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# Florida, Auburn not sure what to expect from Saturday's SEC matchup

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Florida isn't sure what to expect this week against fourth-ranked Auburn, arguably the luckiest team in college football this season.

"Our preacher's been working overtime," Auburn coach Pat Dye said Tuesday. "Yeah, we're lucky. We're extremely fortunate. We've won four games we could have very easily lost."

Don't tell No. 15 Florida about its Southeastern Conference rival's fourth-quarter heroics.

Although Auburn will bring a 6-0-1 record here Saturday night, Dye isn't entirely comfortable with the manner in which the Tigers have remained unbeaten.

It took two fourth-down, fourth-

quarter TD passes, plus Tennessee's missed field goal in the closing seconds, to escape with a 26-26 tie against the Volunteers. A field goal with three seconds left gave Auburn a 16-14 victory over Louisiana Tech; Stan White's fourth-down comple-

tion set up a field goal that beat Florida State 20-17 with two seconds to go, and a blocked extra-point prevented a 17-16 triumph over Mississippi State last week.

"I don't think we're a bad football team, but I think we're extremely fortunate," Dye said during a telephone conference call. "We're not as good as I think we ought to be and we haven't played as well as I think we ought to, but we're still struggling and searching for the right answers."

Florida is 6-1 and hoping to beat Auburn for the first time in four years. Since the Gators have been involved in just one close game (17-13 victory at Alabama) all season, coach Steve Spurrier can only look at what

Dye's team has done and wonder how his would fare in similar situations.

"They've been fortunate, like we said ... but they've also earned those (victories). They've made field goals at the end, and blocked that extra point," the Florida coach said.

"The two fourth-quarter touchdowns passes against Tennessee — their receivers went and made the plays. When you see it on tape, Tennessee guys were standing right there on both of them," Spurrier added. "I guess you could call them extremely fortunate but you have also got to give them credit for believing they still had a chance to win."



## Washington receiver negotiates for early trial

HOUSTON (AP) — Attorneys for Washington Redskins receiver Ricky Sanders negotiated with team representatives on Tuesday to schedule an aggravated assault trial against Sanders before the season ends.

State District Judge Donald Shipley on Tuesday ordered prosecutors and defense attorneys to determine by Wednesday a date for Sanders' trial.

Prosecutors contend Sanders ran over a valet parking attendant and failed to stop and help him after an argument at a topless nightclub parking lot last May.

Defense attorney Wendell Odom Jr. said Shipley wants the trial done before the end of football season.

"Mr. Sanders doesn't want to have this bearing on his mind as he heads for the Superbowl," Shipley said from the bench Tuesday.

Odom, who had sought a delay until after the season ends, spoke

with Redskins attorneys in Washington to find a time when Sanders can be freed from team obligations.

Sanders, 27, has been indicted on two separate charges stemming from the May 1 incident outside The Men's Club, a topless nightclub in Houston.

Sanders allegedly argued with parking attendants about whether the hubcaps on his Cadillac were stolen or had been missing when he arrived at the nightclub.

Azzam "Sam" Jamus, 29, who works for United Parking outside the club, has accused Sanders of striking him with the car and driving off the lot.

If convicted, Sanders faces two to 10 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$10,000 for the aggravated assault charge and up to five years in jail and a \$5,000 fine on the charge of failing to stop and render aid, said prosecutor Marc Brown.

## San Antonio reduces roster by waiving rookie Calloway

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs reduced the team roster to 13 on Tuesday by waiving rookie guard Rick Calloway.

The move Monday left the Spurs with one more cut to make, and team officials indicated it would likely be center Mark McNamara or forward Mike Mitchell.

By late Tuesday afternoon, Spurs' officials had not announced which of McNamara or Mitchell would be cut.

Final rosters don't have to be reported to the NBA until Thursday, but teams must allow 48 hours for cut players to clear waivers.

The Spurs begin the regular season Saturday against the Los Angeles Lakers.

Spurs coach Larry Brown said the decision to waive the 6-foot-6 Calloway was tough because the rookie "deserved to make the team, based on the way he played."

Brown said he hopes another NBA team picks up Calloway, who played college basketball at Kansas.

"It came down to a numbers game," Brown said.

"We had some commitments to some other people. We're young enough as it is without keeping these rookies."

Spurs rookies Dwayne Schintzius, Tony Massenburg and Sean Higgins have no-cut contracts. Calloway, who was undrafted, did not. He signed as a free agent with the Spurs this summer.

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## Looking at NFL placement

**Associated Press**

The Giants and 49ers can start gearing up for each other. The Bears can start thinking about the playoffs, too, if they handle slumping Tampa Bay this weekend. The NFC is the No Fair Conference this year.

The 49ers and Giants, clearly the class of the league, are 7-0. Each had a scare or two, but both seem headed for a Dec. 3 showdown at Candlestick Park with not much else to keep them occupied — or drop them from the unbeaten ranks.

Things aren't quite as comfortable in Chicago. While the Giants have a three-game lead in the East and the 49ers are up by four in the West, the

Bears lead the Bucs by two. A win in Tampa this Sunday pretty much would salt away the Central.

"We don't rate with those two teams," coach Mike Ditka said in comparing his division leaders to the others in the NFC. "We're not in that category, but we could be in time. The Giants and 49ers are a notch above the rest of the conference. We fall in the second area somewhere."

Actually, they might be the only team in that second area, at least in the NFC. Over in the AFC, there are three 6-1 teams, with Miami and Buffalo tied atop the East and the Raiders two games ahead in the West. If the Raiders win at Kansas City this week, they also can start thinking about January.

The Bears are the surprise leader among the three NFC powers. After their collapse last season to 6-11 with a season-ending six-game slide, it looked like the foundation of one of the great teams of the 1980s had rotted. Rebuilding seemed in order.

Instead, Ditka has retooled and the Bears have responded.

"It's a good feeling after last year," says defensive tackle Dan Hampton, the heart of the team whose knee injury in 1989 spattered the Bears' flop, "especially the way the ground gave out under us."

"In training camp I had some apprehensions but, except for the Raiders game, this team has played as well as can be expected and the team can play a lot better."

## Holyfield getting in early jobs; compares Foreman to franchise

NEW YORK (AP) — While he awaits the time and place for a more serious confrontation, Evander Holyfield is getting in some early jobs at George Foreman.

"Everybody talks about his weight but George makes a joke about it and says he's going off to eat some more Baskin-Robbins ice cream," Holyfield said. "You push him, it's like pushing a franchise."

Holyfield knocked out 246-pound Buster Douglas to win the championship.

Holyfield, in town to pick up the IBF championship belt, was disturbed over criticism he has heard of Douglas' performance in the title fight.

"I think they were too hard on Buster," he said. "He was sensational against (Mike) Tyson to become champion. To say he wouldn't get up takes something from him. He didn't quit. He got hit with a good shot. It was something I practiced against up-pecuts."

He said cornerman George Benton had told him to counter Douglas' jab with his right. "A lot of times, I led with the jab and he countered with a left hook. I faked a jab and he went for it. I countered with a right cross."

Listening to this play-by-play of Holyfield's knock-out was a group that promoter Dan Duva called "the United Nations of boxing."

Sprinkled around the room were representatives of rival casinos and cable networks, all angling for Holyfield's first defense of the title.

"Look," Duva said, "there's Caesars over there, (people from) Trump over there. HBO and Showtime are standing next to each other."

"Yeah," blurted Lou Duva, the promoter's father who works in Holyfield's corner, "but the Mirage ain't here."

Steve Wynn's Mirage Hotel and Casino, site of the title fight last Thursday night in Las Vegas, had cast its lot with Douglas, expecting him to dispatch Holyfield and move on to a mega-bucks rematch with ex-champ Mike Tyson. That plan was upset, however, by Holyfield's third-round knockout.

Now Tyson will have to wait until Holyfield makes his first defense against Foreman. "We'll have the details set within a week," Dan Duva said. "It will be either Caesars or Trump in March or April."

Duva denied a USA Today report that the fight was already set for Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on April 19.

LSU changed the complexion of the game with a four-yard hitch pass that turned into a 79-yard touchdown. Pick almost any play in the Houston game, change it, and there's a different outcome. If Larry Talbot makes a 46-yard field goal, the Aggies beat the Bears. On the other hand, if Derrick Frazier doesn't block the extra point on Baylor's first touchdown, then A&M loses its second straight conference game.

The bottom line is that on any given day a Stanford will beat a Notre Dame and a team like A&M will lose a tough game to a team like Houston. College football will never see the day when one or two teams dominate like Texas did when it went 40-2 in SWC play from 1968-73.

**Pils** Continued from page 9

Cavaliers (7-0) are the No. 1 team in the land. The alleged top team beat such "juggernauts" as Kansas, Navy, Duke, North Carolina State and Wake Forest — teams that are a combined 15-24-1. They even played William & Mary, a non-Division I team.

Stanford (2-6) beat Notre Dame, Oregon State (1-7) beat Arizona and No. 4 Auburn needed a last-second field goal to beat Louisiana Tech, whew!

The reason for this season's oddities is plain and simple — parity.

In today's high-tech world, it's hard for anyone to have some secret talent hidden in some backwater town. If there's someone with any bit of talent, there's a horde of

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Even teams without the star players get lucky every once in a while. Look at Stanford — if they play Notre Dame 100 times, the Fighting Irish are going to win 99. It was just a case of Notre Dame getting lazy and letting a team that it clearly should dominate jump out in front early.

Parity breeds games where one play can make the difference in who wins and who loses — most notably the Aggie's games this year with Louisiana State, Houston and Baylor.

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