

In Final AP Grid Poll

Alabama Voted No. 1

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NEW YORK (AP) — Alabama was voted the 1961 Associated Press national football champion today, a goal set for the Crimson Tide by master rebuilders Paul (Bear) Bryant.

In the final poll of board members, defense-minded Alabama drew 452 of a possible 480 points to edge Big Ten champion Ohio State which collected 436.

Coach Bryant's eleven concluded a perfect season by crushing Auburn 34-9 Saturday, their fifty straight shutout, and will face ninth-ranked Arkansas in the Sugar Bowl. 'Bama is riding a 17-game winning streak.

Texas vaulted over Louisiana State into third spot, 343 points to 335. Mississippi, Minnesota, Colorado, Michigan State, Arkansas and Utah State complete the



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passes, one on the ground, a field goal and a conversion kick.

Bryant, a superb recruiter and harsh taskmaster, did not relent until the ninth game of the 10-game schedule. When his charges whipped Georgia Tech 10-0, Bear said: "They convinced me they are a great team."

Versatile quarterback Pat Trammell and fullback Mike Fracchia are the key figures in a battering attack with tackle Billy Neighbors and center Lee Roy Jordan leading the charge.

But the defense holds the secret. 'Bama foes have managed only 132.5 yards per game this season, a mere 55.0 rushing.

The final poll results with first-place votes in parenthesis:

1. Alabama (26)	452
2. Ohio State (20)	436
3. Texas	348
4. Louisiana State (1)	335
5. Mississippi (1)	284
6. Minnesota	225
7. Colorado	171
8. Michigan State	128
9. Arkansas	105
10. Utah State	33

Other teams receiving votes included: Missouri 18, Purdue 15, Georgia Tech 12, Syracuse 11, Rutgers 9, UCLA 7; Rice, Penn State and Arizona, 5 each; Duke 4; Michigan, Navy, Kansas and Wyoming, 3 each; Wisconsin 2, Miami (Fla.) 1.

