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NOTRE DAME BASEBALL MOVES UP IN ALL THREE NATIONAL POLLS

Pair of road wins over Mississippi State lift Irish to 12th in two polls, 11th in *Baseball America* poll

The Notre Dame baseball team has moved up in all three of the nation's major polls, after dropping a close game to New Orleans (7-6) and taking two games from host Mississippi State (7-5, 4-2) in last week's National Bank of Commerce Classic.

The Irish moved up one spot in both the *Baseball America* poll (from 12th to 11th) and the USA Today/ESPN coaches poll (13th to 12th) while rising from 14th to 12th in the *Collegiate Baseball* magazine poll.

There are nine teams ranked ahead of Notre Dame in each of the three polls: Georgia Tech, USC, LSU, Miami, Arizona State, Rice, South Carolina, Auburn and Stanford.

Georgia Tech retained the top spot in the *BA* poll while rising from second to first in the coaches poll (dropping USC to second). Rice remained first in the *CB* poll.

Notre Dame moved past Florida State and Nebraska in the *BA* poll, which also saw Pepperdine rise from 15th to 10th. In the *CB* poll, the Irish moved past Oklahoma State and Florida State into the top 12. The coaches poll moved Notre Dame ahead of Florida State and Nebraska, with Alabama making a jump from 14th to 11th.

Notre Dame was joined in the *BA* top 25 by in-state rival Purdue (No. 25), making Indiana one of seven states with multiple schools in the poll—while only California (4), Florida (4) and Alabama (3) have more teams in the *BA* top 25 than Indiana (Louisiana, South Carolina and Texas have two each).

BASEBALL AMERICA TOP 25 (2/19/01)

Team..... 2001 record (last poll)

1. Georgia Tech.....	4-1	.....	1
2. USC.....	8-2	.....	2
3. LSU.....	5-2	.....	3
4. Miami.....	9-2	.....	4
5. Arizona State.....	12-2	.....	5
6. Rice.....	10-1	.....	6
7. South Carolina.....	9-0	.....	7
8. Auburn.....	10-0	.....	8
9. Stanford.....	9-4	.....	9
10. Pepperdine.....	8-1	.....	15
11. NOTRE DAME.....	2-1	.....	12
12. Nebraska.....	3-3	.....	10
13. Florida State.....	3-4	.....	11
14. Clemson.....	2-1	.....	13
15. Georgia.....	2-0	.....	17
16. Tulane.....	9-2	.....	15
17. Central Florida.....	7-3	.....	16
18. Cal State Fullerton.....	6-6	.....	19
19. Oklahoma State.....	7-2	.....	20
20. Florida.....	4-4	.....	21
21. East Carolina.....	6-0	.....	22
22. Baylor.....	8-3	.....	23
23. South Alabama.....	8-1	.....	NR
24. Alabama.....	7-1	.....	25
25. <i>Purdue</i>	2-1	.....	NR

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL TOP 30 (2/19/01)

Team.....	2001 record	Poll Points.....	Last Poll
1. Rice.....	10-1	478	1
2. Georgia Tech.....	4-1	477	2
3. USC.....	8-2	475	3
4. LSU.....	5-2	471	4
5. South Carolina.....	9-0	467	9
6. Arizona State.....	12-2	465	6
7. Auburn.....	10-0	462	11
8. Miami.....	9-2	458	8
9. Stanford.....	9-4	454	10
10. Clemson.....	2-1	453	5
11. Nebraska.....	3-3	450	7
12. NOTRE DAME.....	2-1	447	14
13. Pepperdine.....	8-1	443	20
14. Oklahoma State.....	7-2	439	12
15. Florida State.....	3-4	437	13
16. Georgia.....	2-0	435	16

17. Cal State Fullerton.....	6-6	432	17
18. Baylor.....	8-3	431	18
19. Central Florida.....	7-3	425	19
20. Alabama.....	7-1	423	24
21. Long Beach State.....	4-4	420	15
22. Stetson.....	5-1	418	23
23. South Alabama.....	8-1	413	NR
24. Louisiana-Monroe.....	7-0	410	NR
25. Wichita State.....	3-0	405	29
26. East Carolina.....	6-0	403	30
27. Tulane.....	9-2	400	27
28. Tennessee.....	5-1	396	25
29. Florida.....	4-4	395	22
30. Mississippi State.....	0-2	393	21

USA TODAY ESPN COACHES POLL (2/19/01)

Team (1st)	W-L	Voting Points	Previous
1. Georgia Tech (20)	4-1	983	2
2. USC (13)	6-1	972	1
3. Rice (7)	10-1	916	5
4. Arizona State	12-2	853	4
5. LSU	5-2	841	3
6. Miami	9-2	787	7
7. Stanford	9-4	766	6
8. South Carolina	9-0	753	9
9. Auburn	10-0	733	10
10. Clemson	2-1	588	8
11. Alabama	7-1	542	14
12. NOTRE DAME	2-1	504	13
13. Pepperdine	8-1	482	22
14. Oklahoma State	7-2	379	18
15. Florida State	3-4	360	11
16. Baylor	8-3	345	23
17. Georgia	2-0	333	19
18. Nebraska	3-3	321	12
19. Tulane	9-2	287	21
20. Cal-State Fullerton	6-6	212	15
21. South Alabama	8-1	193	NR
22. Central Florida	7-3	192	20
23. East Carolina	6-0	128	NR
24. UCLA	8-4	105	NR
25. Long Beach State	4-4	94	17

Others receiving votes: Florida (78), Stetson (74), *Mississippi St.* (70), Florida Int'l (63), Wichita St. (62), Rutgers (50), Wake Forest (45), Texas Tech (32), Purdue (31), Tennessee (24), Arkansas (23), *New Orleans* (21), *Va. Tech* (13), Arizona (12), *Fla. Atlantic* (12), California (10), Evansville (10) Mississippi (6), North Carolina (6), Ohio St. (3), *Fresno St.* (3), Louisiana-Monroe (3), Southern Mississippi (2), San Jose St. (1), *Seton Hall* (1), Louisiana-Lafayette (1)

Teams in italics are on Notre Dame's 2001 schedule.