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## **Syracuse Holds No. 1 Ranking in Penn Monto/NFHCA Division I Coaches Poll**

**CHANDLER, Ariz.** – The top three spots in the Penn Monto/NFHCA Division I Coaches Poll remained unchanged on Tuesday as defending national champion Syracuse maintains its No. 1 ranking with a 6-0 start to the season.

The Orange opened their home schedule with a pair of top-20 victories last week, beating both Boston College and Stanford by identical 3-1 finals. Remaining at No. 2 is Duke, which also improved to 6-0 after winning its ACC opener against Virginia and another home match with James Madison last week. No. 3 North Carolina has won five in a row after a pair of impressive home wins last week, a 4-1 triumph over Wake Forest and 6-0 blanking of VCU.

Moving up one spot to No. 4 is Penn State, which defeated Lock Haven 4-1 at home to improve to 5-0 on the season. No. 5 Connecticut is also off to a 5-0 start after defeating Massachusetts and Harvard last week.

Louisville jumps up to No. 6 in the rankings with its 6-0 record, which included an 8-0 victory at Central Michigan and 1-0 overtime triumph at Michigan State last week. No. 7 Maryland, No. 8 Michigan, No. 9 Boston University and No. 10 Princeton combined to go a perfect 7-0 at home last week. Boston University rises four spots with its 6-0 start that included a victory over Maine last week, while Princeton is the poll's biggest riser with a six-spot jump to No. 10 after top-20 wins against both Albany and Delaware over the weekend.

The top ten teams in the poll combined for an 18-0 record last week that featured seven wins against fellow ranked opponents.

The rest of the top 20 features No. 11 Wake Forest, No. 12 Delaware, No. 13 Old Dominion, No. 14 Virginia, No. 15 Northwestern, No. 16 Iowa, No. 17 Albany, No. 18 Boston College, No. 19 Stanford and

No. 20 Maine. The same teams comprised last week's Penn Monto/NFHCA Division I Coaches Poll, and the group combined lost just one game to an unranked opponent last week.

The top-five teams in the poll will be tested this weekend with a combined seven road games against ranked opponents. On Friday the schedule features No. 2 Duke at No. 6 Louisville, No. 3 North Carolina at No. 18 Boston College, No. 4 Penn State at No. 16 Iowa and No. 5 Connecticut at No. 13 Old Dominion, while Sunday's slate includes No. 1 Syracuse at No. 11 Wake Forest, No. 3 North Carolina at No. 20 Maine and No. 5 Connecticut at No. 14 Virginia. That contest will also be the second ranked opponent of the weekend for Virginia, which hosts No. 10 Princeton on Friday.

The next Penn Monto/NFHCA Division I Coaches Poll will be announced on Tuesday, September 20. The poll is voted on by NFHCA member coaches, and has no bearing on selection to the 2016 NCAA Division I Field Hockey Championship.



**Penn Monto/NFHCA Division I Coaches Poll – Sept. 13**

<b><u>Institution (Record)</u></b>	<b><u>Points (First-Place Votes)</u></b>	<b><u>Previous Ranking</u></b>
1. Syracuse (6-0)	881 (31)	1
2. Duke (6-0)	828 (2)	2
3. North Carolina (5-1)	822 (6)	3
4. Penn State (5-0)	768 (7)	5
5. Connecticut (5-0)	749	4
6. Louisville (6-0)	591	8
7. Maryland (4-2)	587	7
8. Michigan (4-1)	558	6
9. Boston University (6-0)	448	13
10. Princeton (3-1)	442	16
11. Wake Forest (3-2)	427	9
12. Delaware (4-2)	365	10
13. Old Dominion (4-1)	321	15

14. Virginia (3-3)	297	11
15. Northwestern (4-2)	296	17
16. Iowa (5-1)	293	19
17. Albany (3-3)	180	12
18. Boston College (2-3)	175	18
19. Stanford (1-4)	171	14
20. Maine (5-1)	170	20