

## RATINGS 10-20-18

We are in fall, that wonderful transition period from summer to winter – in Salem, that occurred a week ago Friday. With fall comes a new edition of *By the Numbers!* This is a rating system that uses wins, losses, points for and against, and schedule (and nothing else) to rank college football teams. Full descriptions of the system are in my book *Sports Math* (available on Amazon!) and at [www.roanoke.edu/mcsp/minton/bynumbers.html](http://www.roanoke.edu/mcsp/minton/bynumbers.html) . In spite of the numerous factors missing from the system, it does well predicting games. Last year, 75% winners and 54% against the spread. Not bad for a system that utilizes very little information.

I personally have no problem with Alabama and Clemson at the top again (a different order would be nice) but I have heard some complaints that it's "bad for the game." The evidence is that having a dominant Evil Empire at the top is usually good for a sport – hating the Yankees or Tiger Woods means you care and will watch. And if you want some change, how about Kentucky at #10! Good Godamighty, as my man Garry Fleming would say.

The ratings come in several flavors. Point ratings use schedule and net points. The "Win" ratings use schedule and wins-losses, multiplied by 27 to make them look like point totals. "Overall" is 60% Point ratings plus 40% win ratings – in the past, this has been a combination that predicts games well. "Offense" uses schedule and points for and against to compute the number of points each team would score against an average defense. Alabama is top rated at 61.65 and, for reference, Ohio has an average defense at 0.06. "Defense" measures the number of points better or worse than average scored against the team. LSU is #1 here, allowing 26.11 fewer points per game than the average defense would allow against the teams LSU has played. To predict a game, take the difference between overall ratings after adding 4 points to the home team to get the overall prediction. The score comes from one team's offense rating minus the other team's defense rating.

This week's predictions:

The Big ~~Cocktail Party~~ Game: Georgia 28, Florida 27

Our state schools: Virginia 43, UNC 13 and Virginia Tech 42, Georgia Tech 33

Buzz kills: Stanford 34, Washington St 27 and Michigan State 23, Purdue 21

SEC big uns: Kentucky 35, Missouri 27 and Texas A&M 24, Miss. State 23

Best Non-Big 5: Fresno State 45, Hawaii 21 and South Florida 41, Houston 38

ACC battles: Boston College 35, Miami 34 and NC State 37, Syracuse 28

Big 10 slides: Iowa 31, Penn State 29 and Wisconsin 27, Northwestern 24

		<b>Overall</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Offense</b>	<b>Defense</b>
1	Alabama	121.15	60.28	61.65	24.39
2	Clemson	119.51	66.93	48.59	24.49
3	Notre Dame	116.55	69.87	43.55	18.22
4	Michigan	116.54	62.10	47.20	24.88
5	Oklahoma	116.07	60.91	61.15	11.35
6	LSU	115.39	62.32	42.82	26.11
7	Georgia	113.20	55.91	49.44	22.55
8	Florida	112.51	58.40	47.79	19.15
9	Iowa	112.16	58.20	44.30	22.03
10	Kentucky	111.85	57.89	40.50	25.47
11	Texas	109.86	59.27	42.39	16.78
12	Stanford	108.96	61.01	37.02	17.56
13	NC State	108.50	58.60	40.38	16.27
14	Utah	108.30	55.85	42.81	17.00
15	Ohio St	108.15	50.09	52.14	14.98
16	Texas A&M	107.91	51.92	44.86	19.21
17	Washington	107.88	53.33	40.74	21.38
18	Penn St	105.50	44.37	52.81	15.32
19	West Virginia	105.14	47.45	48.04	15.07
20	Washington St	105.04	51.32	45.32	12.40
21	Texas Tech	103.25	42.51	49.22	15.75
22	South Carolina	103.24	45.17	44.57	16.84
23	N Dakota St	103.02	51.16	39.36	13.52
24	Fresno St	103.00	43.17	43.44	20.03
25	Mississippi St	102.89	42.65	41.15	22.73
26	Wisconsin	102.68	44.97	42.77	17.51
27	Army	102.19	46.92	37.30	19.15
28	UCF	101.92	47.94	43.40	11.02
29	Duke	101.83	47.99	36.37	17.76
30	Iowa St	101.79	43.14	37.60	22.88
31	Purdue	101.38	39.32	44.70	19.87
32	Virginia	100.35	46.11	34.94	17.99
33	Miami FL	100.17	41.31	45.23	13.66
34	USC	99.31	47.04	37.31	11.77
35	Michigan St	99.25	41.89	36.04	19.77
36	Missouri	99.09	36.66	51.84	10.54
37	Colorado	98.94	43.16	39.84	13.49
38	Auburn	98.86	39.79	37.77	19.85
39	Oregon	98.77	43.85	44.64	7.35
40	Boise St	98.68	41.75	45.01	9.57
41	Cincinnati	98.29	41.64	36.36	17.39
42	San Diego St	97.81	48.96	25.86	16.94



43	South Florida	97.73	50.19	35.03	5.92
44	Utah St	97.66	37.68	50.13	7.32
45	Boston College	97.57	40.86	43.64	9.33
46	Maryland	97.29	40.70	38.37	14.13
47	Appalachian St	97.14	35.80	43.73	14.94
48	TCU	96.80	36.84	39.40	17.02
49	Mississippi	95.72	37.43	49.25	3.68
50	Syracuse	95.63	40.05	44.69	4.51
51	Northwestern	95.63	39.03	37.56	13.01
52	North Texas	95.59	36.63	40.52	13.14
53	UAB	95.25	40.35	35.23	12.64
54	Buffalo	95.10	41.52	36.14	9.79
55	Virginia Tech	94.91	41.54	38.66	6.76
56	Vanderbilt	94.17	35.56	36.17	15.39
57	Oklahoma St	94.12	31.92	48.57	7.70
58	Indiana	93.53	36.37	39.52	9.36
59	Baylor	93.47	37.14	42.51	5.19
60	Troy	93.41	40.01	34.76	8.95
61	Arizona St	93.06	33.57	38.73	12.69
62	BYU	92.87	38.04	34.18	10.80
63	Dartmouth	92.58	43.65	30.66	6.13
64	Tennessee	92.50	33.88	39.74	9.87
65	Temple	92.49	34.02	38.67	10.74
66	Houston	91.23	32.16	50.50	-1.77
67	N Illinois	90.89	37.28	28.68	12.38
68	Ga Southern	90.79	37.56	29.66	10.75
69	W Michigan	90.46	35.74	38.13	3.89
70	E Michigan	90.09	32.38	35.96	9.65
71	Minnesota	90.02	30.10	36.15	12.30
72	Florida St	89.97	34.24	30.36	12.43
73	Louisiana Tech	89.46	34.85	35.09	5.62
74	UC Davis	89.30	37.95	35.01	1.17
75	Kansas St	88.82	29.36	32.58	13.86
76	UCLA	88.65	28.96	37.59	8.96
77	Georgia Tech	88.57	27.97	43.94	3.74
78	Wake Forest	87.68	33.49	38.70	-0.62
79	Marshall	87.50	32.87	30.84	7.61
80	James Madison	87.50	26.35	34.89	12.26
81	Princeton	87.29	32.29	36.11	2.59
82	Arkansas St	86.77	30.60	33.83	5.84
83	California	86.66	29.32	28.43	12.66
84	Pittsburgh	86.28	30.10	30.12	8.99
85	Coastal Car	86.02	33.07	33.24	1.24



86	Liberty	85.71	30.41	35.79	1.48
87	Illinois St	85.70	24.50	32.14	12.99
88	Colgate	85.18	36.00	18.31	10.19
89	Florida Intl	85.02	27.85	30.34	8.61
90	Nebraska	84.66	21.24	43.29	3.57
91	MTSU	84.39	29.55	31.73	3.37
92	Nevada	84.37	25.44	36.43	4.11
93	Elon	84.15	31.80	27.94	3.57
94	Towson	83.98	32.51	36.09	-5.94
95	Delaware	83.84	31.85	25.17	5.52
96	Air Force	83.30	20.82	34.12	9.90
97	S Dakota St	83.18	22.28	36.65	5.12
98	Ohio	83.15	24.89	38.17	0.06
99	Northern Iowa	82.91	24.86	30.10	7.55
100	Hawaii	82.78	28.10	37.61	-4.60
101	Memphis	82.64	18.92	42.14	2.77
102	E Washington	82.64	27.61	32.59	0.72
103	Illinois	82.07	24.94	33.65	1.81
104	Toledo	81.81	18.89	42.18	0.71
105	New Mexico	81.78	20.86	35.96	4.20
106	Miami OH	81.65	19.53	33.23	8.40
107	Akron	81.63	23.50	31.84	4.44
108	Weber St	81.50	29.82	22.19	5.33
109	Arizona	81.32	21.16	31.73	6.87
110	Tulane	80.63	19.23	31.89	7.60
111	SMU	80.61	23.37	34.36	-0.45
112	Arkansas	80.40	16.39	34.83	7.86
113	FL Atlantic	80.14	24.10	33.65	-1.90
114	Colorado St	79.87	22.89	31.70	1.00
115	ULL	79.22	18.35	38.26	-1.15
116	Kansas	79.13	14.72	33.94	7.81
117	Idaho St	79.05	22.83	42.13	-11.40
118	Southern Miss	78.67	19.03	30.04	4.79
119	Wyoming	78.48	17.54	20.91	15.43
120	Stony Brook	78.45	24.82	25.24	1.31
121	North Dakota	78.00	23.45	20.44	6.82
122	ULM	77.77	24.75	27.25	-2.29
123	Yale	77.22	27.10	23.55	-3.10
124	Louisville	77.21	16.98	29.53	4.39
125	Ball St	76.54	15.28	30.63	3.88
126	Georgia St	75.77	18.49	29.72	-1.41
127	Tulsa	75.67	12.91	27.12	8.38
128	Incarnate Word	74.83	19.34	33.09	-8.26



129	Cent Arkansas	74.41	17.76	27.42	-1.53
130	North Carolina	74.32	13.01	31.57	0.40
131	East Carolina	73.85	15.76	24.27	2.88
132	W Illinois	73.83	17.20	25.70	-0.52
133	Nicholls St	73.80	16.70	22.26	3.50
134	Kennesaw	73.63	10.78	29.61	3.61
135	C Michigan	73.25	10.13	27.40	5.73
136	McNeese St	73.09	21.73	15.18	2.11
137	Missouri St	72.98	14.48	26.30	0.38
138	Jacksonville St	72.42	9.87	30.38	1.05
139	Montana St	72.39	20.01	23.59	-5.75
140	Rhode Island	72.21	17.81	29.05	-8.74
141	Florida A&M	71.65	20.38	20.33	-4.86
142	Maine	71.55	16.75	20.80	-0.74
143	Penn	71.14	22.47	14.45	-3.05
144	Massachusetts	71.07	12.45	36.75	-12.14
145	San Jose St	71.00	10.00	28.63	-9.09
146	NC A&T	70.93	15.13	18.67	2.01
147	Cornell	70.90	19.59	21.34	-6.68
148	Charlotte	70.76	11.10	22.76	2.87
149	Wofford	70.75	13.94	22.73	-0.91
150	UNLV	70.72	7.50	35.29	-4.95
151	Villanova	70.65	11.51	22.35	2.45
152	Navy	70.32	7.21	28.70	1.03
153	Campbell	70.17	20.40	16.89	-5.14
154	Montana	70.13	14.22	26.95	-7.06
155	Sam Houston St	70.04	13.67	28.48	-8.07
156	SE Missouri St	69.77	11.64	29.70	-7.27
157	Monmouth NJ	69.55	22.02	23.85	-15.79
158	Connecticut	69.13	15.47	27.78	-12.05
159	Murray St	68.96	11.38	26.31	-5.54
160	Rutgers	68.91	7.16	23.64	2.62
161	UT San Antonio	68.54	9.25	21.59	0.98
162	South Dakota	68.52	7.86	27.76	-3.40
163	Old Dominion	68.32	7.88	32.30	-8.46
164	Harvard	68.29	12.67	18.13	-0.76
165	Abilene Chr	68.05	8.46	25.34	-2.96
166	Oregon St	68.01	7.35	34.73	-10.97
167	North Alabama	67.91	18.90	13.08	-4.97
168	ETSU	67.65	15.98	15.72	-4.36
169	Chattanooga	67.38	10.29	14.17	4.09
170	South Alabama	67.36	7.47	28.25	-6.27
171	New Mexico St	66.83	7.73	31.35	-11.05



172	Kent	66.48	1.41	26.01	1.84
173	William & Mary	66.45	16.24	13.39	-5.38
174	Columbia	65.56	13.71	16.02	-6.88
175	SE Louisiana	65.52	8.18	24.15	-7.71
176	Furman	65.52	8.90	23.20	-7.72
177	Sacred Heart	65.30	14.27	17.04	-9.26
178	Idaho	64.67	10.41	18.98	-7.63
179	WKU	64.31	-0.60	24.01	1.09
180	Bowling Green	64.26	4.07	29.55	-10.79
181	Samford	64.07	-0.98	29.54	-4.52
182	Lamar	63.81	7.08	25.58	-11.95
183	Richmond	63.65	6.65	25.71	-11.92
184	Northern Arizona	63.59	5.44	20.94	-5.69
185	Alcorn St	63.57	9.51	14.97	-5.19
186	Southern Univ	63.48	8.59	15.26	-4.48
187	Tennessee St	63.28	2.23	24.09	-5.34
188	Indiana St	62.93	-0.03	26.15	-5.26
189	San Diego	62.36	9.47	22.65	-15.84
190	New Hampshire	62.34	5.08	15.05	-2.45
191	Youngstown St	62.13	1.12	20.34	-2.96
192	Cal Poly	61.79	8.52	20.83	-14.18
193	Portland St	61.60	7.89	16.61	-9.60
194	NC Central	60.89	7.21	23.41	-17.27
195	Charleston So	60.89	3.61	17.98	-7.02
196	Rice	60.76	0.80	20.56	-6.21
197	Northwestern LA	60.63	2.05	21.11	-8.73
198	Austin Peay	60.04	-1.75	25.00	-9.03
199	SF Austin	59.97	2.47	14.40	-4.23
200	Howard	59.93	1.29	25.10	-13.47
201	E Kentucky	59.18	1.02	17.00	-6.87
202	Holy Cross	58.65	1.20	18.55	-10.00
203	S Illinois	58.48	-8.01	26.89	-6.48
204	Mercer	58.11	-1.09	23.60	-13.33
205	Citadel	57.66	-2.35	20.73	-9.91
206	Norfolk St	56.98	0.20	6.56	-0.83
207	UTEP	56.58	-10.68	18.70	0.50
208	Texas St	55.95	-10.10	19.64	-2.77
209	Alabama A&M	55.93	-0.60	20.39	-16.21
210	TN Martin	55.92	-10.51	26.36	-9.00
211	Albany NY	55.87	-2.54	18.94	-12.34
212	Prairie View	55.67	-3.80	16.31	-8.52
213	N Colorado	55.65	-6.58	22.81	-11.37
214	Georgetown	55.61	3.12	5.13	-6.74



215	S Carolina St	55.21	-2.13	11.85	-7.45
216	Morgan St	55.13	-3.64	11.08	-4.87
217	Bethune-Cookman	54.66	-1.30	16.15	-14.22
218	Jackson St	54.11	2.96	2.07	-7.22
219	E Illinois	53.23	-10.74	27.97	-17.05
220	CS Sacramento	53.21	-6.81	19.93	-14.28
221	Central Conn	52.80	-4.62	14.90	-13.22
222	Lafayette	52.63	0.81	7.17	-13.14
223	Savannah St	52.36	-3.21	10.39	-11.67
224	Drake	51.95	-5.55	11.95	-11.14
225	Southern Utah	51.51	-9.42	21.44	-16.57
226	Bryant	51.41	1.89	14.79	-25.26
227	Brown	50.75	-4.33	9.75	-13.57
228	Grambling	50.53	-10.97	12.16	-7.68
229	Duquesne	49.93	-5.95	8.02	-11.75
230	Stetson	49.88	2.24	4.41	-19.16
231	Bucknell	49.34	-6.93	8.63	-12.49
232	Wagner	47.74	-5.12	13.01	-23.29
233	Alabama St	47.43	-6.68	12.26	-21.25
234	W Carolina	46.21	-14.28	21.18	-23.09
235	Houston Bap	44.48	-16.34	26.70	-30.19
236	Dayton	42.90	-20.47	12.68	-14.60
237	Fordham	42.84	-17.71	8.34	-14.09
238	Hampton	42.80	-9.70	8.70	-25.25
239	Tennessee Tech	42.20	-19.75	18.34	-22.99
240	Butler	41.97	-13.40	1.97	-15.65
241	Lehigh	41.61	-16.94	9.81	-19.67
242	Marist	41.54	-14.64	6.47	-19.58
243	Gardner Webb	39.25	-17.11	7.70	-23.23
244	St Francis PA	39.01	-27.45	9.19	-11.53
245	TX Southern	38.65	-25.23	9.98	-16.18
246	VMI	37.70	-25.70	18.23	-26.19
247	MS Valley St	37.61	-16.49	8.67	-29.14
248	Morehead St	37.05	-22.15	13.76	-28.08
249	Delaware St	36.86	-20.81	10.34	-26.91
250	Ark Pine Bluff	32.48	-23.44	14.17	-38.19
251	Presbyterian	31.84	-29.26	-1.92	-15.93
252	Robert Morris	30.11	-30.56	17.49	-37.94
253	Davidson	29.71	-32.64	12.64	-31.30
254	Valparaiso	29.01	-35.58	6.28	-22.77
255	Jacksonville	23.28	-40.34	1.30	-25.79

