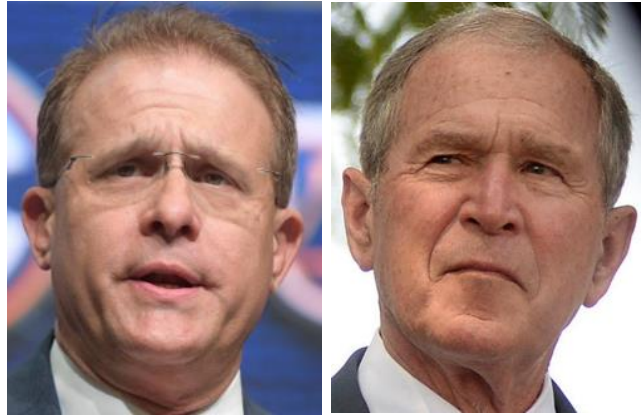


**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
DAWGS TOAST TIGER KINGS**

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SEPARATED@BIRTH?



**COGNITION
DEMOLISHED
GUS MALZAHN**

&

**MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED
GEORGE W. BUSH**

SEPARATED@BIRTH? ARCHIVE

Every game has to have a story. And every season has got to have a story arc.

The storyline for our opener: Our quarterback had a narrative that made him endearing and sympathetic, a guy you want to root for, who fought through adversity to win the job when everyone else thought that it belonged to someone else. A guy who'd gotten it done in practice, but not in games. A guy who had his teammates' respect and appreciation, if not yet that of people outside the locker room.

And yes, by the end of the day, Stetson Bennett IV was that guy.

After a dreadful start where the starter seemed to do everything wrong and the fan base was getting restless, alarmed, and at times horrified, a new guy trotted in—just not the guy everyone assumed would be second in line for QB1 at UGA. In the QB room in which everyone else is 6'-3" to 6'-6" tall and glowing with 4-5 stars from their high school days in other states, it was the kid barely grazing 5'-11", the one from Blackshear with 2 stars and a walkon invitation to start his career, who got the call. And he answered it in legendary fashion.

That's when we got a look at the Todd Monken offense, which had been obscured by penalties, an inability to dominate the line of scrimmage, and a QB rating of 9.4 for D'Wan Mathis (inflated by his fourth quarter stats) to open the game. There were substitutions on the OL that may or may not have helped with the shift in efficiency in the second half; I saw the names Ericson and McLendon on those big jerseys after a

while, and that's the unit that seemed to get the ball moving. QB may not be the only offensive position up for grabs as the season progresses.

Going into the game, perhaps the team's biggest mystery was the special teams units and their never-been-a-field-coach leader. Scott Cochran probably can't take credit for Jake Camarda's superb game pinning Arkansas inside their 10-yard line; after a shaky freshman season 2 years ago, Jake's been terrific in all aspects of the punting game. But our return and coverage teams gave us field position all night, including a blocked punt by that guy who once raised questions about our staff's judgment by getting injured on a punt team. Kenny McIntosh answered any questions about who'll return kicks for the next few years. And there's a new name to learn in the kicking game, Jack Podlesny, of the football hotbed of St. Simons Island. His bio from Georgiadawgs.com: Glynn Academy, coached by Rocky Hidalgo...earned First Team All-Region honors his senior year...made nine of 10 field goals and 49 of 51 PATs...fifty-five of his 61 kickoffs resulted in touchbacks...named to Principal's Honor Roll his senior year...also captain of region champion soccer team...participated in National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and the Beta Club...member of the Physics Club.

But what made the game a win was the defense, which aside from a few plays, just crushed Arkansas and made Feleipe Franks look like Feleipe Franks, who was limited to a 43.6 QB rating on the night and threw his usual 3 interceptions. Interestingly enough, K. J. Costello, the new national hero after torching LSU, produced a rating of 83.1. Self-proclaimed Heisman favorite Spencer Rattler came in at 70.2, a cool 13 points behind his opponent for the day, KSU's Skylar Thompson. Stetson Bennett? 93.6.

However, I was talking about the defense, which owned the line of scrimmage (2.8 yards-per-carry by Arkansas, including 1.9 by much-hyped Rakeem Boyd) and pressured Franks into his 3 picks. With those guys jamming up opponents' offenses, the team's in good position to win what's shaping up as a mighty tough schedule.

But there's work to do: "Really sloppy first-half. Felt like I was in an extra-innings baseball game. I thought we were very stagnant and (took) undisciplined penalties. Every time we had something going, we'd shoot ourselves in the foot. You can't win football games doing those things. We've got to improve and get better." ~Kirby Smart

Sloppiness was the word of the day for teams playing with such truncated preparation: "I thought we were very sloppy with formations, alignments on offense." ~Sam Pittman

Before the game, Eric Stokes said what we've been saying for a few years now, only this time, it happened: "There seems to be an added emphasis on creating turnovers this season for the Georgia defense. 'It's all about the ball. We want the ball, the ball, the ball. We did not create as many turnovers as we knew and thought we should. So, everything is about the finish, the finish for us. We're trying to do anything to get the ball out— rip at the ball, [and] if the ball is in the air, it's our ball. The emphasis is on the ball, the ball, the ball.'" If only we can get Feleipe Franks to play for everyone, we will dominate.

And, to commemorate the return of the tight ends to the UGA offense:



**MARIST & BARE-ASSED
TIGHT END JOHN TIGHT END
FITZPATRICK CHRISTIAN
LAETTNER**

The story arc for this season? It's still being written. How it turns out depends on what happens in practice, when the fans aren't watching and dreaming up scenarios and calling plays the coaches should have called. They'll still dream up those scenarios; Stetson Bennett's job is already in jeopardy in the minds of the fans; and the coaches aren't anointing anyone yet for the long haul. Although it's almost October, we've got a long way to go, and the authors of the script are still working out the details.



Eric Stokes silences empty Razorback Stadium after pick-six

SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: What do the following humans have in common?
Jarrett Stidham, Josh Rosen, Blake Barnett, Kyler Murray, Brandon Wimbush, Ricky Town, Brady White, Travis Jonsen, Jauan Jennings, and Drew Lock

- A. These are the first ten people who signed up for Huck's Southern Christmas Mystery Trip.
- B. Each named his first son after Bo Jackson.
- C. Each transferred from the original university he chose, after changing majors and finding a school with a better program in poultryology.
- D. Each has a Bobby Lowder bobblehead doll on his car dashboard.

Answer: These are the top ten HS QB prospects of 2015 in order of their ranking in the 247 composite ratings. Other notables:

#11 Jake Browning

#13 Sam Darnold

#15 Joe Burrow

#18 Lamar Jackson

#23 Kyle Shurmer [Vandy]

#27 Kelly Bryant [from Clemson to Mizzou]

#30 Tyler Queen [from Auburn to W. Georgia]

#43 David Sills V [one-time 8th grade Lane Kiffin USC recruit, undrafted WR out of W. Virginia, made roster of NY Giants]

#66 Nick Robinson [UGA's sole QB recruit, a walkon; transferred to Penn by way of Saddleback [Junior] College, CA]

#91 Evan Shirreffs [of Jefferson HS, Jackson Co., GA; backup at Miami, transferred to UNC-Charlotte]

#135 Daniel Jones [2 stars and second-ranked QB in Duke's class behind #114 Quentin Harris]



Winner of the 2020 Face Sculpted From Granite Award: Darnell Washington



Here's what happens if you let your son go to Harvard

Speaking of Harvard, when President Trump delivered the commencement speech at the summer Harvard graduation ceremony, the crowd chanted, "Eschew his presidency!" Damn anarchists.

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 needy circumstances, and every dollar helps to support them through another day, week, month, and year. This week's featured Good Works organization:

The mission of the **Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation** is to make kids better today and healthier tomorrow through the philanthropic support of individual donors, charitable foundations and corporations. Every day, lifesaving work happens at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta—from pediatric cancer treatments and organ transplants to fracture care and appendectomies. The Children's Foundation relies on volunteers in the hospitals and in the community. Each year, in-hospital volunteers donate more than 127,000 hours of their time and community volunteer groups raise millions for Children's through fundraising activities and events. As a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing high-quality pediatric care, they depend on the generous support of donors. Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is a 501(c)(3) organization, gifts to which may be deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

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DAWG DOOTS

- ☞ You may think that you're hearing canned stadium noise during games in near-empty stadiums. Are they actually piping in canned booing on cue? No, in fact, for UGA games, you are simply hearing Foghorn Bullhorn booing from the couch.
- ☞ [War Eagle!](#)
- ☞ Greg McElroy, while calling Georgia Tech's blowout loss to UCF, managed to compare GT QB Jeff Sims to Robert Griffin III, and RB Jahmyr Gibbs to Reggie Bush. And if Sims keeps trying to run over tacklers, he'll look just like The Notorious RG3 circa 2020: a body too broken to play the game as well as he did when he was a Heisman winner at Baylor, and briefly a rising star in the NFL.
- ☞ Jeff Sims' QB rating on Saturday vs. Syracuse, somehow the underdog in this game: 18.5
- ☞ "We have a lot of high-character men in that locker room who want to get better. They have the tools to get better, they have the coaching to get better and they will get better." ~Geoff Collins, speaking after Saturday's loss to Syracuse, about a team that appears to be getting worse
- ☞ Thanks to Kansas State for ending the annual Lincoln-Riley-Is-A-Genius chatter as Oklahoma puts another swiss-cheese defense on the field and expects to outscore everyone, and as their QB expects to win the Heisman simply by strapping on his helmet.

A coach's journey:

John Jancek

1991-1992	Grand Valley State (Grad Asst)
1992-1994	Wayne State (DC)
1996-1998	Hillsdale College (DC)
1999-2002	Grand Valley State (DC)
2002-2004	Central Michigan (DL)
2005-2008	UGA (Linebackers)
2009	UGA (Co-DC)
2010-2011	Cincinnati (Co-DC)
2012	Cincinnati (DC)
2013-2015	Tennessee (DC)
2016	South Florida (Safeties)
2017	Kentucky (Consultant)
2018-2019	Colorado State (DC)
2020	UGA, Support Staff

THE COVETED DAWGMEISTER GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK AWARD

GOOD GUY ARCHIVE

Tyler Simmons said in the midst of his injury-riddled senior season, “Of course, it’s football, (pain) comes with the game. You can either sit out and miss those opportunities, or you can go and do what you can do.” After coming to UGA as a consensus 3-star WR from McEachern HS, Tyler played for half of his career with a painful shoulder injury that required a brace that limited his range of motion. Catching passes, while a major responsibility for a WR, was only part of what this blazing fast player contributed to UGA during his career here. He was the consummate team player, blocking like a lineman in spite of the shoulder issues, starring in special teams, and providing leadership to what was, by his senior year, a receivers room full of pups. He also never dodged accountability, accepting responsibility for the South Carolina loss in which lost track of a pass that was picked off in overtime. He said in the aftermath, “At the end of the road there’s still a plan for me, everything happens for a reason. Of course I got down on myself for a little bit, but you just have to keep pushing. You’re either going to dwell on the past or keep pushing for a better future, and that’s what I’ve been doing, keeping a positive mindset and telling younger guys that are stepping up to play, to take advantage of those opportunities because that’s big.” During his career, Tyler earned a lot of recognition, including Special Teams Most Improved Player Award, the Charley Trippi Award for versatility, and the Kevin Butler Special Teams MVP award. AJC writer Mike Griffith put it well in a lovely profile he wrote on Tyler during his senior season: “Spend five minutes talking to Georgia senior receiver Tyler Simmons, and you can understand why any coach or quarterback would want the ball in his hands. It’s clear Simmons is going to be successful at anything in life he chooses after football.” Well said Mike. I think we all look forward to seeing what Tyler does once he hangs up his cleats and takes on the rest of his life in earnest.



THE FORECAST

DAWGS VS. AUBURN

I scouted Auburn against Kentucky, and had mixed feelings about what they'll bring to Sanford Stadium next week. They sure don't have the same interior DL they've had, and I'm still not blown away by Bo Nix. But then, we've got question marks too. We've got George Pickens; they've got Seth Williams. Both are lanky guys who go after the ball. They've got plenty of guys who were high on our recruiting lists. Neither team is yet a juggernaut on offense, and I think our defense is a little better. Who'll be our QB? It's hard not to pull for Bennett, but then, it was hard not to pull for Mathis. I think it'll be tough and tight. But I think we'll pull it out no matter who's taking snaps. Dawgs 24, Tigers 17.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: ALABAMA OVER TEXAS A&M

The talent levels are too great for TAMU to compete in this one, unless Johnny Manziel claims he's been born again and is awarded another season of eligibility. Jimbo Fisher hasn't quite bought a good enough team yet to compete in this one. This will be the first of many probation years that Jimbo brought along when escaping the dumpster fire he left in Tallahassee. That mess has burned down Willie Taggart, once considered to be a fine coach, and has left Mike Norvell with program so bad it lost to Georgia Tech and Miami to start the 2020 season, in spite of the considerable smoke that Greg McElroy blew up his ass before the Georgia Tech game, causing him to see only fog all afternoon. But I digress. TAMU isn't ready for this one. Tide 53, Aggs 21.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: SOUTH CAROLINA OVER FLORIDA

Why? Well, it's one of those weeks with heavy favorites and few close games predicted. These upsets ain't easy. Last week I rolled the dice on WVU beating OK State, but it was the inconceivable loss of OU to KSU that shocked the nation. Here, I'll go with Will over Dan. Mullen is so smug and self-satisfied that he may well assume that simply by showing up, his Gators will win. Kinda the way we did when SC came to Athens last year. Whatever Muschamp's shortcomings, he's an intense guy with Mike Bobo calling plays. Talent, schmalent.....Cocks dine on Gators, 24-23.