

"If this were the NCAA basketball tournament, where the committee members speak of teams' "bodies of work," they'd be comparing the following two résumés:

- Wins over current BCS Top 25 teams: Oklahoma State: 5, Alabama: 2
- Wins over current BCS Top 50 teams: Oklahoma State: 7, Alabama: 5
- Wins over FBS teams with winning records: Oklahoma State: 7, Alabama: 3

- Conference titles: Oklahoma State: 1, Alabama: 0
- Losses to Iowa State: Oklahoma State: 1, Alabama: 0

On paper, the Cowboys will have achieved more than the Tide. In real life, however, this is not a debate that's even being given serious consideration (at least yet) for one simple reason: Alabama has a track record; Oklahoma State does not. SEC teams win national championships. Big 12 teams, at least lately, do not. But let's see what happens Saturday night in Stillwater. Voters can be heavily swayed by last impressions."

- Stewart Mandel, SI.com

"If Oklahoma State wins, might voters do for Oklahoma State what they did for Florida five years ago?

Oklahoma State would be the champion of what some would argue is college football's best conference this season.

Jeff Sagarin, who operates one of six computers used in the BCS formula, has the Big 12 at No. 1 in his rankings, ahead of the SEC.

Oklahoma State's only defeat was in double overtime, at Iowa State, on the day the team learned of the plane crash that killed its women's basketball coach and top assistant. If any team in BCS history deserves a mulligan, it's the Cowboys."

- Chris Dufresne, L.A. Times

"Three more wins against Top 25 BCS teams. Three more victories against teams with winning records. Two more wins against teams .500 or better. A schedule featuring an average opponent ranks 20 places higher in Sagarin rankings.

Better victories against a tougher schedule.

Now imagine Oklahoma State's name is Alabama's.

Maybe that would do the trick. Maybe then folks could wrap their minds around the fact that Oklahoma State has played a tougher schedule and has more quality victories than Alabama.

How bout these Cowboys? The outright Big 12 champions very well could be the nation's second-best team."

- Brett McMurphy, CBSSports.com

Oklahoma State has by far the best overall body of work of any of the top one-loss teams. The raw facts:

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| Wins over teams appearing in this week's BCS top 25 | No. 10 Oklahoma No. 11 Kansas State No. 17 Baylor at No. 22 Texas at No. 25 Missouri | No. 8 Arkansas at No. 21 Penn State | None |
| Wins over bowl-bound teams with winning records | Louisiana, 61-34 at Tulsa, 59-33 at Texas, 38-26 at Missouri, 45-24 Baylor, 59-24 Kansas State, 52-45 Oklahoma, 44-10 | at Penn State, 27-11 Arkansas, 38-14 at Auburn, 42-14 | Washington, 65-21 California, 31-28 Notre Dame, 28-14 |
| Jeff Sagarin's Conference Power Rank | Big 12 - No. 1 | SEC - No. 2 | Pac-12 - No. 3 |
| Conference Champion | Oklahoma State | LSU | Oregon |
| Description of Lone Loss | On the road at Iowa State, 37-31, in double overtime | At home to LSU, 9-6, in OT | At home to Oregon, 53-30 |

VOTE

OKLAHOMA STATE

In Your Top Two This Week

Because no other team short of LSU has **EARNED** its way to New Orleans with more quality wins this season.

In a blind survey posted this week on CBSSports.com based purely on what teams have accomplished on the field this season, 80 percent of the more than 80,000 voters nationwide picked Oklahoma State as the best one-loss team in the country.

Take the survey - <http://eye-on-collegefootball.blogs.cbssports.com/mcc/blogs/entry/24156338/33566427>

"LSU already beat Alabama at Alabama, and a rematch would come across as unfulfilling no matter how it turned out. If the Tide wins, then the series will be tied at 1-1 with LSU pulling off its victory on the road. If LSU wins, then nothing is discovered; we already knew that the Tigers were better." - From Pete Fiutak, CollegeFootballNews.com