



Syracuse University

Alumni Club of South Florida



www.SouthFloridaSyracuse.com

Volume 4, Number 13 – December 2009

# South Florida Orange Squeezings

## SU Basketball Explodes on the Scene

No one was more surprised than your humble editor at what has transpired on the hardwoods in the middle of November. I fully expected that with the loss of three key players from last year's team that this season would definitely be a "rebuilding" year. And, after the loss to Le Moyne in exhibition play I was sure of it. Well, how wrong can you be!

First real game up was Albany with a 9:00 PM start time. We decided not to have a party due to the lateness of the hour. It was a pleasant surprise that the Orange dealt this CNY "power" a 75-43 beating. And that win gave Jim Boeheim win number 800. It was the smothering defense that was the real news in this win. At least this team was not going to be embarrassed.

Next came Robert Morris and at least on paper it seemed like more of a challenge. Nope, this was a 100-60 point thrashing. But the national polls did not sit up and take notice... We were still unranked.

However, certain players were beginning to announce to the sports world that they had arrived. SU senior Andy Rautins, playing on an injured ankle, led the Orange with 22 points and shot 7 out of 10 from beyond the arc.

Club members who live in the northern part of our tri-county area had been asking for a long time for a party "up north." We scheduled the game with California in Palm Beach Gardens to accommodate. And what a game it was if you bleed orange! Cal came into the match ranked number 13 in the nation and bent on teaching these upstarts how to play the game.

At this point I must confess that I did not see the first half as I teach a course on Thursday nights. As I came in the 'Cuse had a half-time lead of 11 point. As I wrapped my hands around a frosty Bass ale, SU was teaching a course in defense itself. Boeheim's trademarked 2-3 zone was exacting a price on the Golden

Bears in the friendly confines of Madison Square Garden.

I would have liked to have used a Post-Standard picture below, but NCAA rules now prohibit us even buying an image from them. *(continued on p. 2)*



Last spring at the NCAA regional's

## More Parties Added to the Calendar

As the season unfolds the SUACSF is adding new items to the calendar. It says here in fine print that you should look at our website frequently to get the latest and greatest.

As Eric points out in the column to the right, we had great success with our basketball party in Palm Beach Gardens. Therefore be on the lookout for events with more than one location. We have not yet posted any but they will appear shortly.

We have four games on the schedule right now, but this team is red hot so we will add to this list in the near term.

Not all SUACSF functions need to be mass events like our parties. We are thinking about small lunch meetings of just a few members. We can use our large e.mail distribution list to say: "hi, a few of us are getting together on such and such a date and time." The beauty of e.mail is that it is very responsive. We don't have a facility like Lubin House in New York, but we could have a virtual hangout at some restaurant or pub.

Look for a theater party or a museum tour to enter the calendar later in the new year. If you have an idea slip me some e.mail and let's make it happen.



## President's Corner by Eric Handis

I would like to use the vehicle of this monthly column to communicate the broad direction the SUACSF's board has mapped out. Let me begin by welcoming all of the new members of our club. You have joined the most vibrant small market Syracuse alumni club in the nation. Let me make five points in this article.

First, the board has planned a great schedule of events for the 2009-2010 season. While our season follows the academic year, the SUACSF has activities the year round. *(continued on p. 3)*

We need your help in finding a venue for the wine tasting. If you have a business that can hold 40 or so of our members on Saturday, February 13, 2010 please send me an e.mail message: bob@s-i-inc.com.

## SU Basketball Explodes on the Scene (continued from p. 1)

SU held Cal's much respected three point shooting to just one for nine in the second half. It was not only defense that carried the day. The Orange shot 57% for the game as a whole and 63% in the second half.

Sophomore guard Scoop Jardine led with 22 points proving that we have a back court that is respectable. Transfer student Wes Johnson prove that the move from Iowa State was a touch of Jim Boeheim magic. The two other big men, Rick Jackson and Arinze Onuaku played excellent offense as well as outstanding D.

OK, the California win might have just been a fluke and the Golden Bears could have been over rated. But the finals of the 2K Sports Classic involved our guys and the University of North Carolina. The boys in Carolina blue were ranked number six in the nation. Sadly, I was at a function where it would have been inappropriate to ask to turn on the TV.

From what I could glean from accounts of the game it was one that would be remembered for a good long time. Sports Illustrated said that Syracuse administered a "thumping" of UNC. Wes Johnson was named the tournament's MVP. He scored 14 points in the first nine minutes on his way to scoring 25 points with 8 rebounds.

It was a real team effort all night. When the game was won five players were in double digits: Andy Rautins, Kris Joseph, Arinze Onuaku, Freshman sensation Brandon Triche, and the aforementioned Wesley Johnson.

The team was down by two points at half time. However, they came out from the break "smoking." With Arinze Onuaku leading the way they went on a 22-3 run and put the game away. It was a great win.

But let's not over do it sports fans. There is a long season yet to be played. The Big East is loaded with talent. And the next five games against "cupcakes" could hold a surprise if the boys in orange get a swelled head. Fortunately for us Boeheim did not fall off the turnip cart yesterday. If anyone can keep this team focused it is Coach Jim.

I trust this will entice those of you who have never (or rarely) turned out for one of our basketball parties to pick an upcoming game, put on your SUACSF logoed shirts, and rally with the Orange. What? You don't have a shirt yet? Please go to the website and order one quickly.

**As we go to press Syracuse University has been ranked number 10 in the nation.**



## Dean's Desk

"Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds." *Theodore Roosevelt*

Greetings to all fellow SUACSF members. This is a special time of year as we look forward to the holiday season, and time spent with family and friends. With my own son visiting from college this week, it reminded me of how much I looked forward to the holiday break when I was a college student myself. Back in those days we didn't obviously have the communication methods we have today. In fact, while I did have a phone in my dorm room, I was under strict orders by my parents NOT TO CALL since long distance rates were expensive. So as a result, the holiday break was really the first opportunity to catch family up on all current events.

Speaking of current events, a shout out to Tony Lourido for organizing a fantastic North Palm Beach game event (SU v. Cal) – Was a great turnout, many new faces all of whom had a great time and

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have pledged to come out again to other events. Another shout out goes to Joel and Andrea Spiegelman for their support of our SOS Children's Village Lighting ceremony. For those of you planning on participating at the lighting event please contact me via e.mail at:

[dmorrison@baytreeleasing.com](mailto:dmorrison@baytreeleasing.com)

so I know you want to be involved and can coordinate directly with you.

This is the **last opportunity** for me to remind you about our holiday dinner the evening of December 5<sup>th</sup>. The information is on our web site and on our Facebook page. It is not too late to RSVP for the event. This is going to be a great event with a featured Syracuse University guest speaker, Ronald Goldfarb, and also a chance to participate in the Bro-

ward County *Toys For Tot* program. But you need to act today. Get the details on the website:

[www.SouthFloridaSyracuse.com](http://www.SouthFloridaSyracuse.com).

The send us an e.mail message at:

[bob@s-i-inc.com](mailto:bob@s-i-inc.com).

Those of you who follow the Syracuse basketball program know that they have signed a highly touted recruit to play for the Orange next year. He is a young man currently attending Sagemont High School in Weston, FL and who, appropriately enough, goes by the name "Melo"!

Please reply back to me by e.mail if you have interest in attending one of his games so I can make those arrangements as an alumni club event.

This is the last issue of *Squeezings* this year. Let me wish each and every one of you the very best holiday season: happy and safe! Thank you for your support of SUACSF activities. I am looking forward to seeing you at the holiday party, and all the other great events planned in 2010!



## Networking by Ryan Schultz

This month I want to share with you the 10 tips I keep in mind when I go networking for business. They were passed on to me by my mentor to help me keep focused. I keep these in mind every time I go to an event. I want to meet a handful of quality people and make a real con-

nection with them. The rules empower me to be less timid and more purposeful. So, without further ado:

1. Be prepared & have a plan – have a good idea of who will be there and who you want to meet.
2. Arrive early – it is much easier to start a conversation with the one or two people already there than to find time in a crowded room.
3. Be a giver – work on making connections between others or helping those you meet. They will remember your help and be more likely to help you or work with you in the future.
4. Separate your life and purpose for networking – focus on the task at hand. Don't let a bad mood spoil an

opportunity to make valuable business connections.

5. Listen with focus – pay attention to the person you are speaking to. Learn about them and they will tell you how you can make a connection.
6. Be genuine – people see through insincerity quickly and won't do business with you if you aren't real.
7. Don't sell – the time to sell is not at the event. Make the connection. The sale comes later; once you have gotten together another time.
8. Follow up – be thorough. Do as you say you will do. It reflects on you and how you run your business.
9. Attend different types of events – don't lock yourself into just one group

or type of groups. Expose yourself to different people.

10. Be able to articulate your role – easily and confidently. Know who you are and how you operate. Be clear, concise and direct.

I hope these tips help you grow your business as they have mine. If you want an opportunity to try them out, come to the next SUACSF Networking Event!

Wednesday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:00pm – 8:00pm  
Champps Americana  
6401 N. Andrews Ave.  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309  
(954) 491-9335

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## President's Corner (continued from p. 1)

We will be doing themed parties like the upcoming Holiday Party set for Saturday night December 5, 2009. There will be guest speakers, like Ronald Goldfarb, to make the SU connection down here in the tropics. The popular wine tasting will take place in February and a Chinese Auction in March. We will continue to meet to watch the Orange compete on national television.

Second, we have spread our geographic reach into the northern and southern areas of our tri-county market area. We had a very successful party for the SU/ Cal game in Palm Beach Gardens. Our club has over 800 members, so we are confident that we can hold functions in two or more locations at the same time. This is the first time we have had enough mass to do this. Visit our website often to see when we open up games to multi-site viewing.

My next point is related to the above one. In the fall of 2005 we were a club of mod-

est size and an e.mail distribution list of 75 names. Our first issue of *Squeezings* was sent to those 75 members in July of 2006. This issue will reach 725 of our members for whom we have e.mail addresses on file. As our reach has expanded so has the number, attendance, and quality of our events risen.

Fourth, we have developed the first of what may become special interest groups (SIG) within the club. The first SIG is the Networking group. Under the direction of Ryan Schultz, the Networking group holds monthly meetings in varying locations in our market area.

Finally, and this is most important, we are always looking for additional members who would like to take a leadership role. If you have an idea for a party, event, or activity, come to our board meetings or send me an e.mail message ([eric.handis@regions.com](mailto:eric.handis@regions.com)) saying: "Hi Eric, here is my suggestion!"

While the thrust of this column has been on the progress we have made to date I firmly believe that the best is yet to come. With your help we can grow from strength to strength. It is great fun to be part of something very few alumni groups are doing.



Just part of the crowd that attend the dinner for a viewing of the Ernie Davis movie, *the Express*