

Stories, Rhymes, and Good Times!

Volume 18, 2008-2009

Writing in 4th grade

By: Mrs. Atkinson

The students in fourth grade write for a variety of purposes. They write to inform, entertain, persuade, and to share their opinions. Students keep a Writing Portfolio so they have examples of their work done throughout the school year. One of their favorite writing activities is Story Starters where they are given one or two sentences and then have to create a story to go with them. Here are their choices for this year's Stories, Rhymes, and Good Times.

My Trip To Bush Gardens

By: Arabella Beatson

Have you ever been on a roller coaster? I went to Busch Gardens in Tampa this summer and rode rides. I went with my mom and I was so excited. When we got to the hotel, my mom said we couldn't go on the ride because the park closed to early. I felt sad, but the next day we got to ride the rides. Then we had pack and load the stuff into the car before we went to the park. The first ride we went on was the scorpion and I loved it. The second one we went on was the Stanley Falls. I felt curious about the hill and when we went down I was screaming! We got soaking wet and we were both freezing like the Artic! The last ride we went on was the Sky Ride was we saw all the animals it was scary sometimes but we sure had fun! I felt proud of my mom . I was really satisfied that I had come!



The Best I've Ever Given

By: Rush Blank, Grade 4

I like to give money to the Salvation Army. They are the ones who ring the bells and have the red bucket. They raise money in order to help the poor and needy, especially the children who don't have the nicest toys or new school supplies. The thing they do the most is give joy to children all around the country.

The Gators***By: Davis Campbell, Grade 4***

There is nothing better than watching the Gators on Saturday. I love watching Tim Tebow throwing passes to Percy Harvin.

It is fun watching Jeff Demps run through the defense. It is fun watching people throw an interception to Dustin Doe. Or watching people get hurt by Brandon Spikes. It was fun



FLORIDA GATORS

watching Chris Rainey showing off to Georgia I bet Georgia was mad. When Florida beat South Carolina it was amazing when Aaron Hernandez made an awesome catch with one hand. Two years ago Derek Harvey blocked the field goal and Florida won by a point. It was one of the best games I have ever seen. Last year Tim Tebow won the Hisman Trophy. Florida crushed Tennessee it was so fun! Florida plays Alabama in the SEC championship. I hope Florida wins☺ I loved when Florida beat Georgia 49-10. Matthew Stafford threw three interceptions. It was so fun too watch. It was funny watching Chris Rainey show off to Georgia. I had really fun watching Brandon Spikes tackle Georgia's running backs to the ground. When

Florida won the national championship in basketball. Back-to-back first they beat UCLA, then they beat Ohio State the same year they beat them in football. (The football score was 41-14) It was so funny because a person said the score would be 41-14 Ohio State

An it was the score but Florida won. I remember when Florida beat UCF 48-0. It was funny. Then they played The Citadel. And beat them 70-19. I was a complete blowout. The next game they had to go to Tallahassee to play their biggest rival FSU. Tim Tebow score when it was raining, it look like he had blood on his face, but it was the paint from the end zone. They ended up winning 45-15. The next game was against Alabama for the SEC championship. The gators WON!!! ☺ It was awesome. And Sunday night I watched the BCS bowl bash. Florida plays Oklahoma in the national championship☺. I can't believe they won 24-14☺ it was the best game I have ever seen.

The defensive player of the game was Carols Dunlap. He had five tackles, half sack, and a block field goal☺. Tim Tebow had two

The New Girl***By: Jenna Carbone, Grade 4***

Everyone had a partner but me. What was I supposed to do now? There was only one girl left and that was the new girl Allison. She just moved here from California and she transferred here to Washington Memorial Middle School. We're in 8th grade. I know her because I am her pen pal that we were writing to and we got to pick where, because our principle had known the principle from her old school. During lunch I sat with my best friend Lucy. She asked who Allison was and I said that I just know her from my Aunts house. "Anyways I was wondering if you wanted to come over and hang out maybe go to the mall?" I said. "Sure!" Said Lucy. After school Lucy and me went to the mall and saw Zoey there. She used to be my best friend in 3rd grade but now since she was hanging out with Amanda (a girl who always talks about ever since I didn't invite her to my birthday party in 2nd grade!) So we now don't like each other! She kept whispering to Amanda so Lucy and I just walked away into Claries. After that we got a slice of pizza and started to work on homework, after that Lucy's mom came and picked us up then dropped back at my house. "Bye see ya tomorrow!" I said, but then they left. The next day I saw Allison hanging out with Amanda and Zoey!!! Lucy and I gasped! "Hey Katherine" Zoey said to me "HELLO!" I said. "Hey I was thinking that you, me, Amanda, and Lucy could all go to the mall after school?" Said Zoey "Sure" Lucy and I said so at the mall we went to slice o' pizza and we all got pepperoni pizza, Amanda was in the bathroom so after she got out she came over and took a bite of her pizza and then she started choking so I remembered that I learned the hemlock remover so I helped her and then she spit it out. She said thank-you and then we were done with our pizza and we went shopping again. Then she told Zoey that she kind ' ove wanted to be friends with us- including Allison again and so then we were! The End

The Killer Pumpkin Patch**By: Francesca Fuentes, Grade 4**

Once upon a time there was a girl called Liz and her little brother Max. Max and Liz were at home playing checkers. Max yelled, "I won!" right in front of Liz's face. Max was so close to Liz that he spit on her. Liz said, "Eeeeeeeew!". Liz went to wash her face. Her mom reminded them that they needed to get their Halloween costume for Halloween. Then Liz said to her mom, "Can we go now?" She said, "Sure Liz." So Max and Liz went in their car with their mom. When they got there they picked out their costume. Liz was a penguin and Max was a flesh-eating monster. And then their mom got a costume for her and dad. They were mustard and a hot dog. When they got home it was 5:00 pm. But sadly the pumpkin patch was at 12:00 pm. Well Liz and Max spent all that time playing games like checkers, tag, hide and go seek, and other board games. Then all of a sudden Max looked at his watch. He yelled out, "Mom, it is time. It's time, Mom, it is time! Come on please!" Mom was asleep so Liz and Max went and started jumping up and down on the bed. Their mom said, "Ok, ok, ok, I am awake. Lets go." So they went. When they got there their mom dropped them off. "Bye," she said. Then Max and Liz started walking to the pumpkin patch. But all of a sudden it happened they were pulled into the bushes. The person that pulled them was a complete stranger he said, "Hi, I am going to take you away. Then he put her in his van. The van was white and some of the paint was chipped off and rusted. There were more people in the van but they could not tell who they were. Then they all fell out of the van and werewolves ate them. ☹️
The End

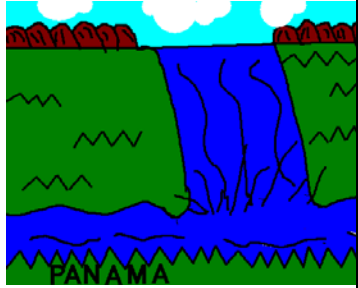
**My October Break****By: Erin Gear, Grade 4**

Over the October break I went to Disney for Halloween. It was so much fun so I'm going to tell you about it. On Thursday my family and I drove up to Disney. Once we got there we checked in. After that we went to our room. By the way we stayed at the Contemporary. When we got to our room we unpacked our stuff. Once we unpacked our stuff we went to the restaurant in the lobby called "The Wave." After we ate dinner we went to our room and got ready for bed. When we woke up the next morning and got ready to go to Animal Kingdom. At Animal Kingdom the first ride my sister and I went on was Expedition Everest two times. When we were done with that we went to a ride called Dinosaur. I thought it was a pretty good ride but not the best. After we went on Dinosaur my sister and I went on the little kids dinosaur-flying ride. I rode in the front and my sister rode in the back of the dinosaur. After the dinosaur-flying ride we saw It's Tough To Be A Bug. I don't like that show but my sister dose so we had to see it. Then we ate lunch. After we ate lunch my sister and I went on Expedition Everest one last time. Then after that we left the park because my cousins were coming that day so we had to get back in time. The next day we went to the Magic Kingdom. The first ride we went on was Space Mountain. It was so much fun. The next ride we went on was Splash Mountain. I got soaking wet. After that we went on Thunder Mountain. That is one of my favorite rides. After Thunder Mountain we went on Peter Pan. I like that ride because it feels like your flying. After we went on Peter Pan we ate lunch. After we ate lunch we got ready to go back to the hotel because my mom and dad had to go to a meeting. While my mom and dad were my at there meeting my sister and I went with my cousins to dinner at the Fort Wilderness Campgrounds. Once we were done with dinner we went back to the hotel. When we were back at the hotel we went to the shop upstairs. My cousin bought Stitch Operation so we played that in their room. The first time we played I won and the second time we played my cousin Jordan won. The next day we left. I was sad that we had to leave but happy to get home. That is what I did over the October break and it was so much fun.

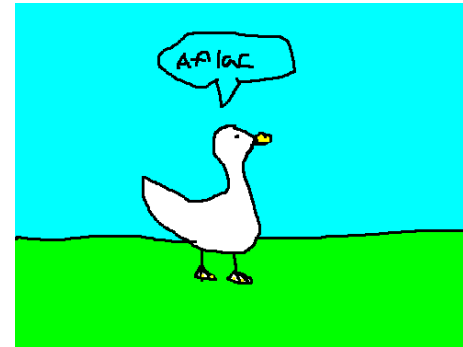


My Spanish Adventure**By: Sarah Hagan, Grade 4**

Have you ever thought about having a Spanish culture? I went to Panama this summer and I felt sort of curious because I have never been there and my relatives live there including my cousins, aunts, uncles, and even great aunts and uncles. I felt proud of myself for trying a new adventure and I was also proud to be there and really happy. Then we drove to Rio Hato and saw everyone. One of my cousins is in college but he was there on the weekends. My great uncle had a bird named Tito and my English cousin, Jack, liked the bird a lot. Also we went to the beach and my other English cousin and I collected hermit crabs at the beach and over the whole vacation we got fourteen of them! I felt energetic and decided another adventure. I felt like I would have a great time and acted excited because I knew one day we would go on a walk through a rainforest over a bunch of rocks. The rocks were part of a waterfall and we took a walk through too. There were some bridges. On the night we were about to leave we stayed up until 1:00 A. M. having a big dance party! I danced with everybody; I danced with all my cousins, aunts, uncles, great aunts, and, great uncles, and grandparents. Dancing was so much fun. I liked dancing with my oldest cousin in college. But one of my cousins is a really good dancer! Panama is so much fun!!!

**The Story of the Aflac Duck****Duck****By: Nicholas Hamilton, Grade 4**

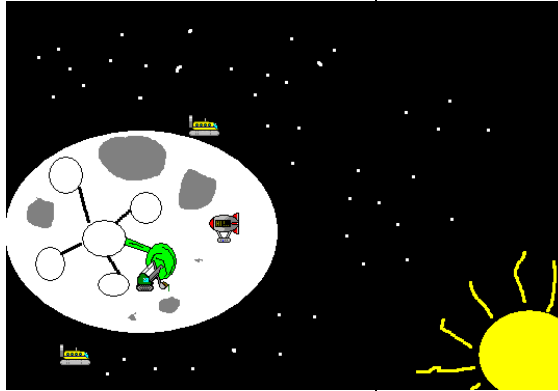
One day a little boy was sitting on his bed. He heard a funky quacking noise so he went to his window looked down and saw a very ugly duck. So the next day he went to the plastic surgery headquarters. He asked if they could make this duck look better. They said all right then so he went to the room and got him settled. Then he left. The next morning he went to see how the duck was doing. He peered in the window and his head was wrapped up. He was panicked. He thought something had gone wrong. The doctor picked him up and took the wrapping of his head. The boy couldn't look. When he looked up again he saw a beautiful face. It was the duck. So he went home with it and dashed to get the phone book. He called a company called "Get a Job." Then they hooked up with McDonalds. They did not want the duck working with them so they called more companies but nobody wanted the duck. So as he was looking some more he saw a company named, Aflac, so he called them they wanted the boy to bring him in. So he did they took him the next day he was on a commercial. The duck was a star. A couple days later everybody was talking about the duck. It was great. He even went to sign autographs once in a while. A few months later McDonalds called again wanting him to work there. He said he already had a job. They were upset but they said they would try another celebrity. Then they heard about the Geico lizard. They called him next. Read my next book in the series, *The Geico Lizard*.



Golden moon - The beginning

By Trevor Hamlin

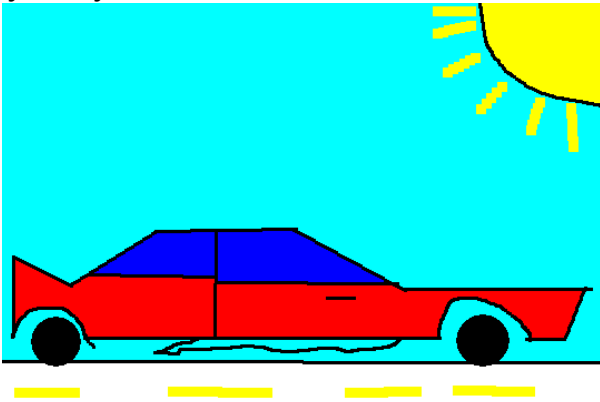
"Goats sheep and chickens belong on a farm but not in the middle of a crater in the moon," I thought as I finished my 40th day at the alpha 6-moon base. Doctor Drake was cooking up some plan about crater farms crazy reality. Oh, hello there, I'm Astronaut or



pretty much army moon base division official, Drew Parker I heard you were coming to visit. If you see anything alive other than people tell me because if you think the 2027 army moon base division squadron 4 doesn't want alien recruits than think again. Well back to work. SQUAD 4 REPORT TO SECTION ONE RED ALERT RED ALERT THIS IS NOT A DRILL REPEAT THIS IS NOT A DRILL! SPACE FIGHTER CAPTAINS BRING SQUADS TOO! The intercom has just broken in, "Move, move, move! Go section 4. Go!" said the general. There was just a huge explosion shaking every thing and the food court burst into flames as all the windows were shattered by another explosion sending me hurtling into a concrete wall. My ribs felt like splinters Then, I looked up and saw the base collapsing and debris flying everywhere. Suddenly I woke up in a hospital with a broken rib. Dhe doctor said, "You moon base division cooks are the dumbest excuse for army men. "*We vow to protect the earth,*" so stupid. "Muffin cakes," he said as an alien knocked him unconscious. I pulled out my side arm and blew the thing away helping the doctor up as I did.

To be continued,

Transmission out

Car Show**By: Harry Kitner**

I decided to write about a car show my Dad took me to almost a year ago. My favorite cars there were a pair of Shelby Cobras. One was a 1967 and the other a 2007. My second favorite was a Porsche Carrera GT. It was an amazing car. My third favorite car was a black & red Camaro. It was amazing. My fourth favorite car was a Lamborghini Contach that was a really exotic car. My fifth and final favorite was a Stingray Corvette. It was a beautiful car. Those were my top five favorite cars at that car show.

What To Do With A Puppy**By: Kylie Pamposelli, Grade 4**

I had always wanted a puppy. They are so adorable and they always want to lick your face. I have been saving up enough money to buy one cute, adorable, cuddly puppy. I already asked my mom and she said it is okay if I get one, but she said I have to have a lot of responsibility to take care of a new born puppy. Here are some things I have to do; I have to feed it, bathe it, walk it, and bring it to the vet. Its sounds pretty easy but I don't know if it is or not. First, I have to see what kind of food it likes. Then, I have to buy some pup shampoo and conditioner. That's a lot of money; especially to go to the vet. They have to give it all kinds of shots. I have always wondered if it hurts as bad as when we go to the doctors, because those shots hurt me a lot. I am not a dog so I don't know. I have a lot more questions to ask about dogs, but you are certainly not my encyclopedia. So before I get a dog I have to learn a little bit more about them especially how to clean their disgusting poop. So, next time I write a story in computer class I might already have a dog, and if you want, I will let you pet it. See you later alligator, oh and don't forget I am going to name my cute, adorable little dog, Biscuit. My mom and I adore the name Biscuit. It's a name no one can ever forget.



My First Puppies***By: Caroline Parslow, Grade 4***

I got my first dog, a golden retriever named Dilly, when I was four. Dilly is a 4-year-old dog that is in love with my best friend's Dalmatian, Balto. Today they're going to have puppies! I took them Dilly and Balto to the vet when the veterinarian called my mom to tell her and my friend's mom. I called my friend to tell her while I was in the waiting room. Once she finally picked up the phone she sounded so excited. "I know", she said, "my mom is on the phone she told me" I hung up the phone. Then the doctor came out hands full of six adorable puppies. I grabbed the puppies the doctor brought both of the now parent dogs. My friend was waiting for me at my house. "Where are they? How many are...aw they're so cute. I'm sleeping over," my friend announced. Millions of tiny squeaky barking noises filled the house that night. I barely slept because I worried about all six of the cute puppies so I kept going up and down the stairs getting milk, snacks, and giving hugs out for the dogs and puppies. My friend took a long time to wake me up. Not her fault, I just didn't want to wake up. She went home after awhile but she had to leave her dog so I looked after it, my dog, and the six cute puppies for a couple of weeks.

**My Friends at Saint Michael's*****By: Hannah Logan, Grade 4***

My first day at Saint Michael's was amazing. I met an exciting, amazing person named Lucia Spinelli. Since I came, Lucia and I have been very close friends and she is someone I can always count on. We also went to P.E and that was really fun. We were on a very hard unit but I forget what it was called. We had to run the mile which I ran with Lucia of course. I also ran with someone else but let's get back on topic. I was pretty mad because I have to run the mile again. I also had to do pull ups from a pull up bar. That was really hard and I actually got the 3rd most pull-ups and so did Lucia. Another one of my friends, Francesca, the smallest person in our class, got the most out of the whole entire class. Now I am going to tell you about my friends and myself. I am friends with everyone, but the people who I hang out the most with are Lexie, Erin, Lucia, and Jenna. They are all so nice and I am going to tell you a little about all of them. First I am going to tell you about Lucia she is the one who is someone I can just go and hangout with and she is always there for me. Now I am going to tell you about my friend, Jenna, she is someone I can go to have a great time. Lexie, well she is hilarious. Everything she says makes you laugh out loud. Erin, well she is someone that knows how to make someone feel better any time someone feels bad she goes over and makes them feel so much better. Trust me {Lexie too}. These are my best friends for life.

**Week in the Woods*****By: Jacob Rankel, Grade 4***

Have you ever been into the deep, dark woods? It took us eight hours but we finally got there. I was with my mom, Aunt Sarah, Uncle Eric, and myself. I went to my aunt's cabin in Boulder Junction, Wisconsin. First, we went to a restaurant and ate. I was happy when I got to see my family. We went boating and saw fireworks. I thought I was going to get sick, but I didn't. The day after that I went jet-skiing, tubing, and fishing. I was sad I had to leave but I had to. I miss my aunt and uncle, but I'm sure I will see them again soon.

Sharky The Shark**By: Alayna Ryan, Grade 4**

This is a story about a shark named Sharky. Sharky was an ordinary black tip reef shark. His mother keeps telling him he's the luckiest shark but that is not true. Let me tell you about his worst birthday ever!



Today was Sharky's 10th birthday and he felt so much older and he was so excited because he

really (and I mean really) wanted to open his present. When you are a shark and you turn 10 years old its time for you to get your very own lifetime supply of meat and to sharks this is a big deal. On your 10th birthday you have to do a ritual and if you don't do it right than you will be cursed for the rest of your life. Its 6:00 ocean time and that means its time for Sharky to open his present and more importantly to do the ritual. His mother is telling him how to do the ritual but all Sharky is thinking about is the big lifetime supply of meat he is going to get. Now its time for Sharky to do the ritual and it goes like this: squat, squat, clap, clap, clap, turn, turn, turn, squat, squat, jump, clap, turn. Sharky thought that the ritual was so boring so he added some music then he did it like this: squat, squat, clap, clap, turn, turn, turn, squat, squat, jump, turn, clap!!!! There was some thunder and a crack of lightning!!!! And then Sharky vanished...**TO BE CONTINUED**.....

IMMEDIATELY...

There was a thump and an "owwww!" and it was pitch black. Luckily, Sharky got an early birthday present from his blind grandmother "Grandma Lucy". It was a flashlight and Sharky had no idea why he was carrying it with him. He grabbed it, turned it on and screamed.

"AAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!" He was face to face with a BIG... underwater.....

TIGER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Underwater tiger's prey is mostly sharks! He couldn't move because he was scared and the tiger was too close to him. Mostly because he was scared. The tiger had him cornered and then there was scream. The flashlight fell and Sharky was gone.☹

This section is below the one column area and is where you can start to insert student words. Start student work here. This is set for 2 columns of writing. Once you have filled the page you will have a line automatically separating the columns.

My 4- Day Vacation***By: Lexie Schell, Grade 4***

I started out my 4-day vacation by, going to my mom's parent teacher conference. It was boring. I had to sit outside the door. But the good thing was I had my cell phone to text my best friends forever. Also after that we went to Five Guys Burgers and Fries. Then on Friday it was Halloween so my mom and I went shopping at the Edison Mall

before we went back to our house to get ready for Halloween. So that was fun! . Then instead of being Sarah Palin I had a choice to be her or buy clothes. So you know



every girl would want to buy clothes, I know I would. I got a lot of clothes... Then every year we have costume contest on our street, which I lost because I was a weird baseball player. Also I borrowed my friend's baseball outfit, so that was even worse. Then after the costume contest I was sick and I almost threw up so we went out to Outback, because when I don't eat I feel like I have to throw up, Which Outback was very good. I got the Mac-a-Roo in cheese off the kids menu and my mom order the sirloin steak that we split. Then when we got home I finally changed out my costume. Then I was myself for about 25 minutes. I went to find my friends to go Trick-or-Treating, but I got no candy, well a little. Then on Saturday I had a basketball game, which was sad I lost by 1 single point. I can't believe it! I was so mad because we lost to the team we beat before. So then my mom and dad had to work so she took me to my cousin's house, and I slept over. That was fun! Last but not least my other cousin had a Bridal Shower on Sunday, which that was not the same cousin I slept over with. The bridal shower was very fun. We played a lot of games and I won 1 time. That was awesome I got a prize! I also saw my cousin there, whom I haven't seen in 8 months. Then we had to come back to school. But I actually like school. Well sometimes. But the worst thing about it is getting up at 6:20 AM!!!! I am always so tired but I love seeing my friends. I wish it started around 9:45 like public schools. So... My vacation was pretty fun. But not the best I have ever had! I am very thankful and blessed to have all these abilities to do all these things! I thank God and my family for these things every single day of my life! ☺ ☺

My Three Best Friends and the Mean Girls***By: Lucia Spinelli***

The first day I met Hannah was so exciting. I love new kids. It all started when at lunch when this girl was being mean to Hannah and I said, "Please stop you are hurting her feelings." and she said, "NO I am not stopping. If I stop she will tell on me." I said, "Well, if you didn't start in the first place than maybe she wouldn't tell on you." Then the bell rang and it was time to go to band and we both play the trumpet and then this weird girl came and her name was Kathleen. Hannah said, "Who are you?" and she said, "I am Kathleen and who are you because I am the popular girl and these are my friends, Jenny, Sammy, and Haley. so where are your friends?" "Well, this is Hannah, she is my best friend for life and I hope I am that to her." Hannah said, "You are!" and we slapped hands and so it was Friday and Hannah came over to my house to sleepover. Then it was Monday and we spent the whole afternoon together and the bell rang and it was time to go and I bumped into Jenny, the mean girl's friend and she said, "What are you looking at?" and I said, "Your mole." Lexie and Erin came to defend me. They are my other best friends for life. They are the ones to ask if you want advice. "Lexie like don't be mean to her or we will be mean to you." The girls backed off and then this new girl came.

The Football Season***By: Peyton Staas***

My team, the Gators, have their first game of the season and they play Hawaii. We are ready to play and try our best. We scored 56 points on Hawaii the final score was 56 to 10. Our next game is against Miami and I hope we win. We have a feeling that we can win this game. We had a great game we beat them 26 to 3. It was a good game with two



good teams. Our next game is Ole Miss. Well, we did good but we got a couple turnovers and that caused us the game so we lost by one point 31 to

30. We played a good team but we lost to them. It's our next game and we play Tennessee. We played really well and the final was 30 to 6. We killed them! Well, we are at are next game we play against Kentucky and they are not that good this season but we'll see at the end of the game. We dominated them 63 to 5. A big blowout. Now we play LSU, a good team. I hope we can beat them. Well we did. We beat them badly, 51 to 21. Our next game is against Arkansas and we beat them 36 to 7 Next game is Citadel and we beat them really badly, 70 to 19. Then we played Vanderbilt and we won again 45 to 14. We played Florida State, our biggest rival and we won 45 to 15. We could go all the way. I hope! Our next game is against Alabama. It's a BIG game - the SEC championship! We are ready for a challenge

Alabama is a great team a we are too so we will see who's better.