

10-27-2010

Top Four Team of NAIA Coaches' Poll

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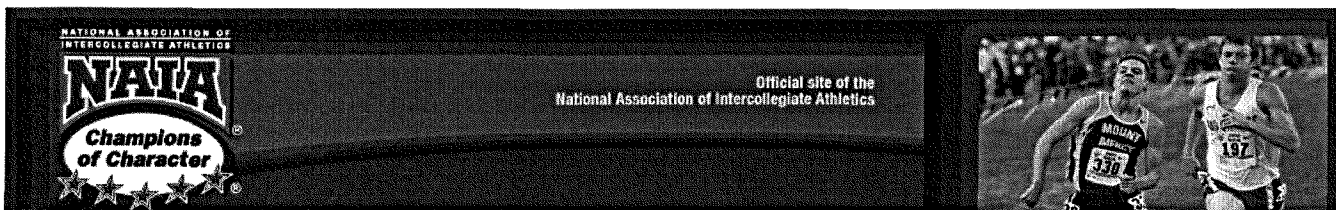


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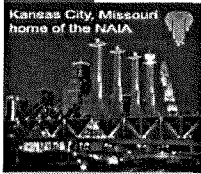
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Men's Cross Country

Top-Four Teams Hold in Seventh Edition of NAIA Men's Cross Country Coaches' Poll

Bryan skyrockets seven spots to land at No. 5

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Oct. 27, 2010

Contact: Amanda Dahl, NAIA Manager of Sports Information & Media Services, adah1@naia.org

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Powered behind 19 first-place votes, Southern Oregon continued its hold on the No. 1 spot in the seventh edition of the NAIA Men's Cross Country Coaches' Top 25 Poll, the national office announced Wednesday. The Raiders racked up 648 points to spend their fourth week on top. Second-ranked Shawnee State (Ohio) was awarded one first-place nod and third-ranked Wayland Baptist (Texas) tallied three. Malone (Ohio) checks in at No. 4 and is followed by fifth-ranked Bryan (Tenn.) to round out the top-five teams.

Fourteen conferences and independents were recognized in the Top 25, with seven boasting multiple teams in the poll. The Cascade Collegiate Conference leads the charge with four listed teams: Southern Oregon, No. 11 College of Idaho, No. 16 Eastern Oregon and No. 23 Concordia (Ore.).

Boasting a trio of Top-25 teams are the Golden State Athletic Conference and Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, while four other leagues landed two programs on the poll.

Other than the top-four teams maintaining their previous rank, No. 16 Eastern Oregon, No. 17 Shorter (Ga.) and No. 25 Cornerstone (Mich.) all retained their respective position on the poll. Sixteen other squads shuffled throughout the Top 25. Bryan (Tenn.) skyrocketed seven spots from No. 12 to 5. The Lions took the team title at the Southeastern Classic hosted by Berry College (Ga.) with 58 points, knocking off then-No. 5 Embry-Riddle (Fla.) and Shorter.

No. 15 The Master's (Calif.) and No. 20 Cedarville (Ohio) both climbed four spots. In contrast, California State-San Marcos slipped back four spots to 10th and No. 19 Vanguard (Calif.) dropped five spots.

A pair of teams are new to this week's poll. No. 18 St. Francis (Ill.) regains national recognition after receiving votes for two-straight polls. The Saints were ranked 23rd in the Oct. 6 edition of the Top 25. Siena Heights (Mich.) garners its first ranking of the 2010 campaign by checking in at No. 22. These two programs replace Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) and Simon Fraser (B.C.), who were previously ranked No. 20 and 22, respectively.

The poll was voted upon by a panel of head coaches representing each of the conferences, independents and unaffiliated groups. The next poll of the 2010 season will be released on Nov. 3.



| RANK | WEEK | SCHOOL (1ST PLACE VOTES) | TOTAL POINTS |
|------|------|---|--------------|
| 1 | 1 | Southern Oregon University (19) | 648 |
| 2 | 2 | Shawnee State University (Ohio) (1) | 626 |
| 3 | 3 | Wayland Baptist University (Texas) (3) | 616 |
| 4 | 4 | Malone University (Ohio) | 595 |
| 5 | 12 | Bryan College (Tenn.) | 550 |
| 6 | 7 | Aquinas College (Mich.) | 523 |
| 7 | 5 | Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Fla.) | 522 |
| 8 | 10 | University of British Columbia | 509 |
| 9 | 8 | Concordia University (Neb.) | 464 |
| 10 | 6 | California State University-San Marcos | 457 |
| 11 | 9 | College of Idaho | 432 |
| 12 | 13 | Oklahoma Christian University | 403 |
| 13 | 15 | Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho) | 381 |
| 13 | 11 | Graceland University (Iowa) | 381 |
| 15 | 19 | The Master's College (Calif.) | 380 |
| 16 | 16 | Eastern Oregon University | 333 |
| 17 | 17 | Shorter University (Ga.) | 323 |
| 18 | RV | University of St. Francis (Ill.) | 292 |
| 19 | 14 | Vanguard University (Calif.) | 282 |
| 20 | 24 | Cedarville University (Ohio) | 242 |
| 21 | 18 | Azusa Pacific University (Calif.) | 239 |
| 22 | RV | Siena Heights University (Mich.) | 184 |
| 23 | 21 | Concordia University (Ore.) | 176 |
| 24 | 23 | University of Great Falls (Mont.) | 175 |
| 25 | 25 | Cornerstone University (Mich.) | 119 |

Others receiving votes: California Baptist University 114; Black Hills State University (S.D.) 96; Oklahoma Baptist University 89; Olivet Nazarene University (Ill.) 76; Simon Fraser University (B.C.) 60; SCAD Savannah (Ga.) 33; Southwestern College (Kan.) 24; Biola University (Calif.) 22; Indiana Wesleyan University 22; Westmont College (Calif.) 5; Milligan College (Tenn.) 4; McKendree University (Ill.) 3; Dakota State University (S.D.) 1; Berea College (Ky.) 1; Union University (Tenn.) 1; Dordt College (Iowa) 1.