# THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS BAN VANDY

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# SEPARATED@BIRTH?



THE COMPLETE SEPARATED@BIRTH? COLLECTION

Last week The Scowlmeister and I discussed the chatter in the Lamestream Sports Media about a QB controversy at UGA. Stetson Bennett had torched UAB a week ago while JT Daniels sat out with a strained oblique muscle, and that meant that the stands and couches were groaning with people who believed that Bennett was our best shot at winning. That argument seemed pretty strained and oblique to us, and lacked muscle. SB4 had indeed had a fabulous game, and given how upsetting this season has already been, no opponent should be underestimated, and no backup should ever be disrespected. But unseating JT for QB1 seemed like a manufactured story to us. And indeed, so it was.

I'd have taken either QB for this game, but was happy for JT to see him trotting out with the first unit and coming out firing. I was happy for the team, too. Our cakewalk of a schedule is looking a little more rugged right now, with Arkansas, Florida, Auburn, and possibly even Georgia Tech showing out, even in losses. And with upsets all over the scoreboard, no game is guaranteed. We need our best players to run the table, especially when some are still in shorts on the sidelines during the game. But like JT, they'll be back.

One fun part of every season is seeing who emerges from the shadows and earns a shot a playing. With so many WRs and TEs out, other guys are getting opportunities: Ladd "Mad Honkey" McConkey, Adonai Mitchell, and others. That's great for developing depth for this season, and developing players for the next few years. Bowers probably would have been in the game plan anyhow, but having Washington out has put him in the spotlight, and he's delivered.

I think we got the best outing to date from the OL, aside from one sack. The backs ran well and got involved in the passing game. I think that the offense is shaping up well as the SEC season gets underway. And the defense is living up to its reputation as the fastest and most dynamic unit in the country.

Is South Carolina a good measuring stick for this season's team? Probably not, and Vandy won't be either. Things get tougher after that. But for now, call me a happy fan of the team. The Lamestream Sports Media felt that the game boiled down to two key issues. One was putting Bennett in for an early series, a move that flopped without really hurting, but I guess they need to write about something. The other was the presence in the stands of Arch Manning, a high school junior whose attendance dwarfed what was going on between the hedges, apparently. I'm more concerned with the team we've already got. And I like what I see.



### **New Covid Guidelines Released**

The CDC, relying on new findings in the Caribbean, has issued an emergency recommendation for a new approach to containing the deadly Covid-19 virus. Trinidadian scrotum fluids found in the engorged ball sacks of infected male humans are now being drained and bottled for sale in the United States. Although there are rumors that these fluids can cause impotence, this cure has such great effects that the CDC is recommending its immediate availability to US citizens and their extended families and friendship circles.



There's a subtext here, but I just can't get it to come into focus.

### SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: How many of the top ten QBs in the 2018 class graduated from the school they originally signed with?

A. All of them graduated from their original institutions and got law degrees in three years, and then transferred to play another season while enrolled in doctoral programs at the University of Phoenix.

B. Each gave up football to focus on preparing for medical school after transferring to Trump University.

C. Each one transferred to East Mississippi Community College, where their 10-person competition was featured on Last Chance U.

D. Each took a Covid exception and gained an extra year of eligibility at the Ivy League university of his choice.

**Answer**: 5 transferred to other schools; 2 (including one transfer) left early for the NFL; 2 start for the PAC-12 programs they originally committed to, and 1 starts for his original SEC school.

Trevor Lawrence: Clemson (entered NFL draft after 3 years)

Justin Fields: Transferred from UGA to OSU (entered NFL draft after 3 years)

JT Daniels: Transferred from USC to UGA

Tanner McKee: Stanford

Justin Rogers: Transferred from TCU to UNLV

Dorian Thompson-Robinson: UCLA

Jarren Williams: Transferred from Miami to Garden City CC to South Florida

Matt Corral: Ole Miss (but transferred high schools after getting into a fight with Wayne Gretzky's son)

Tyler Shough: Transferred from Oregon to Texas Tech

## **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

## **Project Safe**

Project Safe is a 501c3 nonprofit organization working to end domestic violence through crisis intervention, ongoing supportive services, systems change advocacy, and prevention and education. Project Safe's primary service area is Madison County, Oconee County, Clarke County, and Oglethorpe County, but provides services to people from all over Georgia. Project Safe is able to help anyone leaving an abusive situation through a multitude of services. Project Safe offers a 24-hour Hotline and teen Textline, emergency and confidential shelter, housing assistance, legal advocacy, and financial assistance. Although the majority of clients are from Madison, Athens-Clarke, Oconee,

and Oglethorpe Counties, we're a routing point for a national hotline and assist people from across Georgia and out of state.

Our Values: Our approach to the fight against domestic violence combines the energy of the heart with a commitment to evaluation and attention to operational efficiencies. 90 cents of every dollar contributed to Project Safe goes to programs and services directly benefiting survivors and their children.

We keep overhead costs low by utilizing volunteers and student interns, seeking in-kind donations of goods and services rather than purchasing them, and sharing tasks such as answering the telephone instead of employing an office manager or administrator. **DONATE HERE** 

# **DAWG DOOTS**

- The leading candidate for the vacant USC head coaching job is rumored to be Jon Gruden, based on his 115–110 career record as a head coach. Also in the running to revive this faltering program are Urban Meyer, Bobby Petrino, Pat Summitt, Lane Kiffin, Vince Lombardi, Sparky Anderson, Mike Krzyzewski, and John Heisman.
- Amazingly enough, this exact same list is rumored to be on Florida State's short list for their next coach.
- Imagine how terrible FSU would be without <u>Jermaine Johnson</u>, who is the best player on their defense, just as The Scowlmeister is the most cheerful person in Afghanistan.
- The Dawgmeister's Executive Search Committee has advised that the following trade be engineered so as to placate two pricey, unhappy stars seeking new teams: The Houston Texans send Deshaun Watson to Philadelphia in exchange for Ben Simmons and two massage tables.
- Florida shocked the college sports world by using Paul Johnson as its offensive G coordinator in the second half against Alabama, nearly taking down the Tide and vaulting the Dawgs into the #1 position.

## **RECRUITING UPDATES**

- Archibald Manning, who has not yet been born, has been named the #1 overall Ø recruit of the 2045 recruiting class.
- Actual name of 2022 Tennessee commit: WR Chas Nimrod
- Of the 17 current commitments to the S. Carolina 2022 class, a total of 2 are from the state of S. Carolina.
- Da Hottest recruit of the 2022 class: LSU's WR Decoldest Crawford
- Alabama commit who is annoyed that Jim Bob was already taken: DL Walter Bob

# **EX-TEMPLE COACH UPDATES**

Here are the records of college coaches for whom Temple was recently a stepping stone to bigger and better things:

Manny Diaz, Miami: 1-2

Geoff Collins, Georgia Tech: 1-2 Steve Addazio, Colorado State: 1-2

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

**Shedrick Wynn** provides us all with a lesson in persistence and determination. Once a Jim Donnan recruit in the late 1990s at the defensive end position, he finally walked across the stage in 2020 to become the first person in his family to earn a college degree. He said, "Perseverance and not worrying about what people think was a big part of it. I had a chance, an opportunity in life and the way we were taught when I was young was that you finish what you start. Not having my degree had been eating away at me. There were personal, financial, and other issues that slowed me down at times, but I never tried to get discouraged from my mission. I had to become a caretaker for my wife when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2013. This has taught me to believe in yourself until the end. I finally feel some validation of all of the hard work over the years." Shedrick's UGA career was cut short by injuries during his senior year in 2003. Just 12 hours short of his degree, he returned to Lincoln County and married his sweetheart Andrea, with whom he's raised two sons and a daughter, all current or former students at Cedar Shoals HS in Athens, where Shedrick also coached football. His oldest son, Jalen Jackson, now plays football for Georgia Southern. While at Cedar Shoals, Shedrick began talking with Glada Horvat of the compliance department, a Cedar Shoals booster who encouraged him to re-enroll in his late 30s to complete his undergraduate degree in Housing Management and Policy. It took him a while, but completing his degree two decades after starting is a rare and impressive feat, one for which he has earned my admiration. There's an online interview with him about his journey if you want to hear the man tell his story himself. You won't find a more inspiring narrative, or a better man.



# THE FORECAST DAWGS VS. VANDERBILT

This might be the worst Vanderbilt team of the century. Rumor has it that they are trying to work in a game with Florida State so they'll at least have one win. I'm sure Kirby Smart still remembers that awful home loss in Y1 of his era, and won't repeat it.

The Dawgs ought to roll right along on both sides of the ball. Vandy fills its rosters with extra punters and grants a fifth year of eligibility to Sarah Fuller in case they all get too tired by the fourth quarter. UGA 51, Vandy 0.

#### NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: STANFORD OVER UCLA

What do you think of Stanford going 2-0 against the Big 2 from LA, or at least what's left of it? A lot was made of the Bruins' demolition of LSU, but I'm still waiting to see if Coach Eaux has a second act in Baton Rouge without Joe Burrow. This time, Coach Shaw at least won't try to make fun of UCLA's uniforms. That really gets Chip Kelly annoyed. But not as much as losing to Stanford. The PAC-12 gets even more confusing as the Week 1 hype over the southern part of the league gets laid to rest in its usual burial ground.....Stanford 31, UCLA 27 [note: this forecast was written before UCLA lost to Fresno State, ending yet another narrative about yet another team that's got it all figured out and is a threat to make the Final Four]

#### NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: ARKANSAS OVER TAMU

I would love to see Jimbo Fisher lose, and Sam Pittman win. Sam sure made all those Longhorn frontrunners look like dumbshits. Now it's time to continue his dominance over the state where "open carry" no longer refers to beer. Arkansas gets its last win before having to face them Dawgs. Hogs 28, Aggies 21