

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
DAWGS PLAIN AWESOME**

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SEPARATED@BIRTH?



**BLAMED AND
SHAMED
PAT DYE**



**CLAIMED WAS
FRAMED
JERRY SANDUSKY**

SEPARATED@BIRTH? ARCHIVE

"I would describe us as a young program. We haven't been a part of these conversations for a long time. We haven't handled it well, and that's on me. When things are going well, there's a lot of noise, a lot of positivity, a lot of patting on the back. Then when you lose the game, it's the complete opposite. It couldn't be more negative. For us in the past, we haven't worried about all those things. There's playoff rankings coming out. There's this. There's that. Stuff that doesn't matter. [This week, I will tell the players to] turn off the phone, turn off the internet, don't buy the newspaper. Excuse me, I apologize media. Turn off ESPN. Turn off the Big Ten Network, and focus on the things in our locker room." ~Penn State Coach James Franklin, now 0-10 in road games vs. ranked opponents, and closing the barn door a little too late in cautioning his players about the need to stay focused when the Lamestream Sports Media overinflates his players' confidence

"How spoiled am I? We beat a good team by two touchdowns and the game was never in doubt, and yet I feel a little disappointed. It is ridiculous but that's the kind of season it is." ~The Scowlmeister

"Surely you caught the facetiousness of my comment." ~The Scowlmeister, a little bit later

Yes, it wasn't a blowout of the sort we've come to expect. We did not dominate South Carolina as we have everyone else since Game 2. If Terry Godwin hadn't fumbled on our first drive, we might be feeling a bit different in the aftermath; a score there, a 31-10 win, and we'd be feeling a little more heady. Brother Willie was down for the game, bringing his record to 7-3 in what's been the biggest home game on the schedule for the last decade; and on the way out of the stadium, we walked next to a guy shaking his head

about how we'd played our way out of our glorious #1 ranking—all this before Alabama, the great Alabama itself, played a similar sort of game against a similar sort of opponent. And this fan's rueful comments came after news of the Big 10 meltdown that left the *Columbus (OH) Dispatch* concluding that "This was men against boys. And Iowa had the chest hair."

Perhaps a bit of sobering up is in order, and I'm not referring to the post-game celebrations. Once again, we crushed an opponent's running game, leaving Brother Willie and me wondering why anyone even tries anymore. But we were vulnerable to a good passer, as we were against Missouri, if not to the same extent. The Cock taking snaps has a pretty good game, and made enough plays to make the Nation a bit nervous all the way through our 4th quarter scoring drive. This year we've been so dominant that when we finish the game with our first team offense on the field, the fans have trouble accepting the fact that we came to play. But we did what we do best, which is keep opponents from scoring in the first and third quarters, and then putting them away in the fourth (if indeed it's still a game by then).

The postgame show, I thought, had a good focus: the play of our QB. The National Lamestream Sports Media has apparently taken up the myth that Jake Fromm can't pass. They must be watching someone else's games, though, because to me the kid can wing it pretty well, and if Eric Zeier agrees with me, that makes it an official fact. The postgame commentators raved about Fromm's game, his composure, his running ability, his outstanding completion percentage, his razor-sharp TD passes, his pancake block on Michel's TD run, and his tremendous leadership skills and decision-making.

The 4-7 performance in the massacre of Florida apparently got the media convinced that we don't throw because Fromm can't. If that were true, surely we'd be playing Jacob Eason, who can throw it a mile into a stiff wind. If you don't think that Fromm can throw it, then check his remarkable performances on third-and-long, when he's as good as anyone in the college game. Then take a look at the number of deep outs he completes, the pass that every QB tells you is the hardest pass in the route tree. Then check out his TD passes to Wims and Hardman, which were thrown about as perfectly and with as much velocity as you could hope for.

Fromm, as Coach Smart explained later, has a lot of run-pass options and makes the decision that most benefits the team. Just as Chubb and Michel are content to split carries with each other and others, because what matters is the team's performance, Fromm runs the play with the best chance of working, and judging by the yards and points we are running up this season, I'd have to say that he's making the right decisions. The cat can play. I wouldn't trade him for anyone.

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, to which I am contributing \$10 to get the ball rolling:

Warrick Dunn Charities was created from the belief that a better future starts with hope. We are dedicated to strengthening and transforming communities by combating poverty, hunger and improving the quality of life for families and children. We help families thrive academically, socially, and economically. Its mission is to provide hope and healing to communities through innovative programming inspired by our Founder's life journey. Warrick Dunn Charities, a 501(c)(3) recognized nonprofit, has helped single parents and children thrive academically, socially and economically. Warrick Dunn started Homes for the Holidays in 1997 during his rookie year with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The program is a tribute to his mother, Betty Smothers, a Baton Rouge police officer, who as a single-mother of six, worked tirelessly to achieve the American dream of owning her own home. While working a second job as a security guard, she was ambushed and killed. Ms. Betty was never able to realize her dream. Warrick Dunn, former all-pro running back and philanthropist, began Homes for the Holidays during his rookie season in the NFL to honor his late mother, Betty Smothers. Since 1997, thousands of children and families have benefited from programs activated by NFL great Warrick Dunn.

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DAWG DOOTS

- ☞ Please, Please, Please University of Florida: Look around the neighborhood and see that [Lane Kiffin is available for your coaching vacancy](#).
- ☞ I have found the whole Florida episode to be very weird. [This story helps sort it out](#).
- ☞ "Brad [Stevens] fits perfectly in terms of that because he has an intellectual mind and is an intellectual human being. It was something I was unbelievably craving in terms of what I wanted for my career." ~Kyrie Irving, member, Flat Earth Society
- ☞ The Scowlmeister and Young Scowlmeister, who is as positive as his dear old dad is pessimistic, are both convinced that Elijah Holyfield should be getting more carries. And I love seeing that hard-nosed kid get his shots. What I don't do is attend practices, where these things are decided. I also suspect that Herrien's versatility gives him more packages to play in; and that Holyfield's game is more similar to Chubb's than any of the other 3 RBS, and that Chubb is simply going to get those carries when the game is still in doubt. Herrien can fit in more schemes and so gets more opportunities. Or so I think from the couch.
- ☞ "The last several months have been a particularly difficult time. Across several sports, a series of controversies have arisen. They have begun to take their toll and have raised questions about why Auburn must endure such problems. As I have always done, I have worked my hardest and best to do what is right for Auburn. I believe in Auburn and will fight for Auburn. But as I consider the future and what is best for Auburn, I have prayerfully decided the time has come for me to step aside. Sometimes a new direction and new leadership are helpful in

moving beyond current problems." ~Auburn athletic director Jay Jacobs, resignation letter, after Auburn has prayerfully been subjected to an FBI probe into the men's basketball program, a Title IX discrimination complaint, and an investigation into whether a staffer took an exam for a football player.

- ☞ "At Auburn? I'm shocked, shocked I say." ~Little Woolly
- ☞ "Crooked Little Racket Man Jay Jacobs resigns. Lock him upp! Sad." Real POTUS, 3AM
- ☞ I am already sick of Lonzo Ball. The Lamestream Sports Media is covering him as though he's Tim Tebow. And I already hate his liddle brothers.

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

Chris Davis was a tight end at Jefferson HS, and that's what he came here to play. But when he enrolled for the summer, he found himself a guard on the OL, where he stayed throughout his career. A multiple-sports athlete with excellent basketball skills, Chris was a versatile, athletic lineman who started as a RS-FR, where he was an institution until his career was derailed by injuries by his senior season. Chris did pretty well in the classroom as a child and family development major, earning a Gordon and Sharon Teel Football Scholarship for his academics. Chris's football savvy has paid off in his post-collegiate life as well. After graduating, he tried his hand at sales, then became a special education teacher and language arts co-teacher, and as a coach, first in Hall County and then at Sprayberry HS. He's currently the Offensive Coordinator and Offensive Line Coach at Cambridge High School in Milton, GA, where he also teaches special education and coaches the JV baseball team. I think we can expect big things from Chris as his career as coach and educator unfolds, and we can always hope that he molds a few players to play between the hedges. He's a great example of a guy who made the most of his football scholarship to set himself up for a life of good work.



THE FORECAST **DAWGS VS. AUBURN**

And now, it's time to get serious. Auburn should be the second toughest game on our schedule, with both being away from the Friendly Confines between The Hedges. The first was early, when the team was still in formation for the steamroller we have become. The second comes late, when we have established our identity and culture.

Auburn will host us feeling pretty confident and bent on winning the SEC West with wins over UGA and Alabama. We can not take these guys lightly, not that the coaches and seniors are about to let that happen to this team. I think that we will do to Auburn's running game what we did to Notre Dame's, who has been running wild on everyone but the team that beat them and actually have an RB in the Heisman race who couldn't get traction against our DL. I just don't think it's possible to do so. But we are vulnerable to the deep pass, and I suspect that the game-planning will address the likelihood that Auburn will try to throw on us. It's the only way to advance the ball, given that Roddy Scholarship kicks every non-onsides kick out of the endzone and Cameron Nizialek flips the field consistently.

Meanwhile, I see no reason our offense won't continue scoring. 24 points on SC doesn't seem like much, but we were five yards from 7 more, and in the fourth quarter were more burning clock than shooting for the endzone. The Dawgs use their 3:30 timeslot to good advantage once again, heading to 10-0 with another W: Good Guys 38, Bad Guys 20.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: NOTRE DAME OVER MIAMI

I've watched Miami play, mostly because I still think the world of their coach, and really hadn't been impressed until Saturday's win over a solid VT team. Their QB is erratic, though, way too often; and they seem to win on inspiration more than talent, along with a lot of turnovers created by their D. But on the whole, they look like a team that is just waiting to get beaten if they don't generate turnovers. I'd love to see them take the Irish down, but I don't think they will. Another unbeaten bites the dust: ND 24, Miami 21.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: IOWA OVER WISCONSIN

And then another one bites the dust. Wisconsin has been rolling through a weak schedule. Iowa is feeling it after destroying Urban Meyer in a game Meyer will view with vengeance until he dies. Wisconsin ought to be forewarned that the Hawkeyes are not to be taken lightly, and the Badgers remain untested. But the Big 10 will go into a multiple-team tie at the top as the Hawkeyes come through: Iowa 21, Wisconsin 20.