Saturday and maintained its grip on No. 3.

Northern Iowa (4-1) scored touchdowns on each of its first six possessions in the first half en route to a 62-7 win against Indiana State to remain at No. 4. Schuylar Oordt caught two 30-yard touchdown passes. Derrick Law ran for 78 yards and two scores in the first half, while Matt Strathman ran for 133 yards and a touchdown in the second half.

Rounding out the top 5 was New Hampshire (4-0), which defeated Towson 57-7. New Hampshire quarterback Kevin Decker made his first career start, throwing for two touchdowns and rushing for one. The Wildcats forced eight Towson turnovers. Sean Jellison returned a kickoff 81 yards for a score, and Ryan McGuinness scored on a 96-yard interception return.

Southern Illinois (3-1) moved up two spots to No. 6 after its 30-10 victory at Western Illinois. The Salukis are followed by McNeese State (3-1) at No. 7 and William & Mary (4-1) at No. 8. Central Arkansas (3-1) cracked the top 10 and moved up three spots to No. 9 after its 45-10 win versus Missouri S&T. Appalachian State (2-2) comes in at No. 10 after its overtime win at The Citadel.

James Madison (2-2) fell out of the top 10 after losing at Hofstra, 24-17. The Dukes were held to 56 passing yards. Hofstra's Dave Wilson caught two touchdown passes, including one for 34 yards.

New to the poll this week is Colgate (5-0). The Raiders are coming off a 45-23 victory against Cornell.

Dropping out of the poll was Texas State (2-2), which lost on the road at Southern Utah, 38-16.

The Colonial Athletic Association maintains six ranked teams, with three in the top five and four in the top 10. The Big Sky Conference is represented by four ranked teams. The Missouri Valley and Ohio Valley Conferences each have three ranked teams, while the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, Patriot League, Southern Conference and Southland Conference each have two. The Great West Conference is represented by one team.

The FCS Coaches Poll website can be viewed [here](#) and is updated each week after the release of the poll.

The 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.

2009 FCS Coaches Poll – Week 5 (October 5, 2009)

Team (No. 1 Votes)	2009 Record	Points	Previous Ranking
1. Richmond (27)	4-0	699	1
2. Villanova (1)	5-0	664	2
3. Montana	4-0	633	3
4. Northern Iowa	4-1	630	4
5. New Hampshire	4-0	582	7
6. Southern Illinois	3-1	556	8
7. McNeese State	3-1	514	9
8. William & Mary	4-1	474	5
9. Central Arkansas	3-1	438	12
10. Appalachian State	2-2	436	10
11. Elon	4-1	427	13
12. James Madison	2-2	370	6

13. Massachusetts	3-1	329	16
14. Cal Poly	2-2	296	17
15. Eastern Washington	4-1	291	18
16. South Carolina State	3-1	256	14
17. Eastern Kentucky	3-1	217	21
18. Jacksonville State	3-2	204	20
19. South Dakota State	3-1	187	15
20. Holy Cross	4-0	173	22
21. Weber State	2-3	166	11
22. Florida A&M	4-0	156	23
23. Montana State	3-1	130	25
24. Colgate	5-0	92	NR
25. Eastern Illinois	4-1	42	24

Others receiving votes (points in parentheses): Stephen F. Austin (35), Texas State (22), Prairie View A&M (20), Northern Arizona (15), Alabama A&M (13), Gardner-Webb (9), Chattanooga (7), Liberty (6), Butler (5), Hofstra (2), Southern Utah (2), Missouri State (1), Morgan State (1).