



NEWS RELEASE

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MOUNT UNION TOPS FIRST AFCA DIVISION III COACHES' POLL OF 2007

WACO, TEX. — The Mount Union Purple Raiders begin the 2007 season where they ended the 2006 season — atop the AFCA Division III Coaches' Poll. Mount Union received 39 of 40 first place votes to earn the top spot in the first poll of 2007. The Purple Raiders have been ranked No. 1 or No. 2 in every season-opening AFCA poll dating back to the inaugural poll in 1999.

Mary Hardin-Baylor checks in at No. 2. The Crusaders received the remaining first place vote and are 2-0 after a 55-14 win over Sul Ross State. St. John's (Minn.) holds down the No. 3 spot after a 62-7 win over Augsburg. No. 4 Wisconsin-La Crosse defeated NAIA power Azusa Pacific, 27-20, on Saturday. No. 5 St. John Fisher defeated rival Rochester, 37-21.

Wheaton earns the No. 6 ranking in the first poll of the season. The Thunder are 2-0 after a 55-14 win over Washington (Mo.). Defending South Region champion Wesley is No. 7 after a 31-17 win over Widener. No. 8 Capital defeated Wilmington, 40-0 on Saturday. Two-time national runner-up Wisconsin-Whitewater comes in at No. 9 after falling to Division II St. Cloud State, 26-16. Central (Iowa) rounds out the Top 10 after a 44-36 barnburner with Luther.

No. 11 Baldwin-Wallace is 2-0 after a 24-6 win over Marietta. Ohio Northern is the fourth OAC school in the top 12. The Polar Bears defeated Muskingum, 27-9 on Saturday. Washington & Jefferson earns the No. 13 ranking this week after a 50-14 win over Hanover. No. 14 Linfield evened its record at 1-1 with a 52-42 win over Hardin-Simmons. Idle Trinity (Texas) checks in at No. 15.

No. 16 Bridgewater (Va.) improved to 3-0 with a 41-16 win over Ferrum. Wartburg is No. 17 after a 38-0 blanking of Buena Vista. Salisbury holds down the No. 18 spot after a 35-21 win over Christopher Newport. No. 19 North Central rolled past Benedictine (Ill.), 47-0. Wabash rounds out the Top 20. The Little Giants are 2-0 after a 28-6 win over Millikin.

No. 21 St. Olaf is 3-0 following a 56-7 win over Hamline in the MIAC opener for both schools. No. 22 Rowan evened its record at 1-1 with a 14-13 over Wilkes. Occidental is the lone Southern California school in the Top 25, checking in at No. 23 after a 38-0 win over Menlo. No. 24 Montclair State slipped past Springfield, 33-30 while No. 25 Mount St. Joseph improved to 3-0 with a 25-15 win over Illinois Wesleyan.

Conference Breakdown: Ohio (Mount Union, Capital, Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio Northern), Atlantic Central (Wesley, Salisbury), Iowa (Central {Iowa}, Wartburg), Minnesota (St. John's, St. Olaf), New Jersey (Rowan, Montclair St.), Wisconsin (Wisconsin-Whitewater, Wisconsin-La Crosse), America Southwest (Mary Hardin-Baylor), Empire 8 (St. John Fisher), Heartland (Mount St. Joseph), Illinois-Wisconsin (Wheaton, North Central), North Coast (Wabash), Old Dominion (Bridgewater), Northwest (Linfield), Presidents (Washington & Jefferson), Southern California (Occidental), Southern Collegiate (Trinity).

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Poll Points

Mount Union has outscored its first two opponents 133 to 21 ... Josh Welch threw two touchdown passes against Sul Ross to become Mary Hardin-Baylor's career leader with 41 ... St. John's (Minn.) quarterback Alex Kofoed was 16-20 for 301 yards and four touchdowns in the Johnnies' 62-7 win over Augsburg ... Dan Hall ran for 137 yards and two touchdowns and caught a scoring pass in Wisconsin-La Crosse's 27-20 win over Azusa Pacific ... St. John Fisher has started 3-0 for the sixth consecutive season ... Wheaton's Zach Ullrich threw for 240 yards and three touchdowns in a little over three quarters in the Thunder's 55-14 win over Washington (Mo.) ... Wesley's Mike Pennewell carried the ball 12 times for 181 yards in the second half to key the Wolverines' 31-17 win over Widener ... Capital receiver Evan Blake set a school record with 304 yards receiving on 11 catches against Wilmington. The yardage total is the fifth-best in Ohio Athletic Conference history ... Wisconsin-Whitewater's Justin Beaver became the WIAC's career rushing leader in the Warhawks' game at Division II St. Cloud State. Beaver now has 4,444 career yards ... Central's Tim Connell threw for a career high 300 yards and four touchdowns in the Dutch's 44-36 win over Luther ... Baldwin-Wallace linebacker Luke Chronister recorded 14 tackles in the Yellow Jackets' 24-6 win over Marietta ... R.J. Meadows ran for 167 yards and one score in the Polar Bears' 27-9 win over Muskingum ... Washington & Jefferson's Bobby Swallow tied a school record with six TD passes against Hanover on Saturday.

American Football Coaches Association Division III Coaches' Poll
September 18, 2007

Rank	School (1st votes)	Rec.	Pts.	Prev.	Last Week	Next Game
1.	Mount Union (Ohio) (39)	2-0	999	—	D. Otterbein (Ohio), 58-14	Sept. 22 vs. Muskingum (Ohio)
2.	Mary Hardin-Baylor (Texas) (1)	2-0	899	—	D. Sul Ross (Texas), 55-14	Sept. 22 at Texas Lutheran
3.	St. John's (Minn.)	3-0	889	—	D. Augsburg (Minn.), 62-7	Sept. 22 vs. Concordia-Moorhead (Minn.)
4.	Wis.-La Crosse	2-0	786	—	D. Azusa Pacific (Calif.), 27-20	Sept. 29 vs. No. 9 Wis.-Whitewater
5.	St. John Fisher (N.Y.)	3-0	770	—	D. Rochester (N.Y.), 37-21	Sept. 22 at Ithaca (N.Y.)
6.	Wheaton (Ill.)	2-0	758	—	D. Washington (Mo.), 55-14	Sept. 22 vs. Hope (Mich.)
7.	Wesley (Del.)	3-0	739	—	D. Widener (Pa.), 31-17	Sept. 22 vs. No. 24 Montclair St. (N.J.)
8.	Capital (Ohio)	2-0	708	—	D. Wilmington (Ohio), 40-0	Sept. 22 vs. Heidelberg (Ohio)
9.	Wis.-Whitewater	1-1	671	—	Lost to St. Cloud St. (Minn.), 26-16	Sept. 22 vs. Wis.-Eau Claire
10.	Central (Iowa)	3-0	610	—	D. Luther (Iowa), 44-36	Sept. 22 at Loras (Iowa)
11.	Baldwin-Wallace (Ohio)	2-0	547	—	D. Marietta (Ohio), 24-6	Sept. 22 vs. Wilmington (Ohio)
12.	Ohio Northern	2-0	510	—	D. Muskingum (Ohio), 27-9	Sept. 22 vs. John Carroll (Ohio)
13.	Washington & Jefferson (Pa.)	2-0	483	—	D. Hanover (Ind.), 50-14	Sept. 22 vs. Oberlin (Ohio)
14.	Linfield (Ore.)	1-1	356	—	D. Hardin-Simmons (Texas), 52-42	Sept. 29 at Willamette (Ore.)
15.	Trinity (Texas)	2-0	346	—	Idle	Sept. 22 vs. Colorado College
16.	Bridgewater (Va.)	3-0	343	—	D. Ferrum (Va.), 41-16	Sept. 22 at La Grange (Ga.)
17.	Wartburg (Iowa)	2-0	338	—	D. Buena Vista (Iowa), 38-0	Sept. 22 at Luther (Iowa)
18.	Salisbury (Md.)	3-0	276	—	D. Christopher Newport (Va.), 35-21	Sept. 22 vs. Delaware Valley (Pa.)
19.	North Central (Ill.)	2-0	259	—	D. Benedictine (Ill.), 47-0	Sept. 22 vs. Washington (Mo.)
20.	Wabash (Ind.)	2-0	217	—	D. Millikin (Ill.), 28-6	Sept. 22 at Ohio Wesleyan
21.	St. Olaf (Minn.)	3-0	187	—	D. Hamline (Minn.), 56-7	Sept. 22 at Augsburg (Minn.)
22.	Rowan (N.J.)	1-1	143	—	D. Wilkes (Pa.), 14-13	Sept. 21 vs. Widener (Pa.)
23.	Occidental (Calif.)	2-0	139	—	D. Menlo (Calif.), 38-0	Sept. 29 at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (Calif.)
24.	Montclair St. (N.J.)	2-0	129	—	D. Springfield (Mass.), 33-30	Sept. 22 at No. 7 Wesley (Del.)
25.	Mount St. Joseph (Ohio)	3-0	127	—	D. Illinois Wesleyan, 25-15	Sept. 29 at Anderson (Ind.)

Others Receiving Votes: Springfield (Mass.), 117; Wis.-Oshkosh, 85; Rensselaer (N.Y.), 68; Trinity (Conn.), 50; Ithaca (N.Y.), 47; Hardin-Simmons (Texas), 41; Wis.-Eau Claire, 24; Bethel (Minn.), 22; Whitworth (Wash.), 21; Centre (Ky.), 21; Carthage (Wis.), 20; St. Norbert (Wis.), 19; Christopher Newport (Va.), 18; Catholic (D.C.), 17; Bates (Maine), 15; Redlands (Calif.), 15; Augustana (Ill.), 13; Ursinus (Pa.), 13; Williams (Mass.), 12; Hobart (N.Y.), 12; Carnegie Mellon (Pa.), 12; Alfred (N.Y.), 12; Coe (Iowa), 11; John Carroll (Ohio), 11; Franklin (Ind.), 11; Pacific Lutheran (Wash.), 9; Dickinson (Pa.), 9; Muhlenberg (Pa.), 8; Hampden-Sydney (Va.), 7; Concordia (Wis.), 6; Widener (Pa.), 6; Cortland State (N.Y.), 5; Case Western (Ohio), 5; Curry (Mass.), 3; Waynesburg (Pa.), 1; Wis.-Stevens Point, 1; Guilford (Va.), 1; Adrian (Mich.), 1; Ferrum (Va.), 1; DePauw (Ind.), 1.

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