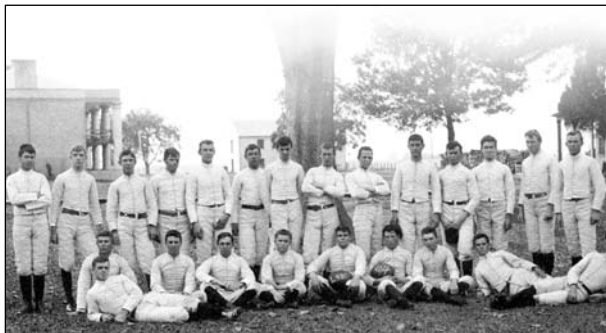


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The rich history of LSU football is impossible to portray in only a few pages. However, below are tidbits from the Tiger Football annals that have contributed to the story that is LSU Football. These items are presented as background material with the hope that they will encourage a better understanding of the many traditions that are associated with Tiger Athletics.

Special thanks to Peter Finney of the New Orleans Times-Picayune who has documented the history of LSU football in his book *Fighting Tigers, Marty Mule* of the New Orleans Times-Picayune who penned *Eye of the Tiger* in celebration of LSU's football centennial in 1993, and to the late historian H. Warren Taylor whose relentless pursuit of accurate information and record-keeping in the early years of LSU athletics has kept alive the accomplishments of Tiger athletes in football, basketball, track, and boxing dating back to the late 1800s.



1894

LSU cadets at football practice in the fall of 1894

ORIGIN OF THE LSU NICKNAME:

Fighting Tigers

In the fall of 1896, coach A.W. Jeardeau's LSU football team posted a perfect 6-0-0 record, and it was in that pigskin campaign that LSU first adopted its nickname, Tigers. "Tigers" seemed a logical choice since most collegiate teams in that year bore the names of ferocious animals, but the underlying reason why LSU chose "Tigers" dates back to the Civil War. During the "War Between the States," a battalion of Confederate soldiers comprised of New Orleans Zouaves and Donaldsonville Cannoneers distinguished themselves at the Battle of Shenandoah. These Louisiana rebels had been known by their contemporaries as the fighting band of Louisiana Tigers. Thus, when LSU football teams entered the gridiron battlefields in their fourth year of intercollegiate competition, they tagged themselves as the "Tigers." The 1955 LSU "fourth-quarter ball club" helped the moniker "Tigers" grow into the nickname, "Fighting Tigers."

ORIGIN OF THE LSU COLORS:

Purple and Gold?

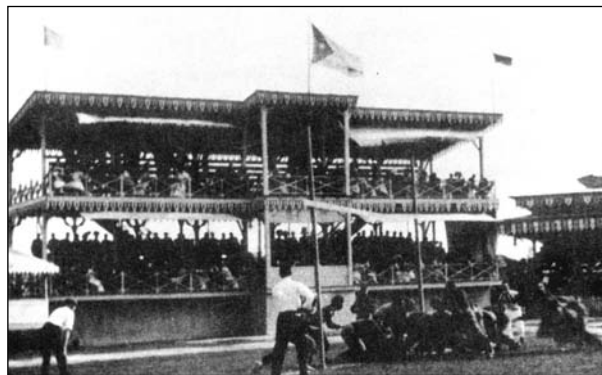
There is some discrepancy in the origin of Royal Purple and Old Gold as LSU's official colors. It is believed that those colors were worn for the first time by an LSU team in the spring of 1893 when the LSU baseball squad beat Tulane in the first intercollegiate contest played in any sport by Louisiana State University. Team captain E.B. Young reportedly hand-picked those colors for the LSU squad. Later that year, the first football game was played. On Nov. 25, 1893, football coach/chemistry professor Dr. Charles Coates and some of his players went into town to purchase ribbon to adorn their gray jerseys as they prepared to play the first LSU gridiron game. Stores were stocking ribbons in the colors of Mardi Gras -purple, gold, and green - for the coming Carnival season. However, none of the green had yet arrived at Raymond's Store at the corner of Third and Main streets. Coates and quarterback Ruffin Pleasant bought up all of the purple and gold stock and made it into rosettes and badges.



The 1962 LSU cheerleaders.

Cheerleaders

Cheerleaders have long been a part of college football tradition, and the LSU Varsity Cheerleaders are no exception in their role in Tiger gridiron lore. Pregame ceremonies feature the LSU cheerleaders atop Mike the Tiger's cage as it circles the field. The cheerleaders also traditionally lead the Tigers onto the field before and after halftime of every game. The 1989 Tiger cheerleaders captured the National Championship in the annual Universal Cheerleading Association competition.



1907

On Dec. 25 1907, LSU was the first college team to play on foreign soil in Havana, Cuba.

Tigers Invade Cuba

LSU was the first college team to play on foreign soil when, in 1907, coach Edgar R. Wingard took his Tigers to Havana for an international gridiron bout. The University of Havana team had dominated every American service team it had played, but had never encountered football collegiate style. The finesse of the Tigers took the big Cuban team by surprise on Christmas Day at Almendares Park and LSU walked away with a convincing 56-0 victory before 10,000 fans.



Mike the Tiger's spirit on display in the roaring 20s.



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1896 Tigers



1902 Tigers



1905 Tigers



1908 Tigers

1895 • 1896 • 1898 • 1905 • 1908 • 1958

Perfect Seasons

LSU has had 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.



The Kingfish

No single person can be credited for building LSU football into the entity it is today, but one of the men who most influenced the popularity of Tiger football was neither a player nor a coach. The "Kingfish," Louisiana Governor Huey P. Long, never shied from using his political influence to aid the cause of LSU football. Two examples: In 1934, athletic director T.P. Heard reported low advance sales for the LSU-SMU game because of a circus coming to town the night of the game. Long contacted the proper Barnum and Bailey representatives and informed them of a near-forgotten animal-dipping law. The show was canceled and LSU-SMU ticket sales took off. Later that same year, Long used his influence to "entice" passenger agents of the Illinois Central Railroad to lower fares for LSU students traveling to a road football game. When Long threatened to reassess the value of railroad bridges in the state from \$100,000 to \$4 million, the railroad generously agreed to give LSU students a \$6 roundtrip fare for the Vanderbilt game that season.



Dormitories

Tiger Stadium is unique in that it once housed some 1,500 dorm rooms, home to many LSU students over the years. This concept was introduced in 1928 by T.P. "Skipper" Heard, who can also be credited for bringing night football to Tiger Stadium. Heard learned that LSU president James Smith proposed to use \$250,000 to build new dormitories on the LSU campus. Heard sold Smith on the idea of raising the stands on both the East and West sides of the stadium and extending them to the end zones, then constructing the dorms inside the stadium. Thus the University got its dorms and Tiger Stadium's capacity increased by 10,000 seats in 1931.



2006 IS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH VALLEY UNDER THE LIGHTS

1931

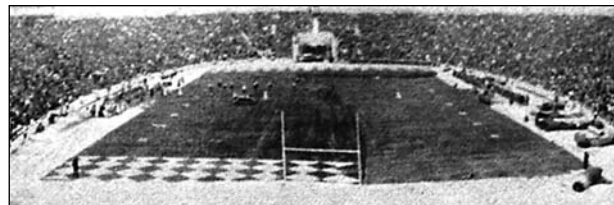
Night Falls on Tiger Stadium

The tradition of playing night games in Tiger Stadium began on Oct. 3, 1931, when LSU downed Spring Hill, 35-0, under the lights. The idea of night football was introduced by T.P. "Skipper" Heard, then graduate manager of athletics and later athletics director. Several reasons were cited for playing LSU games at night, including avoiding the heat and humidity of afternoon games, avoiding scheduling conflicts with Tulane and Loyola and giving more fans the opportunity to see the Tigers play. An immediate increase in attendance was noted, and night football soon became ingrained in LSU football lore. LSU has also traditionally played better at night than in the light of day. Since 1960, LSU is 187-62-4 (.747) under the lights of Tiger Stadium and only 16-21-3 (.438) during the day at home.



Ole War Skule

LSU began in 1860 as the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy, shortly before the beginning of the Civil War. In fact, LSU's first superintendent was Civil War commander William Tecumseh Sherman. "Ole War Skule" was formerly a popular reference to LSU, as was the term "Old Lou."



1946

Tigers Battle Hogs in "Ice Bowl"

The Tigers of 1946, though not one of Bernie Moore's two SEC Championship teams, was surely one of Moore's finest squads. Only a 26-7 loss at the hands of SEC foe Georgia Tech spoiled the season and the Y.A. Tittle-led Bayou Bengals landed in the Cotton Bowl against Arkansas and star Razorback Smackover Scott. But ice, sleet and snow pelted Dallas on that Jan. 1 as LSU filled oil drums with charcoal and started fires for makeshift heaters on the field. Fans built fires in the stands and watched the Tigers roll to 271-54 advantage in total yardage and a 15-1 lead in first downs. Those numbers, however, didn't equate on the scoreboard that showed 0-0 at game's end. The Tigers finished the season with a 9-1-1 record in Moore's penultimate season as head coach.



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1952 Numbering System

LSU, in 1952, introduced a unique - and short-lived - jersey numbering system. The idea of coach Gaynell "Gus" Tinsley and publicity director Jim Corbett, the system utilized an abbreviation of the player's position on his jersey. Thus, ends, guards and tackles wore the letters "E", "G" and "T" followed by a single-digit number. The right side of the line wore even numbers, the left side odd numbers. In similar fashion the centers, quarterbacks, left halfbacks, right halfbacks and fullbacks wore "C", "Q", "L", "R" and "F", respectively, followed by single-digit numerals. The 1953 LSU yearbook, the Gumbo, boldly predicted that the new system "may revolutionize the football jersey manufacturing industry." It didn't.

Halloween

Drama on Halloween is as traditional as pumpkins and goblins for LSU and Ole Miss. These schools have met seven times on October 31 with the series tied at 3-3-1. The most notable game on All Hallow's Eve was the 1959 thriller that saw Billy Cannon return a punt 89 yards to spur a 7-3 Tiger victory. The Tigers and Rebels next met on Halloween in 1964. Ole Miss led 10-3 late in the fourth quarter in Death Valley when LSU scored a touchdown to make it 10-9. Quarterback Billy Ezell then threw to Doug Moreau in the front corner of the endzone on the two-point conversion, at nearly the exact point where Cannon had crossed the goal line five years earlier for an 11-10 win. There was a 17-year drought before the teams played on Oct. 31 again, this time at Jackson in 1981. A seesaw battle ended with a 46-yard field goal off the foot of LSU's David Johnston as time expired for a 27-27 tie. In the most recent meeting, the teams engaged in the first overtime game in LSU history at Oxford in 1998, but Ole Miss emerged with a 37-31 win.

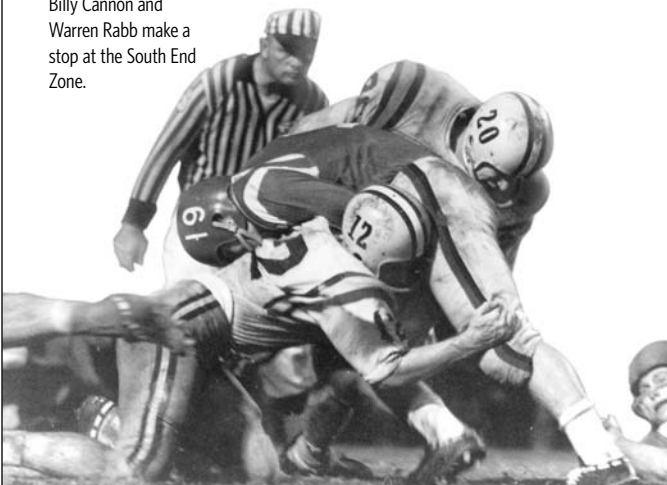
South End Zone

Whether it be the 1959 goal line stand that sealed victory for the Tigers against Ole Miss on the "Billy Cannon Run" night or Bert Jones' pass to Brad Davis as time expired to beat the Rebels in 1972, the south end zone of Tiger Stadium has become somewhat of an enigma for the sometimes strange and often memorable plays in LSU football. In the past 18 years alone, the Tiger defenders have put together eight goal line stands at the south end

zone, including the following games: 1985 Colorado State, 1985 Florida, 1986 North Carolina, 1986 Notre Dame, 1988 Texas A&M, 1991 Florida State, 1992 Miss. State and 1996 Vanderbilt. In 1988, the Tigers stymied the Texas A&M Aggies at the LSU two-yard line despite the distraction of a bank of lights going dark midway through A&M's series of plays. For that series, LSU's defense was nicknamed the "Lights Out Defense." The first great goal line stand at that end of the

field may have been in that 1959 game when Warren Rabb and Billy Cannon halted Ole Miss' Doug Elmore at the one-yard line for the 7-3 victory. Then, in 1971, the first and most memorable of LSU's three goal line stands against Notre Dame was at the one-yard line at the South end of the field as Louis Cascio and Ronnie Estay hit the Irish's Andy Huff at the goal en route to a 28-8 Tiger victory.

Billy Cannon and Warren Rabb make a stop at the South End Zone.



1958 Chinese Bandits

The nickname of one of the three units utilized in Paul Dietzel's three-platoon system that vaulted the Tigers to the 1958 national championship. That year, the first team was named the White Team, an offensive unit was named the Go Team and a defensive unit was tabbed the Chinese Bandits. The White Team, naturally, wore white jerseys and was so named. The Go Team wore gold jerseys as the word "gold" was eventually shortened to "go." The name "Chinese Bandits" actually originated when Dietzel recalled a line from the old "Terry and The Pirates" comic strip that referred to Chinese Bandits as the "most vicious people in the world." In their heyday, the Chinese Bandits were featured in Chinese masks in Life magazine. In 1980, the LSU band revived the "Bandit" tune played when the LSU defense stalls any opponent's drive.

1959 89 yards

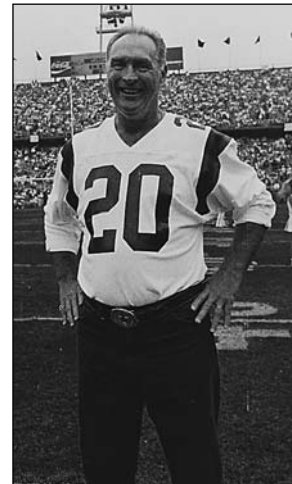
There have been longer scoring plays in LSU football history, but Billy Cannon's 89-yard punt return against Ole Miss in 1959 is simply, and undeniably, the most famous play in Tiger gridiron records. In fact, some consider it one of the most memorable in college football history. It was an eerie, misty and humid Halloween night, and the Rebels of Mississippi took a 3-0 lead into the final quarter, threatening to end an 18-game LSU win streak. On third and 17 from the Ole Miss 42, the Rebels' Jake Gibbs punted 47 yards to the Tiger 11 where Cannon hauled it in on the bounce. Cannon careened off seven tacklers down the east sideline and darted 89 yards to immortality. Some say it may have been that run that assured Cannon of the Heisman Trophy he received at season's end.



No. 20

Despite the number of colorful figures and outstanding athletes who have come down the pike in the history of LSU football, just one jersey number, No. 20, has been retired. The great Billy Cannon, two-time All-American and Heisman Trophy winner, played at LSU from 1957-59. He led the Tigers to the 1958 national championship and is best known for his 89-yard punt return to beat Ole Miss in 1959. In his career, Cannon rushed for 1,867 yards on 359 carries, an average of 5.2 yards per carry and scored 19 rushing touchdowns. He also scored two touchdowns by receiving and one each by punt return, kickoff return and interception return. LSU went 24-7 during Cannon's stay on the Baton Rouge campus, including 19 straight victories from the end of the 1957 season to the eighth game of the 1959 campaign. Following that 1959 season, Cannon's jersey was retired into the LSU Athletics Hall of Fame.

The only man who can wear No. 20: Billy Cannon returned to Tiger Stadium in 1988.



LSU vs. TULANE

The Rivalry

LSU's rivalry with the Green Wave of Tulane was a natural from the game's infancy. The Greenies won LSU's first football game in 1893 by a 34-0 count, but over the ensuing seasons, the Tigers have dominated the series and own a 65-22-7 margin over their neighbors from New Orleans. The proximity of the schools made for the development of the rivalry in its early years and, by 1913, fans began to travel the distance by automobile instead of by train. Today's Tiger fan can traverse the distance from Tiger Stadium to the Louisiana Superdome in less than 90 minutes, but in the early years, according to the New Orleans Times-Picayune "with a good car, it can be negotiated in perfect comfort in six hours."

The Rag

The Rag was the traditional spoils of victory in the LSU-Tulane rivalry for many years. This flag, decorated half in LSU's colors of purple and gold and the other half adorned in the green and white of Tulane, was held for one year by the victorious school until the game the following season. The whereabouts of the original flag are unknown; however, a new version of The Rag was awarded to the LSU squad after the Tigers defeated the Greenies, 48-17, in the 2001 season opener in Death Valley.



1966

LSU Stuns No. 2 Arkansas in Cotton Bowl

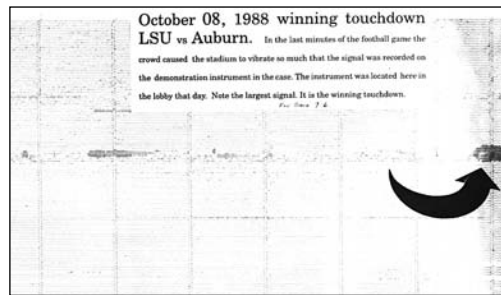
One of the most notable games in LSU football history was the 1966 Cotton Bowl against powerful Arkansas. The Razorbacks went into the New Year's Day tilt ranked No. 2 in the country and riding a 22-game winning streak. LSU owned a meager 7-3 mark compared to the Hogs' perfect 10-0 record, but little Joe Labruzzo silenced many a disbeliever to spark the Bayou Bengals to their greatest bowl win. The Tigers left Dallas with a 14-7 win over the Southwest Conference host Razorbacks. The Tigers have appeared in three other Cotton Bowl classics, tying Arkansas 0-0 in the 1947 game beating Texas 13-0 in 1963 and losing to Texas 35-20 in 2003.



1988

Tigers "Move the Earth" in Win Over Auburn

QB Tommy Hodson connected with WR Eddie Fuller in the back of the endzone for the touchdown that vaulted LSU to a 7-6 victory over Auburn on Oct. 8, 1988, to help lead the LSU Tigers to their seventh SEC crown. The moment will forever be known as the "Night the Tigers Moved the Earth," as the play caused such a thunderous explosion from the 79,341 fans in Tiger Stadium, the LSU Department of Geology registered vibrations on a seismograph machine at the exact moment the touchdown was scored.



Tailgating

It has often been pondered whether the attraction of night football is because of the excitement of the atmosphere created by a game under the lights, the more pleasant weather of an evening after the sun has set, or because it allows more time for tailgating. If it is not football that people of South Louisiana crave, then it is food. Tiger fans arrive as early as Thursday evening for Saturday games, set up their motor homes and kick back for a weekend of cooking and enjoyment for two days until kickoff. A stroll across the LSU campus and through the parking lots is a veritable connoisseur's treat. Common entrees include crawfish, boiled shrimp and jambalaya and, on occasion, one will run across a cochon-de-lait (pig roast).



Voice of the Tigers

For many years, John Ferguson (above) was known as the "Voice of the Tigers" as his call of the action was broadcast nationwide. The most famous call of all plays, though, belongs to J.C. Politz who was the "Voice of the Tigers" in 1959 when Billy Cannon made his famous 89-yard run. By the time Cannon reached midfield on that play, a technician attempted to turn up the sound on Politz' mike to raise it above the crowd noise. In the excitement of the moment, though, he turned the knob the wrong way, lowering the volume and raising the crowd noise, and much of Politz' call of that play is lost forever. Ferguson later returned to the mike as "The Voice," then moved into television where he worked on TigerVision broadcasts beginning in 1984. At that time, Jim Hawthorne took over the radio duties and remains today the football, men's basketball, and baseball "Voice of the Tigers." The legendary Ferguson is now director emeritus of LSU's Tiger Athletic Foundation.



Crossbar

Unknown to many Tiger fans, the LSU football team still runs onto the field under the same crossbar that stood as part of the north end zone goalpost in Tiger Stadium as early as 1955. It had long been a tradition that the LSU football team enter the field by running under the goalpost when the new "T-style" goalposts came into vogue. By virtue of tradition, the old "H-style" posts stood on the field of Death Valley until they were finally removed in 1984. Part of the crossbar, however, was kept and mounted above the door of the Tiger Den through which the Tigers run onto the field each game. In 1993, in celebration of the centennial of LSU football, the "H-style" goalposts were returned to the end zones of Tiger Stadium, thanks to a donation from Shaw Industries of Baton Rouge.



Victory Hill

A pregame ritual for many Tiger fans is to line North Stadium Drive in the hours before kickoff to see the Tiger Marching Band in its walk from the band hall. The band pauses each game on the hill next to the Journalism Building to play "Tiger Rag," to the delight of the LSU throngs. Former head coach Curley Hallman began the tradition in the early 1990s of leading the team by foot down Victory Hill from Broussard Hall two hours before the game. That practice became so popular that Gerry DiNardo and Nick Saban continued the tradition, even though the team began to stay in a hotel the night before home games. The team buses drive from the hotel to Broussard Hall - not Tiger Stadium - in order for the players to make their traditional walk down Victory Hill.



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White Jerseys

LSU is one of the few college football teams that traditionally wear white jerseys for home games. The tradition originated when LSU won its first national championship in 1958. Head coach Paul Dietzel had a habit of tinkering with the uniform every year. In 1958, he chose to wear white jerseys for LSU's home games, and the Tigers subsequently won the national championship. A superstitious man, Dietzel didn't change the uniform after that season. LSU continued to wear white jerseys for home games throughout the Charlie McClendon Era. When Jerry Stovall took over as head coach in 1980, he said the Tigers would occasionally wear purple jerseys so that home fans could see a different color. In 1982, the NCAA changed its jersey rule, requiring teams to wear dark colored jerseys for home games. The Tigers wore purple jerseys for all home games from 1983 to 1994. When Gerry DiNardo became head coach in 1995, he vowed to change the NCAA jersey rule. After petitioning the rules committee of the American Football Coaches Association, he personally met with each member of the NCAA Football Rules Committee. DiNardo's efforts were successful and the Tigers were allowed to wear white jerseys again beginning in 1995. A stipulation of the new rule was that the visiting team would have to give the home team permission to wear the white jerseys. The first team to deny LSU's request was DiNardo's former team, Vanderbilt.



Instead of going back to purple jerseys, the Tigers took to the field in new gold jerseys. The SEC later adopted a league rule stipulating that the home team has sole discretion in determining its jersey color. Nick Saban became LSU's head coach in 2000 and continued the white jersey tradition, but with a twist. Saban decided that LSU would wear purple jerseys for all non-SEC games, except the home opener.

The White House

Following their national championship season in 2003, the LSU football team visited Washington D.C. as part of Champions Day at the White House. Head coach Nick Saban and members of the team had the chance to meet President George W. Bush in the East Room and were presented on the South Lawn of the White House. The President posed for pictures with the Tigers, while congratulating the team on winning the BCS National Championship. LSU team captain Rodney Reed presented President Bush with a personalized national championship LSU jersey during the ceremony. In addition to the trip to the White House, the Tigers visited the Lincoln Memorial, toured the capitol building and met with the members of the Louisiana delegation.



Rodney Reed presents President George W. Bush with an LSU National Championship Jersey.



THE GOLDEN BAND

From Tigerland

The grandest band in all the land, the Golden Band from Tigerland, is as much a part of Saturday nights in Tiger Stadium as the team itself. Among the many favorites of LSU fans is the band's traditional pregame march down North Stadium Drive from the Band Hall to the tune of "Hold That Tiger." That tradition is a carry-over from the old pregame parades through downtown Baton Rouge. Castro Carazo was the man handpicked by Louisiana Governor Huey Long in 1935 to revamp the Tiger band. Carazo and Long together wrote fan favorite "Touchdown for LSU," and two years later Carazo also penned the official LSU fight song, "Fight for LSU." The tradition of the LSU Tiger Marching Band continues today. The LSU Tiger Marching Band is made up of some 325 musicians, Golden Girls and Colorguard members. In 1997, the band was selected as the top band in the Southeastern Conference by SEC band directors. In December 2001, the band was awarded the Sudler Trophy, the highest honor a collegiate marching band can receive. The award has been called "the Heisman Trophy of marching bands," according to Frank Wickes, director of LSU bands.

HEY, FIGHTIN' TIGERS

Hey, Fightin' Tigers, fight all the way
Play Fightin' Tigers, win the game today.

You've got the know how,
you're doing fine,
Hang on to the ball as you hit the wall
And smash right through the line

You've got to go for a touchdown
Run up the score.
Make Mike the Tiger stand right up and roar.
ROAR!

Give it all of your might as you fight tonight and
keep the goal in view.
Victory for L-S-U!

"Hey, Fighting Tigers," was adapted from the Broadway show tune "Hey, Look Me Over" by Cy Coleman. The song appeared in the musical Wildcat starring Lucille Ball. LSU obtained special permission to use the melody that can be heard in and around Tiger Stadium on Saturday nights in the fall.

FIGHT FOR LSU (Official Fight Song)

Like Knights of old, Let's fight to hold
The glory of the Purple Gold.

Let's carry through, Let's die or do
To win the game for dear old LSU.

Keep trying for that high score;
Come on and fight,
We want some more, some more.

Come on you Tigers, Fight! Fight! Fight!
for dear old L-S-U.
RAH!



TOUCHDOWN FOR LSU!

Tigers! Tigers! They've come to town,
They fight! They fight! Call a first down,
Just look them over, and how they can go,
Smashing the line with runs and passes
high and low.

Touchdown! Touchdown! It's Tigers' score.
Give them hell and a little bit more.
Come on you Tigers, Fight them, you Tigers,
Touchdown for LSU.
Rah! U. Rah!

TIGER RAG

(Hold That Tiger)

Long ago, way down in the jungle
Someone got an inspiration for a tune,
And that jingle brought from the jungle
Became famous mighty soon.

Thrills and chills it sends thru you!
Hot! so hot, it burns you too!

Tho' it's just the growl of the tiger
It was written in a syncopated way,
More and more they howl for the "Tiger"
Ev'ry where you go today
They're shoutin'

Where's that Tiger! Where's that Tiger!
Where's that Tiger! Where's that Tiger!
Hold that Tiger! Hold that Tiger!
Hold that Tiger!

Words to LSU Alma Mater are on page 1.



Mike's New Habitat



The new environment created for Mike has 15,000 square feet in size with lush planting, a large live oak tree, a beautiful waterfall and a stream evolving from a rocky backdrop overflowing with plants and trees. The habitat has, as a backdrop, an Italianate tower - a campanile - that creates a visual bridge to the Italianate architectural vernacular that is the underpinning of the image of the entire beautiful LSU campus. This spectacular new habitat features state-of-the-art technologies, research, conservation and husbandry programs, as well as educational, interpretive and recreational activities. It is, in essence, one of the largest and finest Tiger habitats in the United States.

Mike V, the famed live Bengal tiger that serves as the graphic image of all LSU athletics teams, begins the 16th year of his reign on the LSU campus.

He proudly rules over a state-of-the-art 15,000 square foot domicile, just north of Tiger Stadium, which contains a beautiful waterfall, stream and swimming pool with plants and trees. In addition, there is an indoor area into which he can retreat to avoid inclement weather.

Mike's ride through Tiger Stadium before home games in a cage topped by the LSU cheerleaders is a school tradition. Before entering the stadium, his cage on wheels is parked next to the opponent's locker room in the southeast end of the stadium. Opposing players must make their way past Mike's cage to reach their locker room.

Tradition dictates that the Tigers will score a touchdown for every growl issued by Mike before a football game. For many years, Mike was prompted to roar by pounding on the cage. Objections of cruel punishment brought about the use of recorded growls to play to the crowd before the games. That practice was discontinued shortly afterward and, today, Mike participates in the pregame tradition without provocation.

The Tiger mascot stopped traveling regularly with the LSU team in 1970 when his cage overturned on Airline Highway in an accident en route to a game. Mike IV traveled four more times, though, as he appeared at a Mardi Gras parade in 1984, the 1985 Sugar Bowl, and LSU's basketball games in the Superdome.

Mike V made his first road trip in December 1991 to the Louisiana Superdome to witness Shaquille O'Neal and LSU defeat Texas, 84-83.

In the mid-1980's, pranksters cut the locks on Mike IV's cage and freed him in the early-morning hours just days before the annual LSU-Tulane clash. Mike roamed free, playfully knocking down several small pine trees in the area, before being trapped in the Bernie Moore Track Stadium where police used tranquilizer guns to capture and return the Bengal Tiger to his home.

The incident was reminiscent of a kidnapping of Mike I many years ago by Tulane students before a Tiger-Green Wave battle.



Trainer and namesake Mike Chambers with Mike I housed in City Park Zoo.

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1936-1956
Mike I

The original Mike was purchased from the Little Rock Zoo in 1936 for \$750, with money contributed by the student body. Originally known as "Sheik" at the time of his purchase, his name was changed to Mike to honor Mike Chambers who served as LSU's athletic trainer when the first mascot was purchased. Chambers had played football at Illinois where he blocked for the legendary Red Grange. The first Mike was housed in the Baton Rouge Zoo for one year before a permanent home was constructed near Tiger Stadium. Mike I reigned for 20 years before dying of pneumonia in the midst of a six-game LSU losing streak in 1957. Fearing the LSU faithful would give up hope upon the death of the mascot, Mike's death was not made public until the Tigers finally ended the losing streak.



1956-1958
Mike II

The second Mike served a brief reign, lasting only through the 1957 season before dying of pneumonia in the spring of 1958. He was born at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans and came to LSU on Sept. 28, 1956. The young tiger was held overnight in Tiger Stadium and unveiled Sept. 29, the opening day of the football season.



1958-1976
Mike III

Just in time for the 1958 national championship season, Mike III was purchased from the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, Wash., following a "national search" by then-athletic director Jim Corbett. The student body contributed \$1,500 for the purchase of the tiger. Mike III served as mascot for 18 seasons, dying after the only losing season of his reign, as LSU posted a 5-6 record in 1975.



1976-1990
Mike IV

Mike IV reigned over Tiger athletics for 14 years after being donated to the school by August A. Busch III from the Dark Continent Amusement Park in Tampa, Fla. on Aug. 29, 1976. Born on May 15, 1974, Mike's age and health were determining factors in his retirement to the Baton Rouge Zoo in 1990. The centerpiece of the Zoo's cat exhibit, Mike weighed in at 500 pounds. His only hiatus from the LSU campus before 1990 was the summer of 1981 which he spent at the Little Rock Zoo while his cage was being expanded. Ironically, the Little Rock Zoo was the birthplace of the first Mike the Tiger. Mike IV died of old age in March of 1995 at the age of 21.



1990-present
Mike V

The newest tiger mascot was donated by Dr. Thomas and Caroline Atchison of the Animal House Zoological Park in Moulton, Ala. Avid LSU supporter Charles Becker, a member of the LSU booster group the Tammany Tigers, put Dr. Sheldon Bivin of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine in touch with the Atchisons. Bivin traveled to Alabama and brought the baby tiger back to Baton Rouge. Born Oct. 18, 1989, the new tiger was introduced to LSU fans at a basketball game against Alabama in February 1990. He officially began his reign on April 30, 1990, when he was moved into the tiger cage across from Tiger Stadium.



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The five individuals on this page are the only men to have their jerseys retired by LSU. Basketball has retired the No. 23 for Pete Maravich, No. 50 for Bob Pettit, Jr., and No. 33 for Shaquille O'Neal. Football's only retired jersey is the No. 20 worn by Billy Cannon, while baseball retired the No. 15 in honor of long-time coach and current athletics director Skip Bertman.



50

Bob Pettit

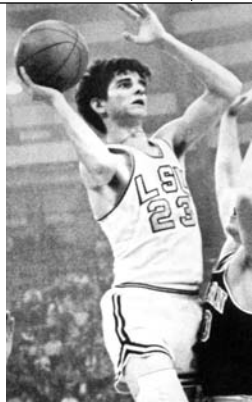
Led LSU to its first NCAA Final Four in 1953 and he later became the first player in NBA history to exceed the 20,000-plus point barrier. Pettit is a member of the NBA Hall of Fame and in 1997 he was named as one of the top 50 players in NBA history.



20

Billy Cannon

One of the true legends of college football in the South, Cannon was the 1959 Heisman Trophy winner and helped the Tigers to the 1958 national title. Cannon's most memorable performance came in 1959 against Ole Miss when No. 1 LSU trailed No. 3 Ole Miss 3-0 in the fourth quarter. He fielded a punt, broke seven tackles and returned it 89 yards for the 7-3 victory. He went on to a successful 11-year professional career.



23

Pete Maravich

"Pistol Pete," Maravich still holds the NCAA record for career points with 3,667 and for career scoring average with 44.2 points a game. He was selected the National Player of the Year in 1970 after leading the Tigers to the NIT Final Four. He scored 50+ points an amazing 28 times. He went on to a 10-year professional career and was selected as one of the NBA's 50 greatest players in 1997.



33

Shaquille O'Neal

Was the first pick in the 1992 NBA Draft. He was named MVP of the league in 2000 and was a three-time NBA Finals MVP after leading the Los Angeles Lakers to three World Championships. At LSU, O'Neal averaged 21.6 points and 13.6 rebounds for his career, and in 1991, he was named the World's Amateur Athlete of the Year as well as SEC Athlete of the Year and National Player of the Year. In 1997, he was named as one of the top 50 players in NBA history.



15

Skip Bertman

A legend in the college baseball ranks, Bertman created a dynasty at LSU, guiding the Tigers to five national titles in a 10-year stretch from 1991-2000. He also skippered the United States to a bronze medal at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta and was an assistant on the gold medal-winning U.S. squad in Seoul, Korea in 1988. Bertman retired from coaching following the 2001 season and is currently the LSU athletic director. Bertman was inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006.



LSU's Success in each of its 20 sports is evident with this outstanding list of former Tigers.



Seimone Augustus

Augustus was the two-time NCAA National Player of the Year, receiving the Wade Trophy, the Naismith and the Wooden Awards as a junior and a senior. Augustus helped lead the Lady Tigers to three straight Final Fours and was the NCAA Regional MOP three times. She was the No. 1 draft pick in the 2006 WNBA draft.



Temeka Johnson

The 2004-05 Lieberman Award winner as the nation's top point guard, Johnson led the Lady Tigers to back-to-back NCAA Final Fours, the 2004-05 SEC regular season title and the 2003 tournament title, and was the SEC's all-time assist leader, finishing her career fifth in NCAA history with 945.



Nicki Arnstad

The 2002 NCAA floor exercise co-champion, Arnstad became the first LSU gymnast to win a national title. She was a two-time All-American and won the NCAA Central Regional Floor and All-Around Championships.



Esther Jones

A 21-time All-American while at LSU, Jones won a gold medal as a member of the United States' 4x100-meter relay team at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.



April Burkholder

The 2006 NCAA beam co-national champion. Finished career with 14 All-America honors and four All-SEC selections. In addition, was named the NCAA Central Region Gymnast of the year twice (2004, 2005), the SEC Gymnast of the Year on two occasions (2004 and 2005) and was also the conference's Freshman of the Year in 2003.



Muna Lee

The most decorated track and field athlete in school history, Lee won 20 All-America awards and a school record seven national titles while helping the Lady Tigers to five NCAA team championships during her time at LSU. A 2004 Olympian, she finished seventh in the 200 meters at the Summer Games in Athens, Greece.



Xavier Carter

Carter won a school record-tying seven NCAA titles on the track and earned a total of 10 All-America honors. He became just the second athlete to win four titles at one national meet, joining Jesse Owens. Holds four individual school records and anchored LSU's 4x400-meter relay teams to two school records.



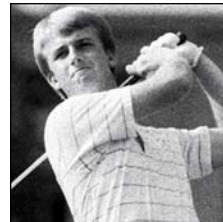
Ben McDonald

Named the Golden Spikes National Player of the Year in 1989 and he was later the first player chosen in the Major League Baseball Draft by the Baltimore Orioles.



Walter Davis

A two-time Olympian and World Champion, Davis helped LSU to national titles in 2001 and 2002. The SEC Male Athlete of the Year in 2002, he won six NCAA titles and earned a school-record nine All-America honors.



David Toms

The two-time SEC Player of the Year, Toms has gone on to a successful career on the PGA Tour. Among his PGA Tour victories was a thrilling win at the PGA Championship in August of 2001.



Meredith Duncan

The nation's top collegiate golfer in 2002, Duncan left LSU as the school's best female golfer. She earned first-team All-America honors as a senior in 2002 and won the United States Women's Amateur Championship in 2001.



Todd Walker

Capped his LSU career as the SEC's all-time leader in hits, runs, RBIs, and total bases. Walker, who is a member of the All-Time College World Series Team, led LSU to the national title in 1993.



Prominent Alumni

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Seimone Augustus

Received her degree in 2005 after just three years at LSU and while earning NCAA Women's Basketball National Player of the Year honors twice. The first pick of the 2006 WNBA draft by the Minnesota Lynx.



Shaquille O'Neal

Four-time NBA champion, including the 2006 title with Miami, Shaquille O'Neal, the 2000 NBA MVP, joined the long list of prominent LSU alumni when he earned his degree in general studies in December 2000.

While LSU continues to make its mark on the playing field, winning 43 national titles, the state's flagship University continues to be a breeding ground for some of the greatest minds in the world - past and present.



Eduardo Aguirre, Jr.

Named the first Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for the Department of Homeland Security in 2003, Aguirre, Jr., was appointed the U.S. Ambassador to Spain in 2005.



Dr. James Andrews

A world-renowned orthopedic surgeon. Andrews is a 1963 graduate of LSU and a 1967 graduate of LSU Medical School. While at LSU, Andrews won the SEC indoor and outdoor titles in the pole vault.



Lod Cook

Graduated from LSU with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics in 1955 and then earned his Master's degree in Petro Engineering in 1955. Cook served as CEO of ARCO for nine years.



Kevin Faulk

Excelled in both the classroom and on the playing field as he graduated in just three years. Faulk is currently a member of the three-time Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots.



Carlos Roberto Flores

The president of Honduras from 1997-2001, Flores helped the nation recover after Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998. Flores is married to the former Mary Carol Flake, also an alumnus of LSU.



Jim Flores

Graduated from LSU and currently is the Vice Chairman of Ocean Energy, the World's Leader in Oil Exploration, based in Houston, Texas.



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Dr. Larry O. Arthur - AIDS researcher.

John Ed Bradley - Sports Illustrated writer and novelist.

John Breaux - U.S. Senator (1987-2005) and U.S. Congressman (1972-86) from Louisiana.

Kenneth Brown - Host of Home and Garden Television (HGTV)'s "reDesign".

Wil Calhoun - Executive Producer of television sitcom "Friends".

"Lightning Joe" Lawton Collins - Chief of Staff for President Harry Truman.

Eric Arturo Delvalle - President of Panama (1985-1988).

A. Wright Elliott - Retired executive vice president, Chase Manhattan Bank.

Graves Erskine - U.S. Marine Corps General in WWII.

Maxime A. Faget - Designed Mercury and Gemini spacecrafts.

Mary Carol Flake Flores - Former first lady of Honduras.

Murphy "Mike" Foster, Jr. - Former governor of Louisiana (1996-2004).

Kevin Griffin - Lead singer of the platinum-selling rock band "Better than Ezra"

Paul Groves - Award-winning tenor with the Metropolitan Opera

Rufus William (Bill) Harp - Television set decorator for series including "L.A. Law" and "Moonlighting"

Walter Hitesman - Former president, Reader's Digest.

Hubert Humphrey - U.S. vice president (1965-69).

W. Vernon Jones - Senior Scientist for Suborbital Research, NASA headquarters

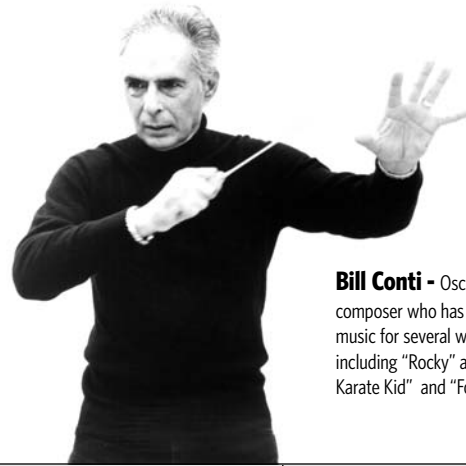
Russell Long - U.S. Senator from Louisiana (1948-87).

Ray Marshall - Secretary of Labor under President Jimmy Carter.

James E. Maurin - Founding partner and CEO of Stirling Properties, a national real estate services firm.

Grover Murray - Former president of Texas Tech University.

Jake Lee Netterville - Chairman of the board of Postlethwaite and Netterville, the largest Louisiana-based public accounting firm.



Bill Conti - Oscar-winning composer who has written theme music for several well-known movies, including "Rocky" and its sequels, "The Karate Kid" and "For Your Eyes Only."

Edwin Newman - Longtime NBC News journalist and author.

Carolyn Bennett Patterson - Former senior editor, National Geographic.

J. Howard Rabin - Former CEO and Chairman of the Board, Texaco.

Rex Reed - Drama critic, syndicated columnist.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Rhame - Led 1st Infantry Division against Iraq during Persian Gulf War.

Thomas O. Ryder - Chairman of the Board, The Reader's Digest Association.

Dolores Spikes - Former President of the Southern University System and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

Ray Strother - Author, political consultant.

David Suarez - Co-owner of Atlantic Company of America, Inc., which performed the historic restoration of the Washington Monument, the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum and the main U.S. Treasury Building.

Joanne Woodward - Academy Award-winning actress and wife of Paul Newman.



Reinosuke Hara

Researched at LSU in the 1950s and then later received an honorary Doctorate of Science degree from LSU in 1992. Former President and CEO of Seiko Instruments.



Eddie J. Jones

Former President of the NFL's Miami Dolphins franchise, the 37-year veteran of the NFL is currently a Trustee of the Bert Bell/Pete Rozelle Retirement and Disability Plan.



Mary L. Landrieu

Became the first woman from Louisiana elected to a full term in the United States Senate in 1997.



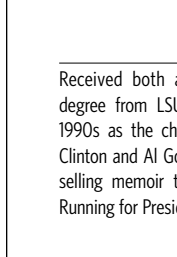
Marty Sixkiller

Senior Technical Director for PDI/DreamWorks' movies "Antz," "Shrek," "Shrek 2," "Madagascar" and "Over the Hedge".



Harry J. Longwell

Graduated from LSU in 1963 with a Bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering and retired in 2004 as the Executive Vice President and Director of ExxonMobil.



James Carville

Received both a Bachelor's degree and Law degree from LSU. Carville gained fame in the 1990s as the chief campaign strategist for Bill Clinton and Al Gore. Carville also penned a best-selling memoir titled All's Fair: Love, War and Running for President.



Jack and Priscilla Andonie Sports Museum

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THE JACK AND PRISCILLA ANDONIE MUSEUM IS HOME

to LSU's athletics history. The museum, located at the Lod Cook Alumni Center on LSU's campus, is full of artifacts and memorabilia from the Andonie's personal collection gathered by the couple over the past three decades. The museum features more than 115 precious pieces of LSU memorabilia. Among these are the 1926 program of the dedication of the campus; the 1936 Sugar Bowl program signed by Governor Oscar K. Allen; Chinese Bandits' hats, jerseys and game ball of the 1958 National Champions; Shaquille O'Neal's and Pete Maravich's jerseys and game shoes; coach Skip Bertman's championship game uniform; the Tiger Band's national championship trophy; coach Dale Brown's favorite game tie; coach Nick Saban's Sugar Bowl headphones; and the 2003 national championship signed game ball.

Twelve wall mounted TVs simultaneously broadcast music videos of the Tiger Band, Cheerleaders, Golden Girls, significant LSU Sports moments, and campus scenes from the 1930s, 40s and 50s. These videos are synched to the wonderful music of the LSU Band and were created exclusively for the Andonie Museum. A movie screen is installed across the corridor entrance displaying the 2004 Nokia Sugar Bowl and highlights of the 2003 championship football season.

Twenty-two huge purple and gold banners add bursts of color to the museum's wall displays. These banners provide information about legendary coaches Paul Dietzel and Charles McClendon. The banners also pay tribute to LSU's SEC and national championship teams.

Amenities

- ▶ 51 separate displays
- ▶ 12 large wall-mounted television screens
- ▶ 13,000 LSU artifacts and memorabilia
- ▶ Numerous kiosk displays



Museum Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 Sunday Closed

Please call for specific information regarding Museum hours during holiday periods.

ADMISSION

Adults \$3
 Senior Citizens \$2
 Students \$1
 Children K-12 \$

Please call for information regarding special group rates. The Andonie Museum is a private, non-profit facility. Admission fees help support the daily operation of the Museum.



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Tiger Stadium

Football
 Built - 1924 • Capacity - 92,400
 Largest Crowd - 92,664 vs. Auburn on October 22, 2005



Pete Maravich Assembly Center

Men's and Women's Basketball, Volleyball and Gymnastics
 Built - 1971 • Capacity - 13,472
 Largest Crowd - 15,694 (MBKB vs. Ole Miss on Feb. 25, 1981)



Alex Box Stadium

Baseball
 Built - 1938 • Capacity - 7,760
 Largest Crowd - 8,683 vs. Houston on March 6, 2004



Bernie Moore Track Stadium

Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field
 Built - 1969 • Capacity - 5,680
 Largest Crowd - 3,947 on June 1, 2001 (NCAA Championships)



Tiger Park

Softball
 Built - 1996 • Capacity - 1,000
 Largest Crowd - 1,506 vs. Southern Miss on May 22, 1999 (NCAA Regional)



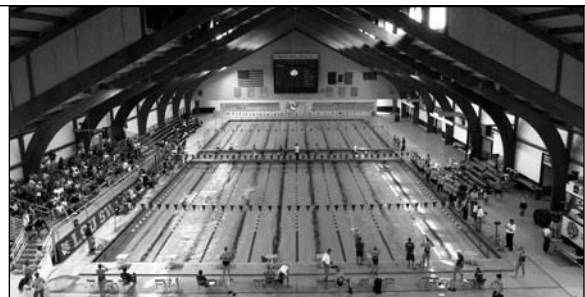
Soccer Complex

Women's Soccer
 Built - 1996 • Capacity - 1,500
 Largest Crowd - 1,689 vs. Ole Miss on Sept. 30, 2005



W.T. "Dub" Robinson Stadium

Men's and Women's Tennis
 Built - 1970 • Capacity - 550



Natatorium

Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving
 Built - 1985 • Capacity - 2,200

