DEFENDING CHAMPION FLORIDA TOPS NCBWA PRESEASON DIVISION I POLL

DALLAS – The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association continues its tradition of NCAA Division I polls for the 21st year with its 2018 weekly surveys as Florida tops this year's preseason survey for the second time in NCBWA history.

Coach Kevin O'Sullivan's Gators also were No. 1 prior to the 2012 campaign and are coming off their initial NCAA World Series victory in 2017 at Omaha, Neb., and a final 52-19 overall record.

Oregon State, which was tops nationally for most of the 2017 season and ended with the most victories (56) in DI baseball, is No. 2 in the survey among a Who's Who of traditional Division I powers.

All eight 2017 NCAA World Series participants are included in the initial Top 35 poll with Florida, Oregon State, NCAA runner-up LSU at No. 11, Cal State Fullerton No. 10, Florida State No. 4, Louisville No. 14, TCU No. 5, and Texas A&M No. 9.

The 2018 poll voters come from among 35 college baseball writers and related media persons from throughout the nation. After a preseason Top 35 listing, the remainder of the polls will feature a national Top 30 beginning with the Feb. 19 NCBWA DI survey.

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).

The current survey has representation by 12 different conferences among the 299 baseball-playing schools in the 2018 NCAA Division I ranks. The rankings of 2017 had 13 different DI conferences rated at least one week. For more information or to join the NCBWA, please go to www.ncbwa.com.

2018 Preseason NCBWA Poll

Current Ranking, School		Overall	Conference	2017 Final Rank
1	Florida	52-19	SEC	1
2	Oregon State	56-6	Pac-12	3
3	Texas Tech	45-17	Big 12	18
4	Florida State	46-23	ACC	6
5	TCU	50-18	Big 12	4
6	Arkansas	45-19	SEC	21
7	North Carolina	49-14	ACC	14
8	Kentucky	43-23	SEC	10
9	Texas A&M	41-23	SEC	8
10	Cal State Fullerton	39-24	Big West	7
11	LSU	51-20	SEC	2
12	UCLA	30-27	Pac-12	Received Votes
13	Stanford	42-16	Pac-12	20
14	Louisville	53-12	ACC	5
15	Vanderbilt	36-25-1	SEC	15
16	Ole Miss	32-25	SEC	RV
17	Mississippi State	40-27	SEC	13
18	Virginia	43-16	ACC	22

19	Clemson	42-21	ACC	24
20	Dallas Baptist	42-21	Missouri Valley	28
21	Texas	39-24	Big 12	23
22	South Alabama	40-21	Sun Belt	RV
23	Southern Miss	50-16	Conference USA	17
24	Indiana	34-24-2	Big Ten	RV
25	Houston	42-21	American Athletic	25
26	Miami (Fla.)	30-27	ACC	RV
27	West Virginia	36-26	Big 12	RV
28	NC State	36-25	ACC	29
29	UCF	40-22	American Athletic	RV
30	Arizona	38-21	Pac-12	26
31	Duke	30-28	ACC	NR
32	South Carolina	35-25	SEC	RV
33	Oklahoma	35-24	Big 12	RV
34	Louisiana-Lafayette	35-21-1	Sun Belt	NR
35	Missouri State	43-20	Missouri Valley	12

Also receiving votes (Alphabetically With 2017 Records): Florida Atlantic (35-21-1), Georgia Tech (27-28), Iowa (37-22), Kent State (37-18), Long Beach State (42-20-1), Maryland (38-23), Michigan (42-17), Nebraska (35-22-1), Oklahoma State (30-27), Oral Roberts (43-16), St. John's (42-13), Sam Houston State (44-23), San Diego (35-18-1), Tennessee Tech (41-21), UT Arlington (30-25), Wake Forest (43-20), Washington (28-26), Winthrop (34-24).

By Conference: SEC 9, ACC 8, Big 12 5, Missouri Valley 4, Pac-12 4, American Athletic 2, Sun Belt 2, Big Ten 1, Big West 1, Conference USA 1, Mountain West 1, Ohio Valley 1.

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