

CAL TOPS 'CANES IN LATEST POLL



- 1 CAL
- 2 MIAMI (FL)
- 3 OKLAHOMA
- 4 COLORADO
- 5 TENNESSEE
- 6 TEXAS
- 7 FLORIDA STATE
- 8 FLORIDA
- 9 UCLA
- 10 UNIV. OF TOLEDO
- 11 WASHINGTON STATE
- 12 ALABAMA
- 13 OREGON
- 14 OHIO STATE
- 15 WASHINGTON
- 16 LSU
- 17 NEBRASKA
- 18 USC
- 19 BOISE STATE
- 20 AUBURN
- 21 SOUTH CAROLINA
- 22 MARSHALL
- 23 TEXAS A&M
- 24 LOUISVILLE
- 25 PENN STATE



Can the 'Canes repeat? Can the Sooners make it two out of the last three? Who will win the Heisman? How many polygons does a Butkus Award winner get? Where is Berkeley? The answers to these (No. No. Look to Texas. Thousands. Take I-80 west and follow the signs.) and other pressing questions can be found in this year's College Football Top 25 poll:

1 CAL

So they went 1-10 last year. Big deal. Serious time spent in the Blue Chip Recruiting Mode has made this team into a rough bunch on the gridiron. That combined with a new Power I formation adds an unexpected threat for this turn-around team.



How good is this team? Eight or nine of their starters should be in NFL GameDay™ next year. The 'Canes may have the toughest schedule in football, with games against the Florida Gators, Tennessee Volunteers, Virginia Tech Hokies and Florida State Seminoles. About the only quality teams not on their schedule are in the NFL.

3 OKLAHOMA
New Hot Routes can put the 2000 NCAA champs right back at the top. Which means almost as much to this Oklahoma Sooners team as beating their heated rival, the Nebraska Cornhuskers. But, kicking game may be a chink in the armor.

4 COLORADO
Will the Buffs defend their Big 12 crown using the wishbone? The flexbone? The full house? Only the coach controlling the playbook knows for sure.

5 TENNESSEE
New high-low tackling may allow the Volunteers to field their toughest defense in years. And defense wins championships. The question is: will their offense underachieve? A 0-0 game doesn't go down in the win column.

6 TEXAS
Can their quarterback capture the Heisman against what may be the toughest conference in Division I football? Can the defense come up Texas big? Not even our highly evolved artificial intelligence can answer that one.



Same coach. Same expectations. Same potential: Nothing but a national championship will do.



8 FLORIDA
New coach. Same expectations. Same potential: Nothing but a national championship will do.



Look for the Bruins to utilize a sensational receiving core and Hot Routes to vie for a national championship. Then expect the Bruins to vie for a championship all over again in the NCAA® Final Four™ 2003 edition.

10 UNIV. OF TOLEDO
A great run in Career Mode gets these overachievers a major BCS Bowl bid and a Top 10 finish. And their coach the chance to take over a major college powerhouse. Enjoy that animated contract, coach.

11 WASHINGTON STATE
A strong passing offense makes them a team to beat. Explosive gameplay makes this perennial Pac 10 little brother into a legitimate head-turner. WAZZU is ready to play with the big boys.



12 ALABAMA
The Crimson Tide not only has the polygons but also the offensive line to outmuscle anyone in college football. Not to mention an impressive amount of depth in the backfield. If that's not enough, new high-low tackling gives their defense the bite it needed. Roll, Tide, roll.

13 OREGON
Blue Chip recruiting made the loss of their 2001 Heisman candidate easier to stomach. A new wishbone offense could help the 2002 Ducks rain on just about anyone's parade.

14 OHIO STATE
More control over the running game puts them at the top of their conference. But they must beat archrival Michigan for the Big 10 Conference title first, which won't be easy, but definitely a possibility for the Ohio State Buckeyes.

15 WASHINGTON
Unproven defense must come through for a Rose Bowl berth. Total Control Passing gives this Husky team a very potent attack.

16 LSU
Tigers are looking to claw their way to another SEC title. Louisiana State University's pass- and run-blocking is top-notch this year.

17 NEBRASKA



Just avenge the CU mauling and beat the Oklahoma Sooners. All to be right in Huskerland.

18 USC



Must turn off "Injuries" for the thin Trojans to succeed. Controlling the playbook is crucial with USC's quarterback.

19 BOISE STATE

Say hello to the first "Homer Bowl" winner. Increased fan rates show that this year the boys are on their way up.

20 AUBURN



Old coach sacked in Career Mode. Team should improve.

21 SOUTH CAROLINA



Lots of excitement building. 'Cocks this year. Volatile offense could be a threat with the addition of a full-house formation.

22 MARSHALL

A weak schedule equals strong wins. Will Keith Jackson in GameBreaker's booth, call them "rumbling" or "bumbling"?

23 TEXAS A&M

Several players converted to defense. Too bad they're in the country's toughest conference.

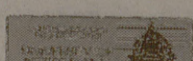
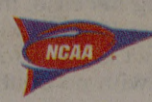
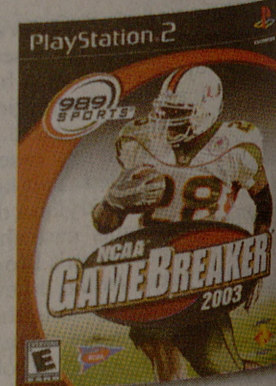
24 LOUISVILLE

Gamebreakers on both sides of the ball. Look for the Louisville Cardinals to go to their Wing offense for big points.

25 PENN STATE



Same classic CGI uniforms. Same classic spot in polls.



PlayStation 2

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