

## **THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS COLONIZE COLONELS**

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



**SPIRITS QUAFFED &  
POSTHASTE  
VERNE LUNDQUIST**



**SPIRIT SQUAD  
NUTCASE  
BRUTUS THE BUCKEYE**

Saturday evening, after about 25 carries, I thought to myself, Nick Chubb's losing steam. NC had begun to stuff his runs; he's just not as explosive as he was earlier, I thought in the third quarter. Too many carries, too soon, I thought. It's been a valiant afternoon for a true warrior, but maybe the coaches saddled him up a few times too many.

And then, when I thought that maybe he'd played his best ball of the evening already, he went off on that magnificent 55-yard rampage, running over, through, and past those blue boys who, it turned out, might have gotten worn out themselves trying to bring down our runners all day.

All summer we've been hearing about Heisman candidates—Fournette, Rosen, Watson, McCaffrey, Cook, Mayfield, and others—with Chubb presumably too badly injured last year to make a difference this season. Not anymore.

“That guy don't stop, man. He just keeps his feet going, and he don't care about contact.”  
~Naz Jones, UNC DT, speaking of Nick Chubb

Much was made of the freshmen who got into the game, and I was as impressed as anyone with Eason and Herrien. But aside from one costly mental error, David Marshall was a terror. That cat can play.

On the whole, the defense played a terrific game. UNC was supposed to be better than last year's offensive juggernaut, but put up 17 points plus a kickoff return for the evening. Mitch Trubisky was supposed to be a big improvement over last year's starter because he'd played well in relief, but 24-40 for 156—that's under 4 yards per attempt,

one of which ended with a safety—suggests that either we’re really good or he’s just okay. Given that NC returned most of their offensive stars from last year and believed that they’d gotten better at QB, I think we have got ourselves a Damn Good D.

Last thing on Eason: Most attention to his physical assets have focused on him being tall (6’-6”) and having a great arm. But he’s not just tall, he’s long. I don’t know if they do wingspan on QBs the way they do with others, but I suspect he’s got a 6’-10” man’s armlength. That’s got to help in delivering the ball over defenders, especially with that ideal over-the-top delivery he’s got.

I took in the game on The Big Screen at home, not having arranged financing for a Georgia Dome seat. The commentary between Brock Huard, whom I consider to be a solid announcer, and Bob Wischusen, who appeared to have learned everything he knew about UGA from *Cosmopolitan* magazine, at times was comical. Anyone with an internet connection knew that we’d alternate QBs, but Wischusen kept trying to manufacture an international controversy over the QB rotation. Huard did his best to say that this was the game plan, and that Lambert, with 3 sacks and few completions, was not moving the team well enough to keep #10 on the sidelines. That didn’t stop Wischusen from raising the question at every turn to the point where Huard effectively said, “This again??” when the jibberjabber persisted. How do these guys get these jobs?

Huard also said, very early in the game, that Chubb will get 4-6 yards a carry for three quarters, then erupt late when the D can’t match his intensity and hard running. And that’s what happened. He knows a lot more about football than I do.

*Note: Last week’s Good Works service provided a dead link to the donations page. Those who wish to send The Cottage a contribution can find a prominent link at <http://www.northgeorgiacottage.org/>.*

## **DAWGMEISTER GOOD WORKS OF THE WEEK**

*The Weekend Forecast is offered as a free service to its readers; neither the Dawgbone nor The Dawgmeister profits financially from its publication. If you read the Forecast and want to contribute something back to our communities, please consider making a donation to this week’s featured Good Works service. There are many people living in difficult circumstances, and every dollar helps to support them through another day, week, month, and year. The Dawgmeister himself will pledge \$10 to each organization featured for its Good Works throughout the football season. Please consider doing the same yourself.*

*This week’s featured Good Works organization is*

**Benjamin and Kirsten Watson’s One More Foundation, devoted to spreading the love and hope of Christ to One More soul by meeting real needs, promoting education and providing enrichment opportunities through charitable initiatives and partnerships. In the words of the Watsons, “We know the importance of having a strong faith in God, in yourself, and in your talents. Moreover, we have been called to give back what we have been blessed with to those who are in need. Even while dating**

at the University of Georgia we routinely participated in community service; we knew in our hearts the importance of service, giving, and building relationships. These values were instilled in us from an early age and are the same values we will instill in our kids to hopefully become part of our legacy.”  
**[DONATE HERE](#)**

## **DAWG DOOTS**

- ☞ Election year trivia quiz #1: In 1968, the Republicans nominated Richard Nixon, and the Democrats nominated Hubert Humphrey. Question: Which candidate won Georgia? [For the correct answer, scroll down to this week’s final Doot.]
- ☞ Between Gurley and Marshall, Marshall came in higher rated, but Gurley was the better player. Between Chubb and Michel, Michel was rightly cast as the star, but Chubb has become the superstar. Will Brian Herrien be the latest lower-ranked back to exceed his classmate in achievement?
- ☞ If this trend holds up, and if we are able to bring in Zamir “Zeus” White in 2018, I can’t wait to see the other RB we recruit as his sidekick.
- ☞ Last summer saw the posting of the inaugural [Dawgmeister Bad Hair Hall of Fame](#). Watch that hair. You don’t want to be on this list.
- ☞ D’Andre Swift’s St. Joseph’s Prep will play Mark Webb’s Archbishop Wood on ESPNU on Sept. 16. I hope that Saturday’s run-heavy game will not scare off Webb and the other WRs on our short list.
- ☞ I think that Malkom Parrish is the most fundamentally sound DB we’ve had at UGA this century.
- ☞ It was the great social critic Bill Cosby who once said that African American parents should give their children names like Tim and Chrissie, because they are giving their kids “names like Shaniqua, Taliqna, and Mohammed and all of that crap, and all of them are in jail.”
- ☞ With that admonition in mind, I strongly recommend against naming your son Weiner.
- ☞ I think it would be humanly impossible to decommit [after making something like this](#).
- ☞ In the past few weeks, we’ve heard about how at Alabama, they practice indoors every third day to recover from the heat. What would Bear Bryant of Junction Boys notoriety think of such a bunch of pansies?
- ☞ Congratulations to our stellar [national championship baton twirlers!](#)
- ☞ Who won Georgia in 1968? Answer: George Wallace

## THE COVETED DAWGMEISTER GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK AWARD



At Thomson HS in the Augusta area, **Danny Verdun-Wheeler** (at the time, simply Danny Verdun) was one of the state of Georgia's top football prospects: AJC Super Southern 100, Class AAAA First Team All-State and AAAA Defensive Player of the Year, Georgia Sports Writers Association Class AAAA All-State and Defensive Player of the Year, Region 3AAAA Defensive Player of the Year, and best player on the Class AAAA State Champion Thomson Bulldogs. To stay in shape in the spring, he competed in track and field, throwing the shot and discus and taking home a few Region 3AAA championships in each and winning a state championship in discus during his throwing days. At UGA he had a terrific career as an outside linebacker, going from an occasional starter as a freshman to workhorse defender by his final year. He graduated in 2007 with a degree in Housing and Consumer Economics, went undrafted, and made the practice squads in Chicago and Washington before deciding to move on to life after football. That didn't last long. After a brief stint in Atlanta as a roofing inspector and insurance adjuster, he landed a position as assistant coach for the North Atlanta HS Warriors, where he spent four years, the last two as Defensive Coordinator. This experience gave him a bigger appetite for coaching and led to an opportunity with the NFL Players Association's Coaching Internship program. Last year he began the journey up through the ranks, landing a position coaching linebackers for the Division II South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. Consistent with his Good Guy profile, he makes it his business to ensure that his players are ready for life after football, the most likely possibility for the low-division Hardrockers (mascot: Grubby the Miner). "This is something I love to do and I want to do it at the highest level," he said. "If you can play and coach football all day long and get paid for it, it is the greatest thing in the world. I don't have to go be an engineer and build a rocket or anything like that, but I can draw X's and O's baby all day long." Danny's tweets are available at <https://twitter.com/dannyvw42>, where we learn that he still helps UGA recruit and is a passionate supporter of the charity founded by his teammate, the [Charles Johnson Foundation](#). Danny's work ethic and Dawg spirit should move him up the coaching ladder, and it will be fun following his journey.

**GOOD GUY ARCHIVE**

## **RB U@UGA**

[According to Todd Gurley](#), at UGA “We breed running backs. We’re Running Back U.” Lately, we’ve had it pretty good at this position. Over the summer, I wondered if this current period of excellence at RB has been typical, or an outlier, compared to other periods in program history. So on a slow summer weekend, I made the following table that shows all UGA RBs selected in the NFL draft since 1936, when the draft was instituted.

It does appear that this recent period has been unusually excellent, especially if you throw in Isaiah Crowell, who is doing quite well in Cleveland these days after spending one productive yet rocky year on campus, as long as he stays off Twitter. Since Thomas Brown got drafted in 2008, we’ve had a pretty good set of backs in Athens, with the expectation now that we bring in two more NFL-bound backs every year or two. Given that Chubb and Michel are likely NFL backs, I can only conclude that RB has been an unusually strong position for us of late, with fullbacks accounting for a good bit of that productivity. With Holyfield and Herrien looking good and Carter and Swift on the way, we don’t appear to be dropping off any time soon. Of course, the Scowlmeister is already deep in depression over the possibility that Zamir “Zeus” White will sign elsewhere in 2018.

Any period that includes Hershel Walker would have to be included in a discussion of UGA’s greatest eras for RBs, and indeed the period between him and Garrison Hearst is the best rival for our current run of starpower in the backfield. Prior to Hershel, there was a 6-year gap in drafted RBs after Willie McLendon. There have been other droughts that make our recent set of backs special in the consistent quality over a multi-year stretch of time.

I think it’s significant that [UGA first recruited African American football players in 1971](#), making Clarke Central (Athens) HS’s Horace King (1975 draft) the first Black Dawg RB; [Kevin McLee](#) was next and broke Frank Sinkwich’s rushing records. Although I would never disrespect the backs who came before this period, especially superstars Sinkwich and Charley Trippi from the mid-1940s, I would say that in all likelihood, the RBs from the 70s on were likely greater runners for the most part than those who came before them, if today’s ratio of Black to White RBs in college and the pros is indicative of an advantage of one group over the other. The rounds in which our RBs were selected suggest that even by the standards of their time and competition, backs other than Sinkwich and Trippi from the 60s and before were, for the most part, good but not great in the manner of Gurley and Chubb.

That possibility suggests that our current run is one of the greatest two periods in program history for sustained excellence at RB.

But don’t take our recent success for granted and assume that is inevitable that it will continue. Smart seems to value the running game enough to make it a recruiting priority, and I hope he keeps bringing the talent to Athens. Meantime, enjoy it while it’s hot, because there are no guarantees.

OK, here you go. I report what follows; you decide if my determination is right. Walker's 5<sup>th</sup> round status is deceptive in that he would have been the first player taken if the New Jersey Generals hadn't signed him, in violation of league rules, after his junior season, a shocking move that changed college football forever by allowing players to leave early.

Year	Round	Overall pick	Player	Team
2016	7	242	<a href="#">Keith Marshall</a>	Redskins
<a href="#">2015</a>	1	10	<a href="#">Todd Gurley</a>	Rams
2011	7	220	<a href="#">Shaun Chapas</a>	Cowboys
2009	1	12	<a href="#">Knowshon Moreno</a>	Broncos
2008	6	172	<a href="#">Thomas Brown</a>	Falcons
2003	3	77	<a href="#">Musa Smith</a>	Ravens
2003	7	242	<a href="#">J. T. Wall</a>	Steelers
2002	5	166	<a href="#">Verron Haynes</a>	Steelers
2000	7	239	<a href="#">Patrick Pass</a>	Patriots
1999	4	127	<a href="#">Olandis Gary</a>	Broncos
<a href="#">1998</a>	1	18	<a href="#">Robert Edwards</a>	Patriots
1995	6	196	<a href="#">Terrell Davis</a>	Broncos
1994	7	204	<a href="#">Frank Harvey</a>	Cardinals
<a href="#">1993</a>	1	3	<a href="#">Garrison Hearst</a>	Cardinals
1990	1	24	<a href="#">Rodney Hampton</a>	Giants
1989	1	7	<a href="#">Tim Worley</a>	Steelers
1989	3	84	<a href="#">Keith Henderson</a>	49ers
1988	2	53	<a href="#">Lars Tate</a>	Buccaneers
1987	10	269	<a href="#">David McCluskey</a>	Bengals
1985	5	114	<a href="#">Herschel Walker</a>	Cowboys
1979	3	66	<a href="#">Willie McClendon</a>	Bears
1978	12	308	<a href="#">Kevin McLee</a>	Buccaneers
1976	9	251	<a href="#">Glynn Harrison</a>	Chargers
1976	13	349	<a href="#">Andy Reid (running back)</a>	Seahawks
1975	6	141	<a href="#">Horace King</a>	Lions
1974	5	112	<a href="#">Andy Johnson</a>	Patriots
1974	9	214	<a href="#">Bob Burns</a>	Jets
1974	13	319	<a href="#">Jim Poulos</a>	Cardinals
1967	13	337	<a href="#">Randy Wheeler</a>	Bills
1966	11	166	<a href="#">Preston Ridlehuber</a>	49ers
1966	18	265	<a href="#">Joe Burson</a>	Redskins
1965	9	114	<a href="#">Wayne Swinford</a>	49ers
1960	11	122	<a href="#">Bobby Towns</a>	Cardinals
1959	26	309	<a href="#">Bill Strumke</a>	Rams
1958	10	112	<a href="#">Theron Sapp</a>	Eagles



1957	25	291	<a href="#">Jimmy Orr</a>	Rams
1956	23	266	<a href="#">Bob Garrard</a>	Lions
1955	7	77	<a href="#">Bob Clemens</a>	Packers
1954	8	96	<a href="#">Charlie Harris</a>	Browns
1954	20	239	<a href="#">Frank DePietro</a>	49ers
1953	6	65	<a href="#">Art DeCarlo</a>	Bears
1953	8	91	<a href="#">Lauren Hargrove</a>	Packers
1952	7	78	<a href="#">Claude Hipps</a>	Steelers
1952	9	99	<a href="#">Malcolm Cook</a>	Cardinals
1952	29	341	<a href="#">Tony Morocco</a>	Eagles
1951	3	28	<a href="#">Bill Mixon</a>	49ers
1951	18	212	<a href="#">Pat Field</a>	Steelers
1950	9	107	<a href="#">Floyd Reid</a>	Bears
1950	17	216	<a href="#">Al Bodine</a>	Steelers
1949	4	36	<a href="#">Joe Geri</a>	Steelers
1949	19	186	<a href="#">Ken McCall</a>	Giants
1948	24	224	<a href="#">Jimmy Gatewood</a>	Bears
1947	16	142	<a href="#">Charlie Smith</a>	Cardinals
1946	16	150	<a href="#">Larry Bouley</a>	Rams
1946	29	274	<a href="#">Johnny Cook</a>	Bears
1945	1	1	<a href="#">Charley Trippi</a>	Cardinals
1945	23	233	<a href="#">Johnny Cook</a>	Cardinals
1944	30	317	<a href="#">Dick McPhee</a>	Rams
1944	30	318	<a href="#">Gus Letchas</a>	Yanks
1943	1	1	<a href="#">Frank Sinkwich</a>	Lions
1943	2	12	<a href="#">Lamar Davis</a>	Eagles
1943	23	213	<a href="#">Cliff Kimsey</a>	Cardinals
1940	8	67	<a href="#">Jim Fordham</a>	Bears
1938	8	69	<a href="#">Bill Hartman</a>	Redskins

## **THE FORECAST**

### **DAWGS VS. COLONELS**

It should be a lovely afternoon between the hedges. Games like this usually turn out to be about 55-7, so that's what we'll go with. Good Guys win, everyone gets his uniform dirty, and the chapel bell tolls for victory.

### **NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: HAWGS OVER FROGS**

This week is the one you hope that somebody scheduled a fall wedding for. There's not a matchup of ranked teams to be found. So I'll manufacture one: Arkansas at TCU. Bret Bielema finally gets that signature win he's been after since leaving the Big 10 and thinking he can win the SEC West, in spite of this weekend's shaky start. Run, Hawgs Run: if TCE couldn't stop the South Dakota State Jackrabbits, then even a middle-of-

the-pack team from what appears to be a weakened SEC should be able to get on the scoreboard enough to win. Arkansas controls the clock and the ball and goes back home with a big W, 41-38.

**NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: KENTUCKY OVER FLORIDA**

It's just not a very competitive weekend out there. For my upset, I'm going with Kentucky over Florida. Why? Because I can. Something has got to finally happen when Kentucky plays games on grass instead of wood, and I think it'll happen on Saturday. Wildcats upset the pecking order in the East: Kentucky, 24-23.