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LSU HEAD COACH

NICK SABAN

2003 NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR



For years outsiders viewed the LSU football program as an unpolished gem, a potential giant waiting to be reborn in the world of college football. With the wealth of resources LSU has to offer, its tradition and the available talent within the state of Louisiana, all the program needed was the right person to lead it. In five years as head coach of the Tigers, Nick Saban has proven to be that leader.

Since taking over a program that suffered through seven losing seasons in the 1990s, Saban has guided LSU to its best five-year stretch ever, winning 48 games to go along with two Southeastern Conference Championships and the 2003 BCS National Title. LSU's appearance against Iowa in the Capital One Bowl will mark the Tigers' fourth consecutive January bowl game, also a first for the school. At 9-2, the Tigers have a shot at becoming the first team in school history to record at least 10 wins in back-to-back seasons. Last year's squad won a school-record 13 games on its way to claiming the school's first national title in football since 1958.

Saban's ability to successfully lead the Tigers comes from a management style that focuses on the entire program, one that puts his players in position to have success, both on the field and in the classroom. Armed with a plan that starts with recruiting quality

people, outstanding football players and good students, Saban and his staff have transformed LSU into a team that is sure to be a fixture among the nation's elite programs for years to come.

On the field, Saban has developed a reputation as a defensive mastermind who is among the best in the game - professional or college - when it comes to game day coaching decisions. His defenses are physical, aggressive and deceptive, while offensively, the Tigers put up staggering numbers with a wealth of skill players leading the way. His teams play hard, make good decisions on the field and have proven that they are confident enough to overcome any type of adversity that is thrown in their direction.

It's a style and system that has proven to be successful, both for the team as well as the individual as nine Tigers have earned First Team All-America honors in five years, while 18 of his LSU players have



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gone on to be selected in the NFL Draft, including seven in the 2004 draft.

Off the field, Saban demands excellence from his players in both the classroom as well as the community. While the Tigers were marching to the 2003 national title on the field, the LSU football team combined for a 2.52 grade point average. A few months later, the squad bettered that mark with a 2.76 average for the spring semester as the Tigers had 50 players with a 3.0 or better during the spring and just six athletes that failed to reach a 2.0.

In addition to the honors the Tigers garnered on the field, LSU had 25 players earn a spot in the SEC Academic Honor Roll in 2003. Once again, numbers that show not only is Saban committed to academics, but his players are also dedicated to receiving an education as well. Since December of 2000, 53 football players who played under Saban at LSU have earned their degree, which includes 15 members of the 2003 national championship squad.

A major part of enhancing and cultivating the education experience for the student-athletes at LSU has been the addition of the \$15 million state-of-the-art Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes. Saban spearheaded the fundraising for the center, which included donating \$50,000 of his own money to the cause. The center, the best of its kind in college athletics, features a 1,000-seat auditorium with over 100 computers in a 54,000-square foot facility that gives all of LSU's student-athletes the best chance to have success in the classroom.

Saban's mission statement for the LSU football program is simple. He wants his players to become better people for having been a part of the program. He also wants to develop his players so they can reach their full athletic potential, which will enable them to have the opportunity to win a championship. Finally, it's his plan to help each player graduate and launch their career so that when they leave LSU they can have the best opportunities to be successful in life.

Five years at LSU have produced dozens of graduates, a pair of SEC championships and a national title as well as student-athletes who are both admired and looked up to in the community. So far, it's been mission accomplished under Nick Saban.

Nick Saban became the 31st head coach of the LSU Tigers on November 30, 1999, after five years as head coach at Michigan State. Saban's first five years at LSU have produced a 48-15 overall mark, which included a school-record 13-1 mark and a No. 1 national ranking in 2003. In addition, Saban was named the Associated Press National Coach of the Year as well as being the recipient for the Bear Bryant Award and the Eddie Robinson Award in 2003.

Saban's 48 wins are the most-ever by an LSU coach in five years and he joins Paul Dietzel as the only two coaches in school history to have multiple 10-win seasons (both have done it twice). Saban, along with Dietzel and Bernie Moore, are also the only coaches in LSU history to win more than one SEC title, with each doing it two times.



Nick and Terry Saban with Nicholas and Kristen.

LSU posted a 9-2 regular season mark in 2004 despite losing 13 players who now occupy spots on NFL rosters. Offensively, the Tigers relied on a two-quarterback system for most of the season as quarterbacks Marcus Randall and JaMarcus Russell combined to throw for 2,105 yards and 17 touchdowns. LSU's running game was the best in the SEC, averaging a league-high 200.7 yards per game.

Defensively, LSU once again put a dominant unit on the field as the Tigers ranked third in the nation in both total defense (249.9) and pass defense (145.4). LSU allowed only 15.9 points per game as the defense surrendered only 12 points in the second half of the last six games of the season.

LSU's 2004 defense was much like that of the 2003 squad that stormed its way to the national title with a remarkable defense, one that ranked first in the nation in points per game (11.0) and total defense (252.0 yards per game), while also holding 13 of the 14 opponents to fewer than 20 points. The defense scored a school-record seven touchdowns, including the game-winning points on a Marcus Spears interception return against Oklahoma in the Nokia Sugar Bowl.

While the defense was holding teams at bay, the Tiger offense was spectacular in its own right, scoring a school-record 475 points and averaging 33.9 points per game. The Tiger offense, behind the play of quarterback Matt Mauck, running back Justin Vincent and wide receivers Michael Clayton, Devery Henderson and Skyler Green, set the school standard for passing touchdowns (30), offensive touchdowns (56), completed passes (255) and first downs (298) and total yards (5,857).

Using the approach of taking it one game at a time and focusing on "what is" rather than "what was", the Tigers ran the table the final six weeks of the regular season, dominating opponents on both sides of the ball. After a 19-7 setback to Florida on Oct. 11, the Tigers won their final six games by an average score of 35 to 10. Only Ole Miss came within a touchdown of the Tigers during that 6-game stretch, a run that included a 31-7 win over Auburn, a 27-3 victory over Alabama and a 55-24 victory over Arkansas. LSU stamped its ticket to the BCS National Championship game with a dominating 34-13 win over Georgia in the SEC title game, marking the second conference championship in three years for the Tigers.

The Tigers put an end to its magical season with another dominating defensive effort against a high-powered Oklahoma team in the Sugar

YEAR-BY-YEAR WITH NICK SABAN

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	CONF. RECORD	VS. TOP 25 TEAMS
1990	Toledo	9-2	7-1 (MAC)	0-0
1995	Michigan State	6-5-1	4-3-1 (Big 10)	1-2
1996	Michigan State	6-6	5-3 (Big 10)	0-3
1997	Michigan State	7-5	4-4 (Big 10)	2-4
1998	Michigan State	6-6	4-4 (Big 10)	2-3
1999	Michigan State	9-2	6-2 (Big 10)	4-2
2000	LSU	8-4	5-3 (SEC)	3-2
2001	LSU	10-3	5-3 (SEC)	4-2
2002	LSU	8-5	5-3 (SEC)	1-3
2003	LSU	12-1	7-1 (SEC)	4-0
2004	LSU	9-2	6-2 (SEC)	1-2
TOTALS (11 years)		91-41-1	58-29	23-23
LSU record (4 years)		48-15	28-11	14-9
Michigan State record (5 years)		34-24-1	23-16-1	9-11
Toledo record (1 year)		9-2	7-1	0-0



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Bowl. The Tigers held the Sooners to only 154 yards of offense and just 54 yards rushing in the 21-14 victory in the Sugar Bowl.

To fully appreciate the accomplishments of the 2003 Tigers, you have to back to the 2000 season, a year in which Saban's impact was felt immediately as he guided a team coming off back-to-back losing seasons to an 8-4 mark and a win over 15th-ranked Georgia Tech in the Peach Bowl to rekindle the fire of a proud football tradition in Baton Rouge.

Among the wins in 2000 for the Tigers were overtime victories over Tennessee, Mississippi State and Alabama as well as a road win over Ole Miss. It was those wins, along with the victory over Georgia Tech in the Peach Bowl, that gave the Tigers the confidence that they could indeed win big games, while setting the stage for what has been the best four-year stretch in LSU football history.

Saban and the Tigers seemed to ride the momentum set with the 2000 Peach Bowl into 2001 as he led LSU to the school's first outright SEC title since 1986 with a 31-20 win over second-ranked Tennessee in the SEC Championship game. The Tigers closed out their 10-3 campaign in 2001 with a 47-34 thrashing of Big 10 Champion Illinois in the Sugar Bowl.

A year after losing two of the most prolific offensive players in school history in quarterback Rohan Davey and wide receiver Josh Reed, Saban used a tenacious defense coupled with a steady offense to lead the 2002 Tigers to an 8-5 overall mark and the school's second straight appearance in a New Year's Day bowl. LSU scored a school-record 30 or more points in six straight games in 2002, while the Tiger defense held the opposition to less than 275 yards in each of the first six games of the year.

A trademark of Saban-coached teams has been their ability to overcome adversity and still effectively perform on the field. In 2001, the Tigers had to overcome the loss of Davey and running back LaBrandon Toefield in the SEC Championship game, while in 2002 LSU prevailed despite losing starting quarterback Mauck midway through the season.

Beating Tennessee to win the league title in 2001 is one thing, but the fashion in which Saban and the Tigers did so speaks volumes on the impact he has had on his squads. Playing without two of their offensive standouts in Davey and Toefield, not only did the Tigers respond to Saban's challenge to step up, but they were dominant, outscoring the high-powered Vol offense 21-3 in the second half.

A year later, LSU found itself in a similar situation, losing three

starters - Mauck, Toefield and free safety Damien James - in consecutive weeks. LSU overcame that adversity and found itself heading into the final week of the 2002 season with a chance at reaching the SEC Championship game. Only a last-minute comeback by Arkansas kept the Tigers from winning its second consecutive SEC Western Division title and participating in the league's championship game.

Losing players such as Mauck, Davey and Toefield and still finding a way to be successful on the field has been a trademark of Saban-coached teams. Teaching the players to trust and believe in each other is a characteristic that Saban has branded on his squads. The philosophy of "out of yourself and into the team" is something that Saban instills on a daily basis into his squad. He also preaches to his teams to play for 60 minutes, to become a dominant team on every play of every game, and not worry about what the scoreboard reads. The players respond.

That couldn't have been more true than in 2002 when Marcus Randall connected with Devery Henderson on a 75-yard touchdown pass, dubbed the "Bluegrass Miracle", as time expired gave the Tigers an unlikely 33-30 win over Kentucky in one of the wildest finishes to a football game in LSU history.

In 2003, the Tigers came back to beat Ole Miss even though the Rebels intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown on LSU's first offensive play of the game. The Tigers also regrouped and mounted a last-minute touchdown drive to beat Georgia in September, moments after the Bulldogs scored on a 93-yard pass to tie the game at 10-10 late in the fourth quarter. LSU rallied for four fourth quarter comebacks in 2004 to once again prove that despite the adversity, LSU now has the mentality to overcome the situation and still have success.

Prior to his arrival at LSU for the 2000 season, Saban led his final Spartan team in 1999 to a No. 7 ranking in the nation and became the first Michigan State squad to win 10 games in one season in 34 years.

Saban's 1999 Michigan State team defeated Notre Dame, Michigan, Ohio State and Penn State all in the same year for the first time since 1965 and recorded six wins at home for the first time since the 1912 season.

Saban has long been revered in football coaching circles as one of the keen minds of the game, having coached under some of the best football technicians in the country on both the college and professional levels.



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He built his reputation as an assistant coach, but as a head coach he has shown the ability to put together a total program, one that produces big numbers on both sides of the football while stressing discipline and responsibility off the field.

"He's a first-rate person and he's a marvelous football coach," said Bill Polian, the president of the NFL's Indianapolis Colts, who is considered one of the premier minds in professional football. "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."

Saban's background in football is rich and varied. He coached in the NFL under Bill Belichick at Cleveland and under Jerry Glanville at Houston. He is a protégé of George Perles at Michigan State and Earle Bruce at Ohio State. He got his start under venerable Washington coach Don James as a graduate assistant at Kent State.

"No-nonsense" is one description of his style of coaching, but consistent and exacting might be more precise. "Hard work" can be attached to any successful program, but also working smart is a trademark of Saban coached teams. 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.

"Basically, if anybody doesn't want to work hard or be committed to the way he's committed, then they're going to have a problem with him," said Belichick, coach of the Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots. "Now, if they like to work, they won't have any problems at all."

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.

"Instead of looking at the overall picture, he gives his players something they can really lash their teeth into, which allows them to play more aggressively," said Dean Pees, the head coach at Kent State who served as a defensive coordinator under Saban. "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."

Saban has a career win-loss record of 82-39-1 for a winning percentage of .676, a total that includes five years as head coach at Michigan State (1995-99), four seasons at LSU and one year at Toledo (1990). He also has extensive experience in the NFL, having coached the secondary of the Houston Oilers for two seasons (1988-89) and having served as defensive coordinator for the Cleveland Browns for four seasons (1991-94).

During his five-year tenure as head coach at Michigan State, Saban tutored four first-team All-Americans and 10 NFL draft picks. While at LSU, Saban has produced six first-team All-Americans and the Tigers have had 18 NFL Draft picks.

The 52-year-old Saban returned to Michigan State following four seasons as the Cleveland Browns' defensive coordinator from 1991-94. The Browns went from allowing the most points in the NFL prior to Saban's arrival to allowing the fewest points in 1994. His defensive unit allowed a league-low 21 touchdowns and 204 points in 1994, the sixth-fewest points surrendered in NFL history at the time.

Saban previously served as head coach at the University of Toledo where he guided the Rockets to a 9-2 overall record in 1990, including a share of the Mid-America Conference title at 7-1. The Rockets ranked among the NCAA leaders in both total defense (12th at 284.8 yards) and scoring defense (16th at 16.2 points). In his rookie season as a head coach, Toledo missed posting an undefeated record by a mere five points.

He began his first stint in the NFL with the Houston Oilers as the secondary coach from 1988-89. The Oilers ranked among the AFC leaders in interceptions in both 1988 (tied for second with 22) and 1989 (fourth with 21).

As secondary coach and defensive coordinator, Saban played an integral part in helping Michigan State to three postseason bowl appearances from 1983-87, including a Big Ten championship in 1987 and a 20-17 triumph over Southern California in the 1988 Rose Bowl. The Spartans led the nation in rushing defense in 1987, allowing only 61.2 yards per game, and ranked second in scoring defense, permitting 12.4 points.

His college coaching credits also include stops at the U.S. Naval Academy (1982), Ohio State (1980-81), West Virginia (1978-79), Syracuse (1977) and Kent State (1975-76). While coaching the secondary at Ohio State, he helped produce four NFL draft choices.

He began his coaching career in 1973 as a graduate assistant at his alma mater Kent State. A defensive back for the Golden Flashes from 1970-72, Saban played in the 1972 Tangerine Bowl against Tampa. He also picked up two letters as a shortstop on the Kent State baseball team.

Born October 31, 1951, in Fairmont, W.Va., Saban earned his bachelor's degree in business from Kent State in 1973 and his master's in sports administration in 1975. Saban, who is an avid golfer, co-authored "Tiger Turnaround" in 2001, a 128-page book documenting his first two years in Baton Rouge.

He and his wife, the former Terry Constable of Fairmont, W. Va., have two children, Nicholas and Kristen.

The Saban File

FULL NAME: Nick Lou Saban
BORN: Oct. 31, 1951
BIRTHPLACE: Fairmont, W. Va.
WIFE: Terry Constable of Fairmont, W. Va.
WEDDING DAY: Dec. 18, 1971
CHILDREN: Nicholas and Kristen

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1973-74	Grad. Asst. Coach	Kent State
1975-76	Linebackers Coach	Kent State
1977	Outside LB Coach	Syracuse
1978-79	Secondary Coach	West Virginia
1980-81	Secondary Coach	Ohio State
1982	Secondary Coach	Navy
1983-87	Secondary Coach/ Def. Coordinator	Michigan State
1988-89	Secondary Coach	Oilers (NFL)
1990	Head Coach	Toledo
1991-94	Def. Coordinator	Browns (NFL)
1995-99	Head Coach	Michigan State
2000-	Head Coach	LSU

EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL: Monongah (WV) HS, 1969
COLLEGE: Kent State, 1973 (business)
MASTERS: Kent State, 1975 (sports administration)

Saban vs. All Opponents

Alabama 4-1	Minnesota 3-1
Ala.-Birmingham 0-1	Mississippi State ... 5-0
Arizona 1-0	Navy 0-1
Arkansas 3-2	Nebraska 0-2
Arkansas State 2-0	Northern Illinois 1-0
Auburn 2-3	Northwestern 2-1
Ball State 1-0	Notre Dame 3-0
Boston College 1-0	Ohio 1-0
Bowling Green 1-0	Ohio State 2-1
Central Michigan 1-1	Oklahoma 1-0
Colorado State 0-1	Ole Miss 4-1
Eastern Michigan ... 3-0	Oregon 1-1
Florida 2-3	Oregon St. 1-0
Georgia 2-1	Penn State 2-3
Georgia Tech 1-0	Purdue 1-3-1
Houston 1-0	South Carolina 2-0
Illinois 6-0	Stanford 0-1
Indiana 4-0	Tennessee 2-1
Iowa 1-2	The Citadel 1-0
Kent 1-0	Texas 0-1
Kentucky 3-0	Troy 1-0
LSU 0-1	Tulane 1-0
Louisiana-Lafayette . 1-0	Utah State 1-0
Louisiana-Monroe ... 1-0	Vanderbilt 1-0
Louisiana Tech 1-0	Virginia Tech 0-1
Louisville 1-1	Washington 0-1
Memphis 1-0	Western Carolina 1-0
Miami (Ohio) 2-0	Western Illinois 1-0
Michigan 2-3	Western Michigan ... 2-0
Middle Tennessee ... 1-0	Wisconsin 1-2



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Mike Collins

Linebackers

In first year as a full-time assistant with the Tigers after serving as an intern during LSU's national championship season in 2003 ... Coaches the Tiger linebackers ... LSU mike linebacker Lionel Turner earned First-Team All-SEC honors in 2004 after registering 75 tackles for the Tigers ... In addition, will linebacker Cameron Vaughn 58 tackles and scored a touchdown against Alabama on an 8-yard fumble return ... Played a key role in the progression of sam linebacker Kenneth Hollis, who got his first start against Florida and has been in the lineup every since ... Former head coach at Louisiana-Monroe, guiding the Indians to a 3-6 mark in 2002.

THE COLLINS FILE

YEAR AT LSU: First (appointed March 4, 2004)
BIRTHDATE: Dec. 13, 1960 at Ruston, La.
WIFE: Terri
CHILDREN: John Michael, Matt
HIGH SCHOOL: Ruston, '79
COLLEGE: Louisiana-Monroe, '83
POST-GRADUATE Louisiana-Monroe, '84

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1983-84 Louisiana-Monroe (graduate assistant)
1985-90 Ouachita Parish High School (assistant coach)
1991-97 McNeese State (linebackers)
1998-2002 Louisiana-Monroe (linebackers, '98; defensive coordinator, '99-01; head coach '02)
2003 LSU (intern)
2004 LSU (linebackers)



Derek Dooley

Assistant Head Coach/Running Backs/Special Teams Coordinator

In fifth year with the Tigers ... In second season as running backs coach and special teams coordinator after holding down the tight ends and recruiting coordinator spot for his first three years on the staff ... Coached LSU running backs to a league-leading 200.7 yards per game ... Has 3 running backs go over 100 yards in 2004, including Alley Broussard who set the LSU single-game record with 250 yards and 3 TDs vs. Ole Miss ... Did an equally good a job handling special teams ... LSU ranks first in the SEC in both net punt coverage (1.5 yards per return) and kickoff coverage (16.7 yards per return) ... LSU's Chris Jackson led all SEC kickers with 6 field goals of 40-yards or more ... Jackson kicked a 53-yarder vs. Arkansas, the third-longest kick in school history ... Jackson is the only kicker in LSU history to have 2 50-yard field goals in the same season ... He kicked a 51-yard field goal against Ole Miss ... Son of legendary Georgia coach Vince Dooley.

THE DOOLEY FILE

YEAR AT LSU: Fifth (appointed Dec. 13, 1999)
BIRTHDATE: June 10, 1968, at Athens, Ga.
WIFE: Allison
CHILDREN: John Taylor, Peyton, Julianna
HIGH SCHOOL: Clarke Central
COLLEGE: Virginia '91
POSTGRADUATE: Georgia '94 (law degree)

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1996 Georgia (graduate assistant/defensive backs)
1997-99 SMU (wide receivers, 1997-99; assistant recruiting coordinator 1998-99)
2000- LSU (recruiting coordinator/tight ends 2000-02; special teams coordinator/running backs 2003)



Jimbo Fisher

OffensiveCoordinator/
Quarterbacks

In fifth year with the Tigers ... Serves as LSU's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach ... Since taking over LSU's offense has guided a Tiger offensive unit that has set numerous school records, including points (475 in 2003), total yards (5,857 in 2003), passing touchdowns (30 in 2003) ... Outstanding offensive mind who once again has the Tigers ranked among the best in the SEC in just about every category ... The Tigers are first in the SEC in rushing offense (200.7), third in total offense (400.1) and fourth in scoring offense (29.0) ... Done all this despite shuffling Marcus Randall and JaMarcus Russell at the quarterback position ... In five years, has coached Tiger quarterbacks to First Team All-SEC honors once (Josh Booty in 2000) and two Second Team All-SEC honors twice (Rohan Davey in 2001, Mauck in 2003) ... Currently has three former quarterbacks on NFL rosters - Davey (Patriots), Mauck (Broncos) and Craig Nall (Packers).

THE FISHER FILE

YEAR AT LSU: Fourth (appointed Dec. 6, 1999)
BIRTHDATE: Oct. 9, 1965, at Clarksburg, W.V.
WIFE: Candi
CHILD: Trey (3)
HIGH SCHOOL: Liberty High
COLLEGE: Salem College '89

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1988-89 Samford (student assistant)
1990 Samford (graduate assistant/quarterbacks)
1991-92 Samford (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1993-98 Auburn (quarterbacks)
1999 Cincinnati (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
2000- LSU (offensive coordinators/quarterbacks)



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Kirby Smart

Defensive Backs

In first year as LSU's defensive backs ... Joined the Tiger staff last spring after serving as a defensive assistant at Florida State for two years ... As LSU's defensive backs, coached a group that consisted of First-Team All-America Corey Webster along with Second-Team All-SEC pick LaRon Landry ... Webster, a two-time First-Team All-America,

has 16 career interceptions, which ranks second in school history ... For the second straight season, Landry led the Tigers in tackles from his free safety position with 86 ... LSU's secondary helped the Tiger defense rank third in the nation in pass defense, allowing only 145.4 yards passing a game ... Five different defensive backs intercepted passes for LSU in 2004 with Landry and Jessie Daniels leading the way with three each.

THE SMART FILE

YEAR AT LSU: First (appointed on Jan. 29, 2004)
BIRTHDATE: Dec. 23, 1975 in Bainbridge, Ga.
HIGH SCHOOL: Bainbridge (Ga.) High School, '94
COLLEGE: Georgia, '98

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1999 Georgia (administrative assistant)
2000-01 Valdosta State (defensive backs, 2000; defensive coordinator, 2001)
2002-03 Florida State (graduate assistant)
2004 LSU (defensive backs)



Travis Jones

Defensive Line

In second year with the Tigers serving as defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator ... Has put together a defensive line that's dominant across the board ... Three of LSU's starting four defensive linemen earned a mention on the all-conference team ... Defensive Marcus Spears earned First-Team All-America honors and First-Team All-SEC, while defensive tackles Claude

Wroten and Kyle Williams were both Second-Team All-SEC picks ... LSU's starting defensive line combined for 43 tackles for losses and 21 sacks in 2004 ... Spears led the group with 17 tackles for losses and 9 sacks, figures that ranked second in the SEC ... Coached a First-Team All-America for the second straight year as Chad Lavalais earned numerous All-America honors in 2003 after anchoring a Tiger defense with 57 tackles, including 16 for losses ... Lavalais was one of four finalists for the Nagurski Award and was one of three finalists for the Outland Trophy ... Lavalais, along with defensive end Marcus Spears, were both First Team All-SEC picks in 2003.

THE JONES FILE

YEAR AT LSU: Second (appointed on Jan. 13, 2003)
BIRTHDATE: June 6, 1972 in Milledgeville, Ga.
WIFE: Melody
CHILDREN: Kennedy Janae' (1)
HIGH SCHOOL: Wilkinson County
COLLEGE: Georgia, '95
POSTGRADUATE: Georgia, '98

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1997 Georgia (defensive line)
1998-2000 Appalachian State (linebackers/recruiting coordinator)
2001-02 Kansas (defensive line 2001; defensive ends, 2002)
2003 LSU (defensive line; recruiting coordinator, 2004)



Will Muschamp

Defensive Coordinator

In fourth season with the Tigers and third as defensive coordinator ... Teams with head coach Nick Saban to give the Tigers two of the best defensive minds in all of college football ... In three years as LSU's defensive coordinator, Muschamp has transformed the Tigers into one of the most dominating

units in college football ... With an attacking style that features numerous blitzes and disguises, LSU heads into the Capital One Bowl ranked third in the nation in both total defense (249.9) and pass defense (145.4) ... The Tigers are allowing only 15.9 points per game, which ranks 11th nationally ... LSU is first in the SEC and 13th in nation in rushing defense (104.5) ... LSU's defense has allowed only 12 points in the second half of its last six games (10 vs. Troy, 2 vs. Ole Miss) ... After scoring a school-record seven touchdowns in 2003, the Tigers defense added three more scores in 2004 ... For the second straight year, LSU's defense features two First-Team All-Americas in defensive end Marcus Spears and cornerback Corey Webster ... Last year, the Tigers led the nation in scoring defense (11.0) and total defense (252.0).

THE MUSCHAMP FILE

YEAR AT LSU: Fourth (appointed on Feb. 22, 2001)
BIRTHDATE: Aug. 3, 1971 in Rome, Ga.
WIFE: Carol
CHILDREN: Jackson (3)
HIGH SCHOOL: Darlington (Ga.) High School
ALMA MATER: Georgia, '94
POST-GRADUATE: Auburn, '97

COACHING EXPERIENCE

1995-97 Auburn (graduate assistant)
1998 West Georgia (secondary)
1999 Eastern Kentucky (secondary)
2000 Valdosta State (defensive coordinator)
2001 LSU (linebackers 2001; defensive coordinator 2002-)



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Stacy Searels

Offensive Line

In second year with the Tigers serving as LSU's offensive line coach ... Made an immediate impact with the Tigers in 2003, coaching an offensive line that many considered to be among the best in the nation ... Did an equally impressive job in 2004 as despite having eight different starting combinations on the offensive line, LSU still led the SEC in rushing with 200.7 yards per game ... For the second straight year, LSU had a First-Team All-America on the offensive line as Ben Wilkerson was named to the American Football Coaches Association Team as well as the Sporting News Squad ... In addition, Wilkerson was named the co-recipient of the 2004 Rimington Trophy, which goes to the top center in college football ... Left tackle Andrew Whitworth earned First-Team All-SEC honors in 2004 ... Also, for the third consecutive season, an LSU offensive lineman earned First-Team Academic All-America honors as Rudy Niswanger, with a 4.0 in pre-medicine, was named to the squad ... He joins Rodney Reed, who was a First-Team Academic All-America in 2002 and 2003 ... A former All-America lineman at Auburn, who spent a portion of his career blocking for Heisman Trophy winner Bo Jackson and All-America Brent Fullwood.

THE SEARELS FILE

YEAR AT LSU: Second (appointed on Jan. 7, 2003)
 BIRTHDATE: May 19, 1965 in Rome, Ga.
 WIFE: Patricia
 CHILDREN: Taylor (7), Savannah (4)
 HIGH SCHOOL: Trion
 COLLEGE: Auburn, '90
 POSTGRADUATE Auburn, '95

COACHING EXPERIENCE
 1992-93 Auburn (graduate assistant)
 1994-2000 Appalachian State (offensive line)
 2000-02 Cincinnati (offensive line)
 2003 LSU (offensive line)



Leroy Ryals

Tight Ends

In first season with the Tigers after serving as the running backs coach for three year at South Florida ... Handles the LSU tight ends while also assisting Derek Dooley with the Tiger special teams ... As LSU's tight ends coached, continued to oversee the progression of all-conference tight end David Jones ... Jones caught eight passes for 178 yards and one touchdown on his way to earning Second-Team All-SEC honors in 2004 ... Jones scored the game-winning touchdown on a 30-yard pass with just over two minutes left in the 24-20 victory over Troy ... LSU's tight ends combined for 12 catches in 2004.

THE RYALS FILE

YEAR AT LSU: First (appointed on Feb. 20, 2004)
 BIRTHDATE: March 2, 1970 in Sarasota, Fla.
 WIFE: Keisha
 CHILDREN: TaQuesha (14), Anika (2)
 HIGH SCHOOL: Booker (Sarasota, Fla.)
 COLLEGE: South Florida, '96
 POST-GRADUATE: Florida, '01

COACHING EXPERIENCE
 1990-93 Booker High School (assistant coach)
 1994-2000 Booker High School (head coach)
 2001-03 South Florida (running backs coach)
 2004 LSU (tight ends coach)



Bobby Williams

Associate Head Coach/
Wide Receivers

In first year with the Tigers serving as LSU's associate head coach, while also coaching the wide receivers ... Former head coach at Michigan State guiding the Spartans to a 16-17 mark in three years ... Took over as head coach at Michigan State when Nick Saban departed for LSU ... Led the Spartans to a 44-35 win over Fresno State in the 2001 Silicon Valley Bowl ... First game as a collegiate head coach came against Florida in the Capital One Bowl ... Led the Spartans to a 37-34 win over the Gators ... Joined the Tigers in January of this year after spending a year with the Detroit Lions in the NFL ... At LSU, continued to mold sophomore wide receivers Craig Davis and Dwayne Bowe into two of the top wideouts in the SEC ... Davis led the Tigers with 41 receptions for 647 yards and one touchdown, while Bowe had 31 catches for 475 yards and a team-best five touchdowns ... The Tigers got excellent play from its wideouts in 2004 despite Skyler Green playing most of the season at less than full strength ... Expected to be the "go to" guy on the receiving corps in 2004, Green suffered a high ankle sprain in fall camp and spent most of the year slowed by the injury ... He finally returned to full speed late in the year and managed to catch 18 passes for 160 yards and one touchdown.

THE WILLIAMS FILE

Year at LSU: First (appointed Jan. 26, 2004)
 BIRTHDATE: Nov. 21, 1958 in St. Louis, Mo.
 WIFE: Sheila
 CHILDREN: Nataly (16), Nicholas (13)
 HIGH SCHOOL: Sumner (Mo.) High School, '77
 COLLEGE: Purdue, '82

COACHING EXPERIENCE
 1982 Purdue (graduate assistant)
 1983-84 Ball State (running backs/defensive backs)
 1985-89 Eastern Michigan (offensive backfield)
 1990 Kansas (wide receivers)
 1990-99 Michigan State (running backs)
 1999-2002 Michigan State (head coach)
 2003 Detroit Lions (wide receivers)
 2004 LSU (assoc. head coach/wide receivers)



Support Staff



Doug Aucoin
Videography Director



Charles Baglio
Coordinator of High School Relations



Andy Barker
Senior Associate Athletic Trainer



Mike Boniol
Equipment Manager



Mike Boniol
Equipment Manager



Dameyune Craig
Graduate Assistant-Offense



Bo Davis
Asst. Strength & Cond. Coordinator



Brandon Fairburn
Asst. Videography Coordinator



Scott Gadeken
Asst. Strength & Cond. Coordinator



Will Jones
Asst. Strength & Cond. Coordinator



Jack Marucci
Director of Athletic Training



Tommy Moffitt
Strength & Cond. Coordinator



Shelley Mullenix
Senior Associate Athletic Trainer



Dr. Sam Nader
Assistant AD/Football Operations



John Papuchis
Administrative Graduate Assistant



Ferrell Shillings
Equipment Manager



David Shores
Administrative Graduate Assistant



Scott Smouse
Video Graduate Assistant



Jeff Springer
Equipment Manager



Greg Stringfellow
Equipment Manager



Chad Walker
Recruiting Intern



Ya'el Lofton
Coordinator of Football Operations



Saron Mangum
Coordinator of Recruiting Operations



Faye Spradley
Offensive Secretary



Lois Stuckey
Receptionist



CC Thompson
Defensive Secretary



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CAPITAL ONE BOWL