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University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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Agencies collaborate to clean Saluda River

Wastewater plants, pollutants bring river to tipping point

Sera Kelly

Derek Legette

WASHINGTON, D.C. - American Rivers, Upstate Forever and DHEC are collaborating to decide the future of the Saluda River. According to a press release, the Saluda River is still leaking from phosphorous pollution caused by wastewater treatment plants, but it has captured the attention of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Collaboration between legislators, state agencies, wastewater treatment plant owners and operators and the community at large has resulted in meaningful phosphorous limit standards being implemented for the Saluda wastewater and all future wastewater permitting issued by DHEC.

Research Director, president of American Rivers, said it is important to ensure the Saluda River remains the lifeblood of the state. "The Saluda has become a liability that hampers the economy and quality of life."

"The Saluda River is a drinking water and recreation for millions of people," Wodder said. "Clean water is a top priority for everyone.

Matt Rice, associate director of Upstate Forever, said that at American Rivers, said that the effects of phosphorus discharged from typical wastewater treatment plants can be regulated by some states but not by others. Rice said South Carolina has no permits on phosphorous pollution yet.

"Several wastewater treatment plants upstream of Lake Murray and Lake Greenwood will discharge to the Saluda River do not regulate phosphorus," Rice said. "This has led to giant algae blooms that can block the oxygen out of the water. Fish have died, which reduces the value and reduces property value on Lake Greenwood. We’re asking people that care about the Saluda River to contact DHEC."

Rice said that in the coming months and coming year DHEC will be regulating the treatment plants’ permits.

"This is something DHEC has been concerned about for many years," Rice said. "There are things that phosphorous does to rivers and lakes and DHEC has yet to issue any permits. We’re going to have to make a tough decision and commit to it."

Rice said that in the next year treatment plants have to get permits for their discharge.

"Right now it’s the best time to do it," Rice said. "They have to make the decision to regulate phosphorus."

Rice said we can expect the Saluda River to recover.

"That's one of the things peoples care about — they have the ability to recover in a timely fashion," Rice said.

Lives Augustine, USC doctorate student and Rural Waters Project Associate in Upstate Forever, said the Most Endangered Rivers Campaign listing is based on the importance of the river to the community and environment.

"It is important to note that the Saluda is not one of the most polluted rivers, but rather at a tipping point where key decisions made could impact the future state of the river," Augustine said. "We could save the river by reducing phosphorous loads from point source dischargers."

Augustine said the state is at a point now where phosphorous limits can be established at wastewater treatment plants so that the problem can begin to be resolved before the state of the river worsens.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009 VOL. 103, NO. 46

Debate explores religious origins

Chaplains, athletist argue whether America is 'Christian nation'

Derek Legette


Moore is a retention officer for the University of South Carolina and one of the leading directors of the Exodus Ministry, and Silverman is an prominent atheist parent to enroll their their children in faith-based schools. Silverman is the president of the Secular Coalition for America, an organization that represents agnostics and non-believers.

Silverman is known for winning a long battle with the Supreme Court for atheists holding public offices in the state.

"South Carolina's President Andrew Cofalderi mediated the debate. "I thought it was very successful," said Cofalderi, a third-year political science student. "He had a diverse crowd, a lively debate and good responses."

Moore said he thinks America has Christian roots but no longer a Christian nation.

"The drive for this nation to be secular and godless prevents America from being a Christian nation," Moore said.

Silverman provided facts that supported America was primarily Christian in its early colonial history.

"Explorer Christopher Columbus, Moore said, came here from a strong Catholic background, and the many forms of civilizations, of which we’re one from of Christianty emplas."

"Moore also said that key moments such as the 1792 Supreme Court case Church of the Holy Trinity v. United States, in which the country referred to America as a "Christian Nation" are "being "erased from "history," as if to say that the Catholic and historians are ignoring America’s Christian past in order to fit today’s world.,"

Silverman said British colonies in America were only Christian because of the strong religious influence that originated from England and that America had been too much influenced in Europe, and that even the colonists agreed that America had a significant amount of religious violence through its relentless Salem Witch Trials. He said the U.S. Constitution did not mention Jesus Christ or God at all. Moore countered, saying that if the Constitution referred to "ceremonial providence," "Laws of nature, and nature's God, that are common to all men, who were created equal and free,"

Sundays as a day of rest, as a reference to the Sabbath.

Moore said he strongly believes that there is an accurate view of America and the nation. Silverman reiterated by saying that he believes that Christians should be persecuted for their beliefs.

Debate 2A

STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE WEEK: SAFARI

Group focuses on raising awareness, funds for Africa

Sarah Petham

SAFARI is a student organization that has nothing to do with zebras, kluki uniforms or Land Rovers. Its members do, however, love Africa. SAFARI, Student Advisory for Africa’s Regional Improvement, is working to raise awareness and funds for Africa, the plight of Africa to the student body.

“We care that nothing is done directly on campus,” said James Meiners, a fourth-year nursing student and management student and club president.

Meiners and club vice president Chris McLoughlin say that after viewing a film put on by the University of Virginia partners with an organization that works to end a militant’s regime in northern Uganda that has affected many in the area, especially children.

“Africa is the largest area in the world with such great needs,” Meiners said. “Africa is often overlooked.”

McLoughlin, a second-year religious studies student, has been involved with Invisible Children since high school.

McLoughlin said “the sheer injustice of it and the ignorance of it and my classroom and the pure apathy based on ignorance,” inspired him to begin working on the movement. The club hopes to raise awareness among near African people face, from enslaved children to starvation. The club decided that focusing on a different organization each semester would help to broaden everyone’s knowledge of Africa as well as give people a specific way to help.

SAFARI began its efforts with Invisible Children, the organization that inspired it to create Last Semester. SAFARI held a Battle of the Bands competition at the Student Union to raise awareness and funds. Members also took part in an event called “The Rescue” and traveled to Clarkson to camp out to encourage local officials to lobby for change in Washington related to the issue.

The club is currently organizing a book drive to send literature to school in Africa, and has begun researching for which organization it will choose to focus on next semester.

“First we have to come up with knowledge for what the situation calls for,” McLoughlin said.

Depending on the focus of the organization the club chooses, they may use anything from political action and letter writing campaigns to fundraising. “We want the students to really have an impact on a community where people are becoming aware of the issues," Meiners said.

At each meeting, the club’s research committee focuses on the next current events in Africa.

“The first step is curing ignorance,” McLoughlin said. “We need to break through the query by helping people with real life, showing them the situation on a more personal level.”

Meiners said the ultimate goal for the club is to “transform people’s lives so they’re grateful for where they are and what they have.”

Club vice president Chris McLoughlin promotes SAFARI on Greene Street Weekly.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu
**LOCAL & WORLD NEWS**

**Jobless benefits extended**

Gov. Mark Sanford on Thursday signed a speedy passed law that extends restored unemployment benefits to about 140,000 people.

The technical change links extended unemployment benefits to the state’s unemployment rate instead of the number of people who are getting benefits.

The Legislature made the change on a two-day meeting after failing to approve it during the regular session. Even then the state’s jobless rate of 11.6 percent was the answer.

People with higher jobless rates are among those who see the most benefit.

**NATIONAL**

4 arranged rape in case

**TODAY IN HISTORY**

1975 Prince Juan Carlos becomes Spain’s acting head of state after General Francisco Franco, the dictator of Spain since 1936, concedes that he is too ill to govern. The 83-year-old dictator had been suffering serious health problems for nearly a year. Three weeks after Juan Carlos in the first time in court Thursday on charges of gang raping a 17-year-old girl outside a high school dance while as many as two dozen people watched without calling police.

Ari Abdallah Morales, 16, and Marcelles James Peter, 17, did not enter pleas during their arrangement in Contra Costa County Superior Court.

Peter’s aunt, Monica Peters, said before the hearing that her nephew had told her he was only a bystander and did not participate in the attack.

Asked what she did, didn’t say anything to stop, she said she feared “he would get his ass kicked.”

Another suspect, Manuel Ortega, 19, was arrested separately but did not enter a plea. He is charged with rape, robbery and assault causing great bodily injury.

Salvador Rodriguez, 21, also remained jailed but has not been charged.

**INTERNATIONAL**

**‘Slumdog’ stars face truancy**

Mumbai, India — The two child stars of “Slumdog Millionaire” are at risk of losing their monthly stipend and their trust fund if they don’t attend school more regularly, a trustee for the fund said Thursday.

Asha Bhat and Rubina Ali have only a 27 percent attendance rate, the trustee said.

“It’s pathetic,” said Noshir Dadrawala, who helps administer the Jai Ho Trust established by the filmmakers to provide an education, living allowance and housing for the young stars, who both grew up in Mumbai’s real-life shantytowns.

Asha played the role of the young Salim, the main character whose childhood in Mumbai’s slums helps him win fortune and love through a TV quiz show as an adult.

Rubina played the role of female lead Latika, as a child.

Dadrawala blamed the children’s busy schedule for their truancy.

“They are constantly going to Paris and Cochin and Chennai,” he said. “That’s fine, but go over the weekend, not during the school week.”

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**SPORTS SCHEDULE**

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

James G. Pressly Stadium

FRIDAY, OCT. 9
10 p.m.

**MONDAY, OCT. 12**
6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 13**
9 p.m.

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**

Memorial Coliseum

FRIDAY, OCT. 9
8 p.m.

**FOOTBALL**

Tennessee University

FRIDAY, OCT. 9
7:45 p.m.

**TODAY ONLINE**

**Twitter**

NEWS: thegamecock
SPORTS: SHOE_Sports
MIX: gamecockmix

**POLL:**

“Slumdog” director Danny Boyle and producer Christian Colson said in a statement that the children’s families “needed to honor their part of the bargain.”

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GAMECOCK STUDENT REWARDS

UPCOMING GAMES

MEN’S TENNIS
10/30, 10/31, & 11/1
SOUTH CAROLINA FALL INVITATIONAL
ALL DAY
MEN’S SOCCER
10/31
USC VS. MARSHALL
7PM
MEN’S BASKETBALL
11/5
USC VS. KENTUCKY WESLEYAN
7PM
Top 5 Halloween Costumes
This year’s favorite get-ups are guaranteed to update classic outfits, incorporate timely popular culture

Kate Crotzer
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

1) Vampire
Yes, it seems the classic erotic appeal of blood sucking has been reworked with shows like “True Blood” and kid-friendly book series, “Twilight.” Though the vampire can take many forms for kids, a traditional costume is the black fedora and one white glove, and a good pair of fangs. When it comes to blood, you’ll want to keep it to your mouth because you can wear whatever clothes you have that are trashed and still look oh so sexy. A wardrobe malfunction is the scariest thing of all!

2) Michael Jackson
Sadly, when it comes to the sparkly appeal of blood suckers, even the “King of Pop” can’t beat it. Yet, with his recent passing, his fame has soared to new heights. From the moment German director F.W. Murnau crafted his twisted, silent horror film, “Nosferatu,” in 1922, the vampire movies have been driven over and over again to the myths and legends of vampires. In the wake of cult phenomenon “Twilight,” it seems worth asking, what exactly represents the fears of the time? Or how has a single image of the horror genre been transformed into a symbol of endless fantasy and teenage angst?

Count Dracula, with his pallid face and robotic movements, continues to haunt the screen in his红 Nathaniel Toro and John Carpenter took to their own turns on the legends. Vampire crescents are cyclical. The relationship between the audience and the subject is almost reciprocal — when a list vampire movie surfaces a dozen follow in its wake until viewers and producers have all but sucked them dry. Right now we’re going nuts about vampires. They are pervading multiple media and across multiple nations. “True Blood” has become a cult hit for HBO. “Twilight” successfully made the novel-to-film leap with its obsessive followers intact, and last year’s Swedish import “Let the Right One In” was one of the best films of the year.

What’s different about this latest cycle is that vampires are now being directed at a younger audience. Their exoticism, a trend that grew out of their initial status as foreigners, has been exploited and pushed as something desirable. Vampires themselves, once imagined as one-dimensional, monstrous patriarchs of human flesh, have become almost frighteningly complex and are now vamp-der-verse creatures trying to salvage their own survival. Even more than mere sympathy, there’s now something sexy about vampires. Whereas before vampires’ desire control over human flesh was construed in a rape allegory, there is now a kind of mutual desire for what has now been transformed into erotic and exotic pleasure.

Our culture’s relationship with vampires is a constant tug of war. Even as one of the most horrific, the sheer presence of them in a multitude of media is proof enough of their staying power as horror icons. Perhaps it has to do with mythos. Perhaps it has to do with their promise of immortality. Perhaps it all goes back to the almost inherent sexuality of vampire fiction that comes with blood lust. Whatever it is, the vampires have a spell on us.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcketc@sc.edu

Songs:
1) “Monster Mash” by Bobby “Boris” Pickett & The Crypt-Kickers
2) “I Put A Spell On You” by Screamin’ Jay Hawkins
3) “Living Dead Girl” by Rob Zombie
4) “(Don’t Fear) The Reaper” by Blue Oyster Cult
5) “Thriller” by Michael Jackson

Food:
1) Candy Corn: enough said.
2) Pumpkin Kriospie: Add orange food coloring to spherical Rice Krispy treats
3) Graveyard dirt: Chocolate pudding, Oreos crumbles and gummy worms
4) Mummy Dogs: Wrap hotdogs in thin strips of crescent roll dough and bake
5) Pumpkin spice cupcakes with cream cheese icing

Drinks:
1) Mulled Apple Cider
2) Green Witch’s Brew: Add lime to lemonade soda
3) Spiked Pumpkin Juice: 3 oz. orange juice, 3 oz. lemonade, 3 oz. orange juice, 3 oz. orange juice
4) Dracula’s Kiss: 1 oz. black cherry vodka, 1/2 oz. grenadine, cola, maraschino cherries for garnish
5) Blue Moon’s Harvest Moon Pumpkin Ale

“Last night you were, unhinged. You were like some desperate, howling demon. You frightened me ... Do it again.” — Morticia Addams

Exotic immortality, diverse incarnations, blood lust fuel undead media frenzy

Jerry Simms

From the moment German director F.W. Murnau crafted his twisted, silent horror film “Nosferatu” in 1922, the movies have been driven over and over again to the myths and legends of vampire. And as soon as you have a noticeable pair of canines and a good splash of blood around the mouth consider yourself certified.

This one is just bizarre and a sad commentary on our society. Yes, it’s valid to say that vampires are now being marketed at a younger audience. Even more than mere sympathy, there’s now something sexy about vampires. Whereas before vampires’ desire control over human flesh was construed in a rape allegory, there is now a kind of mutual desire for what has now been transformed into erotic and exotic pleasure.

For our culture’s relationship with vampires is cyclical. Even as one of the most horrific, the sheer presence of them in a multitude of media is proof enough of their staying power as horror icons. Perhaps it has to do with mythos. Perhaps it has to do with their promise of immortality. Perhaps it all goes back to the almost inherent sexuality of vampire fiction that comes with blood lust. Whatever it is, the vampires have a spell on us.

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Halloween must-haves
Once you’ve figured out how to dress to impress, you’ll need to think about other ways to set the mood for the year’s creepiest holiday. Consider these top five lists as well.

Vampire crazes are cyclical. The relationship between the audience and the subject is almost reciprocal — when a list vampire movie surfaces a dozen follow in its wake until viewers and producers have all but sucked them dry. Right now we’re going nuts about vampires. They are pervading multiple media and across multiple nations. “True Blood” has become a cult hit for HBO. “Twilight” successfully made the novel-to-film leap with its obsessive followers intact, and last year’s Swedish import “Let the Right One In” was one of the best films of the year.

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*Ladies*: please remember that if you choose a bawdy costume idea and then simply add the word “sexy” before it (i.e. Sexy nurse, sexy witch, sexy pumpkin) you will likely appear to be a different adjective that starts in “s” and ends in “y.” A wardrobe malfunction is the scariest thing of all.
Welcome to Falling Rock National Park

Inside the Box • By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

The Scene

Welcome to Falling Rock National Park • By Kid Shap

The Whiteboard • By Baby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

CANCER You start the day on fire with ideas. Others have more to say than you do.

ARIES You gain insight into the motives of others each night. Give whoever walks into your office the time you require. Solving a problem now is easier than solving it later.

SCORPIO You wake up with more energy than you can possibly manage. Dress conservatively to tone down your excitement.

GEMINI Tradition is critical to what you do. Use your insight to ignite your passion. Other people douse the flame. Use all of your energy and strength to light it back on fire. Take notes for later. You’ll be really glad you did.

TAURUS Others must be in charge. Is that OK with you?

LEO There’s more than enough passion to go around. You don’t have to push to get exactly what you want.

VIRGO An angel made a suggestion last night: take it to heart and work with it. This strategy will work well today.

LIBRA Let intuition be your guide when dealing with others. Someone really wants to be your guide when you work with it. This strategy will work well today.

SAGITTARIUS Give whoever walks into your office the time you require. Solving a problem now is easier than solving it later.

CAPRICORN You gain insight into the motives of others each night. Give whoever walks into your office the time you require. Solving a problem now is easier than solving it later.

AQUARIUS The universe speaks to you through psychic senses. Someone really wants to be your guide when you work with it. This strategy will work well today.

PISCES You wake up with more energy than you can possibly manage. Dress conservatively to tone down your excitement.

TODAY

TOMORROW

TODAY

OFFICIAL NATIONAL PARK

UNBOUND HALLOWEEN PARTY: CARPE DIEM
7:00 p.m., $15
711 Whaley St.
COLUMBIA/WEST COLUMBIA JAYCEE’S HALL OF HORRORS
4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., $12
1175 Walter Price Rd
HIGH VOLTAGE THEATRE PRESENTS “THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW”
8:00 p.m., $15
West Columbia Riverbank Amphitheatre

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009

TOMORROW

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
8:00 p.m., $5
Rainy Street Theater
ANNUAL CHAPIN CHILI COOK-OFF
11 a.m. – 3 p.m., free
Beaufort Street in Downtown Chapin
HALLOWEEN IN FIVE POINTS
1 – 3 p.m., free
Five Points

SUDOKU

Columbia Charlotte Shuttle

SUDOKU

The Scene

Solution from 10/29/09

Solution for 10/29/09

Page 7A
Jeffery, Gamecocks look for revenge against quick-tongued Kiffin

The night was ominous. The next day was National Signing Day, when the nation’s biggest college football prospects would announce where they intended to play football. Jeffery was grouped with the best of the best.

But Jeffery’s mind was set on his hometown Gamecocks. Jeffery said he wanted to make an impact at a school searching for its first championship — something he couldn’t do at either Tennessee or Southern Cal.

Defensive end Clifton Geathers, a native of Georgetown, agreed. He made it known what his opinions are of the issue.

"Some things are just better to go without saying. And I’m pretty sure he didn’t expect for it to come out, but it did," Brown said. "I’m taking it very personally."

Based on the string of incidents that have been following the first-year coach of the Volunteers, it’s hard to question whether “gas-gate” did or did not happen.

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To being announced as coach of the Vols.

"I'm still waiting for coach Kiffin to announce as coach of the Gamecocks," Brown said at the SEC Spring Meetings in May. "I haven't gotten that yet, either."

Brown then defended the recruiting tactics of his current boss, Karl Kinn.

"I didn't hear anything on the issue as the two stood near an elevator."


But Jeffery’s mind was set on his hometown Gamecocks. Jeffery said he wanted to make an impact at a school searching for its first championship — something he couldn’t do at either Tennessee or Southern Cal.

"I never said that to South Carolina. I don’t say anything like that," Kiffiin continued. "I've got something else on my mind that should be the Gamecocks’ business."

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Tennessee safety Eric Berry provides stiff challenge for freshman wide receiver
Ryan Velasquez
WASHINGON POST

After a brief dry spell, redshirt freshman Tori Gurley finally reappeared against Vanderbilt last weekend, giving fans a glimpse of the receiver who looked set for a breakout year at the beginning of the season. If South Carolina is to find success against a rigid Tennessee defense tomorrow, it will need a strong performance from No. 81.

Following a three-game stretch with just two catches for 16 yards, Gurley linked with a completely different player, totaling three catches for 62 yards, including a pivotal 43-yard grab that led to the game-winning touchdown in the fourth quarter.

"Coach said he wanted to let it go deep and as a receiver I did everything I had to do, but Stephone [Tours] made a great throw," Gurley said. "I give all the credit to him because the throw was as great as the catch."

As a result of his strong showing, Gurley was awarded his first game ball as a Gamecock.

"It’s great. The coaches recognize that the hard work we’ve been putting in is paying off," Gurley said. "It was great to help the team out because we’re here to win and all the work we want to do is win the big games.”

Norwood looks to slow down run game

Senior leads defense hoping for shutdown performance against UT ground attack
Justin Wilson
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The South Carolina defense has been responsible for keeping this year’s game close as they’ve been, and has performed at it, if not beyond, expectations. But when a team is stopping the run, defensive coordinator Ellis Johnson and Co. have struggled, particularly in the last two games.

After giving up 246 yards on the ground to Mark Ingram two weeks ago against Alabama and allowing 341 yards rushing last week to Vanderbilt, the South Carolina defense will be faced with another flashy running back this week in Tennessee’s Montario Hardesty.

Responsible for keeping Hardesty in check and trying to get the run defense back on track is standout senior linebacker Eric Norwood. Starting the 2009 season off with a bang by recording with six sacks through four games, Norwood had two relatively quiet games against Alabama and Vanderbilt. He’ll look to re-establish his relentless defensive presence against Tennessee.

Hardesty is a quick, shifty back that has accounted for 720 total yards on 143 attempts for the Volunteers this season. Until Tennessee’s last game at Alabama, Hardesty had scored a touchdown in each of the team’s five games, and has totaled 300 yards receiving on the season.

"I have a lot of respect for him," said Eric Norwood about the Tennessee senior running back. "He is a real solid player."

Hardesty did not play in last year’s contest in Columbia, and only has one career touchdown against the Gamecocks.

When asked about Hardesty’s running ability, Norwood commented that he is a “hard runner,” and “he gets a lot of good yards after contact.” Carolina will need to focus on bringing down the ball carrier on first contact, something they have not been able to do well in their past few games. The defense does well getting to the ball initially, but seems to have a tough time making the tackle.

Even though this game against Tennessee is pivotal in the SEC and the season overall for the Gamecocks, it seems as though the defense is taking it somewhat lightly, while hopefully keeping in mind they need to perform in order to win.

"It's just another game," said Norwood, acknowledging that the teams have traded victories the past two seasons. When asked about the game two years ago at Neyland Stadium in which Carolina fell a field goal short in overtime Norwood said, “I hope it’s not a close game, but if it is, we’re ready for it.”

Comments on this story? E-mail sagcksp@mailbox.sc.edu

Norway vs. Denmark: The Daily Gamecock FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009
Wednesday:
Village Idiot Trivia just got slimed. All Halloween trivia so brush up on your ghost stories. Prizes for best costumes for those who dare.

FRiDay:
Nightmare on Devine Street Party with special house DJ mixing 80s and techno

Saturday:
Trick or treating for the kiddies in 5 points; watch the USC vs. Tennessee game with us and finish your Halloween festivities with the Village Idiot and some Gamecock football. Spooky specials all day. Don’t forget Sunday brunch served 10-2

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Caroline After Dark
Halloween!!
Costumes highly encouraged!

Caricature Artist
Have your face engraved in a crystal!
Russell House Lobby 10pm - 2am

10pm-2am
Costume contest with prizes for scariest and most creative costumes!

Need Florida vs. USC tickets? We will be raffling off two tickets after trivia on Wednesday!

The Gamecock Challenge
West Virginia @ South Florida, Indiana @ Iowa, Georgia vs. Florida, Miami (FL) @ Wake Forest, Texas @ Oklahoma State, Miss. State @ Kentucky, Georgia Tech @ Vanderbilt, Ole Miss @ Auburn, USC @ Tennessee
Oregon, USC headline Pac-10 action

Ducks, Trojans clash in potential conference championship game

Kelsey Pacer
COPY DESK CHIEF

Sure, USC may technically be ranked higher, but the Ducks are going to give Barkley and his crew all they can handle Saturday. The potent combination of All Hallows’ Eve, a rambunctious atmosphere in Autzen and Ducks’ rushing game might mean that the Trojans could head back to Cali with no treats from their Halloween outing.

The Pick: Ducks 31, Trojans 21

The Mountaineers are looking to remain in the top three Big East contenders, so they need to secure a good win against the Bulls. South Florida is getting over two hard defeats from Cincinnati and Pitt, so they could handle the game one of two ways: A) Roll over and give up, or B) Actually try to be a contender. However the Bulls choose their destiny, expect the Mountaineers to do their own thing and get the victory.

The Pick: West Virginia 28, South FL 17

This could be a very interesting game. After Florida’s past two squeaker wins, they’re looking to sweep a capable team like Georgia. If the Gators don’t win this game convincingly, they will give up their top spot to Alabama. The Georgia defense will be trying their hardest to stop Tim Tebow, and their offense will try to use tricky maneuvers to get around the Florida defensive line, most likely to great effect. However, expect Tebow to rally his crew to a victory.

The Pick: Florida 17, Georgia 14

We’ve all seen Jevan Snead take a tough fall from Heisman talk, but he’ll be working hard this Saturday to get a win against the Tigers. Auburn had some great wins early on in the season against West Virginia and Tennessee, but they’ve been on a three-game losing streak. Ole Miss should capitalize on Auburn’s downward spiral and escape Jordan-Hare stadium with a win.

The Pick: Ole Miss 27, Auburn 14

Iowa has a knack for winning, and it’s taken the college football world by storm. They have a good, but not mind-blowing offense and defense. What the team has is an intangible, yet huge threat for opponents: sheer determination. Look for the Hawkeyes to continue their dominance against a mediocre Hoosier team.

The Pick: Iowa 21, Indiana 10

No. 3 Texas @ No. 14 Oklahoma State

Whenever Texas and any school from Oklahoma play one another, it’s always a real football game. Although the game’s being held in Stillwater, Colt McCoy will feel at home in a different sea of orange — he always shows up against the Cowboys, throwing over 1,000 yards in past meetings. With standout wide receiver Dez Bryant suspended for the rest of the season, the Cowboys should face a disheartening defeat by the Longhorns.

The Pick: Texas 35, Okla. State 21

Texas A&M is entering this game with a boosted morale. After crushing losses to Oklahoma State and Kansas State, the Aggies pulled off a huge win at Texas Tech. The Cyclones are second in the Big 12 North, and just beat Nebraska last week. Statistically it seems as if Iowa State should be the natural winner, but look for the Aggies to remember last week, play their hearts out and get the win.

The Pick: Texas A&M 28, Iowa State 17

Miami lost in overtime in an exciting nail-biter against Georgia last week. Expect the ‘Canes to be out for blood this week against Wake Forest, who are struggling to become more powerful in their imbalanced ACC conference. One key factor for Miami is their skinny little quarterback Jacory Harris, who has become a formidable offensive opponent for virtually any team. The ‘Canes are on a three-game losing streak, but they’ve been out in their Halloween-worthy green and orange jerseys and are ready to spook the Deacons right off the field.

The Pick: Miami 34, Wake Forest 17
On Rocky Top, Vols fans have seemingly embraced Lane Kiffin. Kiffin has brought some much-needed energy to the Tennessee program. During last year’s 7-5 season of a deadly offense, the Vols appeared to lose that sense of urgency under former head coach Phillip Fulmer, and that eventually cost Fulmer his job. It didn’t take long for Kiffin to jump-start the Vols after the Vols appeared to lose their sense of urgency under former Kiffin. Kiffin has brought some much-needed energy to UT’s potential.

Kiffin has his players aware of many peoples’ books. It’s nation by a combined both teams held the No. 11 game. It didn’t take long for Kiffin to jump-start the Vols after the Vols appeared to lose their sense of urgency under former Kiffin. Kiffin has brought some much-needed energy to the Vols rank tenth in the nation in total defense (South Carolina sits at No. 14). Monte Kiffin has helped maintain its defense.

Injury report:

Brad Nessler and Todd Blackledge will call the game for ESPN Radio: 702 FM in Columbia, Line: USC +5.5

Notes: Mississippi State head coach Joe Moorhead was reprimanded by the SEC for complaining about whether Arkansas is playing Eastern Michigan. "We're going to take the gas money from out to Golden Corral," EMU coach Ron English said. "And one of the linebackers just got the box set of 'Saw VI' on Saturday. I can't get to go see the 'Saw VI' on Saturday. I can't get enough of those movies." The story had the word "satire" written above the story in red. Fans are starting to believe in Kiffin’s effect on the Vols. The one thing that Kiffin will need to prove is that he can stay in Knoxville. Spurrier has been a hated figure in Knoxville ever since the heated rivalry between the Vols and the Florida Gators in the ’90s when Spurrier was head coach in Gainesville. UT escaped South Carolina last season by a combined both teams held the No. 11 game. It didn’t take long for Kiffin to jump-start the Vols after the Vols appeared to lose their sense of urgency under former Kiffin. Kiffin has brought some much-needed energy to UT’s potential.

The Daily Gamecock

Tennessee's Daily Beacon breaks down USC's opposition

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