



NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

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2006 NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

TOP 10 POLL (WEEK 1)

January 30, 2006

JERSEY CITY, NJ...For the 12th consecutive week, Stevens Institute is the No. 1 ranked team in the NECVA Top 10 poll, after defeating Rivier to win the Stevens Invitational. The Ducks received 11 of 12 first place votes. Rivier continues being ranked second. Medaille is third, tied with D'Youville, which jumps from seventh after wins over Medaille and East Stroudsburg. SUNY-New Paltz remains fifth, while Ramapo, winners of nine consecutive matches, and the hottest team overall in the conference, climbs from eighth to sixth. Eastern Mennonite moves up from 10th to seventh, after a narrow five-game loss to Rivier. Endicott, unranked in the preseason poll, debuts this season at No. 8, with a 3-2 victory against Division I Sacred Heart on its resume. Nazareth is ninth again. Baruch College, which received votes in the preseason poll, climbs into the Top 10 for the first time in the poll's history, after knocking off Newbury and NJCU and taking New Paltz to five. #4 Newbury and #6 MIT each dropped out of the poll but continue to receive votes. Johnson and Wales is unbeaten and also received votes, as did NJCU.

RANK	(AVCA RANK)	SCHOOL (#1 votes)	RECORD	POINTS	LAST WEEK
1	#7	Stevens Institute (11)	8-6	119	1
2	#8	Rivier College (1)	6-2	109	2
3	#10	Medaille College	4-8	69	3
3	#9	D'Youville College	3-2	69	7
5	#11	SUNY-New Paltz	3-1	68	5
6	#15	Ramapo College	4-0	56	8
7	#13	Eastern Mennonite	1-2	37	10
8	#12	Endicott College	5-2	34	RV
9	#14	Nazareth College	3-2	31	9
10	RV	Baruch College	4-2	24	RV

Dropped out: #4 Newbury College, #6 MIT

Also Receiving Votes: Johnson and Wales (4-0), 19; MIT (4-2), 15; Newbury College (2-4), 7; New Jersey City University (0-1), 3.

Note: Points represent total out of 120. A team voted No. 1 on a ballot receives 10 points, No. 2 receives 9 points, No. 3 receives 8 points, and so forth.

ABOUT THE NECVA:

The North East Collegiate Volleyball Association, the largest known single-sport conference in the United States, is in its 12th year of competition during the 2006 season as a leading Division III men's volleyball conference. Founded in 1995 as the Metro Conference, it became known as the NECVA in 1998. Currently comprised of 35 colleges and universities stretching from New Hampshire to Virginia, Bard College, Lesley University, and Southern Vermont College joined the league this year to reach the current membership figure.

The league is divided into four smaller divisions: CUNY (8), Metro (8), New England (11), and Western (7), with one associate member. Each week, coaches from the four divisions nominate athletes and then vote for the divisional Player and Rookie of the Week awards. The conference sports information office then selects the NECVA Player and Rookie honors from each of these four divisional winners.

The NECVA holds an annual 16-team conference tournament each April with the top three schools in each division and four at-large selections earning berths. The NECVA champion receives one of four automatic bids to the Molten Division III Final Four in April. In addition, Stevens Institute will automatically be granted a bid to the Molten Final Four as the 2006 host institution for a second consecutive year.

2006 POLL VOTERS:

Ira Thor, NECVA Sports Information Director/New Jersey City University; Tim Byram, Endicott College; Gregg Cohen, New York City College of Technology; Patrick Dorywalski, Stevens Institute of Technology; Bill Gorman, Wentworth Institute of Technology; David Hildebrandt, Newbury College; Karina Jorge, City College of New York; Keith Koch, Medaille College; Craig Kolek, Rivier College; John Neves, Baruch College; Mike Spinner, College of Mount Saint Vincent; Cal Wickens, Nazareth College.