

The Crimson White

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UA students show support for Ron Paul

Facebook group, sidewalk chalkings among methods of endorsement on campus

By DEIRDRA DRINKARD
Contributing Writer

For weeks, the sidewalks around campus have been decorated with chalked slogans encouraging students to "Google Ron Paul" and asking them "Who is Ron Paul?"

If you haven't searched for information, Paul is a Republican presidential candidate from Texas. His campaign has seen an upswing in support lately by pumping grassroots efforts through the Internet.

Matt Shelby, a third-year law student and president of the UA group supporting Ron Paul, said he supports Ron Paul because of his strong beliefs that have not changed.

"He believes in liberty and constitutional government," Shelby said. "Also, he is a consistent candidate that believes the same thing now as he did 30 years ago."

Shelby said Paul's campaign is a grassroots group of people supporting him and donating because they believe in the liberties Paul supports.

Taking the advice of the sidewalk chalk and Googling Paul shows the presidential hopeful has support on several Web sites, such as YouTube and Facebook.

And about 100 UA students have joined the Facebook group "Ron Paul for President 2008" to support his campaign.

Most of Paul's support and fundraising has come from the Internet, according to USA Today.

Shelby said he formed the group in the middle of June. "We were small at first with only 10 to 15 people, but as the fall semester began we have grown to over 100 people," Shelby said.

The purpose of the Facebook group is to target students and inform students about current events involving Paul, Shelby said. One post on the Facebook group encourages members to recruit 1,000 students to try to get Paul to come speak on campus.

On Nov. 14, the group set up a booth in the Ferguson Center to try to register students to vote and inform them about Paul's views. The group registered 30 people to vote and talked to several students about Paul.

Scott Morris, a senior majoring in global studies, said he supports Paul because he is a real candidate who supports real people.

"He is consistent and a man of principles, and that is something we have not seen in a president in our lifetimes," Morris said. "Ron Paul is to America as [Nick] Saban is to Alabama football."

Strong supporters often vocalize their opinions, but Tyler Deaton, a freshman majoring in management information systems, shows his support. Students who live on the north end of campus may recognize his truck.

Covered in Ron Paul bumper stickers and signs, Deaton said he uses the truck as a way to show his support for Paul.

"Ron Paul is the only candidate that is believable. He realizes and focuses on the root that causes our problems, not just waiting and trying to solve the problem after it occurs," Deaton said.

Deaton said he is involved with the group supporting Paul on campus because he wants to get Paul's name out.

"I support him because he has not gained the media support like other candidates, but once people learn about him they love him," Deaton said.



CW/ Whitney Walker

Campaign stickers and signs supporting Ron Paul, a Republican presidential candidate from Texas, can be seen around campus.

Vendors fear for futures

UA and city regulations could eliminate vendors

By WAYNE GRAYSON
Senior Staff Reporter
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Al Glenn said he was just raised right.

"I like Alabama football and I love Jesus," he said with a laugh.

But Glenn, a 46-year-old who prints T-shirts for a living, said he has had little to laugh about when it comes to his recent experiences as a vendor on game days this season.

"It's put a sour taste in my mouth the way that they treated us this year," he said.

The "they" in question is the University.

Glenn and other vendors line 10th Avenue the day of every home football game, forming a miniature marketplace outside Julia Tutwiler Hall.

"You know we think the fans like it," Glenn said. "First of all they don't have to pay an arm and a leg for everything. You know if they didn't like it they wouldn't be buying it."

Angie Summerlin, a decorating consultant, has sold jewelry from one of the vending tents for seven years. She said the fans love it, and it gives them something to do before the game.

"They'll come in and say, 'I forgot to put on my elephant earrings. I need to buy some more,'" she said. "We sell the Bama earrings and necklaces, and they want to make sure everybody knows they go for Bama so they've got to have on their elephant or their 'A' to symbolize that they are Bama fans."



CW/ Matt Abbey

Susan Revere, a freshman majoring in chemistry, sits on Paul W. Bryant Drive reserving a prime location to sell merchandise Saturday before and after the football game against the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Tenth Avenue is only the most recent location for the miniature marketplace and Glenn's moveable shop. In the 10 years he has been selling T-shirts on game days, his tent has sat on two other streets: Wallace Wade Avenue and Paul W. Bryant Drive.

Glenn and other vendors said the University has made other changes in addition to the location changes. The vendors trace these problems back to the University because vendors are prohibited by the University to set up on campus property.

If they wish to be near the

stadium, their only option is setting up in the city right of way along 10th Avenue and Bryant Drive.

"They really don't want us down there," Glenn said.

Gina Johnson, UA associate vice president for auxiliary services, said the University only has one retailer that is allowed to sell Alabama merchandise on campus — the University Supply Store. Johnson said it is a long-standing policy set in the 1950s.

Vincent Brown of the Tuscaloosa Revenue Department said merchandise

vendors are also required to purchase a \$250 license from the city to set up on city property.

However, the space afforded by the right of way is outnumbered by the amount of licenses sold, causing the patch of grass outside Tutwiler to become a valuable commodity among vendors, Brown said.

Some vendors show up as early as Wednesday, sitting in lawn chairs, their feet propped on coolers full of what is needed to survive camping until 10 a.m.

See **VENDOR**, Page 2

LSSA is sponsoring annual toy drive

483 toys still needed to reach donation goal

By MARTHA GRAVLEE
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The fifth annual Toys for Tots drive, sponsored by the Library Support Staff Association, kicked off Nov. 4.

Toys for Tots, which is a national drive, was begun by the United States Marine Corps in 1947.

This year's drive at the University, which will run until Dec. 14, has gotten off to a slow start said Karen Hoss, treasurer of the Library Support Staff Association.

"This year, so far, we haven't gotten a lot of toys," Hoss said. "We have 17 now, and our goal is 500 by the 14th of December."

Hoss said she is not concerned about meeting the goal because every year the goal is met and even surpassed.

"Last year, our goal was 500, but we ended up with 701 toys," she said.

Barry Sartain, vice president of the Library Support Staff Association, said he expects a sharp increase in

donations after Thanksgiving break.

"Historically, the time before Thanksgiving has been slow, but after Thanksgiving your mind clicks on Christmas, and you start thinking that you need to get things like this done before it's too late," he said.

"We're not worried. We're going to keep working and getting the word out," he said.

Though last year's drive surpassed the goal of 500, Sartain said he was content with keeping the same goal for this year.

"We don't want to set a goal that we will not reach," he said.

The toy drive is open to members of the Tuscaloosa community as well as UA students, he said.

Sartain said the organization has raised community participation of the drive by advertising in outlets such as The Tuscaloosa News and local radio stations.

"We had seen that interest was waning," he said. "For the most part, we were operating in a vacuum when we were only involving the UA community."

Kelsey Stein, a freshman majoring in journalism and

LSSA Toys for Tots drive

- Toy drive started on Nov. 4 and will end Dec. 14.
- The goal is to collect 500 toys.
- So far, only 17 toys have been donated.
- Last year, 701 toys were collected.
- For more information, contact Karen Hoss at 348-7023 or Barry Sartain at 348-2106.

Spanish, said she participated in Toys for Tots in high school and said she would be interested in donating this year but hasn't heard about the LSSA drive.

"It really hasn't been publicized much that I've seen," Stein said.

People can drop off toys at boxes in all UA libraries — Amelia Gayle Gorgas, Rodgers, Bruno, McClure and Hoole, Sartain said. The LSSA will also make an effort to pick up toys that can not be brought to a library.

"Just get in touch with us, and we will be happy to come pick up the items,"

Sartain said. Handmade toys can be donated to the drive, Hoss said.

"We had a lady do that last year. She had some gorgeous handmade things," she said.

Whether store bought or handmade, toys must be new, and there are safety restrictions, she said.

"Even though the Marines do this, we can't accept guns or knives — nothing that supports war," Hoss said.

For more information or to set up a pick-up time for a toy, Karen Hoss can be contacted at 348-7023 and Barry Sartain at 348-2106.

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IN CAMPUS brief

To submit a brief, e-mail news@cw.ua.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pet adoption event held on Sundays

T-Town PAWS and Maddie's Fund will be holding its weekly adoption event in its office from 12 to 3 p.m. every Sunday. The office is located at 2705 Hospital Drive in Northport, across from the emergency entrance to Northport Medical Center.

The "Adopt-a-thon" event will feature dogs and cats and also plenty of kittens. People interested in adoptions are welcome to come by the T-Town PAWS office at any time. However, it is highly recommended that they call first since the office has irregular hours.

Adoption fees are \$75, which covers the discounted costs of spaying or neutering, health tests and the first round of recommended immunizations. Those wishing to adopt must meet the basic standards of responsible pet ownership. All proceeds help T-Town PAWS and Maddie's Fund improve animal welfare in the Tuscaloosa area. For more information or directions, call the T-Town PAWS office at 339-7074.

2007 TAF Turkey Trot to be held Saturday

The TAF Turkey Trot, a 5-kilometer run and half-mile Fun Run/Walk/Roll presented by the Tuscaloosa Track Club and sponsored by The Athlete's Foot, will be held Saturday. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Jaycee Park in Tuscaloosa. The men's 5-kilometer will take place at 8:30 a.m., and the women's 5-kilometer will follow at 9:15 a.m. A half-mile Fun Run will begin at the completion of the women's race.

Race entry and track club memberships cost \$15 per individual or \$20 for families. The race entry is only \$10. Achilles Kids will receive \$5 from each entry fee. Call race director Laurie Arizumi at 348-0552 for more information.

CrimsonRide changing schedule for break

CrimsonRide and Transportation Services will make adjustments to the CrimsonRide schedule during Thanksgiving break. On Nov. 21 and 25, there will be on-demand transportation services offered by 348-RIDE from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. From Nov. 22 to 24, there will be no transportation services offered.

During this time, people can park in any zone or non-restricted parking spaces. Parking in handicapped spaces or on yellow curbs will not be allowed. Regular parking regulations will resume at 7 a.m. on Nov. 26.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Ron Paul is to America as [Nick] Saban is to Alabama football."
— Scott Morris, a senior majoring in global studies, about why he supports Ron Paul for president.

See "Students show support for Ron Paul," Page 1.

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IHP hosts panel, discussion about marriage customs

Panel, members say Western and Eastern marriage rituals are combining

By WAYNE GRAYSON
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Students in the International Honors Program class Culture and the Human Experience were audience to a discussion on the marriage customs of various cultures around the world Thursday.

The class focuses on teaching students about international cultures, the similarities and differences between them and the communication of cultures.

The class hosted a panel of nine people from a host of countries including Colombia, Bangladesh, Poland, Japan, Tunisia and Jordan. Fran Oneal, director of the IHP, said all but one person on the panel were friends she invited personally to speak.

Though the class itself boasts a diverse group of students, Oneal said she wanted a little more input on the subject. The panel fielded questions from Oneal and the students about the certain traditions that revolve around marriage in their cultures. To begin Oneal asked the panel the age at which most people get married in their home countries.

On the whole the panelists responded with an average marriage age between 25 and

30 years old, much like it is in the United States

Faiza Fardousy, a fourth-year graduate student in cell and molecular biology, was born in Bangladesh and later moved to the United States with her family. She said most people in the villages of Bangladesh marry relatively young, while in the cities it is between 25 and 30.

Oneal then asked about the marriage ceremony itself and how it compares to the traditional American wedding. Most of the panelists said it is common in their culture for weddings to last nearly a week in comparison to only one day as it typically is in America. However, as time has progressed, many cultures have adopted some of the characteristics of Western weddings.

Ranita Sharif, a second-year graduate student in psychology, was also born in Bangladesh but was raised in Tuscaloosa. She said weddings in Bangladesh are typically a week, but Bangladeshi weddings held in the United States are becoming shorter to coincide with the American lifestyle.

"With the short amount of time they have these days, you can't have a six-day wedding in the U.S.," Sharif said.

Paulina Pospieszna, an instructor in the department of political science, is from Poland and said weddings are centered around the Catholic traditions because it is the majority religion, but they are celebrated with big parties like the receptions in the United States.

"Polish weddings are

typically known for lots of food and vodka," she said.

The panel also discussed the importance of parental approval in choosing someone to marry.

Pospieszna said in Poland, parental approval is not as important as it is in other cultures, and Polish adults can marry whomever they like without fear of ostracism by the family.

Most of the panelists said in their cultures parents encourage their children to marry someone of the same nationality and religion.

"Most parents want things to be easy for their kids, and in their minds it's easier to be married to someone from their own country,"

Faiza said.

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VENDOR

Continued from Page 1

Friday morning, when they are allowed to pitch tents and set out merchandise.

Summerlin said she and her friend usually tape off an area and come back before 10 a.m. Friday so their spot isn't left open when the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation removes the tape.

Brown said tents, tables, chairs, merchandise or anything set up on the right of way before 10 a.m. Friday can and will be confiscated by the department.

The vendors said they think the University is putting pressure on city officials to remove vendors completely from game day as early as next season.

One man, who wished to remain anonymous, is in his second year of vending on game day with his wife. He said this year has been more stressful than last year due to the rush for spots every week.

He said he thinks all the rules and regulations they must follow mean someone has a problem with the vendors being there. He said it would be unfortunate for the University to remove vendors from game day.

"It's sad because all of the other visiting teams will come by and say 'Hey man this is great, our college doesn't allow this at games,'" he said.

Johnson said the rumors the University is looking to remove vendors is untrue.

"We've not made any statements like that at all to the city or the vendors themselves," Johnson said.

However, if they aren't removed, Brown said there will probably be even less space for vendors next year because of renovations on Bryant Drive and a possible expansion of the south end zone of Bryant-Denny Stadium.

After the season, Brown said they are planning to meet with the University to see how the renovation plans will affect vending space.

"The sooner we come up with a plan, the sooner we can notify the vendors as to what the plan is so they can make adjustments," Brown said. "We'd hate for them to spend \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the upcoming year and we don't have space for them."

But with all the stress, vendors still enjoy their game days here on campus.

"I enjoy people," said Terry Douthit, a manager at Off

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Midtown Village to hold Autumn Fest

PR students coordinate opening event for Midtown

By ALISON LEWIS
Staff Reporter
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The UA Capstone Agency, a student-run public relations group, is coordinating Midtown Village's inaugural Autumn Fest, which will be held Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

"It's a way to introduce the community to Midtown Village," said Ali Dennard, the events coordinator for the Midtown team. "It's not exactly student oriented, but it'll be something fun to do while shopping."

Dennard said it will be a family-oriented event, with face-painting, a pumpkin pie eating contest, a clown,



CW/ Matt Abbey

Midtown Village is holding its inaugural Autumn Fest Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The event is being coordinated by UA Capstone Agency, a student-run public relations group.

a moonwalk, Thanksgiving-themed arts and crafts and live music by Refuge. The event is free, and all UA

students and faculty are invited to attend.

The event will also feature a pet adoption sponsored by Maddie's Adoption Center and Friends for Homeless Animals.

"Hopefully it will become an annual event," Dennard said. "We'll see how it goes."

Several major retailers have recently opened for business in Midtown, such as Barnes & Noble and Starbucks.

Rhesha Smith, community relations manager at Barnes & Noble, said Sunday will be a standard working day, but she hopes Autumn Fest will bring more customers to the store.

"I don't know much about the event, but I think it's a great idea," Smith said. "Barnes & Noble really appreciates the business that will come from the event, and we'll also be donating items."

Felicia Jones, assistant manager of Lane Bryant, said

she thinks Autumn Fest is a great idea and will be good for business. She said moving from University Mall to Midtown Village has greatly improved business for the store, and their location is now number one in the region.

"It'll be great because a lot of people don't know what's over here," she said. "It'll draw a good crowd, and maybe some of the game traffic leaving town will stop by."

She said she attributes the success of Lane Bryant and Midtown Village overall to its "old-town feel."

"Midtown has more of a family-oriented feel to it and families walking around with strollers, especially with the weather being so pretty lately," Smith said.

Jones said customers like being able to drive and park directly in front of the store instead of having to walk through a mall.

The residential area, Midtown Village Condominiums, also filled up quickly. In the three buildings, there are only 18 units left for sale, according to the Midtown Village Condominiums Web site.

SGA Senate passes two resolutions

No students take advantage of open floor

By MARTHA GRAVLEE
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The SGA Senate met Thursday night with no old business to discuss and a full slate of new resolutions.

The meeting was the fourth open floor meeting this year, which gave students the opportunity to voice concerns and problems. However, no students attended.

The Senate approved the allocations to student organizations made by the Financial Affairs Committee.

The first resolution approved by the Senate addressed

crosswalk safety concerns. The resolution stated that the crosswalk signals and traffic lights are not synchronized, which presents a hazard to pedestrians. The resolution was sent to the Health and Safety Committee.

The second resolution the Senate passed recognized the 125th Anniversary of the Knights of Columbus, a service organization for Catholic men.

The third resolution erased Chapter 601 from the SGA Code of Laws. Chapter 601 stated that the Freshman Forum was required to send a representative to the Senate. But senators said no representative has attended a Senate meeting this semester.

The resolution noted that the First Year Council, an SGA legis-

lative body composed of freshmen, and open forum meetings are avenues freshmen can use to voice concerns, eradicating the need for a Freshman Forum representative.

The resolution was sent to a committee for approval.

The fourth resolution asked for the creation of a new chapter of the SGA Code of Laws limiting how long senators are allowed to speak to

prevent filibusters. It was sent to a committee.

The fifth resolution was an appropriations bill for the funding of the Landlords, Leases, and Legalities forum, an informational meeting for students about moving off-campus.

The resolution passed immediately.

The next SGA Senate meeting will be a formal meeting on Nov. 29.



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Our View

Slow down next week

Hey you — yes, you in the car with the University of Alabama sticker, you in the SUV, talking on the phone, you running the stop sign at Campus and Stadium, you tearing down University with the music blaring, you who thinks you're the only one on the street with somewhere to go.

You might want to pay attention to the following message.

Starting Nov. 19, the Alabama Department of Public Safety, along with Tennessee and Mississippi, will implement a tri-state "Take Back Our Highways" program. This is the second time the program has been used on Alabama highways. This implementation is due in part to the high level of travel and the number of traffic accidents during the Thanksgiving holiday.

The first Alabama "Take Back Our Highways" program, enacted for a week in August, reduced traffic deaths 69 percent during that time period, and police officers gave 340 percent more citations.

All available state troopers will be placed on highway patrol for the program during Thanksgiving week. The program will end Nov. 25.

The editorial board of The Crimson White believes implementing this program during the upcoming holiday break is a good idea. Getting home safely for the holidays, and actually any time, is something everyone deserves.

However, drivers shouldn't need the threat of a ticket to prevent them from driving recklessly. Being respectful of your own life and car, and of others, would help slow many drivers down.

When you're driving home for Thanksgiving, drive more slowly — not only because state troopers will be waiting around every corner, but because you're mature enough to value driving safely over getting home quickly.

We're not invincible, though oftentimes we wish we were. You never know what or who is waiting around that next bend in the road.

It's not just a drive home. Don't get comfortable — being alert could mean the difference between getting home in one piece or at all.

Especially since it's the holidays, everyone needs to arrive home safely. If you won't slow down for your own life, think about the family whose holiday celebration would be marred by the death of a family member or friend.

If you'd like to get home for Thanksgiving, assume others would too and have a mutual respect for other drivers. What if it was your family mourning? Since the program has been proven to reduce highway fatalities, why not attempt to follow it? Don't complain about the addition of 30 minutes or so to your trip home.

Making it there an hour later is better than never making it home.

Our View is the consensus of the CW editorial board.

Letter to the Editor

Is printed nonsense good or bad?

The Crimson White sees fit to publish Marlin Caddell's nonsense, but maybe there's enough respect for decency and reason in the editorial staff that this letter can get printed, too.

Caddell's hateful, willfully ignorant, exclusionary religion has no place in enlightened discourse. Nothing he has said is worthy of intellectual respect.

His view of Christianity is one that allows him to think highly of himself while thinking that others are less than he is. His view of religion has nothing to do with decency or tolerance.

Talk of Jesus is the camouflage in which he disguises his hateful view of others who are not as prudish and condescending as he.

As a reasonable person,

I'm not sure how to feel about Caddell's views being published in The CW.

Part of me doesn't like seeing religious nonsense in the paper, especially when the real agenda of that religious nonsense is to make the lives of others worse. But part of me likes seeing nonsense like Caddell's in the paper, because the hateful caricature he presents to the world will drive people of good sense away from his stupid, hateful religion.

Anyway, once again, CW readers, even though the opinions page frequently features hate, be assured that there are people of good sense and decency in Tuscaloosa.

Don't be ashamed of yourself just because religious, conservative prigs want you to be.

*J. Zachary Dover
Graduate teaching assistant,
modern language and classics*

Holiday conjures memories

Fall is my favorite time of year — the weather getting cooler, the clothing getting warmer, peoples' morale improving as the holiday season approaches.

The fall months, with the addition of January because of my birthday, are my most anticipated months. All year I look forward to the holiday break and spending time with family.

The massive commercialization of these holidays, however, detracts from the very thing that makes them so special. For years, I, like most other American school-aged children, thought Pilgrims and Indians were the best of friends. And, though I don't remember a single bunny in the Bible, it seems many families have bunny-centric celebrations on Easter.

Still, with retail stores and card companies demanding we start to fill our holiday agendas as early as October, I, admittedly, love having extra time to enjoy my favorite series of months.

It all starts with Halloween, which signals the beginning of the eating season as well as the holiday season. All that leftover candy doesn't just disappear by itself, you know.

A response to the decreasing temperatures, I think eating more during winter is a throwback to our caveman days when cold weather usually brought food shortages.

We can always trace it back to genetics, can't we?



The Last Minute

Callie Corley
corley@cw.ua.edu

The eating season shifts into high gear around Thanksgiving, when the sweet aroma of good food fills kitchens just as families fill homes with harmonious laughter and fellowship. An endless string of edible presents from Thanksgiving to Christmas only kindles the smorgasbord's growth.

For Thanksgiving, my dad's side of the family gathers in Troy at my aunt and uncle's house, which isn't such an easy task considering how big a family we are.

My grandparents had three children, who all married and had seven children total. Four of my first cousins have gotten married, which resulted in seven great-grandchildren. That's 21 people — my grandfather died four years ago — under one roof.

My nuclear family has a nice set of rituals on Thanksgiving morning, too. My mom and I watch the Macy's

Thanksgiving Day parade together, while we wait for my brother and dad to return from a yearly Thanksgiving morning breakfast. Then, it's a 45-minute trip over the river and through the woods.

Hopefully, we'll take one car. Driving with just the four of us reminds me of going on long family vacations, fighting and yelling with my brother in the backseat. We'd get so obnoxious. I can hear my irritated dad: "Neither of you can speak for five minutes."

Now we mostly laugh with each other on that trip to Troy. I love those moments.

And, after what I'm sure will be the biggest meal I've eaten since coming to school in August, I will drift slowly into a beautiful, comforting nap. There are few things a big meal and a nap can't cure.

As enjoyable as Thanksgiving has been for the last 19 years, I think this year will prove even more memorable.

My cousins are divided relatively evenly between Auburn and Alabama graduates. Saturday's Iron Bowl game should provide good conversation fodder.

And by virtue of being a current student at the Capstone, all my male family members ask me about football at every family gathering. Since I've paid attention and learned something this season, what I say won't be regurgitated factoids meant solely to make me sound like I know what I'm

talking about.

Between the eating on Thursday and the game on Saturday, however, falls my favorite Friday on the calendar — Black Friday, the greatest and most hectic shopping day of the year.

In a budget, figures in black represent a profit. Figures in red represent a deficit. Therefore, Black Friday refers to the massive amounts of money stores will make.

Generally, I'm not the "I love to shop" kind of girl. When buying presents is involved, however, it's a race to the finish. I could Christmas shop all day long. The fact that I've gotten half of my shopping done already only proves the point.

And I'm a bargain shopper extraordinaire, so Black Friday is especially wonderful. Now that I'm old enough to shop on my own, I love meeting my parents for lunch and showing them everything I bought.

This Thanksgiving should be no different. With list in hand, plus an entire week's worth of coupons spilling out of my wallet and pockets, I'll set out to fight my way through the crowds. The anticipation of deals waiting-to-be-found is almost unbearable.

Almost.

Callie Corley is the opinions editor of The Crimson White. Her column runs on Fridays.



CW/ Troy Wagner

Lessons from the job of a lifetime

Ever so gently, the rain droplets gathering on my forehead woke me from a hammock slumber one August morning in the beach village of Esterillos, Costa Rica.

The only thing more mesmerizing than the fleeting rain clouds above was the sound of the Pacific Ocean waves some 20 yards off.

Memories of the night before rolled past me in the form of beer cans.

I knew I was the first member of our newspaper staff beach trip to rise, as the others had enough sense in them to pass out in the cabana. I stepped barefoot across the porch and onto the sand, passing under palm trees and out to the beach. Sea foam leapt from the giant waves, fluttering in the breeze, no more than salt in the wind by the time its smell reached me.

I dug my toes into the wet black sand, looking up and down the shore, deep in thought without objective.

This was typical of the living I made for myself in three months as an intern for The Tico Times, an English-language newspaper based out of the capital San José in the central valley.

When I wasn't at a press conference for the Nobel Prize-winning President Oscar Arias, holing up in pricey resorts for free to write a review or telling the story of eccentric foreigners in the tiny Central

Fault This Way



Mike Faulk
faulk@cw.ua.edu

American country, I was taking things slowly.

Back at school in Tuscaloosa, my problem was that I thought too much, always occupied with the next day's work. I knew it would be just like the day before, full of thankless effort in the name of achieving some intangible level of integrity or prominence.

The American Dream, I guess, though I don't remember learning about this cubicle and copy machine business. I'd spent college up to this point knowing there was something better, but how to grasp it or whether I could keep it were far from my knowledge.

Interesting lives were for different people, who was I but another number in the fast-paced capitalist crunch of the modern world?

I felt the crunch just months before I was offered the experience of a lifetime. I remember raiding my apartment closet for the least wrinkled shirt the morning of my interview with

The Birmingham News, the most influential paper in the state.

I swept through a local coffee shop before stressing over last-minute résumé corrections and what clips I'd put in my portfolio, becoming more tense with every closing minute.

I was convinced this internship, which I knew would include long hours, condescension from my superiors and an endless string of ironed shirts, would be monumental for my career.

The aged man in thick glasses who interviewed me had a blazer as dull as his personality. He was like a dusty old book you forget about on the top shelf. Somehow it cemented my idea that this was the life I would have to face.

Dusty never called back, but soon enough I was regularly e-mailing The Tico Times, which I applied to on a whim. I had a good interview, but something told me I'd never get it. At least they thought of me, I said.

But I got the job, as you know, and all of the excitement, wonder and euphoria that followed after felt buried beneath the waves in front of me. I knew this was the last of many beach trips, packed into a rickety blue Suzuki SUV with a surfboard on top that would slide left and right as we flew around sharp turns on the shoulders of mountain roads.

I had no anxiety about going to work the next day, where as

usual I would show up at 10 a.m., make calls, check my e-mail until lunch time, get call backs in the afternoon, take a 3 p.m. cerveza break at a corner bar in bustling downtown and turn my story in by 6 p.m.

The walls of the office bathroom were decorated with inside jokes and deranged letters to the editor. It had two doors because it was stuck between the reporter offices, and the not-so-office humor would whip up once anyone failed to cover their ... scent.

It was a lighthearted newsroom, full of diverse people who loved living just as much as they loved journalism. Thank God Birmingham never called.

Suddenly I saw our world, at home and abroad, as yet to be taken, defined or restricted by the mundane process we lock ourselves into. I didn't learn how to do my job "by the book" that summer, but I was reminded that my profession wasn't the only task at hand.

We have living to do, people to meet and rough morning tides to sink into.

That summer will linger. It has given me the confidence I need for any job. And when I close my eyes to remember, I can only hope that I may forever be that calm young man on the beach, always at peace with the rough sea ahead of him.

Mike Faulk, a senior majoring in journalism, is the editor of The Crimson White.

INbrief

from staff reports ...

Chi Omega to hold pancake breakfast

Chi Omega Sorority will hold its annual "X Just Wish For It! Pancake Breakfast" to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Chi Omega house. The Make-A-Wish Foundation is the national charity of Chi Omega. Tickets for the event will be \$5 per person for all-you-can eat pancakes. Sausage and bacon will also be served. Take-out boxes will be available at the Chi Omega house during the event. Donations are welcome.

Bama Dining, Pepsi announce winners

Ben Wilson and Samantha Young are the winners of the Pepsi "Suite Life" sweepstakes. Wilson has won two Suite Passes to the Alabama-Louisiana Monroe football game, and Young has won a mountain bike from Buffalo Rock, Pepsi and Bama Dining. More promotions and giveaways will take place in on-campus dining locations.

Community Service Center to host pancake breakfast Saturday

The Community Service Center is hosting "Pancakes for Parkinson's" in the Ferguson Plaza from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday. The fundraiser is being held to help raise money and awareness for Parkinson's disease.

Regular, blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes will be served with water, apple juice or Gatorade for \$3.

For more information contact Meagan Carroll in the Community Service Center at 348-2865 or e-mail her at mecarroll2@bama.ua.edu.

That Tuscaloosa sound

Blaine Duncan and the Lookers make noise in Tuscaloosa music scene

By CALEB JOHNSON
Entertainment Reporter

Mike Oswald remembers the first time he saw Blaine Duncan. Oswald, a Northport native, had just moved back from Austin, Texas, and was looking to get back into the Tuscaloosa music scene. He was at Mellow Mushroom upstairs bar for singer/songwriter night on a Tuesday in 2006 when Blaine Duncan entered the room.

"I noticed when Blaine walked in the door. Actually, I think he was wearing that same jacket and sunglasses, and it was at night, if I remember right," Oswald said.

Duncan stepped onto the stage with his acoustic guitar, slipped off his shoes and began to play a song now referred to as "Untitled." It is a song about the Tuscaloosa music scene that name checks every band from The Dexateens to Ham Bagby and the Siege. After those three minutes, Oswald was sold on Blaine Duncan.

"It seemed like everybody knew him when he walked in. He just had this kind of energy about him," Oswald said. "Just on the merits of that song I was like, 'Man I've got to be in a band with this guy.'"

What Oswald did not know is that Duncan was also an admirer of his work on drums for



(Clockwise from left) Blaine Duncan, Ryan Akers, David Phillips and Mike Oswald make up Blaine Duncan and the Lookers, a local band.

Contributed by Blaine Duncan and the Lookers

the band The Ne'er Do Wells. In fact, Duncan was so much of an admirer that he thought Oswald was joking when he asked if Duncan wanted to start a band.

"I thought I'd be an acoustic player my whole life," Duncan said. "But I always said if I started a band I wanted that drummer from The Ne'er Do Wells."

With a drummer on board, Duncan set out to find a bassist

and lead guitarist.

One night at Egan's Bar, Duncan was watching a set by Baak Gwai with Ryan Akers, whom he knew from singer/songwriter night at Mellow Mushroom. During the set, Duncan decided to ask Akers if he could play bass.

"I said, 'Could you play this?' and he said, 'Yeah, I could probably play this,' so I said, 'Do you want to be in my band?'" Duncan said.

The answer was yes. Shortly after, Duncan posted fliers around town searching for a lead guitarist. Duncan was looking for someone diverse but with a specific style.

The first person to call Duncan was David Phillips. The two talked about tone, guitars, setups and music for almost an hour despite Duncan not being "a phone person."

A connection was made that night over the phone. There was only one more thing to settle between Duncan and Phillips.

"I said to him, 'Hey, I like to cuss and I like to drink. Is that going to be a problem?' He said no, and he's been with us ever

since," Duncan said.

The band was complete.

Settling on a name

Most newly formed bands have problems booking gigs or writing enough songs to fill their set. Duncan, Oswald, Akers and Phillips had a different problem. Their first gig was booked and they had plenty of songs to play, but they still had not settled on a name for the band.

They sat around and came up with countless names only to see each one fall flat. Oswald recalled some particularly bad names the band thought of like Baker 19 and Blaine Duncan and the Virgin Destroyers. It was a night at Egan's that once again provided a little help.

Oswald and local musician Ham Bagby were talking one night at the bar about names for Oswald's band. Bagby, who Oswald said has a great sense of humor, suggested the name Blaine Duncan and the Lookers.

After a text from Oswald to Duncan, the name became official.

Blaine Duncan and the Lookers had officially joined the group of Tuscaloosa bands that Duncan originally sang about on that Tuesday night at Mellow Mushroom.

Blaine Duncan and the Lookers played their first show at Little Willie's in February 2007. They were the third band on a bill that included Tuscaloosa bands Here's Your Shampoo and The Ne'er Do Wells. Despite being the opening act, the band was overwhelmed by the support.

"We don't have fans. We have friends," Duncan said. "They seem to like it because the same friends keep coming back."

"Either that or they're just really great friends."

Since February, Blaine Duncan and the Lookers have played shows all around Tuscaloosa. The band seems to have found a home at Egan's though. Duncan, Oswald and Akers said Egan's is their favorite spot to play or hear music in town.

"I just feel at home there," Duncan said.

See **DUNCAN**, Page 6



Contributed by Blaine Duncan and the Lookers

Three members of Blaine Duncan and the Lookers hang out at the 90.7 WVUA-FM The Capstone radio station.

IN the community

Today	16 Saturday	17 Sunday	18 Monday	19 Tuesday	20 Wednesday	21 Thursday	22
"Superbad," 7 p.m., Ferguson Theater	Pancake breakfasts  Chi Omega house, 8 to 11 a.m. Pancakes for Parkinson's, 8 a.m. to noon. Ferguson Plaza	"Superbad," noon, Ferguson Theater Women's basketball, 2 p.m., Coleman Coliseum Happy birthday, Owen Wilson. 	Men's basketball, 6 p.m., Coleman Coliseum Alabama Jazz Standards, 7:30 p.m., Moody Concert Hall Ethan Gardner, The Legacy	Alabama Women's Chorale and University Chorus, 7:30 p.m., Moody Concert Hall Happy birthday, Josh Turner and Dierks Bentley.	Check out "The Mist" in theaters today. See page 10 of the Oct. 13 issue of The Scene for an interview with the director and cast of the movie.	 Happy Thanksgiving.	

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Solo Boutique, Seasonings, Alabama Heritage, Touche', Shepard Andrews, Everyday Indulgence

WVUA Autumnber benefit concert tonight

Mellow Mushroom to host four bands

BY COREY CRAFT
Entertainment Editor
craft@cw.ua.edu

The Capstone radio station will host the Autumnberfest benefit at Mellow Mushroom at 9 p.m. The event will feature Baak Gwai, The Ackleys, Skullduggery, The Necronomikids and DJ KrautDawg before, after and in between sets.

There is a \$5 charge, and patrons must be 19 and older to enter and 21 and older to drink. All proceeds will benefit 90.7 The Capstone.

Station director Tim Neunzig said the benefits are becoming more important to



myspace.com/baakgwai

Baak Gwai will be playing tonight at Mellow Mushroom as part of 90.7 WVUA-FM The Capstone's Autumnber Benefit Concert.

keep the station functional. "We're doing two a

If you go

What: WVUA-FM Autumnber benefit

Who: Baak Gwai, The Ackleys, The Necronomikids, Skullduggery and DJ KrautDawg

Where: Mellow Mushroom upstairs bar

When: 9 p.m.

Cost: \$5

semester," he said. "It's a whole station effort. Everyone puts in. It's getting to a point where

we have a lot fun with it."

Neunzig said the Auburn University radio station, WEGL, has a much better facility.

"They got a \$50,000 endowment. We got \$12,000," he said.

To remain competitive, he stressed the necessity of these benefits to bring attention and support to the station. The goal is to raise \$20,000 by May, he said.

"This benefit is one way we can come out to the community, draw support and introduce people to bands they might not have heard of," he said.

The benefit will also serve as the official reopening of the upstairs bar of Mellow Mushroom, which has been undergoing renovations that

should be finished just in time for tonight's concert.

"They've installed thousands of dollars worth of lights and sound systems," Neunzig said.

The bands range from local standards to newer acts that some students may not have heard yet.

Baak Gwai has long been a Tuscaloosa favorite, Neunzig said, but The Ackleys, a band from Birmingham, may not be as familiar.

"They have quite the following up there," he said. "This is their first gig in Tuscaloosa, ever."

The Necronomikids, Neunzig said, is a punk band featuring local favorite Jon Ezell.

"The Necronomikids play a very fast set — it's 20 minutes,

but it's fun," he said.

Skullduggery, comprised of members of the Mallet Assembly, will also be on hand to play an energetic set, he said.

Ultimately, the functionality of WVUA is dependent on student assistance and support, Neunzig said.

"Come out and support college radio," Neunzig said. "We need your help. We're poor."

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1:25, 2:25, 4:05, 5:05,
6:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30

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12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50

P2
12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:45

American Gangster
12:20, 1:20, 3:35, 4:40, 6:55, 7:55, 10:15

Bee Movie
1:00, 2:10, 3:10, 4:25
5:25, 6:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20

Dan in Real Life
2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:40

Saw IV
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:35, 10:05

30 Days of Night
2:05, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married?
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

The Game Plan
2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00

Advanced tickets available at
www.cobbtheatres.com

DUNCAN

Continued from Page 5

Focusing on the song

Blaine Duncan and the Lookers don't practice. You won't find them holed up in someone's basement or garage five nights a week perfecting songs.

They just don't seem to have the time.

Duncan is a student teacher at a local school. Akers is a full-time student. Oswald has a full-time job and is married. Phillips attends law school in Birmingham.

Phillips could not be at the interview for this story due to a prior engagement in Birmingham. Duncan said the band's long-distance relationship with Phillips has not been a problem, though. Phillips comes to town early the day of a show and learns any new songs Duncan may have written, he said.

"He's the kind of guy that doesn't need to practice at all," Duncan said. "He is our sound."

With virtually no practice, Blaine Duncan and the Lookers just get onstage and play their songs. There are no tricks or illusions with this band.

"We may be one of the few bands in Tuscaloosa that focuses on the song," Duncan said.

Duncan's talent for songwriting is what attracted Akers to join the band.

"He's a Tuscaloosa poet," Akers said. "He talks about stuff that people can't put into words, but Blaine somehow does it."

After Duncan has worked out most of the song, he brings it to the rest of the band. From there, Oswald,

Akers and Phillips fill in and transform a three-chord acoustic song into a full-out rock song.

The one-month itch

A lot can be learned about each member of the band during a two-hour conversation with them.

For example, Duncanhe said isn't fond of speeding tickets.

"It's like throwing money up a hog's ass," he said.

Oswald used to be in two bands called Dirty Old Men and Porcelain John.

"The songs were awful, but the names were great," he said.

Akers said he thinks like Tuscaloosa doesn't do enough to support original music.

"You have to love music to be here and write original songs and go out and play them," he said.

The most important thing to know about them is that if they are not playing shows, they are not happy.

"We get this itch if we haven't played in about a month and start calling each other," Duncan said.

Though they are addicted to the stage, the band still gets a little nervous before each show. Oswald compared pre-show jitters to being nervous about a first date.

Duncan took the analogy one step further.

"You're thinking, 'Will she put out or will she just give me a kiss and a hug?'" Duncan said. "And most of our shows, she puts out."

There is not a better way to describe this Tuscaloosa band's full-out assault of Southern rock and pop. The band's loud guitars, sparse drums and soulful bass definitely "put out."

While Blaine Duncan and

the Lookers does not have a show scheduled, next month will still be busy for the band.

They plan to record their first full-length album during Christmas break and schedule some shows for the upcoming year.

Duncan said the album will be recorded in Tuscaloosa using his money. The band has about 17 or 18 songs to choose from.

The songs that will appear on the album have not been

determined, but Duncan said he knows he wants this album to be different than the band's past work.

"I think some people might be disappointed, but I don't care," he said. "It's what I want to do."

If that sounds like Duncan might be tiring of Tuscaloosa, think again.

"The Tuscaloosa music scene is like a family, and I feel like the youngest of the siblings," Duncan said.

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ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE Athletics Home Schedule Nov. 12 - Nov. 18

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	 Dedrea Magee		 John Parker Wilson		Football vs. Louisiana Monroe 1:30	Women's Basketball vs. Arkansas St. 2:00

HENDRIX

Continued from Page 8

advantage of open 3-point shots when Hendrix attracted double and triple teams from the Bears.
The Crimson Tide shot 44 percent from deep, led by Justin

Tubbs' 3-of-6 performance. Mykal Riley also knocked down two key 3-point baskets, while Alonzo Gee nailed both of his long-range attempts.
Alabama will continue its run through talented non-conference opponents Monday when Belmont comes into Coleman Coliseum for

a 6 p.m. tip-off. Belmont has been to two consecutive NCAA Tournaments, including a first-round loss to Georgetown last season.
Tide controlling boards
With Hendrix pulling down 37 rebounds in the first

two games, it's no surprise that the Tide is winning the rebound battle. Alabama is out-rebounding its opponents nearly 2-to-1.
In the first two games, the Tide pulled down 111 boards, compared to 67 by its opponents.
Tide players posted three

double-digit rebounding performances against Troy. Hendrix's 23 was complemented by Gee's 12 and Demetrius Jemison's 10 boards.
Jemison had nine boards against Mercer before leaving with an ankle injury. Gee had seven to go with Hendrix's 14.

Trio manning the point
After starting at point guard in the opener, Rico Pickett did not play against Mercer. Instead, sophomore Mikhail Torrance got the start with Brandon Hollinger playing as the backup.

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40 Trading centers
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56 Alpine song
57 On the waves
58 ERA or RBI
59 Squaid
60 Jung or Sagan
61 Beach hues
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2 Grippe
3 Fuzzy collections
4 Rises sharply
5 Dress part
6 Go-between
7 Actress Gertrude
8 Craving
9 Not disconcerted
10 Like lava
11 Dennis the Menace, for one
12 Actor Jannings
13 Spotted infrequently
21 Remainder
22 Quotes as an authority
24 Yet
26 Opera songs
27 Darling
28 Formerly, formerly
29 Calendar units
30 Molt
31 Soccer great
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INbrief

from staff reports ...

Volleyball to close out SEC slate on the road

The Alabama volleyball team hits the road for its final conference matches of the season taking on No. 7 Florida Friday at 7 p.m. before heading to South Carolina to take on the Gamecocks Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

The Crimson Tide's match with South Carolina is featured as the SEC Match of the Week and will air on FSN South.

"This weekend is going to be really fun, and I am so excited to see how our team closes out the regular season," said Alabama head coach Judy Green. "It is the best time for our team to be playing its best volleyball of the season."

Alabama, 12-6 in the SEC and 15-12 overall, is currently tied for second place in the western division with Ole Miss. The Tide also sits in second place in digs behind Tennessee with 18.46 per game.

The Tide heads into the match with Florida on a two-match losing streak after falling to Ole Miss and LSU last weekend. Florida comes into the match on a seven-match winning streak after beating Tennessee and Kentucky.

■ MEN'S BASKETBALL

Hendrix anchoring 2-0 Tide

By DAN SELLERS
Sports Editor
sellers@cw.ua.edu

The Alabama men's basketball team is off to a 2-0 start, and Preseason Wooden Award candidate Richard Hendrix is a big reason why.

The junior from Athens started the season with a 22-point, 23-rebound performance against Troy on Nov. 9 at home and followed it up with a 28-point, 14-rebound game at Mercer Tuesday.

For his efforts against Troy, Hendrix was named the SEC

Player of the Week.

Hendrix has shot 77 percent from the field (20-of-26) on the short season but has struggled from the free throw line, only making 50 percent of his foul shots.

He also recorded five blocked shots in the first two

games.

Hendrix's presence on the blocks has been the primary offensive weapon, averaging 25 points per game, but his stellar play has opened up shots on the perimeter.

After shooting only 20 percent from beyond the arc against Troy, Alabama took



Richard Hendrix takes the ball down the court in the game against Troy on Nov. 19. He posted double-doubles in both of Alabama's victories. CW/Emily Rowe

Visit www.cw.ua.edu for a women's cross country update.

See HENDRIX, Page 7

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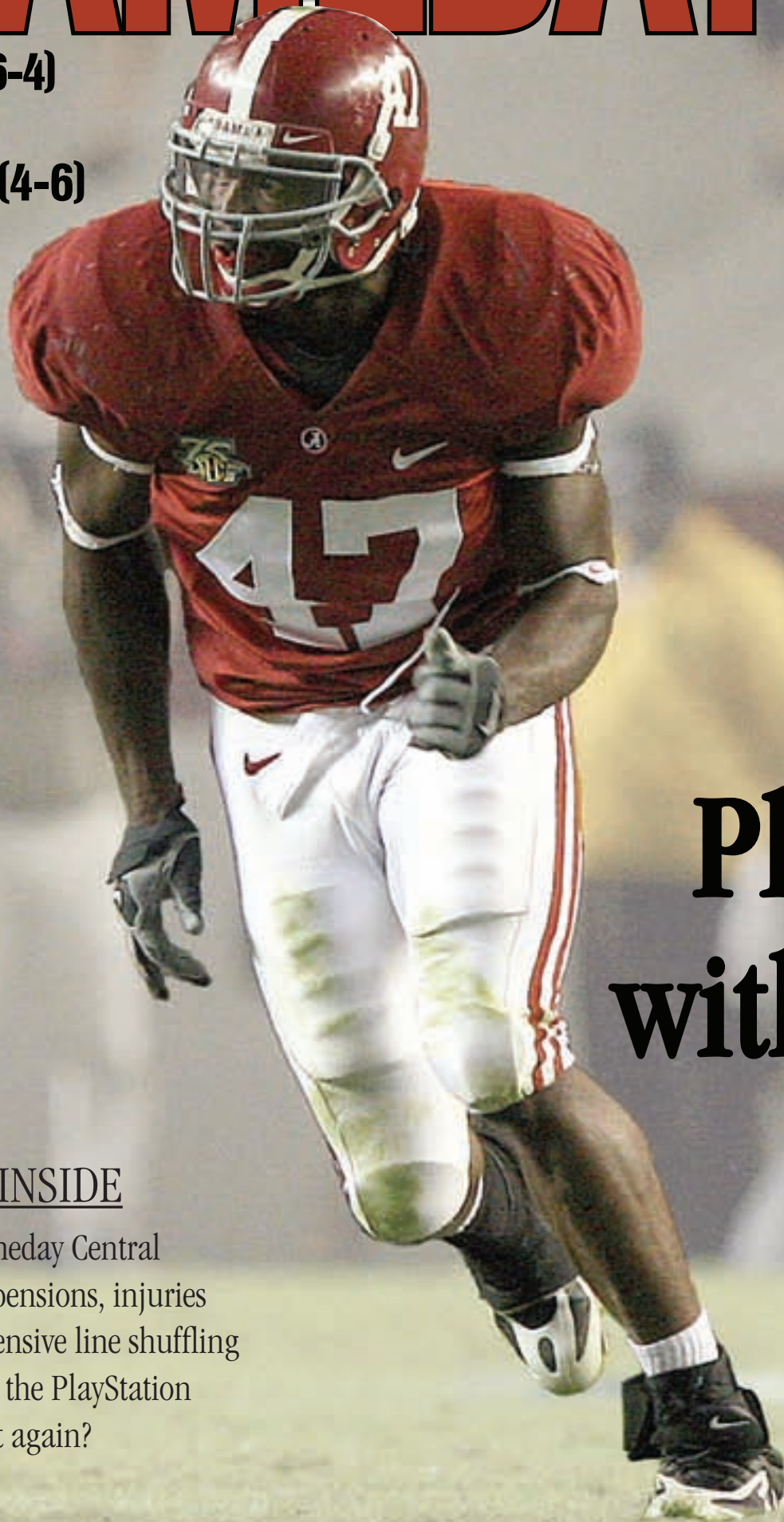
**Bryant Museum
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The Crimson White

GAMEDAY'07

ALABAMA (6-4)
VS.
UL-MONROE (4-6)

11.16.07
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
TV: NONE



**Playing
with heart**

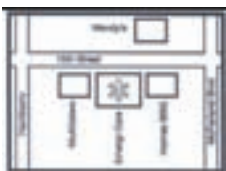
INSIDE

- Gameday Central
- Suspensions, injuries have offensive line shuffling
- Will the PlayStation predict it again?



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ON THE INSIDE



Gameday Central

All the things you need to know about Saturday's game but are too lazy to look up.

Pages 2-3



Poster

Return wizard Javier Arenas taking one to the house.

Pages 8-9



PS3 Play

Will the PlayStation simulation play out again Saturday?

Page 4



The O-line shuffle

Suspensions and injuries have the offensive line shuffling.

Page 11



Playing with heart

Linebacker Ezekial Knight battled heart problems and is now a playmaker for the Tide.

Pages 5-6



Around the SEC

A preview of the three biggest SEC games on the state this weekend.

Page 12

Game information

Alabama Crimson Tide (6-4)

VS.

UL-Monroe Warhawks (4-6)

Bryant-Denny Stadium (92,138)

Tuscaloosa

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

TV: None

RADIO: 1420 AM (Eli Gold, play-by-play; Ken Stabler, color analyst; Barry Krauss, sideline reporter.)

The Crimson White Gameday staff

- Mike Faulk - editor
- Jessie Patterson - managing editor
- Megan Honeycutt - asst. managing editor
- Matt McLeod - design editor
- Dan Sellers - sports editor
- Ryan Wright - assistant sports editor
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- Khalid Al-Qahtani - territory manager
- Jonathon White - territory manager

Stat
of the
Week

9

Alabama kicker Leigh Tiffin has made nine consecutive field goals dating back to the Tennessee game. His last three kicks at Tennessee, two against LSU and four at Mississippi State, including a career-long 51-yarder, have all been successful.

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GAMEDAY

Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks (4-6)

2007 statistical leaders

Passing	Com	Att	INT	Yards	TD
K. Lancaster	149	251	10	1,606	12

Rushing	Car.	Yards	TD	Avg/G
C. Dawson	221	1,257	11	125.7
F. Goodin	100	496	3	49.6
K. Lancaster	92	348	0	34.8
T. Revell	12	58	0	11.6

Receiving	Rec.	Yards	TD	Avg/G
D. McNeal	48	457	4	45.7
L. Sapp	31	457	3	45.7
Z. Zacharie	28	351	6	35.1
C. Dawson	26	245	0	24.5
A. Stringfellow	11	97	1	9.7

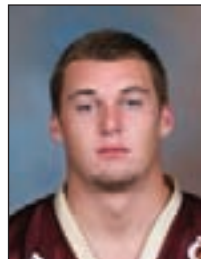
Defense	Tack.	TFL	Sacks	INT
G. James	70	1.0	0	4
C. Jackson	66	4.5	0.5	0
J. Truxillo	56	2.5	1.0	2
J. Thomas	50	4.5	0	0
D. Battles	41	1.0	0	0



Calvin Dawson



Greg James



Scott Love

OFFENSE

Alabama has had its share of run-ins with top non-conference backs, and Saturday will be no different. Running back Calvin Dawson ranks 10th in the country with 125.7 yards per game.

Dawson has done it against the big boys, too. He has surpassed the century mark on the ground against Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Clemson and Texas A&M, as well as numerous Sun Belt foes. Dawson rushed for 118 yards against Alabama last season in a 41-7 loss.

DEFENSE

Warhawk safety Greg James leads the team with four interceptions and 70 tackles. He has also broken up five passes.

Cornerback Quintez Secka joins James in the defensive backfield with three interceptions, nine pass breakups and 41 tackles. Darrius Battles has yet to come away with an interception, but the Mobile native has broken up 10 passes. Linebacker Cardia Jackson is second on the team with 66 tackles.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Louisiana-Monroe punter Scott Love is averaging 43 yards per punt and has killed 17 punts inside the 20-yard line. Love has also boomed a 66-yard punt this season.

Kicker Cole Wilson has been reliable inside of 30 yards, making 6-of-7 from inside that distance, but he has been shaky when his range has been tested.

He is only 3-of-6 from outside of 30 yards with his long being a 41-yard field goal.

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CENTRAL

Alabama Crimson Tide (6-4)

OFFENSE

Just three weeks removed from looking like an explosive offense, the Crimson Tide has fallen back into its midseason slump. The lack of a running game and an inefficient passing game appears eerily similar to the way the Tide performed against Georgia and Florida State.

The good news, if you are an Alabama fan, is that the Tide snapped out of its midseason slump with three consecutive wins.

DEFENSE

Alabama's defense played arguably its best game of the season against Mississippi State, to no avail. The unit allowed one touchdown on a short field and failed to come up with a third-down stop to give the ball back to the offense. Aside from that, they played a solid game.

Wallace Gilberry has eight sacks this season, a career-high, and Rashad Johnson has an SEC-leading six interceptions.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Kicker Leigh Tiffin is one of the hottest kickers in the country. The sophomore has made his last nine field goals, and 11 of his last 12. It's not like those kicks have been chipshots either.

Tiffin has connected from 51, 50, 44, 42, 39 and 36 during the streak, bringing his season total to 21 made field goals. Javier Arenas continues to impress as a returner, posting a 30-plus yard kick return in his only opportunity against Mississippi State.



DJ Hall



Rashad Johnson



Leigh Tiffin

2007 statistical leaders

Passing	Com	Att	INT	Yards	TD
J.P. Wilson	203	373	8	2,231	14

Rushing	Car.	Yards	TD	Avg/G
T. Grant	159	795	7	79.5
G. Coffee	90	413	4	59.0
R. Upchurch	30	162	1	18.0
J.P. Wilson	67	71	4	7.1

Receiving	Rec.	Yards	TD	Avg/G
DJ Hall	57	886	6	88.6
M. Caddell	33	365	1	36.5
M. McCoy	25	182	1	18.2
T. Grant	24	152	1	15.2
N. Walker	17	139	2	13.9

Defense	Tack.	TFL	Sacks	INT
R. Johnson	69	5.0	1.0	6
W. Gilberry	59	18.0	8.0	0
R. McClain	54	4.5	1.0	0
K. Jackson	51	4.0	0	3
D. Mustin	51	4.0	0	1

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■ PS3 SAYS

John Parker Wilson, Terry Grant and DJ Hall accounted for two touchdowns each as the Alabama Crimson Tide rolled over the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks 34-15 in the PlayStation 3 simulation.

Grant rushed for 90 yards and two scores on 24 carries, while Wilson threw for 222 yards and two scores on 18-of-29 passing. Hall caught six of those passes for 70 yards and both touchdowns.

Alabama burst out with a 17-0 lead in the second quarter. Grant got the Tide on the board with a 7-yard run. Leigh Tiffin added a 26-yard field goal and Hall caught a 16-yard touchdown pass from Wilson.

After a Warhawk touchdown cut the lead to 10, Alabama responded with 14 straight points to stretch the lead to 24.

Hall answered the Warhawk score with a 14-yard touchdown catch, and Grant iced the game with a 2-yard scoring run early in the fourth quarter.

Louisiana-Monroe added a score late, but Alabama managed to run out the clock without giving the ball back to the Warhawks.

On Alabama's last drive, Tiffin booted home his second field goal of the game, a 44-yard field goal to cap the scoring.

With the win, Alabama improves to 7-4 on the PlayStation 3 simulated season.



Alabama's DJ Hall breaks away from a Louisiana-Monroe defender in the Tide's 34-15 Playstation 3 win against the Warhawks. Hall caught six passes for 70 yards with two touchdowns in the simulation.

CW screenshot/ T.G. Paschal

■ MEMORY LANE: SEPT. 16, 2006

Tide runs all over Warhawks in 2006

By GREG OSTENDORF
Sports Reporter

The Alabama football team has struggled running the ball all year, but they will look to turn that around Saturday when they take on Louisiana-Monroe.

Last year, the Crimson Tide rushed for 219 yards en route to a 41-7 win against the Warhawks. Kenneth Darby led the way with 79 yards on the ground, and Roy Upchurch added 37 yards and two touchdowns of his own.

Alabama scored first when quarterback John Parker Wilson hit Le'Ron McLain on a 17-yard touchdown pass midway through the opening quarter to make it 7-0.

After a Leigh Tiffin field goal early in the second quarter, Louisiana-Monroe marched down the field on an 11-play, 83-yard drive capped off by a two-yard touchdown run from Kinsmon Lancaster.

The Tide answered when Tim Castille plunged into the end zone from three yards out to

give Alabama a 17-7 lead at the half. With the game still close, the Alabama offense finally came to life late in the third quarter.

Wilson connected with DJ Hall on a 43-yard touchdown strike for his second touchdown pass and gave Alabama a 27-7 lead with less than a minute left in the quarter. Wilson finished the game with 210 yards passing and two touchdowns.

In the fourth, the Tide pounded the ball on the ground, and Upchurch scored his first career touchdown on a 1-yard run with nine minutes left in the game.

Upchurch added his second touchdown of the game, again from a yard out, with five minutes left in the game to make it 41-7.

The defense allowed only 196 yards and forced a pair of turnovers. The unit was led by linebacker Terrance Jones who had seven tackles and safety Jeffrey Dukes who had four tackles and the team's only interception in the game.

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Playing with heart

Ezekial Knight overcame a heart condition and became a critical part of the Tide defense

By CAROLINE GWALTNEY
Senior Sports Reporter

Many Alabama fans remember the football hangover that haunted the UA campus and Bama nation after the 2006 double overtime loss to Arkansas. Disappointment and frustration were evident among the players and lingered for days.

Specifically, Crimson Tide players can remember that horrendous feeling and hanging their heads that next day, replaying the 24-23 loss again and again in their minds.

But for Ezekial Knight, the pass-catcher turned pass-rushing specialist, the Sunday following the Arkansas game proved to be different.

Sure, he was disappointed, but he just didn't feel right.

"You know how when you stand up too fast and you get dizzy," he said, "that's how I felt, only worse, and my words started slurring."

After a phone call to teammate Darren Mustin, who drove him to the hospital, and hours of tests later, Knight was diagnosed with a heart murmur — an extra, unusual sound in the heartbeat — which would sideline him for the rest of the 2006 season.

"The doctors said I had a hole in my heart, and I had to have surgery," he said.

After months of recovery, Knight knew one thing for certain — he was getting back on the football field. He wasn't going to ask the tough "what if" questions, he just wanted to play.

Through it all, he said, leaving football was never an option, and he would do everything he could to play football again.

The Wedowee native said he was motivated by his family members to stay positive. His mother, Amy Knight, did everything from monitoring his eating habits to encouraging him through the recovery.

"I was really upset and worried when I heard," Amy said. "But I knew he had to keep his head up."

There's certainly no one like your mother when you go through an ordeal like Knight did, and Amy Knight remained by her son's side. Of course, she said she was worried he would never play football again, but she didn't let him know it. She said she never let go of her faith and kept her son calm.

Now, fast forward to the year 2007 — a year that has indeed proved differently for Knight, who has been one of the Tide's crucial defensive components.

The outside linebacker, who had just four games of defensive experience going into the season, has blossomed under head coach Nick Saban, helping to fill a serious need for athleticism at the position.



CW/ T.G. Paschal

Ezekial Knight leaps and comes down with an interception during Alabama's 41-34 loss to LSU on Nov. 3. It was Knight's second interception of the season, and it led to an Alabama field goal.

See **KNIGHT**, Page 6

KNIGHT

Continued from Page 5

"I think the biggest thing is that Zeke hasn't played linebacker, a standup position before in his career," Saban said. "But he is a guy that has a lot of ability."

Knight has tallied 48 tackles on the year and is second in total sacks and tackles for a loss behind defensive end Wallace Gilberry.

Many Tide fans may remember this year's Ole Miss game—a game full of emotional swings and big plays from both teams, especially Knight's critical interception.

Alabama had stopped two Ole Miss possessions in the final quarter before Knight's interception. Knight, who had formerly been criticized as having suspect hands, was just happy his mitts were secure when it mattered most.

After the game, Mustin was elated to see his teammate come up with a big play.

"I'm so proud of Zeke, because everybody talks about how he can't catch," Mustin said the following week. "But Zeke is one of the best athletes on the team."

During his freshman and sophomore seasons, Knight saw action in every game as a wide receiver. While he was able to post impressive stats as a receiver, he was often criticized for not having the best hands.

And since he played on both sides of the ball in high school and was even recruited by others schools as a linebacker, he made the switch to defense before he was diagnosed with his heart murmur.

He learned in late July that he

had been awarded a medical red-shirt for the 2006 season and will have one more year of eligibility in 2008.

Knight now embraces the defensive role and loves the challenges of attacking the ball.

"I think I'm getting better at stopping the run, [but] I love pass-rushing," Knight said.

During the Arkansas game this year as the Tide offense was driving for the winning score in its 41-38 victory over Arkansas, Knight couldn't help thinking about his former offensive role.

"When I came in, DJ [Hall], Keith [Brown], Will [Oakley] and I, we were all close," Knight said. "I was really pulling for them. I knew they were going to score. It was good to see DJ, Will and Matt Caddell all make big plays."

Amy Knight, who rarely misses a game, said she enjoys watching her son play on both sides of the ball, but her favorite is watching him tackle opponents in the linebacker position.

To her, it's always been about what her son has wanted. She said she always wanted him to play for Alabama, but she never told him that.

"Zeke grew up an Auburn fan, but deep down, I was an Alabama fan," she said.

As her son's biggest fan, she said she hopes her son's love for football takes him far. After his surgery, she said she knew he would be struggling with the possibility of never being able to play football again—that's when she knew she had to be there for him.

"I want to see him go pro, for him though, not for me," she said. "That's his dream, and I'm just so



CW/ T.G. Paschal

Ezekial Knight celebrates with teammates after coming up with an interception against LSU on Nov. 3.

glad he's back on the field."

For now, Knight said he plans to keep getting better and stronger defensively and feels like switching positions has now become a part of his second nature.

"I'm a defensive guy now, com-

pletely," Knight said, adding with a laugh that it "would be awful to have to lose all that weight. I'm about 235 or 240 right now, and I don't think I could play receiver carrying all that [weight] around."

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Alabama's Javier Arenas knifes through the LSU defense on his way to a 61-yard punt return for a touchdown. The score gave Alabama a 34-27 lead in the fourth quarter.

CW/ T.G. Paschal

■ **A LOOK BACK: MISSISSIPPI STATE**



CW/ T.G. Paschal

ABOVE LEFT: Mississippi State running back Anthony Dixon leaps over the line as Alabama's Wallace Gilberry and Darren Mustin converge for the tackle. Gilberry recorded his eighth sack of the season in the game. **LEFT:** Alabama's Jonathan Lowe carries the ball during Alabama's loss to the Bulldogs. Lowe, who transferred to Alabama from Mississippi State, provided an offensive spark in the second half, but Alabama couldn't muster enough to get into the end zone. **ABOVE:** Mississippi State's Derek Pegues celebrates after intercepting a John Parker Wilson pass in the third quarter. Pegues' interception led to a Bulldog touchdown and what would be the game-clinching touchdown.

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Suspensions, injuries cause shuffle in line

By RYAN WRIGHT
Assistant Sports Editor
■ wright@cw.ua.edu

Nick Saban has pulled guards, tackles and even centers this season, but it has nothing to do with his playbook.

Injuries, suspensions and a few personal matters have forced Alabama to start eight different offensive linemen this year, and several of them have swapped positions from week to week.

The starting lineup for the season-opener against Western Carolina placed Andre Smith and Mike Johnson at left and right tackles, Justin Britt and Marlon Davis at left and right guards and Antoine Caldwell at center.

Two-and-a-half months later against Mississippi State, only Smith and Britt remained in place. Evan Cardwell started at center, Chris Capps made a long-awaited restart at right tackle and Johnson shifted to right guard.

"You gotta be ready," Capps said.

By no means a one-step process, the line shuffle occurred several times throughout the season to complete the transformation.

The initial starting lineup remained in tact through Florida State, the fifth game on the schedule. The five games since, meanwhile, have seen only one duplicate starting lineup.

After a death in the family, right guard Marlon Davis missed several days of practice prior to the Houston game. Coaches doctored the lineup so that Cardwell made his first start at center and Caldwell bumped a spot over into Davis' vacant guard role.

The following week, Davis returned, but family matters troubled another lineman, this time Britt. Caldwell shifted again, this time to left guard, as Cardwell resumed his duties at



Alabama's Evan Cardwell drops back to block LSU's Marlon Favorite during the Tide's 41-34 loss to the Tigers on Nov. 3. Cardwell is one of eight different offensive linemen to start for Alabama because of injuries and suspensions.

CW/ T.G. Paschal

center.

Just before the line looked to revert to its former self, five Alabama players were suspended for a violation of institutional policy regarding textbooks. The two linemen among them, Caldwell and Davis, have since been suspended beginning with the Tennessee game.

Cardwell has since been a mainstay at center, and B.J. Stabler filled in at right guard

while continuing to battle an aggravated knee injury.

This lineup faced Tennessee and LSU, but Stabler couldn't start against Mississippi State because of his recurring injury. Capps stepped in to piece together the most recent starting line.

See **SHUFFLE**, Page 13

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Around the SEC

Kentucky at Georgia

11:30 a.m. • Athens, Ga.
Sanford Stadium (92,746)

TV: LFS (Dave Neal, play-by-play; Dave Archer, analyst; Dave Baker, sidelines)

Record: Georgia, 47-11-2 • Last: Kentucky, 24-20 (2006 at Lexington)

Last season, Kentucky celebrated a 24-20 victory over the Bulldogs in Lexington, including tearing down one of its goal posts. It was their first win over Georgia since 1996.

Georgia leads the series with UK 47-11-2 including a 24-3-2 edge in Athens. In fact, the Bulldogs have won 14 straight over the Wildcats in Sanford Stadium.

Kentucky's last win in Athens came in 1977. In its 2005 visit to the Classic City, Kentucky fell 45-13 to Georgia as the Bulldogs clinched the SEC Eastern Division title.

What to look for when Kentucky has the ball

Quarterback André Woodson leads the SEC in passing yards per game, averaging 265.3 yards per game. He has thrown for at least 200 yards and one touchdown in 16 straight games.

He ranks second in the SEC and 17th nationally in passing efficiency (147.0). Dicky Lyons Jr. ranks second on the team in receiving yards with 45 catches for 523 yards and six touchdowns.

Marcus Howard now leads the team with 5.5 sacks for 48 yards. He had one sack through the first six games and 14 tackles, but in his last four games he has tallied 4.5 sacks and 20 tackles.

What to look for when Georgia has the ball

Redshirt freshman Knowshon Moreno (1,104 yards) is only the 10th player in Georgia history to have 1,000 yards rushing in one season and the first since Musa Smith in 2002.

He is the first back to rush for 100 yards in four straight games since Verron Haynes in 2001.

Moreno ranks No. 2 nationally for freshmen in rushing yards per game (110.4). Matthew Stafford is 14-4 as a starter.

Linebacker Wesley Woodyard leads the SEC in tackles, averaging 10.1 per game. Woodyard has recorded at least four tackles in 34 consecutive games, every game since the start of the 2005 season.

Miss. State at Arkansas

1 p.m. • Little Rock, Ark.
War Memorial Stadium (53,727)

TV: None

Record: Arkansas, 11-5-1 • Last: Arkansas, 28-14 (2006 at Starkville)

Mississippi State is 0-6-1 all-time in the state of Arkansas, having lost three times to Arkansas in Fayetteville and three times to the Razorbacks in Little Rock.

The Bulldogs' 1993 team tied Arkansas 13-13 in the Natural State's capital city. MSU has now beaten two teams ranked in the nation's top 25 when it played them (in back-to-back weeks), and won three road games in the same season overall, for the first time since 2000.

What to look for when Miss. State has the ball

Anthony Dixon has now rushed 404 times in his career for 1,582 yards and 22 touchdowns. He needs 13 carries to reach the school's all-time top 10 in that category.

His rushing total against Alabama (26 carries, 84 yards, one touchdown) moved his career yardage to 16th on the school's all-time list. His 22 rushing touchdowns have moved him into a fifth place tie on the school's all-time list. True freshman quarterback Wesley Carroll threw his first interception of the season last week against Alabama.

Michael Grant is tied for fifth in the NCAA with 1.5 passes defended per game. The mark also leads the SEC. Jerrell Norton is making a name for himself as well. He has five interceptions and 10 pass breakups this season.

What to look for when Arkansas has the ball

Darren McFadden ranks fourth nationally in rushing with 143.1 yards per game. That mark also leads the conference.

He is averaging 175.5 all-purpose yards per game, which ranks 13th nationally and tops in the SEC. He enters the Mississippi State game needing 113 yards to pass Auburn's Bo Jackson for third place on the SEC career rushing list and 367 yards to eclipse LSU's Kevin Faulk for second place.

Titus Brown, who has recorded at least one tackle for loss in nine of the season's first 10 games, is sixth in the league with 1.2 tackles for loss per game. His 0.8 sack-per-game average is third best in the SEC.

His 18.5 sacks are good for seventh place all-time at MSU in that category. Derek Pegues registered his third pass interception this season, the eighth of his career in the Bulldogs' win over Alabama.

LSU at Ole Miss

2:30 p.m. • Oxford, Miss.
Hollingsworth Field / Vaught-Hemingway Stadium (60,580)

TV: CBS (Verne Lundquist, play-by-play; Gary Danielson, analyst; Tracy Wolfson, sideline)

Record: LSU, 54-37-4 • Last: LSU, 23-20 OT (2006 at Baton Rouge)

The Tigers have won five straight overall and three in a row at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium. LSU holds a 7-4-1 edge in Oxford and prevailed 40-7 in 2005.

Ole Miss' last victory in the series was a 35-24 triumph in Baton Rouge in 2001 and the last win at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium was a 37-31 overtime finish in 1998. Four of the last five games in the Ole Miss-LSU series have been decided by three points or less, including the Tigers' 23-20 overtime win a year ago

What to look for when LSU has the ball

Senior running back Jacob Hester leads the way for the offense with 706 yards and eight touchdowns. Senior quarterback Matt Flynn has completed 144-of-260 passes for 1,856 yards with 14 touchdowns and 10 interceptions.

Sophomore wide receiver Brandon LaFell boasts 39 receptions for 535 yards and two scores, while senior Early Doucet and junior Demetrius Byrd have each hauled in four touchdown passes.

Junior linebacker Tony Fein has put on tackling display of late, totaling 37 stops over the last three games. Fein followed up his 13-tackle performance against Arkansas with a career-high 16 at Auburn.

What to look for when Ole Miss has the ball

At 967 rushing yards on the year, senior running back BenJarvus Green-Ellis is now 33 yards short of 1,000 yards. If he reaches that mark, he would become only the second player in school history to reach the 1,000-yard single-season mark twice in his career.

Sophomore wide receiver Shay Hodge tallied a career-high 88 receiving yards on four catches against the Demons with his fourth touchdown of the year, a 10-yarder from Brent Schaeffer.

Senior strong safety Craig Seltz tops the squad with 68 total tackles and four interceptions, and sophomore linebacker Ali Highsmith has collected 60 stops with six quarterback hurries.

SHUFFLE

Continued from Page 11

Capps said every player, starters and non-starters, have to prepare the same way.

The linemen have to be ready when their numbers are called, which has been fairly often this season.

"You just prepare," Capps said. "You can't just say, 'Oh I'm not a starter.' What happens when a guy goes down and the whole team is counting on you to step up? Everybody's looking at you. 'Oh I didn't practice this week that hard; I wasn't paying attention in meetings because I didn't think I was going to be playing.'"

"You don't want to let anybody down."

When the line's depth chart began to thin, Smith said coach Joe Pendry told the players about a playoff game during his days as an assistant coach for the Buffalo Bills.

"His starting left tackle went down," Smith said. "His second-string left tackle went down. So a third-string tight end played the fourth quarter. So he always tells us, 'Know all positions, because you don't know when you're going to play, at what point in time when an offensive linemen will go down.' We always think about that."

For that reason, Smith said, every player learns every spot.

Through it all Smith and Johnson are the only two linemen to start in every game this year, and Smith is the only one to start all 10 games at the same position.



CW/ T.G. Paschal

Chris Capps drops back to block last week against MSU.

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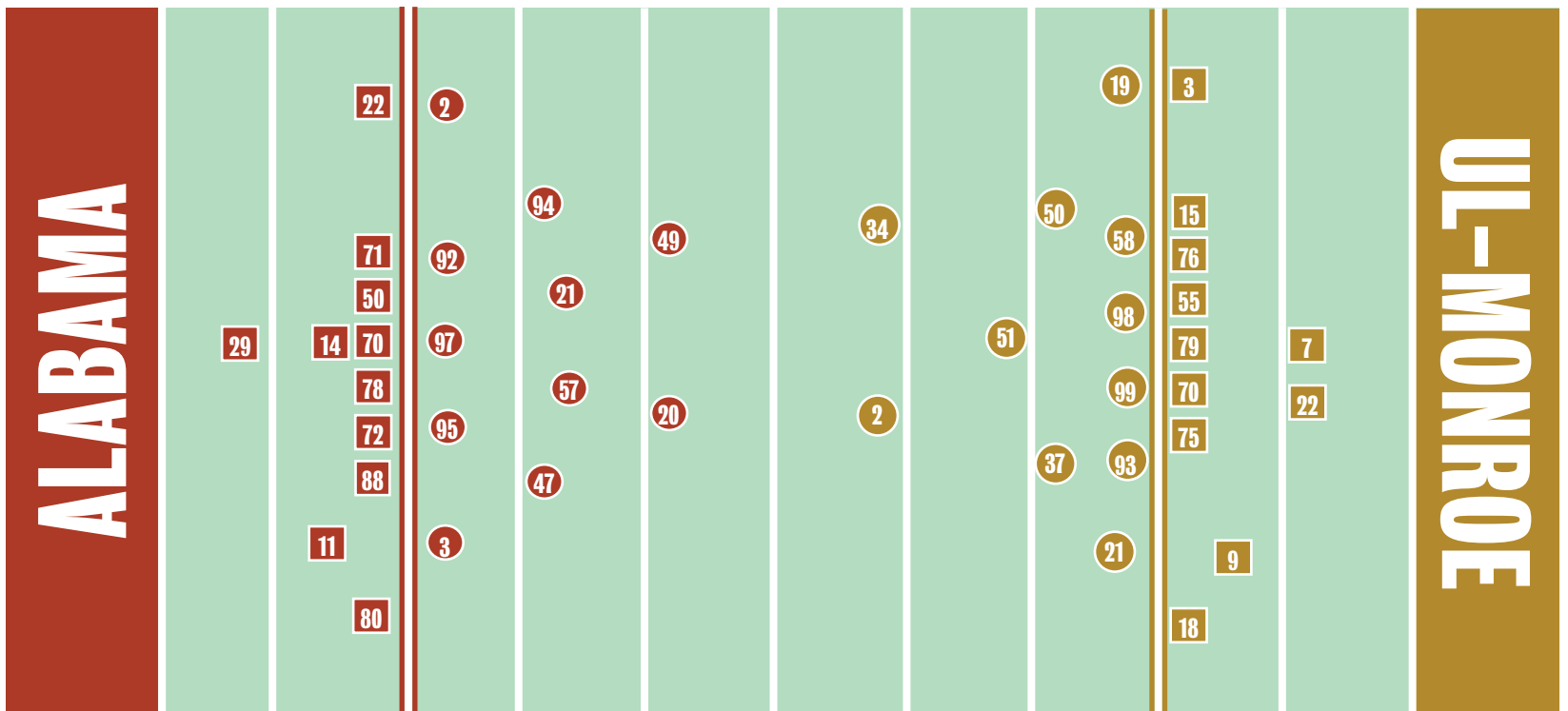
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LT	71	Andre Smith (So.)
LG	50	Justin Britt (Sr.)
C	70	Evan Cardwell (So.)
RG	78	Michael Johnson (So.)
RT	72	Chris Capps (Sr.)
TE	88	Nick Walker (Jr.)
QB	14	John Parker Wilson (Jr.)
RB	29	Terry Grant (Fr.)
WR	11	Matt Caddell (Sr.)
WR	22	DJ Hall (Sr.)
WR	80	Mike McCoy (So.)

DEFENSIVE STARTERS

DE	92	Wallace Gilberry (Sr.)
DT	97	Lorenzo Washington (So.)
DE	95	Brandon Deaderick (So.)
JACK	94	Keith Saunders (Sr.)
WILL	57	Darren Mustin (Sr.)
MIKE	21	Prince Hall (So.)
SAM	47	Ezekial Knight (Jr.)
CB	2	Simeon Castille (Sr.)
FS	49	Rashad Johnson (Jr.)
SS	20	Marcus Carter (Sr.)
CB	3	Kareem Jackson (Fr.)

OFFENSIVE STARTERS

LT	75	Kyle Cunningham (Sr.)
LG	70	Aaron Schutz (Jr.)
C	79	Adam Hill (Sr.)
RG	55	Patrick Avinger (Sr.)
RT	76	Larry Shappley (Jr.)
TE	15	Zeek Zacharie (Jr.)
QB	7	Kinsmon Lancaster (Jr.)
RB	22	Calvin Dawson (Sr.)
WR	3	Darrell McNeal (So.)
WR	9	Aaron Stringfellow (So.)
WR	18	LaGregory Sapp (Jr.)

DEFENSIVE STARTERS

DE	58	Alaric Coleman (So.)
DT	98	Kendall Mouton (Sr.)
DT	99	David Cooper (Sr.)
DE	93	Aaron Morgan (So.)
LB	50	Josh Thomas (So.)
LB	51	Cardia Jackson (So.)
LB	37	Jered Berry (Fr.)
CB	21	Quintez Secka (Sr.)
SS	2	Greg James (So.)
FS	34	James Truxillo (So.)
CB	19	Darrius Battles (Sr.)

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Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks 2007 statistical rankings

Category	Number	NCAA Rank	Sun Belt Rank
Passing offense	186.00	97	6
Rushing offense	219.10	15	2
Total offense	405.10	49	3
Scoring offense	24.40	80	6
Passing defense	264.40	99	7
Rushing defense	149.90	60	1
Total defense	414.30	82	5
Scoring defense	30.70	86	4

Alabama Crimson Tide 2007 statistical rankings

Category	Number	NCAA Rank	SEC Rank
Passing offense	230.40	56	6
Rushing offense	153.30	62	8
Total offense	383.70	67	6
Scoring offense	29.80	48	7
Passing defense	223.63	62	9
Rushing defense	227.70	32	4
Total defense	353.00	41	8
Scoring defense	22.40	34	5

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CW Picks (week 12)							
UL-Monroe @ ALABAMA							
Ohio State @ Michigan							
Kentucky @ Georgia							
Boston College @ Clemson							
Miss. State @ Arkansas							
Maryland @ Florida State							
West Virginia @ Cincinnati							
Duke @ Notre Dame							
Season record	33-15	35-13	29-19	33-15	31-17	36-12	34-14

Games around the nation

No. 1 LSU at. Ole Miss, 2:30 p.m.
 No. 2 Oregon at Arizona, (Thursday, 8 p.m.)
 No. 3 Kansas vs. Iowa State, 2:30 p.m.
 No. 4 Oklahoma at Texas Tech, 8 p.m.
 No. 5 Missouri at Kansas State, 11:30 a.m.
 No. 6 West Virginia at No. 22 Cincinnati, 6:45 p.m.
 No. 7 Ohio State at No. 21 Michigan, 11 a.m.

No. 9 Georgia vs. No. 23 Kentucky, 11:30 a.m.
 No. 10 Virginia Tech vs. Miami, 2:30 p.m.
 No. 12 Florida vs. Fla. Atlantic, 11 a.m.
 No. 15 Clemson vs. No. 17 Boston College, 6:45 p.m.
 No. 16 Hawaii at Nevada, 10 p.m.
 No. 18 Boise State vs. Idaho, 1 p.m.
 No. 19 Illinois vs. Northwestern, 11 a.m.

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