



THIS IS LSU



## NICK SABAN FOOTBALL

**I**t didn't take long for Nick Saban to make his presence felt at LSU. In only one year he took a team that had suffered back-to-back losing seasons and returned it to the forefront of college football. He inherited an LSU program that went 3-8 in 1999, and turned into a winner with an 8-4 record and a thrilling Peach Bowl victory. With his ability to identify and develop talent, relate to his players, staff and University administrators and manage an elite program, it is safe to say that **Nick Saban has made this a great time to be a part of LSU football.**

"At LSU, we should always be in the Top 25 and that's our first goal as a program. We want to win our division in the Southeastern Conference and obviously if you can do that and play in the championship game, then you are going to be very close to one of the top teams in the country. LSU has a great product. In any successful

organization, you have to have a great product, you have to know what the competition is and you have to have togetherness. Everybody has to have a common goal and we all have to work towards that common goal. That's the way I've been successful in other endeavors."

Saban came to LSU from Michigan State where he rebuilt the Spartans into a top-10 power. Prior to his days at Michigan State, Saban spent four seasons as defensive coordinator of the Cleveland Browns. He turned the Brown's defense from the worst in the NFL in points allowed the year before his arrival into a defense that allowed the fewest points in the league in 1994.

Now entering his second season at LSU, Saban will build upon a successful first campaign and continue to design his program around the fundamentals that have made him a success at every level of the sport.





### Speaking of Coach Nick Saban

"He's a first-rate person and he's a marvelous football coach. He brings all the right values to the position and to the job. He believes in an exciting and up-tempo offense and yet his teams are always terrifically sound and very physical."

**Bill Polian**

**PRESIDENT, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS**

"There are a lot of guys who can draw up defenses in the dirt and draw X's and O's. The question is what little things can you find to help each player play his position? That's one thing Nick is good at."

**Dean Pees**

**HEAD COACH, KENT STATE**

*Nick Saban interacts with anxious Tiger fans waiting in line for tickets in the LSU Athletic Department lobby.*

### The Saban Mission

1. To help make each athlete a **better person** for having been apart of the LSU football program.
2. To help each LSU player become a **successful student-athlete** and earn his degree.
3. To help every player reach his full potential and to have the opportunity to **win a championship**.
4. To help launch each player's career so that when he leaves LSU he can have the **best opportunities in life**.

### EDUCATION FIRST

Saban is a communicator who gets the best out of his players, a coach who can guarantee that a player willing to dedicate himself to the program will maximize his talents.

"I'm a player's coach. I have a tremendous amount of respect for the players in college football and the game. We care about the players first of all as people and I want them to be better people for having been a part of this program. They're here to get an education first. I want every player to work to reach his full potential as a player and as a competitor. I expect our players to commit to a standard of excellence that is very high."

### THE TOTAL PROGRAM

Saban built his reputation on defense as an assistant coach. As a head coach he has shown the ability to put together a total program. Being competitive on the field and stressing discipline and responsibility off the field, Saban's teams have proven to be consistent winners, while graduating student-athletes at the same time.



*Nick Saban at the Fall 2000 commencement exercises with graduates Kareem Mitchell (left) and Louis Williams (right).*

### TEAM OWNERSHIP

The keys to Saban's success are founded on aggressive and disciplined leadership and a philosophy of personal responsibility both on the football field and in the classroom.

"One thing that I expect our players to do is to take ownership of their team. This is the players' team. I'm the coach. I want the players to take some responsibility and ownership for all the areas that are important in building this program."



# ACADEMIC SUCCESS

## ACADEMIC STAFF



**Karla Lemoine**  
Interim Executive Director

**Dr. Tommy Karam**  
Director, Eric Hill Athletic  
Communications Studio

**Dr. Jane Medver**  
Learning Specialist

**Carlos Thomas**  
Advisor

**C**ritical to the development of an athlete as a student is an adequate academic facility and capable staff to further the athlete's progress. The **Academic Center for Athletes** is responsible for overseeing the educational development and progress toward graduation for all student-athletes. The staff acts as a liaison between the athlete and the academic communities and insures that student-athletes

comply with academic rules established by the University, NCAA and SEC. The staff also coordinates academic programs designed to assist student-athletes in acquiring a quality education.

**"My dream was to earn my degree and play in the NFL. The support and guidance I received from the Academic Center for Athletes assisted me in achieving these goals and more. With hard work and assistance from the staff of the Academic Center, I earned my degree in management. I hope many, many others have the same opportunities I received."**

-- Anthony McFarland, LSU football player 1995-98, current member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers of the NFL and 1999 LSU graduate

### Services Available at the Academic Center For Athletes

- A showpiece of the Academic Center is the Deumite Memorial Library, a 2,400-square foot resource and study facility offering reading materials and a relaxing quiet area conducive to learning.
- The Center has private study rooms, made possible by generous donations from alumni, and the Tammany Tigers Computer Room, which has the latest in technology to meet all of the



*Tight End Joe Domingaux graduated in 2000 with a degree in education.*

**“The Academic Center for Athletes is a tremendous asset to all athletes. It provides those tangibles that are necessary to achieve success in a collegiate environment. The Center provides tutors to help you understand your course material, academic coaches who teach you organizational skills, and time management seminars to enhance the skills needed in this society.**

**“In one word, the Center is GREAT!”**

-- Shaquille O’Neal, LSU basketball player, 1989-92, the 2000 NBA MVP for the Los Angeles Lakers and a 2000 graduate of LSU

student-athletes’ needs. The Bengal Belle room is an additional study area.

- The Eric Hill Athletic Communications Studio is a state-of-the-art facility that allows student-athletes to polish their public speaking ability and improve their communication skills with the media. Dr. Tommy Karam has expertise in assisting athletes in working with the news media.

### 2000 Academic SEC Academic Honor Roll

Tommy Banks	Microbiology	3.427*
Trev Faulk	Business Administration	3.2*
Donnie Jones	Business Administration	3.0
Kris Kessler	Zoology	3.069
Kyle Kipps	Marketing	3.0
Chad Lewis	Kinesiology	3.523
Rodney Reed	Business Administration	3.8
Oliver Smith	Political Science	3.461
Charles Thomas	Kinesiology	3.343
Louis Williams	Pre-Medicine	3.785*
Bob Wynne	Political Science	3.909
Wendell York	Accounting	3.6
John Young	Kinesiology	3.212

\* Also on the Verizon Academic All-District Team

- The support services offered include tutoring, career counseling and development, time management, study skills, and other programs that help each student-athlete reach and receive their highest-quality education and degree.

- The Academic Center for Athletes, located in the newly renovated Gym Armory, is responsible for overseeing the educational development and progress toward graduation for all student-athletes.

### TOP SCHOLARS

LSU has produced four recipients of the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame National Scholar-Athlete award.

#### SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

1978 Robert Dugas  
1987 Nacho Albergamo  
1990 Sol Graves  
1998 Chad Kessler

#### NCAA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

1988 Nacho Albergamo  
1991 Sol Graves  
1994 Chad Loup  
1995 Michael Blanchard  
1998 Chad Kessler



THIS IS LSU



Auditorium

# ACADEMIC CENTER EXPANSION

**P**aramount to the success of the “student” half of the term student-athlete is providing LSU athletes with the best possible resources to excel in the classroom. For more than 20 years, the LSU Academic Center for Athletes has helped to build well-rounded student-athletes. But as times change and technology advances, the need for further improvements still exists. As a result, the Academic Center for Athletes



**“Our academic support program should be the standard by which all academic support programs are measured. A first-class academic support center plays a major role in developing a quality academic support program for all student-athletes.” – LSU football coach Nick Saban**



*Computer Lab*

### ACA RENOVATIONS

- expand the facility from 10,000 square feet to 54,000 square feet
- raise the total number of computers to 75
- include 14 private computer rooms in a state-of-the-art computer lab
- add additional study rooms and classrooms for private or group study
- provide additional study areas for specialized learning
- add a 1,000-seat auditorium

Planned improvements to the Gym Armory will not only benefit the Academic Center for Athletes, but the entire University as well. The old gymnasium will be transformed into a 1,000-seat auditorium the University will use for daily classes, presentations, lectures by distinguished University guests and other special academic events.



*Reading Room*

will undergo a \$10 million renovation that will not only keep it among the nation's premier centers – but put it at the forefront.

Improvements to the existing center will give LSU student-athletes the best opportunity for success by providing access to the latest technology, as well as an array of expanded services. Renovations are expected to be completed for the 2002 football season.

**“The project to renovate the Gym Armory illustrates how vision and careful planning can produce a product that benefits the entire University community. The project will improve the academic support program for our student-athletes, provide a critically needed auditorium for academic lectures, classes and special events, as well as renovate and preserve a historic and much-loved building.”**

-- Chancellor Mark Emmert