

Dear Reader: Thank you for downloading this free book from Brian W. Kelly's finished book catalog. I finished the book titled **LSU Tigers Championship Seasons** at <https://letsgopublish.com/collegefootball/lsuchamps.pdf> in August 2020. This is a college football classic book about the great championships of the Louisiana State (LSU) football team.

Most of my books had previously been published on Amazon.

Click below if you would like to donate to help the free book cause:
<https://www.letsgopublish.com/books/donate.pdf>

Enjoy!

LSU

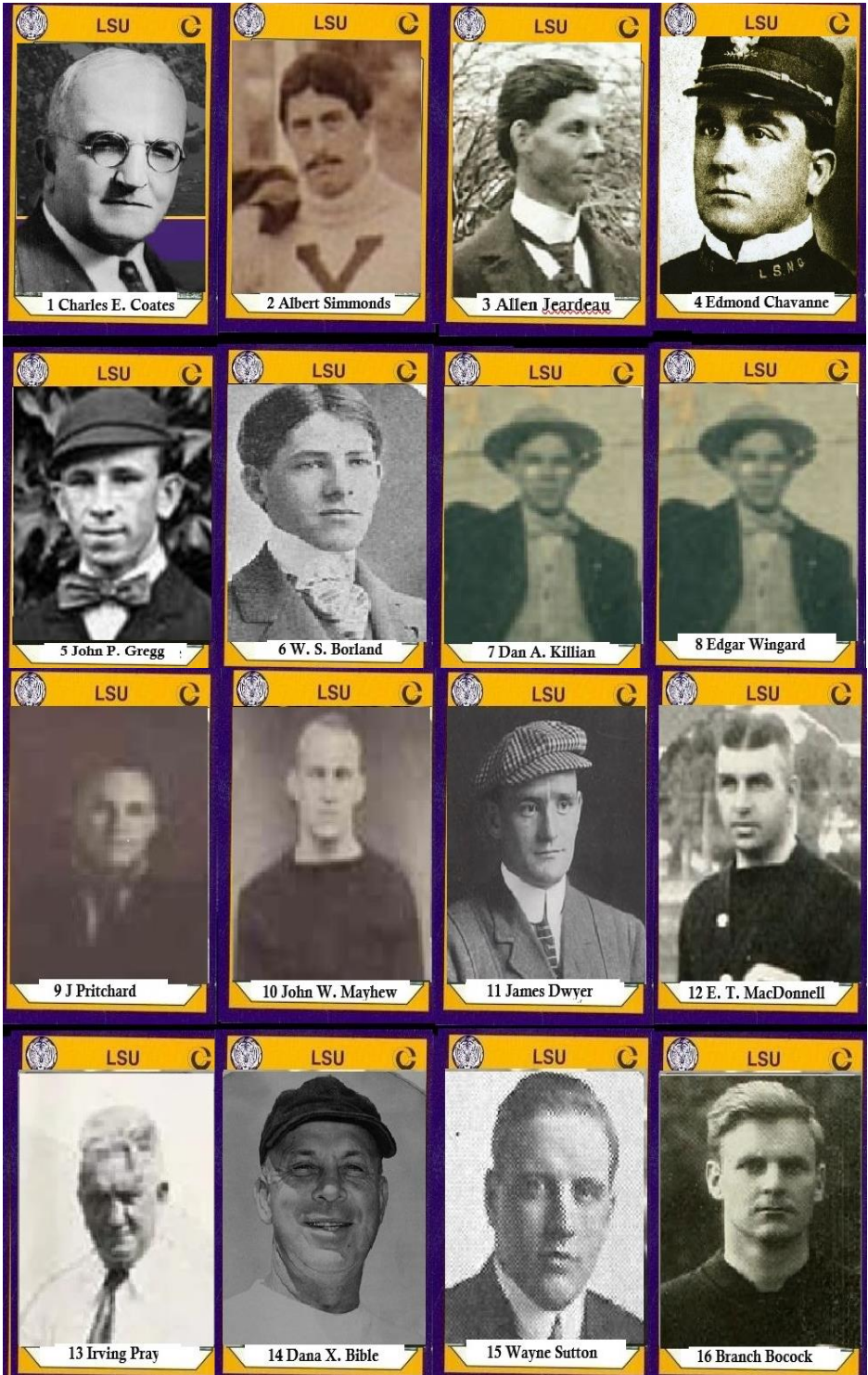


LSU Tigers Championship Seasons

By Brian Kelly

Book starts at the beginning of football-- goes to the
2019/2020 National Championship







LSU Tigers Championship Seasons

Book starts at the beginning of LSU Football and goes past the 2019/2020 National Championship

The LSU book of championships is written for those of us who love Louisiana State Tigers Football. We cannot wait until their next win. Those who are not fans of LSU football will also want this book so they can get a leg up on the facts missing from the bookshelves of those fellow LSU fans who do not have this book.

The book first tells the story about The State's Flagship University's founding in 1860 and quickly gets to the first football game ever. The university's first football team and its first season came later as LSU Football Tigers made itself known as perennial champions.

Louisiana State University (LSU) played its first football game in school history on Nov 25, 1893, losing to rival Tulane (both from LA). It was the first intercollegiate contest in Louisiana. The game sparked a rivalry between the Tigers and the Green Wave that has lasted generations. From there, the progression leads, to 125 more seasons of great football.

This book captures the great moments in LSU Football. It takes the reader through stories about the university's great coaches to stories about 126 seasons worth of great games. The book often stops in time and talks about a particular player such as Abe Mickal, Y. A. Tittle, Kevin Faulk, Joe Burrow, or a particular coach such as Bernie Moore, Paul Dietzel, Nick Saban, Les Miles Bill Arnsparger, Ed Orgeron, and others. I can't wait to read it. They all created championships.

Additionally, you will read the recaps of the greatest LSU games such as when LSU beat Clemson 7-0 in the first national championship, Jan.1, 1959. Or when LSU pounded Ohio State 38-34 on Jan 7, 2008, for another BCS Championship at the Superdome. Then, of course there is the Oct 31 game v Old Miss in which Billy Cannon's 89-yard run won the day. As far as the single greatest play in LSU football history, this is it.

You will not be able to put this book down

Brian Kelly



Copyright © August 2020, Brian W. Kelly
LSU Tigers Championship Seasons

Editor: Brian P. Kelly
Author: Brian W. Kelly

All rights reserved: No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, scanning, faxing, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission from the publisher, LETS GO PUBLISH, in writing.

Disclaimer: Though judicious care was taken throughout the writing and the publication of this work that the information contained herein is accurate, there is no expressed or implied warranty that all information in this book is 100% correct. Therefore, neither LETS GO PUBLISH, nor the author accepts liability for any use of this work.

Trademarks: A number of products and names referenced in this book are trade names and trademarks of their respective companies.

Referenced Material: *Standard Disclaimer: The information in this book has been obtained through personal and third party observations, interviews, and copious research. Where unique information has been provided or extracted from other sources, those sources are acknowledged within the text of the book itself or in the References area in the front matter. Thus, there are no formal footnotes nor is there a bibliography section. Any picture that does not have a source was taken from various sites on the Internet with no credit attached. If resource owners would like credit in the next printing, please email publisher.*

Published by: LETS GO PUBLISH!
Editor in Chief Brian P. Kelly
Email: info@letsgopublish.com
Web site www.letsgopublish.com

Library of Congress Copyright Information Pending
Book Cover Design by **Brian W. Kelly;** **Editor—Brian P. Kelly**

ISBN Information: The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a unique machine-readable identification number, which marks any book unmistakably. The ISBN is the clear standard in the book industry. 159 countries and territories are officially ISBN members. The Official ISBN For this book is **978-1-951562-26-7**

The price for this work is: **\$ 14.95 USD**

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Release Date: August 2020

LSU Season Records from 1893 through Feb 2020

Independent (1893–1895)

Year	Coach	Overall	Conf	Standing
1 1893	Charles E. Coates	0-1	0-1	N/A
2 1894	Albert Simmonds	2-1	0-1	N/A
1895	Albert Simmonds	3-0	2-0	N/A

Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (1896–1922)

Year	Coach	Overall	Conf	Standing	
3 1896	Allen Jeardeau	6-0	3-0	T-1 st	
1897	Allen Jeardeau	1-1	No games		
4 1898	Edmond Chavanne	1-0	1-0	2 nd	
5 1899	John P. Gregg	1-4	1-2	12 th	
4 1900	Edmond Chavanne	2-2	0-1	T-12 th	
6 1901	W. S. Borland	5-1	2-1	T-4 th	
1902	W. S. Boreland	6-1	4-1	T-1 st	
1903	W. S. Boreland	4-5	0-4	18 th	
7 1904	Dan A. Killian	3-4	1-2	11 th	
1905	Dan A. Killian	3-0	2-0	3 rd	
1906	Dan A. Killian	2-2-2	0-2-1	12 th	
8. 1907	Edgar Wingard	7-3	2-1	7 th	W Bacardi
1908	Edgar Wingard	10-0	2-0	T-1 st	
9 1909	J Pritchard/J Mayhew	6-2	3-1	T-2 nd	
10 1910	John W. Mayhew 1-5	0-3	10 th		
11 1911	James Dwyer	6-3	1-1	5 th	
1912	James Dwyer	4-3	1-3	13 th	
1913	James Dwyer	6-1-2	1-1-1	8 th	
12 1914	E. T. MacDonnell	4-4-1	1-2-1	12 th	
1915	E. T. MacDonnell	6-2	3-1	3 rd	
1916	E. T. MacDonnell/ 13 Irving Pray/ 14 Dana X. Bible	7-1-2	2-1-1	7 th	
15 1917	Wayne Sutton	3-5	1-3	9 th	
1918	No team (World War I)				
13 1919	Irving Pray	6-2	2-2	T-12 th	
16 1920	Branch Bocock	5-3-1	0-3	T-15 th	
1921	Branch Bocock	6-1-1	2-1-1	9 th	

Southern Conference (1922–1932)

13 1922	Irving Pray	3-7	1-2	T-11 th
17 1923	Mike Donahue	3-5-1	0-3	18 th
1924	Mike Donahue	5-4	0-3	T-19 th
1925	Mike Donahue	5-3-1	0-2-1	18 th
1926	Mike Donahue	6-3	3-3	T-10 th
1927	Mike Donahue	4-4-1	2-3-1	11 th
18 1928	Russ Cohen	6-2-1	3-1-1	6 th
1929	Russ Cohen	6-3	3-1	10 th
1930	Russ Cohen	6-4	2-3	16 th
1931	Russ Cohen	5-4	2-2	7 th
1932	Biff Jones	6-3-1	3-0	T-1 st

Southeastern Conference (1933–present)

19 1933	Biff Jones	7-0-3	3-2	2 nd	
1934	Biff Jones	7-2-2	4-2	4 th	
20 1935	Bernie Moore	9-2	5-0	1 st	L Sugar

1936	Bernie Moore	9-1-1	6-0	1st	L Sugar	2
1937	Bernie Moore	9-2	5-1	2nd	L Sugar	8
1938	Bernie Moore	6-4	2-4	10		
1939	Bernie Moore	4-5	1-5	10 th		
1940	Bernie Moore	6-4	3-3	6 th		
1941	Bernie Moore	4-4-2	2-2-2	7 th		
1942	Bernie Moore	7-3	3-2	6 th		
1943	Bernie Moore	6-3	2-2	2nd	W Orange	
1944	Bernie Moore	2-5-1	2-3-1	6 th		
1945	Bernie Moore	7-2	5-2	3 rd		
1946	Bernie Moore	9-1-1	5-1	3rd	T Cotton	
1947	Bernie Moore	5-3-1	2-3-1	8 th		
21 1948	Gaynell Tinsley	3-7	1-5	T-10 th		
1949	Gaynell Tinsley	8-3	4-2	5th	L Sugar	9
1950	Gaynell Tinsley	4-5-2	2-3-2	9 th		
1951	Gaynell Tinsley	7-3-1	4-2-1	T-3 rd		
1952	Gaynell Tinsley	3-7	2-5	10 th		
1953	Gaynell Tinsley	5-3-3	2-3-3	8 th		
1954	Gaynell Tinsley	5-6	2-5	9 th		
22 1955	Paul Dietzel	3-5-2	2-3-1	9 th		
1956	Paul Dietzel	3-7	1-5	11 th		
1957	Paul Dietzel	5-5	4-4	7 th		
1958	Paul Dietzel	11-0	6-0	1st	W Sugar	
** 1958 National Champions						
1959	Paul Dietzel	9-2	5-1	T-2nd	L Sugar	
1960	Paul Dietzel	5-4-1	2-3-1	8 th		
1961	Paul Dietzel	10-1	6-0	T-1st	W Orange	
23 1962	Chas McClendon	9-1-1	5-1	3rd	W Cotton	
1963	Chas McClendon	7-4	4-2	5th	L Bluebonnet	
1964	Chas McClendon	8-2-1	4-2-1	5th	W Sugar	
1965	Chas McClendon	8-3	3-3	6th	W Cotton	
1966	Chas McClendon	5-4-1	3-3	6 th		
1967	Chas McClendon	7-3-1	3-2-1	6th	W Sugar	
1968	Chas McClendon	8-3	4-2	T-3rd	W Peach	
1969	Chas McClendon	9-1	4-1	2 nd		
1970	Chas McClendon	9-3	5-0	1st	L Orange	
1971	Chas McClendon	9-3	3-2	6th	W Sun	
1972	Chas McClendon	9-2-1	4-1-1	3rd	L Astro-Bluebonnet	
1973	Chas McClendon	9-3	5-1	2nd	L Orange	
1974	Chas McClendon	5-5-1	2-4	9 th		
1975	Chas McClendon	5-6	2-4	T-6 th		
1976	Chas McClendon	7-3-1	3-3	7 th		
1977	Chas McClendon	8-4	4-2	T-3rd	L Sun	
1978	Chas McClendon	8-4	3-3	T-4th	L Liberty	
1979	Chas McClendon	7-5	4-2	T-3rd	W Tangerine	
24 1980	Bo Rein - Killed in Plane Crash					
25 1980	Jerry Stovall	7-4	4-2	T-4 th		
1981	Jerry Stovall	3-7-1	1-4-1	T-8 th		
1982	Jerry Stovall	8-3-1	4-1-1	2nd	L Orange	
1983	Jerry Stovall	4-7	0-6	9 th		
26 1984	Bill Arnsparger	8-3-1	4-1-1	2nd	L Sugar	
1985	Bill Arnsparger	9-2-1	4-1-1	T-3rd	L Liberty	
1986	Bill Arnsparger	9-3	5-1	1st	L Sugar	
27 1987	Mike Archer	10-1-1	5-1	2nd	W Gator	
1988	Mike Archer	8-4	6-1	T-1st	L Hall of Fame	
1989	Mike Archer	4-7	2-5	T-7 th		

1990	Mike Archer	5-6	2-5	T-7 th	
28 1991	Curley Hallman	5-6	3-4	T-6 th	
1992	Curley Hallman	2-9	1-7	6th Western	
1993	Curley Hallman	5-6	3-5	5th Western	
1994	Curley Hallman	4-7	3-5	4th Western	
29 1995	Gerry DiNardo	7-4-1	4-3-1	4th Western	W
Independence Bowl					
1996	Gerry DiNardo	10-2	6-2	T-1st Western	W Peach
1997	Gerry DiNardo	9-3	6-2	T-1st Western	W
Independence Bowl					
1998	Gerry DiNardo	4-7	2-6	5th Western	
1999	Gerry DiNardo	3-8	1-7	6th Western	
30 2000	Nick Saban	8-4	5-3	2rd Western	W Peach
2001	Nick Saban	10-3	5-3	T-1st Western	W Sugar
2002	Nick Saban	8-5	5-3	T-2nd Western	L Cotton
2003	Nick Saban	13-1	7-1	T-1st Western	W Sugar
** 2003 National Champions					
2004	Nick Saban	9-3	6-2	2nd Western	L Capital One
31 2005	Les Miles	11-2	7-1	T-1st Western	W Peach
2006	Les Miles	11-2	6-2	T-2nd Western	W Sugar
2007	Les Miles	12-2	6-2	1st Western	W BCS
National Championship Game--Winner					
2008	Les Miles	8-5	3-5	3rd Western	W Chick-fil-A
2009	Les Miles	9-4	5-3	2nd Western	L Capital One
2010	Les Miles	11-2	6-2	T-2nd Western	W Cotton
2011	Les Miles	13-1	8	1st Western	L BCS
National Championship Game--Loser					
2012	Les Miles	10-3	6-2	2nd Western	L Chick-fil-A
2013	Les Miles	10-3	5-3	3rd Western	W Outback
2014	Les Miles	8-5	4-4	T-4th Western	L Music City
2015	Les Miles	9-3	5-3	T-3rd West	W Texas
2016	Les Miles/Ed Orgeron	8-4	5-3	T-2nd West	W Citrus
2017	Ed Orgeron	9-4	6-2	3rd West	L Citrus 18
2018	Ed Orgeron	10-3	5-3	T-2nd West	W Fiesta
2019	Ed Orgeron	15-0	Aug-00	1st West	W Peach; CFP
National Championship Game--Winner					
Total:		812-415-47			

Stats from 1893 February 2020**Seasons 126** (takes into account no season in 1918,)**Total Wins 812****Total Losses 415****Total Ties 47** Prior to Overtime Rules**Claimed National Titles 4** (1958, 2003, 2007, 2019)**Unclaimed National Titles 5** (1908, 1935, 1936, 1962, 2011)**Conference Titles 16** (12 SEC, 3 SIAA, 1 SoCon)

Since the SEC began divisional play in 1992, LSU has won or shared the SEC West title 9 times, and is 5-1 in the SEC Championship game

LSU Coaches Records Over the Years

Years	#	Name	Games	Wins	Loss	Ties	PCT
1893	1	Chas E. Coates	1	0	1	0	0
1894–1895	2	Al Simmonds	2	5	1	0	0.833
1896–1897	3	Allen Jeardeau	8	7	1	0	0.875
1898, 1900	4	Ed Chavanne	5	3	2	0	0.6
1899	5	John P. Gregg	6	2	4	0	0.333
1901–1903	6	W. S. Borland	22	15	7	0	0.682
1904–1906	7	Dan A. Killian	16	8	6	2	0.563
1907–1908	8	Edgar Wingard	20	17	3	0	0.85
1909	9	Joe Pritchard	5	4	4	0	0.8
1909–1910	10	John W Mayhew	9	3	6	0	0.333
1911–1913	11	James Dwyer	25	16	7	2	0.68
1914–1916	12	E. MacDonnell	22	14	7	1	0.659
1916, 1919, 1922	13	Irving Pray	20	11	9	0	0.55
1916	14	Dana X. Bible	3	1	0	2	0.667
1917	15	Wayne Sutton	8	3	5	0	0.375
1920–1921	16	Branch Bocock	17	11	4	2	0.706
1923–1927	17	Mike Donahue	45	23	19	3	0.544
1928–1931	18	Russ Cohen	37	23	13	1	0.635
1932–1934	19	Biff Jones	31	20	5	6	0.741
1935–1947	20	Bernie Moore	128	83	39	6	0.672
1948–1954	21	Gaynell Tinsley	75	35	34	6	0.507
1955–1961	22	Paul Dietzel	73	46	24	3	0.651
1962–1979	23	Chas. McClendn	203	137	59	7	0.692
1980	24	Bo Rein	[A 8]				
1980–1983	25	Jerry Stovall	45	22	21	2	0.511
1984–1986	26	Bill Arnsperger	36	26	8	2	0.75
1987–1990	27	Mike Archer	46	27	18	1	0.598
1991–1994	28	Curley Hallman	44	16	28	0	0.364
1995–1999	29	Gerry DiNardo	57	32	24	1	0.57
1999	Int	Hal Hunter	1	1	0	[A 9]	
2000–2004	30	Nick Saban	64	48	16	—	0.75
2005–2016	31	Les Miles	148	114	34	—	0.77
2016–present	32	Ed Orgeron	49	40	9	0	0.816

Those are the seasons and the numbers, folks!

**LETS
GO**

PUBLISH



Dedication

As a person with a big family on my side and on my wife's side. I am pleased to dedicate this book to my wonderful family.

Thank you to all of the Piotroski's—(Marty & Angel Cathy), (Stan, Archie & Carol), (Sue & Mitch), and all their progeny—for support in all of my publishing efforts.

Wily Ky Eyeley, my sage niece, offers most appreciated advice continually.

And, of course, my own brothers and sisters, from my older brother Ed who continually helped me go for it—even when it seemed hopeless, to all of my other brothers and sisters – (Nancy & Jim), & the Twins (Mary + Bill) & (Joe + Diane), for staying with me in support as I tried to write the world's best something about something.

I really appreciate my entire family's help in everything I do. My wife Pat is phenomenal as are my children, Brian, Michael and Katie.

My family and friends make life easier for me in writing books and everything else. Thank you all—all the people I love the most in life for always being in my corner.

Thank you—for making me, me, God bless you!

Acknowledgments:

I appreciate all the help that I received in putting this book together, along with the 241 other books from the past.

My printed acknowledgments were once so large that book readers needed to navigate too many pages to get to page one of the text. To permit me more flexibility, I put my acknowledgment list online at www.letsGOPublish.com. The list of acknowledgments continues to grow. Believe it or not, it once cost about a dollar more to print each book.

Thank you all on the big list in the sky and God bless you all for your help.

Please check out www.letsGOPublish.com to read the latest version of my heartfelt acknowledgments updated for this book. Thank you all!

References

I learned how to write creatively in Grade School at St. Boniface Grade School. The great Sisters of Christian Charity would not let me get away with a dangling participle or a misplaced comma. I even enjoyed reading some of my own stuff from the first words that I wrote.

At Meyers High School and King's College and Wilkes-University, I learned how to research, write bibliographies and footnote every non-original thought I might have had. I learned to hate *ibid*, and *op. cit.*, and I hated assuring that I had all citations written down in the proper sequence. Having to pay attention to details took my desire to write creatively and diminished it with busy work.

I know it is necessary for the world to stop plagiarism so authors and publishers can get paid properly, but for an honest writer, it sure is annoying. I wrote many proposals while with IBM and whenever I needed to cite something, I cited it in place, because my readers, IT Managers, could care less about tracing the vagaries of citations. I always hated to use stilted footnotes, or produce a lengthy, perfectly formatted bibliography. I bet most bibliographies are flawed because even the experts on such drivel do not like the tedium.

I wrote 241 books before this book and several hundred articles published by many magazines and newspapers and I only cite when an idea is not mine or when I am quoting, and again, I choose to cite in place, and the reader does not have to trace strange numbers through strange footnotes and back to bibliography elements that may not be readily accessible or available.

Yet, I would be kidding you, if in a book about the great championships in LSU Football, I tried to bluff my way into trying to make you think that I knew everything before I began to write anything in this book. I spent as much time researching as writing. I might even call myself an expert of sorts now for all the facts that I have uncovered.

Without any pain on your part you can read this book from cover to cover to enjoy the stories about the many great triumphs in LSU Football without being an English Major.

This book is not intended for historians but it does teach a lot of history. It is for regular people of all levels of intelligence. It is for people that want to have a fun read, who like smiling when LSU Football is the topic. It is for people who love the University of Louisiana and perhaps for some LSU haters who want some more facts.

There are lots and lots of facts in this book. This book is not for sticklers about the mundane aspects of writing that often cause creative writers to lay bricks or paint houses instead. It is for everyday people like you and I who enjoy LSU because it is LSU and who enjoy football because it is football. It is that simple.

When LSU plays a team, and wins or loses, that is a historical fact, but to discover such facts, it does not require fundamental or basic research. The University itself copyrights its material but only so it can say "no" if somebody else's creativity affects them negatively. Even LSU does not own well-known facts that are readily available about legacies such as Bernie Moore, Paul Dietzel, Charles McClendon, Nick Saban, Les Miles, Ed Orgeron, and the University's nine great National Championships (four claimed and five unclaimed).

This is not a book about heavy math algorithms, or potential advances to the internal combustion engine, or space travel, or the eight elements necessary to find a cure for cancer. So, I refuse to treat this book 100% seriously. If you find a fault in this book, I will fix it. This is a book about sports and sports legends and stories about sporting events that have been recorded seven million times already someplace else. The greatness in this book is that it is all in one place. Though I tried for sure to get it all right and I used the work of others to assure so, I bet I made a mistake or two. I am not perfect but I like perfection.

What is my remedy for the harmed if I have made a mistake? I did not write this book to harm anybody. If I did not write this book, would the harmed individuals from the book be unharmed. So, at the very least, I can unpublish those parts of the book. If any reader is harmed, let me know, and I will do whatever must be done for all to be OK.

If somehow, I did not cite a fact that a person owns or a quote somebody once spoke first, it surely was not my intention. If you find any such instances in this work, I will do my best to cite in place before the next printing or take the offensive fact or quote out of the book completely at your pleasure. I use a printing system that prints books as ordered so there would be no waste to change books to reflect any needed updates. Just let me know. This book is built for fun, not to create anybody angst.

It took me about two months to write. If I were to have made sure a thought that I had was not a thought somebody else ever had, this book never would have been completed or the citations pages would exceed the prose.

I used LSU's season summaries from whatever source I could to get the scores and as many details as possible of all the games. I could not include everything that I found because you only have one lifetime to read this book. I verified facts when possible. For other notions, I used reasonability tests.

There are many web sites that have great information and facts. Nobody knows 100% what is true but this book is as accurate as it could be. Ironically most Internet stories are the same exact stories so the original source is often difficult to discern. While I was writing the book, I wrote down a bunch of Internet references that I include within the paragraphs and sections and stories that I cite in place.

There are many great sources for information available for your perusal on many sources on the Internet—including the fine archives of The University Web site, LSU.COM and the LSU Daily Reveille, which since 1997, has been since 1887 the student newspaper at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The paper prints once a week on Wednesdays during the fall, spring and summer semesters. The Daily Reveille has a weekly circulation of about 6,000 copies. Enjoy.

Preface:

LSU is a long time great school and a perennial football power. Though the institution does not have just one legendary coach in its history such as Alabama's Paul 'Bear' Bryant, one of college football's most legendary coaches, it does have a number of outstanding coaches to its credit in its total of 32. One of those great LSU coaches is Nick Saban who is the current coach at Alabama and who undeniably is one of the best coaches ever, anywhere.

In fact, Nick Saban led his teams to six National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) top-division football national championships and is considered by modern football analysts and other coaches as one of the greatest college football coaches of all time is not the greatest in terms of national championship games as well as national championships. In 2018, for example, Nick Saban tied Bear Bryant's record for most NCAA football national championships by a coach in the 2018 College Football Playoff National Championship Game..

Before Coach Saban tied the record at Alabama, he coached for the Tigers at Louisiana State University and with his national championship here, he ranks as one of the university's best all-time coaches though he did not stay long enough to smash records. Nick Saban led the LSU Tigers to the BCS National Championship in 2003 Bravo LSU!

The LSU Tigers have had 32 football coaches since their inaugural season in 1893. Since that time, the program has tallied an impressive 812 wins (12th all-time), 13 conference titles, and 3 national championships.

With such a prestigious program, it was truly a daunting task to have to rank such legendary coaches as Charles McClendon, Nick Saban, Paul Dietzel and Les Miles. There have been numerous LSU coaches that have contributed a great deal to make the "Bayou Bengals" the illustrious program they are today. They are the Best Football Tigers in America for sure.

LSU ranks 16th most in victories in NCAA Division I FBS history and claims four National Championships (1958, 2003, 2007, and

2019), 16 conference championships, and 35 consensus All-Americans

By the way, there are those who still lament that Nick Saban left LSU for a try at the NFL. Nick Saban is one of those because his two years were not so stellar and he came back to college football but Les Miles was already building his legacy at LSU. Here we are and it has been over 15 years since the Doctor of Football, Nick Saban, decided to try his hand as an NFL head coach, leaving LSU to take over the Miami Dolphins.

Alabama is tickled pink that after two undistinguished seasons Saban realized that he was better off in college football after all. But for LSU, for some, until the 2019/2020 National Championship victory, Saban was a memory they needed to relive. Now as reigning national championships, with Saban in the loser's mix, everything is OK at LSU.

On Nov 9, 2019, LSU took control of its own legacy and defeated Alabama and Nick Saban, 46-41. Saban lost again v Auburn ending their chance at a National Championship. LSU beat everybody who they played with a 15-0 season. Now for LSU fans, Nick Saban, and can live at Alabama in peace with no regrets here.

Of the three coaches we discussed so far in this preface to LSU football championships, all three, Miles, Saban, and Orgeron are on the LSU greatest coaches list. Heck, there's not even a lot of candidates for the greatest of them all. There are, for example, only eight coaches in LSU's 119 year history who have even coached five seasons. On top of that, only seven coaches have even won a SEC title. So that means there is a pretty small group of guys to look at as viable contenders for the title of LSU's best coach ever.

The unlucky two who stayed for five years without an SEC title, post-WWII, are Gus Tinsley and Gerry DiNardo. Tinsley coached from 1948-54 and only had two winning seasons and a .500 record. The process of elimination says he is not in consideration. DiNardo started off with three winning seasons and LSU's second 10-win season since 1961, but he ended with two terrible seasons. The coach made a difference as DiNardo could not break .500 in his last two seasons, Nick Saban immediately brought a 12-4 record to the

Tigers the very next year. It was Saban's first great record of five seasons.

Here is a chart of the best LSU coaches plus Orgeron, who will have his five in this year:

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>#sns</u>	<u>WLT</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>SEC/ mnc</u>	<u>10- win</u>	<u>2-loss</u>
Bernie Moore	1935-1947	13	83-39-6	.672	2	0	5
Paul Dietzel	1955-1961	7	46-24-3	.651	2/1	1	3
Charles McClendon	1962-1979	18	137-59-7	.692	1/0	0	4
Nick Saban	2000-2004	5	48-16	.750	2/1	2	1
Les Miles	2005-2016	12	114-34-0	.770	3/1	7	5
Ed Orgeron	2016-present	4	56-36	.816	1/1	2	1

Opening its first story at the very beginning of Football as a sport in America, this book goes all the way to Coach Ed Orgeron's last win for the football championship..

It is written for those of us who love Louisiana State University (LSU) Football. The book first tells the story about LSU's founding in 1860. In story-telling mode, it recounts the events leading to the first football game in 1867, and it continues to the first LSU Football Game in 1893.

It then advances through the years when a coach lasted just about a year, onward to the great immortal LSU coaches of historical fame—Bernie Moore, Paul Dietzel, Charles McClendon, Les Miles and now the present day Ed Orgeron, a future legend.

Predicting that another future immortal great is in our midst, the book takes us up to the current season with Coach Ed Orgeron, who after just a bit more than three seasons is clearly on a path of excellence. Finally, to sum it all up, Brian Kelly, your author, caps off the experience with information on a ton of great players in LSU football from way back to the present. These are the young men who made LSU the football legacy that it is.

This book is all about the great championships in LSU Football. It touches every aspect of the historical and mythical LSU Football Teams. It tells exhilarating stories about LSU's 32 coaches and its 126 seasons worth of great games (812 wins, 415 losses, 47 ties = 1274 games).

The book stops every now and then, and takes the reader on a side excursion in time to learn about a particular event or a great player such as Billie Cannon, Patrick Peterson, Kevin Faulk, Tommy Casanova, Y.A. Tittle, Leonard Fournette, and the newest great, Joe Burrow

I predict that you will not be able to put this book down

You are going to love this book because it is the perfect read for anybody who loves the Louisiana State University and LSU Football and wants to know more about one of the most revered athletic programs of all time.

Few sports books are a must-read but Brian Kelly's LSU Tigers Championship Seasons will quickly appear at the top of America's most enjoyable must-read books about sports. Enjoy!

Who is Brian W. Kelly?

Brian W. Kelly is one of the leading non-fiction authors in America with this, his 241st published book. Brian is an outspoken and eloquent expert on a variety of topics and he has also written several hundred articles on topics of deep interest to Americans.

Most of Brian's early works involved high technology. Later, he wrote a number of patriotic books and most recently he has been writing human interest books such as The Wine Diet and Thank you, IBM. This is his sixtieth major sports book. Last year he actually wrote three children's books. He enjoyed writing the children's books almost as much as everybody enjoyed reading them. His books are always well received.

Brian Kelly's books are highlighted at www.letsGOPublish.com. They are for sale at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Kindle, and most can be viewed by linking to amazon.com/author/brianwkelly.

The best!

Sincerely,

Brian P. Kelly, Editor in Chief
I am Brian Kelly's eldest son

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 Introduction to the Book 1

Chapter 2 The Founding of the University of Louisiana State..Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 3 The Mission of The Louisiana State UniversityError! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 4 Louisiana State’s First Football Team 13

Chapter 5 The Evolution of Modern FootballError! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 6 LSU’s Great Football Fields & Stadiums...Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 7 LSU Football – The First Eleven Years..... 19

Chapter 8 LSU – The Next Thirteen Years 1904-1916 33

Chapter 9 LSU Football Moves from SIAA to SoCon: 1917-1922..... 41

Chapter 10 LSU Football; Southern Conference 1923-1932 45

Chapter 11 LSU Football – Coach Bernie Moore Era 1935-1947..... 51

Chapter 12 LSU Football – Coaches Gaynell Tinsley & Paul Dietzel 1948-61 61

Chapter 13 LSU Football – Coach Charles McClendon 1962-1979..... 87

Chapter 14 LSU Football – Coaches Stovall, Arnsparger, & Archer 1980-90 .. 113

Chapter 15 LSU Football – Coaches Hallman, DiNardo, Saban 1991-2004 131

Chapter 16 LSU Coach Les Miles -- 2005-2015..... 163

Chapter 17 LSU Coach Ed Orgeron 2016 to Present..... 207

Other Books by Brian W. Kelly: (Amazon.com, and Kindle) 231

About the Author



Brian Kelly retired as an Assistant Professor in the Business Information Technology (BIT) Program at Marywood University, where he also served as the IBM i and Midrange Systems Technical Advisor to the IT Faculty. Kelly designed, developed, and taught many college and professional courses. He continues as a contributing technical editor to a number of technical industry magazines, including "The Four Hundred" and "Four Hundred Guru," published by IT Jungle. Since Sports and IT are both logical endeavors, Brian makes no apologies for being a good guy at predicting sporting results.

Kelly is a former IBM Senior Systems Engineer. His specialty was problem solving for customers as well as implementing advanced operating systems and software on his client's machines. Brian is the author of 240 books and hundreds of magazine articles. He has been a frequent speaker at technical conferences throughout the United States.

Brian was a candidate for the US Congress from Pennsylvania in 2010 and he ran for Mayor in his home town in 2015. He loves LSU Football and thoroughly enjoyed writing this book about Louisiana State University's great championships.

Chapter 1 Introduction to the Book

In 2018 LSU celebrated its many national college football championships in its 125th year. In 2019, it picked up one more big one. Having reached a book about LSU championships, you can bet that in other LSU books your author has had to broach this topic numerous times.



Ed Orgeron, soon to be Immortal LSU Coach “Post Miles” Leading the Tigers

In 2020, LSU celebrates its 127th season of football, which of course excludes 1918 when the school did not play sports during World War I. As part of the celebration, the University would be pleased for you to visit its athletic website that honors all LSU Tigers Sports. I promise that if LSU chooses to create a new web site commemorating this its great moment in its football history of 130 years in 2022, I will create a new version of this book to provide you all with the link and I will update the Kindle version so it can be downloaded immediately. Thank you for reading this book. I know you will love it as you love the Louisiana State University Tigers, Go Tigers!

OK, well, not exactly!

Anyone who is a true LSU football fan knows for a fact that when it comes to saying "Go Tigers," the proper spelling is "Geaux Tigers." This comes from the French/Cajun character of South Louisiana, which is where the Louisiana State University is located, in the city of Baton Rouge.

This book is proud to celebrate Louisiana State University Football; its founding; its struggles; its greatness; and its long-lasting impact on American life. People like me, who love the greatness of Louisiana State University, will love this book. LSU haters, such as fans from Auburn or Alabama, will want their own copy just for additional ammo (facts). Yet, it won't help them! Hah! They still think that LSU has their Trophy. Not so! It was on loan until Coach Orgeron put his best team together.



We begin the rest of the LSU Football Story in Chapter 2 and we aren't going to tell you what it is about now. Soon, you can believe we will introduce the founding of the football program in 1893.

In defining the format of the book, we chose to use a timetable that is based on a historical chronology. Within this framework, we discuss the great championships in LSU Football History, and there are many great ones. No book can claim to be able to capture all the highlights, as it would be a never-ending story, but we sure try.

Any former coach or player from LSU can attest to the fact that because of all the great coaches and players in all LSU sports, 13 jerseys have been retired to celebrate the work of some of the finest athletes in the world. Jerry Stovall's jersey is the last to come from LSU football. Stovall, a native of West Monroe, La., became the 13th LSU athlete or coach to have his/her jersey retired, joining Cannon and Casanova. If LSU were not so selective in recognizing greatness by retiring jerseys, there is the likelihood with all of the history of this great football program, there would be no numbers left.

I like to use this idea to help promulgate the notion that nobody can write a full book about LSU Football History that is all inclusive, because even if it can be written, it would be too big to ever be read. I hoped this book would come in at a little over 150 pages, but if it had, you would not have liked it. Read what you can in this book when you can. If you love LSU, it will surely be a fun experience.



I capture all the great championships in this book. OK, I get most of them! If I missed any and you tell me, then we'll do a second edition and a third and a fourth but we'll get it right. The great championships naturally include a lot of great people, including

players and the 32 great coaches that over time would make or break the University of Louisiana.

If LSU were ever to break because of any coach, as some believe it has at times, (but the LSU legacy proves these were only bends, not breaks) simply because it is Louisiana State, the University not only would continue from any issue coming its way. it will always continue. History proves that. LSU has a he** of a lot of moxie as an institution. Go LSU on that one for sure.

After 32 mostly great coaches and as non-fans actually believe -- a zillion national championships, LSU has been able to again become the most respected program of its peers and it is also now the most feared and the most respected college football team of the modern era. If you don't believe that, then you are simply not paying attention.

Ask any coach in 2020, which team would you prefer not to play, and the answer would not be anything other than LSU. That is the reality of having a winning record and a coach who can win anywhere!

LSU has been able to survive a number of coaches who could not survive themselves, while the university and the football program have both grown in acceptance and popularity.

We all as individuals and as honest institutions, such as LSU do our best in life and sometimes it is just enough. Sometimes it is just not enough. Even if we survive and become more than OK, detractors may suggest our success is not enough. I disagree. Let the naysayers say "nay," and go away! Who can deny LSU is the greatest football team that ever lived. I bet Knute Rockne would give today's coach Ed Orgeron a fine "High Five."

Let me please assure you that I have done my best to portray an accurate depiction of LSU Football History, displayed in a properly summarized format so that none of us are reading this book forever. There are a ton of great stories for sure. More importantly, none of us should need to search further than this book for the truth about many of the depictions in this book.

I worried from the inception of this project about how I could reduce LSU football to a single book. I can't! Nobody can! But we can do something close to satisfying what needs to be said about this outstanding football program, fully supported by the institution as well as the whole state of Louisiana.

In fact, I can, and I have done so in this book. We can deliver an understanding of Louisiana State Football and all of its years without talking about the mice that ate the cheese in the men's locker room in game X of season Y. Yes, indeed. I am pleased that I have achieved this objective in this book.

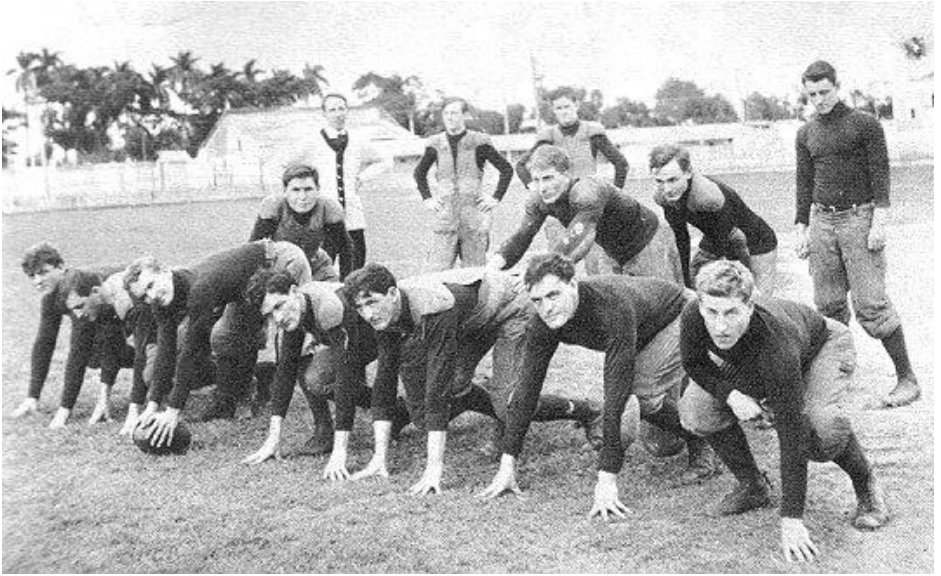
Who thinks that in 2020, there is a better team in college football than LSU? Pardon my French but only an idiot!

LSU has its own legacy as do many great college programs but an honest look says the Louisiana State Tigers are so unusual, it forms the greatest program ever in college football. It does not matter from which university you gained your alma mater. If you like Football and you like honesty and you like winning, LSU and Ed Orgeron's National Champion Tigers. LSU is the only good bet in town.

The secret in writing this book has been to know that there is always more. My job has been to show things that are known already in encyclopedias, and the vast resources of the Internet. I did not have to personally speak with Les Miles, Bernie Moore, Paul Dietzel or Charles McClendon, to get the truth about what was happening in their lives or the football time-period in which they excelled. Their stuff shows in their public records.

LSU has no revered history of groups of players such as the *four horsemen* of Notre Dame gaining recognition above and beyond the program and the team. LSU's coaches over the years especially Les Miles and Charles McClendon, and now Ed Orgeron have taken great athletes, who had no clue how far they could go, without fanfare, and these great coaches turned them into great players.

The players for their own reason did not group together into the four horsemen or the five oxes or the three birds or anything like that as their mission was to play great for the Louisiana State University and they gained their reputations from doing exactly that.



An Early LSU Football Team taking some time out for a Photograph

I have performed no magic in this book and I know it well. But nobody else has ever done what I have done with a project such as this. I have taken the well-known LSO Tigers football history of our times and I have made it both readable and exciting, even without including every phrase, paraphrase, paragraph, sentence, conjunctive verb, or otherwise forgotten notion that may have been included in somebody else's description of events.

If this book were written to be 75,000 pages, I still could not have included everything. But, then again, I knew I was not writing a tax code for the US. Who reads the tax code anyway?

My job was to bring this work about LSU's great championships together, and to show enough to the reader to make the journey through the beginning of football through Coach Orgeron's last win an easy adventure. In fact easier to make than it could have ever been. As I read and reread this book myself, I do believe I achieved that goal. I sure hope you like it.

What reader wants to do the research in order to be fulfilled about LSU football history other than me? This book makes LSU history and its great championships both exciting and real. Of course, it is also much easier than if the reader had to look up all this great stuff

by himself. It brings the Tigers and LSU Tiger football to life for the reader.

Instead of lots of work, we can just sit in our easy chairs or lounges at the pool or beach and we can learn and enjoy and enjoy and learn about a football team and a university that we have come to love. Along the way, every now and then, we'll probably fall asleep with a smile on our faces, and we'll dream about a fine story starring Bill Arnsparger, Paul Dietzel, Bernie Moore, or Mike Archer, LaRon Landry, Billy Cannon, Josh Reed, Ja'Marr Chase, or Joe Burrow or perhaps the inimitable Nick Saban himself!

How did I do it? How did I make this book inclusive and yet not exhaustive or exhausting?

I started right at the beginning of the football era, while football was being invented, and the rules were being formed by the greats of the day. Then, I began to write about things as they were happening back then. I moved this book slowly, chapter by chapter through the beginning of the Louisiana State University; the beginning of football; and then the beginning of LSU Football. I made sure that I got the essence and that the tales were not boring.

I took the flow of the book through periods in which student athletes were coaching football at LSU. I took it to eras in which coaches did not last much more than a year while better coaches lasted two to four years. Heck Ed Orgeron will have to play 4 games in the 2020 season to complete his 4th full season with the Tigers.

Then, before I knew it I was sneaking up on the decades in which more coaches made an impact in more years than in the beginning through the 1920's. I then took the flow of the book to the era of the great Charles McClendon and Paul Dietzel.

Eventually, I moved through each and every one of the thirty-two Louisiana State University coaches in just enough measure so that we all would know their mission and their results. I made sure that we captured their best stories.

Eventually, as the flow took us through thirty-one coaches, in 2016, after Les Miles basically retired, we got to examine a thirty-second

coach who came from the defensive side of the LSU coaching staff and surprised everybody but the administration with his abilities as a great future legend, Ed Orgeron.

Yes, that's when Coach Ed was promoted as the thirty-second head coach of the Tigers. And did he show what he was made of and quickly. Then, I reexamined the great era of Les Miles and pulled out all the research on the new and great Ed Orgeron, a guy who did what few coaches have ever done—he brought the bacon home to Louisiana State and won the 2020 National Championship.

As I am reviewing Chapter 1 again, making sure I did all I said I would, I find that I have completed the Louisiana State University story and the LSU football story so you can now fill your leisure time with smiles and wonderment. Don't you dare put this book down!

I thought you would like this winning LSU picture .



"I the Winner" LSU did not leave the 2020 National Championship on the table. It took it with them.

Even if you choose never to take a break while reading this book, I get the whole teaching job done in something just less than 500

pages of the most enjoyable content you will ever read. It's all about LSU Football. Who could ask for more?

Les Miles, a man who some claim is LSU's best-ever coach, extended the great LSU coaching era right to 2016 when he lost to Auburn and it upset the alum and others. Coach Miles was not the least of the LSU greats for sure, nor would he be the last because out of the defense emerged an all-around coach who knew he could and he did—Ed Orgeron.

I see the current coach as he directs this team, to continue to become the best of the best. It took him just three years to win the big crown and he did it undefeated 15-0. Who else? He is now among the hallowed immortals and they cannot deny Coach Orgeron his new immortality claim. Nor would they want to do so. Let Ed Orgeron and his tell-tale coaching voice live long and prosper!

Using this format of *enough told* to get the story told, in the rest of the chapters in this book, we examine every football season from the first in 1893 to the last, which as of today is the Ed Orgeron Era's 2020 season with his new LSU National Championships and third overall championship for LSU making up the school's great record.

Within each season, as depicted in the book, we highlight its great championships but we also do one thing that makes this book useful as a reference document about all of the LSU Football Teams of the past. We chronicle each and every game in text summary form.

Some games are portrayed with great detail after the summation because of their historical significance or simply to tell a great story about a great game; great coach; great player; or sometimes even a great opponent.

Nonetheless, all games are listed and chronicled from 1893, the first LSU football season. You will absolutely love this book from page 1 to the end. Each time I read it now that it is built, I enjoy it even more.

In this book, we tell you the season, the opponent, the venue (home or away), and of course we tell you the outcome with a score that is easy to find. And, then to make it even easier to analyze and browse

for specifics, we designate each win or loss with a big W or a big L so that it stands out in the text.

The Louisiana State University is proud of its history and its founding when Col W. T. Sherman accepted the position as superintendent in 1859..

And, of course LSU is very proud of its football program, and its legacy. LSU was, is and will continue to be a great university first, and a great home for the greatest football teams that God has ever created or will create—the LSU Tigers. .

Thanks for choosing to take this fun ride with us through LSU Football Championship History. The great moments noted in this book are simply great! You'll love them all!

As you enjoy this book, however, it is somewhat incomplete. I like to find the oldest players I can to write some stories about. Oh, there were some old players alright but the stories were few and far between. I am going to have to wait until this book is published and I can get a good look at the LSU campus archives and other sources. There is enough here to pique your interest but nobody can accomplish everything in a book that captures 126 years of history. 1993-2019. I tried. If I come back again and find a bunch of other great players, I promise I will let you know. God bless.

Chapter 2 Louisiana State's First Football Team

LSU



LSU Tigers First Football Team – 1893-1894

Championships were not too far away from 1893, but it was way too early for the first team to dream about them.

1893: Over 37 years from the founding

LSU Lunches its first football team. Yeah Team!

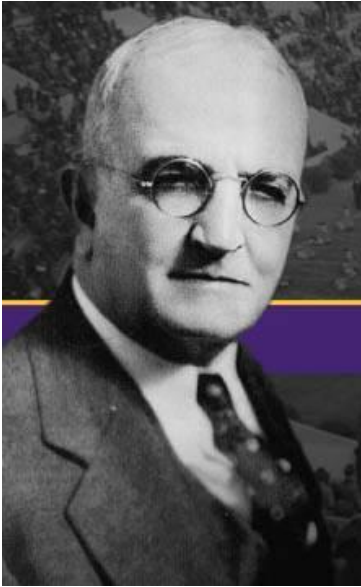
LSU got its football program going a year after one of its two nemeses, Alabama played its first season. Some say that Alabama football began with a game in Birmingham on a Friday afternoon in November of 1892. But, there was more to the story than just showing up for the game.

One of my favorite sayings in life is that “nothing worth having in life is easy.” Even something as simple as forming a football team at a premiere university that had little knowledge or inclination of the game. Sometimes, a little help from the outside is all that is needed to start a tide rolling.

It happens that for the University of Alabama, all the historical logs suggest it was not the President or Board of Directors or an Athletic Director or a local sports club that got the Tide rolling for Alabama Football. No, it was none of those. It was a law student William G. Little of Livingston, Alabama. Alabama did not know it would be LSU’s favorite opponent, nor did LSU!

Auburn is LSU’s other nemesis. It too got started a year before LSU. Ironically before LSU played its first game, Auburn had stolen something valuable from LSU—its team name -the Tigers. By the way, Tigers is the most popular team name in sports.

With five College teams using the moniker “Tigers” as their team name. Putting together the organization for Auburn’s first football was the handiwork of George Petrie, who some may know led the 1892 Auburn Tigers to a 2-2 record in their inaugural season. Petrie was the bloke who chose burnt orange and navy blue as the official colors for Auburn athletic teams. This color scheme was inspired by his alma mater, the University of Virginia.



Coach Charles E. Coates.
 << 1st LSU Football Coach

Being first often gives nothing but firstness.

No championships come in year one but the thinking begins.

Starting a football team was always quite a task for any one person or organization—even for a state such as the state of Louisiana. And, so LSU had a lot more to worry about in year one than anything Alabama or Auburn may have been up to in the prior year.

1993 was their first year playing football and they only were able to schedule one game

Louisiana State University (LSU) got to play in just one football game in its inaugural season of 1993. In fact, LSU played its first football game in school history on November 25, 1893, two days after Thanksgiving. The “team” lost to all sports rival and fellow Louisiana University, Tulane. It was in the first intercollegiate contest ever played in the Pelican State.

The game was an “away” contest, played at Sportsman’s Park in New Orleans and it was called The Battle of the Rag. Tulane’s Green Wave rose to the occasion and smothered the LSU Tigers that day L (0-34). Since it was the first and only game of the season, LSU officially had a losing season in year 1.



Dr. Charles Edward Coates, 1st LSU Football Coach

This game sparked a continual rivalry between the LSU Tigers and the Tulane Green Wave that has lasted generations. Football was in its infancy and so it was tough to find a coach for real back then so LSU “settled” for a Doctor from the faculty to coach the team. University professor Dr. Charles E. Coates took on the task. He was not known in sports circles but instead, he was known for his work in the chemistry of sugar.

The team had a special player who would soon become a famous person in Louisiana history. Future Louisiana Governor Ruffin G. Pleasant became the quarterback and captain of this first LSU team. In the first game against Tulane, LSU football players wore purple and gold ribbons on their uniforms.

According to the legend of the day back when, purple and gold were chosen because they were Mardi Gras colors, and the green color ribbons apparently were already sold out.

An LSU baseball team had also worn purple and gold in its first varsity game against Tulane earlier in Spring 1893, even though LSU's official colors at the time were actually blue and white. Walter Camp's rules were being formed and manipulated regularly in those days. In fact, the rules of play in 1893 were more likely influenced by rugby rules than what we would consider modern day American football.

LSU had to go another year to finally achieve its first victory. The Tigers defeated the Natchez Athletic Club 260 in 1894. Samuel Marmaduke Dinwiddie Clark had the honor of scoring the very first touchdown in LSU history. The first football game played on the LSU campus was at State Field on December 3, 1894, a loss against Mississippi.

LSU's only touchdown in that game was scored by the head coach, Albert Simmons. This was the first year of play for William S. Slaughter who lettered as an end for 5 years (1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898). Slaughter was LSU's first five time football letterman. By 1895, LSU had its first win in Baton Rouge.

One of my favorite sayings in life is that “nothing worth having in life is easy.” Even something as simple as forming a football team at a premiere university that had little knowledge or inclination of the game. Sometimes, a little help from the outside is all that is needed to start a tide rolling.

Heisman Trophy

LSU's great running back Billy Cannon won the Heisman Trophy in 1959 and then everybody's Heisman pick in 2019 was Joe Burrow who led the Tigers to the National Championship. LSU had some close calls in it many years of football play since the Heisman became a trophy in 1935.

I have to admit, I scoured for sources that could explain the lack of more Heisman Trophies at LSU. LSU officials, when you read this and you know or find out, let me know, and in a future update to this book, I will more than likely include your perspective.

LSU fans are typically very happy

Overall, those of us who root always or often for LSU are seldom disappointed. What a football tradition. Go Tigers.

Chapter 3 LSU Football – The First Eleven Years

The No Coach Years but a few lesser championships

See the record below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	Conference	Record	Conference
-------------	--------------	------------	--------	------------

Independent (1893–1895)

Year	Coach	Conference	Record	Conference
1893	Charles E. Coates	Independent	0–1	0–1
1894	Albert Simmonds	Independent	2–1	0–1
1895	Albert Simmonds	Independent	3–0	2–0

Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (1896–1922)

Year	Coach	Overall	Conf	Standing
1896	Allen Jeardeau	6–0	3–0	T–1 st
1897	Allen Jeardeau	1–1	No games	
1898	Edmond Chavanne	1–0	1–0	2 nd
1899	John P. Gregg	1–4	1–2	12 th
1900	Edmond Chavanne	2–2	0–1	T–12 th
1901	W. S. Borland	5–1	2–1	T–4 th
1902	W. S. Boreland	6–1	4–1	T–1 st
1903	W. S. Boreland	4–5	0–4	18 th



1894 LSU's 2nd Football Season Coach Albert Simmonds

Before the 2019 season at 15-0, LSU had already notched six unblemished seasons in its history. The Tigers first went undefeated and untied in 1895 under head coach A. P. Simmons with a 3-0 record, but the first truly great LSU team is considered to be the 1908 squad led by one of the most legendary players to wear the Purple and Gold--Doc Fenton. That 1908 team, coached by Edgar R. Wingard, soared through a 10-game schedule without a loss or tie as Fenton scored an incredible 125 points on the year. It was 50 years before LSU would post another perfect season, winning the national championship in 1958 with an 11-0 mark. It took over 60 years for the next in 2019. Let's hope we don't have a seventy-year wait for the next.

As noted in earlier chapters, LSU's football program began in 1893 with a one-game losing season. The loss was against Tulane, a Louisiana University that continued as an LSU rival over the years. The team was coached by Dr. Charles E. Coates who stepped down after the one-game season ended. Albert Simmonds took over the coaching for LSU in 1894.

Special Treat—Top Players—in this Book

When it comes to the top college football programs in America, LSU for all time has been near the top of that list.

With four National Championships, 14 conference titles and 27 football All-Americans to come through the university, the LSU football program has been loaded with talent throughout its rich history. Besides these biggies, there have been a number of lesser championships, some of which we will cover in this book. You're welcome!

To amplify, LSU ranks 16th most in victories in NCAA Division I FBS history and claims four National Championships (1958, 2003, 2007, and 2019), 16 conference championships, and 35 consensus All-Americans.

The statisticians and prognosticators and pundits have many different ways of categorizing championships. They are not all

national championships and LSU has not claimed all of its national championship. The Tigers have 4 championships which it claims—4 (1958, 2003, 2007, 2019). Additionally, there are times when the evaluators believe LSU was a national champion but the school itself does not claim the title for a certain year for its won reasons. LSU has five of these unclaimed national championship titles: (1908, 1935, 1936, 1962, 2011).

LSU also had 16 conference titles. Having played in various conferences, these conference titles are as follows: (12 SEC, 3 SIAA, 1 SoCon). LSU also has 9 Division titles for those years in which it won its division in a conference but did not win the conference. Sometimes these titles come with championship games, other times it is based simply on the team's record.

Of course, we all know about names such as Morris Claiborne, Patrick Peterson and Dwayne Bowe, but what about the guys who established this school as a national powerhouse back in the mid-1900s? Do any of these greats compare to the LSU players of today? You bet they do!

You will find sprinkled throughout this book in the proper seasons, short biographies of a few of the best players to ever don an LSU football uniform. Our objective is to display the LSU championships – lesser and major but a few great players often makes a championship. Watch for them with the heading Top LSU Players or something similar. It will be your chance to read about some of the best players in LSU football history. Enjoy! Hey folks, we are almost at page 47 and we are still trying to get out of the 1890's. How about that?

1894 LSU Football Season Albert Simmonds Coach # 2

His full name was Albert Price Simmonds. His duration on earth was similar to the length of his name (October 29, 1875 – November 13, 1953). He is known as an American football coach. He served as the head coach at LSU aka (Louisiana State University) for two seasons from 1894 to 1895. Most coaches at LSU at the time put in a year or a few at most. His second and third seasons in the LSU

Tigers football program's existence, saw him compiling a record of 5–1.

Coach Simmons was a graduate of Yale University. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1875 and later was an insurance agent in New York City. In 1951, at the age of 76, Simmonds was working for the Hygienic Phone Service. He died on November 13, 1953.

His head coaching record is as follows

1894 LSU 2-1 record
1895 LSU 3-0 record
Total LSU 5-1 record



<< Coach Simmonds

The 1894 LSU Purple & White football team represented the Louisiana State University in the 1894 college football season. The team was known as the LSU Fighting Tigers but in recent years, the adjective, *Fighting* is not always used.

Charles Coates, who was the main man in LSU's initial season for its one game, stepped down and the Tigers found a new coach, Albert Simmons, for their three-game 1894 season. This was a winning season, though short. It was the year in which LSU saw its first victory, a shutout over the Natchez Athletic Club.

In this game, the LSU football captain, Samuel Marmaduke Dinwiddie Clark, became the first LSU player to score a TD in a game against Natchez A.C. This year's first football game was played on the LSU campus on December 3, 1894, against Mississippi. LSU's player head coach Albert Simmons had the honors of scoring only touchdown in that game.

Simmonds was wearing his Yale jersey in an old 1895 photo at LSU. This was also the first year of football play for William S. Slaughter who put in four additional years after 1894.. He also lettered for

LSU in 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898). Slaughter was LSU's first five-time football letterman.

Games of the 1894 Season

In the season opener on Nov 30 at the Natchez Athletic Club in Natchez, MS. LSU shut-out Natchez W (26–0) for their first win. On Dec 3, Ole Miss defeated the Tigers at home in the State Field, Baton Rouge, LA. L (6-26). Then, in the season finale, on Dec 21, at home against Centenary, the LSU Tigers shut out the visitors, and assured their first winning season at home at State Field in Baton Rouge, LA. W (30-0) (rivalry)

1895 LSU Football Season Albert Simmonds Coach # 2

The 1895 LSU Purple & White football team represented the Louisiana State University in the 1895 college football season. The team enjoyed LSU's first undefeated season at 3 wins, 0 losses. It was LSU's third season and coach Albert Simmonds second and last year at LSU.

This was the first unbeaten season in LSU football history. The season also featured the first home victory in LSU history with a win over Tulane in front of 1,500 spectators.

An account from back in that period reads "The Tulane football team, with its band of shouters and several crippled players, returned to the city yesterday morning wearing dejected faces, as a result of the defeat administered at Baton Rouge Saturday. LSU joined the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association in 1895. It began SIAA conference games in 1896.

Games of the 1895 Season

In the season opener on Oct 26 at home in State Field, the Fighting Tigers defeated Tulane W (8-4) before 1,500. On Nov 2, at Centenary in Jackson, LA, the Tigers triumphed again W (16–6). Then, on Nov 18, in the season finale, in the first game ever played against Alabama at home in State Field, LSU defeated the Crimson White W (12-6) giving the team its first undefeated season.



1896 LSU Tigers

1896 LSU Football Season Allen Jeardeau Coach # 3

Tied for 1st Place in the SIAA

Allen Wilson Jeardeau whose time on earth included April 1, 1866 – April 10, 1900, was an American athlete who later became an effective coach.

They called the football game American football back then and baseball was baseball. He was good at both. Jeardeau served as the head football coach at the Platteville Normal School—now the University of Wisconsin–Platteville—in 1895 and 1898 and at Louisiana State University (LSU) from 1896 to 1897. In 1896, his first season with the LSU Tigers, Jeardeau led the team to a fine 6–0 record and a Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA) championship.

He was also the head coach of the LSU Tigers baseball team in 1898. Jeardeau was a graduate of the Platteville Normal School and a student at Harvard University. He died of pneumonia, which was

not always a treatable disease in his time on April 10, 1900, at his home near Platteville, Wisconsin. What a loss for LSU, for his family, and for America.



<<< Jeardeau

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1896 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's fourth season overall and its first season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). It was coach Allen Jeardeau's first of two seasons at LSU.

Led by coach Jeardeau, the Tigers were undefeated and untied with a 6-0 record. They won the SIAA as co-champions. It was the team's second undefeated season in football. The 1896 team was also recognized as the first LSU team to

use the nickname "Tigers".

1897 LSU Football Season Allen Jeardeau

Coach # 3

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1897 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's fifth season overall and its second season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). It was coach Allen Jeardeau's second of two seasons at LSU.

Led by coach Jeardeau, the Tigers had a 1-1 record in their two games played this season. The season was cut short due to a yellow fever outbreak throughout the South which caused the

postponement of LSU's classes starting, and the football season was cut back to only two games. No conference games were played.

Games of the 1997 season

In the season opener on Dec 20, the Tigers defeated the Montgomery Athletic Club at home in State Field, Baton Rouge, LA. W (28-6). Then, squeezing in a game on January 8 against Cincinnati, the LSU Tigers were defeated L (0-26) at home in State Field.

1898 LSU Football Season Edmond Chavanne Coach # 4

Edmond Auguste M. Chavanne was an Early LSU coach whose birth was in August 6, 1877 and who died in 1941. Chavanne played American football and later used his playing talents to become a head coach in the early days of college football.

He served as the head coach at Louisiana State Tigers football for two seasons, 1898 and 1900. His record was 3–2. In between, he stepped down and the team was coached by John P. Gregg, who coached the team in 1899.



Coach Chavanne in LSU Cadet Uniform

Chavanne was the first LSU football coach to have gotten his pigskin from the university. He is also the only player-coach in LSU football history. The 1898 season was delayed due to the yellow fever outbreak throughout the South. Those of us in 2020 living through the US pandemic know too well how disruptive to life and limb such diseases can be.

Prior to the season starting, LSU's previous football coach, Allen Jeardeau, had departed the school and the coaching position. Since the school had not made any provision to name a replacement coach, the job was left to Chavanne, the team's captain. LSU was not about to abandon football. Chavanne had graduated from LSU in 1898. He had previously played on the school's football team from 1896-1898. He was named as Commandant of Cadets at LSU in 1899, and football coach in 1900.¹

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1898 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's sixth season overall and its third season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). It was coach Edmond Chavanne's first of this one season tour. Chavanne would be back again in 1900.

Led by coach Chavanne, the Tigers had a 1-0 record in their one game season. They were 1-0 also in the SIAA. Yellow fever again played havoc with the football schedule. It was similar to the outbreak in 1897 and it caused LSU to play only one game. By the time LSU was able to play this one game season, coach Jeardeau had left the school as head football coach, and LSU had made no other provision to replace him.

Edmond Chavanne then inherited the coaching job because he was the team's captain. This marked the only time a player was coach in LSU football history. 1898 marked the final year of play for William S. Slaughter, LSU's first five time football letterman. Ironically, Slaughter played about a season's worth of games in his five years on the varsity.

The only game of the season was played on December 14, 1898 against Tulane at home in State Field in Baton Rouge, LA. The Tigers shut out Tulane W (37-0).

1899 LSU Football Season John P. Gregg Coach # 5

John P. Gregg coached the LSU football team to a 2-4 record in 1899, his only season as a college coach. He played his college football at Wisconsin before arriving in Baton Rouge. Gregg passed away in 1963 at the age of 86.



<< Coach John Gregg

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1899 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's seventh season overall and its fourth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). It was coach John P. Gregg's first and only season at LSU.

Led by coach Gregg, the Tigers had their first losing season since 1893. They sported a 1-4 record in their five-game season. They were 1-2 also in the SIAA. They came in 12th place in the conference.

This was a poor showing year for LSU as coach John Gregg's team scored its only win in an exhibition game against a high school team (which LSU does not officially record as a win) and against rival, Tulane. Noteworthy of course is that this was the first year of play for LSU's second five-year letterman, John J. Coleman (1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903).

1900 LSU Football Season Edmond Chavanne Coach # 4 (again)

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1900 Southern

Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's eighth season overall and its fifth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). They rehired coach Edmond Chayanne for this season. It was coach Edmond Chavannes's second season and last at LSU.

Led by coach Chayanne, the Tigers had their first break-even season. They sported a 2-2 record in their four-game season. They were 0-1 in the SIAA. They played Millsap twice this year.

1901 LSU Football Season W. S. Borland Coach # 6

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1901 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's ninth season overall and its sixth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). They hired coach W.S. Borland upon coach Chayanne's departure. And, he stayed three years which was the longest at the time.



<<< Coach Borland

Led by coach Borland, the Tigers had a nice 5-1 season, leading the team to a successful 5-1 season. They received a gift from Tulane this year when the Green Wave forfeited a game on November 16 due to a ruling from the SIAA. A game v rival Tulane was very important and cheating was not recommended as a winning strategy.

The 1901 edition of the Battle for the Flag against LSU was originally recorded as 22-0 Tulane victory but LSU found a few shenanigans that they protested. Upon examination, the SIAA petition by LSU was successful and the game went down as a 0-11 loss for Tulane.

What happened? After the game, LSU protested to the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association, alleging that Tulane had used a professional player during the game. Several months later, the SIAA ruled the game an 11-0 forfeit in favor of LSU. Never look a gift-horse in the mouth. I still do not know who the mysterious professional player was.

1902 LSU Football Season W. S. Borland Coach # 6

Tied for 1st Place in the SIAA Conference

Led by coach Borland in 1902, the Tigers had a nice 6-1 season, leading the team to a successful 6–1 season. Their SIAA record was 5-1. The seven-game 1902 season was the longest for the Tigers since their first game in 1893 and also featured the most games on the road: five games played away and only two in Baton Rouge. Overall, it was a good year with a tie for second place in the SIAA.

1903 LSU Football Season W. S. Borland Coach # 6

Led by coach Borland in 1903, the Tigers had a *not so great* 4-5 season. Their SIAA record was 0-5. Something bad had surely happened. 1903 was W. S. Borland's third and final season as LSU head coach as he finished 4–5 for the season (15–7 in all three years as head coach).

The 1903 season broke the previous season's record for most games played (seven) with nine games. The Tigers played four home games; three in Baton Rouge and one in New Orleans, but were on the road the rest of the season. For the 1903 season, point values were different from those used in modern games. In 1903 a touchdown was worth five points, for example, and a field goal was also worth five points. A conversion (PAT) was worth one point. It is tough to explain the dismal season for coach Borland but LSU expected more and Borland was gone at the beginning of the next year.

The home and season opener for LSU was on October 14 in a game in which the LSU team beat the LSU Alumni W (16-0) at State Field. On Oct 24, LSU beat the Eagles-New Orleans at home W (33-0). Then, on Oct 30 at Louisiana Tech in Ruston, Louisiana

The Tigers prevailed W (16–0)/ The next day Oct 31, the team traveled to Shreveport LA to play the Shreveport Athletic Club. They won the game in a shutout by a TD, W (5-0).

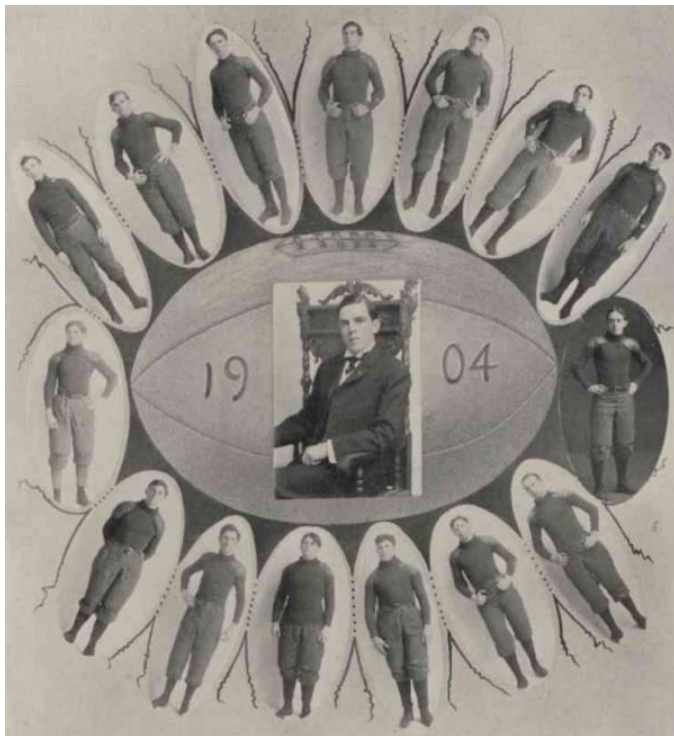
When LSU started to play v SIAA teams, their season fell apart. For example on Nov 7, at Mississippi A&M at the Starkville Fairgrounds in Starkville, Mississippi, the loss was L (0-11). Then, on Nov 9 v Alabama in The Quad / Tuscaloosa, Alabama, the loss was L (0–18). Then, on Nov 11 at Auburn's Tigers beat LSU's Tigers L (0-12), Then, on Nov 16 at home, Cumberland pounded the Tigers L (0-41). In the season finale, on Nov 21, Ole Miss beat LSU 1 (0-11) in New Orleans.

Chapter 4 LSU – The Next Thirteen Years 1904-1916

**Eight coaches in thirteen years
LSU Played in SIAA Conference**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1904	Dan A. Killian	3-4	1-2; 11 th
1905	Dan A. Killian	3-0	2-0; 3 rd
1906	Dan A. Killian	2-2-2	0-2-1; 12 th
1907	Edgar Wingard	7-3	3-1; 7 th
1908	Edgar Wingard	10-0	2-0; T-1 st
1909	J Pritchard/J Mayhew	6-2	3-1; T-2 nd
1910	John W. Mayhew	1-5	0-3; 10 th
1911	James Dwyer	6-3	1-1; 5 th
1912	James Dwyer	4-3	1-3; 13 th
1913	James Dwyer	6-1-2	1-1-1; 8 th
1914	E. T. MacDonnell	4-4-1	1-2-1; 12 th
1915	E. T. MacDonnell	6-2	3-1; 3 rd
1916	E. T. MacDonnell/ Irving Pray/ Dana X. Bible	7-1-2	2-1-1; 7 th

W Bacardi



1904 LSU Football Season Dan A. Killian Coach # 7



<<< Coach Killian

Led by coach Dan Arnold Killian in 1904, the Tigers had a *not so great* 3-4 season. Their SIAA record was 1-2. The team finished SIAA play in 11th place.

1905 LSU Football Season Dan A. Killian Coach # 7

Led by coach Killian in 1905, the Tigers had an undefeated season at 3-0. Their SIAA record was 2-0. The team finished SIAA play in 12th place.

1906 LSU Football Season Dan A. Killian Coach # 7

Led by coach Killian in 1906, the Tigers had an OK season at 2-2-2. Their SIAA record was 0-2. The team finished SIAA play in 3rd place.

1907 LSU Football Season Edgar Wingard Coach # 8

<<< Coach Wingard

LSU fired coach Dan Killian after a dismal 1906 season. It's not that the team was terrible, LSU was a respectable 2-2-2, but the style of play was dreadful. Still trapped in the thrall of the flying wedge which had killed 20 people in 1905, LSU won by scores of 5-0 and 17-0 and the two ties? Both scoreless draws.

Led by coach Wingard, the Tigers had an OK season at 7-3 in 1907. Their SIAA record was 3-1. The team finished SIAA play in 7th place. It was also the first year at LSU for star player, Doc Fenton.

1908 LSU Football Season Edgar Wingard Coach # 8

Tied for 1st Place in SIAA Conference

Led by coach Wingard in 1908, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-0. Their SIAA record was 2-0. The team finished SIAA play tied for 1st place. The team had a fine year all around, outscoring its opponents 442 to 11

1909 LSU Football Season J Pritchard/J Mayhew Coach # 9

Joseph Gibson Pritchard (May 15, 1886 – July 14, 1947) had a nickname of "Beersheba". He played football and coached football after his playing days. Pritchard played for the Vanderbilt Commodores of Vanderbilt University. He was selected All-Southern in 1905 and 1906. Was a big man for the times at 6 foot 2 inches and he weighed 185 pounds.

He was the head coach at LSU for part of just one season in 1909, compiling a bice record of 4–1. He graduated from Vanderbilt in 1906 with a dental degree (DDS). He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and later he was a Presbyterian dental missionary at Luebo in the Congo until he was forced to return to the United States due to poor health sometime before 1915. In 1912, Pritchard married Annie Milicent Landrey of Jeanerette, Louisiana.



<<< Coach Pritchard

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1909 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's seventeenth season overall and its fourteenth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Prichard's first season of one and coach Mayhews 1st season of two.

Led by two coaches for the season, the Tigers had an OK season at 6-2. Their SIAA record was 3-1. The team finished SIAA play in 4th

place. They lost to Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA) champion Sewanee and they also lost to an undefeated Arkansas. Their notable victories include those over Mississippi and Alabama.

John W. Mayhew (3 games) , a former halfback at Brown, took over as coach for former Vanderbilt lineman Joe Pritchard (five games) midway through the season. College Football Hall of Fame inductee Doc Fenton started at quarterback.

1910 LSU Football Season John Mayhew Coach # 10



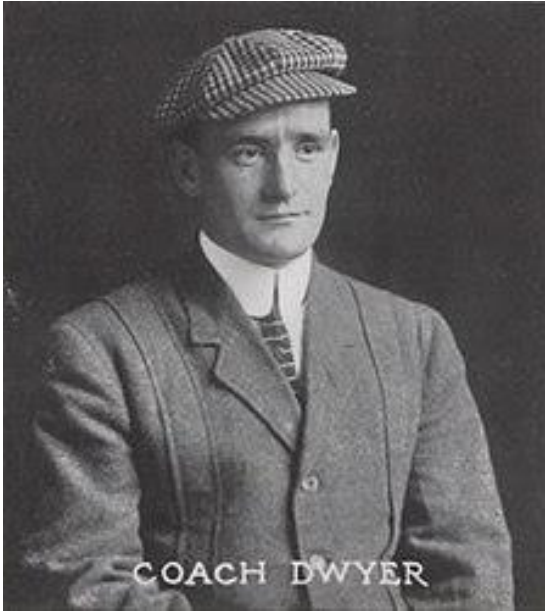
<<< Coach John Mayhew

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1910 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's eighteenth season overall and its fifteenth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Mayhew's second season and last of two. The prior year, Mayhew was head coach for three games.

Led by coach Mayhew for the 2010 season, the Tigers had a terrible season at 1-5. Their SIAA record was 1-3. The team finished SIAA play in 10th place.

1911 LSU Football Season James Dwyer Coach # 11

James K. "Pat" Dwyer (August 30, 1884 – March 29, 1939) was an American football player and coach. He served as the head coach at Louisiana State University (LSU→ 1911–1913)and the University of Toledo (1923–1925), compiling a career record of 28–22–2.



Led by coach Dwyer for the 1911 season, the Tigers had a nice year at 6-3. Their SIAA record was 2-1. The team finished SIAA play in 6th place.

1912 LSU Football Season James Dwyer Coach # 11

Led by coach Dwyer for the 1912 season, the Tigers had an OK season at 4-3. Their SIAA record was 1-3. The team

finished SIAA play this year in 13th place.

1913 LSU Football Season James Dwyer Coach # 11



Led by coach Dwyer for the 1913 season, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-1-2. Their SIAA record was not so good a 1-1-2. The team finished SIAA play in 8th place.

1914 LSU Football Season E. T. MacDonnell Coach # 12

<<< E.T MacDonnell

His full name was Edward Thomas MacDonnell (August 9, 1886 – March 30, 1956). He was

an all-around athlete and he coached football, basketball, and baseball.

He was the head football coach at Louisiana State University (LSU) from 1914 to 1916 (14-7-1) and at Wake Forest University for one season in 1917 (1-6-1). His career college football record is 15–13–2. MacDonnell was also the head basketball coach at Wake Forest for the 1917–18 season, tallying a mark of 4–12, and he was that school's head baseball coach in the spring of 1918, notching a record of 9–3. MacDonnell was an alumnus of Colgate University, graduating in 1910. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.[3]

Led by coach MacDonnell for this season, the Tigers had an OK season in 1914 at 4-4-1. Their SIAA record was 1-2-1. The team finished SIAA play in 12th place.

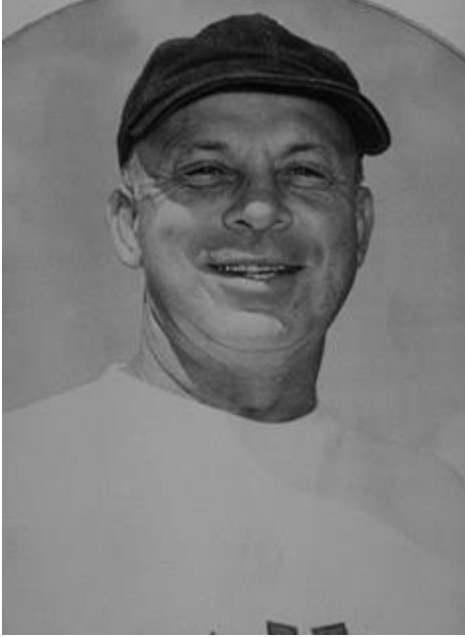
1915 LSU Football Season E. T. MacDonnell Coach # 12

Led by coach MacDonnell for the season, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-2. Their SIAA record was 4-0. The team finished SIAA play in 3rd place.

1916 LSU Football Season E. T. MacDonnell Coach # 12 Irving Pray & Dana Bible also coached LSU this year

Dana X. Bible was a sharp, scripture-quoting son of a Latin and Greek scholar. His unspectacular coaching techniques brought solid, fundamental football to the Southwest. At Mississippi College (1913-1915), LSU (1916), Texas A&M (1917, 1919-28), Nebraska (1926-36), Texas (1937-46) -33 years in all- Bible's teams rolled to a 198-72-23 record. All told, Bible squads won 14 conference championships. Bible frowned on fancy football. His idea of living dangerously was a fake-and-run punt formation on third down. LSU could have effectively deployed Bible in its winning ways over the years.

In his book, CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL, Bible outlined the importance of scouting an opponent. He required each of his scouts to answer 42 pages of mimeographed questions on each game, and fill out another eight pages with comments and diagrams. Bible was boss at all times, running his clubs in a logical, well-planned manner. Bible began his career as a prep coach in Tennessee, and diligently studied the outstanding gridiron mentors of his time. In 11 years at Texas A&M, Bible did not have a losing season. At Nebraska, he lost only three games in eight seasons of conference competition. At Texas, Bible went 55-13-2 in his last seven years.



<<< Dana X. Bible

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1916 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's twenty-fourth season overall and its twenty-first season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach MacDonnell's third season of three. Mac had some help coaching this year from Irving Pray and Dana Bible

Led by coach MacDonnell at the beginning of the season, the Tigers had a fine overall season at 7-1-2. Their SIAA record was 2-1-1. The team finished SIAA play in 7th place.

Chapter 5 LSU Football Moves from SIAA to SoCon: 1917-1922

SIAA Conference Play ended in 1921
SoCon Conference Play Began in 1922

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1917	Wayne Sutton	3-5	2-3; 9 th
1918	No team (WW I)		
1919	Irving Pray	6-2	2-2; T-12 th
1920	Branch Boccock	5-3-1	0-3; T-15 th
1921	Branch Boccock	6-1-1	2-1-1; 9 th
1922	Irving Pray	3-7	1-2; T-11 th

1917 LSU Football Season Wayne Sutton Coach # 15

LSU Coach Wayne Sutton played college football at the University of Washington from 1910-1913, and worked as an assistant at UW from 1914-1916 and again from 1923-1929. His lone season as a player or coach outside the northwest came in 1917 when Sutton served as head football coach at LSU. The Tigers were 3-5 that season and Sutton left Baton Rouge at season's end.



<<< Coach Wayne Sutton

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1917 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's twenty-fifth season overall and its twenty-second season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Sutton's first and last season at LSU.

Led by coach Sutton, the Tigers had a so-so season at 3-5. Their SIAA record was 1-3. The team finished SIAA play in 9th place. LSU had the next year off due to WW I so there was no difficulty in finding a new coach after the poor showing of Coach Wayne Sutton.

1918 LSU Football Season WW I – No team; No coach

One hundred years ago, LSU football players hung up their cleats for a greater cause. Many students and faculty of the Ole War Schule left the campus to serve in World War I, continuing the school's military tradition and canceling the 1918 gridiron season.

In honor of those who did not return, 30 trees were planted in the Memorial Oak Grove with one additional tree dedicated to “The Unknown” missing in action.

To commemorate the century mark of the Silent Season of 1918, LSU would emerge 100 years later in 2018 on Saturday, Oct. 20, from the Tiger Stadium chute in specially designed uniforms that saluted the past and pay homage to heroes. Bravo LSU

1919 LSU Football Season Irving Pray Coach # 13

Irving Pray was an MIT graduate who coached three non-consecutive seasons at LSU in 1916, 1919 and 1922. He was a perfect 2-0 in 1916 after taking over the coaching duties from E. T. MacDonnell mid-season, and was 6-2 in his first full season as head coach in 1919. Pray was a dismal 3-7 in 1922, his final season as a college coach. He passed away in 1948 at the age of 61.



<<< Coach Irving Pray

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1919 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's twenty-sixth season overall and its twenty-third season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Pray's first of one season this time. He would be back again in 1922 right before LSU switched conferences.

Led by coach Pray, the Tigers had a fine overall season at 6-2. Their SIAA record was mediocre at 2-2. The team finished SIAA play in 12th place.

1920 LSU Football Season Branch Bocock Coach # 16



<<< Branch Bocock

Coach James Branch Bocock (March 10, 1884 – May 25, 1946) was an LSU football, basketball, and baseball coach. Louisiana State University (1920–1921), the compiling a total career college football record of 98–55–9.

Led by coach Bocock in 1920, the Tigers had a so-so season at 5-3-1. Their SIAA record was 1-3. The team finished SIAA play in 18th place.

1921 LSU Football Season Branch Bocock Coach # 16

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1919 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's twenty-eighth twenty-fifth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Bocock's second and last of two seasons. Led by coach Bocock, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-1-1. Their SIAA record was 2.1.1. The team finished SIAA play in 9th place.

1922 Football Season Irving Pray Coach # 13

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1919 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association football season. This was LSU's twenty-ninth season overall and its twenty-sixth season playing as a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association (SIAA). This was coach Pray's second season this time..

Led by coach Pray, the Tigers had a so-so season at 3-7. Their SIAA record was 1-2. The team finished SIAA play in 11th place.

Chapter 6 LSU Football; Southern Conference 1923-1932

Southern Conference (SoCon -- 1923–1932)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1923	Mike Donahue	3–5–1	0–3, 18 th
1924	Mike Donahue	5–4	0–3, T–19 th
1925	Mike Donahue	5–3–1	0–2–1, 18 th
1926	Mike Donahue	6–3	3–3, T–10 th
1927	Mike Donahue	4–4–1	2–3–1, 11 th
1928	Russ Cohen	6–2–1	3–1–1, 6 th
1929	Russ Cohen	6–3	3–1, 10 th
1930	Russ Cohen	6–4	2–3, 16 th
1931	Russ Cohen	5–4	2–2, 7 th
1932	Biff Jones	6–3–1	3–0, T–1 st

Southeastern Conference (1933–present)

1933	Biff Jones	7–0–3	3–2	2 nd
1934	Biff Jones	7–2–2	4–2	4 th



1923 LSU Football Team Mike Donahue Coach

1923 Football Season Mike Donahue Coach # 17



<<**Michael Joseph "Iron Mike" Donahue** (June 14, 1876 – December 11, 1960) was an American football player, coach of football, basketball, baseball, tennis, track, soccer, and golf, and a college athletics administrator. He served as the head football coach at Auburn University (1904–1906, 1908–1922), at Louisiana State University (1923–1927), and at Spring Hill College (1934).

This was LSU's first season playing in the Southern Conference (SC) They had previously played in the SIAA. The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers

of Louisiana State University during the 1923 Southern Conference football season. This was LSU's thirtieth season overall and its first season playing as a member of the Southern Conference. (SoCon) This was coach Donahue's first season of five with LSU.

Led by coach Donahue, the Tigers had a bad season at 3-5-1. Their SoCon record was 0-3. The team finished SC play in 18th place.

1924 Football Season Mike Donahue Coach # 17

Led by coach Donahue in 1924, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-4. Their SoCon record was 0-3. The team finished SC play tied for 19th place.

1925 Football Season Mike Donahue Coach # 17

Led by coach Donahue in 1925, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-3-1. Their SoCon record was 0-2-1. The team finished SC play tied for 18th place. LSU's first official homecoming game occurred in 1925

1926 Football Season Mike Donahue Coach # 17

Led by coach Donahue in 1926, the Tigers had a good season at 6-3. Their SoCon record was 3-3. The team finished SoCon play tied for 12th place.

1927 Football Season Mike Donahue Coach # 17

Led by coach Donahue in 1927, the Tigers had a not-so-good season at 4-4-1. Their SoCon record was 2-3-1. The team finished SoCon play tied for 11th place. For its reasons, LSU did not celebrate a homecoming game in 1927.

1928 Football Season Russ Cohen Coach # 18

Russ Cohen was LSU's football coach for four seasons from 1928-1931, posting four consecutive winning seasons and a 23-13-1 record as coach of the Tigers. Cohen's best season was in 1928, leading his team to a 6-2-1 record and a 3-1-1 record against Southern Conference opponents. LSU finished just sixth in the conference that season, its best finish during Cohen's tenure. He began his coaching career as an assistant coach at Alabama from 1923-1926. Cohen passed away in 1981 at the age of 88



<<< Russ Cohen The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1928 Southern Conference football season. This was LSU's thirty-fifth season overall and its sixth season playing as a member of the Southern Conference (SoCon). This was coach Cohen's first season of four with LSU.

Led by coach Cohen, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-2-1. Their SoCon record was 3-1-1. The team finished SoCon play in 6th place.

1929 Football Season Russ Cohen Coach # 18

Led by coach Cohen in 1929, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-3. Their SoCon record was 3-1. The team finished SoCon play in 10th place.

1930 Football Season Russ Cohen Coach # 18

Led by coach Cohen in 1930, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-4. Their SoCon record was 2-4 The team finished SoCon play in 16th place.

1931 Football Season Russ Cohen Coach # 18

Led by coach Cohen in 1931, the Tigers had a fine season at 5-4. Their SoCon record was 3-2 The team finished SoCon play in 7th place.

1932 Football Season Biff Jones Coach # 19



Tied for 1st Place in Southeast Conference

<<< Biff Jones' full name was Lawrence McCeney (Biff) Jones. He spent time in the Army and retired as a Colonel. He passed away at 84 years of age. He was a football star who went on to coach the football teams at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Louisiana State University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Nebraska.

He retired in 1948. Before that he had been director of athletics at West Point for six years. Col. Jones was born in

Washington, and was a graduate of the old Central High School. As a West Point student, he was captain of the football team in his last year before graduating in 1917.

He served in France during World War I and returned to the academy to be assistant coach of the football team from 1919 to 1925. He was then head coach from 1926 to 1929.

From there, Col. Jones moved to Louisiana State University, where he was head football coach and an ROTC instructor during 1932-34. He held the same positions at the University of Oklahoma in 1935-36.

He then retired from military service to become head coach of the football team of the University of Nebraska from 1937 to 1942, when he was recalled to active duty and appointed director of athletics at West Point.

Col. Jones was elected to the National College Football Hall of Fame and to the Nebraska and Louisiana football halls of fame. He had taken the Nebraska team to the Rose Bowl in 1941. He was a member of the Army and Navy Club and the Army-Navy Country Club.

About LSU in 1932

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1932 Southern Conference football season. This was LSU's thirty-ninth season overall and its tenth season playing as a member of the Southern Conference (SoCon). Biff Jones succeeded Russ Cohen to begin the 1932 season. This was coach Jones' first season of three with LSU.

Led by coach Jones, the Tigers had a nice season at 6-3-1. Their SoCon record was 3-0. The team finished SoCon play tied for first place. This season was LSU's last season of football play in the Southern Conference. The following season the team would be playing in the SEC, the Southeast Conference.

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

For the 1933 season, LSU games were part of the Southeastern Conference

1933 Football Season Biff Jones Coach # 19

Led by coach Jones in 1933 , the Tigers had a fine season at 7-0-3. Their SoCon record was undefeated at 3-0-2 The team finished SEC play in 2nd place. This season was LSU's first season of football play in the Southeastern Conference (SEC). This year, Halfback Abe Mickal led the team in scoring.

In its first season in the SEC, LSU was undefeated with two ties. This was an undefeated season but they came in 2nd place to Alabama in the SEC this year because of the two tie games. Alabama had a non-conference loss but were undefeated with just one tie in the SEC.

1934 Football Season Biff Jones Coach # 19

Led by coach Jones in 1934, the Tigers had a fine season at 7-2-2. Their SEC record was 4-2 The team finished SEC play in fourth first place.

Chapter 7 LSU Football – Coach Bernie Moore Era 1935-1947

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>		
1935	Bernie Moore	9–2	5–0	1 st L Sugar	
1936	Bernie Moore	9–1–1	6–0	1 st L Sugar	2
1937	Bernie Moore	9–2	5–1	2 nd L Sugar	8
1938	Bernie Moore	6–4	2–4	10 th	
1939	Bernie Moore	4–5	1–5	10 th	
1940	Bernie Moore	6–4	3–3	6 th	
1941	Bernie Moore	4–4–2	2–2–2	7 th	
1942	Bernie Moore	7–3	3–2	6 th	
1943	Bernie Moore	6–3	2–2	2 nd W Orange	
1944	Bernie Moore	2–5–1	2–3–1	6 th	
1945	Bernie Moore	7–2	5–2	3 rd	
1946	Bernie Moore	9–1–1	5–1	3 rd T Cotton	
1947	Bernie Moore	5–3–1	2–3–1	8 th	



1936 LSU Tigers

1935 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

*** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference

LSU Athletics Hall of Fame Inductee Bernie Moore

This is the sixth and final story profiling the members of the 2009 class of the LSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

by Chad Vignes & R.J. Marse LSU Sports Information

In June 1933, former LSU track and field coach Bernie Moore packed his five-man team and their equipment into his black Plymouth and headed north to Chicago to compete in the NCAA track and field national championship meet.



Coach Bernie Moore

With only \$137 allocated for the trip, Moore said his athletes would be able to “live off the land” as they competed. The five athletes ? shot-put and discus thrower Jack Torrance, pole-vaulter Matt Gordy, high-and-low hurdler Al Moreau, hurdler and quarter-miler Glen “Slats” Hardin and javelin-thrower Bubby Blair ? would, as they lived off the land, go on to win the first track and field national championship in LSU history. But it wasn't easy.

Former LSU athletic director Joe Dean called Hardin “the greatest track athlete to ever attend LSU.” Hardin competed for Moore in both track and field and football at LSU, and his performance on the track is what made him one of the all-time greats.

A native of Greenwood, Miss., Hardin was the most accomplished of the five, competing in the 1932 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles and winning a silver medal in the 400-meter hurdles. Hardin would continue to perform at a high level in Chicago and help start the momentum that would lead the Tigers to a championship, setting a world record as he won the 440-yard high hurdles and then, after being set a yard behind the field for a false start, setting another record in winning the 220-yard low hurdles. Hardin finished with 20 of LSU's 58 points in the meet.

“I don't know how long they had been running the 400 (meter) hurdles then,” Hardin once said, “but I do remember that (coach) Moore didn't know anything about them and I didn't, either.”

“Baby Jack” Torrance, as he was known, was also a two-sport star in football and track and field at LSU. One of the premier shot-putters in the world at the time, Torrance won the first of three consecutive NCAA titles and followed it with a third-place finish in the discus for the Tigers. Blair then finished fourth in the javelin and Moreau was able to grab second in the high hurdles and sixth in the 220-yard low hurdles.

It came down to Gordy, the 135-pound pole-vaulter from Abbeville, La., who had never cleared more than 13'-4” prior to the NCAA championship. LSU stood ahead of Southern California by four points and Bill Graber, USC's world-record pole-vaulter, had already cleared 14 feet in his final jump. Gordy failed his first two attempts and if he failed his final attempt he would fall into a three-way tie for second behind Graber, tying LSU and USC for first place.

“I looked up to the top of the stadium and saw Coach Moore pacing up and down like an expectant father,” Gordy said in a 1971 interview with the New Orleans Times-Picayune. “I laughed and I guess that laugh really relaxed me.”

Gordy made the jump, tying Graber for first place and besting his previous personal-best by eight inches. LSU had beaten USC by four points, 58-54, and a track dynasty was born with Bernie Moore as its leader.

On Tuesday, Moore will be inducted into this year's LSU Athletics Hall of Fame along with five other legends at the Pete Maravich Assembly Center. Other inductees include baseball and basketball coach Harry Rabenhorst (profile), long-time LSU trainer Dr. Martin J. Broussard (profile), track and field Olympian Esther Jones (profile), softball All-American Britni Sneed (profile) and football great Anthony McFarland (profile).

Tuesday night's 2009 LSU Hall of Fame Banquet is sponsored by Moniotte Investments, Deumite Construction, and Rabenhorst Funeral Homes.

In his 18 seasons as head track coach, Moore led the Tigers to an unprecedented 12 SEC titles, including the inaugural conference championship in 1933. Under Moore, LSU athletes set five world records, won eight NCAA titles and collected 29 All-America honors.

Coaching teams with multiple SEC titles in one sport is certainly a famed accomplishment, but an SEC title in two sports is nearly unheard of. Not for Bernie Moore. In addition to leading LSU track to national prominence, Moore also coached LSU's football team to two SEC titles in 1935 and 1936.

Louisiana senator Huey P. Long endorsed the new head football coach in 1935 saying, "winning that track meet showed me he could handle men."

In Moore's first season as football coach, All-American Gaynell Tinsley and the Tigers posted a 9-2 record and LSU's first Sugar Bowl appearance. It was the first time in SEC history a coach won SEC titles in two major sports in the same year.

If that weren't enough, Moore did it again in 1936 when he led the football team to its second SEC championship and the track team to its fourth straight SEC title.

Moore led the Tigers to three-straight Sugar Bowl appearances in his first three years as head coach. Unfortunately, all three Sugar Bowl appearances resulted in LSU losses. Moore was able to overcome the postseason losing streak in 1943 when the great Steve Van Buren

led the Tigers to a 19-14 victory over Texas A&M in the Orange Bowl, giving LSU its first bowl game win.

One of Moore's most memorable games came in what would later be known as the “Ice Bowl.” January 1, 1947, in the Cotton Bowl, LSU dueled Arkansas to a 0-0 final score, despite out-gaining the Hogs 271-54 in total yardage on the legs of Y.A. Tittle. The Tigers finished that season 9-1-1, one of Moore's better seasons, though no title was won.

Moore stepped down as head football coach after the 1947 season, with a career record of 83-29-6 in 13 seasons. He is second, only to Charles McClendon, in most career wins all-time at LSU. In 1948, Moore became the commissioner of the SEC and would hold that office for the next 18 years. He was the longest-tenured SEC commissioner in history.

After he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1954 and the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 1963, Moore finally retired in 1966.

Moore died the following year in 1967, but his body was honorably laid to rest by the men who first benefitted from his legacy.

Matt Gordy, pole-vaulter on that historic 1933 National Champion Track team, was vice-president of Pan-American Oil in 1967. He flew his private jet to Baton Rouge to pick up his four teammates from that 1933 championship team.

From there Gordy, Jack Torrance, Buddy Blair, Al Moreau and Glenn Hardin flew to Moore's hometown of Winchester, Tenn. to serve as pallbearers in Moore's funeral ceremony.

Today, Bernie Moore's legacy lives on, as the LSU outdoor track stadium still bears his name; a fitting memorial to an LSU legend.

LSU in 1935

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1935 Southeastern

Conference football season. This was LSU's forty-second season overall and its third season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Jones, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-2. Their SEC record was undefeated at 6-0 The team finished SEC play in first place.

The team was led by halfback Abe Mickal and end Gaynell Tinsley. It was Bernie Moore's first of thirteen seasons as head coach of the LSU Tigers. One of the 13 selectors recognized as official by the NCAA (Williamson) decided that the 1935 LSU team should be recognized as co-national champion. LSU, however, does not recognize this team as national champions, though they did put a note in the media guide reflecting the fact.

LSU was invited to the Sugar Bowl on January 1, 1936 to play TCU in Tulane Stadium, New Orleans, LA. TCU won the game in a baseball score L (2-3).

1936 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference**

Led by coach Moore in 1936, in his second of thirteen seasons as head coach of the LSU Tigers. the Tigers had a fine season at 9-1-1. Their SEC record was undefeated at 5-0 The team finished SEC play in first place. LSU was ranked #2 in the country by the AP LSU won their second consecutive Southeastern Conference championship and earned their second straight trip to the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. The defense allowed only 33 points the entire season, which still ranks fourth in school history for the fewest points allowed by a Tiger defense.

Coming in 1st on the SEC gave LSU a ride into the Sugar Bowl played at home v #6 Santa Clara. LSU lost the game L (14-21) in Tulane Stadium in New Orleans LA in a close match

1937 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1937, in his third of thirteen seasons as head coach of the LSU Tigers, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-2. Their SEC record was a fine 5-1 The team finished SEC play in 2nd place. Alabama was ranked #1 in the SEC. LSU was ranked #8 in the country by the AP. By placing second in the Southeastern Conference championship LSU earned their third straight trip to the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

1938 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1938, in his fourth of thirteen seasons as head coach of the LSU Tigers, the Tigers had a fine season at 6-4. Their SEC record was 2-4 The team finished SEC play in 10th place. Tennessee was ranked #1 in the SEC with a conference record of 7-0. LSU did not qualify for a bowl game.

1939 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1939 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's forty-sixth season overall and its seventh season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Moore, in his fifth of thirteen seasons as head coach of the LSU Tigers, the Tigers had a less than stellar season at 4-5. Their SEC record was 1-5 The team finished SEC play in 10th place. Tennessee was ranked #2 in the country and with a 6-0 SEC record took first place. LSU did not qualify for a bowl game.

1940 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore, in 1940, in his sixth of thirteen seasons as head coach the Tigers had a nice season at 6-4. Their SEC record was 3-3. The team finished SEC play in 6th place. LSU did not qualify for a bowl game.

1941 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1941, in his seventh of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 4-4-2. Their SEC record was 2-2. The team finished SEC play in 7th place. and outscored opponents by a total of 119 to 93. As noted previously, LSU played its home games at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In 1941, senior center Bernie Lipkis was selected as the team's most valuable player. Triple-threat tailback Leo Bird placed second, and fullback Walt Gorinski placed third. Gorinski was another standout who later played professional football for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

1942 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1942, in his eighth of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 7-3. Their SEC record was 3-2. The team finished SEC play in 6th place.

1943 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1943, in his ninth of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 6-3. Their SEC record was 2-2. The team finished SEC play in 2nd place. LSU did not celebrate a homecoming game in 1943 due to World War II. Halfback Steve Van Buren led the nation in scoring.

1944 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1944, in his tenth of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 2-5. Their SEC record was 2-3-1. The team finished SEC play in 6th place

1945 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1945, in his eleventh of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 7-2. Their SEC record was 5-2. The team finished SEC play in 3rd place

1946 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

Led by coach Moore in 1946, in his twelfth of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 9-1-1. Their SEC record was 5-1. The team finished SEC play in 3rd place LSU was ranked # 8 in the AP poll at the completion of the 1946 season.

LSU made the “playoffs” and on New Year’s Day, January 1, 1947, they tied Arkansas in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, TX. The game was played in the Cotton Bowl Stadium. T (0–0) before 38,000 fans.

1947 Football Season Bernie Moore Coach # 20

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1947 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's fifty-fourth season overall and its fifteenth season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Moore, in his thirteenth and last of thirteen seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a nice season at 5-3-1. Their SEC record was 2-3-1. The team finished SEC play in 8th place LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1947 season.

Chapter 8 LSU Football – Coaches Gaynell Tinsley & Paul Dietzel 1948-61

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1948	Gaynell Tinsley	3-7	1-5, T-10 th
1949	Gaynell Tinsley	8-3	4-2 5 th L Sugar
1950	Gaynell Tinsley	4-5-2	2-3-2 9 th
1951	Gaynell Tinsley	7-3-1	4-2-1 T-3 rd
1952	Gaynell Tinsley	3-7	2-5 10 th
1953	Gaynell Tinsley	5-3-3	2-3-3 8 th
1954	Gaynell Tinsley	5-6	2-5 9 th
1955	Paul Dietzel	3-5-2	2-3-1 9 th
1956	Paul Dietzel	3-7	1-5 11 th
1957	Paul Dietzel	5-5	4-4 7 th
1958	Paul Dietzel	11-0	6-0 1 st
---W Sugar ** 1958 National Champions; SEC Champs			
1959	Paul Dietzel	9-2	5-1 T-2 nd L Sugar
1960	Paul Dietzel	5-4-1	2-3-1 8 th
1961	Paul Dietzel	10-1	6-0 T-1 st W Orange
---W Sugar ** 1961 National Champions; SEC Champs *****			



1949 LSU Tigers Wren Worley, Dale Gray, Jim Lyle, Raymond Bullock and Melvin “Sam” Lyle pose for a photo in Tiger Stadium during the 1949 season.

1948 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21



<<< Gaynell Tinsley

Gaynell Charles “Gus” Tinsley (February 1, 1915 - July 24, 2002) lettered in and captained the Louisiana State University Tigers for three years both the baseball and football teams, earning All-American football honors in both 1935 and 1936.

Gus played tight end at LSU and in 1936, as a member of the college all-stars playing in the annual game against an NFL team, this time the Green Bay Packers, Tinsley scored the only

points of the game on a pass from Hall of Famer Sammy Baugh as the all-stars beat the Packers 6-0.

The Chicago Cardinals took Gaynell in the second round of the 1937 NFL Draft out of LSU. In Tinsley’s first season with the Cardinals, he led the NFL in receiving yards (675), average yards per reception (18.8) and average yards per game (61.4) while scoring five touchdowns. He only played three seasons in Chicago (1937-1938, 1940) before retiring from the playing field, but finished his career ranked fourth in NFL history in pass receptions. Gaynell was named to the NFL All-Pro First Team in 1937 and appeared in the 1938 NFL Pro Bowl.

He posted 1,401 all-purpose yards and scored a total of 48 points on eight career touchdowns, including one fumble recovery for a score. Gaynell Tinsley finished his playing career with 1,356 yards on 93 pass receptions, scoring seven touchdowns and averaging 46.8 yards per game. Following his playing days, Gaynell returned to Baton Rouge to coach the Tigers.

In seven years at the helm of the LSU football team, Tinsley compiled a 35-34-6 record (42-44-7 total as a head coach) lead them

to the 1950 Sugar Bowl against the Oklahoma Sooners. Gaynell Tinsley was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1956.

1948 LSU Tigers

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1948 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's fifty-fifth overall and its sixteenth season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Tinsley, in his first of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a bad season at 3-7. Their SEC record was 1-5. The team finished SEC play in 11th place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1948 season.

1949 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

Led by coach Tinsley in 1949, in his second of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a better season at 8-3. Their SEC record was 4-2. The team finished SEC play in 5th place. LSU was ranked #8 in the AP poll at the completion of the 1949 season.

In the Sugar Bowl game on Jan 1, 1950 vs. #2 Oklahoma, #9 LSU was shellacked by the Sooners in Tulane Stadium, New Orleans, LA L (0-35).

1950 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

Led by coach Tinsley in 1950, in his third of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a better season at 4-5-2. Their SEC record was 2-3-2. The team finished SEC play in 9th place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1949 season.

1951 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

Led by coach Tinsley, in 1951 in his fourth of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a better season at 7-3-1. Their SEC record was

4-2-1. The team finished SEC play in 3rd place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1951 season.

1952 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

Led by coach Tinsley, in 1952 in his fifth of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had a better season at 3-7. Their SEC record was 2-5. The team finished SEC play in 8th. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1952 season.

1953 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

Led by coach Tinsley, in his sixth of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-3-3. Their SEC record was 2-3-3. The team finished SEC play in 10th. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1953 season.

1954 Football Season Gaynell Tinsley Coach # 21

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1954 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's sixty-first season overall and its twenty-second playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Tinsley, in his seventh and last of seven seasons as head coach, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-6. Their SEC record was 2-5. The team finished SEC play in 9th. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1954 season.

New Coach in Louisiana Town—Paul Dietzel

After graduating from Miami in 1948, Dietzel began his coaching career as an assistant coach. He served under such legendary coaches as Red Blaik at Army and Bear Bryant at the University of Kentucky. In 1955, Dietzel became the head coach at LSU. ... After 1958, Dietzel continued to have success at LSU.



Dietzel and Heisman winner Billy Cannon on the LSU sidelines

The following is a brief biography of one of LSU's best coaches ever, Paul Dietzel, from *Saturday Down Under*. Paul Dietzel was a college football coach and administrator for nearly 40 years, including stints as a head coach and athletic director at South Carolina and LSU. After working as an assistant at a handful of schools from 1948-1954 Dietzel accepted his first head coaching job with the LSU Tigers in 1955.

In seven seasons as head coach Dietzel was 46-24-3, including two 10-win seasons. His 1958 squad finished a perfect 11-0, winning the national championship, and his 1961 team won the SEC title with a 10-1 record and a 6-0 run through the conference. Dietzel led LSU to three bowl games, going 1-1 in two Sugar Bowl appearances in addition to winning the 1961 Orange Bowl. He was the 1958 SEC Coach of the Year. Dietzel returned to LSU as its athletic director from 1978-1982.

Dietzel left LSU after the 1961 season, and following three seasons as the head coach at Army he accepted the job at the University of South Carolina beginning with the 1966 season. In nine seasons as coach of the Gamecocks – five seasons in the ACC and four as an

independent – Dietzel recorded just three winning seasons and posted an overall record of 42-53-1.

His 1969 team went 7-4 including a perfect 6-0 in the ACC to win the conference title. That year the Gamecocks played in their only bowl game under Dietzel, losing the Orange Bowl. Dietzel also served as athletic director from 1966-1974 while coaching the football team. He passed away in 2013 at the age of 89.

1955 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22



<<< Paul Dietzel

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1955 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's sixty-second season overall and its twenty-third playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Dietzel, in his first season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 3-5-2. Their SEC record was 2-3-1.

The team finished SEC play in 9th place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1955 season.

After struggling for most of the Tinsley seasons, for LSU fans, when Paul Dietzel took over as coach the LSU record did not improve all of a sudden. Like many coaches, when instituting their own brand of football in a new school, Dietzel struggled to come up with break-even seasons after taking over the program. After breaking even in his third year, however, Dietzel made LSU into one of the best modern era football teams and he provided four solid years of great coaching before he went to Army in 1962 and finished his career with South Carolina. .

1956 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

Led by coach Dietzel in 1956, in his second season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 3-7. Their SEC record was 1-5. The team finished SEC play in 11th place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1956 season.

1957 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

Led by coach Dietzel in 1957, in his third season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-5. Their SEC record was 4-4. The team played much better than the prior three years and they finished SEC play in 7th place. LSU was unranked in the AP poll at the completion of the 1957 season.

1958 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference**
***** National Champions**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1958 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's sixty-fifth season overall and its twenty-sixth playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Dietzel, in his fourth season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great championship season at 11-0. Their SEC record was 6-0 for a first place finish. The team was one of the best LSU ever fielded. LSU was ranked #1 in the AP poll and the Coaches poll at the completion of the 1958 season.

With a 10-0 final record the team was named national champion by the Associated Press (AP) and the Coaches Poll (UPI). This was LSU's second national championship recognized by the NCAA and the college football community at large. The Tigers' first championship came when the Tigers were retro-picked as national champions in 1908 by the National Championship Foundation.

However, it is the first national championship claimed by the school.[1] It was also LSU's first undefeated and untied season since 1908, and was the last undefeated season for the school until 2019.

This year, the LSU Tigers were led by a backfield of Louisiana locals Billy Cannon, Warren Rabb, and Johnny Robinson. These three ALL-SEC players gained first-team All-SEC honors after the season. The team is perhaps most remembered for coach Paul Dietzel's unique "three-platoon system", of which the "Chinese Bandits" were a part.

Greatest Generation: 1958 team remains LSU's only undefeated national champion ... for now Jan. 12, 2020

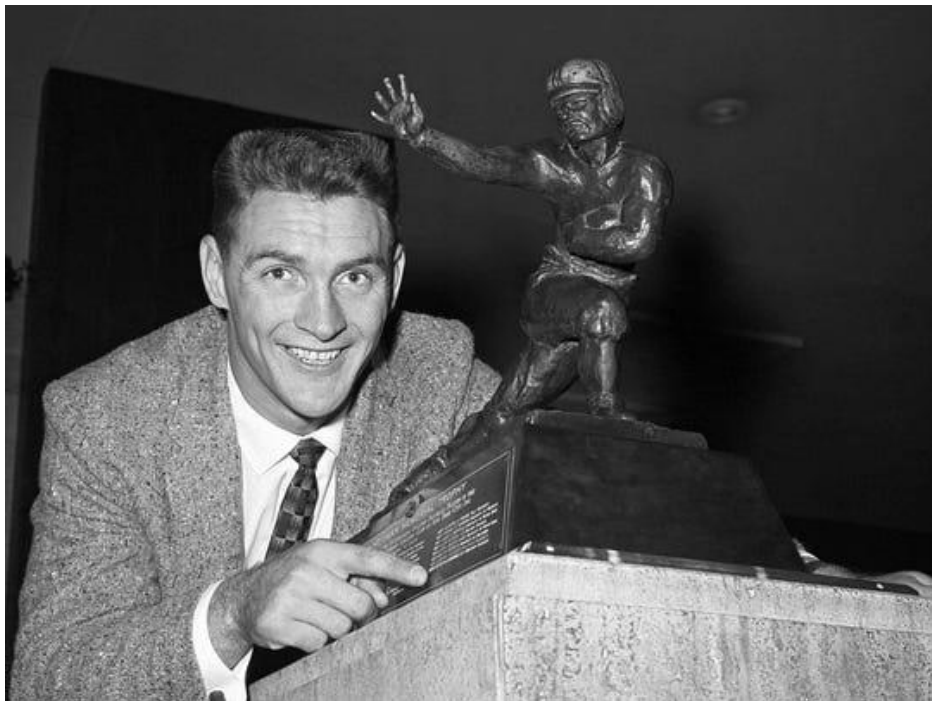
Article by Glenn Guilbeau, Lafayette Daily Published

Our thanks to Glen Guilbeau for this fine article



Billy Cannon (left) and Paul Dietzel (coach) LSU football 1958 (Photo: Times file photo)

BATON ROUGE — LSU's Greatest Generation — the surviving members of its first national championship football team in 1958 — have celebrated and treasured the national championship teams that have come after theirs in 2003-04 and 2007-08.



Billy Cannon posing with the Heisman Trophy. (Photo: Jacob Harris, AP)

Games of the 1958 Season

In the season opener at Rice Stadium, Houston, TX, on September 20, 1958, LSU snagged the first of its 11 wins in this national championship season W (26–6) before 45,000. The next week on Sep 27 at Alabama, #15 LSU defeated the Crimson Tide in Ladd Memorial Stadium, Mobile, AL for its second victory W (13–3) before 34,000. Then at home on Oct 4 #13 LSU defeated Hardin–Simmons in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (20–6) before 45,000. Then, on Oct 10 at Miami (FL), the now #11 LSU Tigers grabbed their third win against Miami in the Orange Bow, in Miami, FL W (41–0) before 40,614. On Oct 18. #9 LSU pounded Kentucky for win #5 of 5 at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (32–7) before 65,000.

On Oct 25, #3 LSU defeated Florida for its 6th win in an almost-season-spoiling nail-biter at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge..

n, LA W (10–7) before 62,000. This win lifted LSU to first place in the National Standings, a place never relinquished for the rest of the season. On Oct 31, #1 LSU defeated #6 Ole Miss at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (14–0) before 68,000.

Then, in a blowout win, on Nov 8, #1 LSU pounded Duke at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA, W 50–18 before 63,000. On Nov 15, #1 LSU saved its season by edging out #20 Mississippi State at the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson, MS W 7–6, before 26,000. Then in the regular season finale, on Nov 22 at Tulane, the undisputed #1 team in the nation let it all out against this rival at Tulane Stadium in New Orleans, LA in the annual Battle for the Rag W (62–0) before a capacity crowd of 83,221.

In the Sugar Bowl on January 1, 1959, #1 ranked LSU played the #12 team in the nation, Clemson at Tulane Stadium in New Orleans, LA. In a defensive battle LSU got the win and the National Championship W 7–0 before 80,331

Sugar Bowl Recap from January 1, 1959

This exciting recap of the game is excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.i

25th Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~ January 1, 1959

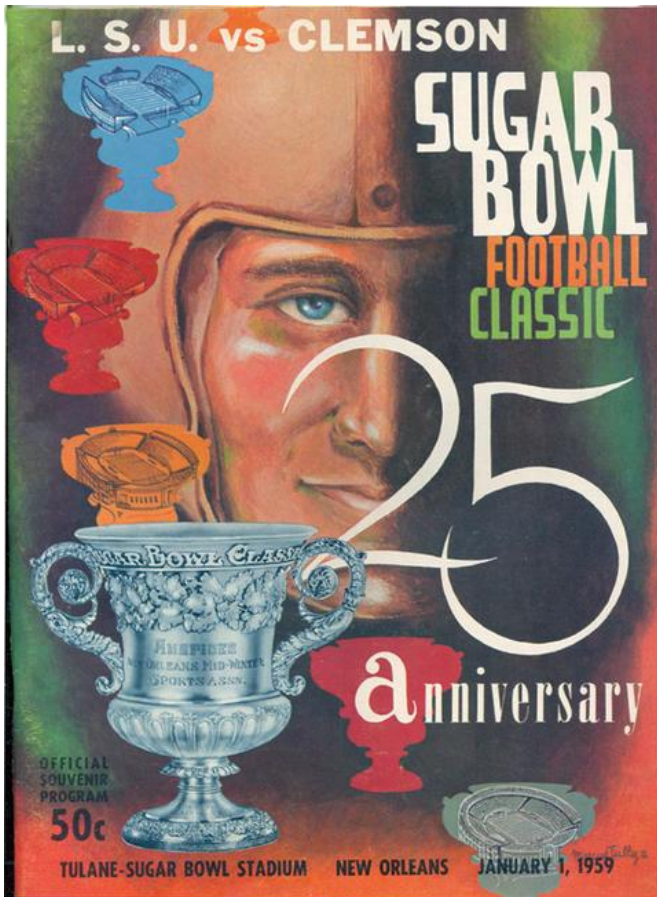
#1 LSU 7 (Final: 11-0-0)

#12 Clemson 0 (Final: 8-3-0)

Clemson head coach Frank Howard was fully prepared and motivated to knock LSU from its pedestal – as were most of the South Carolina contingent on the chilly, overcast New Year’s Day, 1959.

How LSU and Clemson Met in the 1959 Sugar Bowl

“They (the press) keep telling us we’re not worth a darn,” the tobacco-chewing coach of the 11th-ranked Clemson Tigers drawled. “I don’t know, maybe we’re not. But you keep telling a feller that long enough and it begins to get under his hide.”



It was, however, the quick-silver LSU Tigers that put in the early bid for points, driving to the Clemson 22-yard line late in the first quarter before a fumble thwarted the march. When Clemson couldn't move the ball, Charlie Horne dropped back to punt. He got a bad snap and under a strong rush by Max Fugler, hooked the ball straight up and out-of-bounds for a minus two-yard punt at the 29-yard line.

LSU inched to the 12, but came up empty again when quarterback Warren Rabb missed on four straight passes, including one on a fourth-down fake field goal.

Later in the second period, Rabb ignited another drive, running for 33 yards but breaking his hand on the tackle. "I didn't know it was broken until I came out before the half," he explained. "I think it got hit with a helmet." Rabb continued to pilot the drive, completing a 24-yard pass to end Mickey Mangham and guiding the Tigers to the 1. J. W. Brodnax crashed into the end zone but fumbled. Doug Cline recovered for the Clemson touchback. "I thought it was over," Brodnax said with insistence afterward.

LSU had muffed three scoring opportunities in the first half, and lost its quarterback in the process, changing the game plan.

“I was glad, in a way, the first half ended the way it did . . . I felt certain they thought they had us,” Dietzel said.

That’s what it seemed in the third quarter when Clemson, which posed no serious threat in the opening half, pounded its way to the LSU 20 – where George Usry was hit by Red Hendrix and fumbled.

Fighting off every Clemson thrust, George Strange recovered for LSU on the play.

Tommy Davis boomed a 52-yard punt, and when Clemson failed to move again, it appeared the two sets of Tigers were settling down into trench warfare. A reserve center, Paul Snyder, was in during this series. As it happened, when Clemson tried to punt, Snyder’s snap went awry and bounced off the leg of kicker Doug Cline. LSU tackle Duane Leopard fell on the loose ball at the Clemson 11.

On third and nine, Billy Cannon took a pitch-out, rolled to his right, and shot a pass to Mangham, who was clear in the end zone. The play was not run as diagrammed. “I didn’t throw it, the Lord did,” Cannon said later. “I looked for (halfback) Johnny Robinson, and they had him covered. . . . then I spied Mickey and let go . . . I wasn’t sure it would get to him until he grabbed it . . . It went off with a prayer.”

With time becoming critical, quarterback Harvey White started a drive from the Clemson 17 and whipped his unit to within sight of the goal line. Dietzel sent in his rested Chinese Bandits, the third-string unit of over-achievers that had sparked the Tigers throughout the season.

At the 25 the Chinese Bandits threw up one of their patented stands. Gaining one yard in three plays, White flipped a screen pass to Usry, who appeared to have running room. The left halfback started to run before he had complete possession and dropped the ball. Howard was certain Usry “would have gone all the way,” had the pass been complete. “It was the perfect play,” he added. “All the downfield blockers were in position to clear the road to the goal.”

Howard admitted his strategy didn't work out the way he figured and said, in his opinion, Strange, not Cannon, deserved the MVP award, dismissing the Tiger halfback's touchdown pass, his PAT, his 51 yards rushing out of LSU's total of 114, and being in on several key tackles. "We figured we could drive Strange back 10 yards a crack – and planned our offense to run right at him," Howard said. "But, as it turned out, he was the toughest man on the field."

Because he was, LSU finally won a Sugar Bowl game – and in the process became the first national champion to do so since 1940.

1959 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

Led by coach Dietzel in 1959, in his fifth season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-2. Their SEC record was 5-1. for a tie for a second place finish. The team was a great one—one of the best LSU teams. #3 in both the AP poll and the Coaches poll at the completion of the 1959 season.

Having won the national championship and the SEC Championship in 1958. The pundits unanimously expected the Tigers to repeat as national champions in 1959. After all, they had almost their whole team back, including the All-American halfback Billy Cannon. Cannon had come in third in the 1958 Heisman balloting and he was expected to win the Trophy this year.

The team was like a big Mack truck rolling over opponents in the first 6 games in 1959, though, even with Cannon, its offense was not as potent as 1958's. However, its defense was even tougher than 1958's squad. LSU made up for its offense by being stingy on "D," allowing only 6 points in 6 games.

Top Moment in LSU Football-The Halloween Run

THE HALLOWEEN RUN was on Oct. 31, 1959 in Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge. People and pundits say that as far as the single greatest play in LSU football history, this is it. With about 10 minutes to play and No. 3 Ole Miss leading No. 1 LSU 3-0 in an early "Game of the Century," LSU senior tailback Billy Cannon

fielded a punt at his 11-yard line. “No, no, no,” coach Paul Dietzel yelled from the sideline as his rule said not to field any punt inside your 20. That soon turned to “Go, go, go,” as Cannon broke several tackles on the way to an 89-yard touchdown and 7-3 lead. A goal-line stand by the Tigers, featuring Cannon in a dual role as linebacker, sealed the win and the Heisman Trophy for Cannon.

Here is how that went down. Once it got by its toughest test of the season it was expected that the team would win out. They defeated Ole Miss on Halloween at home in Tiger Stadium. It as a well-hyped game between #1 LSU and #3 Ole Miss. It had been touted as 1959's "Game of the Year." Ole Miss was winning throughout until the 4th quarter. There was a lot of punting on first down due to the very wet conditions on the field.

When there was just 10 minutes left in the game, Ole Miss punted and Billy Cannon found some traction after he took the punt from the LSU 11. Cannon scooted down the Ole Miss sidelines, weaving between Rebel defenders, eluding tacklers, and speeding towards the goal line for an 89 yard punt return touchdown. That was the game.

Ole Miss did not give up, however, as they began a fine drive and rammed the ball down to the two yard line with 18 seconds left. It was 4th and goal and the next play was the game decider. So, with the game in the balance, Ole Miss QB Doug Elmore took off for a TD but was stopped in his tracks at the one by Cannon and his teammates to ensure LSU's 7-3 victory.

The first blemish however, came the following week as the Tigers lost its next SEC game against Tennessee at Knoxville, in a squeaker L (13-14). With the extra point, they had a tie but Dietzel went for the win. Unfortunately, Cannon's run for a 2 pt. conversion failed. The loss not only cost LSU a shot as repeating as national champion, it also denied them the SEC championship, which went to the Georgia Bulldogs. Piling on the meaning of that run, it ended the Tigers' 19 game win streak, which was the longest in school history. The streak had begun in the last game of the 1957 season. The Tigers defeated Mississippi State and Tulane to finish the regular season 9-1. They were ranked #3 in the nation behind No. 1 Syracuse and #2 Ole Miss.

As noted previously, Billy Cannon won the Heisman Trophy by one of the widest margins in the history of the trophy balloting at the time. The Tigers were invited to play in the Sugar Bowl, and their opponent was Ole Miss, in a rematch.

At first Paul Dietzel, LSU's coach, was not anxious to replay the Rebels, but he was persuaded to do so by the athletic director, Jim Corbett. By the time January 1 came, three LSU star players were injured, including quarterback Warren Rabb, and halfbacks Wendell Harris and Johnny Robinson. The Tigers were soundly beaten by the Rebels, 21–0, and were outgained 373-74. It was a tough loss to a team that on any other day could have been beaten by the Tigers.

Following the Sugar Bowl, Cannon signed a professional contract with the Houston Oilers of the American Football League, which was scheduled to begin play in September 1960, spurning an offer from the National Football League's Los Angeles Rams. The AFL would become a force with which to be reckoned in the 1960's and there was a lot of good pro ball in 1960 with great players such as Billy Cannon on the rosters of the AFL team.

It was January 1, 1960. With far more injuries than LSU would have liked, on January 1, 1960, in a rematch, #2 Ole Miss defeated the #3 LSU Tigers at Tulane Stadium, New Orleans, LA in the Sugar Bowl. L (0-21) before 81,141.

26th Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~

January 1, 1960

#2 Ole Miss 21 (Final: 10-1-0)

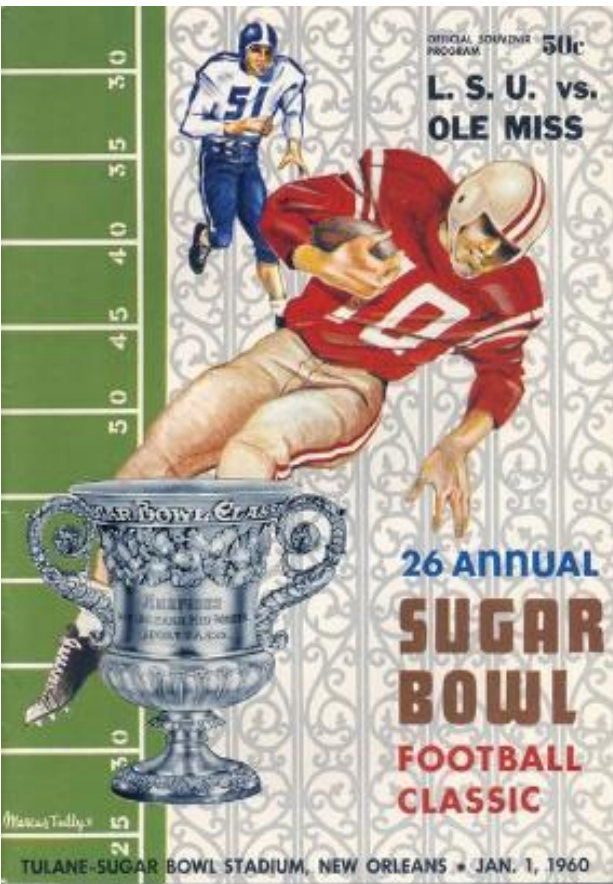
#3 LSU 0 (Final: 9-2-0)

<https://allstatesugarbowl.org/classic/1960-game-recap/>

After LSU shocked Ole Miss on Halloween Night behind star Billy Cannon's fourth-quarter super-human 89-yard punt return for a touchdown, the Ole Miss faithful had an outstanding opportunity for revenge – the Rebels and the Tigers would rematch in the 1960 Sugar Bowl.

How They Got Here

The game, of course, would be televised, the first bowl to be telecast in color from coast-to-coast, but tickets were being swapped for used cars and refrigerator repairs. Four tickets went for a 14-foot fiberglass boat; 60 tickets went for a 1952 Cadillac and 4 new tires. The sizzle of the rematch had fans steaming. It was estimated the Sugar Bowl had over a quarter of a million requests for tickets.



Ole Miss had given up only 21 points the entire season, the lowest for a major college in 20 years – since the 1939 Tennessee Vols went undefeated, untied and unscored upon. LSU gave up only 29 points. The rivals were ranked one-two nationally on defense. LSU allowed an average of 2.5 yards per play to the opposition; Ole Miss gave up an average of 2.8 yards.

Before the rematch, an Ole Miss fan said unsmilingly to a newsman, “We’d rather beat LSU than

be president.”

Coach Johnny Vaught gave his constituency a victory in a landslide. Vaught, criticized for his conservative approach in the 7-3 regular season Tiger win, gave the Rebels the green light to “go for broke.” He wasn’t going to hold anything back.

Warren Rabb, the LSU quarterback, was still hobbled from a knee strain from the Tennessee game more than a month before. Further complicating matters for LSU was halfback Johnny Robinson, who started with a protective covering over his fractured hand. He would not carry a single time in the Sugar Bowl, nor did another halfback, Wendell Harris, whose injuries kept him completely sidelined. It all meant the Ole Miss defense could zero in on LSU's only threat, Billy Cannon.



“We did something I don’t think we had ever done before,” said Rebel safety Billy Brewer. “We went to a man defense in the secondary because we knew LSU wouldn’t be a passing threat. My assignment was to stay with Cannon, go everywhere he went.”

Murky, damp weather made the field muddy in spots, and a cold wind lowered the temperature to 49 degrees at kickoff, opening a half in which the seven-point favorite Rebels put constant pressure on the Tigers, who were saved by an

interception at the LSU 5, a missed field goal from the 18, and at the 11 where the Tiger defense held.

Despite its problems, LSU kept the Rebels even on the scoreboard. Then, with 38 seconds left and Mississippi on its 42, the Tigers were assessed a 15-yard personal foul penalty. Ole Miss’ Jake Gibbs, who

led the SEC in total offense, received instructions from the bench. He took the snap, started to roll out, and pulled up behind tackle. Delaying for an instant while Ole Miss' other receivers flared to different areas, taking the deep defenders with them, James "Cowboy" Woodruff raced downfield behind end Larry Grantham and cut slightly to the center where Gibbs' pass was arching down.

No Tiger was within 15 yards of the receiver.

"I don't think there is any question that the touchdown pass just before the end of the half broke our backs," Paul Dietzel said. "It might have been a different game if we had gone into halftime 0-0."

Grantham caught an 18-yard touchdown pass from Bobby Franklin in the third quarter, and then Franklin threw a nine-yard fourth-period TD pass to George Blair. Those touchdowns were a striking illustration of just how dominant Ole Miss was: The touchdown pass just before halftime was the first passing score against LSU in 14 games, and against the Rebels the Tigers yielded three in one afternoon.

Ole Miss held an awesome edge in statistics, 363 yards to 74, the lowest offensive total in Sugar Bowl annuals; the Tigers gained 49 yards rushing but lost 64 for a net gain of minus 15 yards. The longest Tiger gain of the day was eight yards by Darryl Jenkins of the Chinese Bandits – the defensive unit. It had taken LSU more than 25 minutes to get its initial first down – and that was the only one the Tigers were credited with in the first half. Cannon made eight yards in six carries.

Vaught was magnanimous in victory, pointing out the injuries that decimated the Tiger team that beat the Rebels in the regular season. "Don't forget LSU lost three pretty good football players," he said. "Rabb wasn't at his best; Robinson was of little use offensively and Harris didn't dress out. Those are three mighty fine football players."

Most Ole Miss people didn't want to hear anything that might take the edge off their win.

In the satisfied Rebel locker room, Woodruff sighed, “I always thought we had a better one (team), and I kind of feel we proved it today.”

Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

1960 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 20

1960 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

Led by coach Dietzel, in his sixth season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a respectable season at 5-4-1. Their first three losses were by a total of 11 points. Their SEC record was 2-3-1 brought the Tigers an eighth place finish. The team was a good one but not one of Dietzel’s best LSU teams. After burning up College football for two years, this year’s LSU team was unranked nationally. It was a nice year off but the Tigers would be back in 1961 in Coach Dietzel’s final year with a vengeance. Watch out SEC in 1961!

1961 Football Season Paul Dietzel Coach # 22

***** Tie for 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1961 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's sixty-eighth season overall and its twenty-ninth playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Dietzel, in his seventh and last season of seven as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 10-0-1. Their SEC record was 6-0. brought the Tigers a tie with Alabama for First place in the SEC and a #3 finish in the national coach’s poll. The team was a great one. It was a hair away from being as good as Dietzel’s best team from 1959. They were nationally ranked # 3 & # 4 in the polls.

After the Tigers' Orange Bowl victory vs. Colorado, Paul Dietzel departed to take the head coaching position at Army.

After the season Paul Dietzel left LSU for Army

Paul Dietzel coached LSU from 1955 until 1961, leaving for Army and then South Carolina. He also broadcast Southern Conference football games and helped create Samford University's athletic department before returning to LSU as its athletic director from 1978 until 1982.

When he passed away at 89 years of age, Dietzel was the last living member of the staff that guided LSU to an undefeated season and national championship in 1958. The Tigers beat Clemson in the 1959 Sugar Bowl.

Dietzel's memoir "Call Me Coach: A Life in College Football" was published in 2008 by Louisiana State University Press.

"Coach Dietzel was a man of great honor and integrity. He was the perfect role model for young people, and I will always cherish the moments that I was able to spend with him," LSU vice chancellor and athletics director Joe Alleva said in a statement from LSU.

"Looking back at what he accomplished here at LSU, he was way ahead of his time as a football coach. His 1958 national championship set LSU on a path of being what it is today."

Obituary note from Coach Les Miles:

Very sad to hear of passing of Paul Dietzel...was a key part of this LSU program...From one coach to another you will be missed. LM

South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier met Dietzel when Dietzel returned to South Carolina last year for a football function.

"First order of business is to say coach Dietzel was a heck of a guy. One of the best to coach college football I guess," Spurrier said Tuesday.

Dietzel was born Sept. 5, 1924, in Fremont, Ohio. The family moved to Mansfield, in northwest Louisiana, where he played football, basketball and track in high school.

He was a freshman engineering student at Duke when he got a draft notice and left school to enlist in the Army Air Corps, beginning pilot training in January 1944 on a Stearman biplane and that fall on a B-24 bomber. His bomber was among 300 that firebombed Tokyo in May 1945, according to his memoir.

After the war, he enrolled as a pre-med major in Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he played under Sid Gillman, winning first-team All-American honors in 1947 from Williamson National Rating System Inc.

He worked as an assistant for Gillman at Miami, West Point and the University of Cincinnati, becoming plebe coach at West Point instead of enrolling in medical school at Columbia University. At Cincinnati, he named his defense the "Chinese Bandits" -- a name that later became famous at LSU -- after bad guys in the comic strip "Terry and the Pirates."

He left Cincinnati in 1951 for Kentucky, as Bear Bryant's offensive line coach.

After LSU fired Gus Tinsley, Dietzel got a three-year contract for \$13,000 a year. He was 29 and the youngest member of the LSU staff, according to the university's obituary.

His first three seasons the Tigers were 3-5-2, 3-7 and 5-5. But the players he signed as freshmen in 1956 included Billy Cannon. Life would change for Dietzel and LSU.

The undefeated season in 1958 ended 62-0 at Tulane before 83,221 people, then an SEC record. LSU then beat Clemson 7-0 at Tulane Stadium in the Sugar Bowl.

Orange Bowl LSU made a post season bowl, and in the Orange Bowl on January 1, 1962 at 12:30 pm, the #4 LSU Tigers took on the #7 Colorado Buffaloes and prevailed at the Orange Bowl in Miami, FL W (25–7).

The 1962 Orange Bowl Game LSU (25) v Colorado (7)

The game time temperature was 67° with 90% relative humidity. How would the teams hold up in the balmy conditions?

Two teams from far away failed to fill the warmth of the Orange Bowl. Attendance was announced as 68,150. Spectators needed raincoats and umbrellas as the game was played in a steady drizzle - supposedly a first for an Orange Bowl game.

LSU won the toss and elected to receive. The First Quarter choice to receive proved very good for the Tigers as they drove to the first score of the game. QB Jimmy Field skirted RE for 10y on 3rd-and-6 to keep the drive alive. Two plays later, Field threw his first pass, completing to Jerry Stovall for 7yds into Colorado territory at the 46. On 3rd-and-1, Stovall got just enough at RG to move the chains.

After Wendell Harris's zero gain, Field threw to him. Harris made a great reception for 14yds and another first down at the 30. Despite being hit by LB Loren Schweninger, the QB, a senior from Baton Rouge reached back and grabbed the ball with one hand. Stovall got 3 before FB Earl Gros smashed through LG for a first down on the 17. A delay of game was next and that proved too much to overcome. When Field's third-down pass to E Jack Gates was broken up in the corner of the endzone, Harris booted a 30y FG. LSU 3 Colorado 0 (6:59 1Q)

Buffalo's first possession started badly when Bill Harris fumbled the kick-off on the 3 and had to fall on it at the 9. When two plunges gained only 3, Coach Grandelius lived up to his pledge "we will never kick on third down" with disastrous results. QB Gale Weidner's pass was almost intercepted by E Bob Flurry. So Chuck McBride dropped back to punt. He juggled the snap, giving Gary

Kinchen time to block the kick through the end zone. LSU 5
Colorado 0 (5:01 1Q)

In 2Q play. Blair dropped Weidner's 2nd-down pass. Then, Harris gained 2. McBride got off the punt this time, LSU's Harris signaled for a fair catch at the CU 47 and reeled it in.

Two plays later Buffalo took the lead. Field rolled right and, under a heavy rush, threw off balance. LB Schweningen picked off the wobbly toss and sped untouched down the sidelines 50 yds to pay dirt. Jerry Hillebrand added the PAT. Colorado 7 LSU 5 (12:54)

Dietzel sent in the Go Team, and they quickly regained the lead, driving 82yds in eight plays. Cranford later made one of his patented leaps over the line for the TD. The Tigers went for two, but Amedee's pass to TE Billy Truax was broken up. LSU 11 Colorado 7 (8:57 2Q) The White team drove from the 20 to the 45 to run out the clock.

The Buffaloes needed to take the kickoff after kickoff, and using any adjustments made at halftime, get their offense clicking. Starting from the 20, Weidner threw two passes. The first was broken up by Harris, and Hillebrand dropped the second. Then McBride barely got off a punt that traveled only 18y to the CU 43.

From there, LSU moved smartly to another TD. On 2nd down, Gros dragged defenders for 18y to the 22. Three plays later, facing 3rd-and-9, Field rolled right to the 9. Then he kept the ball again over LT into the EZ. Harris booted the extra point. LSU 18 Colorado 7 (10:34 3Q)

The only way Colorado could get back in the game was to get turnovers. And they got one when Claude Crabb snagged Amedee's long pass at the CU 40. But they couldn't capitalize. On 4th and less than a yard, Grandelius gave the signal to go for it. But Woods fumbled, and Sammy Odom recovered for LSU at the CU 49.

Amedee's completions to Campbell for 18 and Wilkins for 8 sparked a Go Team drive that reached the 19. But a holding penalty (15y in those days) forced the Tigers to go to the air. Three straight

incompletions led to a beautiful Stovall's punt that went out of bounds on the 5.

LB Roy Winston dumped Mavity for a 3yd loss. Then Weidner found RB Ed Coleman for 7. Stovall made a fine recovery to knock down the 3rd down long pass to bring McBride back for his second punt from the end zone in the game. It was hard to imagine it could be any worse than the first one, which led to a safety, but it was. Gene Sykes blocked the kick and fell on the ball in the EZ.
LSU 25 Colorado 7 (0:26 3Q)

Harris's PAT gave him 99 points for the season, one more than Steve Van Buren scored in 1943 in the only other season when the Tigers went to the Orange Bowl.

Coach Dietzel praised Sykes after the game: "Gene Sykes has been playing great football for us. He weighs only 183 pounds, but he's been the best end we've had since I've been here."

In the last quarter, with the game no longer in doubt, Weidner had no choice but to pass. But he overthrew Mavity, then threw into Wendell Harris's area twice for incompletions. The Tigers gave the ball right back, Woods recovering Gros' fumble at the CU 42.

Weidner took advantage of the second chance to penetrate the LSU 35 for the first time all day. With plenty of time to throw, he sent Hillebrand across the middle for receptions of 13, then 12. After running a draw to slow the rush, Gale threw twice to E John Meadows cutting across the middle to put the ball on the 11. But his next two passes were overthrown. Going for it on 4th down, Weidner went to his best receiver, Hillebrand, but Field broke it up.

FINAL SCORE: LSU 25 COLORADO 7

Final statistics

First downs: LSU 19 Colorado 7

Rushing: LSU 206 Colorado 24

Passing: LSU 8-18-3/109 Colorado 12-39-0/105

Fumbles lost: LSU 1 Colorado 1

Penalties: LSU 7-65 Colorado 5-35

Punting average: LSU 4-33.8 Colorado 8-22.1

Postgame

LSU Chatter

Dietzel: "I didn't think they could run on us, but they could throw the ball really well. We didn't lay our hands on Weidner all day. He is a real good passer and had fine protection. I don't believe we were nearly as sharp today as we were during the season. We weren't spectac-ular ... but we got the job done. And the boys really enjoyed themselves on the trip. A loss would have spoiled the fun."

On the topic on everyone's mind: "Concerning my moving to Army, I put it out of my mind until the Orange Bowl game was over. I'll now give it my full consideration. ... I have no further comment."

Colorado chatter

Grandelius: "We picked the wrong day to make all our mistakes. LSU is a fine football team. I can't take anything away from them. They did a fine job on that rollout pass and run. Our LBs were just not quick enough to stop them. ... We didn't have bad protection on our punts. The LSU linemen were just getting in there. We hadn't come close to having a punt blocked all season. ... Their three teams didn't wear us down. We just made too many mistakes. We didn't play as good football as we had during the year."

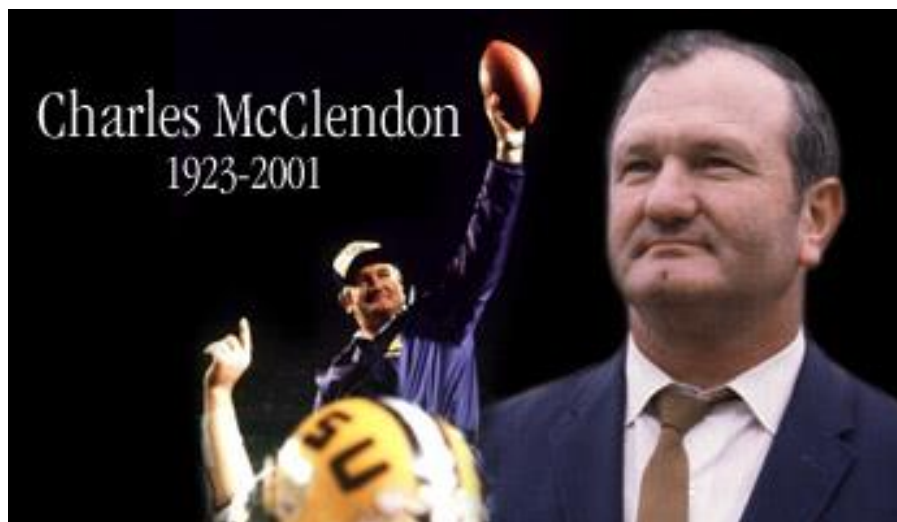
Follow-up

Neither head coach returned for the 1962 season.

Chapter 9 LSU Football – Coach Charles McClendon 1962-1979

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1962	Charles McClendon	9–1–1	5–1, 3rd W Cotton
1963	Charles McClendon	7–4	4–2, 5th L Bluebonnet
1964	Charles McClendon	8–2–1	4–2–1, 5th W Sugar
1965	Charles McClendon	8–3	3–3, 6th W Cotton
1966	Charles McClendon	5–4–1	3–3, 6 th
1967	Charles McClendon	7–3–1	3–2–1, 6th W Sugar
1968	Charles McClendon	8–3	4–2, T–3rd W Peach
1969	Charles McClendon	9–1	4–1, 2 nd
1970	Charles McClendon	9–3	5–0, 1st L Orange
1971	Charles McClendon	9–3	3–2, 6th W Sun
1972	Charles McClendon	9–2–1	4–1–1, 3 rd L Astro-Bluebonnet
1973	Charles McClendon	9–3	5–1, 2nd L Orange
1974	Charles McClendon	5–5–1	2–4, 9 th
1975	Charles McClendon	5–6	2–4, T–6 th
1976	Charles McClendon	7–3–1	3–3, 7 th
1977	Charles McClendon	8–4	4–2, T–3rd L Sun
1978	Charles McClendon	8–4	3–3, T–4th L Liberty
1979	Charles McClendon	7–5	4–2, T–3 rd W Tangerine



1962 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23



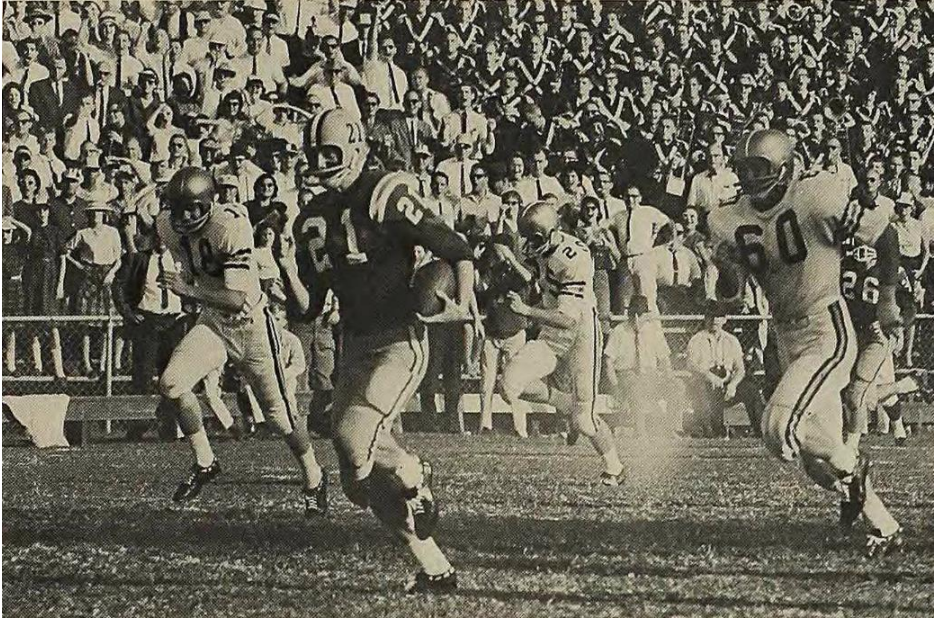
Charles also known as “Cholly Mac” McClendon spent his entire coaching career in the SEC, most notably in 18 seasons as the head coach of the LSU Tigers from 1962-1979. He had been assistant coach from 1953 to 1961. Before that, he tried his luck with the Vanderbilt Commodores as assistant coach in 1952. His record was 137-59-7 in 203 career games as the head coach at LSU and led the Tigers to the 1970 SEC championship with a perfect 5-0 record in the conference.

He was named SEC Coach of the Year in 1969 and 1970 and was 7-6 all-time in bowl games. McLendon had 16 winning seasons and just one losing season while at LSU, and he had nine teams finish a season ranked in the top-20 of the final Associated Press poll.

Cholly was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1986. McClendon remains the longest tenured head coach in program history, and holds the LSU records for most wins by a head coach, most bowl appearances and most bowl wins. McLendon also served as an assistant coach at Vanderbilt and LSU before assuming the head coaching job with the Tigers. He passed away in 2001 at the age of 78.

LSU in 1962

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1962 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's sixty-ninth season overall and its thirtieth playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).



1962 LSU Fighting Tigers Football Play

Led by coach McClendon, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his first of eighteen as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-1-1. Their SEC record was 5-1. This brought the Tigers a third place Conference finish. Tied with Alabama for First place in the SEC and a #7 finish in the national coach's poll. It was a great start of eighteen fine years for Coach McClendon—one of LSU's finest coaches ever.

After a fine season, the Tigers' January 1963 Cotton Bowl victory over Texas made it a great start in the 1962 season for Coach McClendon. It was a fine follow-up to coach Dietzel's last season at 10-1.

Cotton Bowl. On January 1, 1963, at the Cotton Bowl Stadium in Texas playing in the Cotton Bowl Classic, #7 LSU defeated #4 Texas W (13-0)

From the archives:

For the first time in 39 years, Texas went through its regular-season campaign unbeaten. At 9-0-1, the Longhorns' only blemish was a 14-14 tie with Rice in late October. Again, Texas found itself back in the Cotton Bowl, and for the second year in a row, the Longhorns would face an opponent from the Southeastern Conference. For LSU, it had been 16 years since its last appearance in the Classic, and it wasn't a memorable experience, battling Arkansas to a 0-0 tie.

But this time around, the goose egg ended up on only one side of the scoreboard thanks to a pair of Tiger quarterbacks named Lynn Amedee and Jimmy Field. LSU abandoned its conservative "three yards and a cloud of dust" offensive philosophy for a high flying aerial assault on the Texas defense.

The Tigers had completed only 40 passes during the entire season. This was another day, however, as LSU completed 13 of 21 pass attempts, two shy of the record 15 completions set the previous year by 'Ole Miss. The Tigers' big offensive gun was All America halfback Jerry Stovall, and for Texas, Ray Poage, Tommy Ford, and Jerry Cook were the chief offensive threats. Johnny Treadwell was the Longhorns' defensive leader while LSU relied on its famed "Chinese Bandits."

Neither team could generate a sustained drive in the first quarter of play, but late in the second period, with Amedee and Field alternating at quarterback, the Tigers began to move, driving from their 20 to the Texas five-yard line. LSU had used all of its time outs, and with the clock rolling, the Tigers had no choice on third down but to go for three. Field dashed in with the kicking tee and Amedee booted home a 23- yarder with just eight seconds left. This was the Classic's first field goal since the 1942 game and was only the fourth in its 27-year history.

GAME STATISTICS			
TEAM STATS	LSU	Texas	
First Downs	17	9	
Rushing	8	4	
Passing	8	5	
Penalty	1	0	
Rushes-Net Yards	58-126	28-80	
Net Yards Passing	133	92	
Passes	13-21-0	8-22-3	
Total Plays	79	50	
Total Net Yards	259	172	
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-2	
Penalties-Yards	1-15	4-44	
Punts-Average	9-41.8	8-46.8	
<hr/>			
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS			
PUNTING			
LSU - Stovall 9-41.8.			
Texas - Koy 8-46.8.			
			RUSHING
			LSU - Stovall 12-36, LeBlanc 6-23, Campbell 9-20, Ward 6-15, Cranford 8-10, Amedee 2-10, Wilkins 5-8, Robinson 2-4, Field 8-0.
			Texas - Cook 10-39, Wade 3-17, Ford 5-15, Culpepper 1-4, Koy 4-4, Genung 5-1.
			<hr/>
			PASSING
			LSU - Amedee 9-13-0, 94 yards; Field 4-8-0, 39 yards.
			Texas - Genung 5-9-0, 59 yards; Wade 3-13-3, 33 yards.
			<hr/>
			RECEIVING
			LSU - Truax 3-49, Cranford 2-16, Stovall 2-14, Wilkins 2-9, Neumann 1-16, Sykes 1-11, LeBlanc 1-4, Gates 1-14.
			Texas - Koy 2-15, Green 1-18, Dixon 1-17, Talbert 1-15, Sands 1-8, House 1-13, Ford 1-6.

Texas jumped into the frying pan to begin the second half, fumbling the kickoff at the 37. In two minutes, LSU had increased its lead to 10-0. Facing third and nine from the Texas 22, Field dropped back to pass and looked hopelessly trapped by the Longhorn pass rush. Suddenly, Field saw daylight, cutback behind the Texas pursuit and raced 22 yards for his first touchdown of the year. Amedee recorded his second field goal late in the game, connecting on a 37-yarder with 4:58 left to shutout the Horns, 13-0

1963 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1963, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his second of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 7-4. Their SEC record was 4-2. This brought the Tigers a fifth place SEC finish. The Tigers were unranked in the national coach's poll.

After an OK season, the Tigers' January 1964 BlueBonnet Bowl Loss was understandable.

BlueBonnet Bowl: The game was played on December 21, 1963, the Baylor Bears edged out the LSU Tigers in the Bluebonnet Bowl played at Rice Stadium, Houston, TX L (7-14)

7



Baylor and LSU seemed equally matched and so it portended to be a well-matched game. It was. Baylor had a 7–3 overall record and 6-1 conference record. They were led by head coach John Bridgers. LSU likewise had a 7-3 record and they were 4-2 in the SEC Conference. The Tigers were led by head coach Charles McClendon. Baylor won the game, 14–7.

1964 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1964, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his third of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 8-2-1. Their SEC record was 4-2-1. This brought the Tigers a fifth place SEC finish. The Tigers were unranked in the national coach's poll.

The 1965 Sugar Bowl v Syracuse

Bowl games in the olden days of the 50's and 60's were like championship games.

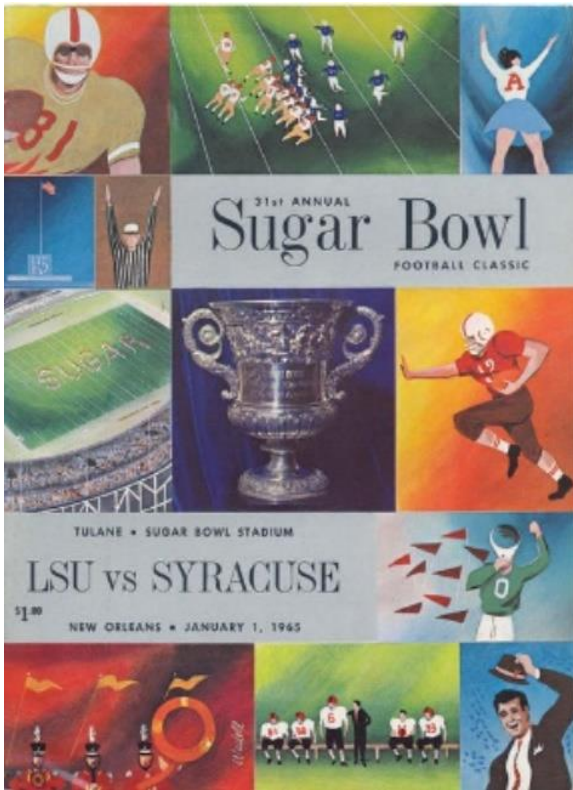
LSU was invited to the Sugar Bowl stadium on January 1, 1965 for the second time this season. The opponent was Syracuse. The Tigers edged out the Orangemen in a close match at Tulane Stadium in New Orleans, LA W (13–10)

Game recap:

#7 LSU 13 (Final: 8-2-1)
Syracuse 10 (Final: 7-4-0)

How LSU and Syracuse Met in the 1965 Sugar Bowl

Odd how things come around. Doug Moreau vividly remembers as a sports-minded kid in Baton Rouge hearing on the radio about the segregated seating issue before the 1955 Sugar Bowl, and about the flap over Bobby Grier, the first African-American to play in the Sugar Bowl a year later.



The thought that raced through Moreau's 10-year-old mind was: "That sounds silly."

To add to the circumstance a decade later, the only football Moreau ever kicked before he entered LSU was over a telephone line hanging across his backyard. When an assistant coach asked member of the Tiger freshman team who wanted to kick, though, Moreau raised his hand.

"There just wasn't any high priority on kickers (then)," Moreau said of the offensive weapon

that was little more than an afterthought in those days.

It was LSU's good fortune that Moreau wanted to kick. He kicked a then-NCAA record 13 field goals in 1964, and combined with his pass-receiving duties, scored 73 of the Bengals' 115 total in the regular season, fully 63 percent of the LSU total.

Clearly, at crunch time, LSU looked to the junior Moreau – bringing him to this point, in a socially-significant Sugar Bowl: lining up a 28-yard attempt against Syracuse with 3:48 to play, with victory, defeat, or most likely a frustrating tie, depending on his left-footed kicking accuracy.

Orangemen running backs Floyd Little and Jim Nance were the first African-Americans to appear on Sugar Bowl rosters since Grier of Pittsburgh in 1956, and were by far the most nationally known figures in the game, having scored 25 touchdowns between them, 14

more than LSU scored as a team in that era when defenses dominated the sport.

But Moreau turned out to be the central figure of the game – just as he was for LSU’s season as a whole.

Not many would actually see it. If East versus SEC was the perfect vehicle for ending the segregation era, it was not a good way to fill the stadium. A crowd of 60,000, the smallest for a Sugar Bowl since 1939, sat in the stands. The teams’ records and the smallest ticket sale (1,300 by Syracuse), more than any political consideration, kept the crowd down.

But what a game those that came witnessed! It went back-and-forth, and the only kind of scoring it lacked was forfeiture.

There were field goals, a safety, touchdowns coming on a blocked punt and a long pass, and a two-point conversion. The Tigers, 5 ½ point favorites, down 10-2 in this topsy-turvy game at intermission, knew they were in for battle to the wire.

On the first possession of the second half, at the Tiger 43, substitute LSU quarterback Billy Ezell stepped into the huddle and called “I-26-wide-and-go.” The play would send Moreau out as a lone receiver. He would run downfield, fake a cut to the sideline and then head for the end zone. In the first quarter Moreau had cleanly beaten defensive back Will Hunter by 15 yards on the same play, but Ezell overthrew him. This time Ezell pumped once and lofted the ball to Moreau at the 25. Moreau said of the second-and-16 play, “When I broke straight, there was the ball.” The touchdown covered 57 yards.

A two-point conversion pulled LSU even at 10.

That’s where things stood until the game moved into the latter stages of the fourth quarter when starting quarterback Pat Screen eased the Tigers to the 8. Coach Charlie McClendon called on Moreau to try to nail his 14th field goal of the season.

“The kick felt good when it left my shoe,” Moreau said of the field goal, “then, before I looked up, Billy (Ezell, the holder) screamed, ‘It’s good!’”

In a game eerily similar to LSU's season as an entity, Moreau not only was responsible for the winning play, but scored nine of the Tigers' 13 points.

Jim Nance gained 70 yards and Little gained 48 in something of a collapse of the Syracuse offense. Charlie McClendon became the first former Sugar Bowl player to come back and coach a team to a Sugar Bowl victory.

It was the city of New Orleans that was the big winner, though. Syracuse was happy with its treatment. Nance exuded without solicitation, "I'm going to tell everyone about the splendid treatment we received down there."

The game marked the end of an era in football, too. The following year Charlie Gogolak of Princeton broke Moreau's record with 16 field goals, and from then on the field goal became an indispensable part of virtually every offense.

Recap excerpted from the book "Sugar Bowl Classic: A History" by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune

1965 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1965, the year I graduated from Meyers High School in WB PA, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his fourth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 8-3. Their SEC record was 3-3. This brought the Tigers a sixth place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #8 in the AP and #14 in the coach's poll.

The 1966 Cotton Bowl

January 1, 1966 vs. No. 2 Arkansas. The Cotton Bowl:

In the Cotton Bowl Classic at Cotton Bowl Stadium in Dallas, TX, LSU defeated #2 Arkansas W (14-7)

For the second time in four years, the Bengal Tigers presented coach Charles McClendon with a perfect Cotton Bowl game. Unranked LSU (7-3-0) sprang one of the Classic's biggest upsets, downing No. 2 Arkansas, 14-7, and ended college football's longest winning streak at 22. The Hogs (10-0-0) last defeat came by the same score, on the same Cotton Bowl turf, to SMU in the ninth game of 1963. That also was the last time the Hogs had been blanked in the final two quarters until the Bengals turned the trick today.

Arkansas had not beaten LSU since 1929, and in the 1947 Classic the two teams battled to a scoreless tie. But, things were different now. The Razorbacks were the heavy favorites, and the unexpected happened. Prone to turnovers and injuries throughout the season, LSU did not yield a fumble or an interception to the Hogs while quarterback Pat Screen handled the mixture of short passing and the inside power game to perfection.

But it didn't start out that way. On its second possession, Arkansas rolled 87 yards on 11 brilliantly executed plays en-route to its only score. Harry Jones dazzled the Tigers with power sweeps and Bobby Burnett pounded the middle. Quarterback Jon Brittenum was in total control, and whipped a 19-yard aerial to Bobby Crockett for the touchdown. The drive consumed just 1:27 and the Razorbacks were on the scoreboard, 7-0.

The Tigers roared back two possessions later for an 80 yard march of their own. Tailbacks Jim Dousay and Joe Labruzzo pounded the middle of the Hogs' defense repeatedly with short but effective gains that led to the Arkansas end zone. The LSU drive consisted of 16 plays, and by the time Labruzzo carried over from the three, a full 8:17 had elapsed. Doug Moreau's kick tied it at 7-7. Three plays after the LSU touchdown, Brittenum was forced to the sideline with a shoulder injury. His replacement, Ronny South, fumbled on the very next play at the Arkansas 34. LSU seized the momentum. Labruzzo again hammered for short yardage, carrying on five consecutive plays, the last one took him over for the score with 18 seconds left in the half and LSU led for the first time.

Brittenum returned to duty for the Hogs in the third quarter and twice moved Arkansas inside LSU territory, only to come up empty each time. LSU couldn't move the ball at all and failed to gain a first down the entire period. However, as the fourth quarter rolled around, momentum had shifted again. LSU began a march that would take them all the way to the Arkansas two before the Hog defense forced the Tigers to go for three. But, the kick sailed wide and the Hogs had escaped.

Twice in the closing minutes, Brittenum took his Hogs on long drives, only to be intercepted at the LSU 20 to kill the first one, and time simply ran out on them at the end with the ball on the Tiger 24. LSU had done it again. Three years before, they surprised mighty Texas, 13-0. Now the victim was Arkansas, 14-7.

1966 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1966, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his fifth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 5-4-1. Their SEC record was 3-3. This brought the Tigers a sixth place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #8 in the AP and #14 in the coach's poll.

LSU was not invited to any postseason bowl game.

1967 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1967, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his sixth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 7-3-1. Their SEC record was 3-2-1. This brought the Tigers a sixth place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #8 in the AP and #14 in the coach's poll.

For Coach McClendon, this was the second time in three seasons that the team was extended a bid to a New Year's Day bowl game despite three losses. And as they did in the 1966 Cotton Bowl, the Tigers toppled an undefeated team in the 1968 Sugar Bowl, taking out Wyoming 20-13. It was LSU's last appearance in the Sugar Bowl for 17 years.

1967 Sugar Bowl

LSU kept its positive record in post season bowl games by defeating #6 Wyoming on January 1, 1968 at 12:30 PM, Tulane Stadium in New Orleans, LA winning the Sugar Bowl W (20–13)

LSU 20 (Final: 7-3-1)

#6 Wyoming 13 (Final: 10-1-0)

How LSU and Wyoming Met in the 1968 Sugar Bowl

This was one of those Games of My Life – an unexpected performance by an unexpected player at an unexpected time, and one never equaled again.

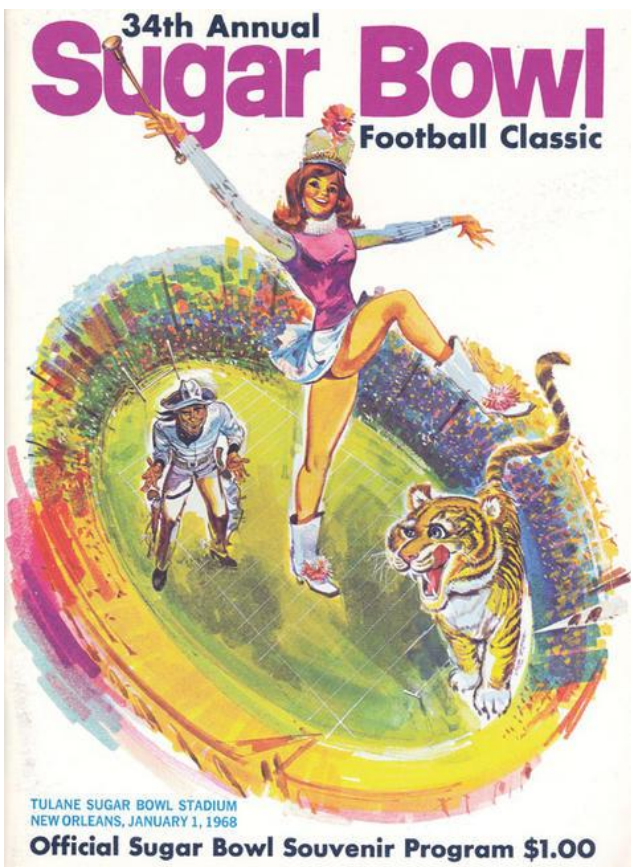
Nobody knew much about third-string sophomore tailback Glenn Smith, except high school aficionados in New Orleans who remembered him from prep powerhouse Holy Cross.

Wyoming coach Lloyd Eaton was much more concerned about the cold, damp and soggy Sugar Bowl turf under drizzly skies. Eaton said on New Year's Eve, "I believe the weather could be an important factor. The team with the best runners and pass receivers, and the heaviest linemen, would have the advantage on a wet field." Everyone agreed that on all accounts those conditions favored LSU. "We were limited in that we had a sparse club," said Eaton, whose 47-man club was a six-point underdog. "Charlie McClendon would use 55-60 players routinely. We just didn't have that kind of depth, and I knew by the fourth quarter our boys would be leg weary."

Obviously, the best thing Eaton could hope for was to be far enough ahead after three quarters to withstand a fourth-quarter assault.

It very nearly worked out that way. LSU, which hadn't played particularly well in any of its previous seven Sugar Bowl appearances, showed signs of that malaise again.

Dominating the first half, the seemingly much more animated Cowboys finally got points when Jim Kiick went over on the first



play of the second quarter. Jerry DePoyster added to the lead with a 24-yard field goal with 2:58 remaining in the half, then got another one – a Sugar Bowl record 49-yarder – with one second to go.

Eaton's troops not only had a 13-0 lead, but had 11 first downs to LSU's 1. The Cowboys had outrushed the Tigers 130-33, and outgained LSU in passing yardage 85-5.

“We were very worried by the half,”

said Tiger center Barry Wilson, who had been a high school teammate of Smith. “The field turned up a little sloppy, and it upset our plans to block Wyoming low. Because we weren't able to get solid footing, they merely pushed us off and got to the ball-carrier. They were also able to put a lot of pressure on (quarterback) Nelson (Stokley). At halftime we decided to take advantage of their pursuit by starting to the outside and then running back against the grain.”

Also, after DePoyster barely missed a 46-yard field goal, Smith was inserted into the lineup.

Flying out of the backfield, Smith took a pass over his shoulder and slogged his way down the middle to the 26 for a 39-yard gain – LSU's first real sign of life in the game. Smith went in from the 1, and Roy Hurd's PAT cut the margin to 13-7.

With Stokley throwing medium passes and running the option, and Smith constantly picking his holes and cutting back, the Tigers threatened again. “Glenn was great at (running to daylight),” Wilson said. Tommy Morel out-jumped two defenders for an eight-yard touchdown, but Hurd missed the PAT, leaving the score tied with 11:39 to play. Following an interception, Stockley rolled out from the Cowboy 14, spotted a wide-open Morel at the 1 and threw for LSU’s go-ahead points.

With 1:37 left, Wyoming made for a wild finish. From his 18, Paul Toscano dropped and threw to a more than adequately covered George Anderson. One of three Tigers converging on the ball reached up and tipped it – right into the tight end’s hands. Anderson was suddenly racing, alone, for points. “When I saw Anderson take off with the football,” said cornerback Barton Frye, “I started running for my life. I don’t know if I can run that fast again.” He caught and brought down Anderson 54 yards downfield, at the LSU 18.

It happened again. With one second left, Gene Huey cut across the secondary from left to right and Toscano went to him at the 5. He was immediately nailed by defensive back Gerry Kent.

“I would have given half a year’s salary for 10 more seconds,” moaned Eaton. “Just 10 more seconds.”

Depth, the very factor Eaton most feared, was the difference. Smith, with little more than a quarter’s playing time, finished with 74 yards rushing and caught one pass for 39 yards to be named the game’s MVP.

Smith had a different perspective on the biggest Sugar Bowl comeback since Tulane fell behind Temple 14-0 in 1935. “If Wyoming had beaten us,” Smith who never did start a game at LSU, said, “I wouldn’t have been able to go home.”

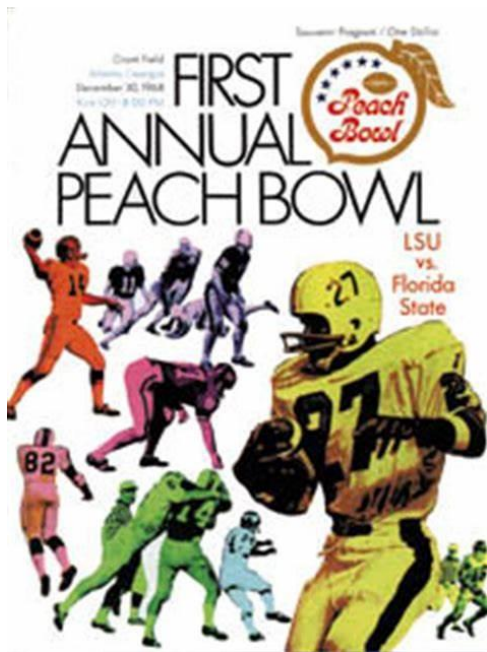
Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

1968 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1968, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his seventh of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 8-3. Their SEC record was 4-2. This brought the Tigers a fourth place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #19 in the AP..

This season, the LSU offense scored 221 points while the defense allowed 171 points. The Tigers competed in the inaugural Peach Bowl and beat Florida State, 31–27.

Games of the 1968 Season



Peach Bowl December 30, 1968

In the Peach Bowl vs. Florida State on December 30, 1968, played at Grant Field in Atlanta, GA, LSU edged out the Seminoles W 31–27. This was the first Peach Bowl game ever played.

For LSU it was a sloppy game with a happy ending. The Tigers committed four turnovers on their first four possessions that were converted by Florida State

(FSU) into two first half touchdowns. FSU thus has a 13–0 lead at the second quarter.

But the Tigers were not finished. Soon after their game low point, they narrowed the lead when Craig Burns returned a short punt 39 yards for a touchdown. Before the half ended, LSU's Mark Lumpkin kicked a field goal to make it 13–10 at halftime.

The Tigers came to life big time live in the second half, driving 51 yards in eight plays. The drive culminated on a Mike Hillman to Bob Hamlett TD pass to take the lead 17–13. On LSU's next drive, Hillman threw another touchdown pass. This pass went to Bill Stober and just like that, the lead was then 24–13. It looked like LSU was on its way to another bowl victory.

As the fourth quarter began, the Seminoles took the ball like they meant it. They could not be stopped on this 4Q opening drive. Instead, they drove down the field 72 yards culminated in a Bill Cappleman pass to Ron Sellers for a touchdown. This narrowed LSU's lead to less than a TD.

On the next kickoff, the Tigers committed another mistake. They fumbled the ball back to the Seminoles in Tiger territory, giving FSU a great opportunity to catch up. Just a few plays later the Seminoles scored again on another touchdown catch from Sellers. At this point, it did not look good as the Seminoles had a 27-24 lead; there were just six moments to go; LSU had developed fumble-itis, and FSU had momentum on their side.

Despite how it felt in the stadium, the Tigers went to work, going on a nine play, 61 yard drive. During the drive, at one time, LSU converted a play on a third and 19. Maurice LeBlanc came through with the touchdown run. But the 'Noles were not finished. They drove down the field and were in range for a game winner when on 4th down, Barton Frye knocked down a pass intended for Sellers. Instead of a TD and the win, the Seminoles simply ended the game with an incomplete pass and this sealed the game for the Tigers. It was their 4th straight bowl win.

1969 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1969, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his eighth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-1. Their SEC record was 4-1. This brought the Tigers a 2nd place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #7 in the Coach's poll and #10 in the AP.

Despite the great year, circumstances did not favor McClendon's Tigers in 1969. Despite a terrific 9-1 record, LSU was not invited to a major bowl game. They were shut out of the Cotton Bowl and Sugar Bowl, and they did not accept playing in a second tier game such as the Bluebonnet, Gator and Peach bowls. So, they played no bowl game for the 1969 season.

LSU was looking to appear in the Cotton Bowl, because the winner of the Texas-Arkansas game would be ranked no lower than No. 3 in the Associated Press poll, and quite possibly No. 1. However, when Notre Dame voted to participate in bowl games for the first time since 1924, the Cotton snapped up the Irish. The Sugar Bowl, peeved by a perceived snub from a school just 80 miles away, instead chose Ole Miss, which, despite beating LSU 26-23, had only a 7-3 record.

As the post-season turned out, Texas ascended to No. 1 after Ohio State lost 24-12 at Michigan. The Longhorns kept their top ranking by defeating archrivals Texas A&M 49-12 and Arkansas 15-14, then knocking off Notre Dame 21-17 in the Cotton Bowl. LSU's 20-15 victory over Alabama was its last home win over the Crimson Tide until 2000. But it was a good win, nonetheless.

Despite a great season, no post-season bowl game for LSU.

1970 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference**

Led by coach McClendon in 1970, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his ninth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-3. Their SEC record was 5-0. This brought the Tigers a 1st place SEC finish and the SEC Championship. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #6 in the Coach's poll and #7 in the AP.

For the first time in their 77-year history, the Tigers played the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. Unfortunately, Notre Dame prevailed in a close match. Following this 3-0 loss to a # 2 ranked Notre Dame squad at South Bend, LSU was extended a bid to face Big

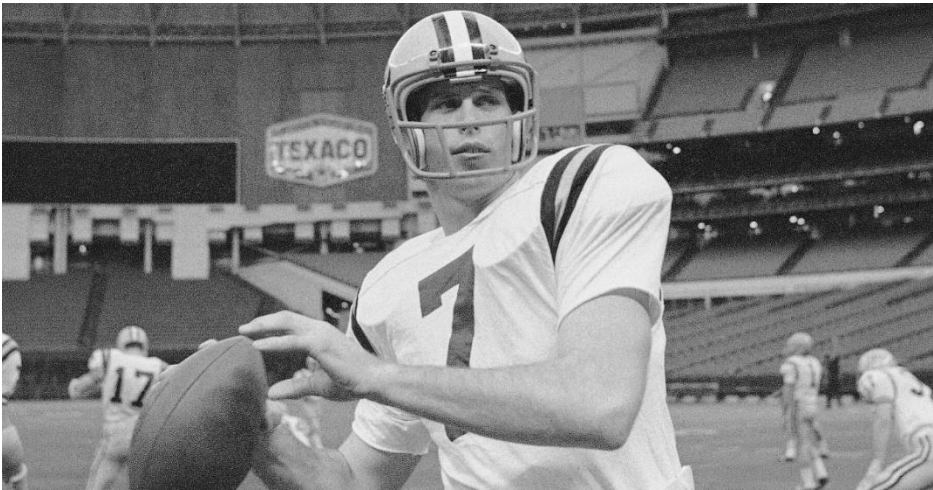
Eight Conference champion Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. ND for its part was undefeated at the time and only after losing to USC in the second-last game did the Irish settle for a 2nd place national finish in the AP poll.

Despite being offered the Orange Bowl, with one loss, the invitation was conditional. It was contingent on the Tigers defeating both Tulane at New Orleans and Ole Miss at Baton Rouge in the final two weeks of the season. LSU pulled it off and made it to the Orange Bowl.

Still upset about being shut out of the major bowl games in 1969 despite a 9–1 record, LSU responded to the challenge. The Tigers overcame a stubborn Tulane squad, which earned a Liberty Bowl invitation, and then dismantled Ole Miss 61–17 in front of a large television audience and nearly 70,000 fans in Tiger Stadium. In that game, Tommy Casanova tied an NCAA record with two punt return touchdowns in a single game. Casanova and linebacker Mike Anderson were recognized as consensus All-Americans. It was a great season with the SEC Championship in the bag.

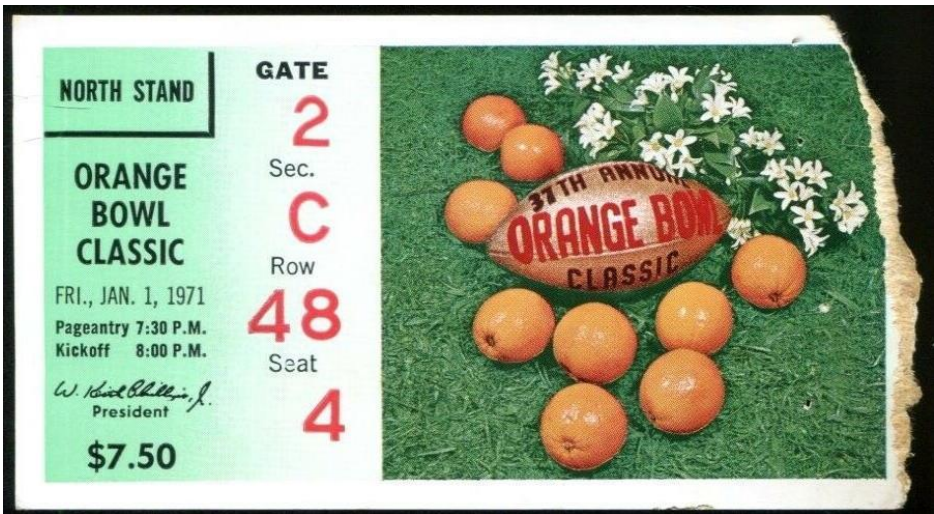
During his senior season, Jones led the Tigers to a 9-2-1 record and became the first quarterback in LSU history to be named an All-American.

This outstanding signal caller went on to finish fourth in the Heisman Trophy race that season and was selected second overall in the 1973 NFL Draft by the Baltimore Colts.



Bert Jones A Top LSU QB

Orange Bowl v Nebraska January 1, 1971:



LSU had a great bowl win record but that was not enough to get them the win over Nebraska on January , 1971 in a match vs. #3 Nebraska* \$5 LSU fell short of a victory at Orange Bowl Stadium in Miami, FL in the Orange Bowl Game L (12-17).

Nebraska's Defense Steals Louisiana State's Thunder

1971 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1971, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his tenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-3. Their SEC record was 3-2. This brought the Tigers a 6th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #10 in the Coach's poll and #11 in the AP.

Sun Bowl: December 18 vs. Iowa State*No. 11

LSU got its bowl game karma back in 1971 after a one year hiatus karma as the Tigers beat IOWA State in the Sun Bowl at El Paso, TX W (33-15)

Game Day: December 18, 1971

It was like an ambush as #10 LSU pounded #17 Iowa State in the second half to win 33-15 in the first ever Sun Bowl sellout.



The only scoring in the first half was a pair of LSU field goals and one by ISU. Led by Jimmy Rogers, Jr. Most Valuable Lineman Matt Blair, the Iowa State defense stood firm against the Tigers, including a first-half goal-line stand.

In the second quarter, LSU All-

American quarterback Bert Jones hit Andy Hamilton with a 77-yard pass to put the ball on the Iowa State four-yard line. However, the Tigers could not convert and the Cyclones took over on downs to end the half.

LSU entered the second half with a new enthusiasm led by C.M. Hendricks MVP Jones who completed two touchdown passes. The first was a 37-yard strike his cousin, Andy Hamilton. The second was a 21-yard toss to Gerald Keigley. Kicker Jay Michaelson nailed the first extra point attempt, but missed the second to bring the score to 19-3.

Iowa State countered with a Dean Carlson 30-yard touchdown pass to Larry Marquardt late in the third quarter. The fourth quarter opened with another touchdown, a one yard toss to Keith Krepfle from Carlson. The score was 19-15, but LSU was ready to extend the lead.

Jones threw his third touchdown pass of the game to Michaelson midway through the fourth. The LSU quarterback further added to Iowa States misery rushing for a touchdown of his own with 3:00 remaining in the game. The final was 33-15.

The Tigers were led by Jones, two-time All-American cornerback Tom Casanova and Lombardi Award finalist Ron Estay. Jones completed 12 of 18 passes for 227 yards, threw three touchdowns and rushed for one. Hamilton caught six passes for 165 yards and one score. The 1971 LSU defense allowed the fewest yards in the nation.

The Cyclones were led by head coach Johnny Majors, who would later bring two other teams to the Sun Bowl Pittsburgh and Tennessee. George Amundson was the first Cyclone to rush for 1000 yards in a season, but the LSU defense held him to only 56 yards.

1972 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1972, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his eleventh of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-2-1. Their SEC record was 4-1-1. This brought the Tigers a 3rd place SEC finish. At the national

level, the Tigers were ranked #10 in the Coach's poll and #11 in the AP.

Bluebonnet Bowl December 30, 1972

In the Bluebonnet Bowl on December 30, 1972. #11 Tennessee beat #10 LSU in the Astrodome, Houston, TX (Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl) L (17–24).

1973 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his twelfth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 9-3. Their SEC record was 5-1. This brought the Tigers a 2nd place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #14 in the Coach's poll and #13 in the AP.

Games of the 1973 Season

Orange Bowl Game January 1, 1974

In the January 1, 1974 Orange Bowl Game, # 6 Penn State defeated #13 LSU at the Miami Orange Bowl in Miami, FL L (9–16) before 60,477.

Updated Jan 05, 2019; Posted Dec 21, 2016

Penn State at the Orange Bowl, 1974

by Deb Kiner | dkiner@pennlive.com

"Penn State Twists Tigers' Tail, 16-9," read the headline in The Patriot on Jan. 2, 1974 - the day after the Penn State Nittany Lions bested LSU in the Orange Bowl Classic.

1974 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1974, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his thirteenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of

LSU, the Tigers had a great season at 5-5-1. Their SEC record was 2-4. This brought the Tigers a 10th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP.

LSU was not invited to a Bowl game this for the 1974 season.

1975 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 21

Led by coach McClendon in 1975, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his fourteenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 5-6. Their SEC record was 2-4. This brought the Tigers a 7th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP. This was the first losing season for Coach McClendon.

1976 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1976, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his fifteenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a nice season at 7-3-1. Their SEC record was 3-3. This brought the Tigers a 7th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP.

1977 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1977, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his sixteenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a nice season at 8-4. Their SEC record was 4-2. This brought the Tigers a 5th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP.

The Sun Bowl December 31, 1977

After years of dominating bowl games, LSU had lost its charm against its various bowl opponents. This year was the same on December 31, as Stanford overpowered the Tigers in the Sun Bowl in El Paso, TX, L (14-24).

Stanford overcame a 14-10 deficit at halftime to pull out a come-from-behind victory over LSU, 24-10 at the 44th Annual Sun Bowl.

1978 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his seventeenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a nice season at 8-4. Their SEC record was 3-3. This brought the Tigers a 4th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP.

Liberty Bowl December 31 vs. Missouri

In the Liberty Bowl, played at Memorial Stadium in Memphis, TN, Missouri beat LSU L (15–20).

1979 Football Season Charles McClendon Coach # 23

Led by coach McClendon in 1979, the LSU coach with the most time in service, in his seventeenth of eighteen seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a nice season at 7-5. Their SEC record was 4-2. This brought the Tigers a 4th place SEC finish. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP.

Bo Rein, who led NC State to the 1979 Atlantic Coast Conference championship, was hired six days after the regular season finale, but McClendon and his staff coached the Tangerine Bowl vs. Wake Forest. Rein perished in a bizarre plane crash January 10, 1980, only 42 days after his hiring.

Tangerine Bowl December 22, 1979

On December 22, the Tangerine Bowl matched two fierce competitors, Wake Forest, & Louisiana State. Like most bowl games, this Tangerine Bowl match was played in Florida at Orlando Stadium in Orlando, FL. The Tigers of LSU defeated Wake Forest in a tough match W (34–10).

This bowl game paired the LSU Tigers of the Southeastern Conference v the Wake Forest Demon Deacons of the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Tigers came in with a conference record of 4–2 and the Demon Deacons had a conference record of 3–2. The game was the first bowl game featuring the Tigers and the Demon Deacons, and was their third overall meeting. LSU led the series 2–0 heading into the game. The teams' first meeting was in 1960, when the Tigers defeated the Demon Deacons 16–0.

LSU prevailed and the teams did not play each other again until who knows when.

Chapter 10 LSU Football – Coaches Stovall, Arnsparger, & Archer 1980-1990

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1980	Bo Rein		
1980	Jerry Stovall	7-4	4-2T- 4 th
1981	Jerry Stovall	3-7-1	1-4-1 T-8 th
1982	Jerry Stovall	8-3-1	4-1-1 2 nd Orange
1983	Jerry Stovall	4-7	0-6 9 th
1984	Bill Arnsparger	8-3-1	4-1-1 2 nd L Sugar
1985	Bill Arnsparger	9-2-1	4-1-1 T-3 rd L Liberty
1986	Bill Arnsparger	9-3	5-1 L Sugar
1987	Mike Archer	10-1-1	5-1 2 nd W Gator
1988	Mike Archer	8-4	6-1 T-1 st L Hall of Fame
1989	Mike Archer	4-7	2-5 T-7 th
1990	Mike Archer	5-6	2-5 T-7 th

1980 Bo Rein Killed in Plane Crash



Bo Rein Never Coached at LSU! But!

**The day Bo Rein died: Ron Higgins
Thank you Ron.**

I normally would not use this many page to introduce a new coach, especially a new coach who never coached at the school I was writing about. This is the exception. Higgins wrote this on September 16, 2015 at 5:13 am. This is a sad story.

Bo Rein was LSU's head football coach for 42 days before he died in a plane crash returning from a recruiting trip on Jan. 10, 1980. Thirty-five years ago, Greg Williams was a 30-something -year-old assistant coach who couldn't believe he was working for a college football powerhouse like LSU.

I was 23-year-old reporter, eight months removed from my May 1979 graduation from LSU, happy to have my first full-time job with Tiger Rag Magazine.

We got thrown together in the worst possible circumstances in January 1980 when new LSU football coach Bo Rein was killed in a plane crash while returning from a recruiting trip to Shreveport.

Williams was the last person to see Rein alive, putting him on the private plane late on a Thursday night for a one-hour flight to Baton Rouge.

I was the first and only reporter to talk to Williams, finding him the next morning in an almost-empty LSU football office, trying to make sense of how his boss and good friend ended up crashing halfway across the country in the Atlantic Ocean.

Since that day, as we both progressed through our careers, we'd maybe spoken once or twice when he an assistant at Georgia. But we never re-lived that terrible tragedy until today by phone, four hours before ESPN's SEC Network's 8 p.m. CT airtime of "The Bo You Don't Know," a 30-minute SEC Storied documentary of Rein and his 42 days as the Tigers' coach after he was hired Nov. 29, 1979 to replace Charles McClendon.

Williams, after more than "50 years of two-a-day practices," he said, finally hung up his coaching whistle a few years ago. At age 68, he's retired and living in Raleigh, N.C. where he played at North Carolina State and where he was an assistant coach twice, the first time under Rein.

Heading to LSU

Hired from TCU by Rein in 1979 as secondary coach, Williams was just finishing his first season at his alma mater when Rein stopped by his office and said, "Let's go get some ice cream." and said,

"We went next door to the campus Union building," Williams said. "We're eating ice cream and he said, 'How would you like to go to LSU.' Hell, I almost dropped my ice cream.

"Then he said, 'If you want to go, you can go. You'll probably be the defensive coordinator.' I didn't even know what other coaches on our staff Bo was bringing with him to LSU until we all got a plane headed to Baton Rouge."

Once Rein and his staff arrived, they hit the recruiting trail hard. Williams recruited north Louisiana and said he received an overwhelming reception from high schools happy to see an LSU coach recruiting in person rather than by phone.

"At Woodlawn in Shreveport, the principal was so happy to see us that he called an assembly to introduce LSU's new head coach to the entire school," Williams said.

Williams targeted and planned a recruiting trip to Shreveport for he and Rein on Jan. 10, 1980.

Rein wanted he and Williams to fly up to Shreveport and back. Williams convinced Rein to drive together to Shreveport because the south Louisiana January fog would delay their departure and put them behind schedule.

Since Rein had to visit running back prospect Paul Ott Carruth early the next morning in Mississippi, the plan was for Rein to fly home at the end of the recruiting day in Shreveport while Williams would continue to recruit his assigned area.

"It really didn't hit me until several months later that I could have been on the plane if I would have agreed to Bo's plans," Williams said.

The fateful day

Rein and Williams started their 15-hour day leaving Baton Rouge at 6:30 a.m. The only time they stopped moving was to eat. Their last stop was to visit Bobby Agnor, a recruit from Woodlawn who was already in the Tigers' fold.

Then Williams drove Rein to the Shreveport airport to await a private plane coming from Houston flown by an experienced pilot named Lewis Benscotter.

Rein hopped on the phone to talk to an East Coast recruit that Williams dialed up. While Rein was chatting, Benscotter walked in. "A time or two before, the weather had been foggy, so I asked the pilot then about his plane," Williams said. He told me "If the commercial planes are flying, I can fly, because I've got all the instruments they do.

"Bo got off the phone, shook my hand and ran to the plane." Williams checked in a Shreveport airport hotel and immediately fell asleep.

Meanwhile, the Cessna Conquest 441 carrying Rein and Benscotter wandered off course as a line of storms appeared between Shreveport and Baton Rouge. The plane turned east and was eventually tracked out over the Atlantic Ocean by Captain Daniel Zoerb, an Air Force fighter pilot who could only see the red glow of the Cessna's cockpit but nothing else.

Zoerb made three passes at the plane about 500 feet away, giving all the standard intercept signals to get the plane to turn back. There was no response.

Finally, about 100 miles east of Cape Charles, Va. at 1:34 a.m. ET, Zoerb watched one of the plane's engines quit. The plane rotated and went into a 5,000-foot-per-minute nosedive before it crashed into the Atlantic.

"That was the first time I ever escorted a plane to a crash," said Zoerb, who made one pass over the crash site and saw nothing but an oil slick.

The Federal Bureau of Accidents speculated that something happened to the cabin's pressurization system, causing Benscotter and Rein to pass out and die from lack of oxygen.

A bad dream

A couple of hours before sunrise, Williams was awakened by a phone call.

"It was the Shreveport police telling me to call Darrell Moody (another LSU assistant) at the football office," Williams recalled. "I didn't think it was 4 in the morning. I thought it was more like 1, so I called down there.

"Moody answers and the first thing he says to me is, 'Who was on the plane?' I said, 'The pilot and Bo. Darrell, what are you talking about?' He said, 'Well, the plane crashed in the Atlantic Ocean.'

"I'm in Shreveport, Louisiana saying, 'The Atlantic Ocean? They were headed back to Baton Rouge. What the hell?' Then he told me Bo was dead.

"I hung up and I didn't know what to do. I knew my Dad lives on the East Coast. He gets up early and I knew he would be listening to the radio and watching TV. So I called him, woke him, and told him I wasn't on the plane.

"Then I called my wife, took a shower, got something to eat, drove back to Baton Rouge and went straight to the office. It was almost empty because the staff had flown back to Raleigh.

"So I went to my office and sat down. That's when you walked in."

The cub reporter

Williams said he was there about five minutes when I knocked gently on his door.

I didn't even know what had happened to Rein when I walked in the football office. I was there looking for one of the assistant coaches for a story I was working on. I had gotten straight out of bed, showered, dressed and drove to the campus without turning on the radio.

But when I was immediately greeted by some of the football office secretaries who were in tears, I quickly found out what happened.

I immediately turned the corner and headed to Williams' office. I didn't expect him to be there and I didn't expect him to talk.

But he was there. He had talked to me a couple of times before, so he waved me in.

This was my first time dealing with such a tragedy as a reporter. They don't teach you these things in journalism school.

All I could say was, "Coach, can you tell me what happened?"

I didn't know if he would talk. As it turned out, I thought later, maybe he just wanted to talk to someone about it all from start to finish to make sure it was real.

"It was something you can't believe," Williams recalled again today.

"He just disappeared. It was crazy.

"Bo and I were good friends and golfing buddies. For about the next year, it was like I still didn't believe it happened.

"I guess it hit me the following spring when I had to appear in court in Raleigh at a hearing to declare Bo and the pilot legally dead. There were three different lawyers and I had to recount my story several times.

"Bo's wife Suzanne passed out. His daughters were crying. I'm pretty sure the wife of the pilot and his family was there. It was very tough. It finally hit me it wasn't a dream. That day took my breath away.

"I left that hearing and went to a N.C. State practice. I saw (head coach) Monte Kiffin and (defensive coordinator) Pete Carroll. They asked me what my plans were. I said, 'I'm going to the Players' Retreat (a bar) and have a couple of martinis.' That's exactly what I did and I went home."

What if?

By the time Williams' coaching career ended, he had served in five different capacities at 10 schools.

He has an answer when asked what would have happened if Rein had never gotten on that plane and lived to coach LSU.

"With the players that were already there and the players we were recruiting, there's no doubt at all we would have won and won big," Williams said. "No doubt about that at all."

Our latest conversation had almost ended when Williams recalled one more thing from the night Rein flew into the darkness and never returned.

"That night before dinner, Bo called his house in Raleigh and talked to his mother and father who were watching his two daughters because his wife was away visiting her parents in Portland, Oregon,"

Williams said. "After dinner, he called his wife and he talked to his wife. Three hours later, he got on the plane and died.

"Now, how many times does a football coach on a recruiting trip talk to his Mom, his Dad, his daughters and his wife all in one night?

"It never happens. But Bo talked to everybody he loved before he died.

"Think about that."

I have Greg. . .for 35 years.

Bo Rein would have been a great LSU coach. Ya gotta know that!

1980 Jerry Stovall, a former LSU All-American and nine-year National Football League veteran with the St. Louis Cardinals, was approved as Rein's successor approximately 36 hours after the plane crash. LSU made a great recovery after a tragic circumstance.



Jerry Stovall LSU Coach 1980-1983

1980 Football Season Jerry Stovall Coach # 25

Led by coach Jerry Stovall, the LSU coach in his first of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a nice season at 7-4. Their SEC record was 4-2. This brought the Tigers a 4th place tie in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP. LSU was not invited to a bowl game in 1980

Coach Charles McClendon stepped down after the season. Before Jerry Stovall was found as the new coach, LSU had made another pick. Bo Rein, a coach who led NC State to the 1979 Atlantic Coast Conference championship, was hired six days after McClendon's the

regular season finale, but McClendon and his staff came back to coach the Tangerine Bowl vs. Wake Forest. Rein had perished in a bizarre plane crash January 10, 1980, only 42 days after his hiring. Stovall was hired after a 36-hour hurry-up search for Bo Rein's "replacement."

1981 Football Season Jerry Stovall Coach # 25

Led by coach Jerry Stovall in 1981, the LSU coach in his first of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a very poor season at 3-7-1. Their SEC record was 1-4-1. This brought the Tigers an 8th place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP. LSU was not invited to a bowl game in 1981

Games of the 1981 Season

The games charted in the seasons' records reflect exactly what a miserable season Jerry Stovall's LSU Tigers experienced in 1981. Thankfully, LSU fans did not have to put up with many of these seasons in their 126 years.

1982 Football Season Jerry Stovall Coach # 25

Led by coach Jerry Stovall in 1982, the LSU coach in his third of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-3-1. Their SEC record was 4-1-1. This brought the Tigers a 2nd place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #11 in the Coach's poll and in the AP. LSU was not invited to a bowl game in 1982

Orange Bowl January 1, 1983

In the Orange Bowl Game played on January 1, 1983, vs. #3 Nebraska, the Cornhuskers prevailed against the #13 LSU Tigers in Miami, FL (Orange Bowl) L 20–21

Miami, Fla. (Jan. 1, 1983)—Stung by their own miscues and the ferocious play of the Louisiana State Tigers, the Nebraska

Cornhuskers battled from behind for an impressive, 21-20, victory in the 1983 Orange Bowl game.

1983 Football Season Jerry Stovall Coach # 25

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1983 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninetieth season overall and its fifty-first season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Jerry Stovall, the LSU coach in his fourth and last of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 4-7. Their SEC record was 0-6. This brought the Tigers a tie for a last place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the Coach's poll and in the AP. LSU was not invited to a bowl game in 1983

1984 Football Season Bill Arnsparger Coach # 26

William Stephen Arnsparger was born on December 16, 1926 and deceased on July 17, 2015 coached football at the college and pro level, He was from Paris, Kentucky, born and raised there. He served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, and graduated from Miami University (Ohio) in 1950. Afterwards, he was hired as an assistant coach with the Miami football program, beginning a long career in the football profession.



<<< Bill Arnsparger is best known for serving as a defensive coordinator in the National Football League (NFL) for Miami Dolphins teams that won consecutive Super Bowls (1972 and 1973) and reached another (1982), all under head coach Don Shula. Arnsparger's defenses were an important part of the Dolphins' success, and earned two nicknames over his tenure – the "No-Name-Defense" in the 1970s and the "Killer B's" in the 1980s.

He was not finished as later on he served as the defensive coordinator for another Super Bowl runner-up, the 1994 San Diego Chargers.

Before the NFL, Arnsparger served as a defensive assistant for several college football teams. He was also the head coach of the New York Giants (1974–1976) and the Louisiana State University (LSU) Tigers (1983–1986), and served as the athletic director at the University of Florida (1986–1992). LSU enjoyed the few years with Bill Arnsparger

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1984 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninety-first season overall and its fifty-second season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Bill Arnsparger, the LSU coach in his first of three seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-3-1. Their SEC record was 4-1-1. This brought the Tigers a second place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked in

the Coach's poll at 16 and in the AP at 15. LSU was invited to the Sugar Bowl Game in 1984

During the season, Florida was placed on a postseason ban for violations, and despite finishing first, the SEC punished the program with an immediate postseason ban in addition to the two year ban imposed for the 1985 and 1986 seasons by the NCAA. The SEC also awarded LSU, as the highest placed eligible team, the automatic bid to the Sugar Bowl reserved for the conference champion. Under modern rules, a team ineligible for postseason is also ineligible for postseason awards.

Sugar Bowl January 1, 1985

In the Sugar Bowl, on January 1, 1985 at 7:50 p.m., #5 Nebraska beat #11 LSU at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, LA (Sugar Bowl) 1 ABC L 1(0-28) before 75,608.

51st Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~ January 1, 1985

#5 Nebraska 28 (Final: 10-2-0, #4)

#11 LSU 10 (Final: 8-3-1, #15)

1985 Football Season Bill Arnsparger Coach # 26

Led by coach Bill Arnsparger, the LSU coach in 1985, in his second of three seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-2-1. Their SEC record was 4-1-1. This brought the Tigers a fourth place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked in the Coach's poll at 20 and in the AP at 20. LSU was invited to the Liberty Bowl Game in 1985. Their bad bowl game luck continued.

Liberty Bowl December 27, 1985

LSU was invited to play in the Liberty Bowl on December 27, 1985. At 7:00 p.m. vs. Baylor. The game was played at Liberty Bowl

Memorial Stadium in Memphis, TN (Liberty Bowl). LSU lost another bowl game. L (7–21) before 40,186.

Liberty Bowl : LSU Tries to Limit Baylor’s Options

Despite all the preparation and the worry. Arnsparger could not turn a victory in this game and LSU lost another bowl game—this time to the Baylor Bears L (7-21).

1986 Football Season Bill Arnsparger Coach # 26

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1986 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninety-third season overall and its fifty-fourth season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Bill Arnsparger, the LSU coach in his third and last of three seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-3-1. Their SEC record was 5-1 giving them the SEC championship with a first place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked in the Coach’s poll at 11 and in the AP at 10. LSU was invited to the Sugar Bowl in 1986. Their bad bowl game luck continued.

Games of the 1986 Season

In the season and home opener against preseason ranked #7 Texas A&M, the #14 LSU Tigers prevailed at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W 35–17 before 79,713. On Sep 20, Miami (OH) defeated LSU at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA L (12–21) before 75,777. Then, on Oct 4 at Florida, the Tigers beat the Gators at Florida Field, Gainesville, FL W (28–17) before 74,221. On Oct 11, LSU beat Georgia at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (23–14) before 78,252. On Oct 18, at Kentucky in a game played in Commonwealth Stadium, Lexington, KY, LSU prevailed W (25–16) before 57,20. Then, on Oct 25, at home, LSU

smothered North Carolina in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (30–3) before 78,301.

On Nov 1, Ole Miss edged out LSU at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA (Magnolia Bowl) L (19–21) before 77,758. At #6 Alabama, on Nov 8, LSU beat the Crimson Tide in a close match at Legion Field Birmingham, AL W 14–10, before 75,808. On Nov 15, LSU gave Mississippi State a good pounding at Mississippi Veterans Memorial stadium in Jackson, MS W (47–0) before 47,000. On Nov 22, LSU edged out Notre Dame at home at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (21–19) before 78,197. Then, on Nov 29, LSU defeated Tulane at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Battle for the Rag W (37–17) before 78,131

Sugar Bowl January 1, 1987

In the Sugar Bowl on January 1, 1987, at 3:00 p.m. vs. # 6 Nebraska, #5 LSU was beaten by the Cornhuskers at the Louisiana Superdome New Orleans, LA (Sugar Bowl) L (15–30) before 76,234

53rd Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~ January 1, 1987

#6 Nebraska 30 (Final: 10-2-0, #5)

#5 LSU 15 (Final: 9-3-0, #10)

1987 Football Season Mike Archer Coach # 27



<<< Mike Archer

A longtime Division I assistant coach who spent four years as the head coach at LSU from 1987-1990. His Tigers finished 10-1-1 in Archer's first season in 1987, his best record as a head coach. It was LSU's first 10-win season in more than 25 years, and the Tigers finished No. 5 in the final Associated Press poll after a victory in the Gator Bowl. LSU's record dropped to 8-4 in 1988 but the Tigers still won the SEC with a 6-1 record in the conference. LSU

ended the season with a loss in the Hall of Fame Bowl and finished No. 19 in the final AP poll.

Archer's teams posted back-to-back losing seasons in 1989-1990. Archer was forced to resign as head coach, ending his tenure at LSU with a combined record of 27-18-1. He also served as an assistant coach in the SEC with Kentucky from 1993-1995 and again from 2003-2006. His coaching history follows:

LSU in 1987

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1987 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninety-fourth season overall and its fifty-fifth season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Mike Archer, the LSU head coach in his first of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-1-1. Their SEC record was 5-1 giving them a second place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked in the Coach's poll at 5 and in the AP at 5. LSU was invited to the Gator Bowl in 1987. Their bad bowl game luck changed for this game.

Gator Bowl December 31, 1:30 p.m.

On December 31, 1987, 1:30 p.m., in the Gator Bowl Game, LSU at #7 beat #8 South Carolina's Gamecocks in Gator Bowl Stadium in Jacksonville, FL in the famous Gator Bowl Game W (30-13) before 82,119.

Typically a bowl game loser, not this time. Seventh-ranked Louisiana State (LSU) struck early and never looked back in posting a 30-13 victory over ninth-ranked South Carolina before a Mazda Gator Bowl crowd of 82,119 on New Year's Eve afternoon in Jacksonville.

The Gamecocks' "50" defense designed by defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn was unsuccessful in stopping LSU's quarterback-wide

receiver combination of Tom Hodson and Wendell Davis. Hodson completed 20 of 32 attempts for 224 yards and three touchdowns, two of which came in the first six minutes of play.

Davis, the Gator Bowl Most Valuable Player for the Bengal Tigers, had nine receptions for 132 yards and three touchdowns.

Offensively for the Gamecocks, the "Run and Shoot" led by quarterback Todd Ellis, was ineffective against LSU's defense. Ellis was still able to pass for over 300 yards on 28-of-47 attempts. However, he was intercepted four times. LSU was enabled to return the interceptions for 132 yards total.

South Carolina running back Harold Green was named the Gator Bowl Most Valuable Player for the Gamecocks as he rushed 15 times for 72 yards and South Carolina's only touchdown.

Freshman placekicker Collin Mackie was good on field goals from 44 and 39 yards, both of which came in the first half. LSU was glad to put a "W" in its bowl game record.

1988 Football Season Mike Archer Coach # 27

Led by coach Mike Archer in 1988, the LSU head coach in his second of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-4. Their SEC record was 6-1 giving them a tie for first place in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked in the AP at 19. LSU was invited to the Hall of Fame Bowl v Syracuse. Their bad bowl loss streak resumed for this game.

Hall of Fame Bowl January 2, 1989

On January 2, 1989 at 12:00 p.m., #16 LSU played #17 Syracuse at Tampa Stadium, Tampa, FL in the Hall of Fame Bowl and the Orangemen triumphed L (10–23) before 51,112

Syracuse 23, Louisiana State 10
Jan. 2, 1989
Tampa, Fla.

For the second straight season the Orange reached double figures in wins, this time after defeating Southeastern Conference co-champion LSU 23-10 at the third Hall of Fame Bowl in Tampa, Florida.

The Orange took the opening kickoff and went 80 yards, capped by Robert Drummond's 2-yard touchdown. Drummond ended his SU career in style, winning MVP honors with 122 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 23 carries. David Holmes was the defensive star for the Orange, intercepting two passes, breaking up two more, and coming up with six solo tackles. Daryl Johnston added 74 yards rushing, and Todd Philcox completed 16-of-23 passes for 130 yards and a touchdown. Rob Moore had six catches for 56 yards.

SU's defense, led by Terry Wooden and Rob Burnett, allowed just 76 yards rushing to the Tigers. Dan Bucey had a game-high 10 tackles.

1989 Football Season Mike Archer Coach # 27

Led by coach Mike Archer in 1989, the LSU head coach in his third of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 4-7. Their SEC record was 2-5-1 giving them an eighth place finish in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coach's poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1989.

1990 Football Season Mike Archer Coach # 27

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1990 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninety-seventh season overall and its fifty-eight season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Mike Archer, the LSU head coach in his fourth and final of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 5-6. Their SEC record was 2-5 giving them a tie for seventh place in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were

unranked in the coach's poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1990.

Chapter 11 LSU Football – Coaches Hallman, DiNardo, Saban 1991-2004

Southeastern Conference (SEC)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>C-Record</u>
1991	Curley Hallman	5-6	3-4 T-6 th
1992	Curley Hallman	2-9	1-7 6th Western
1993	Curley Hallman	5-6	3-5 5th Western
1994	Curley Hallman	4-7	3-5 4th Western
1995	Gerry DiNardo	7-4-1	4-3-1 4th Western, W IND Bowl
1996	Gerry DiNardo	10-2	6-2 T-1st Western W Peach
1997	Gerry DiNardo	9-3	6-2 T-1st Western W Ind Bowl
1998	Gerry DiNardo	4-7	2-6 5th Western
1999	Gerry DiNardo	3-8	1-7 6th Western
2000	Nick Saban	8-4	5-3 2nd Western W Peach
2001	Nick Saban	10-3	5-3 T-1st Western W Sugar
2002	Nick Saban	8-5	5-3 T-2nd Western L Cotton
2003	Nick Saban	13-1	7-1 T-1st Western W Sugar
** 2003	National Champions		
2004	Nick Saban	9-3	6-2 2nd Western, L Capital One



Curley Hallman Coach #28 LSU Football

Curley Hallman served as an assistant coach at Alabama, Clemson and Texas A&M from 1973-1987 before taking his first head coaching job at Southern Miss in 1988. He assumed the head coaching job at LSU in 1991, and coached the Tigers to four straight losing seasons. His teams won at least four games every season except 1992, when the team bottomed out at 2-9 overall and 1-7 in the SEC. Hallman was asked to resign following the 1994 season, but he refused and was instead fired by then-athletic director Joe Dean. He was 16-28 at LSU and just 10-21 against the SEC in that time.

1991 Football Season Curley Hallman Coach # 28

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1991 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's ninety-eighth season overall and its fifty-ninth season playing as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Led by coach Curley Hallman the LSU head coach in his first of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had an OK season at 5-6. Their SEC record was 3-4 giving them a sixth place in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coach's poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1991.

Games of the 1991 Season

In the season opener on September 7, 1991 at Georgia's Sanford Stadium in Athens, GA. The Bulldogs beat the Tigers L (10-31) before 85,434. On Sep 14 at #20 Texas A&M, at Kyle Field College Station, TX, the Aggies destroyed LSU L (7-45) before 66,281. Then, on Sep 21, LSU edged out Vanderbilt in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA, W 16-14 before 64,341. On Oct 5, #13 Florida beat LSU at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, L (0-16) 72,019 On Oct 12, LSU pummeled Arkansas State in a runaway game at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (70-14) before 62,024. On Oct 19 at Kentucky at Commonwealth Stadium, Lexington, KY, LSU beat the Wildcats W (29-26) before 53,650

On October 26, #1 Florida State beat LSU at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA L (16–27) before 71,019. On Nov 2, LSU edged out Ole Miss at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson, MS (Magnolia Bowl) W (25–22) before 41,000. On Nov 9, #8 Alabama edged out the Tigers at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA L (17–20) before 78,838. Mississippi State beat LSU on Nov 16 at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA L (19–28) before 67,724. In the season finale, at Tulane on Nov 23, in a game played the Louisiana Superdome New Orleans, LA in the Battle for the Rag, LSU beat the Green Wave W (39–20) before 38,384

Joined Southeastern Conference (SEC) Western Division

1992 Football Season Curley Hallman Coach # 28

Led by coach Curley Hallman in 1992, the LSU head coach in his second of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 2-9. Their SEC record was 1-6 giving them a sixth place in the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coach's poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1992.

1993 Football Season Curley Hallman Coach # 28

Led by coach Curley Hallman the LSU head coach in his third of four seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 5-6. Their SEC record was 3-5 giving them a fifth place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coach's poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1993.

LSU was hit this season with its worst loss in program history, 58-3 to Florida at home October 9. Following a loss at Kentucky, the Tigers went on a three-game winning streak, including a 17-13 shocker over defending national champion Alabama at Tuscaloosa, ending the Crimson Tide's 31-game unbeaten streak.

(the NCAA later shortened the streak to 23 when it forced Alabama to forfeit all of its 1993 victories (and a tie vs. Tennessee) due to violations involving All-America defensive back Antonio Langham).

With a bowl berth on the line in the season finale, Arkansas came to Baton Rouge and gouged the Tigers for 412 yards rushing in a 42-24 triumph, leaving LSU with its fifth consecutive losing campaign.

1994 Football Season Curley Hallman Coach # 28

Led by coach Curley Hallman in 1994, the LSU head coach in his fourth and last season as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 4-7. Their SEC record was 3-5 giving them a fifth place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coaches' poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season bowl in 1994.

As noted, it was Curley Hallman's final season as head coach, as he was fired with two games remaining in the season, although he continued as coach for those contests.

1995 Football Season Gerry DiNardo Coach # 29



Gerry DiNardo was a Division I head coach for 13 seasons between 1991 and 2004, including four seasons as the head coach of the Vanderbilt Commodores and five seasons as the head coach of the LSU Tigers. After working as an assistant from 1975-1990 DiNardo was hired at Vanderbilt prior to the 1991 season. In four seasons in Nashville, his Commodores teams combined to go 19-25 overall and just 9-22 in the SEC.

After four straight losing seasons with Vanderbilt, DiNardo left to take over an LSU program that had strung together six straight

losing seasons before his arrival in 1995 season. DiNardo posted three straight winning seasons from 1995-1997, going a perfect 3-0 in bowl games and twice finishing in the top-15 of the final Associated Press rankings. His 1998 squad opened the season ranked No. 9 in the AP Preseason Top 25, but things took a turn for the worse in Baton Rouge and DiNardo's Tigers finished the season just 4-7. They were an even-worse 2-8 to start the 1999 season, including an 0-7 mark against the SEC. He was fired with one game remaining in the season, ending his stay at LSU with a 32-24-1 combined record in five seasons.

LSU in 1995

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1995 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-second season overall and its sixty-third season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Gerry DiNardo, the LSU head coach in his first of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 7-4-1. Their SEC record was 4-3-1 giving them a fourth place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #25 in the coaches' poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was again in the chips with a positive record and the team was invited to a post-season bowl in 1995.

LSU concluded its season with a 45–26 win over Michigan State in the 1995 Independence Bowl. The 45 points scored by LSU in their bowl win over the Spartans was the second-most points (behind Drew Brees and Purdue's 52 points in 1999) allowed by a Nick Saban coached team until the 2019 LSU Tigers put up 46 against Saban's Alabama squad (which was also the most points surrendered by any Alabama team at home in regulation). As we know, Saban became the LSU coach in 2000.

Games of the 1995 Season

In the season opener on September 2, 1995, at #3 Texas A&M in a game played at Kyle Field College Station, TX, the Aggies beat LSU L (17–33) before 70,057. On Sep 9, LSU beat Mississippi State at Scott Field in Starkville, MS W (34–16) before 36,110. Then, on Sep 16, LSU beat #5 Auburn at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA (Tiger Bowl) W 12–6 80,559. This was the home opener for LSU and the attendance was already on the upswing with the new coach and the prospects of a winning season. .

On Sep 23, LSU pounded Rice at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (52–7) before 73,342. On Sep 30 South Carolina played LSU to a tie game T (20-20) at the Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia, SC. Before 67,902. On Oct 7, #3 Florida handily defeated LSU at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA L (10–28) before 80,583. On Oct 14, at Kentucky at Commonwealth Stadium, Lexington, KY, the Wildcats beat the Tigers L (16–24) before 51,500. At home on Oct 21, LSU shellacked North Texas at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (49-7) before 66,870

At #16 Alabama on Nov 4, at Bryant–Denny Stadium Tuscaloosa, AL, the Crimson Tide prevailed v LSU L (3–10) before 70,123. On Nov 11, LSU pounded Ole Miss at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA (Magnolia Bowl) W (38–9) before 78,246. Then, on Nov 18, LSU shut-out #14 Arkansas at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (28–0) before 66,548. There was no Tulane game this year.

Independence Bowl December 29, 1995

In the Independence Bowl on December 29, 1995 29 at 4:30 PM , the LSU Tigers pounded the Michigan State Spartans into the ground. The Spartans coach was Nick Saban and no team had ever scored so much against a Saban coached squad. The game was held in Independence Stadium Shreveport, LA (Independence Bowl) W 45–26 before 48,835

INDEPENDENCE BOWL

By Michael Sandler, Washington Post

December 29, 1995

This year game featured Louisiana State vs. Michigan State. It was played at Independence Stadium, Shreveport, La. It was on TV at 5:30 p.m. and the broadcast was carried by ESPN.

Coming into the game, the LSU Tigers were 6-4-1; Michigan State Spartans 6-4-1. Coaches: LSU 1st yr. head coach Gerry DiNardo; Michigan State's coach in his first year there was Nick Saban. The payout per team was \$750,000 per team.

Of note: the teams never have met. LOUISIANA STATE Tigers played their first winning season since 1988. Freshman TBs Kevin Faulk and Kendall Cleveland combined for 1,414 yards rushing and 16 TDs. Freshman QB Herb Tyler replaced injured starter Jamie Howard (elbow/shoulder) and completed 45 of 69 passes for 589 yards and five TDs in four games, three starts. Tigers ranked sixth in the nation in pass efficiency defense and scoring defense. LB Allen Stansberry and SS Talvi Crawford each made more than 100 tackles. P Chad Kessler was fourth in nation at 44.1 yards per punt.

MICHIGAN STATE Spartans won four of their last six regular season games. Special teams scored three touchdowns in final two regular season victories. Derrick Mason (4.3 yards per return) needs 47 yards to become Big Ten's all-time leader in kickoff return yards. Mason also is Spartans' leading receiver with 47 catches for 713 yards. Junior LB Reggie Garnett, the team's leading tackler (104), made his 34th consecutive start dating from second game of his freshman season.

1996 Football Season Gerry DiNardo Coach # 29

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

Led by coach Gerry DiNardo in 1996, the LSU head coach in his second of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-2. Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a tie for the championship with Alabama in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #13 in the coaches' poll and #12 in the AP. LSU was again in the chips with a positive record and the team was invited to a post-season bowl (Peach Bowl) in 1996.



Coach DiNardo on Duty

As noted, LSU finished with a 10–2 overall record (6–2 in SEC play) after defeating the Clemson Tigers, 10–7, in the Peach Bowl. It was Coach Di Nardo's second season as head coach and the Tigers built upon the previous year's success with their first ten-win season and bowl win since 1987. The years of bad coaching had ended.

The Tigers tied for the SEC West title with Alabama, but had lost to the Tide 26–0 in Baton Rouge in a game that was notable for being Shaun Alexander's breakout performance.

Peach Bowl December 28, 1996

In the Peach Bowl Game held on December 28, 1996 at 8:00 PM held in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA (Peach Bowl), the LSU Tigers defeated the Clemson Tigers W (10–7) before 63,622.

1996 Peach Bowl: LSU 10, Clemson 7

<https://lsusports.net/news/2008/12/27/3636717.aspx>

Editor's Note: Leading up to the 2008 Chick-fil-A Bowl on Dec. 31 in Atlanta, LSUsports.net will take a look back at LSU's four victories in the bowl. LSU has never lost a Chick-fil-A Bowl. Here's a look back at the 1996 Peach Bowl victory over Clemson.

1996 Peach Bowl
LSU 10, Clemson 7
December 28, 1996
Georgia Dome (63,622)

Quarterback Herb Tyler, the unsung hero of the Tiger offense, led a balanced attack against a stubborn Clemson squad to send LSU to a 10-7 victory in the Peach Bowl at the Georgia Dome.

The win gave the Tigers their second straight bowl victory and provided them with their first 10-win season in nearly a decade and only the fifth in school history.

Clemson jumped in front early after LSU turned the ball over deep in Clemson territory. Clemson quarterback Nealon Greene took the ball in from five yards out for a 7-0 lead in the first quarter. As the defenses shined in this Peach Bowl, it would be Clemson's only points of the night.

Kevin Faulk evened the game at 7-7 with a 3-yard scamper that capped an efficient 80-yard drive. Wade Richey added a 22-yard field goal just before intermission to give the Tigers a 10-7 lead.

It was a see-saw defensive battle in which neither team got into an offensive rhythm in the second half. The teams exchanged punts before Clemson mounted a late attack. Aaron Adams blocked a 52-yard Clemson field goal attempt and almost scored with under two minutes remaining to seal the victory for LSU.

Herb Tyler was named MVP of the game after completing 14-of-21 passes for 163 yards while rushing for an additional 38.. LSU has learned to believe that a good coach makes a world of difference.

1997 Football Season Gerry DiNardo Coach # 29

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

Led by coach Gerry DiNardo in 1997, the LSU head coach in his third of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-3. Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a tie for first in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #13 in the coaches' poll and #13 in the AP. LSU was again in the post season with a positive record and the team was invited to the Independence Bowl in 1997. LSU was victorious—three in a row.

The Tigers had big expectations after completing their first 10-win season since 1987. The season was not as good as the prior year but it was nonetheless a fine season. It was highlighted by a stunning 28–21 home upset of the top ranked Florida Gators. This ended Florida's 25-game winning streak in SEC play. Additionally, the team completed a great Independence Bowl victory over the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, who had defeated the Tigers in Baton Rouge during the regular season.

LSU also shut out Alabama 27–0 at Tuscaloosa. This more or less paid back the favor for a 26–0 loss the previous season in Baton Rouge. Despite the highs, LSU also experienced two embarrassing home losses. The first was to Ole Miss one week after the Tigers'

conquest of then-No. 1 Florida. The second was to Notre Dame, which came to Baton Rouge at 4–5, needing three consecutive victories just to qualify for a bowl. In a stunning 24–6 triumph, the Irish rushed for 232 yards and played their first penalty-free and turnover-free game in program history.

LSU was also quite fortunate to escape with a 7–6 victory at Vanderbilt, DiNardo's last coaching stop. The Commodores scored a late touchdown and were lined up to go for a two-point conversion and a potential 8–7 win, but two delay of game penalties convinced Vanderbilt coach Woody Widenhofer to instead play for overtime.

LSU's Arnold Miller preserved the win by blocking the kick. The Tigers tied for the SEC West title for the second straight year, but Auburn had won a dramatic game in Baton Rouge earlier in the season and therefore represented the West in the SEC Championship.

Independence Bowl December 28, 1997 7:00 PM

On December 28, 1997 in the Independence Stadium in Shreveport, LA, at 7:00 p.m., LSU dominated Notre Dame in achieving an Independence Bowl Game victory over the Fighting Irish W (27–9) before 50,459.

After Notre Dame's flawless performance a month earlier in Notre Dame's 24-6 victory over the LSU Tigers, the two teams had a rematch at the Independence Bowl in Shreveport. This time, led by running back Rondell Mealey's 222 yards rushing, the Tigers avenge the loss under head coach and Notre Dame alumnus Gerry DiNardo. LSU W (2709). News was made also at ND as this was Irish head coach Bob Davie's initial Irish campaign. It ended in a dismal 7-6, thanks to the LSU Tigers.

1998 Football Season Gerry DiNardo Coach # 29

Led by coach Gerry DiNardo in 1998, the LSU head coach in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor

season at 4-7. Their SEC record was 2-6 giving them a fifth place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coaches' poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season game.

1999 Football Season Gerry DiNardo Coach # 29 **1999 Hal Hunter Interim – One Game**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 1999 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-sixth season overall and its sixty-seventh season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Gerry DiNardo, the LSU head coach in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a poor season at 3-8. Their SEC record was 1-7 giving them a sixth place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coaches' poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was not invited to a post-season game.

LSU fired coach DiNardo before the final game of the season against conference opponent Arkansas after eight consecutive losses. It was not improving. They named Assistant Coach Hal Hunter as interim head coach for the final game. DiNardo was given the opportunity to coach the game vs. Arkansas, but chose not to do so.

This was in stark contrast to his predecessor at LSU, Curley Hallman, who coached the Tigers in their final two games of 1994 after being fired five years to the day prior to DiNardo's dismissal).

In Coach Hunter's only game as the team's head coach, unranked LSU (2-8, 0-7) dominated #17 Arkansas (7-3, 4-3) in their lone victory over a conference opponent that season. The coach matters. Former Michigan State University head football coach Nick Saban accepted LSU's offer and took over the team in December 1999. Things would get better again.

2000 Football Season Nick Saban Coach # 30

Nick Saban

Biography of an American football coach.

This bio was written by Adam Augustyn, Managing Editor, Reference Content at Encyclopedia Britannica.
It is current as of 2019

Nick Saban, byname of Nicholas Lou Saban, Jr., (born October 31, 1951, Fairmont, West Virginia, U.S.), American collegiate and professional gridiron football coach who led his teams to six National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) top-division football national championships and is considered one of the greatest college football coaches of all time.

Saban played defensive back at Kent State University. Upon his graduation in 1973, he had intended to pursue a career in automotive sales until the Kent State head coach, Don James, hired him as a graduate assistant. Saban worked his way up the coaching ladder through various collegiate and professional assistant roles before landing his first head-coaching job with the University of Toledo. He spent just one season there before moving on in 1991 to become the defensive coordinator of the Cleveland Browns of the National Football League (NFL) under head coach Bill Belichick.

Saban returned to the college game in 1995 as the head coach at Michigan State University, where he rebuilt the team over the course of five seasons. Following the 1999–2000 season, when Michigan State finished with a 9–2 record, he resigned and became the head coach at Louisiana State University (LSU). Saban had even more success during his five years at LSU, with five appearances in bowl games. Following a 13–1 campaign during the 2003–04 season, LSU defeated the University of Oklahoma in the BCS national championship (in the Sugar Bowl) to give Saban his first college national title.

After spending one more year at LSU, he returned to the professional ranks as the head coach of the NFL's Miami Dolphins. The team had two mediocre seasons, however, marked by numerous personality clashes between Saban and his players, and he left to take over the University of Alabama in 2007.

Saban quickly rebuilt Alabama into a powerhouse with his sharp recruiting and defensive-strategy acumen. In his third season he led the Crimson Tide to a perfect 14–0 record, ending with a victory over the University of Texas in the national championship game. He followed that with consecutive national titles in the 2011–12 and 2012–13 seasons. Alabama was the top seed in the inaugural College Football Playoff (CFP) after the 2014–15 regular season, but the team was upset in the Sugar Bowl semifinal by the Ohio State University. In 2015–16 Saban coached Alabama to a 14–1 record, capping off another successful season with an overwhelming 38–0 victory over his former school Michigan State in the CFP semifinal and a win over Clemson University in the national championship game.

Although his five total top-division college football championships still trailed the six national titles won by his Alabama predecessor Paul (“Bear”) Bryant, Saban’s success came after college football was established as a big business with millions of dollars spent at schools, making the sport more competitive (and with higher stakes) than ever before, leading some observers to start referring to Saban as the best college coach ever.

In 2016 he guided Alabama to an undefeated regular season in which the dominant Crimson Tide topped the Associated Press college football poll from the first week of the season until the CFP championship game. There, Alabama lost a thrilling title-game rematch to Clemson.

Despite having suffered a regular-season loss and not appearing in the SEC championship game, Alabama was controversially selected to be one of the four CFP semifinalists following the 2017 season. The team again proved that it was the premier program of the early 21st century by easily defeating Clemson in the national semifinals and then beating the University of Georgia in the first CFP championship game to be decided in overtime.

Saban's coaching in the title game was especially bold, as he benched his season-long starting quarterback at halftime in favor of true freshman Tua Tagovailoa, who rallied Alabama from a 13-0 deficit to its overtime victory.



Coach Saban at work for LSU

Alabama returned to the CFP final following another undefeated regular season in 2018, but the Crimson Tide lost to Clemson by 28 points, the team's worst loss of the Saban era. In 2019 Alabama lost two regular-season games and was left out of the CFP field for the first time in that event's six-year existence.

LSU in Year 2000

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2000 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-seventh

season overall and its sixty-eighth season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Nick Saban, the LSU head coach in his first of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a comeback season at 8-4. Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a second place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #22 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Peach Bowl, defeating Georgia Tech.

The coach makes a big difference in football. Using most of the team that Gerry Dinardo had a tough time squeezing a victory from, Nick Saban turned the faltering LSU program around in his first season. It nears repeating. Saban led the team to a turnaround from a 3–8 record in 1999 to an 8–4 record and a victory in the Peach Bowl.

Games of the 2000 Season

About the Home Field

Since it was built, Tiger Stadium has kept up with the times. In this chronology, when we hit the year 2000, LSU released another big expansion and it had another planned for 2005. The 11,600 seat addition in 2000 allowed the Tigers to pack a ton more screaming fans into Tiger Stadium. Throughout the 2005 season, the Tigers continued to expand the Stadium with the west side expansion. This \$60 million expansion added 3,255 club seats, a new press box and upper deck on the west side of the stadium. Completed by the 2006 season, this expansion increased the seating capacity of Tiger Stadium to 92,400. I wonder if I'll be invited one day to somebody's 50-yr line seats for a Tigers' game. OK, it's a dream.

In the year 2000 season and home opener on September 2 at 7:00 p.m., LSU walloped Western Carolina at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (58–0) before 87,188. On Sep 9, LSU beat Houston at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (28–13) before 82,469. Then, on Sep 16, at No. 24 Auburn in Jordan–Hare Stadium, Auburn, AL (Tiger Bowl), LSU and Nick Saban got their first defeat of the season, L (17–34) before 85,612. On Sep 23, UAB defeated LSU at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, LA L (10–13) before 85,339. Then,

on Sep 30, LSU beat #11 Tennessee in OT at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (38–31) OT before 91,682.

On Oct 7 at #12 Florida at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium Gainesville, FL, the Gators clobbered LSU L (9–41) before 85,365. On Oct 14, LSU shutout Kentucky at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (34–0) before 85,664. On Oct 21, LSU got by #13 Mississippi State at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA, W 45–38 OT before 90,584. On Nov 4, LSU squeaked a win out of Alabama at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (30–28) before 91,778.

On Nov 11 LSU beat Ole Miss at Vaught–Hemingway Stadium, Oxford, MS (Magnolia Bowl) W (20–9) before 52,476. On Nov 24 in the regular season finale at Arkansas' War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock, AR in the Battle for the Golden Boot, the Razorbacks beat LSU L (3–14) before 43,982.

The Peach Bowl December 29, 2000

On December 29, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA (Peach Bowl), Nick Saban and LSU's Tigers defeated the #15 Georgia Tech Yellowjackets W (28–14) before 73,614

2000 Peach Bowl

LSU 28, Georgia Tech 14

December 29, 2000

Georgia Dome (73,614)

Rohan Davey came off the bench to lead the Tigers to a 28-14 come-from-behind win over Georgia Tech in the Peach Bowl. Trailing 14-3 at halftime, Davey started the second half and led the Tigers to a touchdown on the first possession of the half.

In all, Davey, the game's Most Outstanding Offensive Player, threw three second half touchdown passes and he finished the contest with 17 completions in 25 attempts for 174 yards. Davey hit wideout Josh Reed on a 9-yard scoring pass early in the fourth quarter to give the Tigers the lead for good at 17-14.

Reed's remarkable catch in the back of the endzone was followed up with a two-point conversion. Reed finished the game with nine receptions for 96 yards, while fullback Tommy Banks capped his senior season with two touchdown receptions and a career-best seven catches for 71 yards.

LSU's defense was also on its game, forcing Georgia Tech into six turnovers, including four fumbles. The Yellow Jackets entered the contest with only 12 turnovers all season.

Linebacker Bradie James led the defensive unit and was named the Peach Bowl's Most Outstanding Defensive Player, just eight days after his father passed away.

Placekicker John Corbello got the scoring started in the game with a 32-yard field goal. He later added a career-long 49-yard field goal in the fourth quarter.

The victory was the third in three chances for the Tigers in the Peach Bowl, having also won the bowl in 1968 and 1996. The game was played before a Peach Bowl record crowd of 73,614 fans.

2001 Football Season Nick Saban Coach # 30

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

Led by coach Nick Saban in 2001, the LSU head coach in his second of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a comeback season at 10-3. Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a first place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. They won the SEC Championship game v Tennessee. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #8 in the coaches' poll and #7 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Sugar Bowl, defeating Illinois.

Summary: LSU went 10–3 and won the SEC West and represented the division in the 2001 SEC Championship Game for the first time. After a 31–20 upset of favored Tennessee, LSU played in the 2002 Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, Louisiana, and defeated yet another higher ranked opponent, Illinois, 47–34. The coach matters.

SEC Championship & Sugar Bowl

On Dec 8, #21 LSU beat #2 ranked Tennessee at the Georgia Dome Atlanta, GA in the SEC Championship Game W (31–20) before 74,843.

You already know some of this from reading the seasons games above, the Tigers opened the season ranked 14th but dropped out of the rankings thanks to a 4-3 start that included a 26-18 loss in Knoxville, a 29-point home whipping against Florida and an 11-point loss at home to Ole Miss. But LSU caught fire after winning at Alabama and beat Arkansas and Auburn to clinch the SEC West. And they were just in their second season under one in a million coach Nick Saban.

Tennessee spotted LSU a 7-0 lead before scoring 17 straight points in the second quarter on Casey Clausen touchdown passes to Kelly Washington and Troy Fleming. It could have been more, but the Vols could only get a field goal out of LSU failing on fourth-and-1 at its own 23. More importantly, the Vols had knocked LSU quarterback Rohan Davey and tailback LA Brandon Toe field out of the game.

The Vols felt that they were just 30 minutes away from Pasadena. But, their second half instead became a nightmare.

Donte Stallworth's fumble was decisive. (Photo left: Jamie Squire/ALLSPORT, Getty)

The Vols had no answer for LSU backup Matt Mauck, a 22-year-old redshirt freshman and former minor league baseball player, and the quarterback draw. Earlier in the game, he converted a third-and-4 and scored a touchdown on third-and-goal at 3 with his legs. The Tigers got a field goal just before halftime, and the backup Mauck drove them 28 and 33 yards in the third quarter to set up two long field goals.



After a Stephens fumble near midfield, Mauck's 13-yard touchdown run and two-point conversion pass to Josh Reed gave the Tigers a 24-17 lead with 14:20 to go in the fourth quarter.

The Vols had first-and-goal at the 4 on the ensuing drive and threw three straight incomplete passes and settled for a short field goal, but after an LSU three-and-out Donte Stallworth fumbled on a completion inside the LSU 35 on the first play of Tennessee's next series.

Hauck hit Michael Clayton to convert a third down, Tennessee was flagged for pass interference and LSU completed the six-minute drive with Domanick Davis scoring on fourth-and-goal from the 1 with 2:26 left.



The game wrap-up saw the Tigers needing just 285 yards to win. Mauck completed just five passes for 67 yards. Davis collected had 78 yards in Toefield's absence.

Tennessee's Rose Bowl hopes were dashed. LSU was not supposed to be in the game. Domanick Davis (Photo: Jamie Squire/ ALLSPORT, Getty)

Sugar Bowl

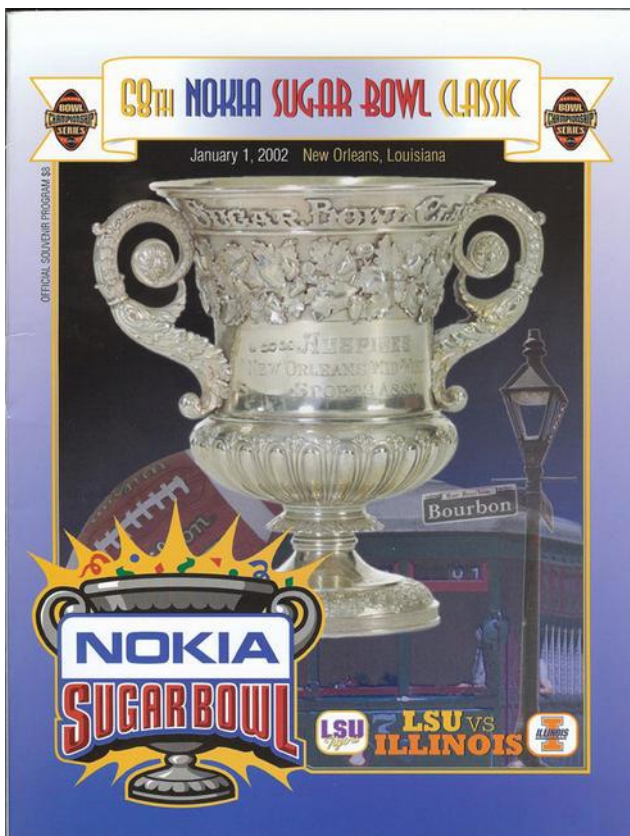
On January 1, 2002 at 7:30 p.m., #12 LSU beat #7 Illinois at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, LA in the Sugar Bowl W (47–34) before 77,684.

68th Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~ January 1, 2002

#12 LSU 47 (Final: 10-3, #7)

#7 Illinois 34 (Final: 10-2, #12)

2002 – How LSU and Illinois Met in the Sugar Bowl



This Sugar Bowl was one for the books – the record books.

In a game being played more for poll position and the old-time bowl goal of pure fun than anything else, LSU was rollicking in the first 30 minutes, by halftime sending press box statisticians flipping furiously through the records.

By then the one faint doubt of the outcome was whether Kurt Kittner would once

again manage to bring his team a come-from-behind victory, which he had done five times during the regular-season.

In that opening half the Illini simply could not slow down the Tigers. After a couple of self-inflicted miscues (both by tight ends – a flag on Robert Royal that killed one drive and a drop by Joe Domingaux that could have gone the distance), LSU scored touchdowns on five of its next six possessions. That span included the biggest scoring spurt in Sugar Bowl history, with 27 Tiger points in the second quarter.

It came down to this: Tiger receivers were running helter-skelter across the Superdome rug almost unimpeded, through an Illini secondary that featured three All-Big Ten athletes.

“There came a point in the second quarter when Coach had to tell me to settle down,” Davey said. “I was trying to hit a home run on every play. It was just pitch-and-catch.”



After Domanick Davis (pictured at left), on his way to an unprecedented four Sugar Bowl touchdowns, scrambled in from the 2 in the opening period; he added two more in the second quarter – reaching the end zone on a quick-hitter from 25 yards out and then scoring from the 16. Both times Illinois was trying to shoot the gaps with its cornerbacks and both times Davis ran into the vacant spaces untouched.

In the air, even when Davey was missing his mark, Illinois was unable to cover the Tiger wideouts, which showed in the first-half stat sheets: 33 Davey passes and 19 completions, covering 246 yards. As it turned out, Davey’s two touchdowns came when LSU was at point-blank range, and both came on third down with Illinois playing zone defense. First, from the 5-yard line after Josh Reed found his way to the back of the end zone where Davey speared him. Then, from the 7, Royal did the same thing for the final points of the half.

The LSU defense was no less spectacular. Illinois simply couldn’t hold out the Tiger rush, coming at Kittner with hands high to disrupt his low passing trajectory. It was a successful strategy, making a basket case of Kittner, who was trying to throw over a picket fence of outstretched limbs and digits. He had more first-half passes batted

down at the line of scrimmage than completed ones. At one point he was 1-for-13 for a grand total of one yard.

One play told the story of Illinois' frustration: Illini go-to receiver Brandon Lloyd's only catch of the first half resulted in an LSU touchdown, when corner Randall Gay stripped him after a four-yard gain, picked up the fumble and returned it 19 yards to the Illini 5. Moments later the score was jacked to 27-0 when Davey hit the embarrassingly open Reed.

Kittner finished the first half 5-of-17 passing for 80 yards and a touchdown. But 75 of those yards came on a three-play scoring drive, leaving Illinois' best quarterback in history 2-for-14 for five yards the rest of the half.



“The best way I can describe their defense is ferocious,” said Lloyd, who eventually finished with two touchdown receptions and passed for another score. “They kept coming 100 miles per hour and never relented.” At intermission the Tigers had a commanding edge in total offense, 344-134, and led 34-7.

The Sugar Bowl was over, but Illinois showed its mettle by making it respectable in the second half. Kittner completed 7-of-10 passes for 142 yards and three touchdowns in the third quarter, and he ended the night 14-of-35 for 262 yards for four

touchdowns and one interception.

“We found some offense in the second half, but it was too little, too late by then,” Lloyd said. LSU linebacker Trev Faulk said, “We did everything we could to stop them in the first half. It would only be a matter of time before Kittner got going in the game.”

When the smoke cleared, no fewer than a dozen records were set in the highest-scoring Sugar Bowl in history, including 595 yards of

total offense, 444 passing yards by Davey, and 239 receiving yards by Reed on yet another record 14 reception.

“I was in a zone,” Davey gushed later. “There was no pressure on me. I was going to make the most of my opportunity. I was going to go out there and have fun.”

Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

2002 Football Season Nick Saban Coach # 30

Led by coach Nick Saban in 2002, the LSU head coach in his third of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-5. Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a first place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. They were Western Division CO-Champions along with Arkansas and Auburn. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked. LSU was invited to play in the Cotton Bowl Classic, losing to Texas.

The Cotton Bowl January 1, 2003

On January 1, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., #9 Texas beat LSU in the Cotton Bowl Stadium in Dallas, TX in the Cotton Bowl Classic Game L (20–35) before 70,817

Simms exorcises demons in Cotton Bowl win Jan 1, 2003
SBC Cotton Bowl coverage

"We left a lot out there," Saban said.

2003 Football Season Nick Saban Coach # 30

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2003 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-tenth season overall and its seventy-first season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Nick Saban, the LSU head coach in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 11-1. They were national champions. Their SEC record was 7-1 giving them a first place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. They beat Georgia in the SEC Championship. At the national level, the Tigers were #1 in the coaches' poll and #2 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Sugar Bowl, defeating Oklahoma for the BCS National Championship..

As noted, The Tigers compiled an 11–1 regular season record and # 1 in the SEC Western Division. They then defeated the #7 Georgia Bulldogs in the SEC Championship Game, Afterward, LSU was invited to play the Oklahoma Sooners in the Sugar Bowl for the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) national title. LSU won the BCS National Championship Game, the first national football championship for LSU since 1958.

The 2003 college football regular season ended with three one-loss teams in BCS contention: the LSU Tigers, Oklahoma Sooners, and USC Trojans. USC ended the regular season ranked #1 and LSU #2 in both the AP Poll and the Coaches' Poll. Media controversy ensued when the BCS computer-based selection system chose LSU and Oklahoma as the participants in the BCS title game, largely based on an assessment of the relative difficulty of the three teams' 2003 schedules.

During the bowl games, LSU beat #3 Oklahoma 21–14 in the Sugar Bowl (designated as the BCS National Championship Game for the 2003–04 season), while USC defeated the No. 4 Michigan Wolverines 28–14 in the Rose Bowl. LSU was ranked No. 1 in the final Coaches' Poll, and USC remained No. 1 in the final AP Poll.

It was a great year for LSU as they grabbed these prestigious honors

- BCS national champion
- SEC champion
- SEC Western Division co-champion
- Sugar Bowl champion

Games of the 2003 Season

In the season and home opener on August 30, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., LSU defeated Louisiana–Monroe at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (49–7) before 89,148. At Arizona on Sep 6, LSU pummeled the Wildcats at Arizona Stadium in Tucson, AZ W (59–13) before 46,110.

On Sep 13, LSU pounded Western Illinois at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (35–7) before 87,164. Then, on Sep 20 LSU beat #7 Georgia at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA with a College GameDay celebration W (17–10) before 92,251. Then, on Sep 27, #7 LSU lambasted Mississippi State at Davis Wade Stadium Starkville, MS W (41–6) before 45,835.

On Oct 11, Florida beat #6 LSU at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA L (7–19) before 92,077. At South Carolina on Oct 18, in Williams-Brice Stadium Columbia, SC, LSU beat the Gamecocks, W (33–7) before 82,525. On Oct 25, #9 SLU beat #17 Auburn at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA (Tiger Bowl) W (31–7) before 92,085. On Nov 1, #7 LSU overpowered Louisiana Tech at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (49–10) before 91,879. At Alabama on Nov 15, #3 LSU pounded the Crimson Tide at Bryant–Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa, AL W (27–3) before 83,818.

On Nov 22 #3 LSU edged out #15 Ole Miss at the Vaught–Hemingway Stadium in Oxford, MS (Magnolia Bowl) W (17–14) before 62,552. On Nov 28, #3 LSU shellacked Arkansas at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Battle for the Golden Boot, W (55–24) before 92,213.

SEC Championship Game December 6, 2003

In the SEC Championship Game on December 6, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. #3 LSU defeated #5 Georgia at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA (SEC Championship Game) W (34–13). It was also a College GameDay. The fan base at the game was 74,913.

LSU won the game 34-13. LSU dominated from the first quarter on. In the first Quarter Justin Vincent (LSU) rushed right side for a 87 yard touchdown. At 3:17 in the game, the Tigers got a safety. That made the score 8-0 favor LSU. In the second quarter Ryan Gaudet (LSU) nailed a 35 yard field goal. Matt Mauck (LSU) then passed across the middle complete to Michael Clayton (LSU) for a 43 yard touchdown. It was 7 plays, 71 yards, 13:43. Then, Georgia got on the board with a 51 yard field goal by Billy Bennett. It took 9 plays, 45 yards, 3:23. Halftime score was 17 to 3. Favor LSU

In the third quarter, Billy Bennett of Georgia kicked a 49 yard field goal. It took 5 plays, 12 yards, 34 seconds to get that done, Score now 17-6. The next score was an LSU TD at 4:20. David Greene (GA) passed on the right side and it was intercepted by Lionel Turner (LSU) who returned the ball for an 18 yard touchdown. It took 1 play, 17 yards. The score was then 24 to 6 after the extra point by Ryan Gaudet (LSU) was good.

The next action in the 3Q was David Green who passed down the right side complete to Benjamin Watson (GA) for a 18 yard touchdown. It took 4 plays, 72 yards, 0:30. Score was then 24--13 after extra point by Billy Bennett (GA) was good.

In the 4Q Justin Vincent (LSU) rushed down the left side for a 3 yard touchdown. It took 9 plays, 78 yards, 13:29. Score was then 31-13 Extra point by Ryan Gaudet (LSU) was good. Next score was the last of the game when Ryan Gauged nailed a 22 yard field goal. It took 7 plays, 86 yards, 3:26 Score 34-13 Game over.

Sugar Bowl (BCS Championship) Jan. 4, 2004

In the Sugar Bowl, aka, the BCS Championship Game, on January 4, 2004 at 7:15 p.m., #2 LSU defeated #3 Oklahoma at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, LA (Sugar Bowl). It was the last College GameDay of the season. The score was LSU 21 and Oklahoma 14. The game was played before 79,342

70th Annual Sugar Bowl Classic ~ January 4, 2004 BCS Championship

#2 LSU 21 (Final: 13-1, #2)

#3 Oklahoma 14 (Final: 12-2, #3)

How LSU and Oklahoma Met in the 2004 Sugar Bowl

From the start, with Tiger freshman Justin Vincent juking linebacker Gayron Allen and shooting 64 yards in the open field on the game's first play to set the tone, LSU seemed to be in command.

But the Tigers, a six-point underdog by the oddsmakers, and an even bigger long-shot by the nation's sports pundits, never completely put the game away in this landmark Sugar Bowl – the last to be played with a No. 1 title squarely on the line. A rotating and separate-from-the-bowls BCS national championship game would soon make that determination.

Despite the fast start, LSU had to contend with Oklahoma's offense which led the nation by averaging an eye-popping 45.2 points. And the Sooners were also the nation's third-best overall defensive team, giving up an average of 255.7 yards a game.

Not only did the Sooners have seven first-team All-Americans, but they practically swept the major individual awards that go to the sport's crème de la crème, including the Heisman Trophy, which was collected by quarterback Jason White.

Next to the Sooners, the Tigers just had two All-Americans, defensive tackle Chad Lavalais and cornerback Corey Webster.

Conversely, despite its relative anonymity, LSU was a complete team, scoring an average of 35 points behind Matt Mauck, a 24-year-old former minor-league catcher who had the SEC's highest quarterback rating, along with a dangerous combination of running backs and receivers and a big, fast offensive line that combined for 156 starts.

It was on defense, though, where LSU separated itself from the rest of college football. The Tigers led the nation in rushing defense, yielding a miniscule 68.2 yards, and were atop the statistical list in scoring defense, allowing a paltry 10.5 points a game.

It was obvious that in the Sugar Bowl something would have to give – but not the self-discipline of the Tigers, very much aware LSU hadn't won a national title in 45 years.

Between Vincent's run and the last meaningful play, with Tiger linebacker Lionel Turner flattening OU quarterback White on a delayed blitz, this may have been the biggest seven-point rout in football history. Put this in focus: LSU held Oklahoma to just 152 total yards and 1.8 yards per rush; and only two touchdowns.

And the Tigers spent the night, as they did all season, responding positively to adversity.

Vincent's long run to open the game was stopped short of the goal line when Sooner defensive back Derrick Strait ran him down at the Oklahoma 16. Four plays later, playing a first-and-goal at the 1, Mauck fumbled the snap and the Sooners recovered.

In just two plays, though, Webster intercepted White's first pass at midfield and returned it to the 32. LSU was on the boards in short order as speedster Skyler Green turned around the right end and tip-toed along the sidelines 24 yards to the end zone.

In the second quarter, Oklahoma showed its first signs of life when it blocked a Tiger punt two yards from the LSU goal. It took OU four plays (after a penalty) to punch it in and tie the score. The Sooners had been outgained 204-50 at that point, yet the teams were even on the scoreboard.

LSU put together a big-time response, driving 80 yards before Vincent ran the final 18 on the same play with which he opened the game, this time finding the end zone. The Tigers again had the lead with 4:21 remaining until the half – a half in which Oklahoma managed a total of 44 yards.

“That was the turning point of the game,” LSU Coach Nick Saban said of the go-ahead drive. “They blocked a punt and scored (an easy touchdown), and our offense came right back.”

What proved to be the final nail in Oklahoma’s coffin came with 47 seconds gone in the third quarter when White unleashed his first pass of the second half – and hit Tiger defensive end Marcus Spears in the flat. “I dropped back and it was like a gift,” Spears, a former tight end, said. “When I saw it coming, I said, ‘Man, put your hands up and try to get the thing to the end zone.’ ”

Twenty yards later, that’s exactly where Spears found himself. After a Tiger field goal, which would have given LSU a 24-7 lead, was wiped away by a penalty Oklahoma got new life, LSU made its only major mistake of the game, a third-down interception of Mauck that Brodney Pool returned 49 yards to the Tiger 31. Somehow Oklahoma was seriously back in the fray. Kejuan Jones went in from the 1 with 11:01 -plenty of time – to play.

The Sooners had Tiger fans gripping their seats from that point to the end, as White, taking over at the 5:45 mark, moved Oklahoma from its 39 to the LSU 12 in eight plays. From there, however, the Tigers threw up their prickly defense, giving OU no openings in the passing lanes. Only on fourth down did the Sooners come close.

The tying touchdown pass was tipped by safety Jack Hunt and trickled off the fingers of Mark Clayton in the end zone. “I just tried to give somebody a chance to catch it,” White said. “He almost caught it.” But didn’t.

LSU, despite the controversy, finished with its first national championship in four decades, even if Southern Cal, playing in the Rose Bowl, also claimed a piece of it.

Mauck had no doubt who was No. 1. “All I know is the powers that be selected us to be in this game; (and) we just received the (BCS championship) trophy.”

Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

2004 Football Season Nick Saban Coach # 30

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2004 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-eleventh season overall and its seventy-second season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Nick Saban in 2004, , the LSU head coach in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-3. Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a second place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were #16 in the coaches' poll and #16 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Capital One Citrus Bowl, losing to IOWA by five points.

The Citrus Bowl January 1, 2005

In the Citrus Bowl on January 1, 2005 at 12:00 p.m., #11 Iowa beat #12 LSU in Nick Saban's last LSU game in Orlando, FL (aka Capital One Bowl) L (25–30) before 70,229

Chapter 12 LSU Coach Les Miles -- 2005-2015

LSU Played in Southeastern Conference, Western Division

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>SEC</u>		
2005	Les Miles	11-2	7-1	T-1st Western	W Peach
2006	Les Miles	11-2	6-2	T-2nd Western	W Sugar
2007	Les Miles	12-2	6-2	1st Western	W BCS
National Championship Game--Winner					
2008	Les Miles	8-5	3-5	3rd Western	W Chick-fil-A
2009	Les Miles	9-4	5-3	2nd Western	L Capital One
2010	Les Miles	11-2	6-2	T-2nd Western	W Cotton
2011	Les Miles	13-1	8-0	1st Western	L BCS
National Championship Game--Loser					
2012	Les Miles	10-3	6-2	2nd Western	L Chick-fil-A
2013	Les Miles	10-3	5-3	3rd Western	W Outback
2014	Les Miles	8-5	4-4	T-4th Western	L Music City
2015	Les Miles	9-3	5-3	T-3rd West	W Texas

LSU New Coach Les Miles- a great coach



Les Miles with the Louisiana State (LSU) Team

About Les Miles: The Tigers were better with Les Miles than with Nick Saban. Yes, I am talking about Les Miles with the Louisiana State (LSU) Team. No kidding here, folks. Les was never the Alabama Head coach. The Tigers had multiple 10-win seasons under a guy referred to as the Mad Hatter. While at LSU, Miles led the Tigers to the 2007 BCS National Championship, the program's third in school history.

From 2005-2016, Miles had a record of 114-34 in 148 career games coached as the LSU head man. He finished with a .770 winning percentage, and coached the Tigers to two SEC Championship game berths, going 2-0 in those match-ups.

Miles earned the AP Coach of the Year, SEC Coach of the Year and the Home Depot Coach of the Year awards in 2011.

Though he is no longer with the program, Miles will be remembered by Tigers fans for his gutsy play calls in crucial situations.

A bit more on Les

Known as a master motivator with years of continued success in Baton Rouge, Miles put his 'Miles Method' in place shortly after arriving at LSU in 2005 and since then, he won two SEC titles and a BCS National Championship at one of college football's elite programs.

Really nicknamed the Mad Hatter for his bright-white, perfectly curved caps on gamedays, Miles' reputation as a gutsy play-caller in late-game situations demands respect from the opposition and his post-game flair at the mic goes toe-to-toe with South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier's verbal antics as the SEC's top personalities.

Miles is unique, from his open-handed sideline clapping to his battlefield mentality, he is one of the game's most original. Miles' grass snack before a pivotal goal-to-go situation against Alabama in 2010 was one of his proudest moments, the perfect example of being different.

Prior to replacing Nick Saban as head coach at LSU, Miles spent four years at Oklahoma State as the Cowboys' leading man. He

helped turn things around and in 2002, was named the Big XII's Coach of the Year.

In his playing days, Miles was an offensive lineman at Michigan under the legendary Bo Schembechler before beginning his coaching career as a grad assistant with the Wolverines in 1980.

Believed to be his dream job, Michigan passed on hiring Miles as coach in 2007 and 2011.

2005 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2005 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred-twelfth season overall and its seventy-third season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Les Miles, the LSU head coach in his first of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 11-2. Their SEC record was 7-1 giving them a first place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were #5 in the coaches' poll and #6 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Peach Bowl, shellacking Miami (FL) by more than 35 point.

This was the year of Katrina and New Orleans and parts of Louisiana were devastated. Despite all of the distractions from Hurricane Katrina, LSU still finished its season with an 11-2 record capped off by a 40-3 victory over #9 Miami in the 2005 Peach Bowl without starting quarterback JaMarcus Russell.

LSU's season opener against #15 Arizona State was originally scheduled as a home game for the Tigers, but when LSU offered hurricane victims refuge on their campus, the NCAA moved the game to Tempe, Arizona. Things looked bleak for the Tigers early in the fourth quarter against Arizona State when they trailed 17-7. Then LSU's special teams blocked two kicks, a 47-yard field goal

attempt and a punt, returning both for TDs to give LSU a 21–17 lead.

However, Arizona State regained the lead at 31–28 with four minutes left in the game. LSU started with the ball on their own 9-yard line. Nine plays later, LSU found themselves in a fourth down situation on the Arizona State 39-yard line where JaMarcus Russell threw a 39-yard TD to Early Doucet to take a 35–31 lead. Arizona State tried their own game-winning drive, but they were stopped on downs inside the Tigers' 30-yard line.

LSU's first home game came on prime time against No. 10 Tennessee. The game was moved from Saturday to Monday, September 26 because of Hurricane Rita. LSU had a huge lead at halftime, but the lead slipped away and the Tigers lost the game in overtime.

On October 15, LSU faced No. 11 Florida. Late in the third quarter, the Gators went up 17–14. Then, early in the fourth quarter JaMarcus Russell led the Tigers on a 12-play, 75-yard drive, capped by a 3-yard TD run by Joseph Addai, which put the Tigers up 21–17. LSU's defense took over from there, holding Florida to less than 30 yards the rest of the fourth quarter.

On October 22, LSU squared off against No. 16 Auburn. With just under five minutes left in the game, Auburn took a 17–14 lead. LSU responded by driving down to the Auburn 27-yard line, setting up a 44-yard field goal attempt by Chris Jackson. The kick was good, and the game went to overtime. LSU took the first possession and Chris Jackson made a 30-yard field goal to put LSU up 20–17. LSU's defense forced Auburn settle for a 39-yard field goal attempt by John Vaughn. Vaughn's kick hit the left upright, giving LSU the victory.

On November 12, LSU went to Tuscaloosa to play undefeated No. 4 Alabama. At halftime, Alabama led 10–0, but the Tigers came back in the third quarter to tie the game 10–10. After the Tigers missed three second half field goal attempts, the game went to overtime. In overtime, the Tiger defense held Alabama to a field goal. During LSU's ensuing possession, JaMarcus Russell hit Dwayne Bowe for an 11-yard TD pass, giving LSU a 16–13 victory.

Peach Bowl December 30, 2005

After being invited to the Peach Bowl on Dec 30 at 6:30 p.m. vs. #9 Miami, #10 LSU prevailed at the Georgia Dome, Atlanta, GA in the Peach Bowl. W (40-3) before 65,620

Flynn, Addai lead LSU to blowout win in Peach Bowl Dec 30, 2005

ATLANTA – They say that Miami waited until after the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl to put up a fight. Why? Miami and LSU players exchanged punches in the tunnel as they left the field Friday night after the Tigers' 40-3 victory, the Hurricanes' most-lopsided bowl loss. Matt Flynn threw two touchdown passes in his first start for #10 LSU (11-2) and the Tigers attempted two late fake kicks against the No. 9 Hurricanes (9-3).

Georgia State Patrol officers intervened in the brawl, with one officer holding a Taser while trying to prevent more players from entering the tunnel.

Minutes later, Miami's Andrew Bain, appearing to be dazed, was escorted by officers out of the tunnel, but no players were detained by police, Miami coach Larry Coker said at the time. Khalil Jones was taken to a hospital for observation, Coker said Saturday morning.

"I don't know what happened and I don't condone it," Coker said the night before.

While players surged to the tunnel, LSU coach Les Miles was surrounded by reporters on the field.

"It really did surprise me to find out there was a problem," Miles said.

LSU tailback Joseph Addai, who ran for 130 yards and a touchdown and added a touchdown catch, insisted the Tigers "try to play with class."

"We play with our helmets and you see it on the scoreboard," Addai said.

LSU's Jacob Hester, who ran for 70 yards and a touchdown, said trash-talking began as normal banter and involved Tigers receiver Dwayne Bowe, a Miami native.

"We had a guy who is from Miami who was kidding around with one of his boys," Hester said. "Miami thought it was something serious. They came in the tunnel and they were swinging, but it was just a joke between friends."

After a few minutes, LSU players were back on the field celebrating the win. Miami players weren't available for comment after the game.

Led by Flynn, LSU scored on eight straight possessions starting with a field goal late in the first quarter. Flynn completed 13 of 22 passes for 196 yards with no interceptions and was selected the offensive MVP.

"I was just trying to get the ball to the athletes around me," Flynn said. Flynn also rushed for 39 yards and was named the offensive MVP.

"Our players come into the final game of the season with a new quarterback, a very capable quarterback," said LSU coach Les Miles. "I felt they had to control the line of scrimmage for him and find a back who would scrap for yards and play dominant defense...and that's what they did."

Led by Flynn, LSU (11-2) rebounded from its worst game of the year, a 34-14 loss to Georgia in the Dec. 3 Southeastern Conference championship game, returning to the Georgia Dome and delivering one of its strongest performance of the season.

LSU scored on eight straight possessions in a streak that started with a field goal late in the first quarter.

Even with a lopsided lead, LSU attempted to add to the rout, faking a field goal while leading 34-3 late in the third quarter and then failing on a fake punt with a 40-3 lead late in the game. Miles said he called for the fake field goal but his players called for the fake punt.

Coker wasn't affected by the trickery.

"They can call whatever play they want to," he said. "It is our job to stop it."

LSU piled up 468 yards, the most allowed by Miami this season. The Hurricanes (9-3) entered leading the nation in pass defense and ranked third in total defense.

The Tigers were just as impressive on defense, holding Miami to 153 yards and six first downs, none in the second half. Kyle Wright completed only 10 of 21 passes for 100 yards.

LSU's dominant performance negated Miami's plan to utilize cornerback Devin Hester as a multiple threat on offense.

On Miami's first possession, Hester lined up at tailback and receiver and also took a direct snap at quarterback. Hester had a 24-yard run on the possession to set up a field goal. But overall, the junior and the Hurricanes were contained.

LSU had its largest margin of victory in a bowl game, easily surpassing its 45-26 win over Michigan in the 1995 Independence Bowl. Miami's previous most lopsided loss in a bowl game was a 29-0 loss to Arizona in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1, 1994.

Addai scored on a 4-yard pass from Flynn in the second quarter and a 6-yard run in the third.

With the game tied at 3-3, a key fourth-down stop by LSU's defense early in the second quarter gave the Tigers momentum.

On fourth-and-1 from the LSU 35, Wright faked a pitch to his left and then ran right, where he was hit by LSU's Melvin Oliver short of the first down.

The Tigers seized the opportunity as Flynn connected with Craig Davis for a 49-yard touchdown pass over Miami cornerback Randy Phillips.

After Jackson's 47-yard field goal pushed LSU's lead to 13-3, the Tigers added another touchdown late in the half on Flynn's pass to Addai.

Addai went over 100 yards rushing on his second carry of the second half. He rambled 25 yards to the 6, setting up his scoring run on a pitch to the left one play later.

With Addai suffering from cramps, Hester filled in on the Tigers' second touchdown drive of the quarter. Hester's dive over the top from the 1 with 5:27 left in the period pushed the lead to 34-3.

The Tigers faked a 46-yard field goal late in the quarter, with Jackson running 12 yards to the Miami 17. Colt David's 35-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter pushed the lead to 37-3.

2006 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Led by coach Les Miles in 2006, the LSU head coach in his second of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 11-2. Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a tie for second place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were #3 in the coaches' poll and #3 in the AP. LSU was invited to play in the Sugar Bowl, shellacking Notre Dame by more than 30 points.

Sugar Bowl January 3, 2007

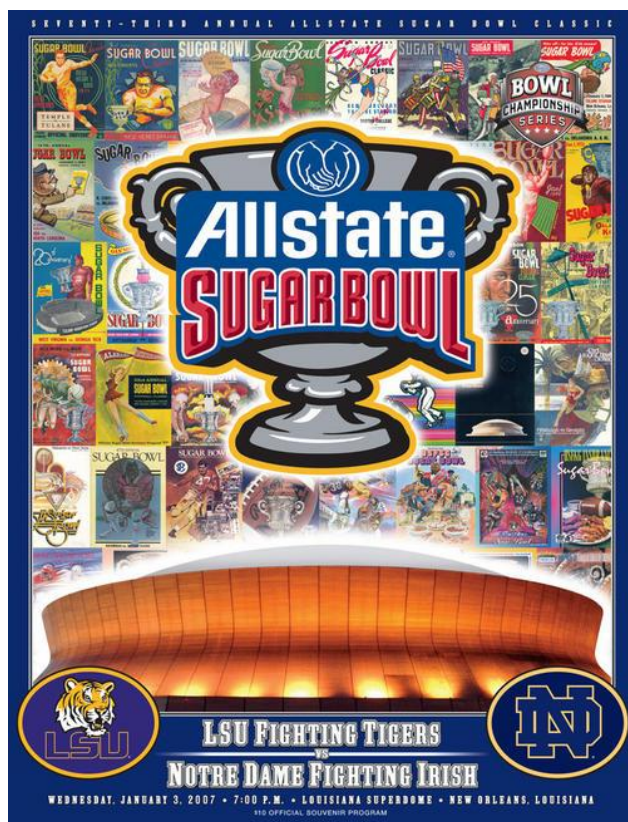
On January 3, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. #4 LSU pounded the #11 Notre Dame Fighting Irish at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, LA (Sugar Bowl) W (41-14) before 77,781.

73rd Annual Allstate Sugar Bowl ~ January 3, 2007

#4 LSU 41 (Final: 11-3, #3)

#11 Notre Dame 14 (Final: 9-4, #17)

How LSU and Notre Dame Met in the 2007 Allstate Sugar Bowl
If this was to be a head-to-head comparison between two of the better quarterbacks in college football, LSU's JaMarcus Russell and Notre Dame's Brady Quinn, it was Russell who made the most of it.



The strong-armed Tiger threw for 332 yards and two touchdowns, ran for 16 more yards and another touchdown. Quinn wasn't bad, somehow keeping his team in it for half. But there was no real comparison between the two quarterbacks. Or the two teams. Tiger dominance was illustrated in the second half when Notre Dame was outgained by the astonishing margin of 333-30. For the night, the Bayou Bengals gained an

eye-rolling 577 yards and scored 41 points – the most ever surrendered by Notre Dame in a bowl game.

“They came to play,” Irish safety Chinedum Ndukwe said simply, “and we didn’t.”

LSU certainly did come to play – right from the start.

The Irish opened the gates wide for LSU when they went for it on fourth down at their own 34 on their first possession. The fake punt failed, and the Tigers turned that into an easy touchdown that gave LSU early momentum. Russell immediately lofted a ball to a leaping Early Doucet, who made the catch 31 yards downfield, at the 3. The next play freshman Keiland Williams went in for the first points of the night. Then the Tigers went 80 yards on eight plays – with Russell rumbling for 21 yards to the Irish 15 on a quarterback draw. The drive ended with Dwayne Bowe latching onto an 11-yard Russell throw.

Twice the Tigers had the ball and twice they scored. Just nine minutes into the game LSU had a 14-0 lead.

To their credit, though, the Irish fought their way back. On two 80-yard drives, with 2:25 remaining until halftime, Notre Dame surprisingly tied the score with two short Quinn touchdown passes, to David Grimes and to Jeff Samardzija. The last came against a tiring LSU defense, which because of the Tigers' quick scores, had spent much of the first half on the field.

The upshot though, was that Notre Dame had actually pulled even against a clearly superior opponent. But that didn't last long, 70 seconds to be exact.

As if someone flipped a light switch, LSU cruised easily 82 yards downfield with Russell hitting Doucet with a 58-yard on-the-money bomb that carried to the 5. On the fifth play of the drive, Russell took it in himself on a quarterback draw. It was his first rushing TD of the season.

“That one right before the half got our morale down,” cornerback Mike Richardson sighed.

Notre Dame had been hanging in by keeping the ball away from the Tigers. At halftime the Irish had run 50 plays to LSU's 26; controlled the ball for 19:31 of 30 minutes; had rushed for 137 yards to LSU's 74; and had 15 first downs to LSU's 12. Furthermore, Darius Walker had 125 yards rushing against the vaunted Bayou Bengal defense, and the Irish caused the only turnover of the half. Yet, LSU was ahead 21-14.

“We gave up that big play before the half, which is never good,” Weis agreed. “And then they really laid the wood to us in the second half.”

Yes. The worst for Notre Dame, on its way to losing an NCAA-record ninth straight bowl game, was still to come.

Distancing themselves from the Irish in every conceivable way, the Tigers scored on their first four drives of the second half to end early any suspense about the outcome. In the third quarter, in which LSU scored on two Colt David field goals and another 58-yard pass from Russell to freshman Brandon LaFell, the Tigers out-gained the Irish 205 yards to 26; rolled up 11 first downs to 1; 25 to 7 in offensive plays and had the advantage in time of possession, 12:13 to 2:47.

A couple of unit tweaks by defensive coordinator Bo Pelini had allowed the Tigers to overwhelm the Irish offense, yielding one first down and a total of 30 yards in the entire second half. Walker didn't gain a single yard in the final 30 minutes and Quinn completed just 15 of his 35 passes for the game, good for a season-low 148 yards and two touchdowns along with two interceptions.

“Our defense was stingy all day,” LSU Coach Les Miles said afterward. “It was dominant in the second half.”

So was Russell, who was not only the game's MVP, but his eye-catching performance played a role in his selection as the No. 1 player in the NFL draft. Quinn went 22nd.

Miles couldn't have scripted things any better.

Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

2007: Matt Flynn BCS National Championship season

With JaMarcus Russell's departure, Flynn became a starter as a fifth-year senior. He started every game that season except the SEC Championship in which he was injured. He finished the season with 2,407 passing yards, 21 touchdowns and 11 interceptions. In addition, he rushed for 215 yards and 4 touchdowns.

Flynn threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to Demetrius Byrd to win the game against Auburn on October 20, 2007 with 1 second remaining on the clock; Colt David kicked the extra point to make the final score LSU 30, Auburn 24.



Matt Flynn (No. 15) quarterbacks the LSU Tigers during the 2008 BCS National Championship Game against the Ohio State Buckeyes.

He then led the Tigers to a 4th quarter comeback against Alabama. Flynn and the Tigers then beat Louisiana Tech the following weekend and climb back to the #1 spot after a loss by then-#1 Ohio State. The following week the Tigers beat Ole Miss. In his final game at Tiger Stadium, Flynn and the Tigers lost to Arkansas, seemingly losing any chance at the national title. However, LSU, without Flynn, beat Tennessee for the SEC Championship, and losses by Missouri and West Virginia vaulted LSU back into the title game in New Orleans.

On January 7, 2008, Flynn led LSU to a BCS National Championship, beating Ohio State 38–24. Flynn completed 19 of 27 passes and 4 touchdowns, and was named offensive MVP of the game. The Tigers finished the season ranked No. 1 in the polls.

2007 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

Led by coach Les Miles in 2007, the LSU head coach in his third of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 12-2. Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a FIRST PLACE FINISH in the Western Division of the SEC. The Tigers also won the SEC Championship game v Tennessee W(21-14). At the national level, the Tigers were #1 in the coaches' poll and #1 in the AP. LSU won their way into the BCS National Championship Game where they defeated Ohio State (38-24).

As noted, the Tigers won the Southeastern Conference (SEC) championship and the national championship—their third claimed national championship and fourth recognized by the NCAA and the college football community.

The team was led on the field by senior quarterback Matt Flynn and senior defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey, a two-time All-American and winner of multiple national trophies and awards. They played their home games at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The team overcame two triple-overtime losses and four other close games to become the first two-loss Bowl Championship Series (BCS) national champion ever. On their way to the BCS national championship, the Tigers won their tenth SEC championship by defeating Tennessee in the SEC Championship Game.

The Tigers finished the season having earned the Southeastern Conference championship trophy, the Grantland Rice Award, the MacArthur Trophy,^{2]} the Associated Press Trophy and the AFCA National Championship Trophy. It was a fine year for LSU and for Coach Miles

SEC Championship Game

On December 1, 2007 at 3:00 p.m, #5 LSU beat # 14 Tennessee at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA in the (SEC Championship Game W (21-14) before 73,832

LSU regains focus, stops Tennessee to win SEC title

Dec 1, 2007

ATLANTA -- Now, Les Miles and LSU can go home together, regardless.

Next stop, New Orleans. Only one thing remained uncertain about their future: What game awaited them in the Superdome?

Assured by Miles he would stay as their coach, backup quarterback Ryan Perrilloux and the Tigers (No. 7 BCS, No. 5 AP) shifted their attention to No. 14 Tennessee. The result was a 21-14 victory Saturday in the Southeastern Conference championship game – and suddenly a very strong possibility of playing for the national title.

"I'd line up against anybody and look forward to the opportunity," Miles said shortly after the win. "Anybody that saw this game tonight would certainly understand that this team is arguably the finest team in the country."

Jonathan Zenon scored on an 18-yard interception return with 9:54 left to rally LSU (11-2) from a 14-13 deficit, then Darry Beckwith picked off another pass by Erik Ainge deep in Tigers territory to seal it. Perrilloux was chosen as the MVP, though Ainge certainly played an equally significant role with his ill-timed tosses.

After No. 1 Mizzou and No. 2 West Virginia lost later at night, LSU felt it belonged in the BCS championship game.

"When you look at all the factors, I think we should go," LSU athletic director Skip Bertman said at midnight. "Our power rating, our strength of schedule. The fact that we won our

conference and didn't lose a game in regulation. I think the voters will look at that."

The Tigers' win sent them home with a spot in the Sugar Bowl at worst. By the end of the evening, LSU was looking at a best-case scenario -- a date a week later in the title game, also to be held at the Superdome.

Ohio State is No. 3, but LSU fans feel their team should jump ahead of No. 4 Georgia, which didn't reach the SEC title game. Virginia Tech is No. 6 and won the ACC title game, but lost to LSU 48-7 this year.

LSU took a flight back to Baton Rouge after its win, yet heard all about Missouri's 38-17 loss to No. 9 Oklahoma 38-17 and No. 2 West Virginia's 13-9 defeat by Pittsburgh.

"The pilot was nice enough to announce the scores from the third quarter until the end of the games," Bertman said. "The boys were excited."

With speculation swirling he would soon leave for Michigan, Miles did everything he could to put aside the distractions. He met with his team earlier in the day and told them he was remaining at LSU.

"It's a great place. It's got everything. They said they want me," Miles said.

A day after he said he would talk to Michigan, Miles turned down a chance to go back to the school where he played and coached.

"I certainly love Michigan. I will always be a Michigan man," he said. "It saddens me at times I can't be in two places."

Miles' players were glad to keep him in place.

"We know Coach is here with us. We know Coach has been sticking by us," Perrilloux said.

Miles often mouthed the word "poise" to his players during the game. After LSU won its first SEC title since 2003, he let his emotions show as he hugged senior Jacob Hester, who barreled for 120 yards with helmet-hammering runs.

"I'm just really happy for our seniors, our leadership," Miles said.

Miles had to be proud of his defense, too, for the way it stopped the Vols at the end.

Still no word, though, on whether defensive coordinator Bo Pelini will soon leave to become head coach at Nebraska as has been rumored.

"I'm not really talking about that right now," Pelini said. Ainge played like a composed senior until his final few throws, when he tossed the ball to the wrong team. Zenon stepped in front of a receiver making a square-in and had an easy romp to the end zone.

"I shouldn't have thrown it," Ainge said. Said Zenon: "We had prepared for that situation and we know they would run that play. That's exactly what they did." Tennessee (9-4) had its five-game win streak stopped. Asked whether he had a bowl preference for his team, coach Phillip Fulmer drew a laugh.

"We'd like to go to the Rose Bowl, how about that?" he said.

Instead, the Volunteers might wind up in the Outback Bowl. The Vols sported all-orange uniforms for the first time since 1999 and led 7-6 at halftime. The game shaded toward the Tigers' side in the second half, with Perrilloux starring in place of injured Matt Flynn.

Perrilloux did it all for LSU, a week after sitting out a 50-48 triple-overtime loss to Arkansas that cost LSU a No. 1 ranking for the second time this season. Earlier this season, the Tigers lost in triple overtime at Kentucky.

Throwing his first passes in three weeks, Perrilloux completed 20 of 30 for 243 yards. He opened LSU's option attack, ran for a 2-point conversion after Zenon's touchdown and threw a crunching block that drew gasps from fans on both sides when the replay was shown on the video board.

No wonder the Tigers have stuck by the talented sophomore whose career has been beset by off-field issues.

"I thought I played OK," Perrilloux said.

For a while, it looked as if Tennessee safety Eric Berry might be the star of the game. He made a pair of plays in the third quarter that helped Tennessee take a 14-13 lead and preserve it.

Berry recovered a fumble by NCAA sprint star Trindon Holliday that set up Ainge's 6-yard TD pass to Josh Briscoe for a 14-13 edge and later intercepted Perrilloux's poor pass. Perrilloux bloodied his finger on the play when he hit a Vols helmet, but stayed in. The Vols could've been ahead by more, but Daniel Lincoln missed field goal tries from 30 and 51 yards.

Down at halftime, LSU came out of the locker room with a new look. The Tigers opened up their playbook and quickly grabbed the lead.

Holliday took off on his first three runs of the game, Early Doucet tried a reverse and Perrilloux threw a 48-yard dart to Brandon LaFell. Perrilloux finished off the lightning strike by slinging a pass through two defenders to Demetrius Byrd for a 27-yard touchdown and 13-7 lead.

At the start, Tennessee broke out a bit of trickery that's become fashionable in the SEC.

On their first possession, the Vols slipped wide receiver Gerald Jones in as quarterback on a third-and-4. He dashed for 20 yards on just his fourth rushing attempt this season. That led to Ainge's 11-yard touchdown pass to Chris Brown.

Somehow, Tennessee made its lead stand up until halftime despite being outgained 271 yards to 93.

Colt David kicked a pair of 30-yard field goals the first two times LSU touched the ball. He missed another 30-yard try just before the half.

BCS Championship Bowl Game January 7, 2008

On January 7, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. vs. #1 Ohio State, the #2 ranked LSU Tigers beat the #1 ranked Buckeyes at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, LA in the last bowl game of the year for all the marbles--(BCS National Championship Game). It was also a College GameDay Celebration W (38–24) Because of the win in this game, LSU was crowned National College Football Champions. The game was played before 79,651.

2008 Allstate BCS National Championship

January 7, 2008

#2 LSU 38 (Final: 12-2, #1)

#1 Ohio State (Final: 11-2, #5)

WaaaaaHOOOOO!

The whoop of Les Miles interrupted what had been a quiet, polite, press conference with the normally soft-spoken LSU coach reflecting on his good fortune of leading his bunch of football warriors.

How LSU and Ohio State Met in the 2008 BCS Championship Game

In the middle of those introspective thoughts, Miles paused, and then gave out his bellow. Excuse me. Just kind of had to do that, he said, just one of those things. Exorcising his emotions was understandable. His Tigers had just earned LSU's second BCS championship trophy in four years, putting an end to a roller-coaster season of blowbacks, comebacks and setbacks, a season in which the sometimes under-appreciated Miles coached the Tigers to victories against five teams ranked in the final Top 15, and, in the process of

fighting severe injuries and outside distractions, defeated five coaches with national championship resumes: South Carolina's Steve Spurrier, Florida's Urban Meyer, Alabama's Nick Saban, Tennessee Phil Fulmer, and, now, Ohio State's Jim Tressel.

That took some doing, which eventually, after the Tigers' not-as-close-as-the-final-score 38-24 victory over Ohio State, made LSU the first two-game losing champion since Minnesota in 1960. Thinking back on it from his spot on the post-game podium, Miles mused of his team of domination, dramatics and second chances, "It was like divine intervention."

To the Ohio State players, early in the game, it seemed like divine guidance. Sophomore tailback Chris "Beanie" Wells broke loose for a 65-yard touchdown on the Buckeyes' first possession. On Ohio State's second series, backup running back Brandon Saine found himself free, courtesy of broke coverage, and caught a 44-yard pass to the LSU 15. Three plays later, junior kicker Ryan Pretorius kicked a 25-yard field goal.

Things had to look easy at this point for Ohio State, seeing as how the Buckeyes gave up just a nation-leading average of 10.0 points per game. This one, to some, must have seemed over.

Think again. LSU had been down by 10 against three other opponents (Florida, Auburn, Alabama) and won them all. "The coaches sat us down and reminded us we've been in big games before," said sophomore offensive tackle Ciron Black. "That we've been down before, to just focus and play like we know how to play."

From the point of that 10-point deficit, with 9:12 left in the first quarter, LSU proceeded to control the ball, running 36 of the next 55 plays, converting eight of its next nine third downs and stopping Ohio State on four of its next five.

The Tiger rally began with senior quarterback Matt Flynn leading LSU on a 10-play drive to set up junior kicker Colt David's 32-yard field goal. The Tigers were showing some signs of life.

Flynn then drove his team 84 yards – thanks in large measure to two personal fouls on the Buckeyes – to a tying touchdown. Flynn saw Ohio State preoccupied with four LSU receivers bunched to the right and took a quick snap and hit tight end Richard Dickson for a 13-yard score.

With the score evened, the stage was set for a second quarter 21-0 point eruption the likes of which the defensive stalwart Buckeyes couldn't have imagined.

Things conceivably might have been altered, but for the biggest play of the night – by the most unlikely player, but fittingly, considering this unconventional season.

Ohio State drove back to the LSU 21 to line up for a 38-yard Pretorius field goal. Suspecting a fake, Ricky Jean-Francois hesitated a nanosecond and then roared in, throwing aside a Buckeye lineman, and getting a hand on the ball. Junior linebacker Darry Beckwith fell on it at the 34. LSU then drove to the go-ahead touchdown – which would never be relinquished – a 10-yard pass from Flynn to sophomore receiver Brandon LaFell.

“They were in position to add three points,” Miles said, “and instead we get the short field and come back to get seven. That was really a big play.”

LSU ended up scoring 31 straight points, with a four-yard Flynn pass to senior wide receiver Early Doucet early in the third quarter. This game seemed over, and it was, though both teams would trade meaningless touchdowns down the stretch.

As purple-and-gold confetti rained down on the field at game's end, it was left to LSU senior defensive end Kirston Pittman to put everything into perspective: “We're a team of fight, a team of destiny,” he said. “There were people who didn't think we belonged here . . .” Then a big roar went up as Jean-Francois, the game's defensive MVP, held aloft the Waterford symbol of the BCS Championship, and Pittman finished, “But you see who's holding up the crystal trophy now.”

The only bigger winner of the postseason was the Sugar Bowl, which pulled off its two games in championship fashion, gaining kudos and accolades from across the sporting world.

Recap excerpted from the book “Sugar Bowl Classic: A History” by Marty Mulé, who covered the game and the organization for decades for the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

2008 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2008 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred fifteenth season overall and its seventy-sixth season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference. The Tigers entered the season as defending national champions, having defeated Ohio State, 38–24, in the 2008 BCS National Championship Game

Led by coach Les Miles, the LSU head coach in his fourth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-5. Their SEC record was 3-5 giving them a fourth place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were unranked in the coaches' poll and unranked in the AP. LSU was incited to the Chick Fil A Bowl and they defeated Georgia Tech (38-3).

Chick-Fil-A Bowl—December 31, 2008

On December 31, 2—9, at 7:30 p.m., LSU pounded the Yellow Jackets of #14 Georgia Tech at the Georgia Dome, Atlanta, GA in the Chick-fil-A Bowl Game W (38–3) before 71,423

LSU'S defense shut down Georgia Tech's triple-option attack and the Tiger offense was nearly flawless in a 38-3 win in the Chick-fil-A Bowl in Atlanta. Jordan Jefferson was named the offensive MVP, throwing for 142 yards and a score, while Charles Scott

rushed for 65 yards and 3 TDs as the Tigers led from start to finish.

Leading 7-3 after the first quarter, the LSU offense took over scoring 28 unanswered points in the second quarter to take a 35-3 lead at halftime. LSU's second quarter outburst was aided by outstanding special teams play by the Tigers.

LSU forced a fumble on a Tech punt return, setting up a 1-yard TD run by Scott for a 21-3 lead. On Tech's next possession, the Tigers stuffed a fake punt attempt by the Yellow Jackets, setting up another score just two plays later on a Jefferson 25-yard TD pass to Richard Dickson, stretching the lead to 28-3.

LSU added a final TD just before halftime when Keiland Williams raced 17 yards for a score. LSU finished the year at 8-5.

2009 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Led by coach Les Miles in 2009, the LSU head coach in his fifth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-4 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a 2nd place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 17 in the coaches' poll and ranked 17 in the AP. LSU was invited to the Capital One Bowl and they were defeated by Penn State L (17-19)

Citrus Bowl (Capital One Bowl) January 1, 2010

On January 1, 2010 at 1:00 p.m., #11 Penn State edged out #15 LSU in the Citrus Bowl in Orlando, FL (aka Capital One Bowl) L (17-19) before 63,025

Football 1/1/2010 1:00:00 AM LSUsports.net (@LSUsports)

Penn State Slips Past LSU in Capital One Bowl

ORLANDO, Fla. -- For the second time in as many trips to the Capital One Bowl, the No. 13 LSU football team watched a victory slip away in the final minute. No. 11-ranked Penn State hit a game-

winning field goal with 57 seconds to play to hand head coach Les Miles his first bowl loss at LSU, 19-17.

2010 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Led by coach Les Miles in 2010, the LSU head coach in his sixth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 11-2 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a tie for second place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 8th in the coaches' poll and ranked 8th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Cotton Bowl Classic there they defeated Texas A&M W (41-24).

January 7, 2011, Cotton Bowl Classic

On January 7, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., #11 LSU defeated #18 Texas A&M at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, TX in the Cotton Bowl Classic W (41-24) before 83,514.

LSU dominated the 2011 game. In 2010, the Cotton Bowl had celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a new logo dedicated to the year-long celebration. As noted, Texas A&M played Louisiana State University in the 2011 AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic on January 7, 2011. LSU would beat Texas A&M 41-24. This was the first Cotton Bowl Classic to be played in prime time, as well as the latest calendar date for the game.

2011 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

***** 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**

Led by coach Les Miles in 2011, the LSU head coach in his seventh of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 13-1 Their SEC record was 8-0 giving them a first place finish in the Western Division of the SEC and an SEC Championship after beating Georgia 42-10 in the SEC Championship Game, At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 2nd in the coaches' poll and

ranked 2nd in the AP. LSU was invited to the Championship series and they were shut out lost in the big game by Atlanta L (0-21).

To recap, LSU was a member of the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference. They had a great year finishing the regular season undefeated at 13-0, 13-1 counting the championship game which they lost. They finished the SEC at 8-0, becoming the crowned Western Division champions.

They represented the Western division in the SEC Championship Game where they defeated Eastern Division champion Georgia 42-10 to be crowned overall SEC champions. They finished the season ranked #1 in the final BCS poll to earn a spot in the BCS National Championship Game vs #2 Alabama. The Tigers, who had defeated Alabama 9-6 in the regular season, lost to the Crimson Tide 0-21. It was the first time a team was ever shut out in a BCS game. Despite the loss, it was a great LSU season and a great season for coach Les Miles.

Games of the 2011 Season

In the season opener on September 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. vs. #3 Oregon, the preseason ranked #4 LSU Tigers defeated the Oregon Ducks at the Cowboys Stadium Arlington, TX. It was both the Cowboys Classic game and the College GameDay celebration day for the Tigers W (40-27) before 87,711. On Sep 10 at home, in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA, LSU pounded Northwestern State W (49-3) before 92,405. On Sep 15, at #25 Mississippi Stat, the #3 LSU Tigers defeated the Bulldogs at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, MS W (19-6) before 56,924. Then, on Sep 24, at #16 West Virginia, in a game played at Mountaineer Field in Morgantown, WV in a College GameDay celebration, #2 LSU blasted the Mountaineers W (47-21) before 62,056.

On Oct 1, #1 LSU manhandled Kentucky at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (35-7) before 92,660. On Oct 8, #1 LSU beat #17 Florida at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (41-11) before 93,022. Then, at Tennessee on Oct 15, #1 LSU beat the pounded the Volunteers at Neyland Stadium, Knoxville, TN, W (38-7) before 101,822. On October 22 #2 LSU whipped #19 Auburn at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA (Tiger Bowl)

W (45–10) before 93,098 At #2 Alabama on Nov 5, in Bryant–Denny Stadium, Tuscaloosa, AL, in a College GameDay celebration, #1 LSU beat the Crimson Tide in OT W 9–6 (OT) before 101,823.

On Nov 12, #1 LSU crushed Western Kentucky at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA, W (42–9) before 92,917. Then, on Nov 19, #1 LSU shellacked Ole Miss at Vaught–Hemingway Stadium, Oxford, MS (Magnolia Bowl) W (52–3) before 59,877. Then, on Nov 25 at home v #3 Arkansas, the #1 LSU Tigers pummeled the Razorbacks at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA in the Battle for the Golden Boot W (41–17) before 93,108. LSU finished the regular season undefeated and untied. It was a great year. They won the Western Division SEC Championship and got to play Georgia for all of the SEC marbles.

December 3, V Georgia SEC Championship

On Dec 3 at 3:00 p.m., #1 ranked LSU Tigers played #12 ranked Georgia Bulldogs at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA in the SEC Championship Game. It was also a College GameDay celebration. LSU took no prisoners in dominating the Bulldogs W (42–10) before 74,515

ATLANTA — LSU won the Southeastern Conference Championship game on December 3, 2011, in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia. This game determined the 2011 football champion of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). The game featured the Georgia Bulldogs of the Eastern division against the LSU Tigers of the Western division.

LSU was the Western division champion was the designated "home team". This was Georgia's 4th SEC Championship Game and LSU's 5th, and the 3rd time these two teams met in this game. LSU defeated Georgia in 2003 and Georgia defeated LSU in 2005. This was to be the tie breaker.

LSU defeated Georgia in the 2011 SEC championship game 42–10. The game's MVP was LSU cornerback Tyrann Mathieu. The game was televised by CBS Sports, for the eleventh straight season. LSU moved to 4–1 in SEC Championship Games and Georgia to 2–2. LSU moved on to the January 9, BCS National Championship Game.

January 9, 2012 BCS National Championship

On January 9, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., #1 ranked LSU, who had beaten Alabama in the regular season played the #2 Alabama Crimson Tide in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome, New Orleans, LA in the BCS National Championship Game. It was also a College GameDay celebration. #1 LSU was defeated in the game by the score of 0-21, before a crowd of 78,237. In the final rankings, Alabama and LSU changed positions. Alabama was #1, and LSU finished #2.

Alabama's "D" embarrasses LSU as five FGs, late TD, seal national title

Jan 9, 2012

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS -- The Alabama defense took no chances in the rematch. The stakes were high. The College Football National Championship was on the line. Winner take all. Not losers' bracket for this game. Win or you're out for the next year.

When LSU's Jordan Jefferson dropped back to pass, he was swept under by a tide of crimson. Alabama was ready for sure and they remembered the regular season loss in single digits in OT.

When the LSU quarterback took off running, he must have felt like Alabama had a few extra players on the field. They were everywhere—swarming on LSU like hornets after being buzzed by a lawnmower.

Courtney Upshaw, Dont'a Hightower and Co. sure made it seem that way. With a smothering display of old-school football, the No.

2 Crimson Tide blew out the top-ranked Tigers 21-0 in the Allstate BCS Championship Game. It all went their way.

Former LSU coach Nick Saban's Tide also moved into the top spot in the final Associated Press poll for the eighth time, tying Notre Dame for the most of any team in college football.

In this postseason of high-scoring shootouts, one of the greatest defenses in college football history carried another title back to Tuscaloosa.

"They are unbelievable," said Alabama offensive lineman Barrett Jones, relieved that he only has to go against them in practice. "That defense is as good as any defense I've ever seen. They rush the passer; they have awesome linebackers and they're great in coverage. They really don't have any weaknesses. They have to be as good as any defense ever. These Alabama team words were no consolation for an LSU brood that had faced them once in the regular season and had beaten the same bunch of "greats."

Barrett Jones got no argument from Jefferson and the Tigers (13-1), who had beaten Alabama 9-6 in overtime on Nov. 5 -- a game the Tide was still smarting about when it got to the Big Easy.

LSU didn't cross midfield until there were 8 minutes left in the game. The Tigers finished with just 92 yards and five first downs.

"This defense is built on stopping them, and that's what we did," said Upshaw, the game's defensive MVP. "We wanted to come out and show the world we beat ourselves the first game. We wanted to come out and dominate from start to finish, and that's what we did."

The Crimson Tide (12-1) kept kicking field goals and finally made a long-overdue trip to the end zone late in the game -- the only touchdown scored by either team in their two meetings.

Jeremy Shelley tied a bowl record with five field goals and the defense did the rest, posting the first shutout in the 14-year history of the BCS. It was the Tide's second BCS title in three years.

"That was the message before the game: to finish," Saban said. "In fact, it was how bad do you want to finish? We certainly didn't play a perfect game, we got a field goal blocked, we couldn't find the end zone for a long time, but we just kept playing."

While only crimson-clad fans will remember this as a thing of beauty, Alabama erased any doubts that it deserved to be in the title game over another one-loss team like Oklahoma State or Stanford. Then again, one of those teams might have actually scored a touchdown before Alabama finally did, with 4:36 left in the game, long after fans may have flipped to something more entertaining than a one-sided kicking contest.

Amazingly, these Southeastern Conference powerhouses played twice in a span of about two months, and never got one of those things that's worth six points -- you know, touchdowns -- until Trent Richardson broke off a 34-yard run with 4:36 remaining. It only took 115 minutes, 34 seconds, plus the overtime period in their first meeting.

LSU had beaten eight ranked teams -- including Alabama in early November -- to establish itself as the clear No. 1 going into the bowls, but the Tigers didn't come close to matching their performance from the Game of the Century in Tuscaloosa. Instead of putting up a "Godfather II," this one was more akin to "Speed 2."

The Tigers were hapless, having been outgained 384-92 in total yards. On that one and only trip into Alabama territory, they quickly went back, back, back -- the last gasp ending appropriately with the beleaguered Jefferson getting the ball knocked from his hand before he could even get off a fourth-and-forever pass. They were not ready for Alabama's determination. Determination was the victor in this game.

"We didn't do a lot different," Saban said. "We did some things on offense formationally. Our offensive team did a great job. Defensively, we just played well, played the box. Our special teams did a great job."

He has won a pair of BCS titles at Alabama, plus another at LSU in 2003. He's the first coach to win three BCS titles, denying LSU's Les Miles his second championship. The Tigers will have to settle for the

SEC title, but that's not likely to ease the sting of this ugly performance.

A couple of months ago at Bryant-Denny Stadium, Alabama held the top spot in the first matchup between the 1-2 teams. The Tigers won with three field goals, while the Crimson Tide missed four of its six attempts.

OK, so maybe that wasn't a classic. But it was downright thrilling compared to the rematch, the first time in the BCS that teams played for the title after meeting during the regular season.

Credit the Alabama defense for that.

LSU simply couldn't do anything -- running or passing. Kenny Hilliard led the Tigers with 16 yards rushing, while Jefferson was 11 of 17 passing for 53 yards, usually hurrying away passes before he was sent tumbling to the Superdome turf. He was sacked four times and threw a mystifying interception when he attempted to flip away a desperation pass, only to have it picked off because his intended receiver had already turned upfield looking to block.

"I think people have stopped appreciating defense," Jones said. "What an awesome game defensively. Two really good defenses, and we were fortunate enough to put some points on the board." AJ McCarron was the offensive MVP, completing 23 of 34 passes for 234 yards. Richardson added 96 yards on 20 carries. But an even bigger cheer went up when the defensive award was presented to Upshaw, who had seven tackles, including a sack, and spent a good part of his night in the LSU backfield.

With the way his defense was playing, McCarron simply had to avoid mistakes and guide the offense into field-goal range. He did that to perfection.

"When you have a great offensive line like I have, and great players around you, it makes your job easy as quarterback," McCarron said. "I've got to give all the credit to them. I wish I could have the whole team up here."

Miles said the rematch would be another display of "big-boy" football, and that was apparent on the opening kickoff and first play from scrimmage. Morris Claiborne was clotheslined by Alabama's Trey Depriest on the return, then Michael Ford was sent flying by Damion Square and Jesse Williams on a 2-yard run that immediately set the tone.

But this time, the special teams went Alabama's way. Marquis Maze dealt the first big blow for the Crimson Tide with a 49-yard punt return midway through the opening quarter, and he might've gone all the way to the end zone if not for a leg injury that forced him to pull up. Punter Brad Wing was the only defender left to beat, but Maze had to hobble out of bounds.

McCarron completed a 16-yard pass to Darius Hanks at the LSU 10, setting up Shelley's 23-yard chip shot field goal. If nothing else, Alabama had accomplished one of its goals coming into the game: to at least get close enough to the end zone for its embattled kickers to have a better chance of converting.

In the first meeting, Shelley and Cade Foster combined to miss four field goals -- all of them from at least 44 yards.

In the do-over, Foster stayed on the sideline while Shelley also connected from 34, 41, 35 and 44 yards. Not that it was a flawless kicking performance. Shelley had another kick blocked and pushed another wide right, attempting a bowl-record seven field goals overall.

In addition, he missed the extra point after Richardson's touchdown. It didn't matter.

"The whole defense is the MVP," Upshaw said. "The whole defense. Roll Tide, baby. Roll Tide!"

LSU's best weapon was Wing, who averaged nearly 46 yards on nine punts. That was about the only highlight for the purple and gold, which failed to match its BCS title game victories in 2003 and 2007, the last two times the game was played in New Orleans, about 80 miles from its Baton Rouge campus.

"We couldn't sustain any consistency," Miles said. "The calls became much more difficult."

Miles never considered switching to backup quarterback Jarrett Lee, who started the first eight games for the Tigers -- four of those while Jefferson was serving a suspension for his involvement in a bar fight.

"We felt like with Jefferson's feet and the ability to get out of the rush, that it was fair that he finished," Miles said. "He certainly had a tremendously strong year in any regard. Boy, we wanted to finish this one. It's hard to finish a season that was so successful this way."

2012 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Led by coach Les Miles in 2012, the LSU head coach in his eighth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-3 Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a second place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 12th in the coaches' poll and ranked 14th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Chick-fil-A Bowl where they were defeated by Clemson.

December 31, 2012, Chick-Fil-A-Bowl

On December 31, 2012, #15 Clemson nosed out #9 LSU at 6:30 p.m. At the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA in the Chick-fil-A Bowl L (24-25) 68,027

Football 12/31/2012 11:19:00 PM Kent Lowe (@LSUkent)

Last-Second Field Goal Gives Clemson Chick-fil-A Bowl

ATLANTA, Ga. - The LSU Tigers looked on the verge of a knockout entering the final five minutes of the third quarter, but couldn't stop the Clemson Tigers on its three fourth quarter drives, including a late- drive that resulted in a game-ending 37-yard field goal as time expired that gave 14th-ranked Clemson a 25-24 decision over 8th-ranked LSU Monday night at the Georgia Dome.

The game winner, a 37-yard field goal by Chandler Catanzaro as the game clock ran out, was atonement for Catanzaro who earlier had an extra point blocked that put Clemson behind the eight ball in scoring until the final field goal.

2013 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Led by coach Les Miles in 2013, the LSU head coach in his ninth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-3 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a third place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 14th in the coaches' poll and ranked 14th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Outback Bowl where they defeated IOWA by a score of 21-14.

January 1, 2014 Outback Bowl LSU v Iowa

On January 1, 2014 at 12:00 p.m., #14 LSU beat Iowa . vs. unranked Iowa at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, FL and became Outback Bowl Champions with a score of W (21-14) before 51,296.

Jeremy Hill runs for 216 yards as LSU wins Outback Bowl Jan 1, 2014-- Associated Press Report

TAMPA, Fla. -- What Anthony Jennings lacked in experience, LSU more than compensated for with a talented supporting cast in the Outback Bowl.

Jennings made plenty of freshman mistakes Wednesday, however they weren't nearly as costly as they could have been for the 14th-ranked Tigers with Jeremy Hill rushing for 216 yards and two touchdowns in a 21-14 victory.

The second quarterback in school history to make his first college start in a bowl game, Jennings fretted over an interception that helped Iowa (8-5) get back in the game.

But with the outcome on the line, he simply turned and handed the ball to Hill, who made sure LSU (10-3) would not lose.

"Anthony in his first start was tight," coach Les Miles said, adding that Jennings learned some lessons will be beneficial moving forward with his career.

"He wasn't perfect by any stretch," Miles said. "But he did what he had to do."

Craig Loston's fourth-quarter interception stopped a potential tying drive, giving Hill a chance to put the game out of reach by carrying four times for 87 yards on a six-play, 92-yard march that gave LSU (10-3) a 21-7 lead.

Iowa (8-5) pulled within a touchdown for the second time in 4 minutes after Jordan Cotton returned the ensuing kickoff to the Tigers 4.

Jennings ran for a first-quarter touchdown, but the true freshman struggled to hit open receivers while completing 7 of 19 passes for 82 yards. In addition to throwing an interception that Iowa's John Lowdermilk returned 71 yards, he was sacked four times while standing in for the injured Zach Mettenberger.

C.J. Beathard replaced Jake Rudock at quarterback for Iowa on the first play of the fourth quarter. His fourth-down interception stopped one promising drive, but he also tossed a 4-yard TD pass to Kevonte Martin-Manley that trimmed Iowa's deficit to 21-14 with 1:42 remaining.

Lowdermilk set up Iowa's other TD -- Mark Weisman's 2-yard run in the third quarter -- with his interception return to the LSU 1. Officials initially ruled Lowdermilk, who was untouched on the return, scored. But the TD was reversed when a replay review determined the Iowa defender dropped the ball before crossing the goal line.

"It was just an embarrassing play, and that's not Iowa Hawkeye football. ... I really regret it and I apologize," Lowdermilk said. "It was just a sickening feeling all around. I was just so happy Mark scored. It was a bonehead play on my part."

The victory enabled LSU to finish with at least 10 wins for a school-record fourth consecutive season. The loss ended Iowa's three-game winning streak.

"Our team wanted to create a legacy, and the seniors wanted to be the first group to win 10 games four years in a row. They wanted to win a bowl championship and they wanted to commit to playing as a team," Miles said. "The hard work that each and every guy has gone through, there was no question they were going to play hard together."

Hill, a 235-pound sophomore who rushed for 1,401 yards and 16 TDs this season, averaged 7.7 yards per carry on 28 attempts. On the clinching drive, he delivered runs of 2, 28, 20 and, finally, 37 yards for his second touchdown. He also scored on a 14-yard run in the second quarter.

"Given an opportunity to close out a game, he knows what to do," Miles said.

"I took it on my shoulders that I needed to make plays to win the football game," Hill said. "Great players have that mentality."

Besides a three-touchdown loss to Alabama, the Tigers dropped three-point decisions to SEC rivals Georgia and Mississippi, while also displaying their potential by being the only team to defeat No. 2 Auburn during the regular season.

Jennings came off the bench in the closing minutes to finish a comeback victory over Arkansas in the regular-season finale, leading a 99-yard game-winning drive that he finished with a 49-yard TD pass.

Miles expected Jennings to play well, citing poise as one of the 19-year-old's strongest assets. Iowa didn't have much film to study of the young quarterback, but Hawkeyes coach Kirk Ferentz said any newcomer who entered a program such as LSU's and rose to No. 2 on the depth chart as a true freshman figured to have the makings of a star.

And with a talented supporting cast around him, Jennings didn't have to carry the Tigers on his back Wednesday.

Hill and receivers Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry combined with Mettenberger this season to make LSU the first team in SEC history to feature a 3,000-yard passer, two 1,000-yard receivers and a 1,000-yard rusher in the same year. And the Tigers didn't stray from the formula that made them one of the league's top offenses.

Hill broke a 42-yard run on his first carry, setting the tone against an Iowa defense that entered yielding just under 121 yards per game rushing and a little more than 303 overall, third in the Big Ten and seventh nationally. Seven plays later, Jennings finished a 77-yard drive with his 2-yard TD run.

"It was a gutsy performance by Iowa," Miles said. "We had a great amount of respect for them coming in and they showed that respect was well earned."

2014 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

Tiger stadium opened with capacity of over 102,000 in the fall 2014.

Led by coach Les Miles in 2014, the LSU head coach in his tenth of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 8-5 Their SEC record was 4-4 giving them a tie for fourth place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 14th in the coaches' poll and ranked 14th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Music City Bowl, where they were defeated by Notre Dame by a score of L (28-31).

December 30, 2014, Music City Bowl

On December 30, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. Notre Dame's Fighting Irish edged out the #22 LSU Tigers at LP Field in Nashville, TN in the Music City Bowl L (28-31 before 60,149

LSU TIGERS FOOTBALL

Music City Bowl Recap: Notre Dame Fighting Irish 31, LSU Tigers 28:

Miles' Last-Minute Magic Fails

A bad call by the Pac-12 officials calling the game helped cost the Bayou Bengals what could have been their ninth victory of the season, dropping the SEC to 3-1 on the bowl season

By Brandon Larrabee Dec 30, 2014, 8:36pm EST

Being in a tight game with a Les Miles-coached LSU team is supposed to be fatal for everyone except Alabama. You're playing into the strength of Miles, the knack of pulling out a win with a touch of magic and wackiness, despite his own clock-management gaffes. But instead, it was Notre Dame that ended up pulling out the last-minute victory at the Music City Bowl, and officiating might have had more to do with it than anything magical or bizarre.



Christopher Hanewinkel-USA TODAY Sports

The referees, provided courtesy of the Pac-12, missed an LSU touchdown on the field on what was a bang-bang play in real time. No major deal; it's easy to miss those things, and that's why college football now has instant replay. And the touchdown was reviewed -- but the mistaken original call was allowed to stand, to the amazement of seemingly everyone except the broadcasters, who defended the decision long after most people had declared it ludicrous.

You can SEE his knees, you idiots

Blown calls happen, though, and LSU still managed to take the lead for the first time with about six minutes left in the third quarter --

only to allow the Irish to tie things, 28-28, a couple of minutes later. Neither team would score again until Notre Dame kicked a field goal as time expired, Miles using his two timeouts to ice the kicker instead of preserving clock, and win the game. By that time, the Tigers' vaunted defense had allowed 449 yards of total offense to Notre Dame amid rumors that John Chavis could be headed to Texas A&M.



You can see his knees

On the other hand, there were some signs Tuesday that LSU's offense could be more effective next year than this one. Leonard Fournette ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns on 11 carries, adding another score when he ran a kickoff back 100 yards for another touchdown. Travin Dural added another four rushes for 61 yards. Redshirt freshman John Diarse had a 75-yard catch and run for a score.

But there are still some questions that LSU will face this offseason, coming off a year in which they put up an 8-5 record tied for the worst of Les Miles' time in Baton Rouge. What Chavis decides to do and who is named to replace him, if necessary, is just one of them.

There's also the issue of whether the bursts of productivity on the offensive side of the ball Tuesday can be turned into consistent

success throughout the 2015 season. That will do more to determine their fate than a frantic few minutes or a bad call.

2015 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2015 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred twenty-second season overall and its eighty-third season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Les Miles, the LSU head coach in his eleventh and last of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-3 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a tie for third place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 17th in the coaches' poll and ranked 16th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Texas Bowl they smothered Texas Tech by a score of W (56-27).

December 29, 2015, LSU v Texas Tech

On December 29, 2015 at 8:00 PM, #22 LSU smothered Texas Tech at NRG Stadium, Houston, TX in the Texas Bowl, W (56-27) before 71,054.

The logo for Louisiana State University (LSU) is displayed in a bold, purple, blocky font.

LSU 56, Texas Tech 27
Courtesy of The Sports Xchange
Dec 30, 2015

Texas Tech entered the Texas Bowl with one of the worst run defenses in the nation. LSU arrived with running back Leonard Fournette. What happened next was pretty predictable.

Fournette rushed for 212 yards and scored a bowl-record five touchdowns, leading LSU to a 56-27 win over Texas Tech on Tuesday at NRG Stadium in Houston.

Fournette pummeled Texas Tech defenders and went over 200 yards for the fourth time this season. The sophomore, who is not eligible for this spring's NFL Draft, scored on runs of 43, 4 and a pair of 2-yard touchdowns. He also caught a touchdown in the first half, helping the Tigers overcome a big performance from Texas Tech quarterback Pat Mahomes. Mahomes of course is tossing the football nowadays for the 2020 Super Bowl Champs, Kansas City Chiefs.

Patrick Mahomes completed 28 of 56 passes for 370 yards and four touchdowns, three to receiver Jakeem Grant, but couldn't keep up with Fournette and the Tigers in the second half. Grant finished with 125 receiving yards on 10 catches.

LSU rushed for 384 yards. Texas Tech finished with 29 yards on the ground. Tigers quarterback Brandon Harris, running back Darrel Williams and receiver D.J. Chark each had rushing touchdowns for LSU.

The game turned midway through the third quarter. Trailing 28-20, Texas Tech was threatening at the LSU 16-yard line, when Tigers defensive back Rickey Jefferson picked off a deflected pass near the goal line to end the Red Raiders drive. LSU quickly turned the turnover into points, with Fournette scoring from four yards out to put the Tigers up 35-20 with four minutes left in the third quarter. Texas Tech never recovered.

The win caps an up-and-down season for the Tigers, who were ranked as high as No. 2 at one point in the season, only to suffer a three-game losing streak in November that almost cost Les Miles his job. After a 38-17 loss to Ole Miss, reports surfaced that Miles would be relieved. But the Tigers rallied around their coach and carried him off the field after a 19-7 win over Texas A&M to end the regular season.

LSU led 21-13 at halftime. Fournette rushed for score and caught a 44-yard touchdown on a screen pass in the first half. Grant caught two touchdown passes from Mahomes in the first half to keep Texas Tech close.

NOTES: RB Leonard Fournette, who broke the LSU record for rushing touchdowns in a season with 21, is not eligible for this year's NFL Draft. ... Texas Tech QB Pat Mahomes went over 5,000 total yards on the season. He is the 12th quarterback in NCAA history to accomplish the milestone. ... LSU opens the 2016 season against the Wisconsin Badgers at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wis. ... Tuesday's game was an announced sellout. It was the second time since the bowl's inception that single-game tickets have sold out.

2016 Football Season Les Miles Coach # 31

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2016 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred twenty-third season overall and its eighty-fourth season playing football as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Les Miles, the LSU head coach for the first four games this season after he coached his eleventh and last of eleven seasons as head coach of LSU in 2015. The Tigers had a fine season at 8-4 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a tie for second place in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 14th in the coaches' poll and ranked 13th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Citrus Bowl where they defeated Louisville by a score of W (29-9)

They were led by head coach Les Miles for the first four games of the year before he was fired on September 25 along with offensive coordinator Cam Cameron. Miles was replaced by interim head coach Ed Orgeron, who was later promoted to head coach on November 26, 2016. They finished the season 8-4, 5-3 in SEC play to finish in a tie for second place in the Western Division.

Games of the 2016 season

In the 2015 season opener on September 3, at 2:30 p.m, Wisconsin edged out the #5 Tigers at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, WI. It was a College GameDay Celebration L (14–16) before 73,128. On Sep 10, #21 LSU beat Jacksonville State at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (34–13) before 98,389. On Sep 17, #20 LSU edged out Mississippi State at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (23–20) before 99,910. On Sep 24 at Auburn, The Tigers of Auburn beat the #18 Tigers of LSU at Jordan–Hare Stadium in Auburn, AL in the Tiger Bowl L (13–18) before 87,451.

Then, on October 1, after Les Miles was fired and Ed Orgeron became interim coach. LSU pounded Missouri at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (42–7) before 102,071. Then, on Oct 15, LSU whipped Southern Miss at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (45–10) before 102,164.

On Oct 22, Ed Orgeron's #25 LSU Tigers whipped #23 Ole Miss at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Magnolia Bowl W (38–21) before 101,720. Then, on Nov 5, #1 ranked Alabama came into Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in a College GameDay Celebration and squeaked by LSU L (0–10) before 102,321. Then, on Nov 12, at Arkansas, #19 LSU beat the Razorbacks at Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium in Fayetteville, AR in the Golden Boot Game W (38–10) before 75,156

On Nov 19, #21 Florida beat #16 LSU at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA L (10–16) before 102,043. Then, on Nov 24, at #22 Texas A&M, #25 LSU prevailed at Kyle Field in College Station, TX in the season finale W 54–39 before 102,961.

December 31, 2016 Citrus Bowl

On December 31, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. vs #5 Louisville, #19 LSU prevailed at the Camping World Stadium in Orlando, FL in the famous Citrus Bowl W (29–9) before 46,063

By the Associated Press

<https://www.espn.com/college-football/recap?gameId=400876106>

ORLANDO, Fla. -- For much of the first half Saturday, LSU sophomore running back Derrius Guice found little room to work as Louisville's defensive front filled the gaps and swarmed to the ball. But the second half of the Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl was a different story.

The game slowed down and Guice took the time to let the blocks develop before hitting the holes. Finally he popped a 12-yard run off left tackle and then the big one came the next play when he burst up the middle, broke a tackle and then was off to the races for a 70-yard touchdown early in the third quarter that all but closed the door on the 15th-ranked Cardinals and sealed the 19th-ranked Tigers 29-9 victory at Camping World Stadium.

"As a running back you just have to be patient, you can't get upset, you can't get mad when things don't always go your way," said Guice, who earned the Citrus Bowl MVP after finishing his day with 138 yards and a rushing touchdown while also catching a 1-yard touchdown pass. "You just got to work and grind, go on the sidelines with the coaches and get everything fixed."

The spotlight has been on Guice since star running back Leonard Fournette announced earlier this month that he would not play in the Tigers' bowl game so that he can focus on getting his injured ankle healthy to begin his path toward an NFL career. Guice had filled in nicely for Fournette during the season and Saturday was no different as his clock-draining runs and the Tigers' (8-4) suffocating defense limited Louisville's Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Lamar Jackson.

"We had probably one of the best players in college football in Leonard Fournette get hurt, and he stepped in and didn't blink an eye," said LSU coach Ed Orgeron, who won his first official game as head coach since being relieved of the interim title last month. "He is one of the best players in America and I totally expect him to be the best player in America next year and we're fortunate to have him."

Guice made explosive plays running the ball and catching it, but his most memorable play may have come on special teams in the fourth

quarter when he took a kickoff return 50 yards, steamrolling Cardinals kicker Blanton Creque near the sideline in the process. It was the perfect capper on a breakout season while delivering a glimpse of is in store for next season.

"LSU is Army U so when one man goes down you've got to step up," Guice said. "I feel like I've done a great job of stepping up this year."

KEY MOMENT

The Tigers sacked Jackson eight times and linebacker Arden Key was responsible for two of the sacks.

Key sacked Jackson for a safety late in the second quarter and then on the opening play of third quarter, he sacked Jackson again to establish a school record for sacks with 12.

TAKEAWAY

LSU: The Tigers defensive front was too fast and too dominant for Jackson and the Cardinals offense. Louisville was 0 for 13 on third-down conversions well into the fourth quarter before converting its first.

LOUISVILLE: Clearly the Cardinals' offense had not seen the type of speed on defense in the ACC they encountered against the SEC's LSU. The Tigers got to Jackson early and often from their base defense and with a variety of blitzes. Defensively, the Cardinals (9-4) struggled without starting secondary members Josh Harvey-Clemons (safety) and Trumaine Washington (cornerback) along with sack leader James Hearn (linebacker) all missing due to injuries.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

LSU: The Tigers looked overpowering on both sides of the football and will certainly see their stock sore from No. 19 in the AP poll after a convincing win over Louisville.

LOUISVILLE: The Cardinals suffered their third straight loss to conclude the season, which certainly makes it appear their No. 15 ranking was inflated. Louisville may remain in the Top 25 but it will be just barely.

UP NEXT

LSU: Now that the bowl season is over, the Ed Orgeron era begins in earnest. Matt Canada has been hired as the new offensive coordinator and can begin to install his system. His biggest decision will be at quarterback where Etling is returning with experience but the Tigers have two recruits coming in in pro-style quarterback Myles Brennan and dual-threat quarterback Lowell Narcisse.

LOUISVILLE: Led by the tremendous talent of Jackson, the Cardinals could contend for the ACC title and College Football Playoffs next season. But coach Bobby Petrino will definitely have more playmakers to help Jackson. The offensive line also has to get better in its protection of Jackson. The Cardinals lose a couple of talented seniors off the defense but the core returns, giving Petrino a chance to have his best team since returning.

Chapter 13 LSU Coach Ed Orgeron 2016 to Present

LSU Played in Southeastern Conference, Western Division

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>SEC</u>
2016	L. Miles, Ed Orgeron	8-4	5-3 T-2nd West W Citrus
2017	Ed Orgeron	9-4	6-2 3rd West L Citrus
2018	Ed Orgeron	10-3	5-3 T-2nd West W Fiesta
2019	Ed Orgeron	15-0	8-0 1st West, SEC Champs W Peach BOWL

*** CFP National Championship Game--Winner

Miles/Orgeron shared 2016 season presented in Chapter 16



LSU National Champions

Following half a season as the Tigers' interim head coach, LSU hired Ed Orgeron to be its full-time coach ahead of the 2017 season.

Ed Orgeron took over the Ole Miss football program beginning in 2005 and led the Rebels through three disappointing seasons while

serving as head coach. He was 3-8 in his first season in Oxford, the program's worst record since the 1987 season.

Ed Orgeron, LSU Coach Brief Biography



<<< Ed Orgeron

His offense finished the '05 season 111th out of 117 teams in total offense, and despite a slew of changes to the offensive coaching staff in the offseason his Rebels finished the 2006 season once again ranked 111th in total offense. Ed Orgeron between then and now, really learned how to be a head coach.

Ole Miss was 4-8 in 2006, and fans in Oxford began to grow impatient with Orgeron. His Rebels hit rock-bottom in 2007, finishing the season 3-9 and an even-more disappointing 0-8 in SEC play. It was Ole Miss' first winless season in conference play since 1982, and Orgeron was fired following the season and replaced with Houston Nutt. His final record at Ole Miss was just 10-25, including an abysmal 3-21 record against SEC opponents.

Orgeron, 58, was hired as LSU's defensive line coach in 2015 and had recruiting coordinator added to his duties in 2016. Four games into the 2016 season, Orgeron replaced fired head coach Les Miles as interim head coach.

Following the 2016 regular season, Orgeron was named head coach. The Tigers beat Clemson in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome last Jan. 13 to win the national championship with a 15-0 record after quarterback Joe Burrow won the Heisman Trophy. Orgeron is 40-9 as LSU's head coach.

Less than two weeks after winning the national title, Orgeron agreed to a new contract with a \$3 million raise to \$7 million a year over six years.

Orgeron, who has also served as head coach at Ole Miss and Southern Cal, is 25-9 at LSU. His career mark as a collegiate head coach is 41-36, however he's 31-11 over his last 42 games.

2017 Football Season Ed Orgeron Coach # 32

Led by coach Ed Orgeron in 2017, in his first season of many seasons as head coach of LSU in 2017, the Tigers had a fine season at 9-4 Their SEC record was 6-2 giving them a third place finish in the Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 18th in the coaches' poll and ranked 18th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Citrus Bowl where they were defeated by Notre Dame by a score of L (17-21)

Games of the 2017 season

In the season opener on September 2, 2017, at 8:30 p.m., #13 LSU shutout BYU at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans, LA in the Texas Kickoff) Classic. W (27-0) before 53,826. On Sep 9, #12 LSU shellacked Chattanooga in the Home Opener at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (45-10) before 97,289. Then, on Sep 16, Mississippi State overpowered LSU at Davis Wade Stadium, Starkville, MS L (7-37) before 60,596. On Sep 23, LSU nipped Syracuse at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (35-26) before 96,044. At home on Sep 30, Troy edged out LSU at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA L (21-24) before 99,879. On Oct 7 at #21 Florida, LSU nosed out the Gators at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium in Gainesville, FL W (17-16) before 88,247.

At home on Oct 14, the #10 Auburn Tigers came into the Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, LA in a meeting known as the Tiger Bowl, for obvious reasons. In the game, the LSU Tigers edged out the Auburn Tigers W (27-23) before 101,601. On Oct 21, #24 LSU beat Ole Miss at the Vaught-Hemingway Stadium in Oxford, MS in the Magnolia Bowl, W (40-24) before 64,067. Then, in an always tough encounter, on Nov 4, #1 Alabama beat #19 LSU at their home

place of Bryant–Denny Stadium, Tuscaloosa, AL L (10–24) before 101,821.

On Nov 11, LSU beat the Arkansas Razorbacks at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, LA W (33–10) before 98,546. On Nov 18, at Tennessee, in a game played at Neyland Stadium, Knoxville, TN, LSU beat the Volunteers W (30–10) before 96,888. On Nov 25, #19 LSU beat Texas A&M at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (45–21) before 97,675.

Citrus Bowl January 1, 2018

On January 1, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., the Fighting Irish of #14 ranked Notre Dame edged out #16 LSU's Tigers at the Camping World Stadium in Orlando, FL in the Citrus Bowl L (17–21) before 57,726

Boykin rallies Notre Dame to Citrus Bowl win over LSU

From the Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Notre Dame receiver Miles Boykin lived up to Brian Kelly's expectations.

The Fighting Irish's head coach told the junior during a practice leading up to Monday's Citrus Bowl game against LSU that Boykin was going to win the MVP trophy.

Boykin made not only one of the top plays of this bowl season but one of the more memorable catches in Notre Dame bowl history. He made a dynamic one-handed grab and raced down the sideline for a 55-yard touchdown with 1:28 remaining to give the 14th-ranked Fighting Irish a 21-17 victory over No. 16 LSU.

The win by Notre Dame (10-3) is its first in a New Year's Day bowl since the 1994 Cotton Bowl against Texas A&M and snaps a nine-game skid in January postseason games.

2018 Football Season Ed Orgeron Coach # 32

Led by coach Ed Orgeron in 2018, in his second season of many seasons as head coach of LSU in 2018, the Tigers had a fine season at 10-3 Their SEC record was 5-3 giving them a tie for second place finish in Western Division of the SEC. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked 7th in the coaches' poll and ranked 6th in the AP. LSU was invited to the Citrus Bowl where beat UCF by a score of W (40-32)

The Tigers were coming off a 9-4 season in Ed Orgeron's first full season. They had begun the year ranked 25th in the preseason AP Poll.

As you will see as we report in the short game summary below, in the first game of the year, the team defeated # 8 Miami (FL) in the Advocare Classic played at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. LSU got a backwind and won its next four games, including on the road against then-No. 7 Auburn. The team was in fifth place nationally before falling on the road to Florida. They rebounded with wins over No. 2 Georgia and No. 22 Mississippi State before being shut out by eventual SEC champions Alabama.

In the last game of the regular season, LSU lost on the road against Texas A&M in an FBS record-tying seven overtimes. The final score of the game, 74-72, set the FBS record for combined points in a single game (146). The team finished the regular season tied for second in the SEC's West Division and was invited to the Fiesta Bowl to play UCF, which the Tigers won by a score of 40-32 to end UCF's active win streak of 25 games. LSU finished the season with an overall record of 10-3 and was ranked 6th in the final AP Poll.

The team's defense featured three consensus All-Americans in defensive backs Grant Delpit and Greedy Williams, and linebacker Devin White, who was awarded the Dick Butkus Award as the nation's best linebacker. On offense, the Tigers were led by redshirt junior quarterback Joe Burrow, who finished with 2,894 passing yards and 23 total touchdowns (16 passing and 7 rushing). Senior running back Nick Brossette led the team in rushing with 1,039

yards and 14 touchdowns. It was a great year but as you will see in the 2019 season, it was just a warmup.

Games of the 2018 Season

In the season opener for LSU on September 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., #25 LSU beat #8 Miami (FL) at AT&T Stadium, Arlington, TX in the Advocare Classic W (33–17) before 68,841. On Sep 8, in the home opener, #11 LSU shut out Southeastern Louisiana at Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (31–0) before 96,883. Then, on Sep 15, #12 LSU nosed out #7 Auburn at the Jordan–Hare Stadium Auburn, AL in the Tiger Bowl W (22–21) before 86,787. Then, on Sep 22, #6 LSU beat Louisiana Tech at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (38–21) before 102,321. On Sep 29, LSU won its fifth straight. This game was against Ole Miss at home as #5 LSU prevailed at Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Magnolia Bowl W (45–16) before 100,224.

On Oct 6, #22 Florida defeated # 5 LSU at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium Gainesville, FL L (19–27) before 90,283. Coming back from the Florida Loss, LSU got the best of #2 Georgia on Oct 13 at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, W 36–16 before 102,321. Then, on Oct 20, #5 LSU beat #22 Mississippi State at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (19–3) before 101,340

On Nov 3, #1 ranked Alabama shut out #3 LSU at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in a College GameDay celebration L (0–29) before 102,321. On Nov 10 at Arkansas, #9 LSU beat the Razorbacks at the Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium in Fayetteville, AR W (24–17) before 64,135. On Nov 17, #10 LSU pounded Rice at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (42–10) before 100,323. Then, on Nov 24 in the season finale at Texas A&M in the Kyle Field College Station, TX, the Aggies beat the Tigers in 7 OT periods L (72–74) before 101,501.

January 1, 2019, The Fiesta Bowl

On January 1, 2019 at 12:00 p.m, #11 LSU beat #7 UCF at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, AZ in the Fiesta Bowl Game. W (40–32) before 57,246

<https://www.nj.com/sports/2019/01/lsu-vs-central-florida-fiesta-bowl-live-score-upda.html>

Nice recap by James Kratch | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

LSU vs. Central Florida Fiesta Bowl

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) -- Joe Burrow watched the ball land in an opposing player's hands and immediately gave chase. Locked in on preventing a pick six, LSU's quarterback didn't see Joey Connors, Central Florida's 313-pound defensive lineman, bearing down on him.

With a thunderous, blindside collision, Burrow found himself flat on his back, woozy and wondering what happened.

Minutes later, after being helped to his feet, Burrow was back on the field, hitting receivers all over the field.

The nation's longest winning streak was over. So was a second self-proclaimed national championship.

The LSU Tigers were Fiesta Bowl champions, thanks to their gritty junior quarterback.



LSU coach Ed Orgeron. (Brynn Anderson | AP Photo)

Burrow shook off the big early hit to throw for 394 yards and four touchdowns, helping No. 11 LSU end No. 7 UCF's 25-game winning streak with a 40-32 victory in the Fiesta Bowl on Tuesday. "I didn't really think about the hit too much after it happened," said Burrow, who had a cut on his neck from the hit. "It hurt for a second, I got right up and went on to the next play."

LSU (10-3, No. 11 CFP) started its first Fiesta Bowl without several key players on defense and fell into an early 11-point hole against the high-scoring Knights (12-1, No. 8 CFP).

The Tigers clawed back behind Burrow and a defensive front that made life difficult for UCF quarterback Darriel Mack Jr. Burrow returned from the early blindside hit to pick apart UCF's secondary, hitting 21 of 34 of passes, including two touchdowns to Justin Jefferson.

"It looked like the passing game we wanted," LSU coach Ed Orgeron said. "Joe was on the money."

LSU sacked Mack five times and made him rush numerous throws, holding the nation's third-best offense to 250 total yards -- 295 below

its average -- while spoiling the Knights' bid for a second straight self-proclaimed national title.

Taj McGowan scored on a 2-yard run and the Knights converted a 2-point conversion to pull UCF to within 40-32. After LSU recovered the onside kick, the Knights' last-ditch attempt finished with a tipped interception, ending a run that started after a loss in the 2016 Cure Bowl.

"Obviously, everyone in the locker room is really upset," UCF defensive lineman Mason Colubiale. "We haven't lost a game since 2016."

UCF declared itself national champions after finishing as the only undefeated FBS team a year ago. The Knights earned another shot at an undefeated season by staging a massive rally to beat Memphis in the American Athletic Conference title game.

But just like last year, UCF was on the outside looking in when the College Football Playoff final four was announced, adding to the boulder-sized chip on its shoulder and only a self-awarded national title in its reach.

The Speedy Knights got the Fiesta Bowl off to a fast start, going up 14-3 on Greg McCrae's 25-yard TD run and Brandon Moore's 93-yard interception return.

The Tigers roared back behind Burrow and their disruptive defensive front.

Burrow shook off the big hit on the pick six, finding Jefferson on a pair of scoring passes and a 49-yard TD to Derrick Dillon.

UCF sputtered offensively after its opening drive, but Mack hit Gabriel Davis on a 32-yard pass in the closing seconds to pull UCF to within 24-21 at halftime.

Burrow opened the second half with a 32-yard TD pass to Ja'Marr Chase, and Cole Tracy hit three field goals to put LSU up 40-24. Tracy's final kick, the 97th of his career, broke the NCAA all-

division record and ended the nation's fourth-longest winning streak since 2000.

"Love the way they competed for four quarters, continued to fight with everything that they had. Believed. Played as a group," UCF first-year coach Josh Huelgel said. "Just weren't good enough at the end."

Even depleted, LSU's defense proved to still be formidable and Burrow showed his grit after the big hit, giving LSU its first 10-win season since 2013.

UCF missed injured two-time AAC player of the year McKenzie Milton and had no answer for LSU's passing game to lose for the first time in two years.

SO MANY PENALTIES

The first meeting between UCF and LSU was chippy from the start, including three first-half ejections. LSU consensus All-America safety Grant Delpit was among those ejected after being called for targeting in the second quarter.

UCF had a key penalty in the second quarter, when Randy Charlton was hit with an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty after the Knights stopped LSU on a third-and-6. That kept the Tigers' drive alive and Burrow hit Justice for a TD that pulled LSU to within 14-10. LSU had 14 penalties for 145 yards, UCF had 12 for 104 yards.

2019 Football Season Ed Orgeron Coach # 32

***** Tie 1st Place in the Southeastern Conference West Division**
Won SEC Conference
Won Peach Bowl
Won National Championship

The LSU Fighting Tigers football team represented the LSU Tigers of Louisiana State University during the 2019 Southeastern Conference football season. This was LSU's one hundred twenty-sixth season overall and its eighty-seventh season playing football as

a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). In 1992, LSU joined the Western Division of the Southeastern Conference.

Led by coach Ed Orgeron, in his third season with many seasons to go as head coach of LSU in 2019, the Tigers had their best season ever at 15-0. Their SEC record was 8-0 giving them an undisputed SEC Western Championship. LSU won the SEC Championship game 37-10 to become SEC Champions. At the national level, the Tigers were ranked #1 in the coaches' poll and ranked #1 in the AP. LSU was invited to the Peach Bowl (CFP Semifinal), which they won W (63-28) over Oklahoma. In the CFP National Championship game, LSU beat Clemson in the Citrus Bowl W 42-25 vs. LSU won all the marbles there were in 2019 and they are staged for a great season in 2020.

For extra emphasis, consider that the Tiger began the year ranked sixth in the preseason AP Poll, and were projected to finish in second in the SEC West behind Alabama. The Tigers secured an undefeated regular season that included wins over top-ten-ranked teams Texas, Florida, Auburn, and Alabama.

In the SEC Championship Game, LSU defeated Georgia to win their first conference title since 2011. LSU was ranked No. 1 in the final College Football Playoff rankings of the season, earning them a spot in the national semi-final game to be played at the Peach Bowl.

They dominated fourth-ranked Oklahoma in that game, 63-28, to advance to the CFP Championship Game. There, they defeated the defending national champions Clemson, 42-25, to secure LSU's fourth claimed national title in school history, the second undefeated champion in the CFP era, and the second 15-0 season among any team in the modern era.

Because of their dominant season-long performance against a historically difficult schedule, several pundits have called the team the greatest in college football history.

LSU's record-setting offense was led by senior quarterback Joe Burrow. The LSU QB also won the Heisman Trophy by the largest margin in the history of the award. In this his final collegiate season,

he broke several NCAA FBS records, including most touchdown passes (60), and highest passer rating (202.0).

Burrow was accompanied on offense by 1,400-yard running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire, and two 1,500-yard receivers Ja'Marr Chase and Justin Jefferson. Chase received the Biletnikoff Award as the best wide receiver in the country.

LSU's defense was as good as it gets. The D was anchored by two All-American defensive backs in Jim Thorpe Award winner Grant Delpit and true freshman Derek Stingley Jr. Linebacker Jacob Phillips led the SEC in tackles. Head coach Ed Orgeron was awarded several national Coach of the Year honors. The coach makes a big difference in football. Go Ed.

Games of the 2019 Season

In the season and home opener on August 3, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. #6 LSU pummeled Georgia Southern at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, LA W (55–3) before 97,420. On Sep 7 at #9 Texas, #6 LSU beat the Longhorns at the Darrell K Royal–Texas Memorial Stadium in Austin, TX in a College GameDay celebration W (45–38) before 98,763. On Sep 14, #4 LSU thumped Northwestern State at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA W (65–14) before 100,334. Then, on Sep 21, at Vanderbilt, the #4 ranked Tigers shellacked the Commodores at Vanderbilt stadium in Nashville, TN W (66–38) before 32,048. On Oct 5, #5 LSU smothered Utah State at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (42–6) before 100,266.

On Oct 12, #5 LSU beat #7 Florida at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA in another College GameDay celebration W (42–28) before 102,321. On Oct 19 #2 LSU pounded Mississippi State at Davis Wade Stadium Starkville, MS W (36–13) before 59,282. Then, on Oct 26, LSU edged out #9 Auburn at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Tiger Bowl W(23–20) before 102,160.

On Nov 9 at #3 Alabama, #2 LSU edged out the Crimson Tide at Bryant–Denny Stadium Tuscaloosa, AL in a College GameDay celebration W (46–41) before 101,821. Then, on Nov 16, #1 LSU

beat Ole Miss Vaught–Hemingway Stadium, Oxford, MS in the Magnolia Bowl W (58–37) before 53,797. On Nov 23, #1 LSU drubbed Arkansas at home in Tiger Stadium Baton Rouge, LA in the Battle for the Golden Boot, W (56–20) before 101,173. On November 30, LSU walloped Texas A&M at home in Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA W (50–7) before 102,218

December 7, 2019 SEC Championship Game

On December 7, 2019, at 3:00 p.m, #2 LSU beat #4 Georgia at Mercedes-Benz Stadium Atlanta, GA in the SEC Championship Game, a College GameDay) Celebration. W (37–10) before 74,150.

Burrow completes Heisman coronation, LSU routs Georgia 37-10

By the Associated Press

ATLANTA -- Joe Burrow collected a shiny award as the game's MVP.

LSU's fans had another trophy on their minds.

"Heisman! Heisman! Heisman!" they chanted.

The coronation is likely complete.

Burrow turned in another dazzling performance on the big stage, leading No. 1 LSU to a spot in the College Football Playoff with a 37-10 rout of No. 4 Georgia in the Southeastern Conference championship game Saturday.

"Joe is the heartbeat of this team," running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire said.

The Tigers, going for their first national title since 2007 season, will either return to Atlanta or head west to suburban Phoenix for a semifinal game on Dec. 28. They surely made a persuasive case to be the top overall seed when the four-team field. and pairings are announced Sunday.

Burrow was all over the stat sheet for LSU (13-0, No. 2 CFP). He threw for 349 yards and four touchdowns. He was the Tigers' second-leading rusher with 41 yards on 11 carries, often leaving the Bulldogs grasping at air as he twirled this way and that. He even caught a pass on a ball that was batted down at the line and wound up his arms, taking off for a 16-yard gain.

"He's a great athlete, man," Georgia safety J.R. Reed said. "We had a lot of plays out there we were supposed to make, and he'd just squeeze out of it."

The Heisman-worthy moment came late in the third quarter. With Georgia (11-2, No 4 CFP) bringing the heat, Burrow spun to his left to get away from lineman Travon Walker, whirled back to his right to send Walker sprawling to the turf, then delivered a pass on the run while sprinting toward the LSU sideline with another defender in hot pursuit.

Justin Jefferson hauled in the throw just beyond midfield and took off down to the Bulldogs 9 for a 71-yard play. Three plays later, Burrow delivered his third TD pass of the game, hooking up with Terrace Marshall Jr., on a 4-yard touchdown pass that essentially finished off the Bulldogs.

"It was all improvised," Burrow said. "Justin ran a 6-yard hitch route and saw me scrambling and took off deep. We got a great feel for each other. I knew exactly where he was going to be when I got out of there."

Burrow wasn't done. Derek Stingley's second pick of Jake Fromm turned the ball back over to the prolific LSU offense at the 13, and Burrow wasted no time finding Jefferson for an 8-yard TD in the waning seconds of the third quarter to send many in the predominantly Georgia crowd heading for the exits.

LSU left no doubt it is the king of the mighty SEC, completing its run through a gauntlet of the league's top teams. The Tigers had already knocked off Alabama, Florida and Auburn. Now, they can add the Bulldogs to the list, ensuring the SEC will only get one team in the national playoff.

LSU came into the game as the second-highest scoring team in the country behind Ohio State. They figured to have a tougher time against Georgia's stellar defense, ranked No. 2 in points allowed. But Burrow kept the Bulldogs on their heels the entire game.

It was by far the most points Georgia has given up their season. Until Saturday, they held every opponent under 20 except South Carolina, which stunned the Bulldogs in double overtime nearly two months ago.

There was no such drama in this one.

Just total domination by the Tigers.

It was a painful loss -- literally -- for the Bulldogs, who were making their third straight appearance in the SEC title game. Two players were carted off the field with apparently major injuries. Another player wobbled off with a concussion after being leveled on a kickoff. Fromm twisted an ankle and had to go to the medical tent to get taped up, though he missed only one play.

Not that it mattered.

Fromm, who guided Georgia to the cusp of the national title two years ago as a freshman, was 20 of 42 for 225 yards with those two interceptions. He didn't get much help from his teammates: Tyler Simmons dropped a deep ball on the very first possession, and Matt Landers couldn't hang on to a throw in the end zone.

Georgia finally reached the end zone with just under 12 minutes remaining on Fromm's 2-yard TD pass to George Pickens.

"That is a really good football team," coach Kirby Smart said. "We were going to have to make explosive plays. We were unable to do that."

INJURY REPORT

Georgia's sideline looked like a M(asterisk)A(asterisk)S(asterisk)H unit.

Receiver Dominick Blaylock crumpled to the turf after going up for a catch in the first quarter. He was carted to the locker room with a left knee injury.

Outside linebacker Walter Grant suffered a concussion in the third quarter from a special teams hit. LSU's Tory Carter was ejected for targeting.

Backup middle linebacker Quay Walker (right shoulder) and cornerback Tyrique Stevenson (apparent leg injury) also left the field with injuries.

Star running back D'Andre Swift clearly wasn't at full strength, either, after going out of the regular-season finale against Georgia Tech with should injury. He had just two carries for 13 yards.

THE TAKEAWAY

LSU: The Tigers could certainly take pride in putting up 481 yards on a defense of Georgia's caliber, but the most encouraging aspect of this game was another strong performance from LSU's defense. Maligned much of the season, they followed up a 50-7 rout of Texas A&M in the regular-season finale with another championship-worthy showing against the Bulldogs, who were held to 286 yards.

Georgia: Fromm came into the season projected as a high NFL draft pick who would likely go pro after his junior season. Now, it's not a reach to say he might be better off returning for his senior season to try to boost his stock. He has now failed to complete even half his passes in five straight games.

UP NEXT

LSU: Makes its first appearance in the College Football Playoff, which began in 2014. The Tigers last played for a national title

during the 2011 season, when they won 13 straight games before a dismal 21-0 loss to Alabama in the BCS championship game. Georgia: Appears likely to make its second straight appearance in the Sugar Bowl against Baylor, loser of the Big 12 championship game.

December 28, 2019 Peach Bowl—CFP Semifinal

On December 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.. #1 LSU clobbered #4 Oklahoma at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, GA in the Peach Bowl – CFP Semifinal W (63–28) before 78,347.

Burrow throws 7 TDs, #11 LSU routs No. Oklahoma 63-28

By the Associated Press

ATLANTA -- Joe Burrow and the LSU Tigers turned in a first half for the ages, a breathtaking offensive display even as their coordinator grieved a horrific tragedy from his box high above the field.

This team from the bayou is truly something special.

With one more victory, it will be a national champion.

In his first game as a Heisman Trophy winner, Burrow threw for seven touchdowns and 493 yards as No. 1 LSU romped to a stunning 63-28 victory over No. 4 Oklahoma in the Peach Bowl semifinal game Saturday.

The Tigers (14-0) are headed to the title game against No. 3 Clemson -- a 29-23 winner over No. 2 Ohio State in the second semifinal in Arizona -- clicking on all cylinders, having dismantled the Sooners (12-2) with a 30-minute outburst that will long be remembered in Cajun country.

“We go into every game thinking nobody can stop us,” Burrow said. Certainly, the Sooners couldn't.

Burrow tied the record for any college bowl game with his seven TD passes -- which all came before the bands hit the field for the halftime show at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Justin Jefferson was on the receiving end for four of those scoring plays, also tying a bowl record.

As if that wasn't enough, Burrow scored an eighth TD himself on a 3-yard run in the third quarter, thoroughly dominating his expected duel with Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts, the Heisman runner-up.

Yet, the postgame celebration was weighed down by heavy hearts. LSU offensive coordinator Steve Ensminger learned shortly before kickoff that his daughter-in-law, broadcaster Carley McCord, was among five people killed in a plane crash in Louisiana. The small plane went down shortly after takeoff for what was supposed to be a flight to Atlanta for the game.

Head coach Ed Orgeron delivered the news to Ensminger, who was seen with tears running down his cheeks but stuck to the task at hand.

"Coach, we're going to get through this," Ensminger told his boss. Then the coordinator headed to his usual spot in the box, calling plays alongside passing game coordinator Joe Brady.

It was a brilliant, poignant performance in the face of such grief. The players didn't learn until afterward what Ensminger was going through.

"I can't think of what he was able to do today with the circumstances," Brady said. "It speaks to the type of man he is."

LSU needed only three plays to race 42 yards for its first score -- a perfectly thrown ball over Jefferson's shoulder for a 19-yard TD less than 3 minutes into the game.

Oklahoma briefly put up a fight. Hurts' 51-yard pass to CeeDee Lamb set up a 3-yard touchdown run by Kennedy Brooks that tied the score at 7.

After that, the rout was on.

It was 49-14 by halftime.

The Tigers' potent spread offense made this one look much like the Harlem Globetrotters carving up the Washington Generals, only it was the Sooners playing the hapless victim.

Jefferson hauled in a 35-yard pass for touchdown No. 2. Then a 42-yarder for No. 3. And, finally, a 30-yard scoring strike that left him counting off four fingers for the crowd -- all before the midway point of the second quarter.

Terrace Marshall Jr. contributed to the onslaught with TD catches of 8 and 2 yards. Tight end Thaddeus Moss -- the son of NFL Hall of Fame receiver Randy Moss -- made his daddy proud by getting free behind the secondary, hauling in a pass and shoving off a fast-closing defender to complete the 62-yard scoring play.

"One team, one heartbeat," Orgeron said.

It was a miserable finale for Hurts, who closed out a nomadic college career that began with him leading Alabama to a pair of national championship games before losing his starting job to Tua Tagovailoa. After graduating, Hurts transferred to Oklahoma for a one-and-done season that produced some dazzling numbers but ended short of the ultimate goal.

Running for his life most of the game, Hurts was largely stymied on the ground and through the air. He ran for a pair of touchdowns but gained just 43 yards with his legs. He was held to 15 of 31 for 217 yards passing, giving up a brilliant, leaping interception to Kary Vincent Jr. that quickly brought the LSU offense back on the field as the Tigers were blowing the game open.

"We needed to take advantage of every opportunity we had against a team like this," Hurts said. "We failed to do that."

BLINDSIDE HIT

Oklahoma defensive back Brendan Radley-Hiles was ejected early in the second quarter for a brutal hit on LSU's Clyde Edwards-Helaire. With Burrow scrambling toward the sideline, Radley-Hiles delivered the blindside shot to Edwards-Helaire coming out of the backfield. The officials did not throw a flag, but a video review showed that Radley-Hiles leaped into the defenseless player with a shoulder to the helmet.

Three plays later, Burrow went deep to Jefferson for a TD that extended LSU's lead to 28-7.

THE TAKEAWAY

Oklahoma: Playing for the first time in a city where the Braves have become notorious for their flops in the Major League Baseball playoffs, the Sooners turned in a familiar performance. They have made the College Football Playoff four times in the six-year history of the format, but have yet to win a game. That could affect the way the selection committee views the Sooners the next time they're in the mix -- or any other Big 12 school, for that matter.

LSU: While this game will be remembered for the dynamic offensive showing, the Tigers' defense kept up its encouraging turnaround over the latter part of the season. They held Oklahoma to 322 yards - far below its 554.2-yard average coming into the game, which ranked second nationally behind LSU. The front line kept the heat on Hurts, who was sacked twice and often wound up on his backside when he got the ball away.

UP NEXT

Oklahoma: Hurts' departure leaves a big hole to fill at quarterback, but freshman Spencer Rattler was one of the nation's top prospects coming out of high school. He played in three games this season, including a mop-up role in the closing minutes of the Peach Bowl. Rattler will likely be leading the offense when the 2020 season begins Sept. 5 against Missouri State.

LSU: The Tigers will head back to Louisiana for a de facto home game at the Superdome on Jan. 13. That mirrors their last title run during the 2007 season, when they beat Ohio State 38-24 in New Orleans for the BCS championship. "Just getting there is not our final destination," Orgeron said. "We're looking to win it."

January 13, 2020. CFP National Championship

On January 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., #1 LSU played and beat #3 Clemson for the National Championship at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans, LA in the CFP National Championship Game. It was also a College GameDay Celebration. W (42–25) before 76,885.

Burrow, LSU caps Heisman season, beat Clemson 42-25

NEW ORLEANS -- From small-town Ohio kid to Louisiana legend, Joe Burrow capped his record-breaking, Heisman-winning season by bringing a national championship to LSU.

Burrow threw five touchdown passes, ran for another score and finished off one of the most accomplished seasons in college football history by leading the top-ranked Tigers to a 42-25 victory against No. 3 Clemson on Monday night in the playoff final.

By the Associated Press

"He's one of the greatest players in LSU history," Tigers coach Ed Orgeron said. "He's done so much for the state of Louisiana and LSU. We are so grateful to Joe Burrow."

The senior quarterback from The Plains, Ohio, delivered the Tigers (15-0) their first national title since 2007 and fourth overall, breaking a few more records along the way in what was already an historic season. His five TD passes and 463 yards passing are the most for a BCS or College Football Playoff title game. So were his six total touchdowns.

"This is what I wanted to do from the time I was 5 years old, was hoist this trophy. And bringing it back to Louisiana," Burrow said,

then caught himself. "I guess we're in Louisiana, but staying in Louisiana, we weren't going to let someone come in here and steal this from us in our home state.

"We have a great fan base that came out and supported us. We were going to keep this thing right here."

Under a shower of sparkling white, gold and purple confetti, Burrow raised the CFP championship trophy toward the Superdome roof. The party was on -- no doubt already raging on nearby Bourbon Street.

Burrow became the first major college quarterback to throw 60 touchdown passes in a season and LSU snapped defending national champion Clemson's 29-game winning streak. For the first time in his college career, Clemson star quarterback Trevor Lawrence was on the losing team.

"I hate how it finished," the sophomore said. "But man, we did some really amazing things."

The Tigers (14-1) had won Lawrence's first 25 starts. "It's been a long time since I've stood in front of a team after a loss," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said.

On this night, Lawrence (18 for 37 for 234 yards) was no match for Burrow -- the Ohio State transfer who threw all of 16 TD passes last season with LSU.

His ascent has been dizzying and unprecedented. Running a version of the New Orleans Saints' offense brought to LSU by 30-year-old assistant coach Joe Brady, Burrow and an array of talented receivers transformed these Tigers into one of the most prolific offenses college football has ever seen.

The Saints' Drew Brees, Burrow's idol growing up, could not have done it better.

Orgeron has proved to be the perfect fit for LSU. Just like Burrow.

After tossing his fifth touchdown pass of the night, a perfectly placed jumped ball to Terrace Marshall Jr. from 24 yards out to make it 42-25 with 12:08 left in the fourth, Burrow signaled TD and strolled to the sideline.

The Superdome is LSU's dome away from home, about 80 miles from the Tigers' Baton Rouge campus -- and it was rocking.

The LSU band broke out its unofficial anthem, "Neck," and as the Tigers bounced and waved towels on the sideline, Burrow just sat on the bench, bobbing his head and waving one arm.

Joe Cool. Just doing his thing. Next stop: The NFL draft, where he will likely be the first pick in April. The final score was lopsided, but it was far from easy for LSU and Burrow.

Clemson pushed LSU into the deepest hole it had to climb out of this season in the first half. Two weeks after Lawrence ran for a career-best 107 yards against Ohio State, he opened the scoring with a 1-yard jaunt around right end in the first quarter.

After B.T. Potter kicked a career-long 52-yard field goal for Clemson to make it 10-7, the Tigers sprung receiver Tee Higgins on a 36-yard reverse for a score to make it 17-7 in the second quarter.

It took LSU 5:19 to wipe that out and take the lead, with Burrow and his favorite receiver, Ja'Marr Chase, doing most of the damage. The Heisman winner hit the Biletnikoff Award winner with a long ball to set up a quarterback draw from 3 yards out to make it 17-14.

Burrow and Chase hooked up for a 14-yard touchdown with 5:19 left in the second quarter and LSU fans erupted as their Tigers took the lead for the first time, 21-17. They never looked back. Chase finished with nine catches for 221 yards.

The SEC Tigers weren't done. Burrow led LSU on a 95-yard drive, taking a hard shot on a long run before finding Thaddeus Moss, son of former NFL star receiver Randy Moss, standing alone in the end zone. That made it 28-17 with 10 seconds left in the half.

Clemson defensive coordinator Brent Venables flummoxed LSU for most of the first quarter, with tight coverage and hard-to-decipher blitzes. Burrow, Chase and Co. put up 269 yards in the second quarter.

"Coach Venables is great at what he does, it just took us a while to get it figured out," Burrow said.

Did they ever. LSU dropped 628 yards and six touchdowns on a Clemson team that came in allowing 264 yards and 11.5 points per game.

"Weapons all over the field. We've been seeing it all year," LSU safety Grant Delpit said. "Just seeing how many weapons we had on offense is just crazy."

Over the last three games of his spectacular season, against Georgia in the Southeastern Conference championship game and Oklahoma and Clemson in the playoff, Burrow passed for 1,305 yards and 16 touchdowns. LSU won those games by a combined score of 142-63.

When it was all over, Burrow puffed on a victory cigar as he made his way from the locker room to the postgame news conference. No one was about to tell him he couldn't smoke inside.

This season, LSU's newest football hero has done just about whatever he wants.

"I don't know about the whole hero thing," Burrow said, "but I know this national championship will be remembered for a long time in Louisiana."---

Other Books by Brian W. Kelly: (amazon.com, and Kindle)

The Constitution's Role in a Return to Normalcy Can the Constitution Survive?
The Constitution vs. The Virus Simultaneous attack coronavirus and US governors
One, Two, Three, Pooph!!! Reopen Country Now! Return to normalcy is just around the corner.
Reopen America Now Return to Normalcy
Enough is Enough! Re: Covid, We are not children. We're adults. We'll make the right decisions.
How to Write Your 1st Book & Publish it Using Amazon KDP You can do it
REMDESIVIR A Ray of Hope
When Will America Reopen for Business? This author's opinion includes voices of experts
HydroxyChloroquine: The Game Changer
Super Bowl & NFL Championship Seasons The KC Chiefs From the 1st to Super Bowl LIV
Great Coaches in Kansas City Chiefs Football First Coach era to Andy Reid Era
Great Players in Kansas City Chiefs Football From the AFL to Andy Reid Era
Reopen America Now! How to Shut-Down Corona Virus & Return to Normalcy!
Why is Everybody Moving to the Villages? You can afford a home in the Villages
CORONAVIRUS The Cause & the Cure. Many solutions—but which ones will work?
Great Moments in Kansas City Chiefs Football. From the beginning to the Andy Reid Era
How the Philadelphia Eagles Lost Its Karma. This is the one place that tells the story
Cancel All Student Debt Now! Good for America, Good for the Economy.
Social Security Screw Job!!! Scandal: Seniors Intentionally Screwed by US Government
Trump Hate They hate Trump Supporters; Trump; & God—in that order
Christmas Wings for Brian A heartwarming story of a boy whose shoulders kept growing
Merry Christmas to Wilkes-Barre 50 Ways" for Mayor George Brown to Create a Better City.
Air Force Football Championship Seasons From AF Championship to Coach Calhoun's latest team
Syracuse Football Championship Seasons beginning of SU championships; goes to Dino Babers Era
Navy Football Championship Seasons 1st Navy Championships to the Ken Niumatalolo Era
Army Football Championship Seasons Beginning of Football championships to Jeff Monken Era
Florida Gators Championship Seasons Beginning of Football through championships to Dan Mullen era
Alabama's Championship Seasons Beginning of Football past the 2017/2018 National Championship
Clemson Tigers Championship Seasons Beginning of Football to the Clemson National Championships
Penn State's Championship Seasons PSU's first championship to the James Franklin era
Notre Dame's Championship Seasons Before Knute Rockne and past Lou Holtz's 1988 undisputed title
Super Bowls & Championship Seasons: The New York Giants Many championships of the Giants.
Super Bowls & Championship Seasons: New England Patriots Many championships of the Patriots.
Super Bowls & Championship Seasons: The Pittsburgh Steelers Many championships of the Steelers
Super Bowls & Championship Seasons: The Philadelphia Eagles Many championships of the Eagles.
The Big Toxic School Wilkes-Barre Area's Tale of Corruption, Deception, Taxation & Tyranny
Great Players in New York Giants Football Begins with great players of 1925 to the Saquon Barqley era.
Great Coaches in New York Giants Football Begins with Bob Foywell 1925 and to Pat Shurmur in 2019.
Great Moments in New York Giants Football Beginning of Football to the Pat Shurmur era.
Hasta La Vista California Give California its independence.
IT's ALL OVER! Mueller: "NO COLLUSION!"—Top Dems going to jail for the hoax!
Democrat Secret for Power & Winning Elections Open borders adds millions of new Democrat Voters
Hope for Wilkes-Barre—John Q. Doe—Next Mayor of Wilkes-Barre
The John Doe Plan & WB Plan will help create a better city!
Great Moments in New England Patriots Football Second Edition
 This book begins at the beginning of Football and goes to the Bill Belichick era.
The Cowardly Congress Corrupt US Congress is against America and Americans.
Great Players in Air Force Football From the beginning to the current season
Great Coaches in Air Force Football From the beginning to Coach Troy Calhoun
Help for Mayor George and Next Mayor of Wilkes-Barre How to vote for the next Mayor Council
Ghost of Wilkes-Barre Future: Spirit's advice for residents how to pick the next Mayor and Council
Great Players in Air Force Football: Air Force's best players of all time
Great Coaches in Air Force Football: From Coach 1 to Coach Troy Calhoun
Great Moments in Air Force Football: From day 1 to today
Great Players in Navy Football: Navy's best including Bellino & Staubach
Great Coaches in Navy Football: From Coach 1 to Coach #39 Ken Niumatalolo
Great Moments in Navy Football: From day 1 to coach Ken Niumatalolo
No Tree! No Toys! No Toot! Heartwarming story. Christmas gone while 19 month old napped
How to End DACA, Sanctuary Cities, & Resident Illegal Aliens . best solution remove shadowsAmerica.
Government Must Stop Ripping Off Seniors' Social Security!: Hey buddy, seniors can't spare a dime?

Special Report: Solving America's Student Debt Crisis!: The only real solution to the \$1.52 Trillion debt

The Winning Political Platform for America Unique winning approach to solve big problems in America.

Lou Barletta v Bob Casey for US Senate Barletta's unique approach to solve big problems in America.

John Chrin v Matt Cartwright for Congress Chrin has a unique approach to solve big problems in America.

The Cure for Hate !!! Can the cure be any worse than this disease that is crippling America?

Andrew Cuomo's Time to Go? "He Was Never that Great!": Cuomo says America never that great

White People Are Bad! Bad! Bad! Whoever thought a popular slogan in 2018 *It's OK to be White!*

The Fake News Media Is Also Corrupt !!!: Fake press / media today is not worthy to be 4th Estate.

God Gave US Donald Trump? Trump was sent from God as the people's answer

Millennials Say America Was "Never That Great!": Too many pleased days of political chumps not over!

It's Time for The John Q. Doe Party... Don't you think? By Elephants.

Great Players in Florida Gators Football... Tim Tebow and a ton of other great players

Great Coaches in Florida Gators Football... The best coaches in Gator history.

The Constitution by Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, et al. The Real Constitution

The Constitution Companion. Will help you learn and understand the Constitution

Great Coaches in Clemson Football The best Clemson Coaches right to Dabo Swinney

Great Players in Clemson Football The best Clemson players in history

Winning Back America. America's been stolen and can be won back completely

The Founding of America... Great book to pick up a lot of great facts

Defeating America's Career Politicians. The scoundrels need to go.

Midnight Mass by Jack Lammers... You remember what it was like Great story

The Bike by Jack Lammers... Great heartwarming Story by Jack

Wipe Out All Student Loan Debt--Now! Watch the economy go boom!

No Free Lunch Pay Back Welfare! Why not pay it back?

Deport All Millennials Now!!! Why they deserve to be deported and/or saved

DELETE the EPA, Please! The worst decisions to hurt America

Taxation Without Representation 4th Edition Should we throw the TEA overboard again?

Four Great Political Essays by Thomas Dawson

Top Ten Political Books for 2018... Cliffnotes Version of 10 Political Books

Top Six Patriotic Books for 2018... Cliffnotes version of 6 Patriotic Books

Why Trump Got Elected!.. It's great to hear about a great milestone in America!

The Day the Free Press Died. Corrupt Press Lives on!

Solved (Immigration) The best solutions for 2018

Solved II (Obamacare, Social Security, Student Debt) Check it out; They're solved.

Great Moments in Pittsburgh Steelers Football... Six Super Bowls and more.

Great Players in Pittsburgh Steelers Football ..Chuck Noll, Bill Cowher, Mike Tomlin, etc.

Great Coaches in New England Patriots Football... Bill Belichick the one and only plus others

Great Players in New England Patriots Football... Tom Brady, Drew Bledsoe et al.

Great Coaches in Philadelphia Eagles Football.. Andy Reid, Doug Pederson & Lots more

Great Players in Philadelphia Eagles Football Great players such as Sonny Jurgenson

Great Coaches in Syracuse Football All the greats including Ben Schwartzwalder

Great Players in Syracuse Football. Highlights best players such as Jim Brown & Donovan McNabb

Millennials are People Too !!! Give US millennials help to live American Dream

Brian Kelly for the United States Senate from PA: Fresh Face for US Senate

The Candidate's Bible. Don't pray for your campaign without this bible

Rush Limbaugh's Platform for Americans... Rush will love it

Sean Hannity's Platform for Americans... Sean will love it

Donald Trump's New Platform for Americans. Make Trump unbeatable in 2020

Tariffs Are Good for America! One of the best tools a president can have

Great Coaches in Pittsburgh Steelers Football Sixteen of the best coaches ever to coach in pro football.

Great Moments in New England Patriots Football Great football moments from Boston to New England

Great Moments in Philadelphia Eagles Football. The best from the Eagles from the beginning of football.

Great Moments in Syracuse Football The great moments, coaches & players in Syracuse Football

Boost Social Security Now! Hey Buddy Can You Spare a Dime?

The Birth of American Football. From the first college game in 1869 to the last Super Bowl

Obamacare: A One-Line Repeal Congress must get this done.

A Wilkes-Barre Christmas Story A wonderful town makes Christmas all the better

A Boy, A Bike, A Train, and a Christmas Miracle A Christmas story that will melt your heart

Pay-to-Go America-First Immigration Fix

Legalizing Illegal Aliens Via Resident Visas Americans-first plan saves \$Trillions. Learn how!

60 Million Illegal Aliens in America!!! A simple, America-first solution.

The Bill of Rights by Founder James Madison Refresh *your knowledge of the specific rights for all*

Great Players in Army Football Great Army Football played by great players..

Great Coaches in Army Football Army's coaches are all great.

Great Moments in Army Football Army Football at its best.

Great Moments in Florida Gators Football Gators Football from the start. This is the book.
 Great Moments in Clemson Football CU Football at its best. This is the book.
 Great Moments in Florida Gators Football Gators Football from the start. This is the book.
 The Constitution Companion. A Guide to Reading and Comprehending the Constitution
 The Constitution by Hamilton, Jefferson, & Madison – Big type and in English
 PATERNO: The Dark Days After Win # 409. Sky began to fall within days of win # 409.
 JoePa 409 Victories: Say No More! Winningest Division I-A football coach ever
 American College Football: The Beginning From before day one football was played.
 Great Coaches in Alabama Football Challenging the coaches of every other program!
 Great Coaches in Penn State Football the Best Coaches in PSU's football program
 Great Players in Penn State Football The best players in PSU's football program
 Great Players in Notre Dame Football The best players in ND's football program
 Great Coaches in Notre Dame Football The best coaches in any football program
 Great Players in Alabama Football from Quarterbacks to offensive Linemen Greats!
 Great Moments in Alabama Football AU Football from the start. This is the book.
 Great Moments in Penn State Football PSU Football, start–games, coaches, players,
 Great Moments in Notre Dame Football ND Football, start, games, coaches, players
 Cross Country with the Parents A great trip from East Coast to West with the kids
 Seniors, Social Security & the Minimum Wage. Things seniors need to know.
 How to Write Your First Book and Publish It with CreateSpace. You too can be an author.
 The US Immigration Fix--It's all in here. Finally, an answer.
 I had a Dream IBM Could be #1 Again The title is self-explanatory
 WineDiets.Com Presents The Wine Diet Learn how to lose weight while having fun.
 Wilkes-Barre, PA; Return to Glory Wilkes-Barre City's return to glory
 Geoffrey Parsons' Epoch... The Land of Fair Play Better than the original.
 The Bill of Rights 4 Dummies! This is the best book to learn about your rights.
 Sol Bloom's Epoch ...Story of the Constitution The best book to learn the Constitution
 America 4 Dummies! All Americans should read to learn about this great country.
 The Electoral College 4 Dummies! How does it really work?
 The All-Everything Machine Story about IBM's finest computer server.
ThankYou IBM! This book explains how IBM was beaten in the computer marketplace by neophytes

[Amazon.com/author/brianwkelly](https://www.amazon.com/author/brianwkelly)

Brian W. Kelly has written 224 books including this one.

Thank you for buying this one.

Others can be found at [amazon.com/author/brianwkelly](https://www.amazon.com/author/brianwkelly)



