The Dawgmeister's Weekend Forecast:
Dawgs Mess Up Texas

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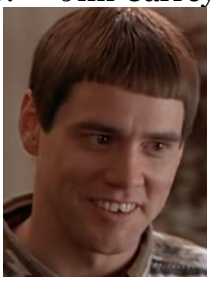
Stat Padder & Blackadder
Arch Manning Rowan Atkinson

THE COMPLETE SEPARATED@BIRTH? COLLECTION
THE UT COLLECTION
THE COMEDIANS COLLECTION

"The Yellow Jackets actually have a year-around countdown clock to the rivalry game with the Bulldogs, according to linebacker Kyle Efford. 'We have one (clock) going. As soon as you walk in, it's on the right. The older guys know what's going on with that. It's been up since that 8-OT game.'" ~AJC, last week

"Brent Key said Tuesday he didn't know his Georgia Tech football team was a 35½-point underdog in this weekend's rivalry matchup with No. 1 Georgia. He had been shown ESPN's Football Power Index projection, which gave the Bulldogs a 98% chance to win. 'I said, "Awesome,"' Key said. 'So you're telling me we got a chance?'"

"So you're telling me there's a chance?" ~Jim Carrey, Dumb and Dumber



More wisdom from Coach Key: "Competitors love to compete."

“We’re going on that field with thousands of former players. It’s about pride.” ~Brent Key

“One of the reasons you come to Tech is to beat Georgia.” ~ Georgia Tech defensive end Andre Fuller, Jr.

Nonetheless, the Dawgs beat the spread.

Add reminder to playbook: Don’t talk big before the game, especially one where you stink and the opponent is pretty good.

Or afterwards: “[The gap between Georgia and Tech] can get closed just as quick,” said Coach Key in looking forward to a better tomorrow.

And maybe don’t talk big before the season, like Justice Haynes: “I’m all about winning, winning and winning, and if I didn’t believe we could win a championship, I wouldn’t have come here. I believe we can win a national championship. I truly believe that, and I believe in what Coach Key is building.”

OK, that sums it up for Saturday’s historic beating the snot out of Georgia Tech. Many commentators have noted that Tech played their #3 QB. He was surely a factor in their inability to cross midfield till the game’s last play against reserves. But he didn’t give up 63 points.

This one’s not even worth gloating about. Tech is just a terrible, terrible team, although one that somehow beat Duke and Clemson. 15 different Dawg players caught passes; 8 backs got carries (including 2 for Stockton). The bench cleared after the first series of the second half, and it wasn’t for a brawl as it was in other rivalry games on Saturday. And Tech still couldn’t cross midfield.

If Coach Key is still talking about pride, he could use a dictionary for Christmas. This is all his program, and it is awful. It’s hard to have a rivalry when only one team shows up.

Not much else to say about this one. Great afternoon for the Dawgs, and on to Atlanta.

R.I.P. Tom Jackson, often the only grownup in the room during an ESPN sports program.

Disconcerting Signals

A high school football game in Michigan ended with a 42-0 victory for Grosse Pointe South High School. Days later, the school found itself at the center of an unusual police investigation after a parent of a student at the opposing school allegedly defecated in one of its hallways. The Grosse Pointe Public School System confirmed to PEOPLE that a parent of a Bedford student entered the school without authorization and defecated in a hallway, which was captured on the school’s security cameras. “This behavior is wholly unacceptable and is inconsistent with the standards of conduct and respect that the

District expects of anyone entering its school facilities," the district said in its statement. "Nada da caca, Sherlocka" someone undoubtedly said.

 A Coveted Dawgmeister Game Ball goes to Broyles Finalist Mike Bobo, appreciated nationally, criticized endlessly by Dawg fans, always a star to The Dawgmeister

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

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The Thumbs Up Mission works to fortify families where a parent or child is fighting cancer. Our focus is to battle fear by infusing hope, inspiring laughter, and instilling an eternal perspective in each family we serve. We accomplish that by hosting weekend retreats at kid-friendly resort properties for 70-90 cancer families at a time. Our guest families are entertained, inspired, and befriended by our volunteers. They leave the weekend retreat with an abundance of fresh hope for the battle.

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SAT Prep Session

SAT Question of the Week: Who doesn't belong on the following list?

Drake Maye
Tyler Herro
Dallas Goedert
A.J. Brown
Danica Patrick
Steph Curry
Josh Allen
Kim Kardashian

Answer: Each of these is a "Moon Truther" who doubts that anyone has ever landed on the moon. Only one, Steph Curry, claims that he was just joking.

Dawg Doots

- Will somebody please tell Chris Fowler, Dave Pasch, and other inattentive reporters that Craig Dandridge isn't from Memphis? He was born there, but attended Cambridge High School in Milton, Georgia, where he was an AJC Super 11 prospect.
- While you're at it, let Fowler know that he doesn't need to say, every time that Dwight Phillips carries the ball, that he is speedy.
- "I may be losing games, but I'm winning life." ~Coach Deion Sanders, mid-week
- "I've seen them disrespect our division just because we have losing records and stuff like that." ~Carolina Panthers WR Tetairoa McMillan
- "Missing a lot of kicks. Don't want that to happen. I'm missing kicks, and as a kicker, you don't want to do that." ~Harrison Butker
- "It's a dumpster fire, and I don't say that in a judgmental way." ~Mike Tomlin about the Steelers' dumpster fire
- Friday headline: Jerry Jones backs Schottenheimer despite 'damning setbacks' in loss
- "The six highest spenders according to our roster budget estimates were Ohio State (flop), Oregon (started badly but rebounding), Texas (top five), LSU (disaster), Texas A&M (bigger disaster) and Miami (top 10)." ~The Athletic
- More stupid commercials: Burger King now admits that it serves rancid food in a miserable restaurant, and wants customers to help them produce edible food in a nice setting. Isn't that what you're supposed to have done before opening a restaurant?
- Rumor has it that Michigan is working on a deal to trade Kyle Whittingham to Kentucky for Mark Pope.
- Observers are making much of the post-debacle debacle when Michigan's postgame Chick-fil-A meals caught fire. What seems to have gone unnoticed is how a program that prides itself on its superiority in all matters feeds its players on the cheap with Chick-fil-A sandwiches.

The Coveted Dawgmeister Good Guy of the Week Award

Good Guy Archive

Sacovie White-Helton emerged as a special teams star in his third year at UGA. Coach Smart thinks the world of him: "Competitor, he's tough, hard-nosed, works, just loves the game. a joy to be around, he has a smile on his face every day. He's just a great human being, Christian young man that I enjoy being around. Excited to see what he can do." Sacovie was a four-year stater at Cass HS, an electrifying 5'-9" 170 lb. three-star prospect whose diminutive size led to his under-rating and under-recruiting. But high school football was only one contribution he made as a teenager. His adoptive sister, now in her early 20s, has severely limited mobility, requiring a wheelchair to get around. She has difficult controlling motor abilities and can't speak. Sacovie is one of her most devoted caretakers. Originally coming to Georgia as Sacovie White, he added -Helton to honor the family that took him in when his academics began to slip and his 8th-grade teacher, Andrea Helton, proposed to Savovie's mother that he stay with her family to help get him back on track. He's since become a family member. He's not a big talker of trash or other verbiage. "Sacovie is more of an introvert," said Andrea. "He prefers to keep to himself. When he first came here, we had made it a point to eat together as

much as possible. Whenever we do that, we circle up in the kitchen first to pray." His increasing comfort with his adoptive family landed him the role of carrying Caroline places her wheelchair won't go. Sacovie also volunteered for the STARS program at Cartersville First Baptist Church, a ministry rooted in John 9:1-3, where Jesus healed a man born blind so that God's works might be shown. In the program he worked with children with special needs. His experiences with Caroline and the STARS kids have helped inspire his dedication in football: "I think about her all the time, how she would do anything to be able to move around like us. She'd love to be able to get up for a 6 a.m. practice. I take it personal when kids are out there not trying. They're taking it for granted and not giving it their all. I know someone at home who can't do any of those things." Coach Smart sees more to him than is visible on the field: "The joy of the game comes from watching him on special teams. He's come to me several times and requested to be more of a value and an asset on special teams. He wants to do other things besides just return the ball. He always has a question. He's inquisitive about, 'What do I do if this happens? Or, 'Coach, how did you see that? Should I have done this?' He's very intelligent, he loves the game, and he's just always smiling." He also has the patience to wait his turn in this era of portal-driven high-volume turnover of rosters. As a sophomore he played behind Zach Branch, who set the program single-season reception record while also being the principal return man. Once he got the chance, his shifty moves and strong hands earned him increasing reps in games. But games are only part of what makes him special. He lives to elevate the lives of others.



The Forecast
Dawgs vs. Texas

"I don't know the last time a team's gone to Neyland (Stadium in Tennessee), Death Valley (at LSU) and Kyle Field and won at all three of those arenas on the road like this team did. They've earned it." ~Steve Sarkisian after beating lousy ATM U.

Make that (10-2) Tennessee, (7-5) LSU, and (4-8) ATM. My, how they have lowered the bar in Austin.

Texas has a suffocating defense and an erratic, turnover-prone offense that doesn't score a lot of points. Their superstar QB has gone from preseason Heisman favorite to 10th best QB in the SEC. The don't block very well either. It all adds up to the #38 offense in the nation; UGA is 5th (stats from before Saturday's epic blowout of GT). And Gunner Stockton still don't get no respect: Per ESPN last week, "Stockton winning the Heisman is roughly the same as a 2004 Chevy Silverado winning the Daytona 500."

Amazingly, Steve Sarkisian remains regarded as an offensive genius with a "generational talent" at QB (and how can there be annual generational talents when a generation is 20-25 years in length?). He added 22 players in the portal to make the most of Manning's (likely) final year in Austin, including Cam Coleman at WR and Hollywood Smothers and Raleek Brown at RB. And they still struggle to score 20 points in a game.

But they do hold teams down. I think neither team will run up the score on the other. Rather, it'll be a trench fight won by the most physically dominant team. So far this year, that's been UGA. There's no reason to think it won't be again next week. The line of scrimmage will be fiercely fought over, and I think we have an edge, especially when our defense and their offense are on the field, and when Manning throws his 2-3 picks per contested game: "Oregon QB Bo Nix threw the same number of interceptions over his entire senior season—three—as Manning did in one night against LSU," according to The Athletic.

It'll be a tight, hard-fought game from start to finish. And the Dawgs will close out the championship era with the W: UGA 17, UT 13.

National Game of the Week: Indiana over UCLA

The air is now officially out of the ball in LA after the Bruins got clobbered by USC, after losing to terrible Michigan the week before. The Battle of JMU won't make things any better. Cignetti is pretty good at preparing his team for these games, and I don't see him losing to a team that backed into the championship game after other teams lost. Hoosier over Bruins, 35-10.