



NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

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2007 NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

TOP 10 POLL #1

February 12, 2007

JERSEY CITY, NJ...A familiar face can be found at the top of the first NECVA poll of the 2007 season, as Stevens garnered 10 of 12 first place votes and received 118 of 120 possible points. The Ducks were the No. 1 ranked team in the conference for 18 consecutive polls before being upset in the 2006 NECVA Tournament. Nazareth College has defeated its top three rivals in the Western Division, and the Golden Flyers have earned their highest ranking in school history at No. 2, after winning its own tournament last weekend. The same can be said about Massachusetts Institute of Technology. MIT, which at 14-1 has the best overall record in the league, received two first place votes after taking the title of its tournament last weekend. The No. 3 ranking is the highest ever for the Engineers. Eastern Mennonite is ranked fourth after finishing 3-1 at the Nazareth Invitational, and D'Youville College, which also went 3-1 at the tournament, losing in the finals to Nazareth, comes in at No. 5.

Medaille is ranked No. 6, while SUNY-New Paltz, which went 2-2 at the Nazareth Invitational, is seventh. The Hawks are 4-1 in the NECVA Metro Division. Ramapo College is also 4-1 in the Metro, and the Roadrunners, at No. 8, are the highest ranked team in the NECVA that is not among the Top 15 in the national poll. Rivier College, the defending conference champions, had won five of six to rebound nicely from a 1-4 start to the season. The Raiders are No. 9 in the poll—their lowest ranking in the four-year history of the poll. Vassar College is not eligible for the NECVA Tournament this year as an affiliate member of the league, but they make their first-ever appearance in the Top 10 poll. At No. 10, the Brewers are 4-2 against NECVA opponents.

Four other teams received a number of votes, led by Newbury College with nine, just two behind Vassar. Philadelphia Biblical is off to a 10-2 start and also received nine points, while New Jersey City University took home eight points with an 8-4 mark. Hunter College is the lone representative of the CUNYAC Division, with six points.

RANK	(AVCA RANK)	SCHOOL (#1 votes)	RECORD	POINTS	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS POINTS
1	6	Stevens (10)	13-5	118	--	--
2	8	Nazareth College	12-3	104	--	--
3	10	MIT (2)	14-1	93	--	--
4	11	Eastern Mennonite	9-6	77	--	--
5	9	D'Youville College	7-9	69	--	--
6	12	Medaille College	5-7	55	--	--
7	14	SUNY-New Paltz	9-3	54	--	--
8		Ramapo College	10-5	27	--	--
9	15	Rivier College	5-5	22	--	--
10		Vassar College	4-5	11	--	--

Dropped out: None

Also Receiving Votes: Newbury College (8-5), 9; Philadelphia Biblical University (10-2), 9; New Jersey City University (8-4), 7; Hunter College (7-4), 6.

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 13th year of competition during the 2007 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 36 colleges and universities stretching from New Hampshire to Virginia, Vassar College joined the league this year as an affiliate member, and will become a member of the Metro Division in 2008.

The league is divided into four smaller divisions: CUNY (8), Metro (8), New England (12), 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.

2007 POLL VOTERS:

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; Ira Thor, NECVA Sports Information Director/New Jersey City University; Cal Wickens, Nazareth College.