

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
DAWGS BARK, WILDCATS HIDE**

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SEPARATED@BIRTH?



**SPURIOUS STYLE
ANWAR STEWART**

**& FURIOUS STYLES
LAURENCE FISHBURNE**

[THE COMPLETE SEPARATED@BIRTH? COLLECTION](#)
[THE KENTUCKY COACHES COLLECTION](#)
[THE STAR WARS COLLECTION](#)

“All this finger-pointing bullshit! Every other team in America, you know what they do? They say, ‘It’s his fault! It’s his fault! It’s his fault!’ Why do they get free layups? It’s because they don’t fucking concentrate!” ~Kirby Smart, week before Tennessee

“Mike Leach, Yo mama so dumb she stared at a carton of OJ for an hour because it said ‘concentrate’.” ~Little Woolly

This game had all the trappings of a trap game. UGA had just won the Battle of the Century before the loudest crowd ever assembled, and was prime for a letdown on the road. Mississippi State was unbeaten at home, and runs an unorthodox offense requiring a lot of special preparation. Their fans were packing cowbells and showing how people have a good time in Starkville. The point spread was big enough to invite complacency on the part of the favorites. And the day’s games had enough upsets to suggest that a November Surprise might be on the ticket.

But not so. Aside from a poorly covered punt to close the first half and admittedly bad clock management, the Dawgs from Athens did indeed concentrate. The prolific Air Raid offense produced one touchdown, and that was on a short field. The Dawgs once again did not put up breathtaking numbers, but moved the ball with no trouble for most of the game. Stetson threw two picks, although neither was what you’d call a bad throw. If you take away the long McConkey and Milton TD runs, the Dawgs rushed for 75 yards.

And yet it ended up a blowout. The Dawgs were favored in a road SEC game by 16.5, and won by 26, the latest point spread they have annihilated. And now they are 10-0, headed to Lexington to play the league's most embarrassed team, and then play a practice game against a team from somewhere in Atlanta before taking on LSU, which really struggled to beat a team without a QB on Saturday.

Ladd McConkey is getting a lot of much-deserved love following the game. One thing I haven't seen anyone mention, during the broadcast or in the post-game media, is the number of tackles he broke on his TDs. Often a smallish WR gets tackled by ankle grabs, but Ladd runs through them. Remember during the first half of the season when people began to doubt his hands after some drops? It's starting to fade. Who couldn't love this guy?

And let's give the OL some love: "I think [the offensive line is] playing with more confidence. They're focused. There is a lot of depth there. They've played well, and I think they've played well through the year. I think the best is still ahead of them, and I think we can still get better with our communication and how we go about things. The physicality they play with has been good." ~Kirby Smart, midweek, on a unit that haters thought might be in questionable hands with the rehire of Stacey Searels, yet that has allowed seven sacks this season. Arkansas sacked LSU seven times on Saturday. Anyone salivating for the title game?

And so, here we are, doing what nobody believed possible: playing at the same level as last year's champs. It's become an obligation to state how many defenders were drafted last year, and assume there'd be a dropoff. But it hasn't happened. And so many of the guys on the field will return next year.

Meanwhile, for those who believe that every statistic tells a story: "We anticipate it's an opportunity to flex our composure muscle, our resiliency muscle, our connection muscle, and our toughness muscle." ~Kirby Smart

There are no stats for composure, resiliency, connection, or toughness. But those are the qualities that make this team greater than the sum of its talented parts. It starts with the man at the top of the program. And he's not done yet.

SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: Which University of Kentucky basketball coach, beginning in 1930, has had which of the following records at UK?

Win-Loss	Win %	Natties
876-190	.822	4
219-50	.814	1
305-71	.811	1
263-83	.760	1
297-100	.748	1
88-39	.693	0
40-27	.597	1

Answer:

Coach	Win-Loss	Win %	Natties
Adolf Rupp	876-190	.822	4
Rick Pitino	219-50	.814	1
John Calipari	305-71	.811	1
Tubby Smith	263-83	.760	1
Joe B. Hall	297-100	.748	1
Eddie Sutton	88-39	.693	0
Billy Gillespie	40-27	.597	0

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

Healing4Heroes™ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to assisting our military service members and veterans lead healthy, productive lives. Our objective is to connect wounded service members, as well as those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury, with A.D.A. compliant service dogs. Healing4Heroes™ has dual purposes in that it serves the community by helping military personnel and veterans as well as local animal shelters by rescuing suitable dogs. Our military personnel and veterans, after being wounded both physically and mentally, are able to move forward and live more productive lives with the assistance of service animals.

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DAWG DOOTS

- ☞ Peyton Woodyard, Peyton Woodring...quick now, which is a DB prospect, and which is our incoming kicker?
- ☞ Sorry Bo, you're just not going to get that one final shot to win a game against UGA.
- ☞ OK, you're given a choice of what to put at the base of your helmet in the back. What will it be? End Racism? Stop Hate? Choose Love? Hotty Toddy?
- ☞ When I watched Alabama's win over Mississippi, I was struck by how Alabama looks like just another very good team, and not a scary team. Even though they may have the nation's best defender and best QB, they just don't put the fear of God in anyone, and look beatable. Maybe Nick Saban is doing too many ads where the smartest guy on the set is a duck, but the program seems to have lost its edge.

- ☞ Has there ever been a worse coaching job than what Jimbo Fisher has turned in this season? Preseason rank of #6, trendy pick to win the SEC, greatest recruiting class of all time....now 3-7 (1-6 in SEC), with a winnable game (not guaranteed!) against UMass, then LSU. And TAMU can't really afford the buyout on his contract after dedicating their budget to paying recruits.
- ☞ I am happy to see LSU in the title game, because they don't have a very good offensive line. They were fortunate that Arkansas was playing one of the worst QBs in the SEC, a backup who has no idea when to release a pass and so scrambles every play. The broadcasters kept talking about how fast he is, but he's a QB, not a cornerback. Is anyone scared of playing LSU?

THE COVETED DAWGMEISTER GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK AWARD

GOOD GUY ARCHIVE

Somerville, SC native **A.J. Green** remains among the most electrifying talents to come through Athens. He built on what he developed at UGA to become one of the most feared wide receivers in the NFL, a sure-fire Hall of Famer who not only catches passes, but catches them in and over traffic in highlight-reel fashion. He's also become a heroic supporter of people less fortunate than himself. He was able to play his way out of his rural upbringing to become a wealthy, famous superstar. Plenty of others from his background, but lacking the ticket out, struggle with life's challenges. A.J. has been a consistent supporter of academic opportunities, to the point where he was presented with [UGA's 2017 Young Alumni Award](#) for his generosity and public spirit. He has endowed the A.J. Green Family Football Scholarship, presented to a member of the football team who conducts himself "in an outstanding manner in the classroom as an honor student, on the playing field, in the community, and who also demonstrates a commitment to the university and its football program." He has also endowed the A.J. Green Family Scholarships, awarded to fund at least two UGA students who demonstrate financial need, with preference given to honor students from his home state of South Carolina, and second preference to Atlanta metro students. He was inspired by his middle school football and basketball coach, Louis Mulkey, of whom he said, "His big thing was helping kids realize their full potential. He pushed me every day to become the best I could be, on and off the field. Having the opportunity to pay the way for [students] who otherwise couldn't is a great way for me to help them realize their potential. That was very important to me. My time at UGA is still close to my heart. It was definitely important for me to give back while I'm still playing professionally and I'm fortunate that we are able to do that." A.J. further donates to many nonprofits that build youth community centers and scholarship funds for teenagers in his hometown, where he also has invested in academic and athletic resources for his alma mater, and contributes time and money to the A.J. Green Skills Camp, a football camp for high school students in Summerville. His football highlight reel is breathtaking. His community service highlight reel is just as impressive. We're lucky to have had him in Athens, and fortunate that he shows his appreciation in ways that benefit so many others.



THE FORECAST

DAWGS VS. KENTUCKY

The Dawgs are focused on getting the job done, and that's bad news for Kentucky. Count me among the Will Levis doubters. I've never seen a pro QB in his uniform, and aside from being the right size, don't see how anyone else can either. Yet he's projected to be a high draft choice for teams looking for the Second Coming of Mitch Trubisky. Levis was outplayed badly by Vandy's backup QB on Saturday. Maybe Trubisky-level is a reach. Beyond that, UGA has a pile of talent that Lexington has never assembled on one roster; heck, they can't match Vanderbilt's roster. It'll be the difference, although that's only part of the story. UGA's toughness, connectivity, discipline, and unselfishness make that talent work together. It'll happen again. UGA 42, UK 6.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: UCLA OVER USC

This game hasn't mattered in decades, so it's good to see it developing into a major battle. I haven't seen either team play, so save your bitcoin for another wager. I'm taking UCLA on a hunch. But I'm taking them anyhow. Bruins 48, Trojans 42.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: GEORGIA TECH OVER NORTH CAROLINA

In a historic first, I'm picking Georgia Tech to win a football game. They seem to have much better chemistry in the post-Collins era, which I suppose passes for "damning with faint praise." UNC's having a nice season that will go the way of Mack Brown on Saturday. Joro Spiders 24, Heels 21.