

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
DAWGS EAT DOGS**

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SEPARATED@BIRTH? BONUS



NATCH, NO SACK & HATCH ATTACK
FRAN TARKENTON & CHRIS HATCHER
[THE DAWG QB COLLECTION](#)
[THE GEORGIA HS QB COLLECTION](#)

Finally, many skeptical Dawg fans got what they wanted. In the third quarter, Kirby Smart yanked Stetson Bennett and replaced him with Carson Beck.

It's amazing how many reporters assigned to Saturday's epic blowout, beatdown, and rout of Oregon remain amazed that Stetson Bennett is a terrific football player. To Gabriel Burns of the AJC, he's still "[a walk-on with pedestrian physical traits](#)," albeit one who "was brilliant, delivering pinpoint throws and slipping around Oregon defenders to make plays." Indeed, he was. That pedestrian is leaving behind some major footprints,

and is kicking a lot of booty along the way. Because that's what an elite QB with exceptional physical traits and a well-prepared mind and team can do to you.

In the leadup to the game, I talked with The Scowlmeister about the team and the season, and we were pretty confident in the OL. As SB4 said after the game, when you've got four seconds in the pocket to size things up and find a target, you're going to have a good game. Those big guys up front can make a QB's job a lot easier, and they manhandled a team that believed it was solid in the trenches, and that was coached by a guy we know can get a team ready to play. The OL is only getting marginal attention in accounts of the game, but all those gaudy stats start with that ton or so of guys doing the dirty work up front.

They make it possible for a lot of good things to happen. When your "thin" WR group just keeps rolling guys onto the field who can run and catch, and when your RBs catch what's thrown their way, and when the TEs do what the TEs do, you're going to have a great game. When the receiving corps blocks with a vengeance, the backs will prosper. To the tune of a 9.2 per play average on offense. After the game, Dan Lanning acknowledged that "We certainly emphasized Brock." And the rest of the gang made him regret it.

It helps to have an astute man in the box above conceiving the offense and calling the plays. Todd Monken could find a hole in the Great Wall of China and exploit it. If Wee Willie Keeler—he of "hit 'em where they ain't" baseball philosophy—were a football coach, he'd be Todd Monken.

Much preseason attention went to the loss of talent on defense. People believed that last season's talent collection could never be replicated, that 2021 was an anomaly, and that the Dawgs would regress to the mean and be a very good, rather than elite defense in 2022. Oregon managed 213 yards in the first three quarters before getting 100 (but no points) against reserves in the fourth. Note that I'm focusing on team stats and not individual stats. We barely heard from Jalen Carter and Nolan Smith, but they got their jobs done and kept Bo Nix in Bad Bo mode all game, on the run and under pressure. Bennett said it well: "It's about the program. I think we understand that." Programs like that take an absurd 17-point spread against a #11 team nationally and nearly triple it, with their foot off the gas for the final quarter.

And still, there's much to work on. Oregon actually moved the ball fairly well early, undone by turnovers and third down failures. Our three leading tacklers were safeties, which is usually the stat led by linebackers closer to the line of scrimmage. Kirby Smart had this to say about his OL: "We've got to shore up some protection and buy him more time." And he felt Stetson Bennett still needs to elevate his game. 49-3 in a near-top-10 matchup just doesn't cut it around here.

Connor Riley stated in retrospect that "On paper, Oregon is the most talented team Georgia will play this season." Well, before the SEC Championship game, anyhow. But the game is played on the field, not on paper. And the league, as always, will be competitive, as Florida showed Utah on Saturday. Saturday's game is one where, as Jake

Fromm might say, we crush it and flush it and move on to prep for Samford. Vince Dooley I'm sure would already be talking about how Samford has the most dangerous kickoff unit in the nation. I'm sure they do. But I'm equally sure that the team is up the challenge.

Tale of the Tape, Senior Year of HS

	Stetson Bennett	Trae Young
Height	5-11	6-0
Weight	175	165
Birthdate	October 28, 1997	September 19, 1998
Physique	↓	↓



SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: List the following quarterbacks from youngest to oldest:

Stetson Bennett, Otto Graham, Justin Fields, Jake Fromm, Justin Herbert, Mac Jones, Trevor Lawrence, Davis Mills, Desmond Ridder, Zach Wilson

Answer:

- Trevor Lawrence (born October 6, 1999)
- Desmond Ridder (born August 31, 1999)
- Zach Wilson (born August 3, 1999)
- Justin Fields (born March 5, 1999)
- Stetson Bennett (born October 28, 1998)
- Davis Mills (born October 21, 1998)
- Mac Jones (born September 5, 1998)
- Jake Fromm (born July 30, 1998)
- Justin Herbert (born March 10, 1998)
- Otto Graham (born December 6, 1921)

Bonus points: Which of these fellows set a record for largest baby ever born in his home state at the time of his birth? [qualifier: Davis Mills's neck had not yet matured at birth]

Answer: Otto Graham set an Illinois state record for largest baby born when he came down the chute at 14lb, 12oz.

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:

The **Clarke County Mentor Program** began in 1991 as a joint initiative of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and the Clarke County School District to increase the number of students who graduated from high school, and who were prepared for employment or post-secondary education. The CCMP is a thriving non-profit serving the children in Athens-Clarke County every day with approximately 500 UGA student and community mentors. The Clarke County Mentor Program works with all 21 schools in the Clarke-County School District. Mentors serve in grades Kindergarten-12th.

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DAWG DOOTS

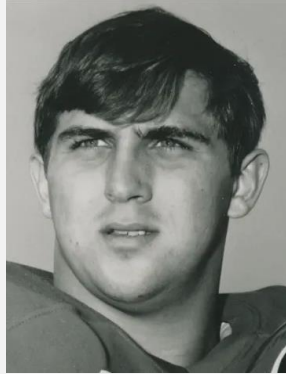
- ☞ Kudos to the UGA Equestrian team for [this outstanding performance](#).
- ☞ “He had to focus on his academics upon coming to us from LSU.” ~Kirby Smart on Arik Gilbert
- ☞ “There’s Georgia, and then there’s everybody else.” ~Everybody

THE COVETED DAWGMEISTER GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK AWARD

GOOD GUY ARCHIVE

What would you think of someone once called “pound for pound, the greatest athlete I ever coached” by Vince Dooley, and “the toughest player I ever coached” by Erk Russell? What would you think if you learned that he played on the defensive line, and weighed south of 200 pounds? That guy is **Steve Greer**, who passed away at age 74 from ALS, or Lou Gehrig’s Disease, shortly after UGA lost its SEC championship game in 2021, but sadly, before they got sweet revenge in January. Steve came to UGA from Greer HS, in South Carolina, where he was great enough to be named to the South Carolina Football Hall of Fame shortly before his death. That makes sense for someone who was the two-time South Carolina Class AA Lineman of the Year, Most Valuable Player in the S.C.-N.C. Shrine All-Star game, Most Valuable Lineman in the S.C. North-South All-Star Game, and high school All-American. As one obituary said, “A first team All-American and All-SEC performer, Greer was elected the permanent team captain in 1969. That year, he won the Atlanta Touchdown Club award as the Most Valuable Lineman in the Southeast and the Sigma Phi Epsilon Georgia Outstanding Athlete of the Year Award. He was also the recipient of the William K. Jenkins Award as the team's Most Valuable Lineman and Most Outstanding Lineman in the Georgia-Georgia Tech game. After his senior season, Greer earned invitations to the American Bowl and Hula Bowl post season all-star games.” Steve was all-Dawg, playing between the hedges and briefly for Toronto in the Canadian Football League, before returning as a grad assistant working

on a master's degree while serving on the coaching staff. He took a brief detour to coach defense at Auburn, then returned home in 1979, just in time for that other natty of yore. He remained in Athens till he retired in 2009, coaching the defensive line on the Dooley, Goff, and Donnan staffs and finishing his career as recruiting coordinator, administrative assistant, and Director of Football Operations. His lengthy service to UGA was recognized in 2014 with his induction into the UGA Circle of Honor, a worthy honor for a worthy man.



THE FORECAST

DAWGS VS. SAMFORD

The Dawgs go from the sublime to the ridiculous. Get those starters some reps and let the underclassmen get their unis dirty. Not much to say about this one other than Dawgs 60, Dogs 0.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: KENTUCKY OVER FLORIDA

Sorry Billy, you're in the SEC now. Kentucky isn't in the PAC-12. UK teams under Stoops have been tough and well-coached. Napier is taking over a program whose recruiting lagged under Mullen, and as we all know, his genius playcalling could overcome all talent deficits, and that's gone too. The Fire Napier planes flying over Gainesville this season got grounded on Saturday, but the refueling begins next weekend. UK 35, UF 28.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: TENNESSEE OVER PITT

Pitt has a very high ranking for a team that lost its best players. Well, Georgia did too, but that well was pretty deep. Y2 of the Heupel Era gets off the ground vs. an ACC contender, which after Saturday isn't so great a claim, Duke's thumping of Temple notwithstanding, much to the Owlmeister's chagrin. Gotta go with the great Orange Horde in this one. UT 41, UP 38.