

SENTINEL SPORTS

Florida State Remains Atop AP Football Poll; Irish 25th

Florida State remained atop the latest Associated Press college football poll released earlier this week, while Notre Dame tumbled to the bottom.

The Seminoles, who were the top team in the preseason poll for the fourth time in eight years, received 38 first-place votes and 1,518 points from a panel of 62 writers and broadcasters after a 70-26 trouncing of Duke on Saturday.

Notre Dame fell from ninth to 25th after a stunning 17-15 home loss to Northwestern in its season opener. The Irish fell out of the rankings at the end of last season and remained in the top 25 by

just 21 points.

Florida State also remained atop the U-S-A Today/C-N-N coaches' poll released today.

The top eight spots remained unchanged, with all but one of the schools receiving first-place votes. Florida State's offensive outburst allowed it to remain ahead of Nebraska, which pounded Oklahoma State 64-21 Thursday. The defending national champions received 14 first-place votes and 1,467 points. Texas A&M stayed third but dropped two first-place votes after a 33-17 victory over Louisiana State. The Aggies collected four firsts and 1,361

points. Idle Penn State is fourth again with one first-place vote and 1,298 points, five more than Florida, which beat Houston 45-21 but saw its first-place votes fall from five to two.

Auburn is sixth, followed by Southern Cal, Tennessee, Ohio State and Colorado. Auburn defeated Mississippi, 46-13, and received two first-place votes. Tennessee beat East Carolina, 27-7, and received the remaining first-place vote. Southern Cal and Ohio State were idle. Colorado moved from 14th with a 43-7 road rout of Wisconsin.

Michigan moved from 13th to 11th and is followed by U-C-L-

A, Alabama, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, Arizona, Washington, Miami and Virginia Tech. Miami fell from 12th to 20th with a 31-8

loss at U-C-L-A. which visits Purdue next week.

The final five are Kansas State, Syracuse, North Carolina State, Oregon and Notre Dame, North Carolina, Illinois, West Virginia and Wisconsin dropped out following losses Saturday.

Deion Sanders May Decide NFL Future By End Of Week

Two-sport star Deion Sanders may make a decision about his N-F-L future by the end of the week.

The San Francisco 49ers and the Dallas Cowboys appear to be the frontrunners for Sanders with the Miami Dolphins and Denver Broncos also in the picture.

Sanders, who plays baseball for the San Francisco Giants, signed as a free agent with the 49ers last season and helped them win the Super Bowl. The Niners won a similar bidding war for Sanders' services last season, offering him an incentive-laden one-year contract.

The Giants host Montreal tonight and have a day off Thursday before starting a weekend series in Chicago.

Sanders, whose baseball career took an unexpected turn when he was traded from the Cincinnati Reds to the Giants in July, would not be able to play for any N-F-L team until the baseball season ends in early October. His return to football could be further delayed if the Giants reach the playoffs.

Sanders is hitting .261 with six homers, 28 R-B-I and 22 steals this season. He went 2-for-5 and drove in two runs in a 9-6 victory over Montreal on



Dallas is extremely interested in Deion

Tuesday.

In addition to his excellent coverage skills, Sanders is a very dangerous kickoff returner and has expressed a desire to play offense, which he has done in the past with the Atlanta Falcons, his first N-F-L team.

The ruptured Achilles tendon suffered by Dallas left cornerback Kevin Smith in Monday's 35-0 victory over the New York Giants appears to have increased the sense of urgency for the Cowboys in

signing Sanders.

Dallas coach Barry Switzer made an impassioned plea for Cowboys owner Jerry Jones to sign Sanders in the wake of Smith's injury.

"I want to tell Jerry, 'Hey it is serious now, get Deion,' said Switzer. 'We need Deion now. It is not showtime anymore. It is serious business because we are really thin there now.'

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said the Cowboys "will try as hard as we can to get Deion."

Emmitt Smith, Chris Doleman Players of Week

NEW YORK - Running back Emmitt Smith of the Dallas Cowboys and defensive end Chris Doleman of the Atlanta Falcons were named the NFC Offensive and Defensive Players of the Week for the NFL Kickoff Weekend.

Wide receiver Isaac Bruce of the St. Louis Rams was named

Special Teams Player of the Week.

Smith rushed for 163 yards and a club record-tying four touchdowns on 21 carries to help the Cowboys to a 35-0 victory over the New York Giants on Monday night. His first carry of the season resulted in a 60-yard touchdown.

Quarterback Steve Bono of the Kansas City Chiefs and linebacker Chris Slade of the New England Patriots picked up honors as the AFC Offensive and Defensive Players of the Week.

Kicker Doug Pelfrey of the Cincinnati Bengals received Special Teams honors.

SOMEBODY'S DYING FOR A NEW PAIR OF SNEAKERS.

All over America children are the victims of violent crime. They are being assaulted and even murdered for the sake of anything from a pair of sneakers to some loose change in their pockets.

It's a situation that's only getting worse. Unless you do something to fight back, your child could become one of those victims.

You can make a difference. Start now by calling 1-800-WE PREVENT and we'll send you information on successful ways to join with others to protect your children from crime in your neighborhood. 1-800-WE PREVENT.

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

Crime Prevention Coalition and U.S. Department of Justice

National Sports Briefs

Spurs' Reid Arrested For Carrying Gun

SAN ANTONIO - San Antonio Spurs forward J.R. Reid was arrested Thursday at the San Antonio airport for carrying a weapon as the basketball player tried to board a plane. A San Antonio Police Department spokesman told Reuters that airport security guards spotted a .45-caliber automatic pistol in Reid's carry-on luggage. Reid, 27, told police he had been in a hurry to catch a flight and forgot he was carrying the gun. He was jailed and released, but faces felony weapons possession charges, the spokesman said. It is illegal to carry a weapon on an airplane.

Malone Considers Playing In Europe, If...

SALT LAKE CITY - Utah Jazz forward Karl Malone said he will consider playing in Europe this season if the National Basketball Association

continues to lock out its players. The 32-year-old Malone, an eight-time NBA All-Star, said he is close to signing with a team overseas if the NBA does not end its current legal impasse. It is unclear if Malone's contract with the Jazz would prevent him from playing in Europe. Malone was among a group of NBA players who voted against union decertification on Wednesday. Voting took place Wednesday at regional offices of the National Labor Relations Board. The results will be announced on September 12th.

U.S. Men Win Gold At University games

FUKUOKA, Japan - Allen Iverson of Georgetown led seven players in double figures with 26 points as the United States defeated Japan, 141-81, to capture their fourth consecutive World University Games gold medal. University Games and highest score in a championship

game. Connecticut's Ray Allen added 18 points and Charles O'Bannon of National Champion UCLA had 15 as the United States completed its seventh win in as many games in the tournament.

Tim Duncan of Wake Forest, Brian Evans of Indiana and Villanova's Kerry Kittles each scored 13 and Othella Harrington of Georgetown had 11 for the Americans, who won their 26th straight World University Games contest. The last loss came in the 1987 gold medal game against Yugoslavia. Japan trailed, 13-10, before the U.S. embarked on a 10-0 run to take a 13-point lead with 14:43 to play in the first half. Iverson accounted for nine of the USA's first 23 points and Duncan had eight. The USA kept the defensive pressure up and ran the floor to build a 59-36 halftime lead. The United States continued the onslaught in the second half, outscoring Japan, 82-45.