



LSU vs. Mississippi State Postgame Notes

Saturday, September 17 • Kickoff 5:00 p.m. CT • ESPN

GAME INFORMATION

LSU Captains: Ali Gaye, BJ Ojulari, Mike Jones Jr., Garrett Dellinger

Coin Toss: LSU won, elected to receive

Weather: 89 Degrees, E 9 mph

Attendance: 98,520

Brian Kelly Career Record: 286-98-2

Brian Kelly LSU Record: 2-1

LSU in SEC Openers: 55-30-5

LSU vs. MSU: 77-36-3

LSU vs. MSU in Baton Rouge: 50-20-1

LSU STARTERS

Offense

QB Jayden Daniels, RB Armoni Goodwin, WR Kayshon Boutte, WR Chris Hilton, WR Malik Nabers, TE Mason Taylor, RT Emery Jones*, RG Garrett Dellinger, C Charles Turner, LG Miles Frazier, LT Will Campbell

Defense

JACK BJ Ojulari, DT Mekhi Wingo, DT Jacobian Guillory, DE Ali Gaye, LB Mike Jones Jr., LB Greg Penn III, NICKEL Jay Ward, CB Colby Richardson, S Major Burns, S Greg Brooks, CB Mekhi Garner

* Marks first career start

^ Marks first start at LSU

RT Emery Jones and LT Will Campbell

were the first true freshmen to start at both tackle positions in a game for LSU dating back to at least 1985. They also became the fourth combination of true freshmen to start on the o-line for LSU.

Other pairs (since 1985):

1. Maea Teuhema (LG)/Toby Weathersby (RT) - 1x in 2015

2. Saahdiq Charles (LT)/Ed Ingram (RG) - 7x in 2017

3. Saahdiq Charles (RT)/Ed Ingram (RG) - 1x in 2017

GAME NOTES

General

1. Saturday's game marked the 1,300th game played in LSU Football history.
2. After not scoring until its final drive in the first half, the LSU offense played at a faster pace in the second half and scored 24 points and the 3rd and 4th quarters.
3. LSU trailed 13-0 in the second quarter before scoring on the final drive of the half. LSU outscored Mississippi State 24-3 in a dominant second half performance. The 13-point comeback marks LSU's largest come-from-behind victory since coming back from down 20 against Auburn in 2017.

a. Mississippi State entered the game with a 9-2 record under Mike Leach when scoring first.

4. The combination of LSU's offensive ability to control the football and defensive ability to get key stops allowed the Tigers to win the time of possession battle. Mississippi State entered the game averaging 39:04 minutes on offense per game (ranked 2nd nationally), but LSU won the TOP battle 32:42-27:18 in the game.

Offense

1. With 303 yards of total offense, **QB Jayden Daniels** was responsible for 72.8-percent of LSU's yards Saturday night. He was 22-37 passing the ball for 210 yards and a touchdown. On the ground, Daniels was the leading rusher for LSU as he rushed for 93 yards on 16 carries and ran for a touchdown.

a. Daniels connected with **WR Jaray Jenkins** for an 8-yard passing touchdown with 46 seconds remaining in the second quarter.

i. The passing touchdown extended LSU's streak of games with a passing touchdown to 45.

b. With 14:11 remaining in the fourth quarter and LSU trailing by 6, Daniels rushed the ball into the endzone for a 3-yard touchdown to put the Tigers ahead, 17-16.

c. In three games at LSU, Daniels has accounted for 8 TDs (6 pass, 2 rush).

2. **WR Malik Nabers** had a big game, leading the Tigers with 76 receiving yards on 6 receptions. He was targeted 7 times.

a. With LSU holding a 17-16 lead and the Tigers driving, Nabers came up time and time again to help LSU extend its lead over the Bulldogs. On that drive, Nabers had four receptions, three on third downs for a total of 24 yards and one on a 4th-and-3 that went for 27 yards.

3. The LSU offense struggled to convert on third downs throughout the first three quarters, failing to convert any of its eight third down situations in the first three quarters. The script flipped in the game's final quarter as LSU went 6-7 on third downs in the fourth quarter to close out the game.

Defense

1. The LSU defense came through in clutch situations over and over throughout the contest. With numerous short yardage situations, LSU held Mississippi State to just 3-14 on third downs and 1-4 on fourth downs throughout the game.

2. **S Jay Ward** had a big game, tying his career-high with 11 total tackles which he originally set against Auburn last season.

a. With the Bulldogs driving late in the game and in need multiple scores, Ward intercepted his first pass of the season and seventh of his career with 3:02 remaining in the game, clinching the win for LSU.

3. **DE Sai'Vion Jones** recorded his first career solo sack and forced fumble on a third-and-ten with 11:37 remaining in the second quarter.

4. The freshman **LB Harold Perkins** had a standout day in his first ever SEC contest. He had five tackles and finished the game with 1.5 sacks.

5. **DE BJ Ojulari** wreaked havoc on Mississippi State making multiple plays in the defensive backfield. Of his 4 total tackles, he had 1.5 sacks and 2.5 tackles for loss. He also registered 2 QB hurries.

6. Mississippi State entered Saturday's contest as the SEC's second highest scoring offense, averaging 44.0 points per game. The Tigers held the Bulldogs to 16 points Saturday night.

Special Teams

1. On a **Jay Bramblett** punt with 33 seconds remaining in the third quarter, Mississippi State return man Austin Williams muffed the punt and LSU **snapper Slade Roy** recovered the ball at the nine-yard line. It proved to be a critical play as it set up LSU's offense to get the go-ahead score to begin the fourth quarter and LSU never trailed again.