



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

2017-18 Rankings – Jan. 16, 2018 (Poll #8)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A Saturday that saw the top two teams in NCAA Division II drop games within minutes of each other has brought a familiar face back to the top of the NABC/Division II rankings, as West Liberty becomes the third team in as many weeks to occupy the top spot.

Losses by last week's No. 1 team, Queens (N.C.) and second-ranked Bellarmine have lifted West Liberty back to the top – marking the eighth consecutive year that the Hilltoppers have held the No. 1 spot for at least a week.

All of the top rankings have come during the course of the longest string of consecutive weeks in the national rankings in Division II history, as this week's poll has West Liberty ranked for the 121st straight week.

The Hilltoppers will have a challenge to that top spot later this week, as it plays Saturday at No. 16 Wheeling Jesuit in a matchup of the top two teams in the Mountain East Conference.

Northwest Missouri State moved up to second as a result of the losses by the top two, one of which was inflicted by Lincoln Memorial, who moved up to third ahead of Queens.

Ferris State rose two spots to fifth and just ahead of Bellarmine, while West Texas A&M, Northern State and Western Oregon all moved up one spot each within the top 10, that was concluded by Texas A&M-Commerce.

Fellow Lone Star Conference school UT-Permian Basin followed the Lions – giving the LSC a third top 25 team again this week – with Virginia State landing at No. 12 and West Florida leading three Gulf South Conference schools in the poll at No. 13.

Morehouse, who along with West Liberty are now the only undefeated teams remaining in NCAA Division II, moved up six spots to 14th, while Findlay moved up one to 15th. After Wheeling Jesuit at No. 16, Dallas Baptist, West Chester, Barry and one of two teams making their first appearance in the rankings this week, Claflin, complete the top 20.

Claflin is one of four teams that moved into this week's top 25 along with No. 21 Valdosta State, No. 24 Southern Nazarene – in the top 25 for the first time as a member of Division II – and No. 25 William Jewell. Mixed among those newcomers are No. 22 Christian Brothers and No. 23 Arkansas-Fort Smith.

NABC/Division II Rankings (Jan. 16, 2018 – Poll #8)

	Record	Points	Last
1. West Liberty, W.Va. (15)	15-0	399	3
2. Northwest Missouri State (1)	14-1	381	4
3. Lincoln Memorial, Tenn.	15-1	370	5
4. Queens, N.C.	16-1	339	1
5. Ferris State, Mich.	18-1	330	7
6. Bellarmine, Ky.	14-1	321	2
7. West Texas A&M	16-1	311	8
8. Northern State, S.D.	18-1	290	9
9. Western Oregon	15-1	275	10
10. Texas A&M-Commerce	14-1	239	12
11. UT-Permian Basin, Texas	14-2	229	6
12. Virginia State	15-1	226	13
13. West Florida	15-1	215	15
14. Morehouse, Ga.	14-0	180	20
15. Findlay, Ohio	17-2	166	16
16. Wheeling Jesuit, W.Va.	13-2	142	19
17. Dallas Baptist, Texas	14-2	129	23
18. West Chester, Pa.	14-1	119	17
19. Barry, Fla.	11-3	103	11
20. Claflin, S.C.	17-1	81	NR
21. Valdosta State, Ga.	14-2	66	NR
22. Christian Brothers, Tenn.	13-3	49	18
23. Arkansas-Fort Smith	14-3	39	14
24. Southern Nazarene, Okla.	12-1	37	NR
25. William Jewell, Mo.	14-2	31	NR

Others receiving votes: Carson-Newman (Tenn.) 24, Minot State (N.D.) 18, Fort Lewis (Colo.) 17, Western Washington 13, California Baptist 12, Kutztown (Pa.) 11, Cal Poly Pomona 10, Colorado School of Mines 10, Chaminade (Hawaii) 7, Central Missouri 5, Bridgeport (Conn.) 3, Cal State San Marcos 3.

Dropped out: Fort Lewis (21), Colorado School of Mines (22), California Baptist (24), Cal Poly Pomona (25).

Records are through games of Jan.14, 2018.