

# 25 Hard: Week 6

SM's Top 25 Rankings for the week of Monday December 9th, 2024

*Written by Sean Murawski // SM Sports*

More changes at the top, some new entries at the bottom, and a whole lot of shuffling in the middle. As the New Year approaches, plenty of teams aim to hold on and not be left in 2024.

## Who's on top?

**Tennessee (8-0)** rises to the top as the nation's best remaining unbeaten team. **Duke (7-2)** had a huge week, including knocking off **Auburn (8-1)**, who moves down to #3. **Iowa State (8-1)** and **Kentucky (8-1)** round out a revamped top 5.

## Big Risers

The middle of the pack had some major shuffling, and **Texas A&M (8-2)** jumped 9 spots up to #13. **Ole Miss (8-1)** adds to the SEC's dominance, moving up 5 spots and lining up right behind the Aggies at #14. **Oklahoma (9-0)** also moves up to #16, still with a donut in the loss column.

## Big Sliders

**Kansas (7-2)**, with two unranked losses, falls to #7 after being either top or second all season so far. **Wisconsin (8-2)** drops 6 spots after two tough losses, while **Cincinnati (7-1)**, **North Carolina (5-4)**, **Oregon (9-1)** and **Baylor (5-4)** all drop to the bottom 5 after losing this week.

## New Additions

Hail to the Wolverine state: **Michigan (8-1)** and **Michigan State (8-2)** move in at #'s 17 and 19, respectively. **Creighton (7-3)** also rejoins the Top 25 after beating then-#1 Kansas. **Memphis (7-2)**, **Illinois (6-2)** and **Louisville (5-4)** all drop out of the rankings after losing this week.

**\*\*Bold: indicates matchup against AP top 25 team\*\***

**\*\*Check smsports.net every Monday for updated weekly rankings\*\***

SM Top 25 Rankings: Week 5		
1. Tennessee (8-0)	SEC	vs. Miami (FL); at Illinois
2. Duke (7-2)	ACC	vs. Incarnate Word
3. Auburn (8-1)	SEC	vs. Ohio State
4. Iowa State (8-1)	Big 12	at Iowa; vs. Omaha
5. Kentucky (8-1)	SEC	vs. Colgate; vs. Louisville
6. Marquette (9-1)	Big East	at Dayton
7. Kansas (7-2)	Big 12	vs. NC State
8. Alabama (7-2)	SEC	<b>vs. (18) Creighton</b>
9. Florida (9-0)	SEC	vs. Arizona State
10. Purdue (8-2)	Big Ten	<b>vs. (13) Texas A&amp;M</b>
11. Gonzaga (7-2)	West Coast	vs. Connecticut
12. Houston (5-3)	Big 12	vs. Troy
13. Texas A&M (8-2)	SEC	<b>vs. (10) Purdue</b>
14. Ole Miss (8-1)	SEC	vs. Southern Mississippi
15. Wisconsin (8-2)	Big Ten	at Illinois; vs. Butler
16. Oklahoma (9-0)	SEC	vs. Oklahoma State
17. Michigan (8-1)	Big Ten	vs. Arkansas
18. Creighton (7-3)	Big East	<b>at (8) Alabama</b>
19. Michigan State (8-2)	Big Ten	–
20. North Carolina (5-4)	ACC	vs. La Salle
21. Cincinnati (7-1)	Big 12	vs. Xavier
22. Oregon (9-1)	Big Ten	vs. Stephen F. Austin
23. Baylor (5-4)	Big 12	<b>vs. Abilene Christian; vs. Norfolk State</b>
24. West Virginia (6-2)	Big 12	vs. NC Central; vs. Bethune-Cookman
25. San Diego State (6-2)	Mtn. West	vs. California Baptist

***In the hunt: Connecticut (7-3), Memphis (7-2), Arizona State (7-1), Dayton (8-2), Mississippi State (9-1), Clemson (9-1), UCLA (8-1), Penn State (8-1), Missouri (8-1)*****The Big 3:**

**Matchups to Watch**

*\*\*\*All rankings refer to the SM Poll, not the AP poll*

**Tuesday, December 10th**

*Jimmy V Classic*

(17) Michigan vs. Arkansas (New York, NY)

9 pm EST, ESPN

**Saturday, December 14th**

Memphis at Clemson (Clemson, SC)

11 am EST, ESPN2

**Saturday, December 14th**

(11) Gonzaga vs. Connecticut (New York, NY)

8 pm EST, ESPN

*Sean Murawski is a writer for his own personal sports website, smsports.net. He publishes weekly columns and rankings on men's college basketball, as well as coverage columns for the MLB.*