



NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

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2006 NORTH EAST COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

TOP 10 POLL (WEEK 8)

March 20, 2006

JERSEY CITY, NJ...All the movement in the poll this week can be found in the middle, as the fourth Western Division teams continue to battle it out. At the top, Stevens Institute continues as the No. 1 ranked team in the conference for the 17th consecutive poll. The Ducks (21-10) improved to 12-0 in the Metro Division with conference wins over NJCU and Mount Saint Vincent, and received 10 of 12 first place votes. Rivier, owners of the longest winning streak in the nation among all Division I, II, and III schools at 12 straight, remain second in the poll with two first place votes. The Raiders were idle last week. Nazareth was the biggest winner in this week's poll, climbing three spots from sixth to third, after defeating Medaille in five games for the second time in four days. The Golden Flyers saw its support in the poll climb 25 percent, up from 60 points to 75. Medaille College fell to fourth in the poll, despite losing only three overall points, and the Mavericks are one point behind Nazareth. Eastern Mennonite University, which lost the longest match in men's collegiate volleyball history to Division II Lees McRae, remains fifth.

D'Youville College fell two spots, from fourth to sixth in the poll, after losing in three games to Medaille. New Jersey City University, still one of the hottest teams in the country by winning for the 14th time in 15 matches, remains seventh this week, after defeating Ramapo in five games on the road. Baruch improved to 25-5 and won for the eighth time in nine matches. The Bearcats are eighth again this week. SUNY-New Paltz remains ninth this week while improving to 9-3 in the Metro Division. Ramapo is still 10th this week, posting a win over Bard, and received 24 points.

MIT, which defeated Johnson & Wales last week, was just one point behind the Roadrunners, and headlines the other teams receiving votes. Bard College received two points, while Newbury College and Johnson and Wales each received one point. Newbury has won six of seven and improved to 7-2 in the New England Division.

RANK	(AVCA RANK)	SCHOOL (#1 votes)	RECORD	POINTS	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS POINTS
1	#7	Stevens Institute (10)	21-10	117	1	118
2	#8	Rivier College (2)	21-3	110	2	110
3	#10	Nazareth College	17-7	75	6	60
4	#11	Medaille College	11-11	74	3	77
5	#9	Eastern Mennonite	12-5	69	5	61
6	#12	D'Youville College	12-6	55	4	71
7	#14	New Jersey City	14-4	46	7	43
8		Baruch College	25-5	34	8	35
9	#13	SUNY-New Paltz	18-9	29	9	31
10		Ramapo College	19-7	24	10	29

Dropped out: None

Also Receiving Votes: MIT (18-8), 23; Bard College (14-6), 2; Newbury College (18-10), 1; Johnson & Wales University (13-6), 1.

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:

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.