

RATINGS 11-16-13

Welcome back to By the Numbers.

There were no changes at the top again this week. Alabama rolled over Mississippi State and Jameis Winston continued his assault (er, alleged assault) on ACC defenses with a 19-21 performance against Syracuse. But, what a week at the next level! UCF kept its BCS hopes alive with a spectacular late touchdown catch. Auburn kept its and South Carolina's SEC hopes alive with a ridiculous Hail Mary to beat Georgia. Duke took control of the ACC Coaster Division by beating Miami, and is now 8-2. Stanford, after beating Oregon, lost to Oregon and Southern Cal, putting Oregon back in charge in the Pac 10 (at least until this week). Oklahoma State's de-horning of Texas sets up a showdown with Baylor this week (with the winner having a later showdown with Oklahoma or Texas, respectively). Andre Williams of Boston College followed up a 295-yard rushing day against NM State with a 339-yard day against NC State. He now has 1810 yards for the year with games left against Maryland and Syracuse (sorry, no more N* States).

Next week is Rivalry Week, with traditional rivalries doing battle, and game after game with BCS implications. This week is Prepare-for-Rivalry-Week-by-Playing-the-Worst-D1-Team-You-Can-Find Week. Well, there are some good games: Northern Illinois gets tested for the second week in a row, this time on the road at Toledo. Baylor at Oklahoma State is huge, as the Bears are pushing Ohio State for third in the BCS (thanks to computers like mine that love Baylor). Two important Pac-12 games have Oregon at Arizona and Arizona State at UCLA. Little chance for a national championship, but the Rose Bowl is a big deal. Texas A&M and LSU should be a lot of fun, and BYU and Notre Dame play the religious independents bowl. Otherwise, it's not pretty. My system predicts Alabama to give up -4 points this week against Chattanooga. Florida State hosts #174 Idaho (to be fair, Idaho is two slots ahead of The Citadel, Clemson's opponent). There are a couple of rivalry games this week, but they aren't the best. There is a mismatch between Cal and Stanford (strike up the band, or maybe that's strike the band) and the Harvard-Yale game as the Ivy League wraps up. I was really hoping that the computer would pick Harvard to win 29-29, but no such luck.

Kenneth Massey runs one of the computer ranking systems that is used by the BCS. His system was one of the original computer systems chosen. This occurred, amazingly enough, when Massey was a grad student at Virginia Tech! He is now a professor of mathematics at Carson-Newman. The Massey Ratings is a massive website devoted to ratings of all kinds. He compiles college football ratings from everywhere. Last week, he listed 124 different systems. Mine was listed 4th, because my ratings had the 4th-highest correlation to the consensus (0.995). Mine also tied for the lowest ranking violation percentage. A ranking violation is when a lower-ranked team beats a higher-ranked team: this week, one of my violations is to rank Oregon above Stanford, even though Stanford beat Oregon. A good ranking system should have a small number of ranking violations, so I was pleased to see that mine does well. However, a more important criterion is to do well predicting future games. Massey's page does not provide numbers for this. It is interesting to me that my rankings match the consensus rankings well, but this may mean that my system would merely agree with Vegas spreads; I'd much rather beat the Vegas spreads. Check out the Massey Ratings web site!

Here's a reminder of where the score predictions come from. Florida State has an overall rating of 119.0, Idaho is rated at 52.6. Add 4 points for home field and I pick FSU to win by 70. Using the offense and defense ratings, FSU is expected to score $61.3 - (-10.0) = 71$ points while Idaho scores $23.2 - 23.5 = 0$ points. Adjusting these points to make a 70-point spread, I take one away from Florida State and get Florida State 70, Idaho 0. I assume that Idaho is getting paid well for getting mashed.

This week's predictions:

(W) Northern Illinois 41, Toledo 35

Baylor 48, Oklahoma State 39

Oregon 38, Arizona 32

Arizona State 38, UCLA 35

Texas A&M 45, LSU 43

Missouri 35, Ole Miss 28

Notre Dame 28, BYU 26

Miami 42, Virginia 17

Duke 31, Wake Forest 15

Alabama 49, Chattanooga -4

Florida State 70, Idaho 0

Harvard 38, Yale 27

Last week's trivia answers: Rollie Stichweh was the Army QB. Army would have gone to the Cotton Bowl if they had beaten Navy.

Duke cracked the top 25 this week! So I thought I would find some Duke football history, from about 50 years ago, since that's what I've been writing about recently. Well, pretty much ALL Duke football history is 50+ years old. The background picture shows the Duke celebration of their 1961 Cotton Bowl win, which is Duke's most recent bowl win. The last time Duke finished the season ranked was 1962. The coach then was Bill Murray; both that name and Duke football have been more closely associated with comedy since. I thought of making a trivia question out of Duke football coach Eddie Cameron, who won the 1944 Sugar Bowl over Alabama and then took his stadium indoors. But I think I'll stick with famous players, which at Duke narrows the field. So, name the Duke QB from 1954-56, whose *career* passing record was 77-156 for 1119 yards and 6 TDs. He threw 16 INTs, but as a defensive back intercepted 10 of the other teams' passes. Name this future All-Pro NFL star.

And here are this week's ratings:

		Overall	Wins	Offense	Defense
1	Florida St	119.03	119.91	61.37	23.53
2	Baylor	114.89	113.11	68.62	15.94
3	Alabama	113.90	118.10	47.09	27.66
4	Oregon	112.47	112.84	59.36	19.55
5	Arizona St	110.32	114.14	55.80	15.82
6	Stanford	109.43	115.31	43.60	24.07
7	Ohio State	108.41	111.83	56.51	13.74
8	Clemson	108.14	113.93	51.74	14.72
9	Missouri	107.92	113.99	48.64	17.22
10	Auburn	106.60	114.13	46.37	15.98
11	South Carolina	103.24	110.51	42.20	17.04
12	Texas A&M	103.08	107.29	57.84	5.75
13	UCLA	102.97	107.40	46.31	16.84
14	Wisconsin	102.87	102.89	45.54	24.00
15	Oklahoma St	101.90	105.27	48.26	15.37
16	Southern Cal	101.28	105.48	39.82	21.94
17	Michigan St	100.09	106.53	35.24	22.01
18	LSU	97.59	99.77	49.36	11.57
19	Georgia	97.36	101.73	48.08	9.40
20	Oklahoma	97.26	102.44	38.65	17.53
21	Washington	96.90	96.06	45.88	18.78
22	Mississippi	96.36	102.08	40.72	13.73
23	Brigham Young	95.90	96.72	43.47	17.70
24	Fresno St	95.75	103.83	46.12	4.24
25	Central Florida	95.60	102.03	43.21	9.41
26	Northern Illinois	95.37	104.81	45.71	2.27
27	Louisville	94.95	97.29	39.62	18.35
28	Notre Dame	94.38	100.42	39.13	12.82
29	Duke	94.23	99.59	43.02	9.77
30	Virginia Tech	93.58	97.52	33.33	20.87
31	North Dakota St	93.50	100.75	35.31	13.95
32	Texas	93.20	97.56	42.23	10.97
33	Kansas St	93.19	93.25	43.10	16.40
34	Georgia Tech	92.99	93.58	43.99	14.52
35	Oregon St	92.97	95.40	44.52	11.26
36	Michigan	92.40	97.80	42.27	8.58
37	Arizona	92.34	93.41	42.13	15.04
38	Miami FL	92.13	95.89	44.83	8.16
39	Minnesota	91.81	99.47	35.28	11.64
40	Eastern Illinois	91.52	98.15	44.66	3.46
41	Utah	90.75	89.31	43.29	15.91
42	Nebraska	90.27	94.55	41.19	9.12
43	Washington St	90.02	94.23	40.84	9.31
44	Houston	89.11	91.34	42.35	9.77



45	Iowa	89.08	91.08	35.02	17.41
46	Boise St	88.65	88.88	42.98	11.61
47	Texas Tech	88.21	90.06	43.75	8.00
48	Toledo	87.97	94.01	40.39	4.94
49	Boston College	87.37	91.58	38.55	8.88
50	North Carolina	87.12	88.68	38.88	12.18
51	Vanderbilt	86.95	90.71	38.52	9.14
52	East Carolina	86.85	88.93	42.90	7.13
53	Florida	86.41	86.98	29.62	22.16
54	Ball St	85.86	92.37	39.79	2.70
55	Pittsburgh	85.82	87.84	35.76	13.30
56	Mississippi St	85.65	85.84	36.79	14.78
57	Penn State	85.03	90.08	33.62	10.16
58	Utah St	83.71	79.81	40.36	15.23
59	Tennessee	83.41	87.11	36.88	7.21
60	Maryland	83.10	87.50	33.03	9.71
61	North Texas	82.30	85.28	32.69	11.33
62	Louisiana-Lafayette	82.28	88.18	38.15	1.54
63	Bowling Green	82.11	81.56	35.21	13.80
64	Buffalo	82.00	85.31	34.56	8.66
65	Rice	81.90	85.10	34.31	8.97
66	Navy	81.85	83.72	34.59	10.58
67	Indiana	81.80	81.68	50.00	-1.95
68	Cincinnati	81.26	82.84	36.36	8.63
69	Northwestern	81.03	81.06	35.56	11.49
70	Syracuse	80.36	84.76	31.80	8.13
71	SE Louisiana St	79.53	83.90	35.90	3.21
72	TCU	79.52	77.61	32.46	15.88
73	Marshall	79.47	78.18	44.39	3.00
74	Eastern Washington	79.39	85.77	38.38	-2.37
75	San Diego St	78.14	83.18	29.85	6.86
76	Colorado	77.56	81.97	34.97	2.04
77	West Virginia	76.99	77.52	35.98	6.18
78	Arkansas St	76.84	81.42	30.01	6.02
79	Middle Tennessee St	75.66	79.13	32.69	3.76
80	Illinois	74.94	73.97	40.63	1.61
81	Maine	74.80	82.02	30.67	-0.63
82	Arkansas	74.79	77.84	29.43	6.76
83	Rutgers	74.54	79.15	32.92	0.71
84	Colorado St	74.30	73.35	39.82	1.74
85	Coastal Carolina	74.24	80.11	39.57	-8.12
86	San José St	74.03	76.65	33.06	2.99
87	Wake Forest	73.96	76.14	24.32	12.28
88	Tulane	73.60	78.28	27.22	5.32
89	Montana	73.11	76.50	34.56	-0.61



90	McNeese St	73.10	77.15	34.39	-1.41
91	Ohio U.	72.90	76.94	30.40	2.37
92	Towson	72.87	76.32	34.58	-0.96
93	Memphis	72.85	71.76	25.96	14.31
94	Texas-San Antonio	72.62	74.76	28.99	6.30
95	North Carolina St	72.27	71.82	31.02	7.72
96	UNLV	72.08	75.16	33.28	0.06
97	Youngstown St	72.07	76.80	33.71	-2.80
98	Tennessee St	71.74	81.05	19.57	4.25
99	Western Kentucky	71.72	74.34	29.61	4.04
100	Florida Atlantic	71.19	71.27	27.62	9.23
101	Kansas	70.78	72.42	27.34	6.78
102	Bethune-Cookman	70.71	79.14	22.30	1.77
103	South Dakota St	70.56	73.90	29.57	1.82
104	Sam Houston St	70.49	75.17	30.07	-0.71
105	Virginia	70.48	69.98	30.54	6.42
106	Princeton	70.31	74.73	36.24	-6.70
107	SMU	70.27	71.21	38.44	-3.82
108	Jacksonville St	70.08	75.52	29.28	-1.47
109	Nevada	70.04	70.55	32.96	2.07
110	Southern Illinois	69.81	72.34	29.72	2.10
111	Kentucky	69.13	66.25	33.30	5.77
112	Northern Arizona	68.92	75.81	23.00	1.50
113	Tennessee-Martin	68.62	76.35	22.88	0.05
114	William & Mary	68.57	71.55	17.37	12.50
115	Harvard	68.32	74.92	29.38	-5.08
116	Old Dominion	68.18	69.88	40.55	-9.19
117	Northern Iowa	67.51	67.36	26.30	7.08
118	Louisiana-Monroe	67.38	72.46	25.30	0.27
119	California	67.16	65.93	35.99	-1.37
120	Villanova	67.03	66.65	29.43	3.80
121	Fordham	66.88	74.01	29.60	-7.57
122	Texas St-San Marcos	66.53	71.03	21.70	3.85
123	Troy	66.24	68.91	34.16	-6.23
124	South Carolina St	65.64	70.31	20.51	3.87
125	Iowa St	65.35	62.27	33.65	1.82
126	Akron	65.14	67.93	22.96	3.66
127	Chattanooga	64.93	67.53	23.91	2.77
128	South Alabama	64.16	63.61	31.94	-1.40
129	Eastern Kentucky	64.09	69.93	21.56	-0.52
130	Samford	64.00	66.00	29.10	-2.49
131	Central Michigan	63.79	69.40	21.66	-0.57
132	South Florida	63.66	63.89	24.82	4.06
133	Cal Poly SLO	63.11	62.52	23.80	5.70
134	Wyoming	63.01	62.63	31.05	-1.96



135	Missouri St	62.72	60.80	28.33	2.72
136	Southern Utah	62.64	69.93	13.34	4.09
137	Purdue	62.33	64.78	23.66	0.58
138	Illinois St	62.25	64.26	26.10	-1.30
139	New Hampshire	62.11	63.83	28.77	-3.69
140	Murray St	61.74	67.46	25.14	-6.33
141	Kent St	60.26	59.75	22.85	3.61
142	Montana St	60.14	61.35	28.68	-4.86
143	Charleston Southern	60.08	68.66	15.55	-2.66
144	Delaware	59.66	65.48	27.89	-11.37
145	Tulsa	59.13	56.96	27.85	-0.11
146	Army	59.00	57.64	26.81	-0.39
147	Temple	58.98	53.97	27.49	4.26
148	New Mexico	58.42	55.10	36.60	-7.91
149	Lehigh	57.99	66.99	21.15	-11.01
150	Furman	57.76	60.33	18.53	0.82
151	Central Arkansas	57.65	60.57	23.06	-4.32
152	Liberty	57.50	56.59	20.94	3.26
153	Sacred Heart	56.98	63.66	19.62	-7.12
154	Hawai'i	56.82	50.71	30.10	1.04
155	Georgia Southern	56.51	55.42	28.09	-4.65
156	James Madison	56.40	56.74	24.10	-2.87
157	Louisiana Tech	56.20	56.91	21.23	-0.75
158	Sacramento St	55.41	56.28	24.60	-5.17
159	Wofford	55.28	56.28	18.13	0.97
160	South Dakota	54.92	54.62	19.32	1.33
161	Air Force	54.72	51.52	29.96	-5.25
162	Alabama-Birmingham	54.52	55.20	28.17	-9.39
163	Connecticut	54.28	50.91	23.18	1.32
164	Richmond	54.13	53.30	23.59	-2.98
165	Stony Brook	53.73	53.34	19.04	0.50
166	Western Illinois	53.66	52.64	20.35	0.07
167	Massachusetts	53.62	52.17	18.60	2.39
168	Yale	53.38	55.68	22.32	-7.08
169	Northwestern St	53.38	57.89	21.19	-9.21
170	Tennessee Tech	53.33	57.52	20.80	-8.40
171	Brown	53.10	53.38	20.27	-2.34
172	Portland St	52.81	51.50	27.06	-7.10
173	San Diego	52.63	54.89	23.27	-8.75
174	Idaho	52.57	55.72	23.19	-10.01
175	Dartmouth	52.40	52.02	19.94	-1.77
176	The Citadel	52.31	51.04	23.39	-4.00
177	Jackson St	52.16	59.89	16.85	-10.87
178	Eastern Michigan	51.96	56.72	22.35	-12.17
179	Pennsylvania	51.59	54.39	17.82	-5.15



180	UTEP	50.63	48.72	24.72	-6.13
181	SE Missouri St	50.62	54.77	19.07	-9.38
182	Gardner-Webb	50.25	55.17	11.26	-3.10
183	New Mexico St	49.55	50.03	26.07	-12.11
184	Western Michigan	49.17	48.32	21.62	-6.07
185	Lafayette	49.00	49.11	19.90	-5.96
186	Alabama St	48.80	51.85	19.55	-10.12
187	Alcorn St	48.73	54.57	19.01	-13.76
188	Appalachian St	48.65	46.88	19.97	-3.61
189	Delaware St	48.42	57.24	8.20	-7.66
190	UC-Davis	47.99	47.52	14.89	-1.11
191	Lamar	47.92	49.37	19.42	-8.56
192	North Carolina A&T	47.31	49.23	14.15	-4.59
193	Georgia St	46.72	43.96	21.11	-5.27
194	Monmouth NJ	46.66	48.89	15.87	-7.44
	North Carolina				
195	Central	46.45	50.88	13.48	-8.49
196	Hampton	46.25	50.31	16.83	-11.53
197	Bucknell	45.89	48.33	10.54	-3.22
198	Butler	45.42	49.64	17.92	-13.69
199	Nicholls St	45.25	49.12	19.24	-14.67
200	Southern U.	44.92	52.79	14.93	-16.60
201	Florida Int'l	44.02	46.48	12.31	-6.95
202	Marist	43.73	46.66	15.01	-10.64
203	Duquesne	43.67	49.02	9.29	-8.53
204	UNC-Charlotte	43.43	46.37	20.25	-16.20
205	Robert Morris PA	42.63	45.82	12.13	-9.25
206	Dayton	42.30	46.68	13.58	-12.81
207	Stephen F. Austin	42.02	42.56	32.77	-26.64
208	Western Carolina	41.55	40.83	20.17	-12.66
209	Southern Miss	41.55	41.93	17.63	-11.76
210	Idaho St	41.55	38.72	23.07	-12.45
211	Norfolk St	41.38	43.29	7.25	-3.79
212	Holy Cross	41.16	38.94	19.32	-10.00
213	Prairie View A&M	41.01	42.33	24.36	-20.40
214	Howard	41.00	42.55	14.46	-10.86
215	Miami OH	40.94	36.90	14.03	-2.26
216	North Dakota	40.62	39.50	17.17	-10.03
217	Morgan St	40.62	43.54	15.18	-13.98
218	Rhode Island	39.55	42.67	8.51	-8.70
219	Florida A&M	39.15	39.99	11.00	-8.25
220	Austin Peay	38.71	42.87	9.23	-11.83
221	St Francis PA	38.53	39.05	9.81	-7.24
222	Weber St	38.49	40.61	13.70	-13.53
223	Bryant	38.01	37.34	15.65	-11.86



224	Drake	37.89	40.41	6.01	-7.03
225	Indiana St	37.75	34.77	17.50	-10.58
226	Colgate	37.56	37.26	14.13	-11.34
227	Elon	36.11	32.92	15.84	-10.31
228	Mercer	35.64	42.80	11.18	-21.34
229	Cornell	34.87	33.41	17.67	-15.94
230	Presbyterian	34.77	33.90	16.33	-15.57
231	Alabama A&M	32.37	34.61	3.75	-10.06
232	VMI	32.35	30.73	13.11	-13.74
233	Albany NY	32.05	29.43	12.13	-11.61
234	Central Conn St	31.62	33.16	18.22	-24.25
235	Wagner	30.84	35.24	4.38	-15.43
236	Northern Colorado	30.82	23.68	14.79	-8.88
237	Jacksonville FL	30.73	30.04	20.80	-24.47
238	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	27.03	26.43	17.80	-25.41
239	Georgetown DC	23.50	21.27	9.42	-18.27
240	Savannah St	23.18	25.35	9.66	-25.32
241	Columbia	23.02	25.45	-0.19	-16.00
242	Texas Southern	21.99	21.51	1.50	-14.48
243	Mississippi Valley St	21.38	19.49	3.65	-15.20
244	Houston Baptist	20.89	41.17	-0.71	-43.93
245	Morehead St	19.32	25.80	8.51	-34.46
246	Grambling St	16.42	14.96	5.25	-22.52
247	Campbell	13.83	13.13	5.34	-26.42
248	Stetson	10.00	10.00	-3.48	-26.04
249	Valparaiso	9.75	13.50	2.09	-33.89
250	Davidson	-1.06	-1.04	-6.88	-30.56

