

RATINGS 11-15-14

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. A more thorough description of the system can be found at www.roanoke.edu/mcsp/minton/bynumbers.html.

Are you worn out from all the must-see showdowns between top-5 SEC teams? This week is for you! This is Silly Saturday, with most SEC teams playing ridiculous games as warmups for the really big games the following Saturday. Don't believe me? Check out the rating system's prediction for the Alabama – Western Carolina game. That game is catamount to an easy practice for the Tide. Or, how about Charleston Southern at Georgia, Eastern Kentucky at Florida, and Samford and Sons at Auburn? And, mostly by bad luck, no less than 11 of this week's conference games have points spreads over 20 points. So, say hi to the wife and kids, do your yardwork, and get ready for the good stuff during Thanksgiving Weekend.

It looked like Georgia would be the biggest winner last Saturday, until Todd Gurley and Texas A&M went down. Gurley is out for the year, and Missouri's comeback victory over the Aggies keeps the Tigers in first place in the SEC East. However, if Missouri loses this week at Tennessee, the Dawgs are in the SEC Championship Game. What if a 2-loss Georgia team wins? Do they make the playoffs? With Gurley, probably so. You might notice that in my ratings they are lurking at #5. Oregon controls their destiny, but must survive the Civil War and whoever emerges from the Pac-12 South.

Other games I've highlighted in the predictions: Marshall remains unbeaten and should finish that way. If I understand the rules, the Herd would either qualify for a major bowl (Cotton, Peach, or Fiesta) or the Popeye's Bowl (with free dessert). Duke is in line for the Orange Bowl if they get by Carolina this week and Wake Forest the next. Wisconsin and Melvin Gordon (408 yards rushing in three quarters against Nebraska!) need to avoid a letdown at Iowa to, I think, wrap up their division. As far as the Big 12 championship goes, Baylor (not TCU) controls their destiny. Oklahoma State is not expected to be a problem, but Kansas State awaits. If Baylor and TCU win out, how much will the Bears' win over the Frogs weigh in the selection committee's decision? UCLA versus USC is one step in breaking the four-way tie in the Pac-12 South. And there's the traditional game between Stanford and Cal, a near standoff between bad O/good D and vice versa.

This week's predictions:

Alabama 61, Western Carolina -3

Missouri 21, Tennessee 20

Marshall 45, UAB 27

Duke 45, North Carolina 31

Wisconsin 31, Iowa 21

Baylor 49, Oklahoma State 23

Kansas State 31, West Virginia 27

UCLA 35, Southern Cal 27

Cal 35, Stanford 31

Virginia Tech 28, Wake Forest 7

Miami 27, Virginia 19

Notre Dame 38, Louisville 31

This week's trivia question went through several metamorphoses. The UCLA-USC game made me think of the 1967 classic between Gary Beban and O.J. Simpson, but in looking up info about that game I ran into the story of how USC and UCLA get to wear their home jerseys in the game (the powder blue versus cardinal red is quite cool looking). The story starts with black-and-white photography and television needing more gray-scale contrast between uniforms, with the obliging NCAA creating a "visiting team wears white jerseys" rule. In 2008, USC took the loss-of-timeouts penalty for improper equipment to wear their red jerseys. At which point the NCAA launched an investigation that revealed that television was now in color. The new rule is that the home team can allow the visitors to wear their home jerseys as long as the colors are contrasting. Who says the NCAA is stuck in the past?

But, back to USC and UCLA. In 1967, USC won the game 21-20 on a long O.J. Simpson run; Beban won the Heisman in spite of this, since juniors didn't win the Heisman. The Trojans went on to play a Cinderella Indiana team in the Rose Bowl. The Hoosiers went from 1-8-1 in 1966 to 9-1 in 1967. They finished in a tie with Purdue and Minnesota for the Big 10 title, and were chosen for the Rose Bowl (in a telephone vote of athletic directors) because Purdue and Minnesota had been to the Rose Bowl more recently. Can you imagine? (In fact, this was Indiana's one and only Rose Bowl appearance.) Indiana had several last-minute wins led by the exquisitely named QB Harry Gonso and RB John Isenbarger, who was featured in Sports Illustrated for his penchant for running fake punts, in an article titled "Punt, John, Punt!" And the trivia question: who was Indiana's coach?

And here are the ratings:

		Overall	Wins	Offense	Defense
1	Alabama	120.04	64.02	48.56	26.51
2	Mississippi	115.25	58.26	46.06	26.62
3	Oregon	114.81	60.39	54.60	13.45
4	TCU	114.06	57.94	55.21	15.04
5	Georgia	112.89	54.84	54.96	17.54
6	Auburn	112.74	56.07	51.23	18.82
7	Mississippi St	112.48	57.85	48.95	17.48
8	Ohio State	111.73	56.19	53.68	13.65
9	Florida St	110.76	60.22	46.84	11.36
10	Baylor	110.19	51.44	56.49	14.92
11	UCLA	109.49	58.21	45.81	12.55
12	Michigan St	108.31	52.27	51.48	13.84
13	Kansas St	108.12	53.01	44.54	19.08
14	Oklahoma	107.04	49.77	49.11	17.20
15	Wisconsin	105.97	48.46	46.91	18.91
16	Missouri	104.71	51.94	37.15	19.71
17	LSU	104.55	46.31	41.51	24.35
18	Arizona	103.24	51.19	41.65	12.80
19	Nebraska	102.74	47.96	46.93	11.65
20	Arizona St	102.35	49.99	44.08	10.15
21	Utah	102.09	48.99	39.97	15.26
22	Georgia Tech	101.73	47.33	45.99	11.11
23	Southern Cal	101.54	46.52	42.70	15.29
24	Texas A&M	100.44	44.77	47.73	10.42
25	Clemson	100.21	46.04	37.83	17.62
26	Tennessee	100.01	42.10	42.85	18.68
27	West Virginia	99.87	44.00	44.69	13.32
28	Notre Dame	99.54	45.78	45.66	8.54
29	Florida	99.17	42.19	42.83	16.44
30	Arkansas	97.77	38.39	42.94	19.15
31	Boise St	97.59	47.13	43.82	3.27
32	Minnesota	97.05	43.03	38.69	13.88
33	Colorado St	96.41	46.18	37.68	8.05
34	Miami FL	96.23	40.14	39.30	16.03
35	Marshall	95.97	39.12	47.18	9.21
36	Louisville	95.42	39.34	39.37	15.29
37	Duke	95.22	39.84	41.36	11.95
38	Texas	94.37	39.10	32.35	20.08
39	Maryland	93.94	41.40	39.15	8.35
40	South Carolina	93.11	36.65	46.14	7.21
41	Iowa	91.88	38.65	34.58	12.36
42	Louisiana Tech	91.87	36.38	39.92	10.78
43	North Dakota St	91.48	38.51	31.17	15.01
44	Washington	90.57	36.08	35.63	12.34
45	Stanford	90.51	33.41	29.52	22.73



46	Memphis	90.36	33.55	38.34	13.30
47	California	90.20	35.82	47.57	-0.10
48	Virginia Tech	89.77	33.48	32.39	17.90
49	Utah St	89.76	37.54	30.68	12.81
50	Boston College	88.62	34.13	34.55	11.79
51	Penn State	88.60	33.66	29.19	17.89
52	Oklahoma St	88.02	34.85	36.20	7.44
53	Cincinnati	87.94	34.37	42.97	1.25
54	Kentucky	87.63	31.91	40.36	7.19
55	Brigham Young	87.03	32.56	40.04	4.94
56	Michigan	87.00	32.22	29.51	15.96
57	Rutgers	86.69	34.52	33.60	7.27
58	Nevada	86.41	33.77	35.29	6.11
59	Northwestern	85.60	30.80	30.37	13.96
60	North Carolina	85.50	32.58	45.69	-4.56
61	North Carolina St	85.45	32.52	37.30	3.78
62	Illinois St	85.23	32.19	35.60	5.48
63	Central Florida	84.59	30.60	32.68	9.47
64	Air Force	84.45	33.96	30.30	5.87
65	Virginia	84.39	27.92	32.72	13.40
66	East Carolina	84.07	28.77	39.88	4.01
67	Northern Illinois	83.28	32.93	34.87	0.11
68	Jacksonville St	82.58	31.20	28.99	7.12
69	Louisiana-Lafayette	82.46	31.01	33.24	2.89
70	Oregon St	82.29	28.16	35.09	5.36
71	Northern Iowa	81.81	26.20	34.14	8.36
72	Toledo	81.14	28.16	36.53	1.06
73	Illinois	81.07	28.32	34.37	2.77
74	Arkansas St	80.89	24.61	36.91	5.95
75	Purdue	80.85	24.85	34.91	7.46
76	Washington St	80.56	24.27	43.15	-0.54
77	Navy	80.22	23.75	36.72	5.90
78	South Dakota St	80.20	27.72	34.10	1.87
79	Syracuse	80.02	24.06	27.82	13.79
80	Texas Tech	79.85	25.75	40.39	-2.01
81	Indiana St	79.58	27.64	28.42	6.11
82	Rice	79.36	25.96	30.91	5.89
83	Pittsburgh	79.34	21.33	39.03	5.42
84	Coastal Carolina	78.92	28.21	34.04	-2.11
85	Western Michigan	78.91	23.21	35.99	4.27
86	Georgia Southern	78.42	21.63	37.57	4.10
87	Houston	78.07	21.18	31.26	10.27
88	UTEP	77.88	24.64	31.14	4.16
89	Iowa St	77.87	22.83	37.37	0.91
90	Central Michigan	77.50	24.53	28.41	6.11
91	Eastern Washington	77.32	26.31	39.33	-8.22



92	Kansas	76.53	21.95	27.26	9.14
93	Indiana	76.49	22.25	34.84	0.96
94	Wyoming	76.38	24.54	27.37	4.36
95	Chattanooga	76.33	21.16	32.20	5.00
96	Bowling Green	76.16	24.55	32.54	-1.41
97	New Hampshire	75.92	24.64	32.60	-2.21
98	Colorado	75.31	19.12	37.62	0.44
99	Temple	75.22	17.46	30.89	9.72
100	Western Kentucky	75.13	20.14	42.27	-6.36
101	Vanderbilt	74.60	20.32	27.94	6.36
102	Villanova	74.58	21.19	33.36	-0.56
103	Alabama-Birmingham	74.43	18.30	35.83	1.41
104	Middle Tennessee St	73.53	18.88	32.76	1.26
105	San Diego St	73.14	18.89	22.83	10.18
106	Fresno St	72.65	20.09	32.72	-2.92
107	South Alabama	72.34	19.44	21.84	8.27
108	Sam Houston St	71.81	18.67	32.12	-2.05
109	SE Louisiana	71.34	16.82	29.15	2.81
110	Youngstown St	71.17	18.20	25.86	3.40
111	Southern Illinois	70.72	16.28	30.59	0.74
112	Hawai'i	70.17	14.61	26.60	6.15
113	Samford	69.50	14.64	28.11	2.90
114	Idaho St	69.31	16.69	33.44	-6.31
115	San José St	69.28	14.24	26.45	4.70
116	South Florida	69.19	16.46	22.03	5.18
117	Tulane	68.99	14.74	24.58	4.98
118	Montana St	68.99	17.93	32.25	-7.99
119	Ohio U.	68.59	14.94	22.28	5.96
120	James Madison	68.10	18.04	28.27	-6.41
121	Fordham	68.01	13.99	32.35	-3.99
122	Liberty	67.83	16.09	30.78	-6.36
123	Texas-San Antonio	67.59	12.29	21.90	8.24
124	Florida Atlantic	67.23	12.71	27.59	0.96
125	Appalachian St	67.10	10.48	34.81	-2.85
126	Stephen F. Austin	66.90	16.16	28.74	-6.78
127	Central Arkansas	66.88	13.88	32.47	-6.75
128	Southern Miss	66.86	13.60	25.00	1.14
129	New Mexico	66.79	12.54	31.40	-3.66
130	Florida Int'l	66.55	9.88	26.34	5.25
131	Eastern Kentucky	66.19	15.53	25.07	-3.84
132	Missouri St	66.03	11.42	23.89	3.80
133	Harvard	65.78	14.68	20.16	1.49
134	Charleston Southern	65.33	14.03	21.64	-0.04
135	Texas St-San Marcos	65.19	9.59	28.24	0.40
136	Montana	65.18	13.43	20.48	1.74
137	Wake Forest	64.77	9.75	22.59	4.75



138	Old Dominion	64.71	11.47	34.00	-9.67
139	Eastern Illinois	64.69	8.21	30.01	-0.30
140	Louisiana-Monroe	64.59	8.10	23.66	5.98
141	Northwestern St	64.13	12.31	29.09	-7.61
142	Western Illinois	64.12	9.46	26.70	-0.50
143	Presbyterian	63.67	17.29	10.01	2.00
144	Bryant	63.34	13.30	16.94	0.90
145	William & Mary	62.78	11.28	22.57	-2.75
146	Richmond	62.53	10.64	23.89	-3.64
147	Ball St	62.39	5.52	25.70	2.74
148	Akron	62.38	6.70	22.57	3.88
149	North Texas	62.03	5.69	29.94	-2.69
150	McNeese St	62.03	7.46	21.26	3.05
151	Massachusetts	62.00	4.47	33.58	-4.36
152	Western Carolina	60.15	7.76	23.97	-4.87
153	Cal Poly SLO	60.11	6.97	27.12	-6.81
154	Yale	60.00	10.00	28.57	14.98
155	Sacred Heart	59.92	10.67	16.97	-3.30
156	Buffalo	59.85	4.19	32.23	-7.93
157	Tulsa	59.82	5.20	30.25	-7.69
158	Connecticut	59.72	4.05	21.15	3.08
159	Bucknell	59.08	9.98	19.61	-6.88
160	North Carolina A&T	58.17	5.91	18.39	-1.15
161	Alcorn St	58.00	4.28	26.46	-6.93
162	UNLV	57.91	5.41	24.74	-7.32
163	Tennessee-Martin	57.58	5.75	21.80	-5.76
164	Dartmouth	57.58	7.67	22.37	-9.55
165	Miami OH	57.30	0.40	24.95	-0.70
166	Army	56.99	2.41	29.55	-9.43
167	Troy	56.98	2.75	22.12	-2.59
168	The Citadel	56.37	1.81	22.78	-3.20
169	Bethune-Cookman	55.56	4.59	18.72	-5.80
170	South Carolina St	55.33	5.65	15.09	-4.52
171	Northern Arizona	55.32	4.79	18.16	-6.18
172	Lamar	55.17	4.30	28.02	-15.59
173	Wofford	55.12	0.43	19.43	-0.70
174	Sacramento St	54.59	3.44	29.37	-16.96
175	Kent St	53.71	-2.86	17.96	2.75
176	SMU	53.21	0.91	15.97	-2.80
177	Albany NY	52.76	0.36	19.00	-6.03
178	South Dakota	52.75	-0.91	22.33	-7.28
179	Maine	52.49	1.63	14.43	-4.27
180	SE Missouri St	52.35	-0.76	22.97	-9.16
181	Delaware	52.14	2.85	15.04	-7.76
182	Eastern Michigan	51.79	1.66	14.47	-6.11
183	New Mexico St	51.41	-4.52	24.21	-6.48



184	Stony Brook	51.04	-3.72	13.22	2.25
185	Tennessee Tech	49.99	-0.32	14.56	-7.39
186	Jacksonville FL	49.68	0.16	14.71	-9.12
187	San Diego	49.23	5.02	12.12	-15.76
188	Monmouth NJ	48.53	-3.65	20.29	-11.21
189	Idaho	48.33	-10.13	28.30	-8.94
190	St Francis PA	48.17	-3.42	24.02	-16.23
191	Southern Utah	47.80	-5.34	19.61	-9.54
192	Mercer	47.78	-9.60	22.14	-5.03
193	Southern U.	47.67	1.63	15.66	-17.54
194	Furman	47.27	-6.37	14.18	-3.74
195	Wagner	46.56	-5.36	11.45	-4.46
196	Tennessee St	46.42	-6.83	14.93	-5.82
197	Weber St	46.18	-8.93	17.07	-5.06
198	Grambling St	46.12	-2.45	16.20	-15.16
199	Northern Colorado	45.74	-5.58	11.29	-5.98
200	Lafayette	45.70	-7.76	17.16	-8.30
201	North Dakota	45.31	-5.09	10.00	-6.57
202	Georgia St	45.05	-10.51	25.61	-13.82
203	Morgan St	44.99	-5.33	16.97	-13.96
204	North Carolina Central	44.96	-7.06	16.87	-11.05
205	Duquesne	44.79	-10.13	15.62	-5.09
206	UC-Davis	44.73	-8.51	21.86	-14.18
207	Gardner-Webb	44.68	-6.86	12.89	-8.09
208	Portland St	44.62	-10.03	14.58	-4.65
209	Towson	43.84	-6.27	12.52	-10.79
210	Holy Cross	42.86	-10.91	12.30	-5.29
211	Alabama St	42.54	-8.83	13.00	-10.26
212	Murray St	42.02	-11.28	25.61	-20.09
213	UNC-Charlotte	41.86	-13.79	28.37	-19.08
214	Lehigh	41.47	-12.14	22.32	-16.76
215	Princeton	40.83	-10.38	18.34	-17.28
216	Colgate	40.66	-13.50	14.87	-9.06
217	Drake	40.59	-8.21	6.64	-9.82
218	Brown	39.85	-12.69	15.30	-12.85
219	Dayton	39.57	-9.80	13.70	-16.79
220	Elon	38.99	-15.34	9.31	-4.60
221	Prairie View A&M	37.92	-12.76	20.77	-23.04
222	Norfolk St	37.62	-14.61	-0.15	0.20
223	VMI	36.92	-16.01	19.30	-18.65
224	Hampton	34.88	-18.40	14.00	-14.48
225	Howard	34.64	-18.36	15.23	-16.35
226	Austin Peay	34.47	-13.72	7.45	-16.76
227	Florida A&M	33.89	-18.33	8.88	-11.95
228	Pennsylvania	32.16	-21.92	13.37	-14.77
229	Alabama A&M	31.50	-19.71	13.23	-19.97



230	Georgetown DC	31.46	-22.39	3.96	-6.33
231	Central Conn St	30.01	-25.32	10.73	-11.84
232	Rhode Island	29.94	-23.39	8.66	-13.17
233	Nicholls St	29.77	-16.95	9.52	-25.18
234	Marist	29.52	-21.33	1.74	-10.75
235	Houston Baptist	26.63	-14.67	5.64	-32.95
236	Texas Southern	26.35	-23.78	4.06	-16.88
237	Campbell	25.49	-23.13	2.52	-18.57
238	Delaware St	24.92	-26.51	2.81	-14.66
239	Cornell	24.05	-27.58	6.15	-18.39
240	Jackson St	23.55	-27.02	4.02	-18.46
241	Robert Morris PA	23.49	-26.09	2.74	-18.87
242	Butler	22.26	-28.30	5.72	-21.24
243	Morehead St	21.94	-25.68	11.78	-32.47
244	Stetson	21.66	-26.06	3.78	-24.53
245	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	20.00	-26.85	7.82	-31.41
246	Columbia	18.77	-31.87	3.47	-21.77
247	Valparaiso	16.59	-35.25	3.76	-21.88
248	Mississippi Valley St	16.25	-32.33	0.88	-24.72
249	Savannah St	16.02	-32.82	4.91	-28.48
250	Davidson	4.60	-45.60	5.00	-35.83

