Alabama sparks support for Cal’s herbal medicine

By Phillip Rawls
Associated Press Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - Alabama, which has some of the nation’s toughest drug laws, has become an unlikely ally of California in its defense of marijuana use for medical reasons.

When the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments Monday on California’s medical marijuana law, the documents sitting before the justices included legal arguments filed by Alabama Attorney General Troy King, who sided with California and against the Bush administration.

To the Republican attorney general, it’s an issue of states’ rights rather than drug-control policy.

“I could not disagree more with the public policy that underlies the California law. I think it’s flawed. I think it’s bad public policy, but if somebody can go in and tell California you can’t regulate drugs the way you want to reg
Ohio certifies election results

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - This battleground state on Monday certified President Bush's 119,000-vote victory over John Kerry, even as third-party candidates prepared to demand a statewide recount.

The president won Ohio with 2.86 million votes, or 51 percent, to Kerry's 2.74 million votes, or 49 percent.

The 118,775-vote lead was closer than the unofficial election night margin of 136,000, but not enough to trigger a mandatory recount. Absentee ballots and provisional votes counted after election night made most of the difference.

"This was an election where you have some glitches but none of these glitches were of a conspiratorial nature and none of them would overturn or change the election results," Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell said.

The presidential election hung on Ohio, prized for its 20 electoral votes. Not until the morning after the election did Kerry finally concede - realizi

see Bush, Page 3

gamecock scoreboard:

Have a Merry Christmas!!

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by the numbers:

Average amount people spend on Christmas $672

above: cocky gets the crowd going during the 2004 football season. The Gamecocks captured their second consecutive OVC championship this season.

left: excited Greeks celebrate Bid Day 2004. Eighty-eight women participated in Recruitment this year, and 70 received bids.
Attorneys of accused abortion clinic bomber say police altered photos

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) - Defense lawyers want to know if the government was worried that a 1998 sketch of fugitive bombing suspect Eric Rudolph made him look too much like Jesus.

In a recent court filing, Rudolph's attorneys asked prosecutors to hand over any evidence of alterations to composite drawings or photographs of Rudolph to make him appear "unsympathetic or malevolent" to the public.

Authorities denied that any such changes were made.

Rudolph has pleaded not guilty to the bombing of a Birmingham abortion clinic that killed a policeman and critically injured a nurse. He is also accused in the deadly bombing at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. He was captured in May 2003 foraging outside a grocery store after six years on the run.

The defense lawyers' request was based on a witness description of Rudolph, not on any desire to make the fugitive appear more threatening.

Rudolph's attorneys have previously argued that the government waged a media campaign to create a negative public image of Rudolph.

The government in July 1998 released two versions of a Rudolph sketch created by Marla Lawson, a forensic artist with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. One drawing was black and white; the other was in color and made his face appear lighter, with a wisp of a grin.

Both sketches were made public at least six months before the change was suggested. Authorities said police altered the sketches in the weeks before they were released to the public.

Associated Press

Cyberterrorism could devastate U.S. economy

By Pam Easton
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) - Cyberterrorism could be the most devastating weapon of warfare six years ago, assigning 50 computer specialists to see how hard it would be to shut down the nation's electric grid. It took only two days for the group to put itself in a position to do so.

In the 1970s and 1980s, most terrorism had been a traditional, machete-wielding kind. Focus was on attacks on American interests in the Middle East, like those by Operationsto hit America again."

Terrorism has evolved in the years since Gates served as CIA director during the early 1990s, he said.

In the 1970s and 1980s, most attacks were relatively localized, such as the 1983 suicide car bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut or the 1985 hijacking of a TWA flight from Rome to New York.

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Auburn waits for word on academic probation

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) - Auburn University officials are expected to learn Tuesday if it will be released from academic probation by its accrediting agency.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is scheduled to release its decision at a meeting Tuesday morning in Atlanta. SACS placed Auburn on probation last year, citing in part a finding of micro-management by trustees.

A recent report by SACS said it wasn't satisfied with Auburn's effort to get off probation and that the school would have to do more to prove that some trustees don't improperly control or influence other board members.

At Tuesday's meeting, SACS could clear Auburn, impose a lesser penalty, continue probation for a year, or revoke accreditation. If Auburn were to lose accreditation, the school wouldn't be able to get federal funds and students' degrees might not be accepted elsewhere.

Auburn interim president Ed Richardson and Gov. Bob Riley spent Friday in Atlanta meeting with SACS members in an effort to convince the panel that Auburn has made enough management improvements to get off probation.

In preparation for that meeting, Richardson hired three independent firms to review financial relationships among AU trustees. The recent SACS report questioned such financial ties, particularly between trustees Bobby Lowder of Montgomery and Jack Miller of Mobile.

Lowder is chief executive officer of Colonial BancGroup, and Miller's law firm did about $2.6 million in legal work for the company in 2003. An Auburn faculty organization voted 131-9 last week to ask Lowder and Miller to resign, but Richardson said he wouldn't bring up that possibility with SACS.

He said trustee resignations were not required by the agency and that the vote reflected less than 10 percent of Auburn's faculty.

But Comer Bailey, chair-elect of the university senate, said the vote was representative of faculty members active in university governance and that Richardson should have taken it more seriously.

Earlon McWhorter, trustee president pro tem, said he hoped the governor's presence at the meetings with SACS showed Auburn's commitment to making improvements.

"I hope we can get off probation, that's our ultimate goal," Riley said last week.

Riley, Richardson and McWhorter have said they believe that Auburn has met SACS' rule that a minority of trustees can't control the majority, and say the rules don't forbid ties between trustees.

Alabamians backs medicinal marijuana in California

from Marijuana, Page 1

Alabamians backs medicinal marijuana in California

issues he talked about were states' rights issues. I'm not sure segregation is a states' rights issue. Whether the state of Alabama is going to criminalize marijuana use, that is clearly something the state should do. But when you begin talking about segregation, you've got constitutional provisions that provide that everybody is equal," the attorney general said.

The issue before the Supreme Court on Monday was a California law that allows citizens to grow and possess marijuana for medical reasons. Last December, the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals - the same federal court that angered conservatives when it said the phrase "under God" should be removed from the Pledge of Allegiance - upheld the California law.

The Bush administration, which opposes California's law, appealed to the Supreme Court.

The Bush administration argued that medical marijuana would undermine federal drug control programs. It also argued that the federal government could step in under the Commerce Clause because the marijuana grown for medical use could end up on the illegal market and cross state lines.

Not so, said King. His legal brief argued that the federal government has no authority because the medical marijuana is grown and consumed within California, and "it is not economic or commercial in any meaningful sense."

King wasn't alone in filing his arguments. They were signed by the attorneys general of Louisiana and Mississippi - two states also known for tough drug laws.

If things had gone differently 25 years ago, Alabama might have had the medical marijuana case before the Supreme Court rather than California.

In 1979, when medical marijuana was first being discussed nationally, the Alabama Legislature passed a law allowing a marijuana research program for chemotherapy and glaucoma patients that would be supervised by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners.

State Sen. Larry Dixon, executive director of the Board of Medical Examiners, said the experimental program used a pill that contained one of the substances in marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinols.

The pill provided the pain relief of marijuana without the high caused by smoking marijuana.

The program did not prove successful, and the final blow came when the federal government, which used a farm in Mississippi to grow the marijuana used to make the pills, discontinued production, Dixon said.

Even though Alabama's medical marijuana program has been dead for many years, the Legislature has never repealed the law allowing it.
Ohio recount leans towards Bush

from Bush, Page 1

ing there were not enough provisional ballots to erase Bush’s lead.

But presidential candidates for the Green and Libertarian parties planned to file requests for recounts Monday and Tuesday. Recount advocates have cited numerous Election Day problems, from long lines, a shortage of voting machines in predominantly minority neighborhoods and suspicious vote totals for candidates in scattered precincts.

A ruling by a federal judge in Columbus on Friday rejected one county’s attempt to stop a recount, avoiding a legal precedent that could have stopped other recounts. Green and Libertarian party candidates have already raised the required $113,600.

Both major parties have said they do not expect the recount to change the result of the election.

The Democratic Party also said Monday it will examine reports of voting problems in Ohio. Outgoing Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe said the party will spend “whatever it takes” to study complaints from Ohio voters.

McAuliffe said the party is not seeking to overturn the result but to ensure that every vote is counted. He said the study will be conducted by nonpartisan experts to be announced later, with a report issued in the spring that recommends reforms to prevent such problems in the future.

Blackwell, a Republican, oversaw the election process while serving as one of several statewide GOP leaders who co-chaired Bush’s campaign. The 2000 Florida recount was also administered by a Republican secretary of state, Katherine Harris, who is now a member of Congress.

In a conference call with reporters, McAuliffe said the panel needs to look at the practice of officials by nonpartisan experts to be announced later, with a report issued in the spring that recommends reforms to prevent such problems in the future.

Peterson penalty phase underway

By Brian Skoloff
Associated Press Writer

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) - Scott Peterson fit in well with his classmates and never caused any problems, a former principal at his middle school testified Monday at the penalty phase of the former fertilizer salesman’s double murder trial.

Peterson, convicted in November of first-degree murder in the death of his wife Laci and second-degree murder for the death of her 8-month-old fetus, was a “fine school citizen,” Ronald Roger Rowe said on the fifth day of the penalty phase.

Jurors must decide whether Peterson will be sentenced to death or to life in prison.

“Scott was a young man in whom I had great confidence and nothing that I can envision then or now would suggest to me that the death penalty is appropriate for him,” Rowe told the jurors.

Peterson’s friends and family have described him as a loving son and generous person, someone who never laid a hand on anyone.

Also on the witness stand Monday was Marvin Threatt, former dean of students at Peterson’s high school in San Diego, who said Peterson never caused any problems and volunteered for charities.

Students were given a break during the school day to perform charity work, Threatt said.

“Many students would not come back to school on time,” he said.

“The thing I recall mostly about Scott is that he did always come back on time. He was never late.”

Prosecutors claim Peterson smothered or strangled Laci in their Modesto home on or around Christmas Eve 2002, then dumped her weighted body into San Francisco Bay. The remains of Laci and the fetus were discovered about four months later along the bay shore, a few miles from where Peterson says he was fishing alone the day she vanished.

Legal experts say the defense is using a well-planned strategy to persuade jurors to spare his life.

“I think they’re basically asking the jury to identify not with Peterson but with the people who care about him,” Loyola Law School professor Laurie Levenson said.

But a former prosecutor says the strategy could backfire.

“In the end, if jurors really believe he did it, then every day the defense puts on evidence of him being harmless and kind and patient, it makes Laci look like an even more vulnerable victim,” said Jim Hammer, a former San Francisco prosecutor who has been following the trial.

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Since Liz and I are so well loved by everyone who reads this rag, we have decided to put our brilliant minds together for one last collaborative hoorah editorial. Calm down guys, we will be returning next year with our great journalistic talent and we might just try to get off a few good newspapers that don’t offend anyone (yeah right).

This might just seem like a set of jumbled thoughts and gripes and bitching about different things with a little bit of holiday humor mixed in to light your yule logs just a bit early. So, now to the dealings at hand.

J: Finals suck. Like a drunken uncle at your holiday meal, they cause undue amounts of stress on everyone that is involved with them. Usually during finals you end up drinking more in two weeks than you have drank all semester, unless you drink a lot anyway. If you are already drinking too much, then you think that your grades are a direct result of your drinking and you stop, sending you into a spiraling two weeks of withdrawal hell. After finals, you sell your books back and go on a three-day bender and wake up somewhere in Florida with someone who has no teeth.

Liz: I promise that I’m not heartless. I think puppies are cute, and for some reason I think Christmas music and tacky ornaments does not spread cheer. I spent my Christmas gifts and a visit to see my Grandmother’s home for the holidays and I definitely cried. I got pictures three weeks later from my mom showing me what I missed. It sucked. But I did have my unit. We stuck together and got through it. We had presents, less than five dollars. There was a lot of stress going on, but it was nothing compared to what I went through during finals.

EAGLE PASS, Texas (AP) - A life-size fiberglass statue of Jesus that was found in the Rio Grande has ended up in a police department’s evidence room, but law officers say it can’t stay there much longer.

Border Patrol agents found the statue on a sandbar in the river Aug. 31. When agents first saw it from the air, they thought it was a body and launched a rescue attempt. Police have kept it for 90 days, waiting for an owner to come forward. They say it now must be disposed of as unclaimed property.

“We see every day a steady flow of people coming in and paying homage to it,” Police Chief Juan A. Castaneda said. “We’ve had them come from different parts of the country.”

City Manager Jesus M. Olivares says the city has decided to donate the statue to someone who could share it with the public. He placed the issue on the City Council’s agenda for Tuesday.

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Officers Matt Turko and Tom Weger are on Pittsburgh’s bladder beat.

Since November 2003, Turko and Weger have patrolled the city’s South Side, one of the country’s oldest Victorian-era shopping districts in the country by day - but one of the city’s best places to drink at night. They bust bladder-heavy revelers looking for relief in alleys, the sides of houses and in dark corners.

“It’s a target-rich environment,” Weger said.

Turko and Weger have handed out more than 220 citations for public indecency. Emptying your bladder in the wrong place can also empty your wallet. Each ticket comes with a $300 fine.

Pittsburgh police Cmdr. Bill Joyce, whose zone covers the South Side, started the Pub Patrol last year amid complaints by neighborhood residents and business owners tired of people using their bushes, trees and buildings for last-minute latenines.

“‘How would they feel if someone walked into their neighborhood and began urinating on their own homes?’” Joyce said.

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) - Lawyers and federal judges in New Jersey are preparing to argue over new rules that would largely outlaw … arguing.

The rules would apply to civil cases, where some judges of the U.S. District Court of New Jersey think the verbal exchanges are a waste of time.

If the changes are adopted, judges would not schedule argument days to debate motions, and the word “argument” could even be deleted from the rules. Instead, lawyers would be required to have a hearing request accepted by a judge.

“Lawyers say it would set a perilous precedent.

“It is very hard to just understand the issues from written papers,” said Joseph Hayden, an officer of the Association of the Federal Bar of the State of New Jersey.

Hayden’s group approved a resolution last week urging judges to regularly schedule oral arguments on serious or complex motions.

Some judges say the rule changes would formalize what is already standard courthouse practice. Many don’t grant oral arguments unless there is a question left unanswered in legal filings.

All district judges will vote on the rules changes, with a majority needed for ratification. A vote has not yet been scheduled.
I got pictures three weeks later from my mom showing me what I missed. It sucked. But I did have my unit. We stuck together and got through it. We had presents, less than five dollars. There was no commercialism, just the spirit.

Liz: I don’t hate Christmas. I just hate all the froth that seems to accompany it. Even I get caught up in the superficiality of Christmas. My mother and I like to drive around neighborhoods and make fun of tacky decorations. We call it “giving citations.” C’mon folks, who ever said blue icicle lights and inflatable snowmen, were tasteful? Seriously, people forget what Christmas is all about. It’s not about scratching each other’s eyes out for the last Tickle-me-Elmo, and it’s not about buying your boyfriend/girlfriend the most expensive gift you can find. (Sidebar: it’s always a good idea to break up right before the holidays to avoid buying your significant other a present. Then, you wait until after the holidays are over and hope for a reconciliation).

J: Anyway, time to get off Christmas and on the Bowl Championship. This is the biggest crock of crap that I have ever seen. Is it too hard for these people to admit that they are WRONG and go to a playoff system just like everyone else? But no, there wouldn’t be enough money in that now would there? Another sports aside — can we just go ahead and ban Barry Bonds from baseball? If he cheated by taking steroids then he should not be in baseball. Pete Rose is banned from baseball for gambling. The round about reason they gave for that is because he jeopardized the integrity of the sport. What else has destroyed the integrity of all sports stand for than cheating. Rose never cheated. Bonds did. Get him out of the league and chalk it up as a loss.

Liz: I hope everybody has a good holiday season and stays safe. Don’t fret my pets. I’ll be back in 2005 with more holiday-inspired fodder oozing from my pores. Jeremy couldn’t deny the JSU student body my creative genius. He knows I’m smarter than he is. Hope you all enjoyed our ramblings. Good luck with finals, Merry Christmas.

J: Just like her to say something like that. She is right about one thing: I wouldn’t deny JSU the chance to gripe about her stories or about some of the things that I do. Some of the times it bothers me, sometimes it gets me down. Then I think to myself, hm, it just doesn’t matter. For everyone that rushes to pick up the Chanticleer against you. We strive to have a good time here and to give you a meaningful reading experience, whether it be through well researched stories or our sometimes meaningless banter. Our first oath is to the truth, then to entertainment. And to my general disclaimer that I say every year: If you don’t like what we write, write us a letter or come in to our office and try to do it better. I am sure that you could teach us something and vice versa. We are all learning here, and I try to have a good time doing it. Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) - Three hours after a bank robbery, a woman claiming she was the robber called the FBI to say she would surrender - just as soon as she got her affairs in order.

Nilla Dee Haluska surrendered Tuesday after calling a police dispatcher Saturday and saying she would show up within six days.

She called back later to give the dispatcher her name and say she would probably make herself available sooner.

On Monday, she talked to Dario Duarte, the FBI agent on the case, according to a sworn statement submitted to the U.S. District Court in Portland.

“She stated that she would be turning herself in as soon as she made the necessary arrangements,” Duarte wrote. “She said that she was not sure what time she would be available.”

Haluska was pretty busy, but she thought she would have time to turn herself in Tuesday, she told the agent.

“I told her Tuesday morning would be fine,” Duarte wrote.

True to her word, Haluska arrived Tuesday at the downtown Justice Center, the headquarters for Portland police and just a few blocks away from the FBI office.

In the affidavit, Duarte said Haluska, 56, confessed to the bank robbery, then gave agents a handwritten list of four other banks she'd robbed. She did it, she said, to get money for food and drugs.

Haluska was being held at the Multnomah County jail pending a Jan. 5 court hearing.

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) - Police followed a trail of doughnuts to find a stolen Krispy Kreme delivery truck.

“It has a happy ending,” Swatara Township Sgt. Robert Simmonds said. “The evidence was brought back to the police station, and the cops are eating the doughnuts.”

It was 12:45 a.m. Thursday when Krispy Kreme deliveryman Tim Trostle stopped at a Swatara Township convenience store and left the engine running as he made the delivery.

Someone fled with the truck, but since Trostle had left the back doors open, police were able to follow a trail of doughnuts.

The doughnut trail ended before long, but police in a nearby township found a doughnut cart near the Harrisburg city line. City police found the truck near a downtown bar.

No arrests were immediately made. The truck was returned to the company.

Although Simmonds had been joking about police taking the contents of the truck, he acknowledged seeing Krispy Kreme doughnuts in a station conference room Thursday.

“I suspect that the manager from the Krispy Kreme might have given us a little thank you for our efforts,” he said.

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) _ Grant Petersen tried to give officials his two cents _ in the form of $82 cents.

Petersen withdrew $82 worth of pennies from his bank and delivered them in a bucket to pay an $82 fine he got for driving with a burnt-out headlight.

Court officials are apparently unamused, and have asked Petersen to offer a more “acceptable” form of payment. They say state policy allows clerks to reject unusual forms of payment, and it’s going to waste county resources for someone to count all that change. Petersen says he doesn’t plan to honor that request. He says money is money, and U.S. law provides that coins are legal tender.
Happy Holidays Jacksonville!

The Return of ‘The Grinch’

Last Thursday night Jacksonville, Alabama welcomed in the holiday season on a chilly evening with a parade. Children had hats, scarves, mittens and layers of clothes. College students ran outside to watch when the time came, cheering on their friends and catching some candy. Older couples were set along the sidewalk in chairs, sipping on hot chocolate.

Above: Grace Tabernacle members smiled and waved, riding on their brightly lit float.

Left: Brought in by the Marching Southerners, Santa ended the parade.

Good tidings or tears

By Erin Chupp
The Chanticleer Features Editor

On Tuesday I will walk into class and take my last final of the semester. I will be prepared for the exam, but do not hesitate to think I won’t have spent some time the night before packing to go home.

No, I’m not one of those people who try to get out of Jacksonville as fast as I can on a Friday afternoon. I’ve found plenty of things to do around here during the fall and have enjoyed the time.

But Christmas time is “the most wonderful time of the year,” and although the snowflake lights on the lamp posts and the garland tree in the square get me ready, nothing is as good as going home. Sitting in front of one of my mom’s huge fires, laughing it up with my brother and sister and having midnight conversations with my dad.

When I get home we’ll decorate the tree, make peanut butter balls (“moose droppings”) and maybe pop in an old VHS of Garfield’s Christmas, enjoying the old 80s commercials better than the show itself.

I have a full family list of
On Sunday, December 19, at 2:00 p.m., the Etowah Youth Orchestra will present "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" in a very unique way. Back by popular demand, the EYO, Etowah High School choir, and narrator J. Holland, Dave Fitz and Jana McEachern will be backed by the big screen.

The performance will take place on the Wallace Hall stage at Gadsden State Community College. It will help celebrate Music Director Michael R. Gagliardo's 10th Anniversary Season with the orchestra.

The EYO will show the original, animated holiday classic, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," while providing all of the music, voices and sound effects from behind the scenes.

This is such a much-loved performance, it will be the third year the orchestra has brought the green Grinch's snarling smile to life. "The Grinch" was first presented in 2000 and then again in 2001. It remains to be the most requested EYO performance of all time.

The performance will be the EYO’s ninth annual Holiday Pops concert. Therefore, the concert will also feature musical selections by the Etowah Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the June Moore Bugg Prelude Strings, including "O Holy Night," the Mannheim Steamroller arrangement of "The Holly and the Ivy" and music from "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

Tickets are $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for children 12 and under and are available at the Center for Cultural Arts. One can also purchase tickets at the door the day of the concert.

A massive Christmas tree adorned with pink and white decoration catches the eye as one passes by the Early Childhood office suite. There is a distinct pathway from office to office that weaves its way through bags and boxes full of presents.

The presents are not from students who wholeheartedly adore their professors. They are good will offerings.

Dr. King and Ms. Colley had a notion to have fellow colleagues and their students participate in a drive to collect presents for those in need. The presents could be toys for children of all ages or toiletries products to aid in daily care.

The tree was promptly decorated and the presents have trickled in underneath and all around for about three weeks. At the end of this week, Dr. King and Ms. Colley will deliver all of the donated goods to two or more shelters across the Gadsden area.

The Early Childhood professors realize there is a need all year long to help those less fortunate than themselves, however, donations are especially appreciated during the Christmas season.

Dr. Nina King said, "Thank you to all our students who contributed. I know they got as much out of giving as those who will receive the items."

All the teachers involved plan to make this an event to happen every year. Keep the Education Department in your thoughts and maybe we can all make a little contribution next year. Maybe they will have to find a bigger tree to store all the presents under.

Cheers!
GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)
Don't rely on too much cooperation this week from those around you, who are probably just as stressed out as you are. Stimulating ideas just might arise from quiet and seemingly boring times. Your finances are definitely on an upswing, but don't overspend.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)
This is not the week for taking risks or speculating, and if a long-term debt is inevitable, check out all the facts first, before signing anything. A friend or carelessness where your given responsibilities are concerned. You may be caught in a middle of a job dispute, find out which priority dominates your actions.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)
Optimism abounds during the week, but don't allow this high feeling to prompt extravagance or carelessness where your inner personality will be subdued. Your outlook may improve, but don't overspend.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)
Verbalizing your feelings to someone close could be the best way to clear the air. You may be caught in a middle of a job dispute, find out which priority dominates your actions.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)
You and someone close to you may be very much at odds during the week - be patient and work things out. Whether on the job or in your social life, the pace quickens and you're apt to be incredibly busy. Your home life is also picking up momentum so plan your time.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)
Counterproductive influences are at work so you will need to get down to business concerning your immediate career plans and ultimate goals. It's time to lie low and recharge your energies. A delightful romantic interlude will influence your outlook.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 19)
An insecure person in your inner circle can benefit from your support this week. And while you are giving good advice, you may realize the advice is very much applicable to one of your own problems. With conflict at home, work out a solution to please everyone.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 - February 18)
Whether or not you are enjoying a change of scene this week, a romantic encounter will set your spirits soaring. Pleasant times will be spent at home and with the family, and there is a definite possibility of overdoing and overindulging in the evenings.

PISCES: (February 19 - March 20)
Don't be surprised if you have second thoughts about some matter you had thought was definitely settled. After reviewing it, you may find room for improvement. Be flexible concerning social plans for scheduled events might have to be postponed. A member of your immediate family will be patient and work things out. Whether on the job or in your social life, the pace quickens and you're apt to be incredibly busy. Your home life is also picking up momentum so plan your time.
Verbalizing your feelings to someone close could be the best way to clear the air, provided tact is used. Creativity flourishes this week, but make sure to be super practical in all financial dealings. Take a good and honest look at a love relationship - is it real?

**LIBRA:** (September 24 - October 23)

Opt for a low-key approach toward just about everything this week. Those surrounding you will tend to be both uncooperative and unpredictable, so improvement. Be flexible concerning social plans for scheduled events might have to be postponed. Alternate plans will be more enjoyable.

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:**

You and a lover may share a meeting of the minds, and all those deep discussions will bring you closer together. Now you can connect with a soul mate whose values will reflect yours on all levels. New influences will create a liberating effect on you.

It may be difficult to stay calm and in control. Your good spirits and self-assurance are quite contagious.

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**College Concoctions**

**HOLLY BERRY**

**ingredients:**
- 1/8 oz. lemon juice fresh
- 1 oz. gin Plymouth
- fresh raspberries (as garnish)

**raspberry juice**

**Mixing instructions:**

Fill a shaker with ice. Add 1 oz. Plymouth Gin, and the juice of 1/8 oz. fresh lemon. Shake and strain into a cocktail glass. Top with raspberry juice and garnish with fresh raspberries.

Option: Try a raspberry liqueur in place of the raspberry juice.

**GRINCH**

**ingredients:**
- 2 oz. Midori
- 1/2 oz. lemon juice (fresh)
- 1 tsp. sugar syrup

**Mixing instructions:**

Mix all ingredients with ice in a shaker. Strain into a chilled martini glass. Option: Garnish this green drink with a red cherry.

**CHRISTMAS COSMOPOLITAN**

**ingredients:**
- 1/2 oz. Cointreau
- 1/2 oz. cranberry juice
- 1 tsp. lime juice fresh
- 1 oz. vodka Currant flavored

**Mixing instructions:**

Place all ingredients in a shaker with ice. Shake and strain into a chilled martini glass. Option: Garnish with a lime wedge.
Turnovers doom men’s basketball team

“One of the things I try to stress to our team is being on the road, there’s a small margin for error,” said JSU Head Coach Mike LaPlante.

We did a poor job of controlling the basketball, especially when Jackson State made their run in the second half,” said LaPlante.

The Gamecocks were led by Russell with 10 points, while Jeremy Law finished with nine points.

“One of the things I try to stress to our team is being on the road, there’s a small margin for error,” said JSU head coach Mike LaPlante.

Tyler Berg scored 19 points to lead four players in double figures as Wofford (3-2) claimed an 81-76 win over Jacksonville State (4-3) Wednesday night. Eric Marshall finished with 17, while Adrien Borders added 15 and Sam Daniels scored 12 points to lead the Terriers.

Jax State was led by Anthony Wilson with 16 points and a career-high eight rebounds, and B.J. Spencer finished with 15 points, including three from behind the arc, as Wofford snapped the Gamecocks win streak at four games.

“One of the things I try to stress to our team is being on the road, there’s a small margin for error,” said JSU head coach Mike LaPlante. “We have to find a way to win on the road.”

Wofford held a 9-4 lead with 14:11 left in the first half before the Gamecocks went on a 25-9 run to build an 11-point lead, 29-18, after Dorien Brown scored inside.

During the run, Spencer hit back-to-back treys and Wilson added five points and Jeremy Law scored four points as JSU held its largest lead of the game with just over seven minutes left in the first half.

The Terriers fought back to outscore Jax State 23-6 over the rest of the first half as Wofford held a 41-35 lead at the half.

“We built an 11 point lead in the first half, but we knew they were going to make a run,” said LaPlante. “On the road, it’s one of those games where it was hard to get some shots to fall, but we kept trying to find a way to fight back.”

But, the Gamecocks battled back and used a 12-2 run over the next four minutes to slice the lead to 72-65 on a lay-up by Spencer with 2:21 left before the Terriers sank six free throws in the final minute to seal the win.

The OVC’s leading scorer, Walker Russell, was held to a season low seven points, but he did finish with eight assists. He missed his first 15 shots before finishing 1-for-7 from the field.

“Walker puts a lot on his shoulder and he’s really down, but I told him he probably wouldn’t have another night like this,” said LaPlante. “They put a lot of emphasis on making Walker work hard for everything and Wofford did a good job of taking him out of his rhythm.”

Jacksonville State will take the next 10 days off for finals and returns to action on Dec. 15 at Coastal Carolina as the Gamecocks continue their six-game road trip.

The precedent has been set. For all those people laughing about Auburn not getting in the National Championship, fans (mainly people from Tuscaloosa) should be worried. The football world has said, “the SEC is no longer the SEC is no longer

It can happen to your favorite team too! Just ask the BCS
Raymond Hines' fourth-down, 1-yard touchdown run with 28 seconds left lifted James Madison to a 14-13 victory over Furman and the NCAA Division I-AA semifinals on Saturday. The Dukes (11-2) had never won more than one game in five previous kickoff trips. Now, they'll face William & Mary next week for a spot in the championship game at Chattanooga on Dec. 17. William & Mary defeated defending national champion Delaware, 44-38, in double overtime.

Associated Press

Furman goes down as field cut to four

It looked like a long shot for the Dukes as Furman's Scott Beckler lined up for the clinching 43-yard field goal with five minutes remaining. But James Madison's Demetrius Shambley blocked the low kick — it was the Dukes' second block of the game — and set up a final chance at victory.

Quarterback Justin Rascati completed 5 of 8 throws for 176 yards. He also was intercepted twice as the Paladins were held to 141 yards rushing, nearly 100 shy of their divisional history.

Hines was stopped at the 1 on third down and James Madison called timeout to go over the last play. Hines took the ball from Rascati and moved left into an open end zone. David Rabil converted the extra point and sent the James Madison side into hysteria.

Florida transfer Ingle Martin could drive the Paladins after the kickoff. His final throw, a line drive into a pack of about six Dukes, fell incomplete and not getting to play for all. The PAC 10 is pushing it a little bit but USC and Cal are good teams too so USC deserves to be in the hunt too.

There just needs to be one more game or an eight-game playoff. I know the argument moves from who's number one to whose number eight but that is a whole lot different.

The media says the presidents don't want it. I have yet to understand why? It would be the biggest moneymaker of all time.

If the bowls didn't take a month off then it would not go into the second semester. The basketball schedule goes into two semesters. Every other division in football uses a playoff so why can't division one. There are so many arguments for the playoffs and there hardly seems any argument for keeping it the way it is.

There deserves to be one champion. Any man always wants closure. To really go to sleep at night knowing you're the best in the land. The people playing football are being regulated by people largely in part that have never played the game.

Something needs to be done or this can happen to Alabama too!
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