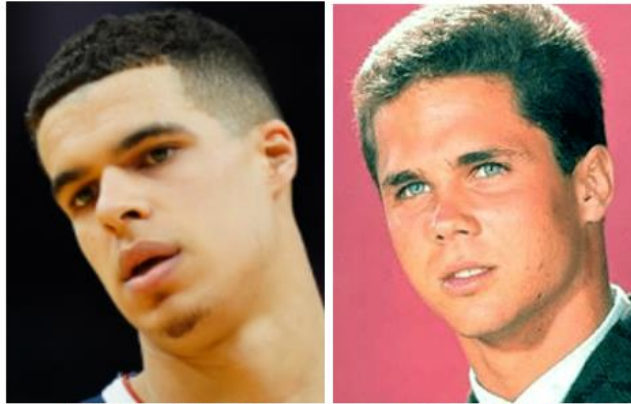


## **THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST: DAWGS DOO MIZZOU**

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### **SEPARATED@BIRTH?**



**FREELY HEAVES & GEE WHIZ, BEAV  
MICHAEL PORTER, JR. WALLY CLEAVER**

**[THE COMPLETE SEPARATED@BIRTH? COLLECTION](#)  
[THE MISSOURI COACHES COLLECTION](#)  
[THE LEAVE IT TO BEAVER COLLECTION](#)**

In the wake of their latest loss to Georgia, the University of Florida, following the lead of Facebook, is planning to rebrand itself. After extensive polling of alumni, donors, ex-players, and students, it will henceforth be known as The Place Formerly Known as The Place where Dan Mullen Formerly Coached.

In the interminable buildup to the game, I kept reading about Florida's quarterback situation. I was pretty sure, like everyone else, that Anthony Richardson would start. I felt that the key to the game was pressure. Every time he was pressured in his breakout game against LSU, he made bad decisions (2 picks under pressure). Keep the pressure on, I thought, and he'd make a mistake.

But then the hype got my attention. He's just like Cam Newton! He not only runs, but throws a laser! He's got QB whisperer Dan Mullen in his ear, and that overcomes all else! It's a rivalry game, so throw out the records! Maybe it was time to get a little nervous and not take a reeling opponent for granted.

Before the game, the 14-point spread appeared historically great, and perhaps exaggerated. But once again, the Dawgs beat it into the ground.

For most of the first half, it was a standoff, and I started to wonder, will Coach Smart make a QB switch to get some points on the board? Richardson wasn't doing much with the ball, but then, neither were we. Todd Grantham was looking like the best coach on the Florida sideline. And by game's end, he might have been.

That glorious 2:09, achieved with defensive brilliance and some quick strikes, will give Dawg fans a lift in their step for at least a week. Visions of Nolan Smith will be dancing in our heads till Santa Claus takes over in a couple of months.

After the game, Coach Smart said, “It doesn’t matter to me that it’s Florida, the important thing to me is it’s our team and we won.” [But he sure did seem especially happy on the field after the game.](#) Maybe deep down he agreed with Nolan “Hair on Fire” Smith, who said afterwards, “It’s personal. It was real personal.”

Coach Smart’s emotional response belied his analytic response, of course: “We had a back go the wrong way, we had a guy read the wrong wristband, we had a guy not block the end, we had a guy jump offsides. We had busts on defense, too. We’re just able to overcome some of that now on defense with talent and size and speed. Turnovers, it’s like we were 68th in the country and that offends our guys. We gave up 194 passing yards, 161 rushing yards. That’s not elite. That’s not our standard.”

Well, at least it beat Mullen and his much-repeated [Gator Standard](#). But hey, Florida outgained Georgia 355-354. I guess that means Mullen was the game’s best coach.

Everyone made much out of the Dawgs’ advantage in talent after the game, and Coach Smart made his players the center of attention in the aftermath. But these cats are well-coached as hell and play as a team. I’ve never seen a unit pursue the ball the way these guys do. All that talent helps. But they are always in the right place, doing the right thing, tackling with precision, and playing as a unit. What a joy to behold.

There is some concern that Jordan “Human Brick Wall” Davis might not get enough snaps to qualify for the Heisman. OK, fine. Give it to Nakobe Dean.

Notes to Nessler & Danielson:

- ☞ Stetson Bennett is not a walkon.
- ☞ Ladd McConkey is not a former walkon.
- ☞ Brad, when you call Gary “Pardner,” you sound like Craig James.
- ☞ Or maybe he’s saying “Pardoner” for what GD does for all of Nick Saban’s mistakes.
- ☞ When SB4 scrambles out of trouble, you don’t need to say every time, “That’s something JT Daniels couldn’t do!”
- ☞ You don’t need to state how many recruiting stars every player on every team got coming out of high school

And now, some final words from Dan Mullen. First, a little bit about Dan on his favorite subject:

“I will say something about me: I don’t drop the rope. I’m not going to let you even rip it out of my hand. You can drag me around by my face if you want, but I’m not going to let it go. Squeeze it and not let it go. I’m not going to let any inch of that rope go, and I know our players won’t either, OK, but I’m going to tell you that’s what we have to do.”

And now, Dan talks about his team:

“Here's the deal. The rope’s slipping right now. Rope slips and then we kind of let a lot of it go, and against good teams you can’t do that. You've got to immediately—offense, defense, the entire team—everybody’s got to grasp on, you know what I mean? There’s going to be ebbs and flows in the course of each game. And then as the rope slips through your hands, you can just let it go, either drop it; that ain't the answer, that's not going to fix anything. OK, you’re going to feel that burn and you cannot squeeze that tight because of the burn, and that's not going to fix anything. Or you just grab tight, you hold on, you dig your heels in, and you start pulling in the other direction.”

Or, you get a coach who doesn’t glorify himself after an ass-kicking and imply that his players let him down. Again.

And be careful about putting a rope in Florida fans’ hands these days. They might have other ideas on how to use it.



*Fans of 7-0 Princeton state their case for the playoff*

### **New Covid Guidelines Released**

A mixture of worm castings and bat guano has now been identified as a major weapon in the fight against Covid-19. They must be collected fresh from the animal’s rectum with tweezers (worm) or demitasse cup (bat), cured in a solution of bleach for two days, and then drunk before a meal of roach entrails tartar.

### **SAT PREP SESSION**

SAT Question of the Week: What other nicknames are available for “Ice” Trae Young?

- A. Trae Magnifique
- B. Mighty Trae Young
- C. Logo Trae
- D. Your Head on a Trae

Answer:

Why limit yourself to one?

## **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*

### **Everybody Wins! Atlanta**

In 1997, Everybody Wins! Atlanta was founded, serving the students of Hope-Hill Elementary School through the Power Lunch program. For over 18 years, Everybody Wins! Atlanta has been devoted to improving the reading skills and developing a love of reading in students who are reading below grade level, giving them a greater chance for success in school and expanding their life horizon.

[DONATE HERE](#)

### **Recent Headlines from the Sunshine State**

[Dear Florida State, fire Mike Norvell and hire Deion Sanders already](#)

[Fire Manny Diaz Hire Ed Reed ???](#)

[Florida football: 5 realistic replacements for Dan Mullen in Gainesville](#)

### **Bonus Coverage**

[Michigan fans are calling for Jim Harbaugh to be fired after blowing the Michigan State game](#)

## **DAWG DOOTS**

- ☞ Gotta wonder how Major Burns (LSU) and Tyrique Stevenson (Miami) feel about their decisions to transfer to programs that are sinking—with at least one and maybe both playing for new coaching staffs next year—from one that's making history while remaining thin at their position. And Divaad Wilson's UCF team is mediocre, and has aspirations to be the best team in Florida, which it actually might be.
- ☞ The receivers who transferred out did the right thing. They wouldn't be in the frosh-dependent rotation, except perhaps the perpetually mispronounced Demetris Robertson.
- ☞ [Funny Florida Headlines for your amusement](#)
- ☞ "We've got something special going here. We're just getting started." ~Shane Beamer, after SC's comeback win over Vandy by one point.
- ☞ If new OL commit Aliou Bah married Senegalese musical powerhouse [Baaba Maal](#), would the singer be named Baaba Bah?
- ☞ I'm as ga-ga over [Nakobe Dean's tackle through 3 defenders](#) in the Kentucky game as anyone. My first reaction was how fierce his pursuit was and how athletic a play it was. But I've seen it a bunch of times now, and what's most impressive is that everyone else goes with the motion one way—no doubt as coached to do—but he immediately recognizes the ploy and hauls ass across the field and then through defenders for a form tackle and a loss instead of a walk-in TD. It was his

read that was so elite, and his recognition and on-field coaching is a big reason the D is so tough this season. It's common for reporters to rave about his "instincts," which underestimates his intelligence, film study, weight-room dedication, and coachability. He leads by acclaim and by example.

- ☞ It's interesting that James "5-3" Franklin may have plateaued at Penn State, but is on the short list for every big opening in the country.
- ☞ Actual quote in coverage of Georgia Tech's loss to Virginia: "Three of the four teams that the Jackets faced in this gauntlet of North Carolina [4-3], Pittsburgh [6-1], Duke [3-4] and Virginia [6-2] exceeded their season averages for total offense against Tech."
- ☞ "Gauntlet?" ~Little Woolly
- ☞ [This Mock NFL Draft](#) has Pitt QB Kenny Pickett going #1 overall. I think I know why.



**A PANTHER & THE ANSWER**  
**KEN PICKETT & JUSTIN HERBERT**  
**THE JUSTIN HERBERT COLLECTION**

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

Vickery Langley Wealth Management, LLC....Is there something in that name that sounds familiar? "Wealth" is sure outside my own vocabulary. But the "Langley" in that corporate name refers to an old Dawg, **Dax Langley**, whose punts averaged close to 40 yards and who added 29 points as a placekicker from 1994-1997. In 1996 he even completed a 38-yard pass in his only collegiate attempt, giving him a career QB rating of 419.2. You might recognize those years of service overlapping with those of fellows named Smart and Bobo, and sure enough, they are part of a posse, known to one another as "Mag 7," using group texts and annual gatherings to sustain their close friendship. Dax graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Consumer Economics and has gone on to success in the financial world. In 2006 he took a position with Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc. From there he moved to Vickery Financial Services, Inc. an SEC Registered Investment Advisor in Athens, GA, where he served as a wealth advisor. Ultimately the company reformed itself as Vickery Langley Wealth Management, with Dax credited as founder and president. His approach, he says, is based on close working relationships with each client—just what you'd expect from a Good Guy. Dax lives in Athens with his wife, Valerie, and their four children, Kate, Charlie, Knox, and Mamie, attending The First United Methodist Church. He's active in the community and still has ties to his alma mater. I'm sure he's got plenty of good advice on how to invest your money, and on how to enjoy a Saturday afternoon in the fall between the hedges.



## **THE FORECAST**

### **DAWGS VS. MISSOURI**

There is an extraordinary talent gap between these teams that will produce a huge scoring gap on Saturday. Are you listening, Luther? The most interesting question will concern QB3. It's hard to know who'd take the field first this season, Beck or Vandagriff, if QB1 and QB2 are hurt, or if we are so far ahead we sub down to that level. Beck was ahead in the spring, but Brock the QB has had time to learn the system and challenge to advance up the depth chart. I suspect that by now, they're about even in terms of preparation and physical development. Brock to Brock sounds intriguing to me, reminiscent of Bauta to Nauta, but better. Not that I'm rooting for any Dawg against another. But whoever steps on the field first this year will be advantaged whenever the position opens up; and I can't imagine JT leaving before he shows he can hold up for a season. Meanwhile, this one's a blowout. Dawgs 48, Tigers 0.

### **NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: MIAMI OVER GEORGIA TECH**

There are no matchups this week between ranked teams, so I'm focusing on the Temple Bowl, featuring two teams that hired away Temple coaches almost simultaneously and got worse. They've had three years apiece to rebuild, and well, need three more. Maybe 300. [Fun Fact](#): Georgia Tech presently has lined up the nation's #24 recruiting class. Miami? #60.

Of course, I'll take whoever is playing against the odious pests from Atlanta. Techsters will win the in-game weight-lifting contest, but come up short on the field. Maybe after Miami wins, they'll fire Diaz *a la* Coach Eaux at LSU. Maybe, if UGA is lucky, Tech gives Geoff Collins a 10-year extension. But for now, Canes 2, Jackets 0.

### **NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: WASHINGTON OVER OREGON**

I don't know much about these teams, but I've got an upset category, and wasn't going to take Tulsa over Cincinnati. Since I'm working in the dark, I'll just name the score and let the players find enough points to win. Huskies 28, Ducks 27.