



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS
ASSOCIATION
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ncbwa.com

*VANDERBILT TOPS 2019 NCBWA DIVISION I
PRESEASON POLL*

DALLAS – The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association continues its tradition of NCAA Division I polls for the 22nd year with its 2019 weekly surveys and Vanderbilt tops the preseason poll for 2019, followed by LSU at No. 2 and Texas Tech at No. 3.

Vanderbilt was preseason No. 1 in 2015 and the last time the Commodores topped the poll was April 6, 2015. In 2019, head coach Tim Corbin's squad returns eight of nine position players from the 2018 squad that advanced to the Super Regionals and came up one victory shy of reaching the College World Series.

Previous No. 1 entries on the preseason NCBWA rankings have been LSU in the 1998, 2001 and 2009 polls, Southern California (1999), Miami (Fla.) (2000), Stanford (2002), Texas (2003, 06, 10), Rice (2004, 07), Cal State Fullerton (2005, 14), Arizona State (2008), North Carolina (2009), TCU (2011, 17), Florida (2012, 18), Arkansas (2013), and Vanderbilt (2015).

LSU was selected second as they bring to the table a talented squad to the table in 2019, followed by Texas Tech at No. 3. The Red Raiders finished the 2018 season by advancing to the College World Series for the third time in five years.

Two Pac-12 squads are next, as UCLA comes in at No. 4, followed by Oregon State, the reigning College World Series champions at No. 5.

Florida, who finished the 2018 season at No. 3 in the polls is the third SEC team in the top 10 coming in at No. 6, followed by North Carolina at No. 7. The third Pac-12 school in the top 10 is Stanford as preseason No. 8. Louisville and Florida State make it three ACC schools in the top 10 coming in at No. 9 and 10, respectively.

UCLA is the biggest mover in the poll, jumping up 22 spots to No. 4 after ending 2018 at No. 26. Louisville rose 18 spots to No. 9 after finishing 2018 at No. 27. Preseason No. 1 Vanderbilt was also a big mover, jumping up 15 spots from No. 16 in 2018.

The 2019 poll voters come from among 35 college baseball writers and related media persons from throughout the nation. After a preseason Top 40 listing, the remainder of the polls will feature a national Top 30 beginning with the Feb. 18 NCBWA DI survey.

The current survey has representation by 12 different conferences among the 299 baseball-playing schools in the 2019 NCAA Division I ranks. The rankings of 2018 had 15 different DI conferences rated at least one week. For more information or to join the NCBWA, please go to www.ncbwa.com.

2018 Feb. 4 NCBWA Poll

<u>Current Ranking, School</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Final 2018 Rank</u>
1 Vanderbilt	SEC	35-27	6
2 LSU	SEC	39-27	RV
3 Texas Tech	Big 12	45-20	5
4 UCLA	Pac-12	38-21	26
5 Oregon State	Pac-12	53-11-1	1
6 Florida	SEC	49-21	3
7 North Carolina	ACC	44-20	6
8 Stanford	Pac-12	46-12	17

9	Louisville	ACC	45-19	27
10	Florida State	ACC	43-19	22
11	Ole Miss	SEC	48-17	18
12	Georgia	SEC	39-21	20
13	Mississippi State	SEC	39-29	4
14	East Carolina	American Athletic	44-18	23
15	Arkansas	SEC	47-19	2
16	Baylor	Big 12	37-21	RV
17	Clemson	ACC	47-16	19
18	Texas	Big 12	42-23	7
19	Auburn	SEC	43-23	10
20	Oklahoma State	Big 12	31-26-1	RV
21	TCU	Big 12	33-23	--
22	Coastal Carolina	Sun Belt	43-19	24
23	Michigan	Big Ten	33-20	--
24	Cal State Fullerton	Big West	36-25	14
25	Duke	ACC	45-18	9
26	Southern Miss	Conference USA	44-18	25
27	Minnesota	Big Ten	43-15	15
28	Wake Forest	ACC	25-32	--
29	UC Irvine	Big West	32-24	--
30	NC State	ACC	42-18	21
31	Georgia Tech	ACC	31-27	--
32	Arizona	Pac-12	34-22	--
33	Florida Atlantic	Conference USA	43-19-1	29
34	Washington	Pac-12	35-26	8
35	Connecticut	American Athletic	37-22-1	RV
36	Missouri State	Missouri Valley	40-17	RV
37	Indiana	Big Ten	40-19	29
38	Tennessee Tech	Ohio Valley	53-12	11
39	San Diego State	Mountain West	39-21	RV
40	Houston	American Athletic	38-25	RV

Also receiving votes: Arizona State (23-32), Dallas Baptist (42-21), Elon (36-23), Gonzaga (33-24), Houston Baptist (29-30), Illinois (32-20), Kentucky (34-22), Louisiana (34-25), Louisiana Tech (39-20), Miami (Fla.) (28-26), North Carolina A&T (32-25), Ohio State (36-24), Oklahoma (38-25), Oral Roberts (38-20), Oregon (26-29), Saint John's (40-17), South Alabama (32-25), South Carolina (37-26), Stetson (48-13), Stony Brook (32-25), Texas A&M (40-22), Troy (42-21), UNCW (39-23).

Dropped out: West Virginia (27), UCF (29)

Choices by Conference: ACC 8, American Athletic 3, Big 12 5, Big Ten 3, Big West 2, Conference USA 2, Missouri Valley 1, Mountain West 1, Ohio Valley 1, Pac-12 5, SEC 8, Sun Belt 1