



No. 3 LSU (4-0) vs. Southeastern Louisiana (2-2)

Postgame Notes

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 • Kickoff 6:55 p.m. CT • SEC Network

GAME INFORMATION

LSU Captains: QB Garrett Nussmeier, LB Whit Weeks, TE Bauer Sharp, DT Jacobian Guillory II

Coin Toss: SLU won, deferred; LSU received

Weather: Clear, 87 degrees

Wind: South at 7 mph

Attendance: 102,219

Brian Kelly Career Record: 317-108-2

Brian Kelly LSU Record: 33-11

Brian Kelly vs. SLU: 1-0

LSU vs. SLU All-Time: 3-0

LSU STARTERS

Offense

QB Garrett Nussmeier, RB Caden Durham, WR Zavion Thomas, WR Aaron Anderson, WR Barion Brown, TE Bauer Sharp, LT Tyree Adams, LG Paul Mubenga, C Braelin Moore, RG Josh Thompson, RT Weston Davis

Defense

EDGE Patrick Payton, EDGE Jack Pyburn, DT Jacobian Guillory II, DT Bernard Gooden, LB Davhon Keys, LB Whit Weeks, STAR Harold Perkins Jr., FS Tamaricus Cooley, ROVER A.J. Haulcy, CB Mansoor Delane, CB PJ Woodland

GAME NOTES

General

1. No. 3 LSU returned to Tiger Stadium for a third-straight game to complete its home stand against Southeastern Louisiana. The Tigers won the contest 56-10 to improve their record to 4-0.

a. LSU's winning streak moved to 7 games.

b. The winning streak dates back to the 2024 season, where LSU closed the year with victories over Vanderbilt, Oklahoma, and Baylor in the Texas Bowl.

c. LSU head coach Brian Kelly coached against Southeastern La. for the first time in his coaching career. He is now 1-0 against the Lions all-time.

2. Against FCS opponents, LSU improved 34-1 overall with a 3-0 record against Southeastern Louisiana.

a. The Tigers have played 16 FCS teams at least once with LSU competing against the Northwestern State Demons the most (12 times; 12-0 record).

3. LSU donned traditional white jerseys and gold helmets against SLU along with white pants.

a. The Tigers wore this uniform combination for the third time: vs. Army (Oct. 21, 2023; W, 62-0), vs. South Alabama (Sept. 28, 2024; W, 42-10), and vs. SLU (Sept. 20, 2025; W, 56-10).

4. For the third time in series history, LSU and Southeastern Louisiana met on the football field. LSU won the latest meeting in Tiger Stadium, 56-10.

a. The two teams first met in 1949 when the Tigers defeated the Lions 48-7 on Nov. 19 in Baton Rouge. They would meet again 69 years later in 2018 when LSU welcomed Southeastern Louisiana to Tiger Stadium, where the home team pitched a 31-0 shutout with future Heisman-winning QB Joe Burrow at the helm of the offense.

5. The Tigers have a 39-game winning streak and a 144-25-8 all-time mark against teams from Louisiana following Saturday's contest.

a. LSU hasn't dropped a game to a team from Louisiana since 1982 when Tulane posted a 31-28 victory over the Tigers in Tiger Stadium.

b. LSU's record against in-state schools include: 69-22-7 vs. Tulane; 22-0 vs. Louisiana-Lafayette; 20-1 vs. Louisiana Tech; 12-0 vs. Northwestern State; 4-1 vs. Loyola (New Orleans); 4-0 vs. Louisiana-Monroe; 3-1-1 vs. Centenary; 3-0 vs. Southeastern; 2-0 vs. Louisiana College and McNeese; and 1-0 against both Southern, Grambling, and Nicholls.

c. The Southeastern Louisiana and Louisiana Tech contests in 2025 marked the fifth straight year in which LSU faced a team from Louisiana.

i. LSU beat McNeese (34-7) in 2021, followed by a 65-17 win over Southern in 2022, a 72-10 victory over Grambling in 2023, and a 44-21 win vs. Nicholls last year. Earlier this season, LSU defeated Tech, 23-7, in Tiger Stadium. LSU downed Southeastern, 56-10, on Sept. 20, 2025.

d. During his time at LSU, Brian Kelly is 5-0 against schools based in Louisiana.

6. LSU has won 20 straight and 69 of its last 70 games against non-conference opponents in Tiger Stadium.

a. LSU's last loss against a non-conference foe came in 2017 when Troy beat the Tigers, 24-21 on Sept. 30. Prior to that loss, LSU had won 49 straight non-conference games in Tiger Stadium, which ranks as the third-longest streak in college football history, trailing only Harvard (55 from 1890-1895) and Carlisle (54 from 1901-1915). Before the Troy loss in 2017, LSU's last defeat in Tiger Stadium to a nonconference team came in 2000 against UAB.

GAME NOTES

7. Dating back to 2001, the Tigers have done quite well against non-conference opponents, going 99-14 against non-SEC foes during that span.
 - a. Of the 99 wins, 22 have come against top-25 teams. Of the 14 losses, only seven have come during the regular season (2002 at Virginia Tech, 2016 vs. Wisconsin at Lambeau Field, 2017 vs. Troy, 2021 at UCLA, 2022 vs. FSU, 2023 vs. FSU, and 2024 vs. USC). The other seven losses came in bowl games (2003 Cotton Bowl vs. Texas; 2005 Capital One Bowl vs. Iowa; 2009 Capital One Bowl vs. Penn State; 2012 Chick-Fil-A Bowl vs. Clemson; 2014 Music City Bowl vs. Notre Dame; 2018 Citrus Bowl vs. Notre Dame; 2022 TaxAct Texas Bowl vs. Kansas State).
8. LSU ran its record to 15-3 against non-conference opponents under Brian Kelly following the Tigers 56-10 win over Southeastern Louisiana.
 - a. LSU went 4-1 against non-SEC foes in each of Kelly's first three seasons with the Tigers. LSU is 3-0 against non-conference opponents in 2025.
 - b. LSU's three non-conference losses under Kelly came to Florida State (2022 and 2023) and Southern Cal (2024).
9. LSU is 24-10 in games it has played as a Top 25 team under head coach Brian Kelly.
 - a. The Tigers were 4-3 in 2022 as a ranked team, followed by a 10-3 mark in 2023. LSU ended 2024 6-4 in 2024 while being ranked in the top 25.
 - b. In 2025, LSU is 4-0 and has been ranked in the Top 10 since the season opener.
 - c. Overall, LSU has played 34 of its 43 games ranked in the Top 25 under Kelly.
10. LSU has won 20 of the last 21 night games in Death Valley and since the turn of the century (2000-24), LSU is 115-16 in night games in Tiger Stadium.
 - a. LSU went 49-5 from 2000-09, 43-7 from 2010-19 and is 23-4 in those games since 2020.
 - b. Of the 16 losses since the start of the 2000 season, eight have come to teams ranked in the Top 10 with five of those coming to teams ranked No. 1. LSU has only two non-conference losses in night games in Tiger Stadium since 2000 (UAB in 2000; Troy in 2017).
11. Under LSU head coach Brian Kelly, the Tigers are 18-1 in night games in Tiger Stadium.
 - a. Overall, LSU has won 20 of the last 21 night games in Death Valley. The Tigers won all four of their night games in 2022, followed by a 6-0 mark in 2023. LSU went 5-1 in 2024 night games and currently holds a 3-0 record in 2025 night games in Tiger Stadium.
 - b. LSU's only night game loss in Tiger Stadium under Kelly came last year when No. 11 Alabama beat the Tigers, 42-13. Prior to the loss against the Crimson Tide, LSU last lost a night game in Tiger Stadium on Nov. 13, 2021 when Arkansas kicked a field goal in overtime to win, 16-13.
 - c. LSU's only other home loss under Kelly came during the day when then-No. 8 Tennessee posted a 40-13 win over the Tigers on Oct. 8, 2022.
12. Six true freshmen saw action for the first time at LSU including CB Aidan Anding (punt return), S Jhase Thomas (kickoff coverage), LB Jaiden Braker (kickoff coverage), WR Phillip Wright III, WR TaRon Francis, and EDGE Damien Shanklin.
13. Transfer QB Michael Van Buren Jr. saw action for the first time at LSU, replacing QB Garrett Nussmeier in the third quarter.
14. Three redshirt freshmen saw action at LSU for the first time against SLU including WR Kylan Billiot (punt return), OT Ethan Calloway, and EDGE CJ Jackson.
15. Sophomore OL Braden Augustus entered for the first time in LSU career at center vs. SLU. Sophomore DT Joey August also saw action for the first time.
16. Senior WR Noah Nash saw action for the first time at LSU.
17. With 0:26 remaining in the third quarter, OL DJ Chester was charged with targeting and disqualified from the remainder of the half. With the 2H ejection, Chester will miss the first half of the Tigers' next game against Ole Miss on Sept. 27.

Offense

1. QB Garrett Nussmeier led the passing attack, going 25-for-31 with 273 yards and 3 TDs.
 - a. With 25-plus completions against SLU, Nussmeier becomes the LSU leader in games with 25-plus completions at 12 games. He surpassed Joe Burrow who had 11 games with 25-plus completions during his two-year stint in Baton Rouge.
 - b. QB Michael Van Buren Jr. entered in the third quarter and was 10-for-12 with 122 yards and 1 TD.
 - c. It was the first time LSU had two 100-yard passers in a game since Jayden Daniels and Nussmeier did so in the bowl game vs. Purdue on January 2, 2023 (Cheez-It Bowl).
2. Eight Tigers recorded a rush against SLU, but RB Ju'Juan Johnson saw the most attempts with 8. Johnson also carried for the most yards with 43 yards and two TDs and a long rush of 16.
 - a. Johnson set a career high in rush attempts with 8, rush yards with 43, rushing TDs with 2, and his long rush of 16
3. 13 receivers caught a pass against the Lions with former SLU player Bauer Sharp leading the way Saturday night with 73 yards on 5 receptions and 1 TD.
4. Nussmeier punched it in for the Tigers' first score of the night with a 1-yard QB rush that gave LSU the 7-0 lead in the first quarter with 5:08 remaining.
 - a. The rushing TD for Nussmeier was the fifth of his LSU career.

GAME NOTES

- b. The LSU drive went 45 yards on 13 plays and took 5:18 off the game clock.
- c. The 45-yard drive marked the first time this season LSU has completed a TD drive within 40-49 yards.
- 5. Johnson scored on a 2-yard rush to give LSU the 14-0 advantage with 13:12 left in the first half.
 - a. Johnson aided in the Tigers reaching the SLU endzone on the previous play with a 16-yard rush. The rush was a career long for Johnson (previous: 8, 2x – Last vs. Florida).
 - b. The TD rush marked the first of his LSU career.
 - c. The LSU drive went 44 yards on 7 plays and drained 2:58 from the game clock.
 - d. The 44-yard drive signaled the second time this season LSU has completed a TD drive with 40-49 yards.
- 6. Following Nussmeier's career-long rush (26 yards; previous: 14 yards), Johnson punched it in for the second time to make it 21-0 LSU with 8:19 remaining in the first half.
 - a. The 10-yard rushing TD marked Johnson's second of the game and second of his career.
 - b. The LSU drive went 74 yards on 7 plays and took 3:14 off the game clock.
 - c. The 74-yard TD drive was the third time LSU has cashed in a drive for a TD within 70-79 yards.
- 7. Nussmeier and WR Barion Brown continued the hot offensive night for LSU by connecting on a 17-yard TD pass with 2:06 left in the first half to increase the Tiger lead to 28-0.
 - a. The TD pass from Nussmeier was his 4th of the season and the 44th of his career.
 - b. Brown reeled in his first TD as an LSU Tiger and the 12th of his collegiate career (the first 11 came at Kentucky under Mark Stoops).
 - c. The drive went 57 yards on 8 plays and took off 3:50 from the game clock.
 - d. The 57-yard TD drive was the Tigers' first on the season within 50-59 yards.
- 8. Late in the second quarter, the LSU defense got Nussmeier and the offense back on the field with 1:40 left in the half. The Tigers' two-minute offense capitalized and scored on a 9-yard TD pass from Nussmeier to WR Zavion Thomas to make it 35-0.
 - a. The TD pass was Nussmeier's 5th of the season and 45th of his LSU career.
 - b. Thomas caught his 5th career TD and the 4th TD during his LSU stint. He caught one TD at Mississippi State.
 - c. The drive went 56 yards on 8 plays and took 1:25 off the clock.
 - d. The 56-yard drive was the Tigers' second on the season within 50-59 yards.
- 9. Former Southeastern La. player Bauer Sharp scored for the first time at LSU on a 23-yard TD reception from Nussmeier with 9:28 left in the third quarter. LSU led 42-0 at that juncture.
 - a. The TD pass marked Nussmeier's 3rd of the night, 6th on the season, and 46th of his career.
 - b. Sharp's first TD reception at LSU was his 7th overall. Sharp reeled in 4 at SLU and 2 at Oklahoma.
 - c. The drive went 87 yards on 7 plays and took off 3:17 from the game clock.
 - d. The 87-yard TD drive was the Tigers' first on the season within 80-89 yards.
- 10. Van Buren, who took over for Nussmeier with 5:59 left in the third quarter, scored for the first time at LSU with a 1-yard rush at the goal line. LSU's lead sat at 49-7 with 13:54 remaining in the game.
 - a. The rushing TD for Van Buren Jr. was his first of the season and the sixth of his collegiate career. Van Buren Jr. scored on the ground 5 times at MSST.
 - b. The scoring drive went 81 yards on 16 plays and drained 7:05 from the game clock.
 - c. The 81-yard drive was the Tigers' second on the season within 80-89 yards. It was the longest drive by number of plays this season for LSU. The previous high was 13 vs. Louisiana Tech.
- 11. Van Buren Jr. and WR Kyle Parker added to the Tigers' lead with a 27-yard TD connection and 8:11 remaining in the game.
 - a. The TD pass was Van Buren's first at LSU and the 12th of his career. He tossed 11 TDs at MSST.
 - b. The TD reception for Parker was the second of his career and his first of the season.
 - c. The scoring drive went 58 yards on 6 plays and took 3:30 off the clock.
 - d. The 58-yard TD drive was the Tigers' third on the season within 50-59 yards.

Defense

- 1. LSU's defense flexed its muscles once again vs. SLU by holding the Lions to 204 total yards (88 rushing, 116 passing).
 - a. SLU did not cross the 50-yard line against the Tiger defense until midway through the third quarter. Overall, SLU only crossed the 50-yard line twice on 11 drives.
 - b. The LSU defense shut out the Lions' offense in the first half outscoring SLU, 35-0, and 30 total yards.
 - c. LSU held the SLU offense to 1-11 on third downs.
- 3. The LSU defense spread the wealth against the Lions, as 21 Tigers recorded a tackle on the night. S Dashawn Spears led the way with 4.
- 4. With 1:10 remaining in the first quarter, LB Davhon Keys and DT Jacobian Guillory II provided a huge stop on 4th and 1, following the Tigers' first offensive score of the night on the previous drive.
 - a. LSU's offense took over at the SLU 44-yard line.
- 5. Guillory and DE Jack Pyburn combined to sack the SLU QB with 6:37 left in the first half.
 - a. Pyburn and Guillory's sack totals both increased to 2.0.

GAME NOTES

6. EDGE Dylan Carpenter recorded his first career sack at LSU with 13:42 remaining in the game. Carpenter sacked the SLU QB for a loss of 7.
7. Freshman EDGE Damien Shanklin recorded his first career sack in his young career to force an SLU FG attempt with 2:16 remaining in the game.

Special Teams

1. PK Damian Ramos went a perfect 8-for-8 on PATs.
2. P Grant Chadwick had 2 punts for 99 yards and averaged 49.5 per kick.
 - a. His long on the night was 53 and one of his punts landed inside the 20.