

**THE DAWGMEISTER'S WEEKEND FORECAST:
DAWGS SEND DORES OUT ON LEA TIDE**

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Fulton County Jail Mug Shot of the Week

Like Kirby Smart, I'd been worried about this game all week. Kentucky's beatdown of Florida was a hard image to erase. Our slow starts seemed endemic to the team's makeup, and falling behind a team that eats up the clock with its ground game is a good way to lose. The night was chilly, as Southern nights go, and when the wind picked up as I was walking from my car to the stadium, my concerns took an uptick. A windy day favors the team that can run the ball all night, and that's what Kentucky does well. And that's what we'd done OK before Saturday night.

UGA had been dropping in the national outlook due to slow starts that required comebacks against SEC teams that figured to be in the middle of the standings. Could

the national press be more than just tired of UGA's winning? Might this team be a lesser version of what we've gotten accustomed to? Are we missing all those Jimmies, Joes, and Jalens who now populate NFL rosters? Would unbeaten Kentucky show that beating the snot out of Florida was legitimate, and take the game to the Dawgs? We'd shown great heart and character in coming back to beat South Carolina and Auburn. But were we truly short of the talent that it takes to be a champion?

We were somehow 2 TD favorites. No way, I thought. This one will be a bruiser.

I love being wrong.

Kentucky is not a team built to come back from a deficit. They are a run-first, run-second, and run-third team. They have a superb back in Ray Davis, but he is not going to bring a team back when they fall behind by a few TDs, or four or five TDs. And at 3.9 yards-per-carry, as he was on Saturday, he wasn't doing much before the game got away from UK, which now that I think of it, was immediately. Once we had that lead and it turned out that the wind wasn't disrupting our passing game, the game was pretty much over. Our defense had a couple of lapses, one on a short field after Beck's interception, but in general the D contained a back who has been running wild on people this year. With the task reduced to stopping Kentucky's passing attack—Leary was 10-26 for 128 yards, 26 of which came on the screen pass to Davis that produced a TD—the defense had UK playing left-handed. That's what good teams do. Great ones, too.

I've now seen most of the top teams in the country. I haven't seen a QB who is playing better than Carson Beck. He has shown superb composure when the team has been down, and showed on Saturday that he's getting better every week. A few guys have better wheels, and he's not built to be a running threat. But he can scramble when he needs to, and is a capable runner when he takes off with the ball. While other QBs have been getting the attention of the national press, Carson has, in his unassuming way, become the QB we need to lead this team.

And my message to Mike Bobo haters: C'mon, man. Predictable? Really? Can you figure out what he'll call next? Can opposing defenses? Not that I can tell. Give this guy a break, and recognize that we've got a guy designing and calling plays who knows what he's doing.

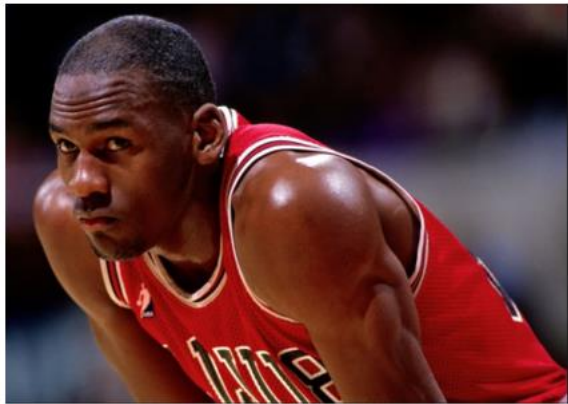
UGA's OL has been questioned this season because the running game hasn't dominated. Our depleted RB room has been good, but not fabulous, and the OL has been fingered as the cause. On the other hand, is there a better unit out there than these guys at pass protection? Let's take the Dawgmeister Time Machine back a week or so, to The Plains of Auburn. Here is the pictorial evidence:



This is the game-winning TD pass vs. Auburn. Look at that pocket. Bowers has duly been celebrated for his catch and run, but without that pocket, Beck might not have been able to deliver such a clean pass. But then, this perspective shows that Bowers had 5 defenders ahead of or even with him—all presumably among the fast players on the field—and 2 potential blockers, with 2 other defenders right behind him. That cat is unreal. Just ask Mark Stoops.



**FREIGHT TRAIN
BROCK BOWERS**



**GREAT REIGN
MICHAEL JORDAN**

&

THE DAWG TIGHT END COLLECTION
THE CHICAGO BULLS COLLECTION

But back to the OL. They kept UK out of the backfield all day, and for a guy who isn't Lamar Jackson back there, Carson Beck rarely takes a sack or has to scramble. Doubters, make sure you look at the whole performance when you evaluate this unit.



When recruiting gurus get it all wrong:

TEMPLE OWLS ENROLLED - 7/1/2019

Prospect Info

POS: RB, HEIGHT: 5-10, WEIGHT: 220

HIGH SCHOOL: Blair Academy

CITY: Blairstown, NJ, CLASS: 2019

Player Rating

247SPORTS: 81 (5 stars)

RB: 134, NJ: 43

247SPORTS COMPOSITE*: 0.8270 (5 stars)

NATL. RB NJ: 1812 116 41

Watch Highlights

When coaching staffs get it all wrong:

Enrolled	Offer	Interest	Recruited By
Temple	✓	Enrolled	-
Albany	✓	None	EJ Barthel
Kent State	✓	None	-
Maine	✓	None	-
Navy	✓	None	-

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

All Pro Dad: We are a group of people passionately committed to bringing intentional focus to fathers around the world. Our message will inspire you to embrace who you are, give you tenderness of heart, and boldness of character as a dad and husband. We are consistently here for you to provide guidance and practical tips in raising your kids in a life giving way. All Pro Dad is a program of [Family First](#).

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DAWG DOOTS

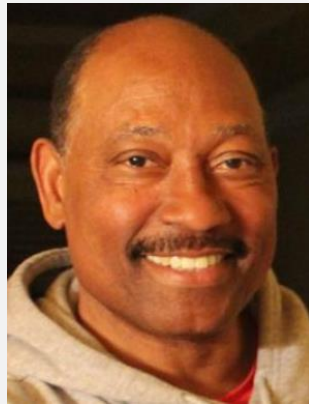
- ☞ Many thanks to the Wildcatmeister, my readership in the state of Kentucky and most of the nation, for providing [this excellent story](#) on an event actually attended by the Wildcatmeister, although not with Lewis Grizzard.

- ☞ A warm Dawgmeister Welcome to [Jimmy Butler](#) for his election to the Bad Hair Hall of Fame.
- ☞ Just once, when they bring on The Greatest Tradition in All of College Sports, I'd like to see them spell it **G-L-O-R-I-A**.
- ☞ To be sure, like any good Dawg fan, I hate Georgia Tech. But their staggering loss to then-1-3 Group of Five bottom-feeder Bowling Green at home, followed by their staggering win over then-4-0 Power Five powerhouse-wannabe Miami on the road, is why college football is such a great sport. You just never know what's going to happen next.
- ☞ "There are losses. There are bad losses. There are losses that haunt a coach on his deathbed. And then about 100 miles past that is how Miami lost Saturday."
~[from ESPN](#)
- ☞ Certain rules governing football were developed back when teams ran the single wing back at the beginning of time. For some reason, some still are on the books. Let's take the rule that there always need to be 7 players on the line, and 4 in the backfield. But why? Because when Pop Warner was coaching, there were 4 men in the backfield ([one or two strictly blockers](#)), a split end and a tight end, and 5 blockers. It seems better to say that there need to be 5 blockers in the tackle box on the line of scrimmage, and it doesn't matter who else is lined up where. Teams get flagged because one guy was a step too deep, or a step too far forward, when in today's positionless game with everyone in motion, who cares?
- ☞ According to The Athletic, the state of Georgia accounts for the following top national QBs, all in the overall top 100 players nationwide: #1 (Dylan Raiola, Buford, UGA), #4 (Air Noland, Fairburn Langston Hughes, Ohio State), #6 (Luke Kromenhoek, Savannah Benedictine Military School, FSU), #8 (Jake Merklinger, Savannah Calvary Day School, Tennessee). #9 is Dawg commit Ryan Puglisi, #2 Julian "Just" Sayin is headed for Alabama, and #3 DJ Lagway will attend Florida (pending their coaching situation and Florida's ability to pay out the NIL deal they negotiate with incoming QBs). The rest: a Michigan QB (CJ Carr, #5) going to Notre Dame, a Charlotte QB (Jadyn Davis, #7 going to Michigan, and a California QB (Elijah Brown, #10) going to Stanford. And in the sophomore class is Julian Lewis, the #1 QB and overall prospect in the nation in his class, unfortunately headed to USC, because under Lincoln Riley he might win a Heisman Trophy, if not a National Championship.
- ☞ "You lose as a result of not playing winning football. . . . I think that we have leaders that are trying to lead." ~insights on football from Billy Napier after getting creamed by Kentucky

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

Horace King is a true pioneer. [His narrative](#) tells the story of coming out of segregated Burney-Harris High School in Athens, and then the new Clarke Central HS, fashioned from a merger between BHHS and Athens HS. Going to school with white kids who'd never been around African Americans could be a stressful and hostile experience. The integration of the sports teams at Clarke Central resembled the racial tensions in the film *Remember the Titans*, depicting the same era in recently-integrated Virginia

schools. Horace and four classmates broke the color line at UGA in 1971. Horace played running back for the Dawgs, ultimately selected in the 1975 draft by the Detroit Lions, for whom he played from 1975-1983 and led the team in rushing in 1977. Said fellow integrationist Richard Appleby, "I never thought of [playing at Georgia] because everything was black and white." That changed with their arrival on campus, a shift that according to Coach Dooley was enabled by the beginning of integration in the schools. Horace expressed his concerns to Dooley prior to committing, later saying, "[Dooley's] words to me one time was he wouldn't treat me any different than he would treat his own kid. How could I go wrong with that?" A few things did go wrong on a campus where many students resisted integration. King described a hangman noose and a Confederate flag among his first encounters with hostility on campus. Yet he became the consummate team player, setting any indignities aside when it came to his assignments on the field. Horace endured a lot to pave the way for integration in Georgia schools and universities, and did so with honor and grace. His example remains inspiring and consequential. That's something we can all appreciate and try to emulate in our own lives.



SAT PREP SESSION

SAT Question of the Week: But really, what is the difference between vampires and werewolves?

1. The best actor to portray a vampire was Bela Lugosi. However, the best actor to portray a werewolf was Bela Lugosi.
2. The second-best actor to portray a vampire was Lon Chaney. However, the second-best actor to portray a werewolf was Lon Chaney.
3. Vampires bare their fangs when the sun goes down, while werewolves get hairy when the moon comes up.
4. Eddie Munster was a werewolf, but not a vampire.
5. Count Sam Dracula was Eddie Munster's grandfather, but was not a werewolf.

Answer: Remind me, why are we talking about vampires and werewolves???

THE FORECAST

DAWGS VS. VANDERBILT

The Dawgs and their fans head north to Nashville to Occupy FirstBank Stadium. Expect to see red in the stands, but not your eyes. We've solved the slow start problem, and have the talent to put the Commodores away and once again get the young pups the experience they'll need to lead the team in the years ahead. One of Kirby's worst losses was at home to Vandy in Y1 of the Smart Era, and I suspect he hasn't forgotten what that can do to your reputation and psyche. Look for the Dawgs to get it in gear and play up to The Standard. Dawgs 45, 'Dores 6.

NATIONAL GAME OF THE WEEK: OREGON OVER WASHINGTON

This one looks like a great barnburner. Of course, I've got to take the Kirby Smart Coaching Tree over Washington. I really liked Pennix when he was at Indiana and made the Hoosiers temporarily relevant, and he's lighting up the remnants of the West Coast football league. Can he do it against a Lanning defense? Can they stop Bo Nix? Is the SEC impact enough to elevate the Ducks? I think so. Oregon 41, Washington 35.

NATIONAL UPSET OF THE WEEK: AUBURN OVER LSU

Did you see the Ole Miss/LSU game? It was a great game. I'm always happy to see Brian Kelly reinforce his reputation as a below-top-tier coach, as he did then; it even had me rooting for Lane Kiffin, which is almost impossible to do. It was much easier to pull for Missouri on Saturday, a game that showed that Missouri is a pretty good team and that UGA's schedule is no less competitive than many other programs' opposition this year. The way Auburn played us, I'm convinced that they can play anyone tough. Can they win this game? Sure! How about the Tigers from Alabama 28, the Tigers from Louisiana 24.