

THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS WALK OVER WARHAWKS

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SEPARATED@BIRTH? ARCHIVE SEPARATED@BIRTH?



**UL-M LINEBACKER & LOST LIP-SMACKER
HUNTER KISSINGER HURLEY**

Welcome back to Season VII of The Dawgmeister @ The Dawgbone! I'd like to welcome back all three of my readers and thank them for their dedicated following. For both new readers, please be aware that the Dawgmeister is a lover, not a hater. This is where you go for the most cockeyed of optimism in all of Dawgland, for a vision of our beloved boys unsullied by scowls, jeers, second-guesses, and the sort of garbaggio you can easily get [elsewhere](#). Only true believers come here for their 100% fact-based news, the faithful who bleed red and black: the three people who love this program as much as we do here at the Butts household.

I'll begin this year by stating a claim that, however fraught with risk to my reputation for impeccable forecasts, I must share with the Dawg Nation. The jury is now in: I can state now, without equivocation or doubt, that the evidence has been vetted by a Blue Ribbon Panel consisting of Little Woolly, The Scowlmeister, Wags the Family Bulldog, and me, and run through the Supercomputer I keep in the Dawg Cave for just such calculations. The conclusion of this lengthy analytic process is that Nick "The Coaches Say He's Hard to Bring Down" Chubb is now, and without any room for argument, the greatest running back to play for the Red and Black between the hedges at Sanford Stadium since the misty and halcyon days of Todd Gurley.

Shocking as though that claim might seem, it's the biggest reason to pick the Dawgs to win their season opener against the Warhawks of Louisiana-Monroe. I hope it's the first of many wins that lead to Atlanta, and ultimately to the stately contours of the home field of academia's most distinguished university, The University of Phoenix, for this year's national championship, to which Ohio State has apparently already received an invitation, much to the annoyance of Nick Saban, who believes that it's his birthright to

play in this game every year. Dr. Kissinger, be prepared to meet your match on Saturday.



Chris Conley styling while running the 40 at the Combine

🏈 Coveted Dawgmeister Game Balls are awarded this week to Malcolm Mitchell, winner of UGA's Hornsby Howell Community Service Award, and Marshall Morgan, the program's top student-athlete last year. No word on whether Eminem will present their awards.

🏈 A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball is awarded this week to Ted White, UGA Athletic Association's Senior Associate Athletic Director for Student Development, who was presented last summer with the National Association of Academic Advisors of Athletics (NAA) Distinguished Service Award. Ted brings it every day in the Rankin Smith Center and it's great to see him earn this big time recognition.

As I write, we still await the naming of our starting QB. Will it be Faton "The Albanian Bane O' Y'all" Fauta? Brice "The Camden County Cannon" Ramsey? Greyson "The Wayne County Brainy Bounty" Lambert? I trust that that coaches, much more than anyone else outside the locker room and boosters club, want to win. They spend a ton of time with these kids and watch them practice every day, then go and watch film of the practice, and I'm sure have installed reverse cams on their laptops to see what they're doing in their dorm rooms at night. They're going to start the guy they think will put up the most W's, no matter what fans, bloggers, President Morehead, and sportswriters think. And I'm as confident in their decision as I am of their ranking of every other position on the depth chart.



Brice Ramsey looks left, throws right

Same Thing, Different Perspectives

“Which players will benefit the most from playing in [Schottenheimer’s] offensive system? The first player that comes to mind is freshman wideout Terry Godwin. Godwin chose to attend UGA after Schottenheimer’s hiring due in large part that Schotty coached Godwin’s favorite player in the NFL: St. Louis Ram’s WR Tavon Austin.” ~[Fansided](#)

“It’s early in the process, but [\[Frank\] Cignetti](#) is said to have a better feel than Schottenheimer ever did for how to best utilize Austin’s speed and elusiveness, and will more fully integrate him into the scheme.” ~[Sports Illustrated](#)

DAWG DOOTS

- ☞ “[Justin Houston] is a better player than he is a person.” ~Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Chase Daniel following their win over San Diego, in which Houston had four sacks to complete one of the greatest seasons ever for a pass rusher.
- ☞ Man most in need of a beard consultation from the Fab Five: Andrew Luck.
- ☞ Runner-up: Troy Aikman.
- ☞ News item: [Texans RB Arian Foster scheduled for groin surgery](#). I’m praying for you, Brother Arian.
- ☞ One thing I never saw coming: Trent Richardson being a total bust as an NFL player. His stunning failure is singlehandedly responsible for [RBs being considered risky and dubious picks](#) for teams drafting high, which makes Todd Gurley’s first-round selection in this year’s draft, after missing half of the season, especially amazing.
- ☞ Speaking of things that took me by surprise: The GT-OT-WTF loss, in which we went from lead to tie in 18 seconds and then lost in overtime, still shocks me. It’s right up there with the Disaster in the Pasture vs. Auburn in 2013, and the Smellebration Call vs. A.J. Green against LSU in 2009.
- ☞ I am 91% committed to the idea of an early signing period that prevents so much flipping before faxing the LOI, with an escape hatch available for when a coach takes a new job after signing day.

- The Scowlmeister is already losing sleep worried that Bailey Hockman will decommit because of Jacob Eason's impending success, and that Jacob Lawrence will go to Tennessee and beat us in about 2021.
- I recall the Scowlmeister being disappointed that Matthew Stafford didn't win at least two Heisman Trophies while at UGA and win at least three national championships. I hope that people don't subject Jacob Eason to expectations beyond developing his talents to their maximum, along with everyone else at the position, and playing to the heights of his potential.

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

Greg Blue came to Athens from Banneker High School in College Park. He was a major recruit as a safety, with credentials including a spot on the Super Southern 100, recognition as a Top 50 player in the state of Georgia, appointment to the Marvelous 11 Metro squad, a Class AAA All-State First team spot, and a position on the Georgia Class AAA All-Decade team for the 2000's. He also starred in basketball to keep busy in the offseason. At UGA Greg didn't disappoint, carrying on the tradition of [heavy-hitting safeties](#) in an era when huge hits weren't penalized. As Greg recently told Chip Towers, "I probably would've been banned from football" under today's rules. In 2005, Greg made both 1st Team All-SEC and Consensus All-American while serving as Defensive Captain, majoring in Child and Family Development on the academic end of things. [The Dawgs won two SEC Championships during his UGA career](#), and he was rewarded with a spot on the 2000's UGA All-Decade team. In 2006, the Minnesota Vikings selected him in the sixth round of the NFL draft, and his 5-year pro career included stops with the [Detroit Lions](#) and the CFL Toronto Argonauts. Since his retirement, Greg has been coaching the game. He started out as an assistant coach at Eagan High School (MN) before moving to the college game in 2011, beginning with Waldorf College, a for-profit Mayes Education enterprise in Forest City, IA, where he coached the DBs. He moved quickly to Kentucky Christian University, coaching their safeties, then moved to Marshall, where he was Defensive Quality Control and Recruiting Assistant. He's now back at KCU as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. Although UGA should not yet be fearful, his recruiting territory there includes the state of Georgia. As a UGA student, Greg was a member of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, an African American student organization whose mission is to provide services to the general public, based on their conviction that they should return their newly acquired skills to the communities from which they had come. It's no surprise that this spirit continues to move him, with involvement in Habitat for Humanity, the 4-H Program, UGA HEROS, [the Thomas Davis Defending Dreams Foundation](#), and other programs. Greg Blue: A Dawg fan favorite for his big hits, and now a grown man teaching the game and giving back in so many other ways.



THE FORECAST

DAWGS VS. LOUISIANA-MONROE

Playing these guys instead of Clemson or Oklahoma State has made this year's opening game a lot more relaxing than it's been in a while. We should easily get through the first three units and as far into the depth chart as NCAA laws allowed (and I'm sure they've got a rule against something in these matters). If the SEC can't tackle Nick Chubb, then I don't think that Hunter Kissinger will have much luck. Nick may have 9 carries for 140 yards and 3 TDs and be done for the day halfway through the second quarter. Dawgs clear the bench, the fans go home happy, and the quest for Phoenix begins. Is it even possible to evaluate QBs when the balance of talent tips so heavily in our direction? I think that the process will continue throughout the 3-game exhibition season before we really know who'll call signals once the competition gets serious. Good Guys, 58-7.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: OHIO STATE AT VIRGINIA TECH

What elevates this game above other national games of interest (Texas-Notre Dame, Alabama-Wisconsin, Louisville-Auburn) is the fact that VT somehow beat OSU rather handily in Columbus last year, giving the Bucks their only loss and ending early on, it appeared, any chance that OSU would make the Final Four even with its puny Big 10 schedule. That's the sort of thing that Coach Urban Meyer (CUM for short) tends to remember with an expression that makes the Scowlmeister look like a Care Bear eating cotton candy. When I was a kid, VT was known as the VPI Gobblers. On Saturday they get Gobbled, no matter who's suspended or wearing a boot: Buckeyes 51, Hokies 21.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: PENN STATE AT TEMPLE

The James Franklin Era at PSU takes a setback as the Owlmeister's boys take the lead for 2015 Pennsylvania State Champs. SEC fans everywhere take solace in Franklin losing to the team that has been PSU's Vandy since the beginning of the Paterno era. Owls win and Franklin whines, 21-20.