

Gamecock Sports CHALLENGE

Miss. St./USC Kentucky/Fla. Mich. St./Mich. Ga. Tech/UNC UCLA/Miami

Nate Sports Editor 11-4	Miss. St.	Florida	Michigan	UNC	Cancelled
B.J. Editorial Assistant 7-8	USC	Florida	Michigan	UNC	Due
Shawn Singleton Staff Guest Picker 11-4	Miss. St.	Florida	Michigan	UNC	To
Kelly Maguire Senior Writer 10-5	USC	Florida	Michigan	Ga. Tech	Hurricane
Laura Bokesch Friend of Sports Staff 11-4	Miss. St.	Florida	Michigan	Ga. Tech	Georges

After a perfect 5-0 week, Nate, the alleged defending champion, is tied for the lead along with the Laura, our close friend, and the guest pickers, a bunch of extremely lucky staff members who we let be in here so they will quit whining, with an 11-4 record.

After his first winning record of the year, BJ is nearing the .500 mark.

"I'm letting everyone else get a big lead so they'll feel good," BJ claimed.

Nate and BJ were the only two to correctly pick the USC/Marshall game. This week, they disagree with Nate picking the Dawgs and BJ going with the Gamecocks.

Vols finally break Florida jinx

college press EXCHANGE

No more Gator jokes. At least not until next year. So much for the monkey. Yes, America, Tennessee finally beat Florida, ending five years of frustration, 20-17, in overtime, in front of a record crowd of 107,653 at Knoxville's Neyland Stadium. Two decades from now, 1,107,653 will claim to have been there.

"It's a great time for this team," said Vols coach Phil Fulmer, who had been 54-6 against everybody else but 1-5 against Florida.

Jeff Hall, who two weeks earlier had a game-winning field goal on the last play at Syracuse, kicked a 41-yarder on the first possession of OT. The Gators, who won the toss and elected to play defense first, got the ball at the 25, got one first down and then threw three incomplete passes. Collins Cooper missed a 32-yard attempt just wide to the left, and it was time to celebrate.

The Gators turned the ball over five times (four fumbles, five interceptions). And they rushed for minus-13 yards, sixth-worst in school history. Terry Jackson (19 carries, 25 yards) fumbled at the 1 in the first quarter, and Tennessee recovered in the end zone for

a touchback. Florida already has lost 10 fumbles, two more than in 1997. In the previous five games with Tennessee, it had only two.

It's the earliest Florida has lost in a season since 1992. There's always the Citrus Bowl to look forward to (again).

STREAKING

- Clemson has lost six of its last seven Atlantic Coast Conference openers.
- Louisville broke a 10-game losing streak with a 35-9 win over Illinois. The Cardinals hadn't won since beating the Illini last September.
- Arizona has won seven straight dating back to last year, its longest victory string since it opened the 1993 season 7-0.
- UCLA has won a school-record 12 straight.
- Kansas State has won its last 42 home games against unranked foes.

TROPHY WATCH

- It wasn't a banner weekend for Heisman hopefuls. But it's still early.
- Kentucky's Tim Couch went 38-for-53 for 301 yards in a come-from-behind, 31-27 win over Indiana. But he had just one TD pass, and a career-high four interceptions.

Central Florida's Daunte Culpeper passed for 368 yards. But his team didn't score until the final minutes of a 35-7 loss at Purdue.

Texas's Ricky Williams rushed for 43 yards on 25 carries in another blowout loss, this one at K-State.

The other Ricky Williams, the one who plays for Texas Tech, had 250 yards on a career-high 42 carries in a 34-28 win at Fresno State.

DID YOU NOTICE?

- Iowa State recorded its first shutout in 14 years, 38-0 over Ball State.
- Miami wore green jerseys for the first time since 1976, but still lost to Virginia Tech for the fourth consecutive year, 27-20, at home in overtime.
- Princeton opened its new stadium with a 6-0 win over Cornell. The Tigers' first home game in two years drew 27,800, the school's first sellout since 1964.
- Oklahoma State gained 561 yards in a 42-23 win over Mississippi State, the most for the Cowboys since 1988, when they still had Barry Sanders.
- Marshall's 24-21 win at South Carolina was its first over an SEC opponent, in 11 tries.

MSU game a must win for Gamecocks

SINGLETON continued from page 4

With all the talent we have on this football team, we still try to play a conservative style of offense. Brad Scott was hired on the heels of a national championship at Florida State, where as offensive coordinator, he mastered the "Fast Break" shotgun attack. Since our Carquest Bowl victory over West Virginia, however, he seems to have lost all nerve and guts as a coach. This may be the South and conservatism may plague our politics, but it will not work on the football field, especially in this conference.

This is the week that we must open up the offense for the long haul. This could be our last chance to make a postseason appearance. With Tennessee and Florida coming up, we cannot afford to be anything less than 5-3 going into these games.

If we don't win, forget about that Heinz contract, Coach.

Men's tennis victorious at T. Rowe Price

staff writer ERIC Q. KASE

Carolina's Guillaume Legat downed Notre Dame's Ryan Sachire, a fourth seed, 7-6(6), 6-0 to advance to the third round of the T. Rowe Price National Clay Court Championships in Baltimore, Md.

Legat will play at 10 a.m. Friday against Luis Uribe of Kansas.

Earlier Thursday, Legat downed SMU's Toby Hansson 6-3, 3-6, 6-2.

Also playing on Thursday, Jerome Jourdon defeated Jeremy Bayon of Mississippi State in straight sets (6-2, 6-2).

He then fell in the second round to Arizona State's Gustavo Marcaccio, 6-2, 2-6, 6-1.

In doubles action, the team of Martin Jirak and Esteban Carril of Texas Christian defeated USC's Jourdon/Legat 7-5, 6-4.

Head Coach Kent DeMars on the doubles loss: "We were just dog tired. After two grueling three-set singles matches, we just couldn't pull this one out."


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