

RATINGS 11-2-13

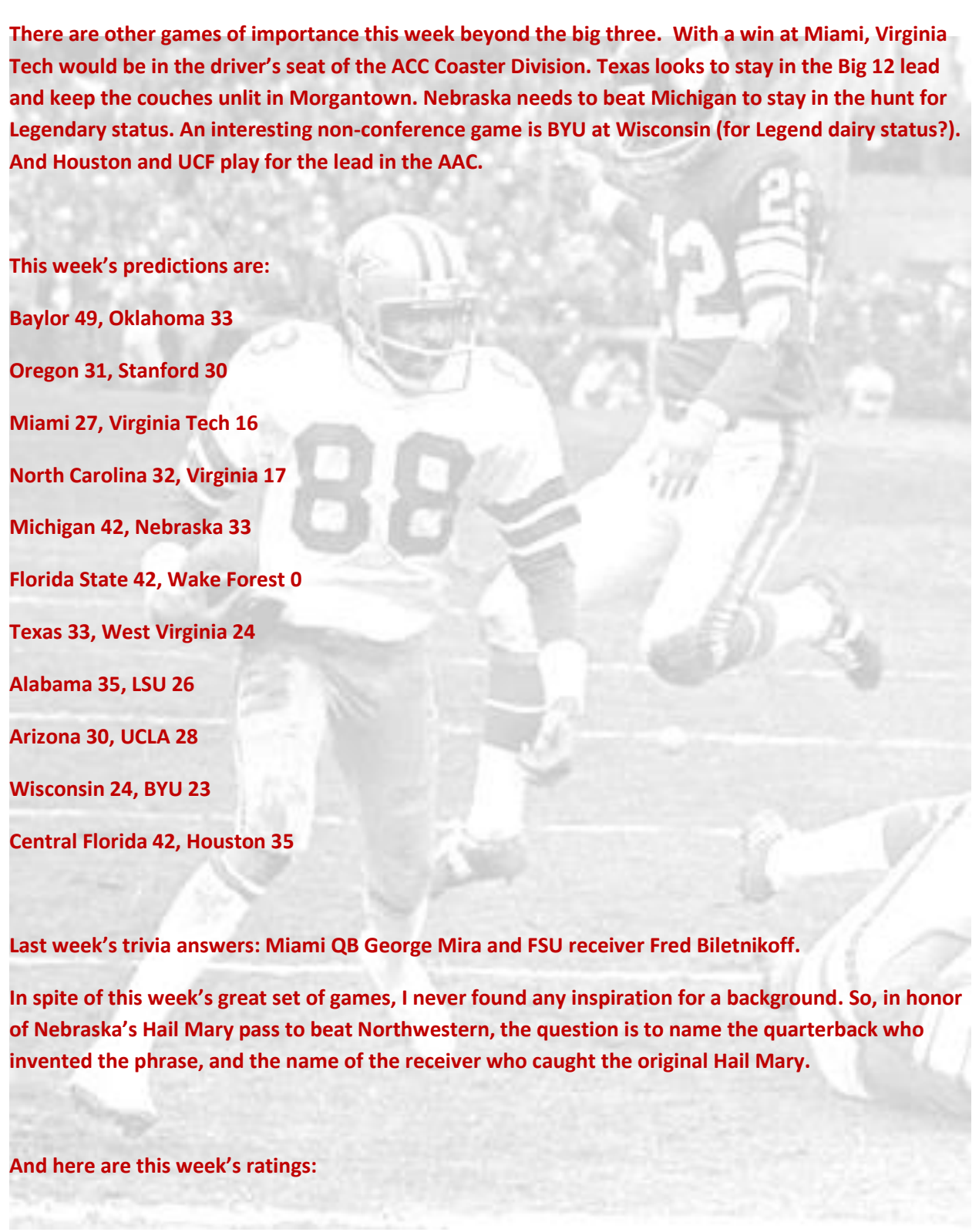
Welcome back to By the Numbers. This is a rating system that uses only wins, losses, points for, points against and schedule to rank college football teams. The “wins” column shows ratings using only wins and losses (no points, as required of BCS computer systems). Offense/defense breaks the points-only ratings (no wins/losses) into components. A more thorough description of the system can be found at www.roanoke.edu/mcsp/minton/bynumbers.html.

The jockeying for the national championship game continues. Florida State has a great shot at finishing the season unbeaten. Alabama and Oregon have challenges left, including big games this week. One thing I find interesting is how this guides the national discussion. In the old days, you would say that Florida State has a huge leg up on Oregon because of their weaker remaining strength of schedule. The Noles are unlikely to lose and can look impressive demonizing Wake, making pulp out of the Orangemen, Vandalizing Idaho, and bagging the Gators. Meanwhile, Oregon goes to Stanford on Thursday and Alabama hosts LSU on Saturday, in a series in which home field has been a disadvantage. What’s interesting is that now commentators have noted that this puts Florida State at a disadvantage in the BCS. If all three teams stay unbeaten, there is almost no way that Florida State stays ahead of Oregon. It seems to me that we ought to tip our hats to the BCS on this one: the team with the tougher schedule has the advantage.

What a great Thursday night of college football is coming up! Oklahoma at Baylor at 7:30, Oregon at Stanford at 9:00. Baylor has a brutal finish, with 2 Oklahomas and 3 Texas’s (Texii?) left. The 70-point games may be over for the Bears. An Oklahoma win and there are at least four teams with great chances to win the Big 12. The Oregon-Stanford game has major BCS significance for the fifth year in a row. This is the premiere matchup in the West, and an interesting contrast of football styles. In this case, the uniforms don’t lie: no-nonsense Stanford versus the quazy Ducks. Traditional balanced offense versus manic instant-gratification balanced offense. Jameis Winston made his Heisman pitch last week against Miami, Marcus Mariota gets some rebuttal time. Thus far, Mariota has run for 511 yards and passed for 2281 yards. His TD/Int ratio is *large*, with 20 TDs against no picks.

The Thursday night games feature the top two offenses in my ratings. Baylor is at 71.0, Oregon at 62.2, with the top five finishing with three states: Arizona State (60.7), Florida State (60.2) and Ohio State (56.7). Thursday defenses coping with these offenses are #4 Stanford (23.6) and #23 Oklahoma (15.1). Saturday’s big game features the #1 defense in the country, Alabama (26.5), versus (believe it or not) the #8 offense at LSU (50.6). The other top five defenses are #2 Florida (24.7), #3 Southern Cal (24.3) and #5 Florida State (23.6).

Here’s a reminder of where the score predictions come from. Oklahoma has an overall rating of 105.3, Baylor is rated at 117.7. Add in 4 points for Baylor being at home and I pick Baylor to win by 16. Using the offense and defense ratings, Baylor is expected to score $71.0 - 15.1 = 56$ points against Oklahoma’s $40.0 - 15.1 = 25$. Adjusting these points to make a 16-point spread, I subtract 7 from Baylor and add 8 to Oklahoma to get Baylor 49, Oklahoma 33.



There are other games of importance this week beyond the big three. With a win at Miami, Virginia Tech would be in the driver's seat of the ACC Coaster Division. Texas looks to stay in the Big 12 lead and keep the couches unlit in Morgantown. Nebraska needs to beat Michigan to stay in the hunt for Legendary status. An interesting non-conference game is BYU at Wisconsin (for Legend dairy status?). And Houston and UCF play for the lead in the AAC.

This week's predictions are:

Baylor 49, Oklahoma 33

Oregon 31, Stanford 30

Miami 27, Virginia Tech 16

North Carolina 32, Virginia 17

Michigan 42, Nebraska 33

Florida State 42, Wake Forest 0

Texas 33, West Virginia 24

Alabama 35, LSU 26

Arizona 30, UCLA 28

Wisconsin 24, BYU 23

Central Florida 42, Houston 35

Last week's trivia answers: Miami QB George Mira and FSU receiver Fred Biletnikoff.

In spite of this week's great set of games, I never found any inspiration for a background. So, in honor of Nebraska's Hail Mary pass to beat Northwestern, the question is to name the quarterback who invented the phrase, and the name of the receiver who caught the original Hail Mary.

And here are this week's ratings:

		Overall	Wins	Offense	Defense
1	Florida St	125.05	128.67	60.20	23.57
2	Oregon	119.63	121.04	62.21	19.23
3	Baylor	117.77	114.71	71.03	15.07
4	Alabama	117.15	120.64	49.23	26.58
5	Stanford	114.45	122.25	43.06	23.64
6	Missouri	113.63	121.64	47.82	17.72
7	Arizona St	113.01	115.42	60.75	12.40
8	Ohio State	112.72	116.89	56.71	13.56
9	Clemson	112.16	118.90	50.30	15.60
10	Auburn	108.02	115.48	43.87	16.70
11	South Carolina	107.72	115.30	42.51	17.57
12	Georgia	106.44	114.21	48.71	9.79
13	Brigham Young	105.81	110.30	43.01	19.68
14	Texas A&M	105.59	109.47	56.20	7.13
15	Oklahoma	105.30	114.56	39.99	15.14
16	Miami FL	104.93	111.58	46.38	12.20
17	Michigan St	104.73	112.20	33.78	23.40
18	LSU	103.94	107.39	50.63	11.65
19	Oklahoma St	103.90	107.68	49.21	12.53
20	UCLA	103.84	107.46	44.41	17.51
21	Southern Cal	103.03	107.12	36.09	24.30
22	Louisville	102.71	104.44	43.80	19.75
23	Notre Dame	102.53	111.47	39.70	13.05
24	Wisconsin	102.48	102.53	45.01	20.76
25	Washington	101.78	102.74	43.47	20.24
26	Arizona	101.56	105.69	44.44	14.37
27	Central Florida	100.63	105.51	46.54	10.22
28	Mississippi	100.09	105.32	40.91	14.79
29	Georgia Tech	99.91	101.42	44.51	16.48
30	Fresno St	99.58	110.14	45.95	1.39
31	Texas	99.52	104.50	42.84	12.63
32	Michigan	98.86	106.03	45.99	5.59
33	Virginia Tech	97.99	103.05	31.51	22.26
34	Houston	97.66	102.85	47.04	6.21
35	Northern Illinois	97.62	107.46	45.56	0.81
36	Texas Tech	97.44	102.38	43.01	10.37
37	Florida	97.41	100.65	31.11	24.74
38	Oregon St	97.33	101.16	46.23	8.69
39	Utah	96.77	97.93	44.77	13.49
40	North Dakota St	95.86	102.12	36.59	13.25
41	Eastern Illinois	95.63	102.89	46.36	1.76
42	Minnesota	94.69	102.72	34.96	11.07
43	Duke	94.39	99.31	41.87	8.41
44	Kansas St	93.78	91.94	40.56	19.04



45	Nebraska	93.72	97.60	42.25	8.86
46	Iowa	92.57	94.79	34.22	18.17
47	Ball St	92.55	99.88	40.70	4.15
48	Boise St	92.47	94.56	42.33	10.15
49	Boston College	91.50	95.66	38.61	9.81
50	Washington St	91.12	94.76	41.09	7.73
51	East Carolina	90.96	95.51	39.83	7.47
52	Tennessee	90.94	95.63	37.29	9.78
53	Penn State	90.94	96.74	33.12	12.31
54	Toledo	90.91	97.47	38.81	5.48
55	Mississippi St	89.45	91.54	35.64	13.71
56	Maryland	89.06	93.83	35.28	9.74
57	North Texas	88.89	93.85	33.15	11.40
58	Pittsburgh	88.77	90.83	35.58	13.12
59	North Carolina	88.26	89.63	37.29	11.89
60	Utah St	88.10	83.52	42.45	15.34
61	Vanderbilt	88.02	92.29	38.51	6.19
62	Louisiana-Lafayette	86.83	91.98	40.11	2.07
63	Northwestern	86.43	87.63	36.28	11.28
64	West Virginia	86.08	89.23	35.25	9.07
65	Indiana	85.92	85.69	51.90	-2.76
66	Buffalo	85.83	90.19	33.82	8.47
67	TCU	85.05	84.60	31.64	16.93
68	Ohio U.	84.88	89.84	35.95	4.49
69	Navy	84.85	87.71	32.81	10.67
70	San José St	84.70	89.87	34.88	5.07
71	Rice	84.47	88.59	31.76	9.50
72	Marshall	83.31	81.73	44.51	3.91
73	Bowling Green	83.08	84.54	31.68	12.05
74	Coastal Carolina	83.07	90.54	42.85	-7.95
75	Rutgers	82.95	89.00	33.23	3.61
76	Syracuse	82.73	86.73	33.00	6.63
77	Colorado	81.96	86.18	34.65	3.86
78	Tulane	81.93	89.48	30.09	3.50
79	Bethune-Cookman	81.68	94.00	21.61	4.71
80	Maine	81.45	90.25	32.10	-0.84
81	SE Louisiana St	81.41	84.77	34.99	4.23
82	Youngstown St	81.26	90.00	34.37	-3.22
83	Cincinnati	80.74	80.75	37.13	6.32
84	Illinois	80.72	80.77	40.88	2.48
85	Arkansas	80.51	84.81	29.44	7.47
86	Eastern Washington	80.45	86.93	36.34	-2.71
87	Middle Tennessee St	79.59	84.61	32.36	2.56
88	Wake Forest	79.45	81.67	24.45	14.42
89	San Diego St	79.39	84.07	28.20	7.02



90	UNLV	78.22	84.65	32.65	-1.23
91	North Carolina St	77.85	77.91	32.43	7.99
92	Tennessee St	77.15	87.30	22.11	2.74
93	Sam Houston St	76.94	83.11	31.32	-0.84
94	Virginia	76.89	77.01	31.14	8.20
95	Florida Atlantic	76.52	77.86	28.24	8.90
96	McNeese St	76.20	80.37	33.82	-1.17
97	Eastern Kentucky	76.15	82.92	25.40	3.40
98	Arkansas St	76.11	79.48	28.24	5.50
99	Western Kentucky	76.08	78.24	31.39	4.10
100	Southern Illinois	75.98	79.20	30.36	3.46
101	Louisiana-Monroe	75.95	82.73	25.98	2.60
102	Kentucky	75.57	72.47	35.88	6.82
103	Fordham	75.48	83.84	33.00	-7.24
104	Texas St-San Marcos	75.35	81.71	22.26	6.32
105	SMU	75.35	78.22	40.90	-7.19
106	Montana	75.34	77.45	36.22	-1.41
107	Texas-San Antonio	74.62	75.61	30.44	5.26
108	Towson	74.61	77.44	36.23	-3.23
109	Northern Arizona	74.59	82.58	24.52	0.87
110	Colorado St	74.37	72.77	37.92	1.34
111	William & Mary	73.85	77.79	19.36	11.21
112	Tennessee-Martin	73.55	83.53	23.64	-2.25
113	California	73.49	72.74	35.36	1.76
114	Kansas	72.92	74.65	27.53	5.36
115	Nevada	72.89	74.67	33.35	-0.59
116	Old Dominion	72.34	73.38	42.23	-8.95
117	Jacksonville St	72.33	80.33	24.81	-1.75
118	South Dakota St	72.10	75.11	30.91	-0.76
119	Troy	71.81	75.85	34.02	-5.69
120	South Florida	71.38	73.71	25.08	5.34
121	Harvard	71.28	77.31	29.24	-4.38
122	South Carolina St	71.24	76.39	21.54	4.57
123	Villanova	71.02	71.57	29.12	3.53
124	South Alabama	70.68	70.69	33.20	-0.10
125	Memphis	70.52	65.82	24.86	15.01
126	Princeton	70.48	74.87	33.14	-6.68
127	Iowa St	70.16	67.32	35.02	1.75
128	Akron	69.98	72.52	23.85	4.80
129	Wyoming	69.71	68.28	35.71	-1.49
130	Chattanooga	69.33	72.99	25.34	1.01
131	Samford	69.21	70.79	31.85	-2.57
132	Delaware	68.93	79.29	26.72	-10.66
133	Central Michigan	68.89	75.24	20.91	1.01
134	Montana St	68.31	70.30	29.74	-1.99



135	Illinois St	68.16	72.67	26.55	-2.66
136	Murray St	67.19	76.04	27.39	-10.88
137	Purdue	66.94	70.85	20.64	2.86
138	Northern Iowa	66.23	63.58	27.00	5.42
139	James Madison	66.18	69.48	24.31	-0.66
140	Missouri St	65.50	63.88	27.31	2.86
141	Wofford	65.28	68.89	18.31	3.93
142	Army	64.62	64.67	28.49	-1.69
143	Kent St	64.16	64.08	23.39	3.13
144	Cal Poly SLO	63.73	63.15	22.18	4.63
145	Tulsa	63.71	62.96	25.15	1.90
146	Brown	63.71	67.96	21.89	-2.20
147	Temple	63.62	59.98	24.99	6.20
148	Southern Utah	63.45	69.03	13.51	3.96
149	New Hampshire	63.40	64.18	28.96	-4.49
150	Jackson St	62.07	71.45	16.59	-6.13
151	Central Arkansas	62.05	64.15	25.08	-3.93
152	Alabama-Birmingham	61.65	62.06	30.21	-7.01
153	Charleston Southern	61.46	69.75	14.87	-3.44
154	Hawai`i	61.33	56.49	28.66	1.94
155	Louisiana Tech	61.09	61.54	20.39	2.19
156	Air Force	60.85	59.37	29.40	-4.24
157	Sacramento St	60.76	60.30	24.16	-0.57
158	New Mexico	60.75	56.13	34.71	-5.03
159	South Dakota	60.36	62.32	18.19	1.44
160	Liberty	59.41	56.98	20.84	4.23
161	Lehigh	59.31	69.14	20.15	-13.20
162	SE Missouri St	58.39	62.25	19.53	-4.73
163	Connecticut	58.39	55.64	22.49	2.01
164	Georgia Southern	58.31	55.73	28.93	-4.76
165	Idaho	58.10	62.55	22.52	-8.90
166	Alabama St	57.86	62.52	24.13	-11.07
167	Sacred Heart	57.79	63.47	19.30	-7.80
168	Massachusetts	57.74	58.01	18.30	1.09
169	Stony Brook	57.69	57.56	14.88	5.05
170	Western Illinois	57.61	56.91	21.03	-0.34
171	Furman	57.17	58.53	16.34	0.87
172	Western Michigan	56.80	58.46	21.86	-5.48
173	Portland St	56.63	55.26	26.02	-5.36
174	Pennsylvania	56.60	61.93	15.30	-4.50
175	Northwestern St	56.56	60.80	20.86	-8.53
176	Gardner-Webb	55.36	60.51	12.92	-3.14
177	Eastern Michigan	55.36	60.20	22.10	-11.87
178	Yale	54.95	55.47	21.93	-5.78
179	Tennessee Tech	54.90	59.90	18.27	-8.76



180	Florida Int'l	54.54	58.11	15.89	-4.65
181	North Carolina A&T	53.60	57.06	15.03	-4.59
182	Lamar	53.40	54.83	19.64	-6.43
183	The Citadel	53.39	51.29	23.93	-5.53
184	Nicholls St	53.06	59.85	21.41	-16.42
185	Richmond	52.81	48.91	20.34	0.11
186	San Diego	52.43	54.12	24.06	-12.22
187	Delaware St	51.67	61.16	6.85	-7.26
188	Georgia St	51.34	49.61	21.52	-5.76
189	North Carolina Central	51.17	56.77	12.86	-8.07
190	New Mexico St	50.61	51.28	24.42	-12.97
191	UTEP	50.55	46.79	26.29	-8.38
192	Lafayette	50.54	50.60	20.57	-8.27
193	Stephen F. Austin	50.40	53.45	32.57	-24.81
194	Prairie View A&M	50.00	53.15	25.75	-18.55
195	Dayton	49.78	55.67	13.85	-10.92
196	Duquesne	49.73	56.95	13.03	-12.09
197	Southern Miss	49.72	51.99	19.12	-10.92
198	UC-Davis	49.64	48.64	13.85	-0.92
199	Dartmouth	49.51	47.24	19.75	-5.09
200	Western Carolina	48.84	50.69	20.95	-13.04
201	Hampton	48.60	51.62	16.66	-10.70
202	Alcorn St	48.36	53.64	15.90	-13.52
203	UNC-Charlotte	48.11	51.97	19.85	-15.65
204	Southern U.	47.89	55.82	15.29	-17.30
205	Monmouth NJ	47.46	47.45	17.65	-8.43
206	Bryant	47.00	50.16	16.75	-12.66
207	Appalachian St	46.99	42.89	18.42	-3.67
208	Miami OH	46.58	42.42	14.74	-0.32
209	Bucknell	46.54	48.59	10.34	-5.09
210	Robert Morris PA	46.16	50.53	8.34	-6.87
211	Rhode Island	45.95	49.27	10.66	-7.88
212	Austin Peay	45.34	52.27	6.86	-10.04
213	North Dakota	45.14	43.90	18.19	-9.55
214	Holy Cross	45.08	42.50	19.28	-8.71
215	St Francis PA	44.85	45.42	12.00	-6.31
216	Butler	44.67	50.03	12.45	-13.98
217	Idaho St	44.07	41.43	21.88	-12.28
218	Florida A&M	44.05	46.44	8.42	-6.22
219	Elon	43.87	42.38	17.50	-9.78
220	Marist	43.83	46.46	12.83	-11.24
221	Indiana St	42.96	41.93	19.75	-13.65
222	Weber St	42.82	45.91	14.21	-14.33
223	Norfolk St	42.39	43.34	5.67	-3.09
224	Howard	42.37	44.56	13.48	-12.72



225	Morgan St	41.92	43.46	16.11	-14.87
226	Central Conn St	39.78	43.02	19.58	-23.03
227	Mercer	38.18	46.65	10.43	-23.22
228	Presbyterian	37.87	37.06	18.33	-17.80
229	Colgate	37.46	35.41	14.76	-12.83
230	Cornell	37.18	33.86	20.66	-17.15
231	Drake	36.96	40.91	3.18	-10.60
232	Alabama A&M	36.19	39.21	0.52	-7.34
233	Jacksonville FL	34.54	35.46	20.06	-25.51
234	Albany NY	34.33	32.79	10.20	-12.24
235	Northern Colorado	34.25	26.22	17.16	-9.74
236	Wagner	33.95	40.06	4.87	-18.55
237	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	32.47	31.84	15.58	-20.88
238	Texas Southern	31.99	33.94	3.68	-13.26
239	Savannah St	31.03	35.03	11.71	-25.30
240	VMI	30.52	27.54	13.35	-17.19
241	Houston Baptist	27.34	49.11	-0.84	-42.68
242	Georgetown DC	27.09	26.35	8.86	-19.52
243	Morehead St	26.03	34.15	9.51	-34.31
244	Columbia	25.46	28.85	0.87	-19.30
245	Grambling St	23.73	24.69	4.63	-21.26
246	Mississippi Valley St	23.70	21.53	6.35	-18.42
247	Campbell	13.67	13.71	3.31	-28.94
248	Valparaiso	12.38	15.70	0.28	-32.07
249	Stetson	10.00	10.00	-4.86	-29.36
250	Davidson	4.29	6.81	-6.90	-32.04

