

6 MIKE TRANGHESE

Last Year: #20

Commissioner, Big East Conference



Thirteen just might be Tranghese's lucky number. After forming the Big East football conference, then guiding the laconic Big East basketball effort back into national prominence, Tranghese orchestrated several deals sure to increase the conference's reputation nationally. The Big East added Notre Dame, Rutgers and West Virginia to its basketball lineup, bringing its membership to 13.

7 DAVID DOWNS

Last Year: NR

Senior V.P., Programming, ABC Sports

Still the primary option for college football—at least for now—ABC provides viewers with weekly regional broadcasts, a convenient pay-per-view option, the SEC Championship and five bowl games, including the Sugar Bowl and the Rose Bowl. Downs joined ABC Sports in 1978 and assumed his current position in 1988.



33 JOE PATERNO



8 RICK RAY

Last Year: #14

CEO, Raycom, Inc.



Founder and head of the nation's most aggressive independent sports programming group, Ray hasn't rested on his laurels. Syndication deals with ABC for college basketball and a recently completed extension of the lucrative ACC basketball television contract through the year 2000–2001 have kept Raycom firmly ahead of the independent pack.

10 DICK VITALE

Last Year: #11

Analyst, ABC/ESPN Basketball

Television. Radio. Magazines. Newspapers. He's everywhere, and the pied piper of college basketball doesn't appear to be slowing down. Vitale captures the college spirit like no other analyst—and backs it up with experience born from performing both as a player and coach. Coaches and players take note of Vitale's analysis, making him the game's ultimate PTPer—Prime Time Performer.



9 JIM DELANY

Last Year: #4

Commissioner, Big Ten Conference

Delany's impact as both commissioner of the Bowl Alliance-skewing Big Ten and his decision-making role on a variety of NCAA basketball committees makes him an authoritative voice. He is the Division I-A Vice President of the Collegiate Commissioners Association, serves on the Board of Advisors of the BCA and is a member of the Special Basketball Television Negotiating Committee.



11 STEVE HATCHELL

Last Year: NR

Commissioner, SWC Conference



The leader of the sinking SWC ship is going anywhere but down. Hatchell, who was named commissioner of the new Big 12 Conference in late March, has sat on both sides of the negotiating table—as executive director of the FedEx Orange Bowl he was instrumental in the formation of the initial Bowl Coalition, and he has been SWC commissioner since 1993.

10 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN COLLEGE SPORTS

26. LINDA BRUNO

Commissioner, Atlantic 10

Last Year: NR

In one year, Bruno has increased the A-10's influence by expanding to 14 teams. She also chairs the Women's Basketball Committee.

27. CHUCK STEEDMAN

VP Events/Programming, Raycom

Last Year: NR

Among other tasks, Steedman will schedule all television appearances for the ACC and SWC as well as create ABC's college basketball schedule.

28. BILLY PACKER

Analyst, CBS Sports

Last Year: 34

Packer's visibility was cemented when CBS nailed the new NCAA Tournament contract, ensuring prime air-time for his opinions.

29. TOM HANSEN

Commissioner, Pac-10

Last Year: 32

If for no other reason than its refusal to join the Bowl Alliance, the Pac-10 remains one of the biggest players among Division I conferences.

30. MICHAEL ARESCO

Director of College Sports, ESPN

Last Year: NR

Aresco supervises the acquisition, scheduling and development of strategies for ESPN and ESPN2 college sports programming.

31. DONNA LOPIANO

Executive Director, Women's Sports Foundation
Lopiano is one of the leaders in the fight for a level playing field for women through Title IX, which legally mandates gender equity.

Last Year: 10

32. JOE PATERNO

Football Coach, Penn State

Last year: 9

Penn State holds a 269-69-3 lifetime record with JoePa on the Lions' sideline, and his graduation rate is equally impressive.

33. JOHN THOMPSON

Basketball Coach, Georgetown

Last Year: 6

A prominent member of the Black Coaches Association, Thompson keeps his crusade alive against scholarship cuts and other issues that would deny underprivileged kids.

34. TOM JERNSTEDT

Deputy Executive Director/COO, NCAA

Last Year: NR

As one of the top decision-makers in the NCAA, Jernstedt's input on everything from television contracts to NCAA administration and finance cannot be undervalued.

35. MIKE KRZYZEWSKI

Basketball Coach, Duke

Last Year: 22

A deep believer in mixing academics with athletics, Coach K has made Duke a prominent power on the court for more than a decade.

36. PAT SUMMITT

Basketball Coach, Tennessee

Last Year: 30

The second-winningest active coach in

women's basketball—and the most recognizable—Summitt rules both on the court and in the court of public opinion on pivotal matters.

37. SONNY VACCARO

V.P. Sports Management, adidas

Last Year: 37

The father of prep basketball camps, Vaccaro helped build Nike and now works to increase adidas' presence nationally.

38. DELOSS DODDS

Athletic Director, Texas

Last Year: 36

Dodds carries clout thanks to his heavy NCAA committee involvement, especially in his role on the Basketball Selection Committee.

39. GRANT TEAFF

Exec. Director, American Football Coaches Assoc.

Last Year: 39

The former Baylor coach and athletic director heads the largest committee of coaches in the country.

MOST INFLUENTIAL /Non-Division I DIVISION II

1. Judith Ramaley, Division II Chair of the Presidents Commission
2. Chuck Lindemann, Co-Chair of Task Force to Review Membership Structure
3. Lynn Dorn, Division II Vice President
4. Richard Johanningmeier, Chair of NCAA Interpretations Committee
5. Doug Echols, Chair of Division II Commissioners Group

DIVISION III

1. David Carter, Division III Chair of the Presidents Commission
2. Ed Coll, Division III Vice President
3. Judith Sweet, Chair of Committee of Review and Planning
4. Mary Barrett, Member of NCAA Executive Committee, Chair of Division III Championship Committee
5. James Whalen, Member of Committee of Review and Planning

NAIA

1. James Chasteen, NAIA Chief Exec. Officer
2. Ken Bootsma, Chairman of the NAIA Council of Presidents
3. Arleigh Dodson, Chair of both Eligibility Committee and Constitution and By Laws Committee
4. Bill Patterson, NAIA Exec. Vice President
5. Bill Johnson, Chair of National Coordinating Committee

JUCO

1. George Killian, Executive Director, NJCAA
2. Walt Rilliet, Executive Director, Community College League of California
3. Charlotte West, Chair of Two-Year College Relations Committee
4. Leah Plarski, NJCAA President
5. Robert Zilchak, Chair of NJCAA soccer program

40. DEAN SMITH

Basketball Coach, North Carolina

Last Year: 26

The winningest active coach in Division I basketball. Smith's vote to support the controversial underclassman eligibility rule for a second year was a major factor.

41. TOM ODJAKJIAN

Associate Commissioner, Big East

Last Year: 1

Last year's top dog decided to pack his road-weary bags and depart ESPN for the Big East. But with Notre Dame hoops in tow, "OJ" will continue to spin his programming magic.

42. DAVID STERN

Commissioner, National Basketball Association

Last Year: 46

Talk of a rookie salary cap has had a direct effect on whether college stars stay in school.

43. GEORGE RAVELING

Analyst, CBS Sports/former USC coach

Last Year: 45

A terrible automobile accident knocked Raveling, an influential voice in the BCA, from the sidelines up to the broadcast booth.

44. PHYLISS R. HOWLETT

Assistant Commissioner, Big Ten

Last Year: NR

Howlett, the Secretary-Treasurer of the NCAA, also serves on the powerful 14-person NCAA Executive Committee.

45. FELIPE LOPEZ

Basketball player, St. John's

Last Year: NR

Lopez, earmarked to be the first Dominican to play in the NBA, has brought college hoops hysteria back to the biggest market in the country.

46. SAM SMITH

President, Washington State

Last Year: NR

In an era when college presidents hold increasing sway, Smith's appointment as Chairman of the President's Commission gives him significant clout.

47. BOB GIBBONS

Basketball Recruiting Analyst

Last Year: NR

Basketball coaches from coast to coast rely on Gibbons to pinpoint the top talent.

48. ALLEN WALLACE

Football Recruiting Analyst

Last Year: NR

Wallace's *SuperPrep* magazine can be found lying on most every college football coach's desk.

49. DICK EBERSOL

President, NBC Sports

Last Year: 27

NBC still owns the rights to Notre Dame football and basketball, but did nothing to increase its presence in college athletics this year.

50. DICK DEVENZIO

Pay-For-Play Advocate

Last Year: NR

A former basketball player at Duke, DeVenzio has been a vocal proponent of paying players for their services while in school. **CS**