



National Association of Basketball Coaches NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Rankings

2016-17 Rankings – March 7, 2017 (Poll #15)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Northwest Missouri State, who held the top ranking in the NABC/Division II men's basketball rankings for two months during the 2016-17 season, returns to the head of the poll as the regional tournaments get underway this weekend.

The Bearcats won the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association title and gained the top spot in the final poll of the year after losses by the top two teams in conference tournaments over the weekend. Northwest will open play Saturday against Upper Iowa as the top seed in the Central Regional.

Bellarmine also moved up to second after capturing the Great Lakes Valley Conference championship for the first time in six years and will host the Midwest Regional, starting with a matchup against Wisconsin-Parkside on Saturday evening.

Fairmont State, who held the top spot until losing in the Mountain East final to West Liberty, dropped to third but will host the Atlantic Regional that has five of the top 10 teams in the final poll. No. 7 West Liberty, No. 8 Indiana (Pa.), No. 9 Shippensburg and No. 10 Kutztown are all in the Atlantic field.

In between Fairmont State and West Liberty are three teams that won conference titles over the weekend, beginning with fourth-ranked and Pacific West champ Hawai'i Pacific. Kentucky Wesleyan, the champion in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference, is fifth and Queens (N.C.) is sixth after winning the South Atlantic Conference and earning Southeast Regional host responsibilities.

The second 10 begins with Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference champion Colorado School of Mines, who hosts the South Central Regional, while Western Washington, California Baptist, Ferris State and Lincoln Memorial hold down the next four spots.

Southern Indiana came in at No. 16, followed by a trio of conference champions in UT-Permian Basin, Southwest Minnesota State and UC San Diego – who landed the top seed in the West Regional.

Valdosta State is No.20 in the final poll, with Alabama-Huntsville, San Francisco State, Fort Lewis, Le Moyne and Findlay taking the final five spots. Alabama-Huntsville hosts the South Regional while Le Moyne is the host for the East Regional.

Regional play will get underway Friday in the West Regional at UC San Diego, while the other seven regional tournaments begin Saturday. The eight winners – which will all be decided by Tuesday, March 14 – will head to Sioux Falls, S.D. for the Elite Eight beginning on March 22.

NABC/Division II Rankings (March 7, 2017 – Final Poll)

	Record	Points	Last
1. Northwest Missouri State (14)	29-1	398	3
2. Bellarmine, Ky. (1)	28-3	379	4
3. Fairmont State, W.Va.	29-2	349	1
4. Hawai'i Pacific (1)	28-2	345	6
5. Kentucky Wesleyan	28-2	335	7
6. Queens, N.C.	28-3	316	10
7. West Liberty, W.Va.	28-3	299	11
8. Indiana, Pa.	27-3	286	2
9. Shippensburg, Pa.	26-3	265	13
10. Kutztown, Pa.	26-3	261	5
11. Colorado School of Mines	27-4	241	14
12. Western Washington	25-5	214	15
13. California Baptist	25-4	197	8
14. Ferris State, Mich.	27-4	188	17
15. Lincoln Memorial, Tenn.	26-5	175	9
16. Southern Indiana	25-4	158	12
17. UT-Permian Basin, Texas	26-5	144	23
18. Southwest Minnesota State	26-5	117	24
19. UC San Diego	25-5	104	NR
20. Valdosta State, Ga.	26-5	86	16
21. Alabama-Huntsville	24-7	75	NR
22. San Francisco State, Calif.	25-5	59	19
23. Fort Lewis, Colo.	25-6	54	21
24. Le Moyne, N.Y.	22-6	43	20
25. Findlay, Ohio	23-6	37	18

Others receiving votes: Pfeiffer (N.C.) 23, St. Thomas Aquinas (N.Y.) 23, Tarleton State (Texas) 8, Saint Anselm (N.H.) 4, MSU Moorhead (Minn.) 3, Southern New Hampshire 2.

Dropped out: Pfeiffer (22), Tarleton State (25).

Records are through games of Sunday, March 5, 2017.