

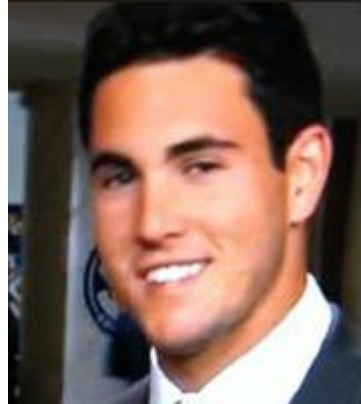
THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS MANGLE BENGALS

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SEPARATED AT BIRTH? ARCHIVE

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Aaron Murray & Elvis

This is that special weekend of the year when Brother Willie and his lovely wife Fanny Butts-Cheeks come on down to Athens for a big football weekend. Normally while the boys are at the stadium, the ladies settle in for a weekend of NASCAR on the Big Screen, but for some reason, this year they've opted for a Michael Douglas Film Festival. Willie always comes down for a big game, and aside from the LSU game of infamy when the crowd flagged the ref for excessive officiating and A.J.'s historic catch set the stage for LSU's short-field winning TD, the Dawgs have come away a winner on each occasion that he has graced Sanford Stadium with his luminous presence. It's time to avenge that tragically over-officiated game with a convincing win on Saturday.

The Recap: We finally got to break out the ponchos on Saturday. Aside from a couple of passes to begin the second half that suffered from wet ball syndrome, and a first-half pick that is near-inexplicable, Aaron played another terrific game and personally out-rushed UNT, 37 yards to 7. We all wished for a bigger rout, but nobody told UNT that they were supposed to come up here and get walked all over. Something about those football players, they're always trying to win games. Not much to report from here beyond the obvious comments about special teams snafus and fabulous freshmen making plays all over the field. Next week will require far greater concentration for a team that is quintessentially LSU: tough, powerful, run-oriented, and talented. More on that matchup later.

Running back comparison for 2013: The first player listed below was a 5-star recruit and the #4 RB in the land. He originally committed to UGA, got scared when he saw Gurley and Marshall play, and then bailed and committed to Alabama, where things weren't so competitive. The second originally committed to Georgia Tech, got a late offer from UGA, and took the place of the first in UGA's signing class. He was a 2-star recruit and was not listed in national rankings of RBs.

Player	Rushes	Yards	Yards/Rush	Yards/Game	TD
Henry, Derrick	1	-3	-3.0	-3.0	0
Douglas, Brendan	9	37	4.1	18.5	0

Maybe it wasn't Gurley and Marshall who scared off Henry. Maybe he heard that Douglas was thinking of flipping.

Dawg Doots:

- The day of the SC game, Todd Blackledge did his Taste of the Town feature at Mama's Boy. As is his custom, he ordered something that Paula Deen would ban from her own kitchen as grossly insalubrious, including a blocking-sledge-sized slice of chocolate cake with his breakfast. Given that he looks pretty fit, and appears to eat like a pre-Subway Jared, I can only conclude that he is bulimic.
- Mark Richt suspended Marshall Morgan for 2 games vs. Clemson and SC for drinking a few brewskies over the summer while boating on an otherwise vacant lake. Les Miles suspended Jeremy Hill for one game vs. TCU after he dodged time in jail following his violation of his probation for oral sexual battery—forcing a 14-year-old girl to fellate him and a guy in his posse—when he was charged with assault after being [captured on video](#) sucker-punching a guy outside a bar.
- A few years back, Mike Lemon, a really bright and good-natured kid, had his heart ripped out when a bum of a boyfriend beat his mom to death with a blunt object and then set her trailer on fire, nearly killing his little brother as well. In the painful aftermath, Mike sucker-punched a guy at a party, the first time he'd ever violated a rule of any kind. Coach Richt dismissed him from the team permanently.
- Coach Miles appears to have developed his ethic at Oklahoma State, now under investigation for a variety of payola violations and other abuses during his term of service in Stillwater, a.k.a. "The Starksville of Oklahoma."
- "The thing about Stillwater, there's really nothing to do. The [recruits] come on visits. They stay at [a hotel]. The girls would go up, bam, bam, and that was it." ~Anonymous OSU staffer
- What did you think that Oklahoma State was doing with all of T. Boone Pickens's money, hiring extra tutors?
- What I'd really like to know is this: How did *Sports Illustrated* manage to catalogue all of OK State's violations in just five reports?
- "I can tell you this, we've always done things right. . . . The volunteers' role in our program was important and I wanted to stress how seriously we took their duties and responsibilities and the manner in which we expected those students to conduct themselves if they were selected for Orange Pride. I am not aware of [sex] ever happening and am quite sure that no staff member was aware of recruits sleeping with this group of students or any other students." ~ Les Miles
- "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinski." ~Bill Clinton

- LSU has issued a denial of the report that the first name on Les Miles's speed-dial list is [Better Call Saul](#).
- Studs McMachoman reports that he was in a bar, and on the TV set, ESPN was on. He couldn't hear what Lou Holtz was saying, but the closed captioning translated it as "wpqfssffsfsqnqrklslsnvnlvprgslknnnnrgvn."

Good Guy of the Week: The Coveted Dawgmeister Good Guy of the Week Award goes to [Benjamin Watson](#). Ben started out at Duke, then transferred to UGA, where he majored in finance. He had a terrific 3-year career at UGA, and before becoming the Patriots' top pick in the draft, scored a 48 on his Wonderlic Test—the third-highest score ever after Mike Mamula (49) and the only perfect score, Pat McNally (50). He's now been in the NFL for 10 years, and just signed a 3-year contract with the Saints. According to Wikipedia, "In the 2005 AFC Divisional Game against the Denver Broncos, Watson made perhaps [one of the most notable plays in NFL history](#), when he tackled Denver cornerback Champ Bailey one yard short of what would be a 101-yard interception off Tom Brady. Bailey intercepted the pass one yard inside of the Patriot endzone and proceeded 100 yards before Watson, the only Patriot within ten yards of Bailey, hit Bailey violently, knocking both the ball and Bailey out at the Denver 1-yard line. This play is of note due to the fact that Watson was on the other side of the field when Bailey made the play. Watson had to sprint an estimated 120-yards, run through a referee and never gave up in the chase." Benjamin and his wife Kirsten and their four children live lives of deep devotion, orienting their lives to the love of God and allowing that love to flow through all relationships. Their foundation [One More](#) "serves as an extension of Kirsten and Benjamin as they reach out to the community with faith in God as their foundation. It also allows them to support and partner with those who share their desire to make a positive difference in the world." [Ben's blog](#) reveals well how his deep commitment to his Savior permeates his view of life. He's on the Executive Committee of the NFL Players Association, which is a position of tremendous respect, and is very impressive when interviewed: Scroll down [this page](#) to see his response to Ndamukong Suh's conduct, and feel proud that he represents UGA with the best of them.

The Forecast: I'm glad to see Zach Mettenberg land on his feet, but I think that those feet won't serve him well on Saturday. He's the anti-Manziel, an easy target in the pocket. I talked to him when he was in high school, and he told me that he was getting sacked a lot. I got the sense that the OL wasn't keeping guys out, but it's also possible he wasn't elusive even at the HS level. No Connor Shaw is he. I think we'll contain their O much better than we contained SC because there won't be a scramble for a gain when he gets flushed, because he only flushes down, not out. LSU always has a tough D, but we hung 41 on SC, who has one too. So let's say LSU' is better. Dawgs, 34-24.

National Game of the Week: Oklahoma at Notre Dame. Against a cruddy Tulsa team, the Belldozer appeared to be more than a 3rd and short QB. I sure hope so. Sooners, 20-17.

National Upset of the Week: First, let me review my upset forecasts vs. actual game scores thus far:

The Dawgmeister's Upset Forecast:

Temple 27 Notre Dame 24

Virginia 31 Oregon 30

Cal 34 Ohio State 30

Actual Scores:

Notre Dame 28 Temple 6

Oregon 59 Virginia 10

Ohio State 52 Cal 34

Meanwhile, perfectly good upsets have occurred in every week of the season. Please recall that *the Dawgmeister's weekend forecasts are for entertainment purposes only*. That said, how about Kentucky over Florida? It's in Lexington, and I wonder how Will Muschamp's 2-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dust approach is looking down in Gainesville after the Meyer years. I honestly think that losing Driskel will make them better, even as I hate to see any kid lose part of his college career to an injury, because he's not very good. Murphy will be making his first road start, and I hope that folks up in Lexington fill that little stadium and make some noise. Another Coach Stoops takes home a W. Cats, 21-20.