

GAMEDAY



PAW PATROL

Auburn seeks some offense, a little Jordan-Hare magic vs. mighty UGA

Win a Mini Max Big Green Egg from Story & Lee!*

TAILGATE of the week RECIPE



Chicken Divan

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pkg frozen broccoli, cooked
- 2 whole chicken breasts, cooked
- 1/2 cup shredded sharp cheese
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- Dash of curry powder (optional)
- Bread crumbs

DIRECTIONS:

Place cooked broccoli in shallow baking dish (9"x13"). Top with shredded cooked chicken. Sprinkle with cheese. Combine chicken soup, mayonnaise, lemon juice, and curry powder (if desired). Pour over chicken. Sprinkle bread crumbs on top, along with additional shredded cheese, if desired. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until heated through.



This week's recipe submitted
by **Beverly Bentley,
Moulton, AL**

Submit your recipes now and you could win \$50 if your recipe is selected.

To enter, submit your recipe to:

Tailgate Recipe Contest, 219 West Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630 - Attn: Mara Beth Cravens

*Weekly winners are entered for grand prize drawing for a Mini Max Green Egg.



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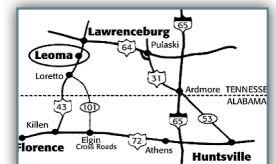
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Oklahoma fans have the game this week that the Sooners point toward all season — Texas.

[ALONZO ADAMS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

THE LINE

(as of Tuesday)

Thursday

FAVORITE	TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
Louisiana Tech at KENNESAW STATE	6½	45½	
at TULANE	6½	53½	East Carolina
Jacksonville State at SAM HOUSTON	7½	55½	
Southern Miss at GA. SOUTHERN	3½	59½	

Friday

South Florida	1½	68½	at NORTH TEXAS
Fresno State at COLORADO STATE	6½	47½	
at WASHINGTON	10½	59½	Rutgers

Saturday

at CINCINNATI	10½	54½	UCF
at ARMY	17½	47½	Charlotte
at FLORIDA STATE	10½	57½	Pittsburgh
at MICHIGAN STATE	9½	54½	UCLA
Alabama	3½	52½	at MISSOURI
at SMU	19½	55½	Stanford
Houston	14½	46½	at OKLAHOMA ST.
Ohio State	14½	49½	at ILLINOIS
at OLE MISS	33½	58½	Washington State
Northern Illinois	1½	48½	at EASTERN MICH.
at PENN STATE	22½	47½	Northwestern
Old Dominion	14½	56½	at MARSHALL
at TEXAS	1½	43½	Oklahoma
TCU	1½	55½	at KANSAS STATE
at GEORGIA TECH	14½	54½	Virginia Tech
at NOTRE DAME	22½	60½	N.C. State
Nebraska	6½	48½	at MARYLAND
Appalachian State	2½	55½	at GEORGIA STATE
Iowa State	3½	52½	at COLORADO
at OREGON	7½	55½	Indiana
at UNLV	5½	65½	Air Force
Wake Forest	2½	51½	at OREGON STATE
Navy	8½	53½	at TEMPLE
at TENNESSEE	12½	68½	Arkansas
at FLORIDA ATLANTIC	5½	69½	UAB
at TEXAS A&M	7½	47½	Florida
Iowa	3½	35½	at WISCONSIN
San Jose State	1½	48½	at WYOMING
at UTSA	12½	49½	Rice
Georgia	3½	45½	at AUBURN
at TEXAS TECH	14½	59½	Kansas
at MINNESOTA	9½	51½	Purdue
Clemson	14½	54½	at BOSTON COLLEGE
at USC	2½	57½	Michigan
at LSU	8½	44½	South Carolina
BYU	1½	48½	at ARIZONA
at TEXAS STATE	9½	54½	Troy
at BOISE STATE	16½	59½	New Mexico
at UTAH	5½	48½	Arizona State
San Diego State	7½	41½	at NEVADA
Utah State	1½	57½	at HAWAII



The Utah Utes won't have any sun this week when they face the Arizona State Sun Devils on Saturday night. [WILLIAM WOTRING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

GAMES ON TV

Thursday

Louisiana Tech at Kennesaw State, 6 p.m., ESPN
 East Carolina at Tulane, 6:30 p.m., ESPN
 Jacksonville State at Sam Houston, 7 p.m., CBSN
 Southern Miss at Georgia Southern, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Friday

Cornell at Harvard, 6 p.m., ESPN
 South Florida at North Texas, 6:30 p.m., ESPN
 Fresno State at Colorado State, 8 p.m., CBSN
 Rutgers at Washington, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Saturday

Alabama at Missouri, 11 a.m., ABC
 Charlotte at Army, 11 a.m., CBSN
 Houston at Oklahoma State, 11 a.m., TNT

Louisiana-Lafayette at James Madison, 11 a.m., ESPN2
 Ohio State at Illinois, 11 a.m., FOX
 Pittsburgh at Florida State, 11 a.m., ESPN
 Stanford at SMU, 11 a.m., CWTV
 Toledo at Bowling Green, 11 a.m., ESPN
 UCF at Cincinnati, 11 a.m., FS1
 UCLA at Michigan State, 11 a.m., BTN
 Washington State at Ole Miss, 11:45 a.m., SEC Network
 Air Force at UNLV, 2:30 p.m., CBSN
 Alabama State at Jackson State, 2:30 p.m., ESPN
 Indiana at Oregon, 2:30 p.m., CBS
 Iowa State at Colorado, 2:30 p.m., ESPN
 Nebraska at Maryland, 2:30 p.m., BTN
 Northwestern at Penn State, 2:30 p.m., FS1
 Oklahoma at Texas, 2:30 p.m., ABC
 TCU at Kansas State, 2:30 p.m., FOX
 Virginia Tech at Georgia Tech, 2:30 p.m., ACC Network

Wake Forest at Oregon State, 2:30 p.m., CWTV
 Navy at Temple, 3 p.m., ESPN2
 Arkansas at Tennessee, 3:15 p.m., SEC Network
 Florida at Texas A&M, 6 p.m., ESPN
 Iowa at Wisconsin, 6 p.m., FS1
 San Jose State at Wyoming, 6 p.m., CBSN
 Clemson at Boston College, 6:30 p.m., ACC Network
 Georgia at Auburn, 6:30 p.m., ABC
 Kansas at Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m., FOX
 Purdue at Minnesota, 6:30 p.m., BTN
 Michigan at USC, 6:30 p.m., NBC
 Rice at UTSA, 6:30 p.m., ESPN
 South Carolina at LSU, 6:45 p.m., SEC Network
 BYU at Arizona, 7 p.m., ESPN2
 New Mexico at Boise State, 8:45 p.m., FS1
 Arizona State at Utah, 9:15 p.m., ESPN
 San Diego State at Nevada, 9:30 p.m., CBSN

TOP 25 SCHEDULE

Friday

No. 24 South Florida (4-1) at North Texas (5-0), 6:30 p.m.

Saturday

No. 1 Ohio St. (5-0) at No. 17 Illinois (5-1), 11 a.m.
 No. 3 Oregon (5-0) vs. No. 7 Indiana (5-0), 2:30 p.m.
 No. 4 Ole Miss (5-0) vs. Washington St. (3-2), 11:45 a.m.
 No. 5 Texas A&M (5-0) vs. Florida (2-3), 6 p.m.

No. 6 Oklahoma (5-0) vs. Texas (3-2) at Dallas, 2:30 p.m.
 No. 8 Alabama (4-1) at No. 14 Missouri (5-0), 11 a.m.
 No. 9 Texas Tech (5-0) vs. Kansas (4-2), 6:30 p.m.
 No. 10 Georgia (4-1) at Auburn (3-2), 6:30 p.m.
 No. 11 LSU (4-1) vs. South Carolina (3-2), 6:45 p.m.
 No. 12 Tennessee (4-1) vs. Arkansas (2-3), 3:15 p.m.

No. 13 Ga. Tech (5-0) vs. Va. Tech (2-4), 2:30 p.m.
 No. 15 Michigan (4-1) at Southern Cal (4-1), 6:30 p.m.
 No. 16 Notre Dame (3-2) vs. N.C. State (4-2), 2:30 p.m.
 No. 18 BYU (5-0) at Arizona (4-1), 7 p.m.
 No. 21 Arizona St. (4-1) at Utah (4-1), 9:15 p.m.
 No. 22 Iowa St. (5-1) at Colorado (2-4), 2:30 p.m.
 No. 25 Florida St. (3-2) vs. Pittsburgh (3-2), 11 a.m.

Alabama at Missouri

When: 11 a.m. Saturday

TV/radio: ABC/FM-93.9, FM 97.7, AM-920

Records: No. 8 Alabama (4-1, 2-0 SEC), No. 14 Missouri (5-0, 1-0)

The series: Alabama leads 8-2.

Four-down territory

1. Brutal stretch: Alabama is in the middle of a tough slate of games, and it doesn't get easier. Alabama knocked off then-No. 5 Georgia and No. 16 Vanderbilt and now deals with No. 14 Mizzou. After that it's No. 12 Tennessee, South Carolina, No. 11 LSU and No. 6 Oklahoma. "You look at one game, and you focus on that one game," Crimson Tide coach Kalen DeBoer said. "That's what we did against Georgia. And that's what we did against Vanderbilt. And now that's what we've got to do against Missouri."

2. Heisman hype: It would be hard to think of Ty Simpson being in the Heisman Trophy conversation after the season opener. Here it is over a month later and the Alabama quarterback is getting some Heisman love. Several outlets, including FanDuel and BetMGM, have Simpson in the top three and four, respectively, as a favorite to take home the Heisman. He's coming off a 340-yard passing effort with two touchdowns, and he's racked up 1,478 passing yards, 15 total touchdowns (two rushing) with just one interception.

3. Could be better: Alabama failed to find the end zone on four red-zone possessions against Vandy, settling for three field goals. Overall, Alabama is 14th in the nation in red-zone scoring with 12 passing TDs, five rushing scores and six field goals, half of which came against Vandy. "Score more touchdowns for sure," offensive coordinator Ryan Grubb said of Alabama's goal. "It was disappointing to be honest. I thought our red zone execution was poor, something we got to work at a lot."

4. Body blows: Jam Miller ran for 136 yards, the first Alabama back to reach the 100-yard mark this season. Missouri's Ahmad Hardy has reached 100 yards in all five games. His 730 yards lead the nation and lead the SEC by almost 300 yards. His nine TDs are also tops in the league. "He does a really nice job of making either the first guy miss or breaking the tackle, and when he's out in space, he can create



Alabama running back Jam Miller, after his first 100-yard game of the season against Vanderbilt, hopes to find more running room vs. unbeaten Missouri. [VASHA HUNT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

the explosive play," Alabama defensive coordinator Kane Wommack said. "It's like body blows in a boxing match. Those body blows continue to hit, and then all of a sudden you create explosive plays."

Key matchup

Alabama RB Jam Miller vs. Missouri RB Ahmad Hardy

After missing the first three games, Miller got back into form with last week's 136-yard effort. Hardy is a beast and is going up against a Tide defense susceptible to the run.

Player of the week

Yhonzae Pierre, DL

With Jah-Marian Latham out for the

season and Qua Russaw out for a while, Pierre has stepped up. Through his last two games he has three QB hurries with a sack and 12 tackles.

By the numbers

0: Center Parker Brailsford has protected for 203 dropbacks, according to Pro Football Focus, allowing just two hurries and no sacks.

2: Alabama's average time of possession of 33:07 is second-best in the SEC and 11th-best in the country.

1: Ty Simpson leads the SEC with 1,478 passing yards and is 16th nationally.

153: In the past five meetings (all UA wins) since 2012, Alabama has

outscored Missouri 153-52.

Prediction

Alabama 31, Missouri 21

This has all the makings of a trap game for Alabama. It's a road game, and everyone knows how scary those have been the past two seasons. Something has clicked with Simpson since the Georgia game. He's accurate, decisive and poised in the pocket. He wants the ball and wants to be a leader of this offense. And the rest of the team is willing to follow him. If Simpson keeps it up, Alabama will be a hard team to beat.

— Edwin Stanton

Georgia at Auburn

When: 6:30 p.m. Saturday

TV/radio: ABC/FM-94.9, FM 100.3

Records: No. 10 Georgia (4-1, 2-1 SEC), Auburn (3-2, 0-2)

The series: Georgia leads 65-56-8.

Four-down territory

1. Run options: The big issue the past two games for Auburn is the running game, and the lack of it. The numbers are not good. Auburn ran for 67 and 52 yards the last two games, most of that due to Jackson Arnold being sacked 14 total times. However, running backs carried the ball just nine times against Oklahoma and 15 times against Texas A&M while Arnold had 15 and 20 carries, respectively. Leading rusher Jeremiah Cobb (403 yards) had just six carries in each of those games but still averaged more than 5 yards per carry.

2. Keep it close: There are no moral victories in defeat, especially against a rival. But if there is any consolation for Auburn it's four of the six meetings against Georgia in Jordan-Hare Stadium since 2013 have been decided by one score. That's good news for an Auburn defense allowing just 16 points per game. The Tigers' run defense is allowing just 88 yards per game, too. That stat gets put to the test with Georgia, which averages just over 200 rushing yards a game with 16 touchdowns.

3. Free Jackson: There are certainly some issues with Auburn's pass protection, evidenced by 14 sacks over the last two games. Giving Arnold one more second in the pocket would make all the difference in the world. "I would love for him to be a little freer, particularly with the playmakers we have," Auburn coach Hugh Freeze said. "There are times when I think he would be if we could hold up another half a second or a second. I don't want him to play out of any fear. Hopefully with our meetings throughout last week and our game-planning this week maybe he will be a little more free to give our kids a chance."

4. Problem identified: Auburn's had its share of problems with pre-snap penalties, particularly false starts. More to the point, false starts on lineman Xavier Chaplin. During the Tigers' bye week, the staff conducted tests on Chaplin, which revealed some hearing loss. "We've done some testing on his hearing, and there's an issue there, and that goes back to us," Freeze said. "We should have handled



Auburn offensive lineman Xavier Chaplin, after the Tigers tested his hearing, is expected to incur fewer penalties going forward, coach Hugh Freeze says. [JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

the cadence stuff differently for him, but he really struggles to hear in those environments, and we'll make adjustments for that."

Key matchup

Auburn LB Keyron Crawford vs. Georgia LB Chris Cole

Crawford is the leader for the Tigers with four sacks and six tackles for loss, and he is third on the team with 20 tackles. Cole is a big presence for the Bulldogs with three sacks and 21 total tackles.

Player of the week

Xavier Atkins, LB

Atkins changed the momentum of

the Tigers' game with Texas A&M with a 73-yard interception return, even though Auburn didn't win. Another pick or big play could change the momentum against Georgia.

By the numbers

2: Auburn will retire 2010 Heisman Trophy winner Cam Newton's No. 2 jersey with a ceremony during the game.

2: The Tigers are 2-0 in night games this season. Saturday is a 6:30 p.m. kickoff.

4: Next week Auburn faces Missouri, its fourth straight top-20 opponent.

7: Auburn has lost seven straight regular-season games to Georgia. Its last

win was in 2017.

Prediction

Georgia 35, Auburn 17

When Auburn has confidence, big wins come with it. When the Tigers are down, it's hard to get back up off the mat. Facing Georgia amid a two-game losing streak is not the best of situations, especially when Auburn hasn't beaten the Bulldogs since 2017. It's going to take an all-around effort with no room for silly penalties or breakdowns in pass protection, which has afflicted Auburn in bunches recently.

— Edwin Stanton

Central Arkansas at UNA

When: 3 p.m. Saturday

TV: ESPN+

Records: Central Arkansas (2-4, 1-1 UAC), UNA (1-4, 0-1 UAC)

The series: UNA leads 15-8.

Four-down territory

1. QB1, 2 or 3? This might be a weekly question. Could it be Destin Wade, Ari Patu to DC Tabscott? Wade will be a game-time decision, coach Brent Dearmon said Monday. The quarterback started against DII Northeastern State (Oklahoma) and at Illinois State, but injured his shoulder/collarbone in the first quarter of his second start. Patu, who was in the lineup for the first, second and fifth games, took most of the first-team practice reps early in the week. But he was pulled at halftime from each of his three starts. Wade in the first two, Tabscott last week at Abilene Christian. UNA hasn't had a quarterback start and finish a game yet this season.

2. Another interesting QB situation: Central Arkansas appears to have found its signal caller. Austin Myers made his first start in last week's 23-17 win against Utah Tech. He replaced Luther Richesson in the third drive the game before at Lamar. Richesson, who started the first five games, left the team before the Utah Tech matchup, coach Nathan Brown said. Myers is completing 62.5% of his throws for 581 yards, four touchdowns and three interceptions. Richesson was completing 62.2% of his throws for 726 yards, six scores and three picks.

3. Back home: Saturday will mark UNA's first time playing in the decrepit confines of Braly Stadium in almost a month. Four of the Lions' first five games were on the road — the exception being their money game against woeful Northeastern State, a team that has just three winning seasons since 2000, on Sept. 13. Being away from home hasn't been kind to UNA. So far, the Lions are 0-4 on the road and have been outscored 172-76. Road games haven't been good for Central Arkansas, either, where it's collected an 0-3 mark against current-FBS No. 14 Missouri, then-FCS No. 24 Sacramento State and then-No. 22 Lamar. The Bears have been outscored 141-54.

4. An oldy, but a goody? The



Demarcious Robinson either leads UNA's defense or is tied in several statistical categories. [DAN BUSEY/TIMESDAILY]

UNA-Central Arkansas series dates to 1951, when Harry Truman was two years into his final term in the White House. The Lions won that inaugural meeting 32-20. In the subsequent 25 meetings, no team has won more than four in a row. That came courtesy of UNA from 1997-2000. The Bears, however, have a chance to match that. They've won all three matchups since both have been Division I programs. Central Arkansas won 64-29 in 2022, 27-14 in 2023 and 24-19 last year.

Key matchup

UNA LB Demarcious Robinson vs. UCA RB Landen Chambers

Robinson leads the Lions in tackles (41), tackles for loss (6) and fumble

recoveries (2). He is tied for the team lead in sacks (2) and interceptions (1). The senior recorded his second straight double-digit tackle game with 13, including three for loss, in last week's drubbing from Abilene Christian. Chambers has rushed for 559 yards, good for 12th in the FCS, and three scores on 116 carries.

Player of the week

Whoever plays QB

Dearmon said Monday quarterback play matters. UNA hasn't gotten much to brag about through five games. Can one play four quarters?

By the numbers

56: UNA's rank against the run

out of 126 FCS teams. The Lions are surrendering 156 yards on the ground.

121: UNA's rank against the pass. The Lions are giving up almost 309 per game.

196-135: What UNA is getting outscored by. The Lions lost 52-23 last week at Abilene Christian.

7: How many consecutive games UNA has lost to FCS opponents?

Prediction

Central Arkansas 31, UNA 24

This is simple. The Lions have to show they can win — against a non-Division II team — to get picked here.

— David Glovach

Arkansas at Tennessee

When: 3:15 p.m. Saturday

TV/radio: SEC/FM-97.9, AM-1340

Records: Arkansas (2-3, 0-1 SEC), No. 12 Tennessee (4-1, 1-1)

The series: Tennessee leads 13-7.

Four-down territory

1. Be prepared: Arkansas has won the last four meetings with Tennessee. In last year's matchup, Tennessee built a 14-3 lead through the middle of the third quarter but the Razorbacks scored 16 unanswered points to win. Most of the issues from the late letdown was with not recognizing the defensive reads. "The success they've had in their three-down, three-safety stuff from last year, we have to be prepared for," Vols coach Josh Heupel said. "That is kind of where we are pointing our emphasis and then react to whatever else we see and be able to adjust during the course of the football game."

2. Green machine: Arkansas dual threat quarterback Taylen Green has 1,398 passing yards with 12 touchdowns. He's also the Razorbacks' leading rusher with 441 yards and two scores. He's averaging almost 90 yards rushing per game. Tennessee has the task of containing the Hogs' QB and keeping him in the pocket. "You can't just let them sit back there and pat the ball either," Heupel said. "You've got to apply pressure." That's not so easy. Green has been sacked just six times this season.

3. Shakeup: The Razorbacks have a familiar face back as head coach in Bobby Petrino. It's an interim role with the firing of Sam Pittman last week. Petrino, who was the offensive coordinator under Pittman, was previously head coach for Arkansas from 2008-11 and had a 34-17 record. Running backs coach Kolby Smith takes over for Petrino as offensive coordinator, though Petrino will still call plays. Also fired were defensive coordinator Travis Williams, co-defensive coordinator Marcus Woodson and defensive line coach Deke Adams. Chris Wilson takes over as interim defensive coordinator.

4. Jumping the gun: Tennessee would love for defensive back Jermod McCoy to be back on the field following a preseason ACL injury. There were even reports that he was ready to return for the Arkansas game. That rumor was quickly squashed by Heupel this week. "Somebody told me



Tennessee quarterback Joey Aguilar and the Vols hope for more quality, team-bonding time in the end zone this week against Arkansas. [JAMES PUGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

there was a report out there of a certain ball game that he's focused in on as far as returning. I think that's unfair. Whoever put that out there I don't think truly understands Jermod and his situation," he said.

Key matchup

Tennessee QB Joey Aguilar vs. Arkansas QB Taylen Green

With 1,459 passing yards (second in the SEC) and 13 touchdowns (first in SEC), Aguilar has the Vols' offense running like a machine. Green is a dynamic playmaker with his arm and legs, passing for 1,398 with 12 TDs with 441 rushing yards and two TDs.

Player of the week Caleb Herring, DL

The junior is starting to step up his game as evidenced by his two-sack effort against Mississippi State. The defensive line is already playing well, and with Herring chipping in, the Vols are a force.

By the numbers

21: UT has 21 sacks, which is tied for the SEC lead and tied for second in the FBS with Oklahoma. Western Michigan has 23 sacks.

51: Tennessee has the best scoring offense (51 points per game) in the nation.

255: Tennessee has 255 points through

the first five games, breaking the UT record (234 in 2022).

2007: The last time Tennessee defeated Arkansas was in 2007.

Prediction

Tennessee 48, Arkansas 14

Arkansas is a complete mess right now. There is talent there, but the coaching shakeup has the Razorbacks in disarray. The Vols should handle business on both sides of the ball after a week of rest. The pass rush is one of the best in the country and containing a mobile QB like Taylen Green should be no problem.

— Edwin Stanton



Mac Sanders and Jacksonville State will tackle another midweek Conference USA game Thursday. [JACKSONVILLE STATE ATHLETICS]

This week's SEC, state games

Jacksonville State at Sam Houston State

When: 7 p.m. Thursday

TV: CBSSN

Records: Jacksonville State (2-3, 1-0 Conference USA), Sam Houston State (0-5, 0-2)

The series: Jax State leads 7-6.

The lowdown: JSU is 7-1 all-time during "Weekday CUSA" games. ... This is the second of four midweek games this year for the Gamecocks. ... Freshman line-backer Mac Sanders made 13 tackles in Jacksonville State's last game, a 42-25

loss at Southern Miss on Sept. 27. ... The Gamecocks are sixth in the nation in rushing offense with a 261.4-yard average. ... Cam Cook's 147.8 average in all-purpose yards leads CUSA and ranks sixth nationally. ... Sam Houston ranks 129th in the 134-team FBS in total

offense, averaging 275.6 yards per game. ... The Bobkats are better at total defense, ranking 126th with a 456.8-yard average. ... Sam Houston was outscored 24-0 in the fourth quarter of last week's 37-10

SEE SEC, G9

SEC

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loss at New Mexico State. The last score was on a 71-yard interception return.

Washington State at No. 4 Ole Miss

When: 11:45 a.m. Saturday

TV: SECN

Records: Washington State (3-2), Ole Miss (5-0)

The series: First meeting.

The lowdown: Lane Kiffin, if Ole Miss wins, will be the fastest coach to reach 50 victories with the Rebels. Kiffin is 49-18. Billy Brewer needed 94 games and John Vaughn 74 games to get to 50. ... The Cougars last met an SEC foe in 2013, falling 31-24 in their season opener at Auburn. ... Washington State was off last week after snapping a two-game losing streak with a 20-3 win at Colorado State. ... North Texas and Washington each dropped 59 points on the Cougars. ... First-year WSU coach Jimmy Rogers won his first two games, a feat last hit by short-lived Alabama coach Mike Price in 1989. ... Kiffin is 1-1 all-time against Washington State, both while coaching Southern California. The Trojans won 50-16 at WSU in 2010 and lost 10-7 in L.A. in 2013. ... Ole Miss is playing its 98th homecoming game since 1924. The Rebels are 73-17-2 on homecoming, after vacated wins, and have won 24 of their last 28 on the field. ... The Rebs are 72-17 vs. nonconference foes since beating Tulane in November 1994, including 21-2 under Lane Kiffin. ... Ole Miss' last nonconference home loss was in 2019 to Cal.

Mississippi Valley State at Alabama A&M

When: 2 p.m. Saturday

TV: SWAC TV

Records: Mississippi Valley State (0-4, 0-1 SWAC), Alabama A&M (3-3, 0-2)

The series: Alabama A&M leads 26-10.

The lowdown: Mississippi Valley State was to play Florida A&M in Atlanta last weekend, but the game was postponed to Nov. 29 and moved to Itta Bena. ... The Bulldogs, with last weekend's 57-24 loss to Jackson State in Mobile, have lost two straight. ... Corneilous Brown was 26-of-39 passing for 341 yards and two touchdowns last weekend, but A&M totaled just 59 yards rushing. ... The Bulldogs surrendered 702 yards offense, including 388 rushing. ... The 702 yards are the fourth-most in an FCS game this year. ... The Delta Devils have lost two one-score games this season to Southern



Alabama A&M's defense did more grasping than tackling last week judging by how many yards Jackson State finished with. [JACKSON STATE ATHLETICS]

34-29 and Texas Southern 23-20. Both were at home. ... The other two? 59-3 at Tarleton State and 56-3 at Southeastern Louisiana. ... MVSU averages just 13.7 points, which ranks 119th in the 126-team FCS, and 280 yards offense, which ranks 110th. ... A&M beat the Delta Devils 49-35 last year. ... The Bulldogs are 14-10 on homecoming since joining Division I in 1999. ... Mississippi Valley is well on its way to a 19th straight losing season.

No. 6 Oklahoma vs. Texas

When: 2:30 p.m. Saturday

Where: Cotton Bowl, Dallas

TV: ABC

Records: Oklahoma (5-0, 1-0 SEC), Texas (3-2, 0-1)

The series: Texas leads 64-51-5.

The lowdown: The Sooners and Longhorns have annually met in Dallas since 1912, at Fair Park since 1929 and inside the Cotton Bowl every year since 1937. ... OU's Isaiah Sategna III, after six catches for 60 yards in the season's first two



Mike Price, perhaps best known in Alabama for his short stint in Tuscaloosa, was the last first-year Washington State coach to win his first two games before Jimmy Rogers this year. [DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]



Arch Manning and the Texas Longhorns had their top-25 ranking completely scuttled by Florida.

[JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]



UAB receiver Xavier Daisy has become a reliable target for quarterback Jalen Kitna and the Blazers the last two games. [UAB ATHLETICS]

SEC

From Page G9

games, has 20 receptions for 299 yards and three TDs in the last three. He had 172 all-purpose yards and two TDs in last week's 44-0 win over Kent State. ... Sategna, an Austin native and Arkansas transfer, is one of 31 Texans on OU's roster. ... The Sooners had 13 tackles for loss, including five sacks, and held Kent State to 135 yards offense, including 17 rushing last week. ... Texas had been ranked in 43 consecutive AP polls until going from No. 9 to out with last week's 29-21 loss at Florida. ... UT amassed 52 yards rushing against the Gators after averaging over 200 in its first four games. ... The Longhorns gored the Sooners 34-3 last year back when Texas was the No. 1 team in the land.

UAB at Florida Atlantic

When: 5 p.m. Saturday

TV: ESPN+

Records: UAB (2-3, 0-2 American), Florida Atlantic (2-3, 1-1)

The series: FAU leads 6-4.

The lowdown: FAU's Caden Veltkamp averages 28.8 completed passes per game, while UAB's Jalen Kitna averages 26.4. They rank 1-2 in the nation. ... The Owls are ninth in the nation in passing at 318.4 yards per game. The Blazers are 14th at 307.8. ... The Blazers gave up just



Jayden Woods and Florida will be looking to chomp on another top-10 opponent. This time on the road. [GARY MCCULLOUGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

295 yards in last week's 31-13 home loss to Army. ... UAB sophomore receiver Xavier Daisy, after a preseason injury limited him to only special teams the first three games, has 11 catches over the last two games. He had seven for 50 yards and his first career touchdown against Army. ... FAU's Easton Messer leads the nation in receptions per game. He had 11

catches for 110 yards in last week's 27-21 win at Rice. ... Messer has two straight 100-yard games. He went for 131 yards on nine catches the week before against Memphis.

Florida at No. 5 Texas A&M

When: 6 p.m. Saturday

TV: ESPN

Records: Florida (2-3, 1-1 SEC), Texas A&M (5-0, 2-0)

The series: Texas A&M leads 4-3.

The lowdown: Florida's 29-21 win over then-No. 9 Texas last week caused the Longhorns to be cast out of the Top 25. ... Texas A&M, with last week's 31-9 home win over Mississippi State, is 5-0 for the first time since 2016. ... The Aggies are ranked their highest since also being No. 5 in September 2021. ... The Gators are playing their fourth straight top-10 opponent. Before Texas, they lost to then-No. 3 LSU and then-No. 4 Miami. ... Under coach Billy Napier, Florida won five times when it was unranked and facing a top-25 team. ... Florida, while unranked, last went on the road and beat a top-5 team a mere 62 years ago. The Gators humbled Alabama 10-6. ... Freshman Dallas Wilson made his first career start vs. Texas and racked six catches for 111 yards and two touchdowns. ... DJ Lagway threw for a season-high 298 yards, and Jadan Baugh ran for 107 yards. ... A&M's 299 yards rushing against Mississippi State included six players with at least 20 yards, the most for the Aggies since joining the SEC.

South Carolina at No. 11 LSU

When: 6:45 p.m. Saturday

TV: SECN

Records: South Carolina (3-2, 1-2 SEC),

SEE SEC, G11



Bishop Davenport and South Alabama won't be looking to simply bend the knee to Arkansas State for an early-week matchup. [SOUTH ALABAMA ATHLETICS]



Troy won't get a championship belt this week, but the Trojans probably wouldn't mind another Sun Belt victory. [TROY ATHLETICS]



This would be a good week for Brian Kelly and LSU to puff out their chests, especially coming off a bye. [ROGELIO V. SOLIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

SEC

From Page G10

LSU (4-1, 1-1)

The series: LSU leads 20-2-1.

The lowdown: The Gamecocks were idle last week following a 35-13 scrubbing of Kentucky, highlighted by two defensive touchdowns 45 seconds apart. Jarius Geer went 40 yards on a fumble return and Gerald Kilgore took an interception 45 yards. ... The Tigers were also idle last week after a 24-19 loss at Ole Miss. For much of that game, LSU's offense was idle. The Tigers mustered just 254 yards. ... LSU's Garrett Nussmeier ranks third in school history with 6,931 passing yards. Ahead are Joe Burrow (8,565 yards) and Tommy Hodson (9,115). ... LSU beat the Gamecocks 36-33 last year on a touchdown with 1:12 to play. ... Carolina last beat LSU in 1994 behind Steve Taneyhill's 23-of-30 passing for 157 yards and Stanley Pritchett's go-ahead 1-yard TD run with 12:52 remaining. ... The 1994 game featured heavy rain, 262 yards for USC and 209 for LSU. ... Carolina's only other victory over the Tigers was in 1930 by a 7-6 count.

Troy at Texas State

When: 7 p.m. Saturday

TV: ESPN+

Records: Troy (3-2, 1-0 Sun Belt), Texas State (3-2, 0-1)

The series: Troy leads 13-2.

The lowdown: The Trojans and Bobcats

SEC

From Page G11

meet for the final time before Texas State absconds for the Pac-12. ... Troy's Devin Lafayette was named the Sun Belt's defensive player of the week for his efforts in last week's 31-24 overtime win over South Alabama. ... Lafayette was credited with 19 tackles (nine solos and 10 assists). The Trojans had 40 solos and 44 assists as a team. ... Troy last played an OT game in 2015, losing in triple overtime at Appalachian State. ... Tucker Kilcrease, with 203 yards passing and 102 rushing, was the first Troy QB with a 200-100 game since Deon Anthony went for 245 and 115 against Florida International in 2012. ... Texas State had two 100-yard rushers in last week's 31-30 loss at Arkansas State. Brad Jackson carried 10 times 131 yards and one touchdown, while Lincoln Pare had 105 yards and two scores on 21 carries. ... The Bobcats have had multiple 100-yard rushers four times since joining Division I in 1984.

Arkansas State at South Alabama

When: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday
TV: ESPN2
Records: Arkansas State (2-4, 1-1 Sun Belt), South Alabama (1-5, 0-2)
The series: Arkansas State leads 7-6.
The lowdown: South Alabama is playing a Tuesday game for a third straight



Delaware stopped Jacksonville's FCS playoff run the last time the programs met in the spring of 2021. [JACKSONVILLE STATE ATHLETICS]

season. The Jaguars beat Southern Miss 55-3 in 2023 and Troy 25-9 last year. Both previous Tuesday games were also in Mobile. ... Arkansas State last played a regular-season non-Saturday game in 2021, losing two Thursday home matchups with Coastal Carolina and Louisiana-Lafayette. ... The Red Wolves last played on a Tuesday in

October 2018, losing 35-9 at home to Appalachian State. ... Arkansas State's Jaylen Raynor scored on a 4-yard run with 7 seconds remaining in last week's 31-30 home win over Texas State, which had taken the lead with 1 minute to play. ... Raynor finished 27-of-35 passing for 248 yards and two touchdowns with a team-high 92 yards on 19 carries and

two scores. Raynor completed his final 20 passes. ... The Red Wolves surrender an average of 474.3 yards per game. ... South Alabama had 265 rushing yards in last week's 31-24 overtime loss at Troy. ... USA's Micah Woods, for his second career reception, scored his first career touchdown in the first quarter at Troy. ... The Jags last played an overtime game in 2021.

Delaware at Jacksonville State

When: 6 p.m. Wednesday
TV: ESPN2
Records: Delaware (3-2, 1-1), Jacksonville State (2-3, 1-0 entering Thursday game)
The series: Delaware leads 2-0.
The lowdown: Delaware is in its first FBS season. ... While JSU has a quicker-than-usual turnaround, the Blue Hens are playing for the first time since a 27-24 home loss to Western Kentucky on Oct. 3. ... Nick Minicucci was 28-of-47 passing for 314 yards (and no touchdowns) and ran for 55 yards and three scores. ... Delaware owns two playoff wins over the Gamecocks, winning 42-27 in the 1978 Division II quarterfinals at home and 20-14 at Jax State in the spring 2021 FCS quarterfinals. ... The 2021 game is the only time the Blue Hens have graced the state of Alabama. ... This is the third of four midweek games this year for the Gamecocks.

— A. Stacy Long

PICKS PANEL



STACY LONG



DAVID GLOVACH



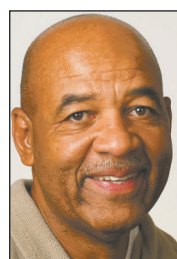
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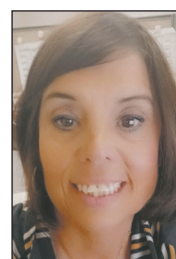
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RENITA JIMMAR



DEANGELO MCDANIEL



MARA BETH CRAVENS



CALEB SUGGS

Georgia at Auburn	Georgia	Georgia	Auburn	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
Alabama at Missouri	Alabama	Alabama	Missouri	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Missouri	Alabama
Central Arkansas at UNA	Central Arkansas	Central Arkansas	UNA	UNA	UNA	Central Arkansas	UNA	UNA
Arkansas at Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
Oklahoma vs. Texas	Texas	Oklahoma	Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	Oklahoma	Texas
Ohio State at Illinois	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Illinois	Ohio State
Indiana at Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Indiana	Oregon
Iowa at Wisconsin	Iowa	Iowa	Wisconsin	Iowa	Iowa	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Iowa
BYU at Arizona	BYU	Arizona	BYU	BYU	BYU	Arizona	BYU	BYU
Arizona State at Utah	Utah	Arizona State	Utah	Utah	Utah	Arizona State	Arizona State	Arizona State
Last week	9-1	7-3	6-4	7-3	8-2	7-3	5-5	2-8
Season record	45-15	41-19	40-20	39-21	37-23	34-26	32-28	25-35

Reeling Longhorns try to rescue season

By Jim Vertuno
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas has troubles. The preseason No. 1 is now unranked. Preseason Heisman Trophy favorite quarterback Arch Manning has struggled and is taking a beating behind an offensive line that can't protect him.

Next up: resurgent No. 6 Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl in one of the great rivalries in college football. And the Sooners will be eager for payback after taking a beating in Dallas last season.

After two consecutive appearances in the College Football Playoff, the Longhorns' season is on the brink at the midway point. The Longhorns (3-2, 0-1 Southeastern Conference) were beaten by Florida last week and now try to avoid consecutive losses for the first time since 2021.

"There's no such thing as a championship team without going through some adversity," said Texas safety Michael Taaffe, who also predicted the Longhorns were about to go on a "crazy run" to put the season back on track.

"The only ranking that matters is at the end of the year," Taaffe said.

What ails Texas starts with Manning, who has struggled to live up to the hype.

Manning's 16 total touchdowns and 1,151 yards passing stand up as respectable. But they belie a 60% completion rate, indecisive throws and misfires of open receivers.

Manning has had his moments, and put up a gritty performance against Florida, but he and the entire offense have been inconsistent at best.

A rebuilt offensive line has had him constantly on the run and is committing penalties at an alarming rate. The Gators sacked Manning six times and held the Longhorns to 52 yards rushing.

Still, Manning earned praise from coach Steve Sarkisian and his Longhorns teammates for playing hard while taking so many hits last week.

"I found out he's a tough dude," Sarkisian said. "He stood in there and showed a lot of contact courage ... Does he need to play better? Sure. We need to play better around him."

The defense has yet to deliver on its potential as well. A unit led by preseason All-Americans Colin Simmons, Anthony Hill Jr. and Taaffe dominated San Jose State, UTEP and Sam Houston. But it has no sacks in two games against



Texas linebacker Colin Simmons, a preseason All-American, is the only No. 1 still associated with the Longhorns, who began the year ranked first and, two losses later, are unranked. [GARY MCCULLOUGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

Power 4 opponents and got pushed around by the Gators, who also ripped the secondary for big plays.

Rivalry week could be a scary prospect for a struggling team, and yet it may be just what Texas needs.

Beat Oklahoma (5-0, 1-0) and the Longhorns are back in the thick of the SEC title chase. And that's the first step into getting the Longhorns back into the march toward the 12-team playoff. Texas made it to the conference title game with one loss last season.

"We've got a talented group. We're going to get better each week. We're going to be tough to beat," Manning said. "We're going to play better than (against Florida). I feel confident about that."

But lose to Oklahoma and the panic in Austin hits new levels in a season that could threaten to mirror 2010.

That year, Texas was coming off an appearance in the 2009 national championship game. The Longhorns started the season No. 5 behind

quarterback Garrett Gilbert, a 5-star recruit expected to be the next big thing after Heisman Trophy finalist Colt McCoy.

Texas started 3-0 but was showing early cracks in the armor before cratering to a 5-7 finish.

"You're never going to feel great after a loss, but it's a time to come together," said defensive lineman Hero Kanu, who transferred from last season's national champion Ohio State. "I need to lean on my brothers right now."

COLLEGE STANDINGS

(Through Oct. 4 games)

American Athletic Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Navy	3	0	101	60	5	0	187	98
Memphis	2	0	100	33	6	0	243	97
North Texas	1	0	45	38	5	0	224	100
South Florida	1	0	54	26	4	1	181	112
Tulane	1	0	31	14	4	1	131	120
East Carolina	1	0	28	6	3	2	152	67
Temple	1	0	27	21	3	2	151	125
FAU	1	1	53	76	2	3	144	167
Rice	1	2	62	65	3	3	123	129
Army	1	2	75	86	2	3	126	137
UTSA	0	1	21	27	2	3	146	148
UAB	0	2	37	69	2	3	144	195
Charlotte	0	2	43	82	1	4	99	171
Tulsa	0	3	44	118	2	4	112	158

Atlantic Coast Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Virginia	3	0	124	85	5	1	258	143
Duke	3	0	128	57	4	2	219	153
Georgia Tech	2	0	54	50	5	0	185	106
Miami	1	0	28	22	5	0	175	68
SMU	1	0	31	18	3	2	170	124
Louisville	1	1	61	57	4	1	180	105
California	1	1	49	69	4	2	145	135
Pittsburgh	1	1	75	41	3	2	205	98
Stanford	1	1	50	68	2	3	103	147
Virginia Tech	1	1	46	51	2	4	141	170
N.C. State	1	2	88	92	4	2	203	150
Wake Forest	1	2	83	87	3	2	135	106
Syracuse	1	2	55	90	3	3	174	179
Clemson	1	2	80	68	2	3	117	101
North Carolina	0	1	10	38	2	3	94	129
Florida St.	0	2	60	74	3	2	234	104
Boston College	0	3	51	106	1	4	157	158

Big 12 Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
BYU	2	0	62	45	5	0	192	61
Texas Tech	2	0	69	21	5	0	243	56
Arizona St.	2	0	54	48	4	1	146	106
Cincinnati	2	0	75	64	4	1	196	104
Iowa St.	2	1	93	73	5	1	188	109
Baylor	2	1	104	88	4	2	218	178
Kansas	2	1	102	67	4	2	210	123
Arizona	1	1	55	52	4	1	166	78
Houston	1	1	47	55	4	1	136	88
TCU	1	1	59	48	4	1	184	107
Utah	1	1	58	48	4	1	195	73
Kansas St.	1	2	89	79	2	4	165	161
UCF	0	2	40	61	3	2	159	87
Oklahoma St.	0	2	40	86	1	4	82	181
Colorado	0	3	62	95	2	4	150	149
West Virginia	0	3	48	127	2	4	134	171

Big Sky Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Montana	2	0	83	68	5	0	212	128
UC Davis	2	0	68	39	4	1	159	167
Montana St.	2	0	91	13	4	2	186	109
N. Arizona	1	1	41	51	4	2	181	192
Cal Poly	1	1	59	58	3	3	182	180
E. Washington	1	1	38	84	2	4	139	214
Idaho St.	1	1	64	60	2	4	231	176
Idaho	0	1	30	41	2	3	125	121
N. Colorado	0	1	18	26	2	3	95	97
Sacramento St.	0	1	24	32	2	3	138	116
Weber St.	0	1	12	34	2	3	105	192
Portland St.	0	2	44	66	0	6	67	250

Big South-OVC Association

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Tennessee Tech	2	0	101	28	5	0	283	59
E. Illinois	2	0	62	30	3	2	130	124
L'wood (Mo.)	2	0	65	42	3	3	121	162
Gardner-Webb	1	0	30	27	3	2	152	196
UT Martin	1	1	48	40	1	5	92	188
SE Missouri	0	1	10	34	1	4	109	197
Tennessee St.	0	2	15	66	1	4	63	169
Chas. Southern	0	2	55	65	1	5	96	181
W. Illinois	0	2	43	97	1	5	135	273

Big Ten Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Indiana	2	0	83	25	5	0	239	48
Ohio St.	2	0	66	9	5	0	187	25
Oregon	2	0	64	38	5	0	233	61
Michigan	2	0	54	37	4	1	164	81
Illinois	2	1	87	122	5	1	222	144
Southern Cal	2	1	110	82	4	1	242	115
Maryland	1	1	47	34	4	1	150	67



North Carolina, with its disappointing start in coach Bill Belichick's first season, has fans turning their smiles upside down. [CHRIS SEWARD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

Nebraska	1	1	65	57	4	1	212	81
Washington	1	1	30	44	4	1	197	99
Iowa	1	1	53	48	3	2	147	78
Minnesota	1	1	34	70	3	2	137	107
Northwestern	1	1	31	48	3	2	118	85
UCLA	1	1	56	54	1	4	99	162
Michigan St.	0	2	58	83	3	2	164	153
Penn St.	0	2	61	72	3	2	193	89
Rutgers	0	2	56	69	3	2	195	127
Purdue	0	2	44	76	2	3	139	149
Wisconsin	0	2	20	51	2	3	93	99

Coastal Athletic Association

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Elon	2	0	58	23	4	2	183	132
Rhode Island	2	0	62	37	4	2	134	126
Monmouth (N.J.)	1	0	51	33	4	1	226	180
Villanova	2	1	101	82	3	2	131	151
William & Mary	2	1	90	92	3	3	161	177
Maine	2	1	98	72	2	4	132	158
New Hampshire	1	1	31	43	3	3	126	130
Stony Brook	1	1	64	43	3	3	167	143
Towson	1	1	29	41	3	3	128	145
Campbell	1	1	70	79	1	5	142	261
NC A&T	1	2	97	105	1	5	145	259
Hampton	0	2	50	74	2	4	139	190
Albany (N.Y.)	0	2	18	71	1	5	87	176
Bryant	0	3	86	110	2	4	158	161

Conference USA

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
W. Kentucky	3	0	95	70	5	1	202	137
Louisiana Tech	2	0	79	25	4	1	140	68
Kennesaw St.	1	0	24	16	3	2	97	116
Jacksonville St.	1	0	34	24	2	3	148	134

Delaware	1	1	62	43	3	2	148	132
New Mexico St.	1	1	51	59	3	2	111	114
FIU	0	1	16	38	2	3	106	160
Missouri St.	0	1	22	27	2	3	108	158
Liberty	0	1	24	34	1	4	85	116
Middle Tenn.	0	1	16	24	1	4	82	155
UTEP	0	1	11	30	1	4	104	133
Sam Houston St.	0	2	34	78	0	5	75	208

Ivy League

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Harvard	1	0	41	7	3	0	159	38
Penn	1	0	36	24	2	1	90	89
Princeton	1	0	17	10	2	1	90	80
Yale	1	0	41	24	2	1	82	65
Brown	0	1	7	41	2	1	81	62
Dartmouth	0	1	24	36	2	1	86	84
Columbia	0	1	10	17	1	2	43	65
Cornell	0	1	24	41	0	3	55	95

Mid-American Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
Buffalo	2	0	62	58	3	3	151	128
W. Michigan	2	0	35	16	3	3	118	124
Ball St.	1	0	20	14	2	3	82	147
Miami (Ohio)	1	0	25	14	2	3	118	117
Toledo	1	1	58	17	3	2	179	62
Cent. Michigan	1	1	46	41	3	3	131	173
Ohio	1	1	49	40	3	3	158	156
Akron	1	1	31	67	2	4	110	183
Bowling Green	0	1	20	35	2	3	106	129
Kent St.	0	1	28	31	1	4	73	220
N. Illinois	0	1	14	25	1	4	55	106
E. Michigan	0	2	43	55	1	5	150	214

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
N.C. Central	0	0	0	0	4	2	208	176
Howard	0	0	0	0	3	2	101	94
Delaware St.	0	0	0	0	3	3	198	175
S.C. State	0	0	0	0	3	3	168	194
Morgan St.	0	0	0	0	2	4	118	169
Norfolk St.	0	0	0	0	1	5	126	208

Missouri Valley Conference

	Conference			All Games				
	WL	PF	PA	WL	PF	PA		
N. Dakota St.	2	0	84	29	5	0	222	46
S. Dakota St.	1	0	35	30	5	0	173	85
S. Illinois	1	0	55	27	4	1	217	105
North Dakota	1	0	35	7	3	2	201	96
South Dakota	1	1	62	75	3	3	148	188
Illinois St.	0	1	16	33	3	2	140	147
Youngstown St.	0	1	30	35	3	2	165	136
Indiana St.	0	1	27	55	2	3	126	229
N. Iowa	0	1	7	35	2	3	78	114
Murray St.	0	1	24	49	0	5	96	221

COLUMN

Schedule sets up nicely for UGA, Rebels

By Doug Segrest
For GameDay

Johnny Football returned to the site where he won a Heisman Trophy Saturday, full of swagger and firing a pair of one-finger salutes in the air. But Alabama's defense had the last laugh against his new BFF, Vanderbilt's brash Diego Pavia.

Texas' evolution continued — from preseason favorite to flop — as Florida recovered its mojo in The Swamp.

And in Aggieland, Texas A&M remained one of the nation's most-impressive unbeaten by manhandling upstart Mississippi State.

Six weeks into this SEC season, the only thing certain is that nothing is certain. While the Big Ten may boast two of the three best teams (Ohio State and Oregon), the SEC has become a minefield where anyone can beat anyone else on any given Saturday.

It's all going to come down to schedules. Let's take a look at who has the easiest to most difficult slates ahead. It may well determine the road to Atlanta.

Vanderbilt (5-1, 1-1): Schedule to date ranked 53rd by Sagarin. Remaining schedule ranked third by Power Ranking Gurus.

The last time Vanderbilt started the season 5-0, it finished 7-6. This year could be a repeat. The slate is nasty, but the Commodores get two of their three remaining ranked foes at home.

Missouri (5-0, 1-0): Schedule to date ranked 150th. Remaining schedule ranked sixth.

The Tigers step up in schedule intensity immediately, but they only have to take on two of four ranked opponents on the road (Vandy and OU). Saturday's early start with Alabama could be make-or-break for Mizzou.

Oklahoma (5-0, 1-0): Schedule to date ranked 87th. Remaining schedule ranked 10th.

What once looked insurmountable now looks merely daunting. The next two foes, Texas and South Carolina, are now unranked, but the Sooners close against No. 4 Ole Miss, at No. 12 Tennessee, at No. 8 Alabama, vs. No. 14 Missouri and vs. No. 11 LSU.

LSU (4-1, 1-1): Schedule to date ranked



The Missouri Tigers take a step up in competition for the rest of the season, starting with Saturday's game against Alabama. [JEFF ROBERSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

sixth. Remaining schedule ranked 11th.

Bad news for the Tigers: four ranked foes remain, including road trips to Vandy and Alabama with a home date against the Aggies sandwiched in between.

Alabama (4-1, 2-0): Schedule to date ranked fourth. Remaining schedule ranked 16th.

Fresh off back-to-back wins against ranked Georgia and Vandy, Alabama still has four ranked foes. But only Missouri is on the road. Tennessee, LSU and Oklahoma come to Tuscaloosa.

Texas A&M (5-0, 2-0): Schedule to date ranked 16th. Remaining scheduled ranked 25th.

Like Ole Miss, Aggies have two ranked foes remaining (No. 11 LSU and No. 14 Missouri, both on the road) plus rivalry game with Texas to close the regular season.

Tennessee (4-1, 1-1): Schedule to date

ranked 51st. Remaining schedule ranked 30th.

In most seasons, what remains would be a gauntlet. This year, it's merely difficult. Of three remaining ranked opponents, two (OU and Vandy) are at home. The key will be the Oct. 18 trip to Alabama.

Georgia (4-1, 2-1): Schedule to date ranked 23rd. Remaining schedule ranked 33rd.

Ole Miss is the only SEC ranked foe remaining. If the Bulldogs avoid an upset at Auburn or against Florida, they're headed back to Atlanta.

Ole Miss (5-0, 3-0): Schedule to date ranked 22nd. Remaining schedule ranked 55th.

Here's your favorite based on schedule. Back-to-back road dates against No. 10 Georgia and No. 6 Oklahoma are the biggest challenges. Biggest trap game is season-ending visit to Mississippi State.

Looking ahead

• **Alabama at Missouri (11 a.m. on ABC):** Saturday in Pasadena, Penn State fans wonder what happened to former backup Beau Pribula. Hint: he's thriving in Columbia.

• **Oklahoma vs. Texas (2:30 p.m. on ABC):** Despite its freefall from the top, the Longhorns are favored because OU QB John Mateer remains doubtful.

• **Florida at Texas A&M (6 p.m. on ESPN):** Billy Napier's team can turn the season around. However, Texas A&M should be locked in.

• **Georgia at Auburn (6:30 p.m. on ABC):** After a week off following an arduous road trip, Auburn's defense is primed and ready for this challenge at home.

Doug Segrest, who covered college football for 28 years for numerous newspapers in Alabama and Tennessee, is a freelance columnist.



Impressive Relaxers

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IMG® is the progressive choice in motion furniture with exceptional seating comfort, unrivaled quality and functional designs.



Free Delivery



COLD-CURE MOLDED FOAM

This spaceage material encases the interior steel frame and sinuous springs, allowing for body-friendly curvatures to be covered with glove-fitted upholstery. This guarantees absolute comfort and durability.



360 swivel on MANUAL
- 180 on MOTORIZED



Gliding / rocking function



Integrated footstool



Adjustable head and neck support



Effortless reclining



WARRANTY

Ten years on molded foam cushions and steel frames.

Five years on mechanisms.

Two years on motor battery-parts plus leather and fabric covers.

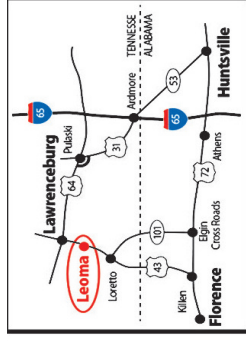
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Story & Lee
Since 1970
Furniture & Bedding

Store Hours:
Monday thru
Saturday
9 A.M. 'til 6 P.M.



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