THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS EXTERMINATE JORU SPIDERS

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TECH'S LAST CHAMP & FECKLESS TRAMP **BOBBY ROSS SCARECROW**

THE COMPLETE SEPARATED@BIRTH? COLLECTION THE GEORGIA TECH COACHES COLLECTION **THE WIZARD OF OZ COLLECTION**



It's nice to have an afternoon of stress-free football and appreciation for a senior class that has been a big part of the towering success of the Kirby Smart Era. I wasn't quite as apprehensive at the opening kickoff as I was a week ago, when we served as Tennessee's Homecoming opponent, something that must have been scheduled by Phil Fulmer. I was fine even after SB4's opening-drive deflection and interception, although I did hear Foghorn Bullhorn's lamentations and wails echoing above the stadium for a few hours. It didn't take long for the offense to make up for it, and who wasn't happy to see Jordan Davis get his rushing TD? But geez, it was pretty dense there up the middle. When are we going to run JD on a sweep? There was a lot of green grass out there on the edge.

From that point on, we got the game you get when you schedule Charleston Southern. And afterwards, the team had a locker room celebration that rivaled Florida's after their great comeback win over Samford.

Some suggestions for the broadcasting team of Mike Morgan and Charles Arbuckle, whose call I caught on tape:

- When #99 goes in at tailback, make sure you check his size and other demographic features so that you don't say that Jared Zirkell is in the game.
- Ladd McConkey is not now, and never was, a former walkon.
- John FitzPatrick is not a backup tight end.

OK, given that we totally dominated a team we expected to totally dominate, let's move on to the national scene.

I taped the Alabama-Arkansas game and caught it later in the day. Alabama sure doesn't look invincible to me. The Scowlmeister and I had talked earlier in the week, and neither of us could name much of their lineup. In past years, we knew the names of half the guys on their roster. They didn't dominate an Arkansas team with half of their talent on Saturday. In fact, they barely beat a team largely composed of pre-Pittman recruits, a bunch who helped get Chad Morris fired. They are beatable, very much so.

But I also taped and watched Ohio State beat the living snot out of Michigan State, and they looked scary good. They are solid in The Dawmeister's Playoff Group (or Michigan, if they can beat them next weekend—it appears that rumors of Harbaugh's death are greatly exaggerated), along with UGA, Cincinnati, and Alabama until they lose in the SEC championship game. After that, fuhgettaboutit. A 2-loss team? Not unless everyone else has a couple of losses too. The Oklahoma-Okie State winner, Notre Dame, and the Ohio State-Michigan winner would be more deserving, assuming they win their various conference playoffs (and I hate it that ND gets a free pass on that round). Heck, so would 9-1 Princeton. I hope that the committee doesn't shaft one of them this year because Alabama has been good in the past. One of them will be left out of the proceedings anyhow, assuming that Cincinnati stays perfect. 2-loss Alabama over a set of 1-loss teams? That committee room should look like a school board meeting overtaken by Critical Race Theory haters if they even try.

UGA's opening win over Clemson is widely viewed as degraded by Clemson's struggles this year. Ahem. They're 8-3, which is below their standard but hardly a total tank job,

and they hammered #10 Wake Forest on Saturday. Beating Clemson sure looks more impressive than it seemed to be a month ago. Now admittedly, the ACC is a league where only 4 teams have fewer than 5 losses, so that achievement requires context. But that didn't stop Clemson from being an annual Final Four team over the last decade or so.

AJC Headline Sunday morning: Everyone can see Georgia Tech going in wrong direction

with Geoff Collins.



Dapper Georgia Tech fans hopefully styling their Chick Magnet fashions in the new Geoff Collins "3 'n' 9 Apparel" collection

Good thing Florida got in their victory celebration a week ago. It will be their last under current management. And a reminder that being a dick can come back to haunt you:



Here's what I don't understand. There's a growing consensus that Dan Mullen's personality doesn't mesh well with the rest of humanity. He is a weak recruiter because he's not likeable or admirable, and believes that coaches matter more than players. But

he has trouble hiring good assistants and coordinators because nobody wants to work for an arrogant jerk who can't bring in good players. His players appear to have quit on him, along with Florida's fan base, their media following, and no doubt the upper echelons of the University of Florida leadership. His saving grace has been his purported genius at developing quarterbacks and calling plays. But where are all these great quarterbacks, and where are all these amazing plays? Urban Meyer recruited most of the players who made Mullen look better than he is as a coordinator and playcaller. Alex Smith was over 15 years ago. Tim Tebow was great in college with Urban Meyer recruits and jailbirds, but a failure in 10 different pro sports. Dak Prescott is pretty good, and proves that even a blind squirrel can turn up the occasional acorn. Kyle Trask was a nice accident, but the guys he threw to were special and among the few elite players recruited by Mullen. That's it. And when I watch Florida play, I confess I don't see play-calling wizardry. Those plays don't look any more fabulous than what most coordinators dial up. What, then, are you left with? A guy who did better at Mississippi State than most guys, but who isn't up to coaching a champion, and who seems incapable of acknowledging that he is the problem and thus fixing it.

SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: Sports fans were treated to the following headline in June: Lamar Odom TKOs Aaron Carter in Celebrity Boxing Match

Which of the following should be the next Celebrity Boxing Match to thrill our souls?

- A. The [Dixie] Chicks vs. The Proud Boys
- B. Hunter Biden vs. Eric Trump
- C. Joe Exotic vs. Carole Baskin
- D. Layla Kiffin vs. Lane Kiffin
- E. Justin Bieber vs. Ndamukong Suh
- F. Marjorie Taylor Greene vs. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
- G. Hilary Clinton vs. Monica Lewinsky
- H. Jeff Bezos vs. Elon Musk
- I. Stormy Daniels vs. Melania Trump
- J. Ozzie Osbourne vs. Cornel West
- K. Anthony Fauci vs. Tucker Carlson
- L. Lane Kiffin vs. The Tennessee Fan Base
- M. Michael Bolton vs. Fabio

Answer: Each of these bouts has already been scheduled. The Fight of the Century that we all eagerly await is: Dan Mullen vs. Jordan Davis.

New Covid Guidelines Released

The CDC, frustrated over the continued spread of the Covid-19 virus, has now issued a TikTok Challenge in which fans of Aaron Rodgers and Kyrie Irving go to shopping malls and suck the vaccines out of the arms of vaccinated people in order to immunize themselves without having to get a vaccine.

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 is

First Candle

First Candle is committed to ending Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other sleep-related infant deaths while providing bereavement support to families who have experienced a loss. This has been our role for more than 35 years. In 1994 we partnered with the National Institutes of Health on the Back to Sleep campaign, which led to a reduction in the rate of SIDS by more than 50%. Despite this, sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), which includes SIDS and accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed (ASSB), remains the leading cause of death for babies one month to one year of age. Due to SUID more than 300 babies every month may not live to see their first birthday. Infant mortality rates in the U.S. are also higher than in the 20 wealthiest nations. This charity has won the support of Nick Chubb, who lost a nephew to SIDS.

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DAWG DOOTS

- Gotta love Nolan Smith, who had his helmet on the whole game without a chance of getting in.
- But Nolan, ya gotta quit teaching opponents how to steal the ball out of a ballcarrier's hands.
- Actual quote from preseason news story: The testimony of Austin Kent helped convince Brent Cimaglia to transfer from Tennessee to Tech. "I've known him since eighth grade, and really just hearing his stories about how fun Georgia Tech was, it was an easy decision."
- On the other hand, who *didn't* transfer from Tennessee after the Pruitt Era?

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

Kearis Jackson is a remarkable young man. He can really play football. He was also a freak on the Peach County HS track team, winning the state 3A shot put championship and being named the High Point Champion for Class 3A at the state track meet. Shot put? Not bad for a kid just around 200 pounds who was always the fastest, most agile kid on the football field. That speed was evident when he finished the Nike Opening Regional with a second place finish on 4X100 relay team, third place in the 100 meters, fourth place in the discus, and the ran the anchor leg for the relay team that finished first but got disqualified when Kearis tossed the baton on the ground after completing his leg, which apparently is such an offense that his team's win should be erased from the record book. If it was, it was a rare offense in the life of Kearis Jackson, described by his principal as a better person and student than athlete. His recruiting profile shows how wildly unreliable the gurus can be: PrepStar ranked him as the #251 player nationally, while ESPN had him as the #38 prospect at all positions, with others in

between. At UGA he's been a stalwart in the WR room, being among the statistical leaders throughout his career when healthy. His character style points are equally impressive, with Kearis having been named one of three student representatives on the UGA Athletics Board of Directors, as UGA's representative at the SEC Football Leadership Council, and as a team captain for several games. Kearis has his sights set on the NFL while majoring in Management with support from the Vickie & Leon Farmer and Joe B. Maxwell Family Scholarships. Indeed, he's a better person and student than athlete, and has an excellent shot at making a living as a football player. That means he's one heck of a terrific person, one I'm looking forward to following no matter where his path takes him.



THE FORECAST DAWGS VS. GEORGIA TECH

There's a train wreck in Atlanta, and it consists of a rambling wreck running over itself *en route* to another 3-9 season for Geoff Collins. But don't worry, he's optimistic because they're not losing by nearly as much as they did his first two seasons. And if you can't see the progress, you're just not looking in the right places. Some of his guys can now do curls with barbells weighing up to 20 pounds during games. What's your problem? Unfortunately, the games are played out there on the field. Meanwhile, the <u>stands are getting emptier by the week</u>. I suspect they'll be filled with red on Saturday. Dawgs 100, Tech 0.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: OKLAHOMA OVER OKLAHOMA STATE

Mike Gundy has arranged for the game to be broadcast on the One America News Network, with Oklahoma's offensive possessions replaced by coverage of a greased pig chase in Bowlegs, OK. That will be the highlight of the day in Stillwater. OU 41, OSU 35.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: MISSISSIPPI STATE OVER MISSISSIPPI

In a matchup of two of the nation's most repugnant coaches, I'll go with the team with the ugliest uniforms. It might be the Lane Train's last game at Ole Miss, given how he's a darling of the fire-my-coach crowd, a feeling Lane himself has had before, and that he'll surely feel again. Here come da pointfest. I'll take the guys from Starkville—literally, "city where there is nothing"—to take home the trophy, a bronze weasel gnawing the testicles of a dead rat. MSU 49, UM 45.