

SEC Game of the Week

7:00 - Clemson at #15 Auburn - ESPN/ESPN3D

Brent Musberger, Kirk Herbstreit, Erin Andrews

ESPN's College Gameday comes to the Plains as Clemson rolls into town to take on Auburn in an old fashioned catfight.

The key will be the QB play of Auburn's Cameron Newton and Clemson's Kyle Parker. Parker was Auburn's nemesis in the spring as his first inning home run was the spark that carried the Tigers to a baseball championship regional victory last spring. We'll see if he can do the same on the football field on Saturday night.

Did you know Cam Newton is 6'6 and 250 pounds? Despite his bulk, he looked pretty good in a victory over Mississippi State and could be the spark the offense has needed. He also looks a lot like Haystacks Calhoun, but as long as he wins games, it's cool.

I have a feeling about this one, and as much as my SEC blood tells me to go with the home team, I smell a rat, and you know how much cats love to play with rats.

Clemson close over Auburn



12:00 - #13 Arkansas at Georgia - ESPN

Dave Pasch, Bob Griese, Chris Spielman, Heather Cox

As if the debacle in Columbia wasn't bad enough, we are now hearing specifics of the A.J. Green jersey selling incident. I hear that A.J. is such a great guy, he would give you the shirt off his back, but this a little much...

After what we saw in Columbia last week, the Dawgs are a mess on both sides of the ball. Without Green, how are they going to manage anything on offense? What's worse is Ryan Mallett is one of best QB's in the SEC.

Who am I picking in this one? Remember those great ESPN commercials with Robert Goulet singing the hits? With the home crowd yellin' "Whoa, pig sooeey."

(Yes, I know the game is in Athens, so work with here, will ya?)

Arkansas wins on the road at Georgia



12:20 - Vanderbilt at Mississippi - SEC Network/GamePlan

Dave Neal, Andre Ware, Cara Capuano

Two of the three worst teams in the SEC meet this week (Tennessee is the third, by the way) so maybe they can have Merle Haggard perform at halftime to make the afternoon a complete mess. (Love the George Dickel hat by the way)

The question in this one is will Ole Miss QB Jeremiah Masoli show up this week? The Rebs hopes rest on his shoulders, and if he cannot get the offense moving, it might be a long day in Ox-Town.

Another concern is if the defense plays like it did against Jacksonville State, the 'Doores might pull off a shocker here.

Speaking of shockers, it will be one if the Vandy offense can get some rhythm going.



Since they are averaging 12 points per game they are going to have to step it up if they plan on staying in any game this year, especially in the SEC.

Last week, LSU's offense would get the ball and they would hold on to it for about a week. The Vandy defense gave up 392 yards in the 27-3 loss.

Since I have to give a prediction, I will go on record and say that by the fourth quarter, both head coaches will have left the stadium and hitchhiked home. And since a game cannot end in a tie, I will predict a baseball score and say Ole Miss wins it 3-2.

Ole Miss shades Vandy

3:30 - #1 Alabama at Duke - ABC/GamePlan

Beth Mowins, Ray Bentley, Jenn Brown

I am not going to bore you with a prediction on this one because the winner and the way they will win are as obvious as Beano Cook's 27 chins.

So, instead of boring you with the details, let's educate you on an angle to this game you would have never thought about.

Did you know that both Alabama and Duke had the same coach who led them to prominence in the 20's and 30's?

The man's name was Wallace Wade, whom the Duke Stadium is named after. And if he would have stayed at Bama, he might have his name on that stadium too.

Wade was hired as the head coach at Alabama in 1923. His teams would win three national championships in the next seven years, and Rose Bowl championships in 1925, 1926, and 1930. His overall record was 61-13-3.

Wade stunned the faithful in Tuscaloosa by leaving after the 1930 season to go to a school that was lacking in football tradition and stature. All Wade did in Durham was go 110-36-7, two Rose Bowl appearances, and in 1938 his "Iron Dukes" were unscored upon throughout the season. In the 1939 Rose Bowl, the Blue Devils led USC 3-0 and had the game won, until a late TD pass from Doyle Nave to Bill Kruger spoiled the perfect season 7-3.

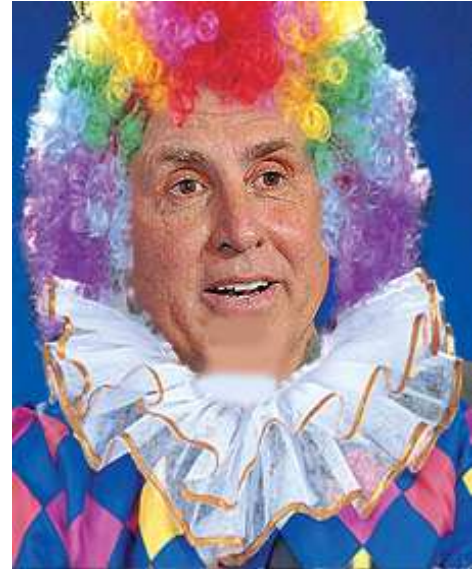


Alabama plays like #1 in dominate victory

3:30 - #7 Florida at Tennessee - CBS

Verne Lundquist, Gary Danielson, Tracy Wolfson

What is The Clown going to talk about now that Tim Tebow has graduated? We used to play a drinking game watching the 3:30 CBS telecast and every time Danielson would say Tebow's name, we would take a drink. Of course we were liquored up by the opening kickoff. And those were the games when Florida was NOT playing.



What has happened to Tennessee? Remember when this used to be the marquee matchup every September? Funny how quickly this game has turned into a laugher as the Gators have won five straight.

One thing going for the Vols, Brandon James is with the Indianapolis Colts now, so they should feel great about the kicking game. As a matter of fact, James had run so many kicks back for scores against UT, he even did it during one of the Vols mid-week practices last year...

The Gators are looking to make it six straight in this series, and are clearly the better team. The key will be getting the offense on track, as well as how they deal with Chris Rainey's legal troubles.

As for the Vols, look for the same script as in the Oregon game as they look good early. However, as the game goes on, the depth and playmakers on Florida's side, which Tennessee has neither, will turn this one into another easy victory. Too bad Coach Dooley's request to shorten the games to 30 minutes was denied by the SEC earlier this week.

Florida makes it six in a row over Tennessee

SEC quote of the week

"Gentlemen, it is better to have died as a small boy than to fumble this football."

John Heisman

Check back next week for a recap of each game, as well as a look at the players and coaches who made it happen!