Sports

Photo of the Day |



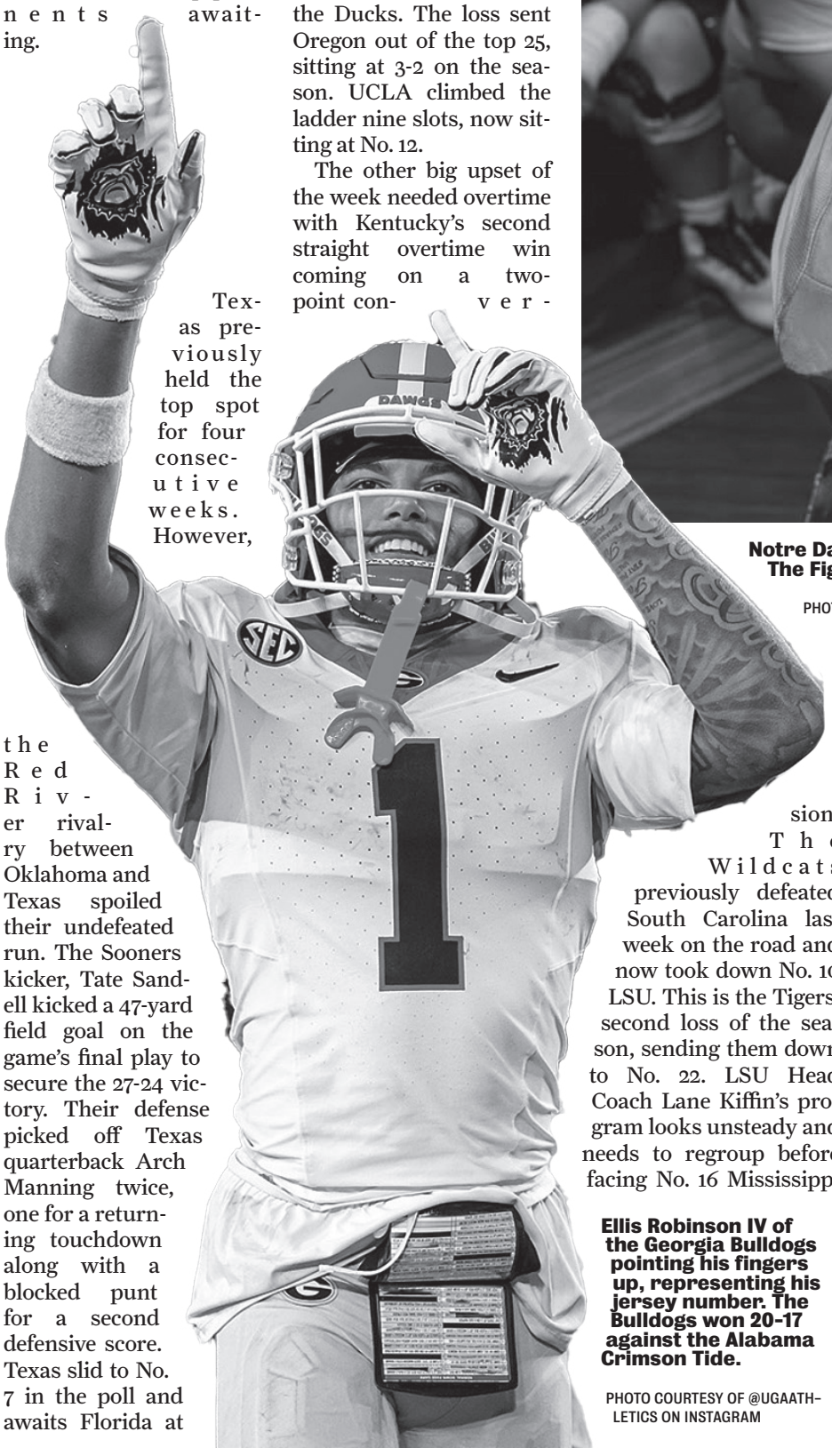
UConn women's basketball faces Syracuse in an exhibition game Monday, Oct. 12, 2026, at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut. The Huskies defeated the Orange 88-60 in their first action of the season as part of the Hall of Fame Series Exhibition. PHOTO BY PARKER MEYERS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

ELLIOT'S SATURDAY SLATE:

Shakeups and a new No. 1 in town

by Elliot Koplas
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
ejk23008@uconn.edu

The Georgia Bulldogs are back in the No. 1 slot for the first time since September 2024. This rise in rankings comes after the Bulldogs victory against No. 6 Alabama for their first win in Tuscaloosa since 2007. While this is a huge win for Kirby Smart and the Georgia program, maintaining the top spot will be the challenge with more SEC opponents awaiting.



Ellis Robinson IV of the Georgia Bulldogs pointing his fingers up, representing his jersey number. The Bulldogs won 20-17 against the Alabama Crimson Tide.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @UGAATHLETICS ON INSTAGRAM

Texas previously held the top spot for four consecutive weeks. However, the Red River rivalry between Oklahoma and Texas spoiled their undefeated run. The Sooners kicker, Tate Sandell kicked a 47-yard field goal on the game's final play to secure the 27-24 victory. Their defense picked off Texas quarterback Arch Manning twice, one for a returning touchdown along with a blocked punt for a second defensive score. Texas slid to No. 7 in the poll and awaits Florida at home to get back on track.

Florida was No. 16 but fell to South Carolina at home 38-19. This marked Florida's second loss of the season, sending the Gators out of the top 25 with a chance to re-enter facing Texas next week.

No. 21 UCLA fended off No. 13 Oregon on the road. UCLA was forced to overcome an injury to their quarterback, Nico Iamaleava. The Big Ten showdown was a sloppy one featuring 10 turnovers, seven of which were for the Ducks. The loss sent Oregon out of the top 25, sitting at 3-2 on the season. UCLA climbed the ladder nine slots, now sitting at No. 12.

The other big upset of the week needed overtime with Kentucky's second straight overtime win coming on a two-point conversion. The Wildcats previously defeated South Carolina last week on the road and now took down No. 10 LSU. This is the Tigers' second loss of the season, sending them down to No. 22. LSU Head Coach Lane Kiffin's program looks unsteady and needs to regroup before facing No. 16 Mississippi State along with three other ranked opponents later this season.



Notre Dame's Fighting Irish celebrating together after winning against the Stanford Cardinal. The Fighting Irish won 58-7 against the Cardinal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @NDFOOTBALL ON INSTAGRAM

This upcoming week gives us more marquee matchups including a Big Ten Championship rematch for last season. No. 4 Ohio State travels to the defending champions, No. 4 Indiana, with this being the Hoosiers first challenge of the season. The two offenses are some of the best in the country as Ohio State wide receiver Jeremiah Smith continues to shatter records.

No. 6 Alabama faces another ranked SEC opponent, traveling to Knoxville to take on No. 14 Tennessee. The Volunteers are 5-1 with their only loss coming from Texas, who were ranked first in the country. The Tide face back-to-back tests with playoff hopes hanging in the balance and the pressure mounting.

No. 20 Houston hosts No. 18 Oklahoma State as both aim to improve their Big Ten resumes. The Cowboys fell in their season opener to unranked Tulsa before rebounding against No. 6 Oregon and have blown out the competition since. An easier Big Ten schedule awaits them, but first, the Cougars stand in their way. As for Houston, the next two weeks pit them against ranked Big Ten opponents. But if they win out the rest of the season, doors can still open for playoffs.

The final ranked matchup occurs in the top 10 out west when No. 8 BYU hosts No. 2 Notre Dame. The last time the Irish were ranked second or higher came after their National Championship loss in 2025. It is their first ranked matchup of the season after the Fighting Irish chopped down the Cardinal, blowing out Stanford 58-7 last week. This is also BYU's first ranked matchup of the season looking to keep the undefeated record alive. The last time the Cougars hosted a top five team was in 2004 when they fell to No. 1 USC 42-10.

Another week of mayhem with two top 10 matchups and bragging rights on the line, gives viewers the perfect Saturday slate. Buckle-up because these clashes are only going to get better as the weeks go on. The halfway point in the season is upon us and there is already so much at stake.