

## The Dawgmeister's Weekend Forecast: Week 13, Technical Knock Out

The Recap: Happy now?

Really, not much to add to the volumes already written, and I don't think that wins over cupcakes, even ones that are highly successful against their own level of competition, merit extended analysis. So go back and reread what you've already read if you want game commentary.

Obviously, the waters parted for us on Saturday—again, little to add here so late in the game. But it sure feels good to control our own destiny against a beatable, if potentially championship-level team in the embarrassing ACC; and an Alabama team with enough weaknesses to give everyone on this side of the border a lot to be hopeful about.

Coveted Dawgmeister Game Balls go to the wide receiver corps, who are absorbing potentially devastating losses at the top of the rotation as though nothing ever happened.

Dawg Doots:

- It's fascinating to see all those Auburn commits saying that unless Chizik is retained, they'll decommit. With Auburn so dismal right now, I'd assume that they'd only honor their commitments if Chizik were *not* retained. I suspect they're waiting till after the Alabama game to clean out current management and start over again.
- Auburn, incidentally, is tied at #5 in the [national BOTTOM 10](#) along with Tennessee and Kentucky, with each winless in the SEC this year so far, and all soon to be competing for Charlie Strong to revive their programs, along with Arkansas.
- Speaking of Arkansas, who knew that two such disparate field generals, David Petraeus and The Swine, had so much in common off the battlefield? Or that The Swine would be the one with the better chance of landing on his feet, if not keeping his zipper in the upright and locked position?
- Johnny Manziel was a 3-star recruit coming out of high school in spite of having a legendary reputation. Rivals had him as the 14<sup>th</sup> best dual-threat QB in his class. #1 is Braxton Miller, and few would quibble with that one. But I suspect we'll never hear of most of the guys ranked #s 2-13 (and #3 was Jacoby Brissett, Jeff Driskell's backup at Florida, with national Player of the Year Kiehl "The Green Mile" Frazier ranked #5). The guy ranked 16<sup>th</sup>: Everett Golson (3 stars), now starting at unbeaten Notre Dame over their stable of Emu Wannabees; and rated at #12, and also rated as a 3-star recruit, was Marcus Mariotta of recently unbeaten Oregon.
- The #41 dual-threat QB in the 2011 signing class? Vad Lee, GT
- Among pro-style QBs, Jeff Driskell, [author of one of the nation's worst offenses in his two years as a starter under offensive geniuses Charlie Weiss and Brent Pease](#), and in his second year as a starter still frequently referred to as "young" to account for his play, was the #1 ranked pro-style passer. Bleacher Report said of Driskell as a prospect, "He's an extremely accurate quarterback, has solid field vision, makes smart decisions, and has the best pocket presence of any quarterback in the 2011 class." As I understand it, that's not how it's turned out.

- Christian LeMay was the #3 pro style quarterback. I'm no expert, but I wouldn't call either LeMay or Driskell a pro-style quarterback. The Bleacher Report said of Christian, "If not for Braxton Miller, he'd be the top quarterback in the 2011 class."
- Bleacher Report said in 2011 that "When you compare Braxton Miller, Christian LeMay, and Kiehl Frazier, they all play such similar styles and have such similar strengths that it's odd they don't go one, two, three on Scout's list. Nothing against Teddy Bridgewater, but there are so many questions about his game, and those questions just aren't there for Frazier. He's a polished product."
- [Parker Welch](#) was a 2-star quarterback in the 2012 class.
- I hope that the people who booed our team because it couldn't blow Mississippi off the field in the first half—it took three quarters for that to happen—saw them almost knock off LSU in Death Valley on Saturday.
- The Owlmeister is most stoked about Temple's huge win over Army, which I'm sure you watched. He's also pretty excited about their uniforms and their britches, which Mrs. Butts finds a wee bit busy in their dotted line vertical stripe approach. I'll leave it to fashion experts to settle this one.

Dawg Good Guy of the Week: It's mighty hard to get on the field as a true freshman—just ask all the five-star kids playing on special teams and taking redshirts. It's harder to become a starter, especially at one of the thinking man's positions: QB, inside linebacker, and in this case, center. We've had a couple of guys named Jones start at center in their first year in the program, and Nick is this week's good guy. Coming to UGA from Bowdon, GA, Nick started 32 straight games, was on teams that went 40-12 and 3-1 in bowls, played in two SEC championship games, and won the 2005 SEC title. He was a second team All-SEC selection at center as a senior and was elected as the permanent co-captain of the 2006 squad, then played in the Hula Bowl All-Star Game. A 2006 graduate in risk management and insurance, Jones was named the team's Most Valuable Offensive Player as a senior and was recipient of the Leon Farmer Strength and Conditioning Award. He signed as a free agent with the Seahawks in 2007 and spent parts of two seasons with the Seahawks, Giants and Lions in the NFL before returning to UGA as a graduate assistant. Nick was an asset to UGA during his brief stint as a coach, first in the press box and then on the sidelines to take advantage of his coaching and motivating skills. He also prepped the defensive scout team. Nick was then hired by Coastal Carolina to be its tight ends and tackles coach. CC's head coach Joe Moglia said, "Nick is an enthusiastic up-and-coming coach. He comes highly recommended and has proven to have great football IQ. Nick has a great knack for motivating and relating with the student-athletes since he was such a great leader while he played at Georgia. Nick's energy will be contagious and we are excited to have his influence." Who wouldn't be glad to have this Dawg great teaching their kids about how to be winners on and off the field? Thanks, Nick, for all you've done for us.

The Forecast: Dawgs host Georgia Tech, where Vad Lee has the nerd faithful believing they can knock us off on their way to the ACC championship game. Kudos to whoever scheduled back-to-back games against teams running high school offenses, which had helped to spread our game planning and prepping over two weeks instead of just one. On Saturday, it took us a quarter or so to adjust to playing against GSU's option, and that should work to our advantage against GT. Dawgs finish strong and Russ finishes as one of the most successful first-year UGAs in program history. Good Guys, 42-17.

National Game of the Week: Well, Saturday sure took the drama out of some of these games. Even Notre Dame vs. USC, with Barkley out and USC headed to oblivion, has lost its glow. The game that's ascended to national importance is Florida vs. FSU, with both teams still entertaining hopes that more upsets will vault them into the championship game. I don't see that happening, but dream on, boys. Florida probably plays Brissett at QB, and who knows if that's good or bad. I'll go with SEC physicality over ACC optimism. Gators, 17-14.

National Upset of the Week: If a sub-par Baylor team can beat the snot out of #1 K-State, anything can happen. Let's go with Oregon State over Oregon, just to make sure another overrated Pac-12 team doesn't even think of playing for the national championship. Beavs over Birds, 38-35.