

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:  
DAWGS DOWN DAMES**

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**SEPARATED@BIRTH?**



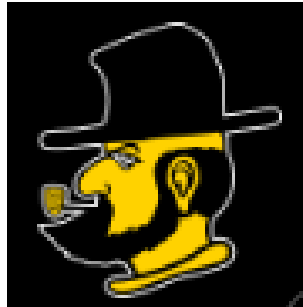
**NEVER HE'LL &  
SKILLFUL BE  
LOU HOLTZ**



**BEVERLY  
HILLBILLY  
GRANNY**

[SEPARATED@BIRTH? ARCHIVE](#)

**\*BONUS\* SEPARATED@BIRTH? \*BONUS\***



**MIREN IN BOONE &  
APP STATE  
LOGO**



**IRE-ISH GOON  
NOTRE DAME  
LOGO**



Normally, I prefer to start a game kicking off, because I like starting the second half with the ball. But I was so stoked to see the new and improved Jim Chaney playcalling and the new and improved offensive line in action that I was happy that we'd lost the toss and would receive the kickoff. What wondrous things would my eyes behold?

The grumbling in the stands during the first two possessions suggested that we were seeing nothing new. What we got instead was last year's offense and its featured 3-and-out, run-up-the-middle, predictable playcalling. . . . until a cheap shot left Jacob Eason limping and done for the day, and we went to the number two guy. The backup QB is always the crowd's favorite player. I just didn't expect to see him get cheered coming in on the third series of the first game. Before he took the field, our offensive MVP was Cameron Nizialek.

And so entered Jake "Le Grande Frommage" Fromm. Amazingly enough, we appeared to change offensive coordinators at the same time. Suddenly we were running a fast-break offense with nifty throws and receivers who can catch. We ended up toggling back to the running game in the second half, no doubt just to see if we have one after Nick Chubb got hit in the backfield throughout the first half as if we'd turned the clock back to 2016. And how about that, the blocking worked (as it should with our 30-lb-per-man weight advantage in the trenches), and he looked like that bucking bronco we grew to love his first two years in the program. Peace was restored, and after one terrible launch to the 2017 season on offense, the crowd went home humming the alma mater anthem and dancing to chapel bells ringing in a 1-0 start.

And what a nice job by Rod Scholarship in the kicking game.

The guys on the pregame show, including a visit from Coach Smart, had talked up App State as a worthy opponent. They're small, they said, but good football players, expected to compete well in their league; and of course we heard several reminders of their epic Michigan upset and their near-win at Tennessee just last year. How good are we to ultimately dominate them, especially via our suffocating defense? It's hard to say. Notre

Dame hammered Temple, which was coming off two excellent seasons and who expected to win in South Bend. I only watched parts of that game, what with Florida showing the world it still doesn't have a QB vs. Michigan on at the same time, and what with Sanford Stadium beckoning me away by halftime. Of course, I was pulling for the Owlmeister's boys to win, but it was never close; and ND's impressive win makes our matchup pretty big next Saturday. I hope that the Jim Chaney who showed up on our third series vs. App State is calling plays. Otherwise, it's up to the D to shut them down and bring home the W as we spend first and second downs running between the guards.

Speaking of Notre Dame, is there anything more nauseating on television than the four-hour infomercial that masquerades as a football broadcast, including Tirico and Flutie in the booth shilling for the home boys? They'll be calling our game next week, and I might have to extend the campus carry rules to my home theater so I can shoot the screen when they start yammering about the glories of Irish football. Doug Flutie, you went to Boston College. How could you?

### **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 \$100 to get the ball rolling:*

**The Houston Food Bank is taking donations to help feed those who've been displaced by Hurricane Harvey. [DONATE HERE](#)**

### **DAWG DOOTS**

- ☞ [The Hater's Guide to Notre Dame](#)
- ☞ In case you missed it, the Separated@Birth Summer Special is available at <http://www.thedawgmeister.com/Gallery/Separated.htm#Summer2017>
- ☞ And don't miss the updates to the [Dawgmeister's Bad Hair Hall of Fame](#) (in consultation with the Owlmeister and Little Woolly).
- ☞ "Thank you everybody. What a crowd! What a turnout! I will tell you, this is historic, epic what happened. This was of epic proportions. Nobody has ever seen anything like this." ~ President Morehead after the game
- ☞ "I think Georgia's Philosophy Department is going to do great. But we won't do great unless the administration is totally supportive. If the alumni base doesn't get off our collective asses and give money to this program and support the Philosophy Department, then we won't compete against Alabama's. To compete against Alabama, we've got to give Philosophy the resources. And we're starting to do that. But we've got a long way to go there. We really do." ~ Fran Tarkenton
- ☞ "I don't think anybody that I know of, who's been in any leadership position in the university system or the University of Georgia, is saying, 'Let's water down anything.' Let's get the best people we can to study Philosophy at Georgia. It appears we're doing that. Now whether we're successful remains to be seen."  
~Richard Tucker, Georgia University System Board of Regents

- ☞ Liberty, which took down failing Baylor in Matt Ruhl's debut, employs athletic director Ian McCaw, who held the same position at Baylor before being fired over his role in the sexual assault scandal at this fine Baptist institution. Rev. Falwell is praying for your soul, which should set you straight with The Almighty.
- ☞ Liberty over Baylor game was somehow considered the day's second-greatest upset, after Howard over UNLV, which I didn't think was good enough to be considered historically upsetting, yet is now considered to be so.

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

Ryne Rankin was recruited by the Richt staff to play linebacker, but had trouble playing his way up the depth chart and, instead of logging dozens of plays on defense, became a valued special teams player during his career. He was perhaps known better as a regular on the "Name that Song" scoreboard feature than for putting his shoulder into opposing players. When not playing football or guessing song titles, he likes to shoot stuff in the woods, as avid hunters from Orlando, Florida are prone to do. He also had a cheerleader, Makenzie Blalock in his sights, and proposed to her on the bridge overlooking the scoreboard end of Sanford Stadium, scoring a direct hit with his request, [heavily orchestrated and executed like a perfect kickoff coverage](#): "I had a little map set up of where I was going and where everybody had to hide, because I had my family there and her friends there and my friends there, and I had them all hiding as I walked up with a special photographer while she was blindfolded. It was all set up just right. The hard part was keeping all of her friends from telling her what was going to happen. I give them all props — her parents, my parents, her friends, my friends — for keeping it on the down-low so she didn't know." The [avid woodworker](#), although contributing on the field less than he'd imagined when he committed to the G, nonetheless loved his time at UGA. He was an excellent student, earning multiple Mr. & Mrs. Jack Swan Football Scholarship Endowments and the Hugar and Elizabeth Wikes Football Scholarships as a Double Major in Agricultural Business and Agricultural Economic Business. He now [tweets](#) his views to his 13,000 followers, and that's where you can follow him from Athens into his next phase of life, which will surely be a story worth following.



## **THE FORECAST**

### **DAWGS VS. DAMES**

As one who's never been a fan of Notre Dame football, I am predisposed to predicting that they will lose every game they play until hell freezes over or a Democrat gets elected governor of Georgia, whichever happens first. They stank last year, and are probably better this time, unless Temple went from competitive to doormat in the offseason. But they are so typically overrated that whatever they are believed to be, they are not that good. I think it's time that the Dawgs took the Smart Era up a notch and delivered a whoop-ass beating to these fine young Catholic men so they really have something to pray about on Sunday morning. The Forecast says: Le Grande Frommage keeps his mojo working, UGA keeps it in high gear on the road, and the Dawgs put the wood to that pugnacious little Irish lad: Dawgs 28, ND 20.

### **NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: OKLAHOMA AT OHIO STATE**

Of course I am tempted to go with Auburn-Clemson for the week's biggest game, but two top tenners get the nod here. It's hard to pick a first-year head coach over a 3-time national champion at the champ's stadium, so it's Buckeyes all the way down. Lincoln Riley was a terrific playcaller. And who knows, maybe as head coach he'll depart from his predecessor's policies and actually require his boys to attend class periodically, and to tap ladies on the shoulder instead of slugging them in the face....and has anyone noticed what a Hall of Shame backfield the Bengals have in [Joe Mixon](#) and [Jeremy Hill](#)? Y'all making it hard for me to pull for all my ex-Dawgs in Cincinnati. Anyhow, back to the game. Urban Meyer is a hard guy to like, but a harder guy to bet against. I'll take the Bucks over the Sooners in a game with lots of points. OSU 45, OU 42.

### **NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: STANFORD OVER SOUTHERN CAL**

If any program is annually more overrated than Notre Dame, it's the University of Spoiled Children. I am amazed to see them ranked this high. They've got a terrific QB, but then Mark Sanchez, Matt Leinart, and Matt Barkley were supposed to be great too, and they've been NFL benchwarmers for the most part. They are all handsome lads with great hair. But this is football, and I think that the smart guys from Palo Alto will outplay them on Saturday. Cardinal 28, Trojans 24.