

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:  
THE JOKE'S ON CLEMSON**

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**SEPARATED@BIRTH? ARCHIVE  
SEPARATED@BIRTH?**



**EX- CLEMSON WALK- & THE JOKER  
ON JOHN EDWARDS**

Do you realize how difficult it is to locate famous Clemson alumni on the Internet? It's so hard that I had to go with this peckerwood, who once squired the co-eds in the city whose motto is "In season, every season," whose nickname is Tigertown (no, I'm not talking about Princeton), and whose Wikipedia page actually features this picture of its beautiful vistas:



Well, good to know they have finally paved their streets. And sorry, Clemson: In season, every season; but not this season.

But enough about that fair, maybe below average, city across the border. It's time for football! First, however, a moment of silence, led by our esteemed coaching rival from this week's opponent:



***Coach Swinney praises the Lord while mounting the Scrotum Pole with rear-end assistance.***

Amen, Brother.

UGA is one of about 125 teams starting the season with hope and optimism. I've got plenty on this end. I next provide a review of things that you already know because if you read this, you've read everything else written since Signing Day. Here's why we will win on Saturday:

2013, Clemson University

<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Plays run</b>	<b>Yards</b>	<b>Defensive Coordinator</b>	<b>Game site</b>
UGA	38-35	76	476	Grantham	Clemson
Florida St.	14-51	86	326	Pruitt	Clemson

Last year, Sammy Watkins lit us up, while Malcolm Mitchell went out for the year on the first series. Grantham stuck with rookies who didn't know the playbook, and he rarely substituted. The D was heavier and not conditioned to keep pace, much less get calls from the sidelines in time to defend the play. Ray Drew started; this year he's running with the third team. Gurley was injured on his spectacular 75-yarder, only getting 11 more carries for 79 more. Marshall Morgan was suspended for drinking beer over the summer and we missed an easy kick. And we lost by 3 points on their field.

This year, no Boyd or Watkins. This year, it's between the hedges. This year, we roll with one of the best backfields in program history. This year, the OL is big, deep, and tough. This year, our defense will rotate more guys in and not wait till the snap to know what scheme they're in. This year, the more competitive environment will undo complacency bred when guys on the field know they'll never come out and those on the sideline know they'll never get in.

This year our special teams should have a lot of great returners, Morgan should prevent runbacks by kicking off into the endzone, Barber should bring a new focus to handling snaps and booming punts high and deep, the special teams should be special, and field position should swing our way.

This year, I can't wait for this game to kick off.



## **DAWG DOOTS**

- “The trap that snares most successful college coaches [is that] they try to build programs so strong that nobody can question them. Then the program is built, and people question them more, because expectations are higher and more people are paying attention, and it drives the coaches nuts.” This statement about Tom Izzo could easily apply to Mark Richt, who has built the program to an incredibly high level and always seems to be under the gun from people who expect more.

- ☞ “When I put my head on the pillow at night, can I have peace to know I did what I think is best, what I think is right?” ~Mark Richt
- ☞ “Yes.” ~Granny Butts
- ☞ Life has been [pretty tough for Isaiah “The Human Joy Stick” McKenzie](#). Keep that in mind the next time you yell and boo at our guys because they are not scoring enough touchdowns. It’s simply incredible that some of them have gotten this far.
- ☞ “I hate to see [players trying to appeal to refs for calls]. It’s horrible, really horrible. It’s an unedifying spectacle. ~Ian Darke, World Cup announcer, recently presented with the Coveted Scowlmeister Award for Greatest Sports Announcer, Any Sport, Any Time
- ☞ But I’m with Little Woolly: Nobody’s ever called a game better than this guy:



- ☞ Sources in Dallas are reporting that Aaron Hernandez is now a suspect in the murder of President John F. Kennedy.
- ☞ Alabama Judge Mark Fuller, [accused of beating up his wife at the ATL Ritz-Carlton Hotel](#), has been suspended for two trials.
- ☞ Joe Mixon, superstar freshman RB at Oklahoma, after being charged with punching an OU coed in the face at a deli and breaking four bones, has been suspended for the season. Meanwhile, OU continued to petition for Dorial Green-Beckham to be eligible after transferring from Missouri, where he got caught with a pound of weed and threw a woman down a flight of stairs. Petition denied. Women of the world, unite! Stoners of the world, lament.
- ☞ “Our job is just to play football. That’s unbelievable, it’s a passion. You know, I wake up and I love going into the office every day to watch film, work out. We have a great group of guys in the quarterback room and on the coaching staff, so it makes it fun going in every day and working there.” ~rookie quarterback Johnny Manziel. Ha ha, just kidding. Rookie quarterback Aaron Murray.
- ☞ “What we’re capable of doing on a scale of one to 10 is off the charts.” ~ Quayvon Hicks
- ☞ “The numbers all go to eleven. . . . It’s one louder, isn’t it? It’s not ten. You see, most blokes, you know, will be playing at ten. You’re on ten here, all the way up, all the way up, all the way up, you’re on ten on your guitar. Where can you go from there? Where? . . . These go to eleven.” ~ Nigel Tufnel

- ☞ I just hate it when great kids like [Zyrees Oliver](#) die young, for no reason that could possibly make any sense.
- ☞ For a loving tribute to Bobby Petrino, [see this career overview](#).
- ☞ Here's what happens when you leave a great situation for bigger and better things: Stacey Searels, who left UGA for better opportunities on Mac Brown's Texas staff, was not retained by Charlie Strong when Brown stepped down just two years after Searels joined him in Austin. [Stacey is now at Virginia Tech](#), which to my knowledge does not have its own sports media empire or home state that produces D-1 prospects the way Georgia does. And his boss, Frank Beamer, has been showing up on [hotseat](#) lists, is 65 years old, and is considered by some to be the [next Mac Brown](#).
- ☞ In case you missed it, [ABC News ran a piece on concussions](#) that featured Mark Richt, Artie Lynch, Brandon Burrows, and Garrison Smith.

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

It's hard to believe, but **Thomas Davis** is 30 years old. Thomas was one of those odd recruiting stories coming out of Randolph Clay HS, a very small school in South Georgia where the best athlete on the team—Thomas Davis over a decade ago, Gary McCrae among our current commitments—plays just about every position imaginable, making them more difficult than most to project at the next level. Indeed, Thomas had a single scholarship offer, from of course UGA. We signed a couple of obscure recruits at LB that year, including Davis and Odell Thurman, both from way out in the country and ranked as 2-star prospects. A few years later, both were in the NFL, with Davis earning the name The Hitman for his work in the defensive secondary and becoming one of the top, and surely among the most feared, safeties in UGA history. After departing following four years at UGA (including a redshirt season), Thomas went to Carolina in the first round, where he became a hard-hitting linebacker. Unfortunately, he also got hit pretty hard in the knees, leading to assumptions that his promising career would end too early. But TD came back after three brutal surgeries, even though few expected that he could endure the physical and emotional pain of rehab for, especially, the third. As reported in *Sports Illustrated*, "Davis' third knee surgery was more complicated than the first two, when doctors had grafted part of his hamstring and, then, a patellar tendon to his right knee. This time, they took a patellar graft from his left knee. So, in effect, Davis had double knee surgery." But he persevered and got himself back on the field, playing at a high enough level to start on a playoff team that was led by its defensive front seven. With regard to his rehab, Davis said, "I feel like I'm doing this for guys who are to come. I'm doing it for the guys who are going to go through injuries and the teams that are going to have to make decisions on guys that have been injured. Don't give up on the player. And if you're a player, don't give up on your dreams." That sort of dedication won him the Panthers' Ed Block Courage Award by vote from his teammates, a fitting award for a team stalwart whose recovery from multiple knee surgeries was unprecedented in league history. Like a lot of good guys, Thomas has established a charitable foundation in Charlotte, [The Thomas Davis Defending Dreams Foundation \(TDDDF\)](#), a non-profit that provides and promotes programs that enhance the quality of life for children and families by assisting in community service efforts, educational

development, youth sports, and other community support services. I'm sure that they'd appreciate a small contribution from Dawg fans to help them with their service to the community, the sort of contribution beyond football that makes Thomas such a proud part of the great Dawg legacy.



## **THE FORECAST**

### **DAWGS VS. CLEMSON**

Last season, following the thrust provided by the love strokes they gave the Scrotum Pole as they were ejaculated from the locker room and landed ecstatically on the field, Clemson won a close one in which they burned our baby secondary with a senior QB and Sammie Watkins, who eventually was the 4<sup>th</sup> player taken by the NFL. This time we get them at home, with a team that lost an all-time great in Aaron Murray but little else that, if the NFL draft indicates anything, was an elite talent. This year's secondary is similarly unsettled but, we hope, better prepared schematically and mentally. We've got a full stable of hosses ready to run the ball, which will give Mason time to read the field and fire away to the set of mostly healthy receivers that Aaron never had last year. Will Pruitt do wonders with the defense, as he did at FSU with a similarly inexperienced secondary? You bet. Good Guys, 38-28.

### **NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: TEXAS A&M AT S. CAROLINA**

Which team will miss last year's QB more? SC's replacement guy Dylan Thompson has some experience, but I don't recall watching him play and wishing he'd come to UGA. Sumlin seems to be able to plug guys into his system pretty well and still put points on the board, and Kenny Hill gets first shot at running the show. SC has lived on its defense during the Spurrier era, and I see no reason to think this year will be any different. This one could pretty much end up anywhere, but I'm going with the Evil Genius over the Up-And-Coming Genius. Cocks, 31-24.

### **NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: WILLIAM & MARY AT VIRGINIA TECH**

Tribe over Hokies, 21-20. This one's for you, Lindy.

*Disclaimer: Neither U.S. currency nor bitcoins is recommended for betting on The Dawgmeister's forecasts.*