

BREAKING DOWN THE RAGIN' CAJUNS

presented by 

Despite a 31-3 loss at ninth-ranked LSU last Saturday, Louisiana-Lafayette has proven to be a tough opponent for BCS Conference schools over the past two seasons. The Ragin' Cajuns defeated Big 12 foe Kansas State, 17-15, on Sept. 12 and last season, ULL lost by only three at 24th-ranked Illinois and by just eight at Kansas State.

Louisiana-Lafayette is led by its defense, as the Ragin' Cajuns have allowed fewer than 20 points in two of their three games. Offensively, ULL erupted for

Louisiana-Lafayette Facts

Location: Lafayette, La.
Nickname: Ragin' Cajuns
Enrollment: 15,035
Colors: Vermillion & White
Conference: Sun Belt
Stadium: Cajun Field
Capacity: 31,000
Series Record: First Meeting
Head Coach: Rickey Bustle
Alma Mater (Year): Clemson (1976)
Record at ULL: 34-51 (eight years)
Career Record: 34-51 (eight years)
Record vs. Nebraska: First meeting

42 points in its season opener, but the offense has managed just 20 points over its last two games. The Ragin' Cajuns are averaging 364 yards of total offense per game, including nearly 140 rushing yards. Through the air, ULL and Kentucky are the only Football Bowl Subdivision teams that have not allowed a sack this season. Louisiana-Lafayette is throwing for an average of 224.3 yards per game.

Defensively, ULL has been solid, allowing only 362.3 yards per game. But the Ragin'

Cajuns have lacked pressure, as they are averaging just 0.3 sacks per game and only 3.3 tackles-for-loss per contest. Those totals have Louisiana-Lafayette ranked next-to-last in the country in sacks and 111th out of 120 FBS teams in tackles-for-loss.

ULL opened its season with a 42-19 home win over Southern before using a late 48-yard field goal to get past Kansas State, 17-15, the following week. Last Saturday, the Ragin' Cajuns suffered their first loss of the season, falling at No. 9 LSU, 31-3. LSU only outgained Louisiana-Lafayette 330-272, but ULL committed three turnovers. Only one of LSU's five scoring drives covered more than 60 yards.

Series History

Nebraska and Louisiana-Lafayette will be meeting for the first time tonight. In fact, each of the Huskers' three non-conference games at Memorial Stadium this season come against first-time Sun Belt opponents. Nebraska opened the season on Sept. 5 with a 49-3 victory over Florida Atlantic and the Huskers defeated Arkansas State, 38-9, the following week.

Louisiana-Lafayette Head Coach Rickey Bustle

Rickey Bustle is in his eighth season as a head coach, with all eight seasons coming on the Louisiana-Lafayette sideline. He owns a career record of 34-51, but Bustle has guided the Ragin' Cajuns to six wins - and bowl eligibility - in three of the last four seasons.

Bustle made an immediate impact at ULL. In his first five seasons from 2002 to 2006, Bustle posted 23 victories after the program had won only nine games in the five years prior to his arrival. He led the Ragin' Cajuns to their first winning record in a decade in 2005, and the 12 games Louisiana-Lafayette won in 2005 and 2006 marked the program's most victories in a two-year span since 1994-95.

Before taking over at Louisiana-Lafayette, Bustle spent seven seasons as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Virginia Tech. During his time with the Hokies, Bustle was on the sidelines for the 1996 Orange Bowl, when the Huskers defeated Virginia Tech, 42-20, in between national championship seasons for NU.

Overall, Bustle spent all but one season at Virginia Tech from 1987 to 2001 with the exception of the 1994 season when he served a one-year stint as the offensive coordinator at South Carolina.



Nebraska Cornhuskers
(2-1, 0-0 Big 12)



Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns
(2-1, 0-0 Sun Belt)

Statistical Comparison

Category (per game)	NU	ULL	Big 12	Sun Belt	Natl.	Natl.
Rushing Offense	200.7	139.7	4th	4th	31st	68th
Passing Offense	241.7	224.3	8th	3rd	40th	60th
Total Offense	442.3	364.0	6th	4th	23rd	69th
Scoring Offense	34.0	20.7	7th	4th	33rd	97th
Rushing Defense	120.3	158.3	8th	4th	51st	85th
Pass Defense	186.3	204.0	5th	4th	46th	59th
Pass Efficiency Defense	101.46	124.71	3rd	3rd	29th	67th
Total Defense	306.7	362.3	5th	5th	38th	75th
Scoring Defense	9.3	21.7	3rd	2nd	7th	54th
Net Punting	33.7	38.9	9th	3rd	89th	28th
Punt Returns	11.7	6.0	3rd	3rd	33rd	77th
Kickoff Returns	23.5	17.6	6th	7th	46th	105th
Turnover Margin	0.3	-0.7	5th	6th	t-51st	t-89th
Sacks	2.7	0.3	6th	8th	t-29th	t-118th
Tackles For Loss	6.0	3.3	7th	9th	51st	111th
Sacks Allowed	0.7	0.0	2nd	1st	t-11th	1st

Louisiana-Lafayette Statistical Leaders

Rushing	G	Att.	Yards	YPC	TD	Avg./G
Undrea Sails, RB	3	56	240	4.3	2	80.0
Chris Masson, QB	3	12	78	6.5	1	26.0
Brad McGuire, QB	3	4	35	8.8	0	11.7

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Int.	Yards	TD
Chris Masson, QB	96	54	56.2	3	627	3
Brad McGuire, QB	1	1	1.000	0	4	1.3

Receiving	G	No.	Yards	Avg.	TD	Avg./G
Luke Aubrey, TE	3	11	87	7.9	2	29.0
Marlin Miller, WR	3	10	81	8.1	0	27.0
Ladarius Green, TE	3	9	118	13.1	0	39.3
Louis Lee, WR	3	8	119	14.9	0	39.7
Andrew Joseph, WR	3	6	46	7.7	0	15.3

Tackles	G	UT	AT	TT	TFL	Sacks
Antwyne Zanders, LB	3	23	8	31	2	0.0
Dwight Bentley, CB	3	14	2	16	1	0.0
Daylon McCoy, LB	3	12	2	14	2	0.0
Grant Fleming, LB	3	8	5	13	0	0.0
Orkeys Auriene, CB	3	7	4	11	0	0.0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long
Louis Lee, WR	3	24	8.0	0	14
Orkeys Auriene, CB	1	0	0.0	0	0

Field Goals	Att.	Made	Pct.	Blkd.	Long
Tyler Albrecht, PK	2	2	1.000	0	48

Punts	No.	Yards	Avg.	Blkd.	Long
Spencer Ortego, P	13	540	41.5	0	55