

NATIONAL TITLES 1935 **SEC CHAMPIONS** 1935 • 1953 • 1954 • 1979 1981 - 1985 - 1991 - 2000 - 2006 - 2009 - 2019 FINAL FOUR 1953 - 1981 - 1986 - 2006



Noon ET, 11 a.m. CT Addition Financial Arena Orlando, Florida

TV: ESPN+ (Streaming)

2025-26 LSU SCHEDULE

LSU (0-0)

H - 0-0; A - 0-0; N -0-0; OT - 0-0

Wed. 5	TARLETON STATE (SECN+)	7 p.m.
Mon. 10	NEW ORLEANS (SECN+)	7 p.m.
Thur. 13	FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL (SECN+)	7 p.m.
Tues. 18	ALCORN STATE (SECN+)	7 p.m.
Fri. 21	OMAHA (SECN+)	7 p.m.
Emerald Co	oast Challenge	
Fri. 28	vs. Drake (CBS Sports Network)	8:30 p.m.
Sat. 29	vs. Ga. Tech/DePaul (CBSSN finals)	3/6 p.m.

December

ACC/ SEC	Chanenge						
Wed. 3	•						
Coast-to-	Coast Challenge Fort Worth, Texa	IS					
Sun. 7	vs. Texas Tech (ESPN2)	2 p.m.					
Compete	4 Cause Classic New Orleans, Lou	isiana					
Sat. 13	vs. SMU (SEC Network)	7:30 p.m.					
Fri. 19	SOUTHEASTERN (SECN+)	7 p.m.					
Mon. 22	PRAIRIE VIEW (SEC Network)	6 p.m.					
Mon. 29	SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI (SECN+)	7 p.m.					

January

Sat. 3	*at Texas A&M (ESPNU)	3 p.m.
Tues. 6	*SOUTH CAROLINA (ESPNU)	6 p.m.
Sat. 10	*at Vanderbilt (SEC Network)	Noon
Wed. 14	*KENTUCKY (SEC Network)	6 p.m.
Sat. 17	*MISSOURI (SEC Network)	2:30 p.m.
Tues. 20	*at Florida (ESPN2)	6 p.m.
Sat. 24	*at Arkansas (SEC Network)	7:30 p.m.
Wed. 28	*MISSISSIPPI STATE (SEC Network) 6 p.m.
Sat. 31	*at South Carolina (SEC Network)	5 p.m.

February

Sat. 7	*GEORGIA (SEC Network)	5 p.m.	
Tues. 10	*ARKANSAS (SEC Network)	8 p.m.	
Sat. 14	*at Tennessee (SEC Network)	5 p.m.	
Tues. 17	*at Texas (SEC Network)	8 p.m.	
Sat. 21	*ALABAMA (SEC Network)	5 p.m.	
Wed. 25	*at Ole Miss (SEC Network)	8 p.m.	
Sat. 28	*OKLAHOMA (SEC Network)	5 p.m.	

March

Tues. 3 *at Auburn (SEC Network) 9 p.m. Sat. 8 *TEXAS A&M (SEC Network) 5 p.m.
Tues. 3 *at Auburn (SEC Network) 9 p.m.

Wed.-Sunday 11-15 (SEC Network, ESPN)

* = SEC Games: All Times Central: Home Games in ALL CAPS SECN+ is streaming broadcast.

ON THE AIR



Radio Network broadcasts will

Streaming: ESPN+

Play-by-Play Austin Lyons Analyst Mike O'Donnell Sidelines: Hannah Russo

L5Usports.net

SU PLAYERS TO WATCH

THOMAS, JR.

G · Jr. · 6-1 · 176 Las Vegas, Nevada

24-25 Stats (at UNLV): 15.6 ppg, 2.0 rpg, 4.7 apg, 2.5 asst/to ratio

- · Should open the regular season as LSU's primary point guard.
- · 2025 Mountain West 3rd team: 2024 Mountain West Co-Freshman of Year.
- · Averaged 35.8 minutes per game (2nd in Mountain West)
- · 22 games in double figures scoring last year, five over 20 points.
- · 5 assists or more in 16 games.
- Father played at UNLV (91-94), earning honorable mention A-A honors.

ROBERT

MILLER III

F · So. · 6-10 · 230 Houston, Texas

24-25 Stats (at LSU): 4.5 points 3.1 rebounds.

- One of two returnees for this season, played all 32 games, 8 starts.
- · In last nine games had four games in double figures.
- 16 at Arkansas, 19 vs. UF, 15 at Kentucky, 14 vs. Mississippi State
- · Double double in the Florida game with 19 pts-10 rebounds.
- · Father was an LSU football defensive lineman; Mom played hoops at Tulane
- For the season shot 61.5 percent (59-96), 55-of-76 inside the arc.

MARQUEL SUTTON

F \cdot 5th yr Senior \cdot 6-9 \cdot 225 Tulsa, Oklahoma

24-25 Stats (at Omaha): 18.9 ppg, 7.9 rpg, 1.2 apg

- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Named the 2025 Summit League Player of the Year.
- · Started all 98 games at Omaha the previous three seasons.
- · 31 double figure games last year with 20 games over 20 points, 9 doubles.
- · Six games with double digit field goals; Seven games with at least 8 FTs made
- · 69 Omaha games in double figures, 13 double doubles
- · Played freshman season at Connors State

JALEN

F · RS Junior · 6-10 · 245 Jackson, Mississippi

24-25 Stats (at LSU): 11.1 ppg, 6.5 rpg

- · In his fourth season on the LSU Basketball team.
- · Played the first eight games before a devastating ACL injury vs. FSU (12/3).
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ While still on minutes restriction, has worked hard to get back this year.
- · Scored 21 pts with 13 rebs in the triple OT win over UCF, playing 48 minutes.
- · 39 starts for the Tlaers over three years
- · Father, the late Justin Reed, All-America at Ole Miss, SEC FOY in 2001.

MIKE NWOKO

F · Junior · 6-10 · 261 Toronto, Canada

24-25 Stats (at Miss. State): 6.1 ppg, 4.6 rpg

- · Played for his native Canada in the GLobal Jam in August in Toronto
- More than doubled scoring and rebound averages from freshman campaign
- Made 52.5 percent of his field goal attempts (83-of-158).
- State was 5-2 last year when he scored in double figures.
- · Started 33 of his 63 games at Mississippi State over past two seasons

BREAKDOWN

LSU

RECORD

14-18 IN 2024-25 **RANKING**

LAST GAME

L, 91-62, vs. Miss. State (SEC Tourn. 1R) 3/12/25

HEAD COACH

Matt McMahon **CAREER RECORD** 199-120 (11th season)

LSU RECORD

45-53 (4th season)

UCF

RECORD

20-17 IN 2024-25 **RANKING**

LAST GAME

L, 77-66, vs. Nebraska (CBK Crown), 4/6/25

HEAD COACH

Johnny Dawkins **CAREER RECORD** 324-235 (18th season)

UCF RECORD

168-120 (10th season)



Matt McMahon

Head Coach

@CoachMcMahon

4th Year at LSU · 11th Year as a Head Coach

LSU Coach Matt McMahon has built his program around five core values that define his approach both on and off the court: hard work, unselfishness, toughness, accountability and joy.

Those values were among the first principles he shared when introduced as the 25th head coach in program history on March 22, 2022, and they continue to guide every aspect of LSU Basketball today.

Now entering his fourth season at the helm, Coach McMahon leads a Tigers team energized by a strong recruiting class that blends proven transfers with talented freshmen. The 2025-26 squad is poised to build on the foundation laid in recent years, with an emphasis on chemistry, relentless effort, and steady progress.

This current group thrives on its chemistry, playing for each other with toughness, accountability, and an unselfish spirit. Their joy for the game is evident every time they take the floor, uniting players, coaches, and fans

Guided by those five core principles, the Tigers have continued to strengthen the program's foundation, setting the stage for growth in 2025-26. With added talent and depth at all positions, this year's roster is built to take the next step forward.

Player development remains a cornerstone in the Matt McMahon LSU basketball program.

Robert Miller III enters his sophomore season ready to build on flashes of promise from his freshman year. Over the summer, Miller has committed himself to individual skill development and strength training to add both power and polish his game.

Jalen Reed returns for his redshirt junior season after an early December ACL injury cut short what had been a breakout year. Known for his drive and work ethic, Reed attacked his rehab this summer showing steady progress toward a full return.

The summer has given new players valuable time to work closely with the coaching staff and strength and conditioning coach Mike Chatman, focusing on improving their skills and physical readiness for the long season ahead

The program has already shown it can take measurable steps forward under Matt McMahon's leadership. In 2024, LSU advanced to postseason play after back-to-back wins over No. 11 South Carolina, 64-63, in Columbia and then a 75-74 win over No. 17 Kentucky in BR.

Last season, LSU showed what it was capable of, beating Florida State in its SEC/ACC Challenge game, winning a triple-overtime win at the Greenbrier over UCF, a road victory at Kansas State, and an amazing rally in the final minute to win at Oklahoma.

McMahon's track record of building winning cultures was firmly established during his seven seasons at Murray State. Coach McMahon led the Racers to a record of 154-67 (.697) including: 93 OVC regular season wins, winning 75 percent of league games.

During his tenure, he has also coached multiple all-Americans and all-conference players. The most notable was Ja Morant, who went on to become the 2020 NBA Rookie of the Year

Under McMahon the Racers won regular season league titles in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 and advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 2018, 2019 and 2022.

In his final season at Murray State in 2021-22, McMahon coached OVC Player of the Year KJ Williams and two other first-teamers (Tevin Brown, Justice Hill). In addition, McMahon was named the league's Coach of the Year.

McMahon's Racers, in 2021-22, were just the sixth team in league history to go undefeated. Murray State then won the league tournament to advance to the NCAA Tournament where the Racers defeated San Francisco in the opening round..

The 2021-22 team was one of seven teams to win 30 or more games that season and led the nation in win percentage at 91.2 percent.

The 2018-19 team won 28 games and made its mark in the NCAA Tournament when the 12th-seeded Racers won their fourth all-time tourney game over No. 5 seed Marguette.

Morant that year was named the OVC POY, leading Division I in assists and earning first-team All-America honors. In the NCAA Tournament win over Marquette, Morant posted a triple double of 17 points, 11 rebounds and 16 assists as he became the eighth player to record a triple double in the tournament.

He was drafted second overall in the 2019 NBA draft by the Memphis Grizzlies.

Prior to being named head coach, he was a key part of Coach Steve Prohm's staff as assistant at Murray State as the Racers won a pair of Ohio Valley Conference championships,

a Collegelnsider. com Tournament championship and an appearance in the NIT. He was part of a staff that won 104 games from 2011-15.

PRIOR TO MURRAY STATE

Coach McMahon has had success in college basketball since his days as a player at

Appalachian State.

Known as an excellent shooter and tough competitor, he played on three Southern Conference regular season title teams in 1998, 1999 and 2000. He earned All-Tournament honors in 1999. The Mountaineers won the SoCon Tournament in 2000 and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

He played in 117 career games under coach Buzz Peterson and made 135 three-pointers, graduating in 2000.

His coaching career began immediately at Appalachian State as assistant under Houston Fancher in 2000-01. He would rejoin Peterson's staff as a graduate assistant coach at Tennessee before returning to ASU in 2002 as assistant and later associate head coach. where he stayed until the end of the 2009-10 season. A year at UNC Wilmington (2010-11) as assistant coach set the stage for his journey to Murray State, starting first as an assistant in the 2011-12 season and then as head coach prior to the 2015-16 season.

Coach McMahon and his wife Mary, a former standout for the Furman women's basketball team, have three children - Maris, Mason and Mabry.

THE MCMAHON FILEU Men's LSU

Birthdate: April 26, 1978

Age: 46

Hometown: Oak Ridge, Tennessee College: Appalachian State, 2000

Wife: Marv

Child: Maris, Mason, Mabry

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2000-01 - Assistant Coach, Appalachian State 2001 - Graduate Assistant, Tennessee

2002-10 - Assistant/Associate Head Coach, Appalachian State

2010-11 - Assistant Coach, UNC Wilmington 2011-15 - Assistant Coach, Murray State

2015-22 - Head Coach, Murray State March 22, 2022 - Head Coach, LSU

THE MCMAHON RECORD

		/OVERALL/		/CONF.	/	
YEAR	SCHOOL	W-L	PCT.	W-L	PCT.	POST SEASON
2015-16	Murray State	17-14	.548	10-6	.625	
2016-17	Murray State	16-17	.485	8-8	.500	
2017-18	Murray State	26-6	.812	16-2	.889	NCAA Rd of 64
2018-19	Murray State	28-5	.848	16-2	.889	NCAA Rd of 32
2019-20	Murray State	23-9	.719	15-3	.833	Pandemic Year
2020-21	Murray State	13-13	.500	10-10	.500	
2021-22	Murray State	31-3	.912	18-0	1.000	NCAA rd of 32
2022-23	LSU	14-19	,424	2-16	.111	
2023-24	LSU	17-16	.515	9-9	.500	NIT First Rd.
2024-25	LSU	14-18	.437	3-15	.167	
2025-26	LSU					
Totals	9 years	199-120	.624	107-71	.601	4 Tournaments
Murray St.	7 years	154-67	.697	93-31	.750	3 NCAA Tourneys
LSU	2 years	45-53	.459	14-40	.259	1 NIT

2025-26 LSU MEI	1.2	BAS	KEII	SALL RU	SIEF	(
NO. NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CLASS	EXP.	DOB	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL	PREVIOUS SCHOOL
0 Mazi Mosley	G	6-5	169	Fr.	HS		Los Angeles, California	Prolific Prep	
1 Mike Nwoko	F	6-10	261	Jr.	TR		Toronto, Canada	Prolific Prep	Mississippi State
2 Jalen Reece	G	6-0	185	Fr.	HS		Orlando, Florida	Oak Ridge HS	
3 Max Mackinnon	G	6-6	195	Sr.	TR		Brisbane, Australia	Canberra Sr. Seconday	Portland
4 Rashad King	G	6-6	217	Sr.	TR		Evans, Georgia	Evans HS	Northeastern
6 Robert Miller III	F	6-10	230	So.	1L		Houston, Texas	Pasadene Memorial HS	
7 PJ Carter	G	6-4	183	5th Year	TR		Atlanta, Georgia	Langston Hughes HS	Memphis
8 Pablo Tamba	F	6-7	206	Grad.	TR		Malaga, Spain	I.S.S. Litoral	UC Davis
9 Jalen Reed	F	6-10	245	RS Junior	3L		Jackson, Mississippi	Southern California Acad	demy
10 Marguel Sutton	F	6-9	225	5th Year	TR		Tulsa, Oklahoma	Will Rogers HS	Omaha
11 Dedan (DJ) Thomas Jr.	G	6-1	178	Jr.	TR		Las Vegas, Nevada	Liberty HS	UNLV
13 Matt Gilhool	F	6-11	213	Fr.	HS		Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania	William Penn Charter	
14 Jaden Bobbett	G	6-1	190	5th Year	TR		Rye, New Hampshire	Cushing Academy	Indiana
16 Ron Zipper	G	6-5	209	Fr.	HS		Ashkelon, Israel	Ironi Aleph HS	

COACHING STAFF	YEAR AT LSU
Head Coach: Matt McMahon	4td year at LSU (11th season as head coach)
Associate Head Coach: David Patrick	2nd year at LSU (2nd stint, 6th year overall)
Assistant Coach: Casey Long	4th year at LSU
Assistant Coach: Jalen Courtney-Williams	2nd year at LSU
Assistant Coach/Director of Player Personnel: Tasmin Mitchell	9th year at LSU
Assistant Coach: Vince Walden	1st year at LSU
Generald Manager: Ronald Dupree	1st year at LSU
Director of Scouting: Jack Frost	1st year at LSU
Director of Operations: John Janovsky	1st year at LSU
Strength and Conditioning: Mike Chatman	2nd year at LSU
Athletic Trainer: Grant Smith	1st year at LSU
Coordinator: Tam Davis	18 (3rd with Men's Baskethall)

PRONUNICATION GUID

Nwoko -- nuh-WOH-koh; Mackinnon -- Muh-KIN-un; Mazi -- Mah-zee; Matt McMahon -- mick-man; Tamba -- TOM-buh; Marquel -- Mar-KEL; Dedan -- DEE-dawn Gilhool -- GIL-hool

HOW THE TIGERS WERE BUILT Via TRANSFER PORTAL

Mike Nwoko -- from Miss. State (prior 2025-26)
Max Mackinnon -- from Portland (prior 2025-26)
Rashad King -- from Northeastern (prior 2025-26)
PJ Carter -- from Memphis (prior 2025-26)
Pablo Tamba -- from UC Davis (prior 2025-26)
Marquel Sutton -- from Omaha (prior 2025-26)
Dedan Thomas Jr. -- from UNLV (prior 2025-26)
Jaden Bobbett -- from Indiana (prior 2025-26)

Via RETENTION

Jalen Reed -- Redshirt Junior (signee 2022-23) Robert Miller III -- Sophomore (signee 2024-25)

Via SIGNING

Jalen Reece (HS Signee) Mazji Mosley (HS Signee) Matt Gilhool (HS Signee) Ron Zipper (Israel Basketball League)

TRANSACTIONS

WON-LOST MARGIN IN GAMES THIS SEASON

MARGIN 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31-plus Won by Lost by

NEW RULES ALLOW FOR THIS EXHIBITION

Legislation earlier this year allows teams to play up to two preseason exhibition games against any four-year school, including Division I teams. In previous years, these exhibitions were approved htrough a waiver process, and the proceeds from the games were donated to a charity.

UCF elected to play two such games, against LSU and earlier this week at Duke. The Tigers besides facing UCF, had a closed scrimmage with Louisiana Tech on Saturday, Oct. 18.

LSU played three previous games against Division I schools in the charity years:

2017 -- in New Orleans -- Tulane 84, LSU 74 2019 -- in Ruston -- LSU 83, Louisiana Tech 70 2021 -- in Thibodaux -- LSU 74,. Nicholls 62

All together, since the first exhibition contest in 1952, the Tigers have played 97 exhibition contests with 84 victories.

UCF UPDATE

While LSU elected to play a closed scrimmage, UCF played its first exhibition game on Tuesday night at Cameron Indoor Stadium, falling 96-71 to Duke

Two transfers, led UCF with other 20-plus points as senior Riley Kugel, who played last year at Mississippi State, scored 22 points on 8-of-13 shooting with two three-pointers. Also, Jordan Burks, who played last year at Georgetown, added 21 on 9-of-12 shooting with three travs

UCF had just 10 turnovers and shot 38.4 percent from the field (28-of-73) with eight treys (8-of-30) while making 7-of-10 from the line. Duke shot 42 percent and was at the line a lot, making 24-of-36. Duke outscored UCF by 24 in the second half after gaining a 40-39 halftime advantage.

LAST TIME THE TWO TEAMS GOT TOGETHER

It was the third place game in November 2024 at the Greenbrier Tipoff at Colonial Hall in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia when these teams last met and in a wild contest, LSU would survice, 109-102, in triple overtime.

LSU trailed by 20 points with 2:12 to go in the first half, was down 40-25 at halftime. In the opening half, LSU missed 10 layups and shot just 25 percent (8-of-32) from the field, but the Tigers came back to force overtime, rallying from 14 down with 8:31 to play. The Tigers scored the last six points of regulation, including two free throws with 22 seconds to go to tie the game at 70.

In the first two overtimes it was UCF that tied the game late in both to force the third and deciding overtime in which LSU would outscore the Knights, 16-9, to get its fifth win of the season.

Only two players return for the Tigers from that game, Jalen Reed and Robert Miller III. Reed, who would soon have his 2024-25 season ended by an ACL injury, had probably his best game of the year, making 7-of-12 field goals and 7-of-8 at the line in scoring 21 points with 13 boards, four assists and two blocks in 48 minutes. Miller played just 14 minutes in the game and did not score.

THE LSU COACHING TIES

As Coach Matt McMahon enters his fourth season at LSU, there are a lot of familiar faces on the LSU coaching staff, including some of those who donned the purple and gold during their college careers.

Ronald Dupree -- General Manager -- a first time position for LSU basketball ... Dupree, recently inducted to the LSU Athletics Hall of Fame, was an 11-year pro and longtime NBA scout, executive with the Milwaukee Bucks ... Played at LSU (1999-03), member Sweet 16 team in 2000 and is ninth in career scoring (1,726 points) ... Scouting work contributed to 2021 Bucks NBA title.

Jalen Courtney-Williams -- Assistant Coach -- Second year on the LSU staff ... Three-year letterman at LSU (2010-13); played in 61 games ... Came to LSU to coach from Creghton where he served for three seasons, including a Sweet 16 year in 2024 ... Hosts the popular podcast "No Timeouts" on LSU+ and various podcast locations.

Tasmin Mitchell -- Assistant Coach/Director of Personnel -- In his ninth year as member of the LSU staff; second stint as Assistant Coach beginning in 2025-26 season ... One of the most popular former LSU Basketball stars; member of 2006 NCAA Final Four team ... Third all-time in scoring at LSU with 1,989 points (14.5 ppg average); sixth in rebounds (950), school record 4,692 minutes; 136 career starts ... One of three Tigers with 1,000 points, 500 rebounds, 200 assists and 100 steals.

David Patrick, the associate head coach, is also familiar to Tiger fans in the second year of his second stint in the program. He served as Assistant/Associate Coach from 2012-16 during the Johnny Jones head coaching tenure. **Vince Walden**, who was at Texas A&M last year, and fourth year assistant, **Casey Long,** completes the on floor coaching staff.

THE SCHEDULE

LSU's schedule for the non-conference begins on Wednesday, Nov. 5, as LSU hosts Tarleton State of the Western Athletic Conference at 7 p.m. in a game streamed on SECN+.

The Tigers will play five home games in the first 16 days of the season before leaving the Maravich Center for five games over nearly a month -- four neutral site games and one road game.

After opening with Tarleton State (Nov. 5), the Tigers will host New Orleans, Florida International, Alcorn State and Omaha before leaving Baton Rouge.

The Tigers will finish November in Niceville, Florida (Nov. 28-29) in the Emerald Coast Classic. LSU will play Drake on the opening night and either Georgia Tech or DePaul on the second night. LSU will then travel to Boston College on Dec. 3 for the ACC/SEC Challenge.

LSU will then play back-to-back neutral site games, Dec. 7 in the Coast-to-Coast Classic against Texas Tech in Fort Worth, before a Dec. 13 game with SMU in the Smoothie King Center in New Orleans in the Compete 4 Cause Classic. The teams met last year in Frisco in the first round of the Classic. This year, the LSU women's team is also involved playing Louisiana Tech in the opening game of the doubleheader

LSU will play its first home game since Nov. 21 on Dec. 19 against Southeastern and will conclude non-conference play against Pairie View (Dec. 22) and Southern Miss on Dec. 29).

SEC play begins on Saturday, Jan. 3 at Texas A&M.

THE OPENER WILL BE A FIRST FOR LSU

The Tigers season opener on Nov. 5 against Tarleton State will mark the earliest opening by date for a men's basketball team at LSU. The previous earliest was Nov. 6, which LSU has played on three times, including each of the last two sesons.

THINGS TO WATCH

Some points to watch as the season gets underway:

TURNOVERS -- LSU averaged 13.1 turnovers a game last season and will be looking to try to lower that number this season ... LSU had just five games with single digit miscues in 2024-25. LSU turned the ball over 419 times compared to 409 assists. The Tigers were 14th in turnover margin at -1.47 and 15th in assist-to-turnover ratio at 0.98.

THREE POINT SHOOTING -- A season ago, LSU made the third most three-point field goals in school history (250), but took 50 more shots than any LSU team had attempted to make those 250 (820) for a percentage of just 30.5 percent. The Tigers were 16th in the league in three-point percentage in 2024-25. LSU made the second most three-pointers in 2023-24 (256), but needed 103 less shots to achieve those makes.

FREE THROWS -- The Tigers had their first game since 2022 when they failed to convert at least 50 percent of their free throw attempts and that was kind of how the free throw shooting went as it was up and down, culminating in a 13-of-26 performance in the SEC Tournament game. LSU was 437-of-612 or 71.4 percent.

SONS OF THE FATHER

Two Tigers have fathers who also did well in the college basketball game in the past.

Jalen Reed's late father, Justin, starred at Ole Miss, where he was an an All-America and the SEC Freshman of the Year in 2001. Justin Reed was an All-SEC selection in each of his four years at Ole Miss, guiding the Rebels to two NCAA Tournament wins en route to a first ever "Sweet 16" appearance for the Rebels. He was a second round pick in the 2004 NBA Draft by the Boston Celtics and played for Boston and Minnesota in his NBA days. He passed away from cancer in 2017.

Point guard DJ Thomas Jr., is the son of UNLV star Dedan Thomas Sr. Senior played from 1991-94 at UNLV, He would earn honorable mnetion All-AMerica honors and has his name throughout the UNLV record book.

Also, Robert Miller III is the son of a couple of former athletes. His dad, Robert Miller II, was an LSU defensive lineman in college, while his mom, Teana, earned All-America basketball honors at Tulane, also playing four years in the WNBA.

IT ALL STARTS FOR REAL ON NOVEMBER 5

The 118th season of LSU men's basketball begins at the Pete Maravich Assembly Center on November 5 against Tarleton State of the Western Athletic Conference. Tip is 7 p.m. and the game will be streamed on SECN+ with returning crew Lyn Rollins and Victor Howell. The "Voice of the Tigers" Chris Blair and former head coach and LSU Athletics Hall of Fame member John Brady will be back on the LSU Sports Radio Network throughout the state and at LSUSports.net.