

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
ONE GUTSY WIN**

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**SEPARATED AT BIRTH? ARCHIVE
SEPARATED AT BIRTH?**



**AARON
MURRAY**

**& TOP GUN
MAVERICK**



“If you go out and you see someone you dislike, just hate with all your heart, it’s going to be hard for you not to say something to them.” ~The Right Rev. Ray “The Pastor of Disaster” Drew

This game was made for Larry Munson. A historic rivalry that, this year as well as most, will shape both teams’ destinies and have ripple effects all the way from the lowliest fan to the university presidents and state governors. For the Dawgs, a dominant performance at the start on both sides of the ball that portended a possible rout and reverie long into the night. A thrilling Gurley TD for one of those yardline countdowns to the endzone, with Todd running like a stallion yet showing effects of the layoff, enough to raise a shadow of a doubt. The ongoing story of Marshall Morgan’s great season of repentance and redemption. An offensive line that gave the backfield time and space to move the ball and had their way with the strength of the Florida team. A chippiness that gave the game an emotional edge that resonated throughout the stadium, through the cathode rays of the Big Screen, and into our collective adrenaline system.

And then, a dramatic turn on a play that should have sealed the game, but instead let the hated Gators back into the game, with one of our most reliable senior leaders muffing a perfect pass and then losing his focus to let Florida recover the ball in position for a score. A third quarter in which it seemed that we kept getting knocked back on both lines of scrimmage and barely ran a play. Our commanding lead whittled down to a precious field goal with a seeming eternity on the clock and all momentum going Florida's way. Time to [hunker it down one more time](#).....and then a heroic, gutsy, tough, 15-play drive to eat up the game's last 8 minutes, much like the drive that finished the drill against S. Carolina, with an exhausted Gurley lunging for yards and eating up the clock and little guy Rhett "The Gator Killer" McGowan nabbing a critical pass and muscling his way past the sticks, to seal a third straight win in Jacksonville, a total that had taken 20 years to achieve before Aaron Murray's sophomore year.

After the game Coach Muschamp [went all Chucky](#) on the Lamestream Sports Media, and if the Florida press includes clowns like [Mark "Where'd He Play?" Bradley](#), I can see why. I would love to see someone run a Jon-Stewart-esque montage of clips capturing Bradley saying whatever sounds good at the moment, no matter what he said last week or the week before. The consummate front-runner again shows that his only principle is to make himself sound as if he's an authority on the games he covers but doesn't understand.

A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball goes to the coaches for their preparation in terms of game-planning and play-calling. We blitzed a lot more than normal, and it paid off. We did yield long drives in the game's middle quarters, which wore us down and gave them hope, but came up stout when we needed a big stop in the fourth.

A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball goes to the offensive line, which Danielson noted throughout the game played exceptionally well. Dallas Lee in particular played the game of his life, according to Danielson.

A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball goes to Garrison Smith for his inspirational play and inspirational words to rally the defense to put a lid on things in spite of the fact that they barely left the field in the third quarter when the offense lost its mojo and things got nervous.

A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball goes to Todd Gurley for coming out of the gate with incredible fire and desire, raining down verbal and physical hellfire on Florida's defense, causing Florida to defend him on every down and leaving other guys free for big plays, fighting through fatigue following his month-long layoff, and getting every inch out of every carry in the final eight minutes when he was running on fumes and the team needed to move the chains and keep Florida's offense on the sidelines.

Dawg Doots:

- [Isaiah Crowell is having a good year.](#)
- [Nick Chubb, too.](#)
- Marlon Brown is listed among the [top rookie surprises](#) in the NFL.
- And how about The Albanian Bane o' Y'all rising to [third on the QB depth chart](#)? There was much speculation that Bauta would be moved to tight end, fullback, or linebacker before long, but now there's a better chance that Christian LeMay will be a WR by spring

practice, filling a position need and lining up alongside little brother Uriah in passing formations. (That forecast is entirely uninformed by knowledge from within the program.)

- Judging by the prominent reporting of Justin Scott-Wesley's use of medical marijuana to help him fight off pain following knee surgery and address the long-term possibility of glaucoma, I have to think that the Lamestream Media considers his situation to be right up there in international importance with the Obamacare website fiasco, the Syrian threat of chemical weapons, and Kanye West's latest pronouncement on the beauty, grace, and virtue of Kim Kardashian.
- I've watched some ACC games while waiting for an SEC game to start, and they just don't draw fans in that league. The Wake Forest-Miami game, at Miami's Sun Life Stadium with Miami unbeaten and ranked #7 in the BCS poll, was revealing: Of the 75,000 seats available, [most were empty, in spite of the announced crowd of 66,160](#). Do these teams have fans?
- I imagine that's what ACC fans must think when they see most SEC basketball games on TV.
- [Here's one draft board](#) that includes a whole lot of QBs, none named Aaron Murray, A.J. McCarron, or Connor Shaw. I'd take all three over some of the guys listed (e.g., Tajh Boyd, the 3rd QB listed, in the 13th overall spot). I can't figure out what is holding McCarron back in these rankings; probably the same things that made Tom Brady a 6th round draft choice. I think that people underestimate Shaw at their peril; he's about as tough a football player as I've ever seen, is far more skilled than credited by draft gurus, and is the type of dual-threat QB now all the rage from pee wee football to the NFL. I've already opined extensively on Aaron Murray and won't belabor the point further for the NFL GMs who read The Dawgmeister's wisdom to inform their draft boards. For a good time, see these 2014 draft QB rankings and assessments: [This one](#), [that one](#), and [the other one](#).
- If I had the first pick in the draft, I think I'd take Mike Evans of Texas A&M. That guy is ridiculous. Draft gurus see him as the 2nd best WR after Sammie Watkins.
- I hope you saw Matthew Stafford's game against Dallas on October 27. Later in the week I learned that the [Cowboys safety he abused during the game-winning drive](#) was none other than Jakar "The Hitman" Hamilton, who came to UGA as the next Thomas Davis and ended as a transfer to South Carolina State. And the key play on the drive was a 40-yard completion to Kris Durham, who appears to be their #2 or #3 WR after that guy from Georgia Tech. With the Falcons rivaling UGA for having top players sidelined with injuries, watching ex-Dawgs is currently your best entertainment value on Sundays.

THE COVETED DAWGMEISTER GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK AWARD **GOOD GUY ARCHIVE**

In a season in which the team has been decimated by injuries, it's time to acknowledge a Dawg injured so early and often that he never actually suited up and played. Remember Antavious Coates? Antavious was a [3-star recruit](#) out of South Carolina, a safety who was regarded as a very intriguing prospect because of his rare size (6'-4") and athleticism. Antavious got injured for the first time in high school, blowing out his knee and missing the last half of his senior year. But the coaching staff stood by their promise of a scholarship and followed it all the way through

graduation, [even though he was sidelined the whole time](#) he was at UGA because his knee kept giving in and requiring surgery. Antavious nonetheless stayed with the team in supporting roles off the field of play. He was a fixture at games, doing what needed to be done to help the team do its best. He took advantage of his studies at UGA, graduating with not only an undergraduate degree but a master's degree as well. Joel Maxcy, his master's program faculty advisor, has said admirably, "Antavious Coates was enrolled in my classes while completing his master's degree in Sport Management at the University of Georgia. During his studies Antavious completed an internship with the UGA Athletic Association. Both in the classroom and through his work experiences, he has shown himself to be motivated, conscientious, and professional. Moreover, Antavious is a natural leader and works very well with others." After UGA, Antavious worked at the Omni Club fitness center, where his supervisor Don Allen says, "In almost 20 years of organizational leadership, one meets many hundreds of employees. There are always those few that really stand out in your mind. The ones that you can just see are destined for greatness. 'AC,' as I've always known Antavious, is most definitely destined for greatness. One thing I've noticed over the years is that individuals with natural talent can at times rest on their laurels. Not AC. He is always hungry to get better and regularly challenges himself. AC is humble, driven, empathetic, and has an incredible personal integrity. I've never seen or even heard of AC compromising his integrity in any way." For the last year he's been an account manager with The Sports Consulting Group at [UBS Financial Services Inc.](#), making it in life well beyond the football career that never happened, yet which provided him the education that has launched him well professionally. He's a great example of what our program achieves through its [promise to help teenaged boys grow into good men](#), no matter how football turns out for them.



THE FORECAST

I don't think App State can take us, no matter what they did to Michigan a few years ago and no matter how many guys on our side are in street clothes. Gurley continues to run himself into shape, Murray continues his rewriting of the record book, and we keep building something on defense. Dawgs, 41-10.

National Game of the Week: Hard to bypass LSU-Alabama, but that's what I'm doing with Oregon-Stanford. Time for the BCS standings to get reshuffled, as always happens at this time of year: Cardinal quacks the Ducks, 31-30.

National Upset of the Week: Though both teams are ranked, suggesting a game of national stature, I'll invest my upset forecast in Oklahoma over Baylor. Bears are higher ranked and at

home, and OU has sputtered while Baylor's had it in overdrive. Time for that train to go off the rails. Sooners, 45-41.

Note: The Dawgmeister's Upset Special is as likely to pay off as a [Jim Cramer stock pick](#).