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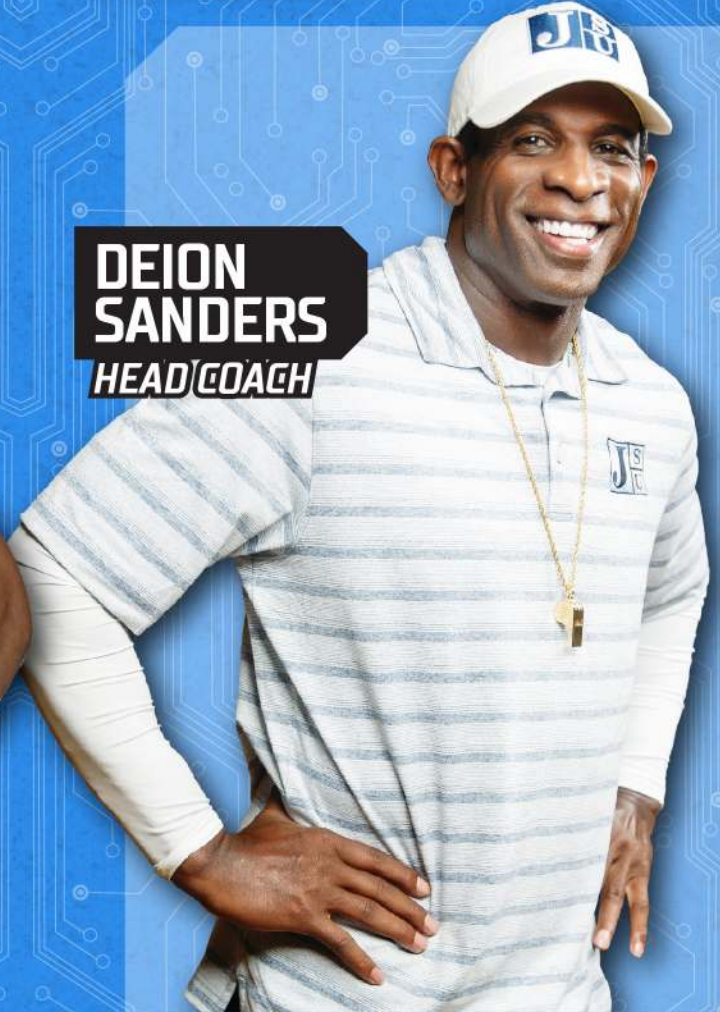
**TENNESSEE
STATE**

VS

**JACKSON
STATE**



**EDDIE
GEORGE**
HEAD COACH



**DEION
SANDERS**
HEAD COACH

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 • 6 P.M.

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STATE

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THE 2021 SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC PRESENTED BY FEDEX OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAM



#ClassicMemphis



FUTURE DATES: 2022 Sept. 10 // 2023 Sept. 9 // 2024 Sept. 14

The 2021 Southern Heritage Classic presented by FedEx Official Souvenir Program is published by SMC Entertainment. Editorial content was provided by Katrina Chambers of Tennessee State University and Dennis R. Driscoll of Jackson State University. Design and digital Flipbook management by FAB Design.

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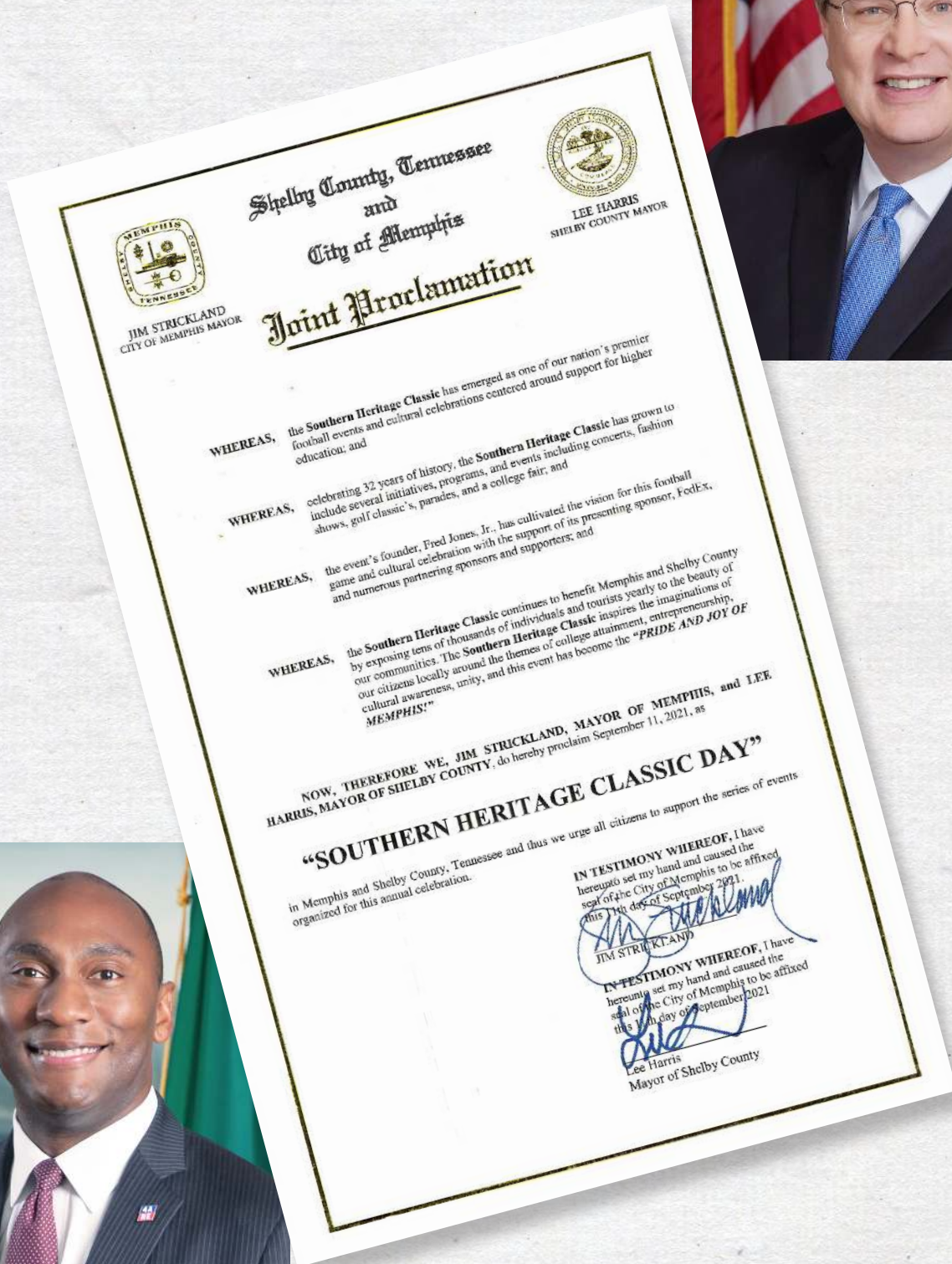
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32ND SOUTHERN HERITAGE & CLASSIC

THE JACKSON STATE TIGERS

COACHED BY NFL HALL OF FAME: DEION SANDERS

VS.

THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS

COACHED BY COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME:
EDDIE GEORGE

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CLASSIC FOOTBALL GAME



AUTOZONE HALFTIME SHOW

Thursday September 9

LIVE at The Orpheum – 8 p.m., The Orpheum Theatre. Enjoy an evening of Classic soul starring **Stephanie Mills** and **Jeffrey Osborne**. Tickets: \$128, \$98, \$88 and \$68 plus service charges. All seats reserved. Tickets available at The Orpheum Theatre Box Office and online at www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone, call 1-800-745-3000.

Friday September 10

Classic College & Career Fair – 8:30 a.m., Virtual Edition. Presented by the City of Memphis Office of Youth Services. Regional college and university representatives will be available to provide information about attending college. For information and a list of participating schools, contact Seria Ross at (901) 636-6264 or email seria.ross@memphistn.gov. Visit online at www.cityofmemphisyouth.org.

Classic Coaches Luncheon presented by FedEx – Noon, Renasant Convention Center/Grand Ballroom. A Classic salute to TSU head football coach **Eddie George** and JSU head football coach **Deion Sanders**. Special guest speaker: **Cerelyn "C.J." Davis**, Chief of Police, City of Memphis. Invitation only.

Saturday September 11

Classic Tailgate – 8 a.m., Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium parking lots and Tiger Lane. Friends, Food and Football. For more information, call (901) 729-4344.

Memphis District Golf Classic – 8 a.m., Tunica National Golf & Tennis. \$500 per team, 4-man scramble. For information, call (901) 265-4886 or online at www.memphisdistrictgolfclassic.org.

Classic Battle of the Bands – 11 a.m., Whitehaven High School Stadium. The competition will feature the best high school show bands in the region with show-stopping dance routines. Tickets: \$12 advance; \$15 day of. For tickets and information, contact Kellen Christian at (901) 214-6094 or email at christiankj@scsk12.org.

Classic Fashions & Brunch – 11 a.m., Renasant Convention Center/Grand Ballroom. **"Back in Stride Again"** presented by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. – Memphis Chapter. Tickets: \$50. For tickets and information, call (901) 482-6036 or online at www.memphisncbw.org.

Southern Heritage Classic Football Game – 6 p.m., Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium. A great football rivalry featuring **TENNESSEE STATE** vs. **JACKSON STATE**. Tickets: \$53, \$38 and \$23 plus service charges. All seats reserved. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone, call 1-800-745-3000.

AutoZone Halftime Show

featuring TSU's Aristocrat of Bands and JSU's Sonic Boom of the South

Classic 5th Quarter – A grand finale for the Southern Heritage Classic football game featuring a battle of the bands.

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TWO STORIED PROGRAMS

Tennessee State's football program first gained prominence in the mid-1940s under coach Henry Kean, going a combined 29-3 from 1945-47. But the TSU program really set sail under the guidance of **John A. Merritt**, who came over from Jackson State in '63.



Merritt turned around a 1-7-1 team in 1962 to a 6-3 squad the next season, and Big Blue evolved into a Division II powerhouse with four undefeated seasons and seven black-college national championships. He retired after the 1983 season with a 174-35-7 record.

Along the way, Merritt helped usher the TSU program to the Division I level in 1977, and coached 92 players who went on to get drafted into the NFL.



Black-college National Championships: 13
Most recent championship: 2013

FCS playoff appearances: 6 (TSU joined in 1981)
Most recent appearance: 2013

FIRST-ROUND PICKS IN THE NFL DRAFT

TENNESSEE STATE

1968	Claude Humphrey	DE	3rd	ATL
1968	Eldridge Dickey	QB	25th	OAK
1969	Jim Marsalis	DB	23rd	KC
1971	Vernon Holland	T	15th	CIN
1974	Ed "Too Tall" Jones	DE	1st	DAL
1974	Waymond Bryant	LB	4th	CHI
2008	Dom. Rodgers-Cromartie	DB	16th	ARI

JACKSON STATE

1972	Jerome Barkum	WR	9th	NYJ
1974	Don Reese	DE	26th	MIA
1975	Walter Payton	RB	4th	CHI
1975	Robert Brazile	LB	6th	HOU
1993	Lester Holmes	G	19th	PHI
2006	Sylvester Morris	WR	21st	KC
2006	Rashard Anderson	DB	23rd	CAR



Black-college National Championships: 3
Most recent championship: 1996

FCS playoff appearances: 12 (JSU joined in 1977)
Most recent appearance: 1997

Jackson State's rich football history took off in 1971 under coach Bob Hill, who guided the Tigers to a 9-1-1 mark. Hill's teams of the early '70s included the likes of Walter Payton, Jackie Slater and Robert Brazile, who played together in college and later each reached the Pro Football Hall of Fame.



W.C. Gorden took over in Jackson late in the 1976 season and continued

J-State's tradition of success. From 1978-90, JSU went 105-39-5 and reached the I-AA playoffs in nine of those 12 seasons. The Tennessee State graduate coached 34 players who eventually got drafted by an NFL team. JSU's most recent black-college national title came in 1996 under coach James Carson.



Ed "Too Tall" Jones remains the only player from an HBCU school to be taken with the No. 1 overall pick in the NFL Draft.



HISTORICAL PLAYERS IN THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

LEM BARNEY CB

Jackson State (1963-66)
Detroit Lions (1967-77)
Pro Bowls: 7 | Inducted: 1992



After the Lions selected him in the 2nd round of the '67 Draft, he established himself as one of the league's bright young starts, leading the league with 10 interceptions. He was named Defensive Rookie of the Year and earned the Pro Bowl nod in each of his first three seasons. His career totals include 56 interceptions, seven of which were returned for touchdowns.

CLAUDE HUMPHREY DE

Tennessee State (1964-67)
Atlanta, Philadelphia (1968-81)
Pro Bowls: 6 | Inducted: 2014



Claude was the No. 3 overall pick in 1968 by the Atlanta Falcons and proved to be an immediate impact player, earning NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year honors. The Memphis native led his team in sacks nine of his 13 seasons, and although the sack didn't become an official statistic until after he retired, he has been unofficially credited with 122 of them.

ROBERT BRAZILE LB

Jackson State (1971-74)
Houston Oilers (1975-84)
Pro Bowls: 7 | Inducted: 2018



The consensus All-American at JSU joined the Oilers as the No. 6 overall pick in the 1975 Draft and started all 147 games he played in the NFL. Right out of the gate, Robert helped Houston to a 10-4 record, its first winning season in eight years. He became one of the league's dominant outside linebackers, going to seven straight Pro Bowls from 1977-83.

WALTER PAYTON RB

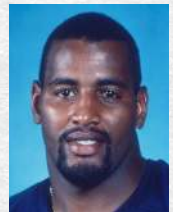
Jackson State (1971-74)
Chicago Bears (1975-87)
Pro Bowls: 9 | Inducted: 1993



Walter parlayed his great college career at JSU into a No. 4 overall pick by the Bears in 1975. He missed one game as a rookie, then rolled off 186 consecutive starts. The two-time NFL MVP retired as the career leader with 16,726 rushing yards and won the NFC rushing title for five straight years from 1976-80. He won a Super Bowl with Chicago in 1985.

RICHARD DENT DE

Tennessee State (1979-82)
Chicago, 3 others (1983-97)
Pro Bowls: 4 | Inducted: 2011



Richard was an 8th-round pick of the Bears in 1983 but immediately exceeded all expectations, playing in every game as a rookie. He became a regular starter in Year 2 and earned Super Bowl MVP in Year 3 of a 15-year career that included 137½ sacks. Upon retirement, he ranked No. 3 in career sacks behind Reggie White and Bruce Smith.

JACKIE SLATER OL

Jackson State (1972-75)
LA/St. Louis Rams (1976-95)
Pro Bowls: 7 | Inducted: 2001



Jackie's remarkable 20-year NFL career started after he was a 3rd-round selection in 1976. He became a starter in Year 4. He helped seven different Ram RBs log 1,000-yard seasons, including Eric Dickerson, who set the single-season yardage record in 1984. When Jackie retired, he held the NFL mark for most games played (259) by an offensive lineman.

Jackson State has as many Hall of Fame honorees (4) as Ole Miss (2), Mississippi State and Southern Miss (2) combined. Tennessee State (2) has one fewer than Tennessee (3).

DRUNK-YOU MAKES BAD DECISIONS.

How much can a DUI cost you?

On average, a DUI can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing and repairs, and more.

Does a DUI impact the community?

The financial impact from impaired-driving crashes is devastating. Based on 2010 numbers, impaired-driving crashes cost the United States \$44 billion annually.

Will you go to jail?

If you're caught drinking and driving, you could face jail time. Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment.

Are there more consequences?

Drinking and driving could cause you to lose your driver's license and your vehicle. This could inhibit you from getting to work, resulting in lost wages and, potentially, job loss.



PUT AWAY SOME DRINKS? PUT AWAY YOUR KEYS.

Drunk driving is the ultimate form of unsportsmanlike conduct. Even if you've had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service.

Have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

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LET FANS
DRIVE DRUNK**

TENNESSEE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE

CLASSIC MATCHUP



	TSU	JSU
Seniors	12	28
Starters returning	9	9
Offense	3	4
Defense	4	5
Special teams	2	0
FCS playoff apps.	9	12
Last in FCS playoffs	2013	1997
Last conference title	1999	2007
Final 2021 (s) record	2-5	4-3
Conference record	2-5	3-2
Turnover margin	+5	+4
Penalties	53	41

OFFENSE IN SPRING 2021

Points per game	18.4	35.7
Yards per game	301.1	414.3
Pass yds./game	167.4	246.8
Rush yds./game	133.7	167.5
Avg. poss. time	29:59	27:13
Pass TDs/INTs	4/4	16/4
Sacks allowed	19	14
Fumbles/Lost	8/1	13/3
Total giveaways	5	7
Red Zone scores	76.2%	86.2%
Red Zone TDs	42.9%	69.0%
3rd down conv.	27.6%	44.7%
4th down conv.	25.0%	33.3%

DEFENSE IN SPRING 2021

Points per game	30.6	26.0
Yards per game	387.0	378.2
Pass yds./game	193.4	220.7
Rush yds./game	193.6	157.5
Pass TDs/INTs	11/6	17/6
Sacks made	16	15
Opp. fumbles/lost	11/4	10/5
Total takeaways	10	11
Red Zone scores	82.1%	81.0%
Red Zone TDs	64.3%	71.4%
3rd down conv.	44.9%	40.0%
4th down conv.	54.5%	54.6%

SPECIAL TEAMS IN SPRING 2021

FG made/att.	14/21	5/6
Avg. yds./punt	38.4	35.1
Punt return avg.	11.0	12.5
Punt return TDs	0	0
Kickoff return avg.	20.0	19.3
Kickoff return TDs	0	0

TSU's SPRING 2021 RESULTS (2-5)

F.28	@Austin Peay	L	20-27
M.7	Jacksonville St.	L	16-38
M.14	Eastern Illinois	W	21-20
M.21	@Murray St.	L	13-35
M.28	UT-Martin	W	26-24
A.3	@Tennessee Tech	L	10-24
A.11	SE Missouri St.	L	23-46

TSU TEAM LEADERS

Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Devon Starling	124	648	5.2	3
Passing	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TDs
Isaiah Green	57.6	916	2	2
Receiving	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Cam Wyche	22	456	20.7	2

JSU's SPRING 2021 RESULTS (4-3)

F.21	Edward Waters	W	53-0
M.6	@Grambling St.	W	33-28
M.14	Miss. Valley St.	W	43-7
M.20	@Alabama St.	L	28-35
A.3	Southern	L	14-34
A.10	Alabama A&M	L	43-52
A.17	@Alcorn St.	W	2-0

JSU TEAM LEADERS

Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Tyson Alexander	62	377	6.1	1
Passing	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TDs
Jalon Jones	55.2	1,016	11	3
Receiving	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Warren Newman	35	288	8.2	5



HEAD 2 HEAD

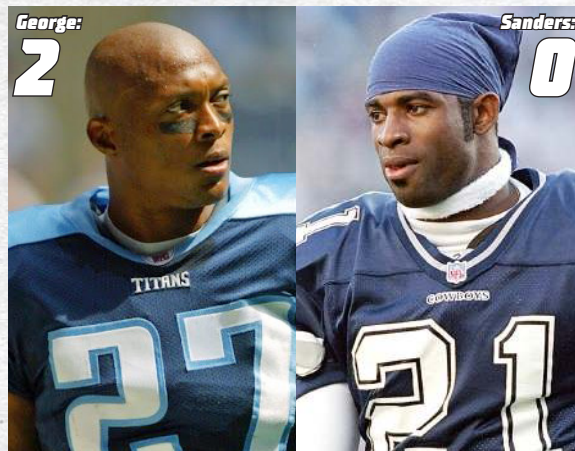
MATCHUP 2 WATCH

EDDIE GEORGE vs. DEION SANDERS

All eyes will be watching to see how these two ex-NFL greats will fare as they embark on their coaching careers. Sanders (54) did coach JSU in the abbreviated spring season and posted a winning record at 4-3, while George (47) made his coaching debut last Sunday with a 16-10 loss to Grambling State. This year's game promises to be one of the most anticipated ever.

➤ **THE RIVALRY:** Tennessee State owns a 17-10 head-to-head record against Jackson State in the Southern Heritage Classic. TSU, which has played in all 29 previous Classic games, is 17-12 overall. TSU has won 13 of the last 16 meetings, including a 7-game winning streak (2003-09) and a 6-gamer (2012-17). JSU did win the most recent meeting, 49-44, which ranks as the second-highest combined point total in Classic history, behind only the 97 points scored in 2001.

➤ **MEMPHIS IS FERTILE RECRUITING FOR CLASSIC TEAMS:** The Memphis metro area is well represented on both Tennessee State's and Jackson State's rosters. TSU features 8 players from the area, including starter Joshua Phillips, a freshman from FACS. JSU's roster includes 4 Memphians, including starting linebacker Aubrey Miller Jr. from Whitehaven High.



➤ **HEAD-TO-HEAD AS PLAYERS:** Eddie George and Deion Sanders have twice been active players in games against each other, and George is 2-0 with wins in 1997 and 2000. Deion's Ravens also lost to Eddie's Cowboys in 2004, 30-10, though the All-Pro DB was inactive. In games which featured the pair's on-field performance, Eddie's Tennessee Oilers beat Deion's Dallas Cowboys, 27-14 on Thanksgiving Day in 1997 with George racking up 110 yards rushing. In Oct. 2000, Eddie's Titans prevailed over Deion's Washington Redskins, 27-21, as George amassed 71 yards on the ground. They never faced each other in college, as Deion's final season at Florida State (1988) came four years prior to Eddie's freshman year at Ohio State (1992).

➤ **LIBERTY BOWL KIND TO GEORGE:** TSU head coach Eddie George called the Liberty Bowl home for the 1997 NFL season. The Houston Oilers moved to the Volunteer State that year and played one year in Memphis. The Tennessee Oilers posted a 6-2 home record and 8-8 overall before moving to Nashville in 1998. George recorded four of his eight 100-yard games in Memphis, including a career-high 216 yards in the season opener against the Oakland Raiders. George's 1,399 yards rushing in '97 ranked No. 5 among NFL backs that year and the second highest in his 9-year NFL career (he had 1,509 in 2000).



➤ **SIZZLING START:** In the most recent Classic game (2019), the first 25 seconds provided a prelude to what would become the second-highest scoring game in Classic history. Josh Littles took the opening kickoff back 100 yards to put JSU in the lead, 7-0. Not to be outdone, TSU's Chris Rowland answered with a 96-yard kickoff return seconds later. So with 14:35 remaining on the first-quarter game clock, the score was 7-7.





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TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Founded in 1912, Tennessee State University has grown dramatically from a small college to two campuses: the 500-acre main campus and the downtown Avon Williams campus, which is located in the heart of Nashville near the State capitol.

The diverse student population of more than 8,000 represents 46 states and 45 countries. TSU has been listed for 11 consecutive years in the U.S. News & World Report "Guide to America's Best Colleges."

Tennessee State University is a comprehensive, urban, coeducational land-grant university offering 45 bachelor degrees and 24 master's degrees. Doctoral programs include biological sciences, psychology, public administration, computer information systems engineering, administration and supervision, and curriculum and instruction. When you think about Tennessee State University, many things come to mind – a rich heritage and legacy in athletics, academics, entertainment, research and service.

Tennessee State University has long been a rising star among universities across the country. It is designated as one of the best public historically black colleges and universities in the nation, and it's not by accident.

Tennessee State University is among the few historically black colleges and

universities (HBCUs) with a chapter of Phi Eta Sigma, the oldest and largest freshman honor society in the United States and a Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the most prestigious honor society comprising all academic disciplines.

A great deal of focus has been given to improving the academic environment – strengthening our research reputation, attracting and retaining the best and brightest students, encouraging service-focused programs, engaging and supporting expert faculty in diverse fields, building on our student-centered philosophy and holding steadfast to our motto of "Think. Work. Serve."

Today, Tennessee State University's student enrollment is more than 9,000. There are more than 400 faculty and more than 1,200 staff who are part of the university's team.

Additionally, the university's rich strength in embracing diversity is evident with 45 countries and 46 states representative of the student body.

The beauty and accessibility of the university's main campus is a plus with now 65 buildings on more than 450 acres.

Complementing the main campus is a newly renovated downtown campus that features a simulated stock-trading center, a student computer laboratory and continuing education, distance learning and multimedia services.

The university is arming students with

the intellectual resources to compete in a global environment.

In support of that, important partnerships have been established with leading global companies such as Boeing, Raytheon, Dell, IBM and others, in which both funding and service-learning opportunities are currently active.

Tennessee State University has produced thousands of graduates who are productive, contributing members in society in the fields of education, business, science, government, non-profit and media, to name a few.

Among the university's distinguished alumni include world-class Olympic athletes like Wilma Rudolph, former TV talk-show host and entertainment entrepreneur Oprah Winfrey, award-winning journalist and philanthropist Carl Rowan, engineer Jesse Russell, whose pioneering engineering studies led to the development of the cellular telephone, and cardiac surgeon Dr. Levi Watkins, who implanted the first heart defibrillator.

"Think. Work. Serve." has long been Tennessee State University's defining mission.

The university's goal is to provide a high-quality education that will give students the tools to "fulfill their dreams" while encouraging them to support not only the university, but others in the community.

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TENNESSEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Glenda Baskin

GLOVER

President



Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover began serving as President of Tennessee State University, on January 2, 2013. She has advanced a five point vision that includes: (1) academic progress and customer service, (2) fund raising and partnerships, (3) diversity and inclusion, (4) shared governance, and (5) community and business outreach. She is a frequently sought keynote speaker at churches, national conventions, professional associations, and community groups.

Dr. Glover was formerly the Dean of the College of Business at Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., where she led the College of Business throughout the accreditation process, and spearheaded the implementation of the nation's only Ph.D. in Business at an HBCU. She is a certified public accountant, an attorney, and is one of two African-American women to hold the Ph.D.-CPA-JD combination in the nation.

Dr. Glover's educational development began as a student at Tennessee State University, where she majored in mathematics. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree, she pursued the Master of Business Administration from Clark Atlanta University.

She then completed her doctorate in business from George Washington University, and later completed her law degree from Georgetown University.

Prior to joining Jackson State University, Dr. Glover served as Chairperson of the Department of Accounting at Howard University. Her past employment also includes positions in the corporate sector as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of an engineering firm, a tax manager at a major public utility company, and an accountant with a big four CPA firm.

Dr. Glover is among few women to rise to the heights to serve on corporate boards of publicly traded corporations. These include, Pinnacle Financial Partners, The Lenox Group, Citigroup-Student Loan Corporation and First Guaranty Bancshares. She served as Chair of the Audit Committee or Financial Expert on each Board. Dr. Glover also served as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Jackson (Mississippi) Airport Authority.

Dr. Glover is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, is the author of more than one hundred articles and papers, and is regarded as one of the nation's experts on corporate governance. She is also a consultant with USDA regarding outreach programs to minority farmers and landowners.

She is a member of several professional and civic organizations including the National Bar Association, the National Association of Black Accountants, the Links, the NAACP, and International Vice President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

She and her husband, Charles, are members of Cade Chapel Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss.

Dr. Mikki

ALLEN

Athletic Director



Dr. Mikki Allen was appointed Director of Athletics for Tennessee State University on April 9th and officially began his tenure on June 1, 2020.

Allen comes to Tennessee State University after 11 years in sports administration, including service as the Assistant Director of Athletics for Player Relations and Development at the University of Tennessee. Under his leadership, Allen set a new standard in the Southeastern Conference by creating a comprehensive development and transitional assistance program for Tennessee football student-athletes. The program was designed to guide football student-athletes from enrollment through their transition to post-football professional careers.

After an injury shortened his NFL career, Allen joined the Tennessee staff in 2009 and excelled during multiple record-breaking fundraising years. Allen played an invaluable role for Tennessee athletics in helping to secure more than \$20 million in capital campaign gifts during his tenure as an elite fundraiser.

"It was essential that we found a leader that could build upon our recent successes, as well as our storied legacy of winning," said President Glenda Glover. "I believe we have found that in Dr. Allen. He's a successful leader who puts student-athletes first, builds strong relationships both internally and externally from his success as a fundraiser, and just as important, Allen is committed to the development of coaches and staff to achieve at a very high level. We are extremely excited about the future of TSU Athletics."

Allen, a four-year letterman and member of the Vols' 1998 national championship team, has strong ties to TSU, where he earned his master's degree. His wife, brother and grandparents all received their undergraduate and graduate degrees from the university as well.

"Tennessee State University is very special to my family's legacy. This is about returning to an institution that I not only have a great passion for, but one that has been both impactful and transformative throughout my life. As the Director of Athletics, I look forward to carrying the torch forward and elevating the sports programs at TSU to the top of the OVC pyramid."

Serving as a member of the President's executive team, Allen has wasted no time getting to work in the AD chair. Two months after taking the reins of the athletic department, he hired Ty Evans to lead the TSU Lady Tigers basketball program. Evans was a long-time Associate Head Women's Basketball Coach at Auburn.

Allen has been strategically developing a facility enhancement plan that will have a positive impact on helping to advance all 15 TSU sports programs.

Under Allen's leadership, the Tennessee State Athletics program has already received the largest private gift commitment in its' long-storied history. On November 12, 2020, TSU alum and NBA star, Robert Covington agreed to make a seven-figure gift to fund the Covington Pavilion, a state-of-the-art basketball practice facility for the TSU men's and women's basketball programs.

He and his wife, Jekia have two children, Mikenzie and Jansen.

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TENNESSEE STATE SEASON PREVIEW

Running back Devon Starling eclipsed the 100-yard rushing mark three times during the spring season. The University of Memphis transfer posted his season high with a 149-yard effort at Murray State on March 21. He led the nation in rushing yards among FCS freshmen.



2021 Schedule

S.5	Grambling State (in Canton)	L, 10-16
S.11	Jackson State (in Memphis)	6:00
S.18	Kentucky State	2:00
S.25	at SE Missouri State	2:00
O.2	at Austin Peay	7:00
O.9	<bye>	
O.16	Tennessee Tech	2:00
O.23	at Eastern Illinois	2:00
O.30	Murray State	5:00
N.6	at UT-Martin	2:00
N.13	Austin Peay	2:00
N.20	at Mississippi State	TBA

All home games at Nissan Stadium | All times Central

Pro coaches eager to boost inexperienced George, players

Tennessee State fans and Eddie George have a lot in common these days. Pride for Nashville. A love for the Big Blue. And, of course, excitement for the 2021 football season.

George's first on-field coaching staff has it all. An NFL head coach. Super Bowl champions. Collegiate National Champions. Pro Bowlers. NFL assistants and college coordinators. Collectively, the staff brings more than 140 years of combined on-field NFL and collegiate coaching experience to the Tigers.

"Our mission is to build young men. All these men are great teachers. They are pushing (our student-athletes) beyond their comfort zone to realize their full potential. I am blessed enough that they were available, and they were willing to come here and take a chance on me being a first-time head coach."

Every TSU assistant has some level of NFL experience, including former Oakland Raiders and Cleveland Browns head coach Hue Jackson, who will serve as Tennessee State's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

While Tennessee State finished 2-5 in the 2021 spring season, there were plenty of bright spots on the **offense**.

Running back Devon Starling took the country by storm in his first collegiate season after transferring following a redshirt year at

Memphis. The Nashville native, who starred at Cane Ridge High School, led all FCS freshmen and the OVC in rushing yards per game (92.6) en route to HBCU All-America honors and OVC Co-Freshman of the Year accolades.

"He is the heart and soul of his team," George said. "He came on late last season when he was featured. Our goal is to surround him with tremendous talent up front to focus on being a run-oriented football team."

Starling, a preseason All-OVC selection, will be the leader on offense and expected to take pressure off the quarterbacks.

George has not settled on a long-term starter at quarterback, but has plenty of talent and experience to work with in Grambling transfer Jeremy Hickbottom (22 career starts, 44 touchdowns), Deveon Bryant and Chayil Garnett.

Whoever starts at quarterback will receive an unparalleled education in offensive football from Jackson, the longtime NFL coach and coordinator, who will call plays for TSU.

"Hue brings a wealth of knowledge," George said. "He's going to push players to be the best they can be."

George wants to play smash-mouth football, and that starts on the offensive line. The Tigers have several young offensive linemen that



Jeremy Hickbottom is vying for the starting quarterback job after transferring from Grambling State.

could emerge as stars, including Jaalon Gupton, a 6-5, 290-pound tackle, and Robert Lacey, a 6-3, 340-pounder.

"I have seen the offensive line group make strides," George said. "There are a lot of young guys who have tremendous upside."

George expects to rely heavily on his tight ends this season, using a lot of multiple tight end sets in his pro-style offense. Preseason All-OVC selection Ben Johnson will play tight end, fullback and H-back, while Rodell Rahmaan and Josh Trueheart (13 receptions last season) are also expected to have an impact.

"I love our tight end group as a whole," George said.

Tennessee State will have plenty of playmakers on offense, and perhaps none more so than wide receiver Cam Wyche. A true gamebreaker, he averaged 20.7 yards per catch on 22 receptions last season and is a preseason All-OVC first-team selection.

"He's able to take the top of defenses," George said. "He can stretch the field. He is great in space."

Tennessee State will play with effort and energy on **defense**, and, just like on offense, the Tigers expect to win in the trenches. Led by returning HBCU All-



Big-play receiver Cam Wyche opened plenty of eyes this spring by averaging 20.7 yards per catch. He registered a six-reception, 125-yard day in the win over Eastern Illinois on March 14.

American Davoan Hawkins, the defense will be aggressive.

"We pride ourselves on having a nasty, active defensive front and it will force you to play inside the box," George said. "We will try to eliminate big plays. And we want to arrive with bad intentions. It's simple."

New D-coordinator Brandon Fisher, son of former Tennessee Titans head coach Jeff Fisher, has taken many of the concepts he learned in the NFL and applied it to the Tigers.

"Brandon has grown tremendously as defensive coordinator," George said. "He understands the game, and his pedigree speaks for itself. He is a great motivator and a great teacher, and I really enjoy working with Brandon."



Sophomore edge rusher Davoan Hawkins garnered HBCU all-America honors after racking up 32 tackles and a team-leading five sacks last year. The transfer from Kentucky is a preseason All-OVC selection.

Fisher calls Hawkins the "lifblood of our defense." The Kentucky transfer led the OVC with five sacks and 9.0 TFLs in the spring. He is a preseason All-OVC selection.

"Davoan is the alpha on the defense," George said. "He is very vocal. He backs it up with his play. Our defense is centered on what he does. He can be a force."

The Tigers have plenty of talent joining Hawkins on the defensive line with Raymond Horton and Terray Jones, both 300-pounders, expected to emerge as team leaders.

"Our defensive line is unique. We are built around our front. We are going to go as far as our front will take us," Fisher said. "We have numerous guys who can put their hand in the dirt and go."

At linebacker, Tennessee State will look to James Green and Jashun Bryant.

"They both show great leadership ability," Fisher said.

Green is a preseason All-OVC first-team selection who finished with 29 tackles, 5.0 TFLs and an interception in the spring.

"Green has been the guy who has stepped up and backed it up with his play," Fisher said. "He's the kind of guy you want to build around."

His brother, Josh Green, will lead the defensive backs. He ranked second on the Tigers with 39 tackles and led the OVC with three interceptions in the spring season. Returners Nick Harper (32 tackles, six PBUs in spring) and Kenyon Garlington (15 tackles, three PBUs) will also be leaders on an opportunistic defense along with several newcomers.

Cornerback Eddie Graham and safety Cory Rahman emerged as bona fide leaders during camp after transferring from Southeastern where they

previously played under defensive back coach Richard McNutt. Both were All-Americans.

"Our learning curve has really accelerated by bringing them in," Fisher said.

Tennessee State returns one of the top **special teams** weapons in the nation, and certainly the most powerful leg, in kicker Antonio Zita. An HBCU All-American, All-OVC first teamer and FCS All-American, he drilled a 62-yard field goal last season, which was the longest in college football for any division by four yards.

He nailed five 50+ field goals and his 14 field goals led the OVC.

"He's a good player, and he still has some growing to do. He can become even better as he learns to be more consistent," George said.



All-American kicker Antonio Zita connected on five field goals of 50 yards or longer, including a 62-yarder that was the longest in all of college football 2020-21.

TENNESSEE STATE HEAD COACH



Eddie

GEORGE

EDDIE GEORGE
Head Football Coach



[@EddieGeorge2727](#)

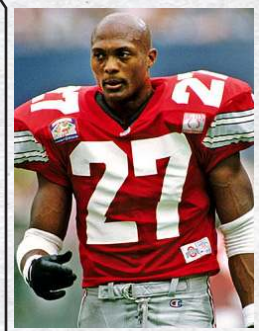
BACKGROUND

Player OHIO STATE
RB, 1992-95

NFL HOU/TENN, DAL
RB, 1996-2004

2021- TENNESSEE STATE
Head Football Coach
Record: 0-1

Year	Overall	SWAC
2021 (f)	0-1	0-0



Eddie George was announced as the 22nd head football coach at Tennessee State University on April 13, 2021. This is George's first experience as a coach of any kind

"I am excited about being named head coach at Tennessee State University," said George. "All I have done has prepared me for this moment, whether that's my football career, my entrepreneurial endeavors, my acting career.

"Coaching is a full commitment, a duty of service. I take that seriously. I've done a lot of soul searching and due diligence. The more I thought about it, I got more and more excited about it. It was like picking up an old guitar or getting back on a bike, it's familiar but in a different capacity. It's exciting. I'm going to be innovative, creative and fun."

George played college football for Ohio State University and won the Heisman Trophy in 1995. That season, George rushed for a school record 1,927 yards and 24 touchdowns, an average of 148.23 yards per game, while also catching 47 passes for 417 yards and another score. He left Ohio State second in school history in career rushing yards (3,768) and third in rushing touchdowns (44). The Philadelphia native finished with 4,284 all-purpose yards, 45 touchdowns, and a 5.5 yards-per-carry average.

That strong performance for the Buckeyes not only netted him the Heisman but he also took home the Walter Camp Award, Maxwell Award, Doak Walker Award, Big Ten MVP and unanimous all-American.

In 1996, George was the first-round draft selection (14th overall) of the then-Houston Oilers. He won the NFL Rookie of the Year award that season, and was the Oilers/Titans' starting tailback through 2003, never missing a start. He

made the Pro Bowl four consecutive years (1997-2000), and assisted the Titans to a championship appearance in Super Bowl XXXIV.

His 2000 season was his best as a professional. He rushed for 1,509 yards and 14 touchdowns, and marked himself as a reliable receiving option out of the backfield, hauling in 50 receptions. He led the NFL that year with 403 rushing attempts.

George is only the second NFL running back to rush for 10,000 yards while never missing a start, joining Jim Brown. Only Walter Payton (170) started more consecutive regular-season games than George's 130.

He was a workhorse for the Titans, registering at least 312 carries for all eight seasons he played for the team.

In 2004, George signed a one-year contract with the Dallas Cowboys where he started eight games and finished the season with 432 yards and four touchdowns. He officially retired in 2006.

George's career totals include 10,441 rushing yards, 268 receptions, 2,227 receiving yards, and 78 touchdowns (68 rushing and 10 receiving).

George was inducted in the College Hall of Fame in 2011 and the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame in 2013.

George graduated from Ohio State in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture. He later earned an MBA from Northwestern in 2009.

He graduated from Fork Union (Va.) Military Academy after also attending Abington (Pa.) Senior High near Philadelphia.

Following his playing career, he guest-starred on an IFC episode of *Comedy Bang Bang*. A year later, he appeared on Broadway in the musical *Chicago* as lawyer Billy Flynn.

He is married to Tamara "Taj" George and they have two sons, Eriq and Jaire.



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TENNESSEE STATE ASSISTANT COACHES



BOWDEN



BURNS



FISHER



HARKEY



HUTSON



JACKSON



McNUTT



PEARSON



SIMMONS



SMITH

Joe Bowden joined the Tennessee State staff in the spring of 2021 and will coach the linebackers. Bowden comes to TSU after four years at Missouri Baptist.

Bowden worked as the defensive coordinator and linebacker coach with the Spartans.

Prior to MBU, Bowden was hired in 2016 as the inside linebackers coach for the San Francisco 49ers after four seasons (2012-15) of serving as an assistant linebackers coach and assistant special teams coach for the then St. Louis Rams.

As a player, Bowden spent nine seasons playing linebacker in the NFL, primarily with Oilers/Titans. He was a standout at the University of Oklahoma, earning Big Eight Defensive Player of the Year and all-American in 1991.

Keith Burns joined Eddie George's staff at Tennessee State after working the past three seasons with the NFL's Los Angeles Chargers special teams units.

Burns has also worked with the Denver Broncos and Washington Redskins.

He was an accomplished special teams performer in the NFL himself, playing 13 years as a pro, including time with the Chicago Bears, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and three stints with the Denver Broncos. He was a member of the team during the Broncos' two straight Super Bowl wins. The Alexandria, Va., native played collegiately at Oklahoma State in 1992-93.

Brandon Fisher was named defensive coordinator for Tennessee State in May of 2021. Fisher spent the 2020 season as a defensive analyst at Auburn University.

Fisher worked directly with defensive coordinator Kevin Steele throughout the year and took over on-field duties for the Tigers appearance in the 2021 Citrus Bowl after Steele was promoted to interim head coach. Prior to Auburn, Fisher spent one season as the defensive coordinator at Southern Utah.

Fisher entered the collegiate ranks after eight seasons in the NFL. In his last stint in the professional ranks, Fisher served as the secondary coach from 2015-17 for the St. Louis Rams. He also worked for the Tennessee Titans.

Fisher is the son of former Titans and Rams head coach Jeff Fisher, graduated from the University of Montana in 2009.

Cory Harkey comes to Tennessee State to coach the tight ends after two years at Azusa Pacific University where he held the same position.

He held NFL internship positions in 2019 with the Packers and Rams.

As a player, Harkey played four seasons as a tight end at UCLA, closing out his career with 26 consecutive starts. Harkey finished with 28 receptions for 231 yards and two touchdowns.

After college, Harkey spent five seasons with the Rams after signing as an undrafted free agent. He played in 64 games and caught 27 passes.

Mark Hutson has been named offensive line coach after spending two seasons as the senior offensive analyst with LSU. The 30-year coaching veteran was on staff for the Tigers' 2019 SEC and national championship.

Prior to LSU, Hutson spent three seasons with the Cleveland Browns. As an assistant offensive line coach, Hutson worked with Pro-Bowl selections Joel Bitonio and Joe Thomas.

Hutson is familiar with the Ohio Valley Conference, spending four seasons at Murray State from 1993-96 and making two stops at Eastern Illinois.

He also worked at Tulane, Boise State and Arkansas and was the tight ends coach for the Oakland Raiders.

Former NFL head coach **Hue Jackson** has been named offensive coordinator for Tennessee State. Jackson arrives at TSU with over 30 years of coaching experience at both the collegiate and professional levels.

He was the head coach for the Oakland Raiders in 2011, then later ran the show in Cleveland from 2016-18. His career record as head coach is 11-44-1.

His assistant coaching resumé also includes stops with the Bengals, Redskins, Falcons and Ravens.

His college coaching background lists jobs at Cal State Fullerton, Arizona State, Cal, USC and Pacific, his alma mater.

While coaching the Bengals' receivers in 2006, the Los Angeles native guided a special group that included Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh, who became the first pair in team history to each rack up 1,000 receiving yards in the same season.

Richard McNutt joins the TSU staff after working at Southeastern University as secondary/recruiting coordinator.

He also worked at Youngstown State, where in his first year, the Penguins defense ranked among the nation's best in pass defense.

He has also had coaching stops at Toledo, Kent State, Ohio State, Northern Illinois, North Carolina State and worked in the NFL with the Cleveland Browns.

The Forest Park, Ill., native was a defensive back at Ohio State, where he played on the Buckeyes' 2002 national championship team.

Pepe Pearson was hired as running backs coach in May of 2021 after spending five seasons in the same position at Marshall.

Multiple running backs gained notoriety under Pearson at Marshall. In 2019, Brenden Knox was named Conference USA's Most Valuable Player after rushing for 1,387 yards and 11 touchdowns. Keion Davis earned Gasparilla Bowl MVP honors.

Pearson joined the Thundering Herd after one season in the same position at Youngstown State after spending 10 seasons at Ohio Dominican.

As a player, he teamed with Eddie George in the Ohio State backfield and ranks No. 5 in all-time rushing yards.

Clyde Simmons joined the Tennessee State staff in May of 2021 as defensive line coach. Simmons' pedigree includes 15 years as a defensive lineman in the NFL and over 10 years of coaching experience.

Simmons comes to TSU after spending the 2020 season at Western Carolina. During his time, the Catamounts ranked 16th in turnovers gained in FCS play.

Prior to WCU, Simmons spent one season as the defensive line coach at Missouri Baptist University after two years as an assistant coach with the Cleveland Browns. In Cleveland, Simmons helped groom the top draft pick of the 2017 NFL Draft, Myles Garrett.

Kenan Smith was named wide receivers coach and passing-game coordinator at Tennessee State in May of 2021. Smith comes to TSU after two seasons as the wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator at Southern Utah.

Like many others on Eddie George's staff, Smith has experience at both the college and pro level. He spent three years with the Rams as assistant receivers coach working with Tavon Austin, Kenny Britt and Brian Quick.

He also has worked collegiately at Butler, Ball State and Anderson Univ.

Smith was a two-sport athlete at Sacramento State, where he excelled at football and track.

CONGRATULATIONS 2021

**SOUTHERN
HERITAGE
& CLASSIC**



City of
MEMPHIS



MEET THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS

Detoye ADEWOLE

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Nashville, Tenn.
Overton H.S.

40



Floyd ALEXANDER

Fr., Tight End
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Westinghouse H.S.

84



Kenyon ANDREWS

Fr., Linebacker
Baton Rouge, La.
Southern Lab H.S.

7



Emmanuel BAEZ

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Plant City, Fla.
Plant City H.S.

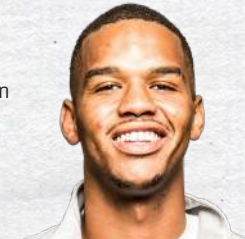
17



Cameron BELL

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Red Bank H.S.

98



Avery BLAIKIE

Soph., Defensive Lineman
Colts Neck, N.J.
Colts Neck H.S.

95



Darrell BRANCH

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Gilbert, Ariz.
Higley H.S.

65



Deveon BRYANT

Soph., Quarterback
Bellwood, Ill.
Proviso West H.S.

8



Jashun BRYANT

Jr., Linebacker
Nashville, Tenn.
Cane Ridge H.S.

0



Carson BUCHANAN

Fr., Long Snapper
Nashville, Tenn.
Antioch H.S.

52



De'Amare CHAMBERS

Fr., Defensive Back
Powder Springs, Ga.
McEachern H.S.

16



Jarvis COOPER

Fr., Wide Receiver
Nashville, Tenn.
Cane Ridge H.S.

83



Michael CRAWFORD

Jr., Linebacker
Lansing, Ill.
Thornton Frac. South H.S.

37



Charlie DAVIDSON

Sr., Running Back
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Blackman H.S.
tr - Mercer

30



Da'Shon DAVIS

Fr., Cornerback
Quincy, Fla.
Jefferson County H.S.

14



Zach DOBSON

Jr., Wide Receiver
Knoxville, Tenn.
Fulton H.S.

6



David DORSEY

Soph., Defensive Back
Cleveland, Tenn.
Cleveland H.S.

45



Zachary DRAKE

Fr., Cornerback
Nashville, Tenn.
Maplewood H.S.

36



Cameron DURLEY

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Houston, Texas
Houston Christian H.S.
tr - Kansas

76



Jeremiah FRAZIER

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Pike Road, Ala.
Pike Road H.S.

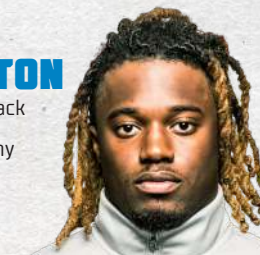
75



Kenyon GARLINGTON

Soph., Defensive Back
Brentwood, Tenn.
Brentwood Academy

15



Chayil GARNETT

Fr., Quarterback
Lakeland, Fla.
Lake Wales H.S.

4



Dorian GEORGE

Fr., Cornerback
Memphis, Tenn.
Germantown H.S.

33



Eddie GRAHAM

Sr., Defensive Back
Hudson, Fla.
Hudson H.S.
tr — Southeastern Univ.

3



James GREEN

Jr., Linebacker
Orlando, Fla.
Olympia H.S.

8



Joshua GREEN

Soph., Safety
Orlando, Fla.
Olympia H.S.

6



Jaalon GUPTON

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Nashville, Tenn.
Stratford H.S.

77



Darius HARPER

Jr., Defensive Back
Brentwood, Tenn.
Ravenwood H.S.

30



Nick HARPER

Sr., Defensive Back
Brentwood, Tenn.
Ravenwood H.S.
tr — Missouri State

29



Davoan HAWKINS

Soph., Defensive Lineman
Hollywood, Fla.
Chaminade-Madonna C.P.
tr — Kentucky

55



Jeremy HICKBOTTOM

Sr., Quarterback
Mobile, Ala.
Williamson H.S.
tr — Grambling State

19



Fondren HOLLIS III

Fr., Cornerback
Decatur, Ga.
Columbia H.S.

10



Devon HOLMES

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Memphis, Tenn.
Southwind H.S.

94



Raymond HORTON

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Daytona Beach, Fla.
Mainland H.S.

93



William JAMES

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Columbus, Miss.
Columbus H.S.
tr — Itawamba C.C.

72



Jovens JANVIER

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Miami, Fla.
Dade Christian School

79



Benjamin JOHNSON

Jr., Tight End
Lithonia, Ga.
tr — Ga. Military College

24



Dayron JOHNSON

Soph., Wide Receiver
Springfield, Tenn.
Springfield H.S.

5



Deron JOHNSON

Soph., Linebacker
Elk Grove, Calif.
Pleasant Grove H.S.

51



Brandon JONES

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Dacula, Ga.
Dacula H.S.

78



Terray JONES

Soph., Defensive Lineman
Madison, Fla.
Madison County H.S.

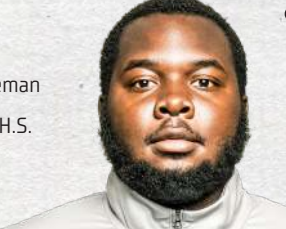
1



Travin JONES

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Midland, Ga.
George W. Carver H.S.

73



MEET THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS CONT.

Robert LACEY

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Mobile, Ala.
Blount H.S.

70



Amari LeFLORE

Fr., Safety
Ridgeland, Miss.
St. Andrews Episcopal Sch.

38



Marcellious LOCKETT

Soph., Safety
Lithonia, Ga.
Martin Luther King H.S.

27



Nyle LOVE

Soph., Linebacker
Memphis, Tenn.
Lausanne Coll. School
tr - Memphis

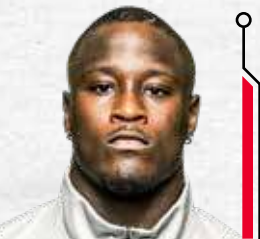
13



Maurice McDONALD

Soph., Linebacker
Houston, Texas
Houston Christian H.S.

57



Michael MITCHELL

Jr., Running Back
Broheadsville, Pa.
Pleasant Valley H.S.

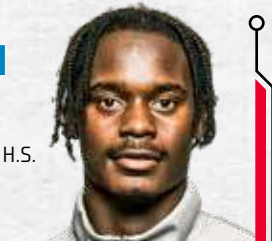
20



Torrey MORRISON

Fr., Wide Receiver
Columbus, Ga.
Miami, Fla.
Booker T. Washington H.S.

0



Caleb MOSLEY

Jr., Punter
Montgomery, Ala.
Carver H.S.

41



Davion NASH

Jr., Linebacker
St. Louis, Mo.
St. Louis Univ. H.S.

50



Evan NEAL

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Cleveland, Tenn.
Cleveland H.S.

60



Jimmy NIXON

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Hollywood, Fla.
Chaminade-Madonna C.P.

71



Malachi OGLE

Fr., Cornerback
Millport, Ala.
South Lamar H.S.

32



Isaiah OWENS

Sr., Wide Receiver
Nashville, Tenn.
Cane Ridge H.S.
tr - Memphis

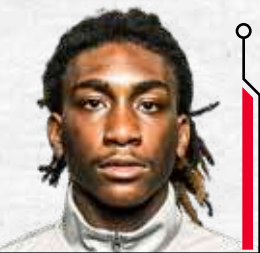
81



Martino OWENS

Fr., Quarterback
Nashville, Tenn.
Pearl-Cohn H.S.

15



Chandon PAGE

Soph., Offensive Lineman
Sheffield, Ala.
Sheffield H.S.

67



Tadarrius PATTERSON

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Birmingham, Ala.
Carver H.S.
tr - City Coll. of San Fran.

5



Vincent PERRY

Sr., Wide Receiver
Nashville, Tenn.
Hillsboro H.S.
tr - Iowa Western C.C.

7



Joshua PHILLIPS

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Cordova, Tenn.
First Assembly Chr. School

69



Tucker POPE

Fr., Quarterback
Cleveland, Tenn.
Walker Valley H.S.

10



Cory RAHMAN

Sr., Safety
Winter Garden, Fla.
Foundation Academy
tr - Southeastern Univ.

26



James REESE

Soph., Safety
Nashville, Tenn.
Cane Ridge H.S.

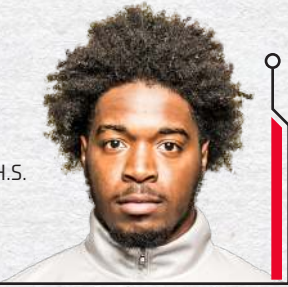
34



Edwin RHODES

Fr., Quarterback
Plantation, Fla.
American Heritage H.S.

12



Willie ROBINSON Jr.

Soph., Defensive Lineman
O'Fallon, Ill.
O'Fallon Township H.S.

90



Jalen ROUSE

Fr., Running Back
Richmond, Ga.
Richmond Hill H.S.

22



Peter ROUSE

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland Heights H.S.

68



William SEATS III

Fr., Tight End
Lebanon, Tenn.
Lebanon H.S.

86



Christian SMITH

Soph., Defensive Back
Atlanta, Ga.
Westlake H.S.

25



Devon STARLING

Fr., Running Back
Nashville, Tenn.
Cane Ridge H.S.
tr - Memphis

3



Kobie STILLWELL

Fr., Punter
Columbus, Ohio
Fork Union H.S.

46



Terry STRAUGHTER

Jr., Linebacker
Miami, Fla.
Miami Carol H.S.

18



Nate SUTTON

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Philadelphia, Pa.
Martin Luther King H.S.
tr - La Valley College

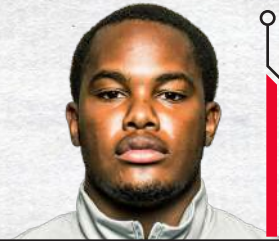
9



Marcus TAYLOR

Fr., Running Back
Memphis, Tenn.
Whitehaven H.S.

31



Zaire THORNTON

Fr., Wide Receiver
Atlanta, Ga.
Ben E. Mays H.S.

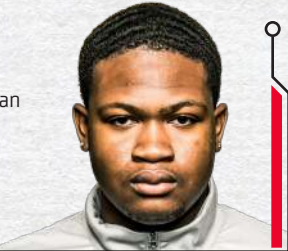
11



Charles TRUE

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Chicago, Ill.
Rich East H.S.

58



Joshua TRUEHEART

Sr., Tight End
Nashville, Tenn.
Stratford H.S.

88



Gerand TURNER

Fr., Wide Receiver
Miami, Fla.
South Miami H.S.

1



Chris WALKER

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Sanford, Fla.
Seminole H.S.

48



Deshoun WARD

Fr., Wide Receiver
Memphis, Tenn.
Whitehaven H.S.

87



Kennedy WILBERT

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Memphis, Tenn.
Middle College

61



Heath WILLIAMS

Fr., Quarterback
Clarksville, Tenn.
Northeast H.S.

9



Cam WYCHE

Jr., Wide Receiver
Douglasville, Ga.
South Paulding H.S.
tr - Lindsey Wilson College

2



Antonio ZITA

Jr., Placekicker
Fayetteville, Tenn.
Lincoln County H.S.

2



ARISTOCRAT OF BANDS



Dr. Reginald A. McDonald
Band Director



In the fall of 1946, after six weeks of practice, a 100-piece marching band took to the field at Tennessee State University and a tradition of excellence was born.

The idea for a show band at Tennessee State University originated with its second president, the late Dr. Walter S. Davis. President Davis selected J.D. Chavis to serve as the first band director.

Under Chavis' leadership, the marching band grew and developed into a premier university band that gave spectacular performances in parades and halftime shows at football games.

In 1947 and 1948, the marching band performed in the Washington Classic in Washington, D.C., where top historically black colleges and universities competed for national championships.

Chavis' tenure as band director ended in 1951 and the baton was passed to Frank T. Greer. TSU's distinctive style was further developed under Greer. The band continued to earn invitations to special events.

Four years after Greer began his work, the TSU band was invited to perform during the halftime show of a Chicago Bears and Los Angeles Rams professional football game. The performance was the first of a series of nationally televised halftime shows for the band. It was

also the first time a historically black university band had appeared on national television.

Between 1956-78, the TSU band performed halftime shows for nine professional football games, including the 1963 National Championship game between the New York Giants and the Chicago Bears at Wrigley Field in Chicago. Reportedly, it was during one of these halftime performances that a sportscaster called the TSU's marching band, "The Aristocrat of Bands" Needless to say, the name stuck.



"The Aristocrat of Bands" has also appeared in the Coca-Cola Circle City Classic in Indianapolis, the Atlanta Football Classic in Atlanta, the Orange Blossom Classic in Miami, the Heritage and Blues Bowls in Memphis and the Grantland Rice Bowl in Wichita Falls, Texas.

In 1961, the TSU band claimed another first for historically black universities when it was invited to march in President John F. Kennedy's inaugural parade. One of the students who marched in that parade was Edward L. Graves, who later became director of "The Aristocrat of Bands" in 1979.

Graves has continued to build the legacy. "The Aristocrat of Bands" has shared its characteristic precision and distinctly soulful style with people

throughout the country and in foreign lands.

Greer taught us "to dream and to really work hard." Graves recalled. He taught us "not to be satisfied with just anything. You don't put a man on the moon without a lot of work. He instilled those standards in us. He taught us to excel, to see the BIG PICTURE."

Students who achieve membership in "The Aristocrat of Bands" adhere to those standards today.

Noted as one of the finest and most spectacular university bands in the United States, the Aristocrats are the featured attraction during pre-game and halftime performances at all home games and at most out of town competitions.

Still in demand for halftime performances, parades and other special events, the bands special appearances include a spot in the 1981 CBS television movie "The Concrete Cowboy," a 1982 ad for WSMV, Nashville's NBC affiliate, a 1984 performance at the Mirage Bowl football game in Tokyo, Japan, and a performance at Disney World.

This year, the tradition will continue. Audiences will be thoroughly entertained by the band's unique marching style and musical versatility. A group of vivacious majorettes, The Sophisticated Ladies, enhances the dynamic style and sounds of the band.

Dr. Reginald A. McDonald has assumed the band director role with Dr. Sean Daniels as assistant band director; Judy F. Gentry, majorette coordinator; and James "Dean" Sexton, director of the Jazz Band.

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TENNESSEE STATE ROSTER

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
40	Adewole , Detoye	Fr.	DL	6-4	240	Nashville, Tenn.	Overton
84	Alexander , Floyd	Fr.	TE	6-4	250	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Westinghouse
7	Andrews , Kenyon	Fr.	LB	6-2	211	Baton Rouge, La.	Southern Lab
17	Baez , Emmanuel	Fr.	DL	6-3	238	Plant City, Fla.	Plant City
98	Bell , Cameron	Fr.	DL	6-2	230	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Red Bank
95	Blaikie , Avery	R-So.	DL	6-3	285	Colts Neck, N.J.	Colts Neck
44	Boone , Thomas	Fr.	RB	6-0	195	Alexandria, Va.	St. Stephens & Agnes
65	Branch , Darrell	Fr.	OL	6-2	318	Gilbert, Ariz.	Higley
42	Bridgeman , Solomon	Fr.	LB	6-4	228	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Tyner
8	Bryant , Deveon	R-So.	QB	6-5	225	Hillside, Ill.	Proviso West
11	Bryant , Jashun	Jr.	LB	6-2	225	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
52	Buchanan , Carson	Fr.	LS	6-0	270	Nashville, Tenn.	Antioch
49	Callaway , Graham	Fr.	RB	5-9	170	Jackson, Tenn.	Madison Academic
16	Chambers , DeAmare	Fr.	DB	6-0	168	Powder Springs, Ga.	McEachern
83	Cooper , Jarvis	Fr.	WR	6-2	175	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
37	Crawford , Michael	R-Jr.	LB	6-0	225	Lansing, Ill.	Thornton Fractional
30	Davidson , Charlie	Sr.	RB	5-11	225	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	Blackman
14	Davis , Da'Shon	R-Fr.	CB	5-11	185	Quincy, Fla.	Jefferson County
6	Dobson , Zach	Jr.	WR	5-8	165	Knoxville, Tenn.	Fulton
45	Dorsey , David	So.	DB	5-10	175	Cleveland, Tenn.	Cleveland
53	Dowty , Clint	So.	DL	6-2	233	Nashville, Tenn.	Maplewood
36	Drake , Zachary	Fr.	CB	6-0	170	Nashville, Tenn.	Maplewood
76	Durley , Cameron	Fr.	OL	6-3	334	Houston, Texas	Houston Christian
43	Edwards , Camden	Fr.	FB	5-10	225	Hixson, Tenn.	Chatt. School Arts
75	Frazier , Jeremiah	Fr.	OL	6-3	315	Pike Road, Ala.	Pike Road
15	Garlington , Kenyon	R-So.	DB	5-9	185	Brentwood, Tenn.	Brentwood
4	Garnett , Chayil	R-Fr.	QB	6-2	225	Lakeland, Fla.	Lake Wales
33	George , Dorian	Fr.	CB	5-11	190	Memphis, Tenn.	Germantown
3	Graham , Eddie	Sr.	DB	5-10	185	Hudson, Fla.	Hudson
8	Green , James	R-Jr.	LB	6-1	220	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
6	Green , Joshua	So.	S	5-11	184	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
77	Gupton , Jaalon	R-Fr.	OL	6-5	290	Nashville, Tenn.	Stratford
30	Harper , Darius	Jr.	DB	5-11	175	Brentwood, Tenn.	Ravenwood
29	Harper , Nick	Sr.	DB	5-10	179	Brentwood, Tenn.	Ravenwood
74	Harris , Mayson	R-Fr.	OL	6-0	336	Nashville, Tenn.	Pearl-Cohn
55	Hawkins , Davoan	So.	DL	6-3	290	Hollywood, Fla.	Chaminade-Madonna
21	Helton , Jordan	Fr.	S	6-1	200	Memphis, Tenn.	Memphis Univ. Sch.
19	Hickbottom , Jeremy	Sr.	QB	6-4	210	Mobile, Ala.	Williamson
56	Hill , Elijah	Fr.	LB	6-2	210	Zachary, La.	Zachary
10	Hollis , Fondren III	R-Fr.	CB	5-11	175	Decatur, Ga.	Columbia
94	Holmes , Devon	Fr.	DL	6-1	240	Memphis, Tenn.	Southwind
93	Horton , Raymond	Jr.	DL	6-3	333	Daytona Beach, Fla.	Mainland
72	James , William	R-Sr.	OL	6-4	305	Columbus, Miss.	Columbus
82	Jamison , Antonio	Fr.	WR	6-2	192	Tampa, Fla.	Chamberlain
79	Janvier , Jovens	Fr.	OL	6-6	379	Miami, Fla.	Dade Christian
24	Johnson , Benjamin	R-Jr.	TE	6-2	230	Lithonia, Ga.	Georgia Military
5	Johnson , Dayron	So.	WR	5-9	180	Springfield, Tenn.	Springfield
51	Johnson , Deron	So.	LB	6-1	220	Elk Grove, Calif.	Pleasant Grove
19	Johnson , Kendall	Fr.	DL	6-6	237	Jackson, Tenn.	Liberty Tech
78	Jones , Brandon	Jr.	OL	6-6	330	Dacula, Ga.	Dacula
80	Jones , Macarius	Fr.	WR	6-4	178	Tanner, Ala.	Tanner
1	Jones , Terray	So.	DL	6-1	310	Madison, Fla.	Madison County

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
73	Jones , Travin	Fr.	OL	6-3	290	Midland, Ga.	Geo.W. Carver
70	Lacey , Robert	Jr.	OL	6-3	340	Mobile, Ala.	Blount
39	Law , Jalyn	Fr.	CB	6-1	185	Nashville, Tenn.	Pike
38	LeFlora , Amari	Fr.	S	5-10	180	Ridgeland, Miss.	St. Andrews Episcopal
91	Littles , Sincere	Fr.	DL	6-2	295	Sarasota, Fla.	Riverview
27	Lockett , Marcellius	So.	S	5-8	162	Lithonia, Ga.	Martin Luther King
13	Love , Nyle	R-So.	LB	6-1	233	Memphis, Tenn.	Lausanne Collegiate
99	Lowery , James	R-Fr.	K	5-10	225	Plantation, Fla.	American Heritage
28	McClendon , Jalen	Fr.	DB	6-0	170	Tampa, Fla.	Chamberlain
57	McDonald , Maurice	R-So.	LB	6-0	218	Houston, Texas	Houston Christian
20	Mitchell , Micheal	R-Jr.	RB	6-0	195	Broheadsville, Pa.	Pleasant Valley
0	Morrison , Torrey	Fr.	WR	5-8	190	Miami, Fla.	B. T. Washington
41	Mosley , Kaleb	Jr.	P	5-10	187	Montgomery, Ala.	Carver
50	Nash , Davion	Jr.	LB	6-0	240	St. Louis, Mo.	St. Louis Univ.
60	Neal , Evan	Fr.	OL	6-5	388	Cleveland, Tenn.	Cleveland
47	Nelson , Ahmad	Fr.	LB	6-2	225	Adamsville, Ala.	Minor
71	Nixon , Jimmy	R-Fr.	OL	6-3	340	Hollywood, Fla.	Chaminade-Madonna
32	Oglen , Malachi	Fr.	CB	5-11	165	Millport, Ala.	South Lamar
81	Owens , Isaiah	Sr.	WR	6-3	187	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
15	Owens , Martino	Fr.	QB	6-2	186	Nashville, Tenn.	Pearl-Cohn
67	Page , Chandon	So.	OL	6-3	307	Sheffield, Ala.	Sheffield
62	Page , Chazan	Fr.	OL	6-1	293	Nashville, Tenn.	Lipscomb
5	Patterson , Tadarrius	Jr.	DL	6-1	228	Birmingham, Ala.	Carver
7	Perry , Vincent	Sr.	WR	6-0	180	Nashville, Tenn.	Hillsboro
69	Phillips , Joshua	Fr.	OL	6-2	265	Cordova, Tenn.	First Assembly
10	Pope , Tucker	Fr.	QB	6-2	215	Cleveland, Tenn.	Walker Valley
85	Rahman , Rodell	Sr.	TE	6-3	215	Columbus, Ohio	Beechcroft
26	Rahman , Cory	Sr.	S	6-2	195	Winter Garden, Fla.	Foundation Acad.
34	Reese , James	R-So.	S	5-10	195	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
12	Rhodes , Edwin	Fr.	QB	6-1	211	Plantation, Fla.	American Heritage
90	Robinson , Willie Jr.	So.	DL	6-3	260	O'Fallon, Ill.	O'Fallon Township
22	Rouse , Jalen	Fr.	RB	5-11	180	Richmond, Ga.	Richmond Hill
68	Rouse , Peter	Jr.	OL	6-2	280	Cleveland, Ohio	Cleveland Heights
86	Seats , William III	Fr.	TE	6-4	240	Lebanon, Tenn.	Lebanon
25	Smith , Christian	R-So.	DB	5-9	180	Atlanta, Ga.	Westlake
3	Starling , Devon	Fr.	RB	6-1	200	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
96	Stewart , Cameron	So.	DL	6-3	380	Chattanooga, Tenn.	McCallie
46	Stillwell , Kobie	Fr.	P	6-2	175	Columbus, Ohio	Fork Union
18	Straughter , Terry	Jr.	LB	6-0	238	Miami, Fla.	Miami Carol
9	Sutton , Nathaniel	Jr.	DL	6-3	260	Philadelphia, Pa.	Martin Luther King
31	Taylor , Marcus	Fr.	RB	6-0	235	Memphis, Tenn.	Whitehaven
11	Thornton , Zaire	Fr.	WR	6-2	180	Atlanta, Ga.	Ben E. Mays
58	True , Charles	Fr.	OL	6-2	295	Chicago, Ill.	Rich East
88	Trueheart , Joshua	Sr.	TE	6-5	254	Nashville, Tenn.	Stratford
1	Turner , Gerand	Fr.	WR	6-0	205	Miami, Fla.	South Miami
48	Walker , Chris	Fr.	DL	6-4	226	Sanford, Fla.	Seminole
87	Ward , Deshoun	Fr.	WR	5-10	150	Memphis, Tenn.	Whitehaven
61	Wilbert , Kennedy	Fr.	OL	5-10	293	Memphis, Tenn.	Middle College
23	Williams , Domanique	Sr.	CB	5-11	185	Knoxville, Tenn.	Fulton
9	Williams , Heath Jr.	R-Fr.	QB	6-0	230	Clarksville, Tenn.	Northeast
2	Wyche , Cam	Jr.	WR	6-1	185	Douglasville, Ga.	South Paulding
2	Zita , Antonio	Jr.	K	5-9	175	Fayetteville, Tenn.	Lincoln County

[@TSUTigersFB](#)

TSU STAFF

Head Coach: Eddie George
Assistant Coaches:

Joe Bowden, Linebackers
Keith Burns, Special Teams/Defensive Specialist
Brandon Fisher, Defensive Coordinator
Cory Harkey, Tight Ends
Mark Hutson, Offensive Line
Hue Jackson, Offensive Coordinator/QBs
Richard McNutt, Defensive Backs
Pepe Pearson, Running Backs
Clyde Simmons, Defensive Line
Kenan Smith, Wide Receivers

Chief of Staff: Dusty Bennett
Director of Sports Performance: Scott Holsopple
Head Athletic Trainer: Trevor Searcy
Equipment Manager: Jeremy Taylor



QUICK FACTS

Location: Nashville, Tenn. | Enrollment: 9,165 | Conference Affiliation: Ohio Valley | Final Spring 2021 Record: 2-5 (2-5 in OVC) | Home Field: Nissan Stadium
Primary Offensive System: Spread/Pro Style | Primary Defensive System: 4-3 | Starters Returning/Lost: 9/15 | Freshmen: 56, Sophomores: 18, Juniors: 18, Seniors: 12



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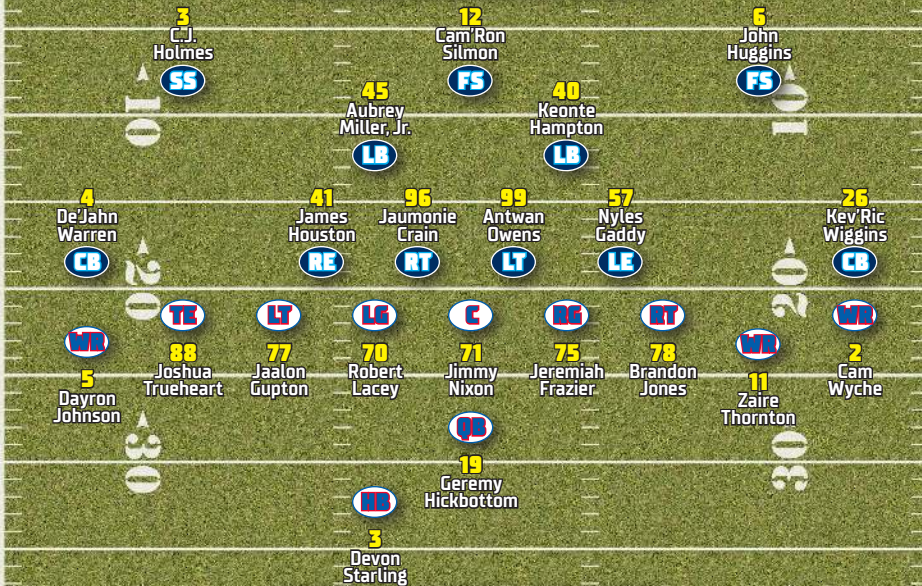


THE TSU TIGERS

- 0 Torrey Morrison.....WR
- 1 Gerand Turner.....WR
- 1 Terray Jones.....DL
- 2 Cam Wyche.....WR
- 2 Antonio Zita.....K
- 3 Devon Starling.....RB
- 3 Eddie Graham.....DB
- 4 Chayil Garnett.....QB
- 5 Dayron Johnson.....WR
- 5 Tadarrius Patterson.....DL
- 6 Zach Dobson.....WR
- 6 Joshua Green.....S
- 7 Vincent Perry.....WR
- 7 Kenyon Andrews.....LB
- 8 Deveon Bryant.....QB
- 8 James Green.....LB
- 9 Heath Williams Jr.....QB
- 9 Nathaniel Sutton.....DL
- 10 Fondren Hollis III.....CB
- 10 Tucker Pope.....QB
- 11 Zaire Thornton.....WR
- 11 Jashun Bryant.....LB
- 12 Edwin Rhodes.....QB
- 13 Nyle Love.....LB
- 14 Da'Shon Davis.....CB
- 15 Kenyon Garlington.....DB
- 15 Martino Owens.....QB
- 16 De'Amare Chambers.....DB
- 17 Emmanuel Baez.....DL
- 18 Terry Straughter.....LB
- 19 Jeremy Hickbottom.....QB
- 19 Kendall Johnson.....DL
- 20 Michael Mitchell.....RB
- 21 Jordan Helton.....S
- 22 Jalen Rouse.....RB
- 23 Domonique Williams.....CB
- 24 Benjamin Johnson.....TE
- 25 Christian Smith.....DB
- 26 Cory Rahman.....S
- 27 Marcellus Lockett.....S
- 28 Jalen McClendon.....DB
- 29 Nick Harper.....DB
- 30 Charlie Davidson.....RB
- 30 Darius Harper.....DB
- 31 Marcus Taylor.....RB
- 32 Malachi Oglen.....CB
- 33 Dorian George.....CB
- 34 James Reese.....S
- 36 Zachary Drake.....CB
- 37 Michael Crawford.....LB
- 38 Amari LeFlore.....S
- 39 Jalyn Law.....CB
- 40 Detoye Adewole.....DL
- 41 Kaleb Mosley.....P
- 42 Solomon Bridgeman.....LB
- 43 Kamden Edwards.....FB
- 44 Thomas Boone.....RB
- 45 David Dorsey.....DB
- 46 Kobie Stillwell.....P
- 47 Ahmad Nelson.....LB
- 48 Chris Walker.....DL
- 49 Graham Callaway.....RB
- 50 Davion Nash.....LB
- 51 Deron Johnson.....LB
- 52 Carson Buchanan.....LS
- 53 Clint Dowty.....DL
- 55 Davoan Hawkins.....DL
- 56 Elijah Hill.....LB
- 57 Maurice McDonald.....LB
- 58 Charles True.....OL
- 60 Evan Neal.....OL
- 61 Kennedy Wilbert.....OL
- 62 Chazan Page.....OL
- 65 Darrell Branch.....OL
- 67 Chandon Page.....OL
- 68 Peter Rouse.....OL
- 69 Joshua Phillips.....OL
- 70 Robert Lacey.....OL
- 71 Jimmy Nixon.....OL
- 72 William James.....OL
- 73 Travin Jones.....OL
- 74 Mayson Harris.....OL
- 75 Jeremiah Frazier.....OL
- 76 Cameron Durtley.....OL
- 77 Jaalon Gupton.....OL
- 78 Brandon Jones.....OL
- 79 Jovens Janvier.....OL
- 80 Macarius Jones.....WR
- 81 Isaiah Owens.....WR
- 82 Antonio Jamison.....WR
- 83 Jarvis Cooper.....WR
- 84 Floyd Alexander.....TE
- 85 Rodell Rahmaan.....TE
- 86 William Seats III.....TE
- 87 Deshoun Ward.....WR
- 88 Joshua Trueheart.....TE
- 90 Willie Robinson Jr.....DL
- 91 Sincere Littles.....DL
- 93 Raymond Horton.....DL
- 94 Devon Holmes.....DL
- 95 Avery Blaikie.....DL
- 96 Cameron Stewart.....DL
- 98 Cameron Bell.....DL
- 99 James Lowery.....K

TENNESSEE STATE

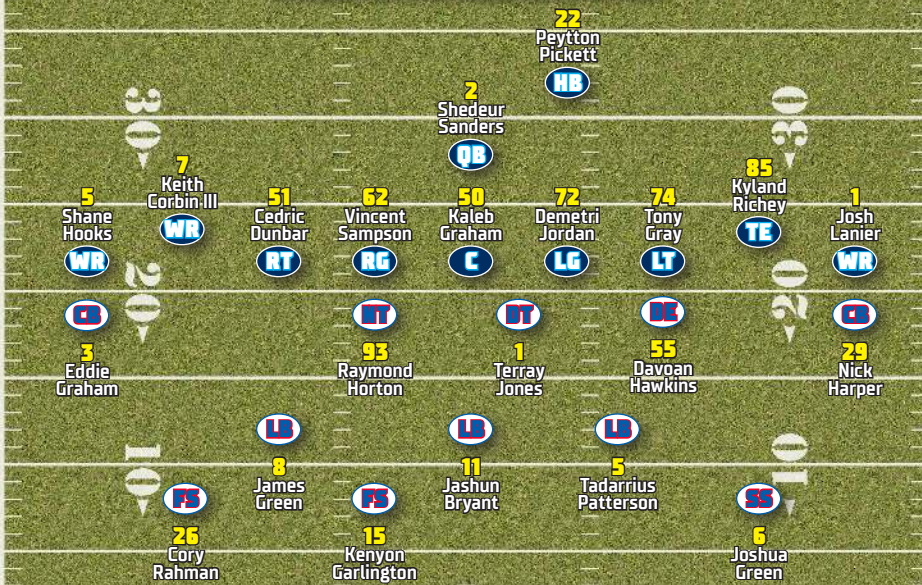
JACKSON STATE DEFENSE



TENNESSEE STATE OFFENSE

STARTING LINEUPS

JACKSON STATE OFFENSE



TENNESSEE STATE DEFENSE

JACKSON STATE

THE JSU TIGERS

- 1 Josh Lanier.....WR
- 2 Shedeur Sanders.....QB
- 3 C.J. Holmes.....DB
- 4 Aalah Brown.....WR
- 4 De'Jahn Warren.....DB
- 5 Shane Hooks.....WR
- 6 John Huggins.....DB
- 7 Keith Corbin III.....WR
- 8 J.D. Martin.....RB
- 9 Al Young.....DB
- 10 Warren Newman.....WR
- 11 Dodge DeLozier.....QB
- 12 Cam'Ron Silmon.....DB
- 12 Greyson Thompson.....QB
- 13 Malachi Wideman.....WR
- 14 Christian Allen.....WR
- 15 Trevonte Rucker.....WR
- 16 Damon Ball.....WR
- 17 Cedrick Moffett II.....DB
- 17 Errick Simmons.....WR
- 18 Demonte Holliman.....DB
- 18 Tim Robinson.....S
- 19 Caleb Jolivette.....WR
- 19 Herman Smith III.....DB
- 21 Shilo Sanders.....S
- 22 Peyton Pickett.....RB
- 23 Isaiah Bolden.....DB
- 24 Desmond Moultrie.....RB
- 25 Tyson Alexander.....RB
- 25 Anthony Petty.....DB
- 26 Samuelle Bowen.....RB
- 26 Kev Ric Wiggins.....DB
- 27 Kevin May.....RB
- 28 Trey Lockhart.....S
- 29 David Arrington IV.....DB
- 29 J.J. Weeks.....WR
- 30 Lane McGregor.....SPC
- 31 Randall Haynie.....DB
- 31 Greg Williams.....RB
- 32 Javien Adams.....S
- 35 Glenn Misiak.....SPC
- 36 Bailey Raborn.....SPC
- 37 Jacob Politte.....SPC
- 38 Santee Marshall.....RB
- 39 Noah Anderson.....SPC
- 39 Dwayne Pickett Jr.....S
- 40 Keonte Hampton.....LB
- 41 James Houston.....LB
- 42 Jeremiah Brown.....LB
- 43 Frankie Dunn.....DB
- 44 Daelyn Dunn.....LB
- 45 Aubrey Miller Jr.....LB
- 46 C.J. Nunnally.....DL
- 47 Baron Hopson.....LB
- 48 Marcus O'Neal.....SPC
- 49 Braezhon Ross.....DL
- 50 Kaleb Graham.....OL
- 51 Cedric Dunbar.....OL
- 52 Khalil Arrington.....LB
- 53 Donald Turley.....DL
- 54 Drew Anthony.....LB
- 55 Abdul-Malik McClain.....LB
- 56 Keith Lopez.....LB
- 57 Nyles Gaddy.....LB
- 58 Lafonzo Ruffin.....DL
- 59 Tyler Wells.....LB
- 60 Amari Catchings.....OL
- 61 Jakob Cunningham.....OL
- 62 Vincent Sampson.....OL
- 63 Braxton Bailey.....DL
- 64 Deontae Graham.....OL
- 65 Timontre Graham.....DL
- 66 James Reddick II.....OL
- 67 Stephen Singleton.....DL
- 68 Rufus Carl Jones.....DL
- 69 Paxton Branning.....SPC
- 70 Kirk Ford.....OL
- 71 Charlton Goodell.....DL
- 72 Demetri Jordan.....OL
- 73 Dylan Spencer.....OL
- 74 Tony Gray.....OL
- 75 Javonte Gardner.....OL
- 76 John Mitchell.....OL
- 77 Charles Armstrong.....OL
- 79 Tre Johnson.....OL
- 81 Jency Riley.....TE
- 82 Javares Hamilton.....WR
- 83 Kobe Paul.....WR
- 84 Kortlon Hubbard.....WR
- 85 Kyland Richey.....TE
- 86 DJ Stevens.....TE
- 88 Daniel Crowell Jr.....WR
- 89 David Studstill.....WR
- 89 Chad Turner.....WR
- 90 KaTron Evans.....DL
- 91 Tredarius Carr.....DL
- 92 Justin Ragin.....DL
- 93 Tre'von Riggins.....DL
- 94 Coynis Miller.....DL
- 95 Jeremiah Williams.....DL
- 96 Jaumonie Crain.....DL
- 97 Davonta Davis.....DL
- 98 Ke'Shawn Brinkley.....DE
- 99 Antwan Owens.....DL

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JACKSON STATE ROSTER

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
32	Adams, Javien	S	6-0	190	So.	Olive Branch, Miss.	Olive Branch
25	Alexander, Tyson	RB	5-11	195	Jr.	DeSoto, Texas	DeSoto
14	Allen, Christian	WR	5-10	190	R-So.	Mendenhall, Miss.	Mendenhall
39	Anderson, Noah	SPC	5-7	140	Sr.	Lafayette, La.	Lafayette
54	Anthony, Drew	LB	6-2	215	Fr.	Phenix City, Ala.	Central
77	Armstrong, Charles	OL	6-5	270	Fr.	Bradenton, Fla.	Manatee
29	Arrington, David IV	DB	6-1	175	R-Jr.	Montgomery, Ala.	Robert E. Lee
52	Arrington, Khalil	LB	6-1	215	Jr.	Montgomery, Ala.	Robert E. Lee
63	Bailey, Braxton	DL	6-1	290	Jr.	Clinton, Miss.	Clinton
16	Ball, Damon	WR	6-2	205	Fr.	Little Rock, Ark.	North Little Rock
23	Bolden, Isaiah	CB	6-2	205	Jr.	Tampa, Fla.	Wesley Chapel
26	Bowen, Samuelle	RB	6-0	205	Fr.	Woodbridge, Va.	Woodbridge
69	Branning, Paxton	SPC	6-0	210	Sr.	Hollandale, Miss.	Deer Creek Sch.
98	Brinkley, Ke'Shawn	DE	6-5	250	Sr.	Fayette, Miss.	Jefferson County
4	Brown, Aalah	WR	5-10	185	Fr.	Valdosta, Ga.	Valdosta
42	Brown, Jeremiah	LB	6-2	220	Fr.	Carrabelle, Fla.	Gadsden County
91	Carr, Tredarius	DL	6-2	285	Jr.	Benton, Miss.	Yazoo County
60	Catchings, Amari	OL	6-3	295	Jr.	Jackson, Miss.	Murrah
7	Corbin, Keith III	WR	6-2	200	Sr.	Beaumont, Texas	West Brook
96	Crain, Jaumonie	DL	6-2	265	Sr.	Puckett, Miss.	Puckett
88	Crowell, Daniel Jr.	WR	6-2	220	Sr.	Meridan, Miss.	Meridian
61	Cunningham, Jakob	OL	6-4	315	Sr.	Louisville, Miss.	Louisville
97	Davis, Devonta	DL	6-3	290	Jr.	Union Springs, Ala.	Bullock County
11	DeLozier, Dodge	QB	6-2	220	Jr.	Hereford, Texas	Hereford
51	Dunbar, Cedric	OL	6-4	320	Jr.	Natchez, Miss.	Natchez
44	Dunn, Daelyn	LB	6-2	250	Sr.	San Diego, Calif.	Lincoln
43	Dunn, Frankie	DB	5-8	150	Fr.	Jackson, La.	Feliciano
90	Evans, KaTron	DL	6-5	315	Fr.	Baltimore, Md.	St. Frances Acad.
70	Ford, Kirk	OL	6-4	320	Jr.	Keller, Texas	Keller
57	Gaddy, Nyles	LB	6-4	230	So.	Nashville, Tenn.	Father Ryan
75	Gardner, Jevonte	DL	6-5	295	Fr.	Orlando, Fla.	Jones
71	Goodell, Charlton	DL	6-1	290	So.	Bradenton, Fla.	MG Academy
64	Graham, Deontae	OL	6-5	290	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	Cardinal Ritter
50	Graham, Kaleb	OL	6-3	290	Fr.	Jackson, Miss.	Terry
65	Graham, Timontre	DL	5-11	230	Sr.	Mobile, Ala.	LeFlore
74	Gray, Tony	OL	6-5	310	R-Jr.	Loganville, Ga.	Grayson
82	Hamilton, Javares	WR	6-0	180	Fr.	Central, S.C.	Daniel
40	Hampton, Keonte	LB	6-2	220	Sr.	West Point, Miss.	West Point
31	Haynie, Randall	DB	6-0	175	Sr.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	Cardinal Gibbons
18	Holliman, Demonte	CB	5-9	175	Jr.	Jackson, Miss.	Pearl
3	Holmes, C.J.	DB	6-1	185	Sr.	New Orleans, La.	Lusher
5	Hooks, Shane	WR	6-4	205	Jr.	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
47	Hopson, Baron	LB	6-1	220	Fr.	Leesburg, Ga.	Lee County
41	Houston, James	LB	6-1	225	Sr.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	American Heritage
84	Hubbard, Kortlon	WR	6-0	190	Sr.	Jackson, Miss.	Forest Hill
6	Huggins, John	DB	6-2	205	Jr.	Daytona Beach, Fla.	Mainland
79	Johnson, Tre	OL	6-7	300	Sr.	Orlando, Fla.	First Academy
19	Jolivet, Caleb	WR	5-8	170	Jr.	Houston, Texas	Manvel
68	Jones, Rufus Carl	DL	6-3	330	Fr.	Millbrook, Ala.	Stanhope Elmore
72	Jordan, Demetri	OL	6-5	330	Sr.	Lubbock, Texas	Coronado
1	Lanier, Josh	WR	6-0	170	Sr.	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	Tuscaloosa Acad.
28	Lockhart, Trey	S	6-0	190	Fr.	Madison, Ala.	Bub Jones

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
56	Lopez, Keith	LB	6-6	230	Fr.	New Iberia, La.	New Iberia
38	Marshall, Santee	RB	5-10	170	Jr.	New Orleans, La.	Edna Karr
8	Martin, J.O.	RB	6-0	190	So.	Wetumpka, Ala.	Wetumpka
27	May, Kevin	RB	5-9	175	Fr.	Madison, Miss.	St. Joseph
55	McClain, Abdul-Malik	LB	6-4	245	So.	Atlanta, Ga.	JSerra Catholic
30	McGregor, Lane	SPC	5-10	190	Jr.	Pontotoc, Miss.	Pontotoc
45	Miller, Aubrey Jr.	LB	6-2	225	Sr.	Memphis, Tenn.	Whitehaven
94	Miller, Coynis	DL	6-2	300	Jr.	Birmingham, Ala.	Jackson-Olin
35	Misiak, Glenn	SPC	6-0	160	Jr.	Columbus, Miss.	Columbus Chr. Acad.
76	Mitchell, John	OL	6-5	276	Fr.	Lexington, Miss.	Holmes Central
17	Moffett, Cedrick II	DB	5-11	160	Jr.	Georgetown, Miss.	Pearl
24	Moultree, Desmond	RB	5-11	190	Fr.	Arlington, Texas	Lamar
10	Newman, Warren	WR	5-8	175	Sr.	New Orleans, La.	Edna Karr
46	Nunnally, C.J.	DL	6-3	220	Fr.	Douglasville, Ga.	South Paulding
48	O'Neal, Marcus	SPC	6-3	160	Fr.	Jackson, Miss.	Callaway
99	Owens, Antwan	DL	6-4	290	Sr.	Tallahassee, Fla.	Godby
83	Paul, Kobe	WR	5-11	150	Fr.	Cedar Hill, Texas	Trinity Christian
25	Petty, Anthony	CB	5-11	180	So.	Wiggins, Miss.	Stone Hill
39	Pickett, Dwayne Jr.	S	6-1	190	Sr.	Jackson, Miss.	Callaway
22	Pickett, Peyton	RB	5-8	225	Sr.	Arlington, Texas	Sam Houston
37	Politte, Jacob	SPC	6-1	195	Fr.	Lubbock, Texas	Cooper
36	Raborn, Bailey	SPC	5-11	195	Sr.	Lafayette, La.	St. Thomas More
92	Ragin, Justin	DL	6-5	230	Sr.	Memphis, Tenn.	Collierville
66	Reddick, James II	OL	6-3	320	Fr.	Fort Valley, Ga.	Peach County
85	Richey, Kyland	TE	6-4	230	Sr.	Cedar Hill, Texas	Cedar Hill
93	Riggins, Tre'von	DL	6-3	270	Fr.	Bradenton, Fla.	Lakewood
81	Riley, Jency	TE	6-5	215	Fr.	Greensburg, La.	St. Helena College
18	Robinson, Tim	S	5-11	190	Jr.	Jackson, Miss.	Callaway
49	Ross, Braezhon	DL	6-2	275	Fr.	Las Vegas, Nev.	Desert Pines
15	Rucker, Trevonte	WR	6-0	170	Fr.	Ocala, Fla.	Vanguard
58	Ruffin, Lafonzo	DL	6-0	260	Fr.	Miami, Fla.	La Salle
62	Sampson, Vincent	OL	6-1	285	Sr.	Cloutierville, La.	Menard
2	Sanders, Shedeur	QB	6-2	215	Fr.	Cedar Hill, Texas	Trinity Christian
21	Sanders, Shilo	S	6-0	195	So.	Cedar Hill, Texas	Trinity Christian
12	Silmon, Cam'Ron	DB	5-10	175	Fr.	Birmingham, Ala.	Trinity Christian
17	Simmons, Erick	WR	6-0	180	Fr.	Greenville, Miss.	Greenville
67	Singleton, Stephen	DL	6-2	230	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo.	Christian Bros.
9	Smith, Herman III	DB	6-0	190	Fr.	San Diego, Calif.	Lincoln
73	Spencer, Dylan	OL	6-4	300	Fr.	Jackson, Miss.	Callaway
86	Stevens, DJ	TE	6-3	220	Fr.	Ridgeland, Miss.	Ridgeland
89	Studstill, David	WR	5-11	185	Fr.	Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.	Palm Beach Gardens
12	Thompson, Greyson	QB	6-3	205	Fr.	Denton, Texas	Braswell
53	Turner, Donald	DL	6-2	220	Fr.	Chillicothe, Ohio	Chillicothe
89	Turner, Chad	WR	5-8	185	Fr.	Colleyville, Texas	Heritage
4	Warren, De'Jahn	CB	6-1	185	Jr.	Landover, Md.	Suitland
29	Weeks, JJ	WR	5-8	165	Fr.	Falfurrias, Texas	Falfurrias
59	Wells, Tyler	LB	6-1	220	Fr.	Clinton, Mich.	Clinton Township
13	Wideman, Malachi	WR	6-5	190	Fr.	Venice, Fla.	Venice
26	Wiggins, Kev'Ric	DB	5-11	175	Fr.	Spring, Texas	Klein Collins
31	Williams, Greg	RB	5-9	190	Jr.	Memphis, Tenn.	White Station
95	Williams, Jeremiah	DL	6-3	280	Fr.	Lexington, Miss.	Holmes Co. Central
9	Young, Al	DB	5-11	195	Sr.	Cape Girardeau, Mo.	Central

[@GoJSUTigersFB](#)

JSU STAFF

Head Coach: Deion Sanders

Assistant Coaches:

- Gary Harrell, Running Backs
- André Hart, Linebackers
- Mike Markuson, Offensive Line
- Kevin Mathis, Defensive Backs
- Jason Phillips, Co-Offensive Coordinator, WRs
- Michael Pollock, Co-Offensive Coordinator/QBs
- Alan Ricard, Special Teams
- T.C. Taylor, Tight Ends
- Dennis Thurman, Defensive Coordinator
- Jeff Weeks, Defensive Line

Director of Football Operations: LaToya M. Williams

Director of Player Personnel: Otis Riddley

Strength & Conditioning: C.J. White

Head Trainer: Jarred Binner

Equipment Manager: Derek Scott



QUICK FACTS

Location: Jackson, Miss. | Enrollment: 8,100 | Conference Affiliation: SWAC | Final Spring 2021 Record: 4-3 (3-2 in SWAC) | Home Field: Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium
 Primary Offensive System: Multiple Pro Style Set | Primary Defensive System: 4-2-5 | Starters Returning/Lost: 9/15 | Freshmen: 44, Sophomores: 8, Juniors: 24, Seniors: 28



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JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY



Set over 200 acres just west of downtown in the Magnolia State's capital city, Jackson State University is the premier institution in Mississippi and the crown jewel of Jackson.

JSU is a diverse, technologically advanced four-year university steeped in history and committed to preparing its students to become global leaders. We provide a caring, nurturing environment in which to challenge our students to improve themselves and serve others.

As a historically black college, JSU has a strong history of and commitment to the education of black Americans. It is a small institution with an enrollment of 4,126 undergraduate students.

Jackson State University developed from Natchez Seminary, founded Oct. 23, 1877 in Natchez, Miss. The seminary was affiliated with the American Baptist Home Mission Society of New York, who established it "for the moral, religious, and intellectual improvement of Christian leaders of the colored people of Mississippi and the neighboring states." In 1883, the school changed its name to Jackson College and moved from Natchez to a site in Jackson, the capital.

In 2015, JSU became the first university in Mississippi approved by the legislature

to establish a School of Public Health which is housed under the College of Health Sciences. JSU is the only university in Mississippi to earn two consecutive "Apple Distinguished School" distinctions. Apple Inc. biennially acknowledges schools that uniquely incorporate technology into its curriculum.

Since 2012, Jackson State University has provided all first-time, full-time freshmen brand new iPads to increase technology usage on campus. JSU is the first and only HBCU in Mississippi to support a bachelor's and master's level engineering program. JSU is one of only two universities in Mississippi with a comprehensive meteorology undergraduate level degree program. The W.E.B. Du Bois - Maria Luisa Alvarez Harvey Honors College is a selective interdisciplinary college at the university that provides a unique academic experience for the most high-achieving undergraduate students.

The main campus contains over 50 academic and administrative buildings on 245 acres and is located at 1400 John R. Lynch Street between Prentiss and Dalton Streets.

Ayer Hall was constructed in 1903 and is the oldest structure on campus. It was

named in honor of the first president of the institution, Charles Ayer. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. Green-Gibb Pedestrian Walkway was named in honor of the two young men who died in the Jackson State shooting in 1970. As a result of the landmark "Ayers Settlement" in 2002, the university, along with the other two HBCUs in the state, has completed extensive renovations and upgrades to campus.

Jackson State University offers over 100 registered student organizations. There are academic, residential, religious, Greek, and special interest groups established to serve the diverse interests of JSU's student community. All student organizations are governed under the Student Affairs division.

Jackson State is home to radio station WJSU-88.5 FM which plays jazz, gospel, news and public affairs programming. Jackson State University also owns a television station, W23BC known as JSUTV aired on Comcast. Jackson State also publishes the independent Blue and White Flash weekly student newspaper and the Jacksonian magazine, which features news and highlights about the university, its students, and alumni.

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JACKSON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Thomas K.
HUDSON

President



Jackson State University President Thomas K. Hudson grew up in Jackson, Miss., where he attended and graduated from JSU in 1999. He went on to receive his Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 2005.

With an equity-based focus, Hudson established a successful private practice, and served as an EEO specialist for the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA. Still, his JSU roots beckoned, and he returned to his alma mater in 2012.

Hudson served as Acting President of JSU before being named President on November 19, 2020, by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

A long-standing champion of education, Hudson's goals remain to enhance the university's legacy and expand its global footprint while fortifying its mission to produce ethical and technologically advanced global leaders who properly address societal problems and compete effectively.

As a member of the Jackson State staff since 2012, Hudson has served as Chief Operating Officer/Chief Diversity Officer, Chief Diversity and EEO Officer/Title IX Coordinator.

He has been described as a visionary who stays flexible and abreast of national themes, trends and issues across the higher education landscape and how HBCUs fit into that framework.

Before the presidency, Hudson was Assistant to the President and Chief Diversity Officer. He was the co-chair of the university's Strategic Planning Committee. He also served on the executive cabinet and guided senior leadership on all topics related to the university's future course and trajectory.

Committed to the standards of diversity, and inclusion, Hudson served as Vice-Chairperson of the university system's Chief Diversity Officers' Council. He is also a member of the Margaret Walker Alexander Center Board of Directors and the JSU Athletics Hall of Fame Foundation Board of Directors.

Hudson and his wife Phylandria have two daughters: Josephine and Abigail.

Ashley
ROBINSON

Athletic Director



Ashley Robinson has racked up several athletic championships throughout his career. He's also been instrumental in building academic successes and completing athletic facilities and renovations.

Robinson, whose motto at Jackson State is "Building on Tradition, Blazing New Trails" has the Tigers pointing to a new direction.

Academics is a pillar of a Robinson-led athletic department. In 2019-20, six of JSU's Division I sports lead the SWAC in APR scores: football, men's cross country, men's tennis, women's basketball, women's bowling, and volleyball. Football also ranked in the top five percent among the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

Overall, student-athletes finished with a cumulative 3.29 grade point average. Overall, 11 student-athletes completed the academic year with a perfect 4.0 GPA. The Tigers also dominated in the Spring 2020 semester and 49 student-athletes also finished with a 4.0 GPA.

Robinson is the president of the FCS Athletics Directors Association for the 2020-21 year — the first African-American in the position. The FCS ADA's mission is to enhance college football's Division I subdivision.

The women's basketball team won the 2019-20 SWAC regular-season championship, its first in more than 15 years.

Robinson, a native of Jackson, Miss., who was a basketball star at Murrah High School, spent the previous five years at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), where he was named director of athletics in June 2013. He was promoted to vice president and director of athletics in November 2016.

Throughout his storied career at PVAMU, he brought numerous facilities upgrades, including Tankersley Field baseball facility, as the multi-year project included the installation of a new high-definition message board, grandstand and press box.

A new athletics administration building in the north end zone at Panther Stadium at Blackshear Field, which is a three-story complex serving as the new home for PVAMU Athletics. It features an academic lab, administration and coaches offices, a weight room, athletic training room and rehab and classrooms for academic support and team meetings.

A former student-athlete, he was a four-year letterman in basketball and is the single-season and career record-holder in assists after playing point guard for Mississippi Valley State. An MVSU Athletics Hall of Fame inductee in 2011, Robinson also was named MVSU Athlete of the Year in 2002, receiving the President's Scholar Award in that same year.

Robinson left Mississippi Valley to begin a career in athletic administration as an academic coordinator at Delaware State. Robinson helped implement a comprehensive academic support system for the department's 300 student-athletes and was the department's liaison to DSU's faculty, campus academic offices and support services.

Robinson was named athletic director at Mississippi Valley State in 2012, where he spent nine months leading Delta Devil Athletics before returning to PVAMU in the same capacity.

Robinson is married to Carlevia Danielle Robinson. The couple had their first child, daughter Paisley Abrielle, in July 2016.



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JACKSON STATE SEASON OUTLOOK

Senior linebacker Keonte Hampton was named to the Black College Football Hall of Fame 2021 Player of the Year Watch List after another strong showing this past spring. The SWAC Preseason Defensive Player of the Year honoree led the league with 57 tackles in six games, including a season-high 15 stops in a huge win at Grambling.



2021 Schedule

S.5	Florida A&M (in Miami)	W, 7-6
S.11	Tennessee State (in Memphis)	6:00
S.18	at Louisiana-Monroe	7:00
S.25	Delta State	2:00
O.2	<bye>	
O.9	at Alabama A&M	2:00
O.16	Alabama State	2:00
O.23	Bethune-Cookman	1:00
O.30	at Mississippi Valley State	3:00
N.6	Texas Southern	1:00
N.13	at Southern	1:00
N.20	Alcorn State	1:00

All times Central

Power 5 transfers headline Coach Prime's re-invigoration

As head coach Deion Sanders heads into his first fall season as J-State's head football coach, the scenery around the football field has to look a bit more appealing, considering how different his squad looks as opposed to what it did six months ago.

"I can honestly sit here and say — unequivocally — we've upgraded every position," Sanders said. "It's not one position that we haven't addressed. It's not one position that's not better than it was this past spring."

In addition to the arrival of 44 freshmen to the team this fall, Sanders & Co. have welcomed a number of talented transfers, 13 of which came from Power 5 schools.

This not only brought a number of starting-caliber players to Jackson, it also provided needed depth and competition in camp.

Sanders came to JSU back in Sept. 2020 but the COVID restrictions pushed the season back into the spring. That couldn't have helped matters, especially considering 'Coach Prime' was venturing into his first season as a coach on any college campus.

Jackson State finished 4-3 in the 2021 spring season, losing its last three games (not counting a season-ending forfeit win over Alcorn State) after a sizzling 3-0 start. Sanders said he learned a lot from the spring.

"I'm so darn thankful for the spring," he told Thee Pregame Show at Media Day. "Because if it had not been for the spring, I'd be still sitting there with a locker room full of 'I don't know what they are going to do when the heat is on?' full of dudes like that, looking at me like a deer."

To that end, the JSU fans will see in the fall won't look much like the one they saw in the spring.

Jackson State was predicted to finish third in the SWAC East. But Deion Sanders says his JSU program is expected to win right now.

"Not only do you expect us to win, but we expect us to win. We're the only team in the country that people expect — in the first year — to win it all."

The Power 5 transfers are expected to compete for starting positions immediately, especially considering Jackson State lost eight starters on offense and seven on defense.

The most obvious change on **offense** will be at quarterback. Shedeur Sanders, the coach's son and a four-star recruit, is already chiseled in as starter.

Upon signing, Shedeur became the highest-rated high-school signee in JSU history after he spurned Florida Atlantic. He guided Trinity Christian to 47 wins in his career and 12,498 passing yards.



Josh Lanier began his college career at North Alabama before walking on to the Alabama team, contributing on special teams.

North Texas transfer Greyson Thompson is slated to be the backup signal caller for JSU.

Shedeur will be surrounded by a horde of former FBS transfers, particularly on the offensive line and at the receiver position, namely Josh Lanier (Alabama), Shane Hooks (Ohio), Malachi Wideman (Tennessee) and Keith Corbin (Houston). The freshman quarterback also has fellow 2021 blue-chipper Trevante Rucker to throw to.

And they were needed acquisitions, what with the transfer of leading receiver Daylen Baldwin to Michigan. Baldwin logged 27 catches for 540 yards and seven TDs as he tries to improve his NFL Draft standing with the Wolverines.

Of the group of newcomers, Corbin has the most experience. He ranked second on the Cougar team last year with 27 receptions for 352 yards. Hooks had 8 grabs for 120 yards for the Bobcats.

Lanier, a former walk-on, got lost in the deep receiver position with the Crimson Tide and decided on a fresh start elsewhere. Wideman got into six games with the Vols last year and made one catch for 24 yards.

In the backfield, junior Santee Marshall played in only one game in the spring



Running back Santee Marshall made the most of one appearance in the spring, racking up 126 yards in a shootout loss against Alabama A&M.

season, but boy, was it an eye-opening experience. The New Orleans native rushed for 126 yards and a touchdown against Alabama A&M. Tyson Alexander provides a solid option as well. He led the team in the spring with 377 yards on the ground, nearly half of that coming in one game – a 184-yard outing against Grambling.

Junior returnee Cedric Dunbar anchors the line, but talented transfers will be on both sides of him. The starters are expected to be Tony Gray (Central Florida transfer) and Kirk Ford (Navarro College) at tackles, while Demetri Jordan (SMU) and Dylan Spencer (Missouri) will likely start at the guard positions.

The Jackson State **defense** will feature



Whitehaven High product Aubrey Miller Jr. is among what is arguably the most talented group on the team – the linebackers. Miller ranked just behind team leader Keonte Hampton with 51 tackles, despite missing one game.

standout linebackers Keonte Hampton and Aubrey Miller Jr., both of whom were anchors in the spring. But that doesn't mean much, as Sanders has brought in a wave of FBS transfers on that side of the ball as well.

Hampton etched out yet another awesome season in the spring, posting a team-high 57 tackles with an interception and a fumble recovery en route to being named first-team All-SWAC. Miller ranked just behind him, with 51 stops and 4½ tackles for loss.

Former four-star recruit Abdul-Malik McClain is in from USC to compete at linebacker as is former Tennessee linebacker Nyles Gaddy. Freshman Baron Hopson figures to compete for time as well.

McClain sat out the 2021 season due to transfer rules, but recorded two sacks in five games in the 2019 season.

Along the four-man front, Gaddy also factors into the equation. He will be joined by senior returnees Justin Ragin and Jaumonie Crain, as well as Georgia Tech transfer Antwan Owens.

Crain had 19 tackles and two sacks, while Ragin made 16 stops and one sack. Owens had eight tackles in five games for the Yellow Jackets.

JSU fans should see plenty of defensive line excellence from Auburn transfer Coynis Miller.

Then there's the defensive backfield. JuCo product De'Jahn "Nugget" Warren showed real promise during the spring season at corner. He made 17 tackles with one interception and three pass breakups.

Manning the other corner spot is Kev'ric Wiggins, a transfer from La-Monroe.

They'll be joined by former Power Five DBs in Shilo Sanders and ex-Florida State cornerback Isaiah Bolden. Shilo, Shedeur's big brother, started his career at South Carolina.

Shilo ranked 7th on the Gamecock squad with 32 tackles from his safety position. He recorded 10 tackles against the Auburn Tigers.

Returnee C.J. Holmes factors in prominently in the defensive backfield.

Holmes has played in 32 career games for J-State, but was limited to just three in the spring. He did record 15 tackles and made an interception.

The base defense features a nickel-back, and former Trinity Christian standout Cam'Ron Silmon, who played with Shedeur Sanders and for Coach Prime in the Dallas suburb of Cedar Hill.



Safety Shilo Sanders played in nine games for South Carolina last year and four games for the team as a freshman in 2019 en route to being redshirted.

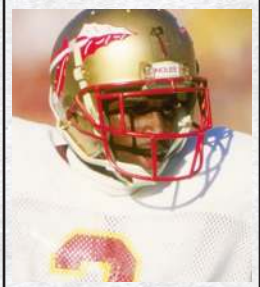
JACKSON STATE HEAD COACH



 @DeionSanders

BACKGROUND

Player	FLORIDA STATE DB, 1985-88	
NFL	ATL, SF, DAL, WASH, BAL DB, 1989-2000, 2004-05	
2017-20	TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCH. Offensive Coordinator	
2021-	JACKSON STATE Head Football Coach Record: 5-3	
Year	Overall	SWAC
2021 (s)	4-3	3-2
2021 (f)	1-0	1-0



A legendary football program and a Pro Football Hall of Famer have joined forces. Deion Sanders was introduced as the program's 21st head coach on Sept. 21, 2020.

In the abbreviated Spring 2021 season, Sanders led the Tigers to a 4-3 record. Under his leadership, the Tigers entered the State Perform Top 25 FCS Poll and the FCS Top 25 Coaches Poll for the first time since 2011.

Keonte Hampton, Aubrey Miller, Jr. and Daylen Baldwin were named to the All-SWAC First Team, with Baldwin securing SWAC Newcomer of the Year.

The Tigers offense improved drastically from 2019 and averaged 35.7 points per game, the most points it averaged in a season since 2011.

In the midst of the Spring 2021 season, Sanders and his coaching staff secured the best recruiting class at the FCS level and HBCU ever. Compared to FBS programs, its 2021 class ranked in the top 50, which is ahead of programs such as Iowa State, TCU, Colorado, and Washington State.

An eight-time Pro Bowler, and two-time Super Bowl champion, Sanders played 14 NFL seasons for the Atlanta Falcons, San Francisco 49ers, Dallas Cowboys, Washington Redskins, and Baltimore Ravens. Sanders is the only player to have played in a Super Bowl and a World Series.

A two-time All-American at Florida State and 1988 Jim Thorpe Award winner, Sanders was the first-round draft choice of the Atlanta Falcons in 1989. In 2020, for the NFL 100th Season, Sanders was named to the NFL All-Time Team.

In 2011, Sanders was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He was also one of 14 players and two coaches to be named in the National

Football Foundation's 2011 College Football Hall of Fame Football Bowl Subdivision Class. Sanders, who holds the NFL record for career return touchdowns (19 by kickoff, punt, interception, and fumble), has recently joined the Barstool Sports team where he is making appearances on various programming including on the Pro Football Football Show, Pro Football Football After Show, and his very own podcast, 21st and Prime.

Sanders originally began his broadcasting career with CBS, co-hosting the NFL Today pregame show from 2001-2003. He spent the next 14 years as an analyst for the NFL Network, headlining popular shows like GameDay Prime and Thursday Night Football.

While this is Sanders' coaching debut on the collegiate sidelines, he has been coaching for over a decade. Sanders was the offensive coordinator at Trinity Christian School in Cedar Hill, Texas, and led the Tigers to three-straight Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) titles. Trinity Christian was 42-3 with Sanders as offensive coordinator. He also coached at Prep Academy and Triple A Academy.

Success — both on the field and in the classroom — has always been at the forefront for Sanders. In 2007, upon retirement from the NFL, Sanders founded TRUTH, a youth organization serving over 1100 kids throughout Dallas and Memphis, utilizing sports and education as a platform for success and leadership.

Following through on a long-standing goal, in 2020, Sanders graduated from Talladega College with a bachelor's in Business Administration.

He is the proud father of five children: Deion Jr., Deiondra, Shilo, Shedeur, and Shelomi.



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JACKSON STATE ASSISTANT COACHES



HARRELL



HART



MARKUSON



MATHIS



PHILLIPS



POLLOCK



RICARD



TAYLOR



THURMAN



WEEKS

Gary Harrell joined Jackson State after serving as running backs coach for a season at Alabama State. Prior to joining ASU, he served a two-year stint under Lane Kiffin at Florida Atlantic.

He joined the Florida Atlantic staff in 2017, coaching the receivers. Senior Kalib Woods was named the Conference USA Championship MVP, and Willie Wright, just a freshman, was the team's most consistent wideout and led the Owls with 56 catches and a total of six scores. Following the year, Wright earned a spot on the C-USA All-Freshman team.

Prior to his stint at Florida Atlantic, he was the head coach at his alma mater, Howard, for five seasons. He finished with a 20-36 record. He was also an assistant at Bowie State, Morgan State and Texas Southern.

The Miami native was a four-year letterman at Howard as a wide receiver and punt-return specialist. Harrell holds the Howard record for most receptions in a game (13) and in a career (184). He played four games in the NFL with the New York Giants (1994-95).

André Hart will coach the linebackers. Hart was previously the head coach at Trinity Christian and helped lead the program to three straight Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) titles and a TCAL National Championship. Hart has 13 years of coaching experience and played at Ranger Junior College and Kansas State.

Mike Markuson, a veteran with more than 35 years of experience at the college level leads the JSU offensive line.

Markuson comes from the Houston Nutt coaching tree and spent 20 years on his staff, beginning in 1993 at Murray State. After suffering two consecutive losing seasons at Murray State in 1993 and 1994, Nutt and Markuson turned the program around.

From 1995-96, the Racers posted a combined record of 22-3. Nutt was hired as the head coach of the Arkansas Razorbacks in December 1997 and brought Markuson in to coach the offensive line. In 2003, he was also named the team's running-game coordinator.

Under Markuson's offensive line coaching, the Razorbacks led the SEC in rushing offense.

No stranger to Mississippi, Markuson coached at Ole Miss from 2007-12. He was the quarterback coach and co-offensive coordinator from 2007-12.

Former NFL standout **Kevin Mathis** will coach the defensive backs. Mathis previously coached with Sanders at Trinity Christian. He helped lead TCC to three-straight Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) titles and a TCAL national championship.

The former Texas A&M-Commerce standout was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Dallas Cowboys after the 1997 NFL Draft. As a rookie, he played in all 16 games, recorded 23 tackles, five passes defended, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, 12 special teams tackles and also returned punts.

Jason Phillips has over 20 years of coaching experience and comes to JSU after serving the previous two seasons as the passing-game coordinator and wide receivers coach at Utah State.

During the 2019 season, Phillips helped four offensive players earn all-Mountain West honors, including wide receiver Siasoi Mariner, who was named to the second team.

Furthermore, USU's offense set school records in passes completed (315) and attempted (504), while its 3,628 passing yards are the second most.

He was offensive coordinator at both SMU and Houston. He has also worked as receivers coach at Kansas, Oregon State, Baylor and Texas State.

Phillips was a consensus first-team all-American receiver at Houston and later played in the NFL with the Detroit Lions.

Michael Pollock serves as the co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. A veteran prep coach across the southeast, Pollock was the head coach at Lincoln County in Georgia. Pollock's 2019 team rebounded from the program's first losing season in 46 years and finished 9-3, and the quarterfinal showing marked the best playoff run since 2013.

Pollock also has coached at Habersham Central High School, Americus-Sumter High School, and Valdosta High School. He has coached 10 Under Armour All-Americans and placed dozens of his student-athletes at Power 5 programs throughout the country.

Former NFL standout **Alan Ricard** will lead the special teams. He coached 2016-19 at Louisiana-Monroe and 2015 at Nicholls State.

Ricard received his first coaching experience at ULM, where he played fullback from 1995-99. He played in the

NFL for nine seasons with Baltimore, Buffalo and Detroit.

T.C. Taylor joined the Jackson State coaching staff in 2019 and currently serves as tight end coach. He came from North Carolina Central where he coached the previous five years as quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator.

At NCCU Taylor helped guide the Eagles to three MEAC championships (2014, 2015, 2016) and in 2016 went unbeaten in conference play and qualified for the Air Force Reserve Celebration Bowl.

In 2016 and under Taylor's guidance, NCCU broke its single-season record for total offense (4,614).

The McComb, Miss. native played quarterback and wide receiver at Jackson State from 1998-2001, starting off as a signal caller for two-and-a-half seasons before switching to receiver. In just 19 games as a receiver, he amassed 188 catches for 1,793 yards.

A veteran coach with 32 years of experience, **Dennis Thurman** serves as Jackson State's defensive coordinator.

Thurman most recently was the defensive coordinator for the Memphis Express of the upstart Alliance of American Football. From 2015-16, he was the defensive coordinator for the Buffalo Bills. He developed Stephon Gilmore into an All-Pro cornerback.

During 2008-14, Thurman was the defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach for the New York Jets. In his tenure, he coached Darrelle Revis and Antonio Cromartie, and the duo were vital parts of the Jets defense.

From 2002-2007, Thurman coached the defensive backs for the Ravens and was Sanders' position coach in 2004-05.

He coached from 1993 to 2000 for his alma mater, the USC Trojans after having a nine-year NFL career with the Dallas Cowboys and St. Louis Cardinals.

Veteran **Jeff Weeks** has been tapped to lead the defensive line. Weeks has more than 25 years of coaching at the NFL, college, and prep levels. He most recently served as a linebackers coach for the Buffalo Bills.

Before his arrival in Buffalo, Weeks worked from 2013-14 as a Jets defensive assistant and defensive line/linebackers coach.

Before his NFL coaching career, Weeks had numerous stops in the college and prep ranks, mostly in the state of Texas.



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MEET THE JACKSON STATE TIGERS

**Javien
ADAMS**

Soph., Safety
Olive Branch, Miss.
Olive Branch H.S.

32



**Tyson
ALEXANDER**

Jr., Running Back
DeSoto, Texas
DeSoto H.S.

25



**Christian
ALLEN**

Soph. Wide Receiver
Mendenhall, Miss.
Mendenhall H.S.

14



**Drew
ANTHONY**

Fr., Linebacker
Phenix City, Ala.
Central H.S.

54



**Charles
ARMSTRONG**

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Bradenton, Fla.
Manatee H.S.

77



**Khalil
ARRINGTON**

Jr., Linebacker
Montgomery, Ala.
Robert E. Lee H.S.

52



**Braxton
BAILEY**

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Clinton, Miss.
Clinton H.S.
tr - Hinds C.C.

63



**Damon
BALL**

Fr., Wide Receiver
Little Rock, Ark.
North Little Rock H.S.

16



**Isaiah
BOLDEN**

Jr., Cornerback
Tampa, Fla.
Wesley Chapel H.S.
tr - Florida State

23



**Samuelle
BOWEN**

Fr., Running Back
Woodbridge, Va.
Woodbridge H.S.

26



**Paxton
BRANNING**

Sr., Specialist
Hollandale, Miss.
Deer Creek School
tr - Mississippi Delta C.C.

69



**Ke'Shawn
BRINKLEY**

Sr., Defensive End
Fayette, Miss.
Jefferson County H.S.
tr - Co-Lin C.C.

98



**Aalah
BROWN**

Fr., Wide Receiver
Valdosta, Ga.
Valdosta H.S.

4



**Tredarius
CARR**

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Bentonla, Miss.
Yazoo County H.S.
tr - East Mississippi C.C.

91



**Amari
CATCHINGS**

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Jackson, Miss.
Murrah H.S.

60



**Keith
CORBIN III**

Sr., Wide Receiver
Beaumont, Texas
West Brook H.S.
tr - Houston

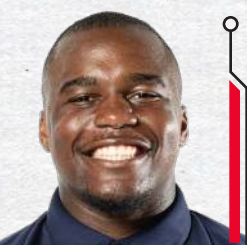
7



**Jaumonie
CRAIN**

Sr., Defensive Lineman
Puckett, Miss.
Puckett H.S.

96



**Daniel
CROWELL Jr.**

Sr., Wide Receiver
Meridian, Miss.
Meridian H.S.
tr - Troy

88



**Jakob
CUNNINGHAM**

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Louisville, Miss.
Louisville H.S.
tr - Itawamba C.C.

61



**Devonta
DAVIS**

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Union Springs, Ala.
Bullock County H.S.

97



**Cedric
DUNBAR**

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Natchez, Miss.
Natchez H.S.

51



Daelyn DUNN

Sr., Linebacker
San Diego, Calif.
Lincoln H.S.
tr — Southwestern College

44



Frankie DUNN

Fr., Defensive Back
Jackson, La.
Feliciana H.S.

43



KaTron EVANS

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Baltimore, Md.
St. Frances Academy

90



Kirk FORD

Jr., Offensive Lineman
Keller, Texas
Keller H.S.
tr — Navarro College

70



Jevonte GARDNER

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Orlando, Fla.
Jones H.S.

75



Charlton GOODELL

Soph., Defensive Lineman
Bradenton, Fla.
MG Academy

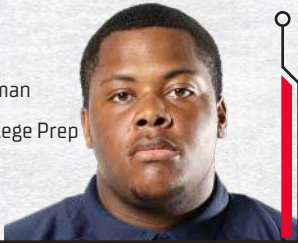
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Deontae GRAHAM

Sr., Offensive Lineman
St. Louis, Mo.
Cardinal Ritter College Prep
tr — Quincy Univ.

64



Kaleb GRAHAM

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Jackson, Miss.
Terry H.S.

50



Timontre GRAHAM

Sr., Defensive Lineman
Mobile, Ala.
LeFlore H.S.

65



Keonte HAMPTON

Sr., Linebacker
West Point, Miss.
West Point H.S.

40



Demonte HOLLIMAN

Jr., Cornerback
Jackson, Miss.
Pearl H.S.
tr — Holmes C.C.

18



C.J. HOLMES

Sr., Defensive Back
New Orleans, La.
Lusher H.S.

3



Shane HOOKS

Jr., Wide Receiver
Orlando, Fla.
Olympia H.S.
tr — Ohio

5



Baron HOPSON

Fr., Linebacker
Leesburg, Ga.
Lee County H.S.

47



James HOUSTON IV

Sr., Linebacker
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
American Heritage H.S.
tr — Florida

41



Kortlon HUBBARD

Sr., Wide Receiver
Jackson, Miss.
Forest Hill H.S.
tr — NE Mississippi C.C.

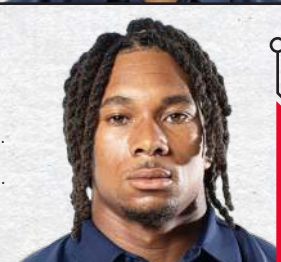
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John HUGGINS

Jr., Defensive Back
Daytona Beach, Fla.
Mainland H.S.
tr — Garden City C.C.

6



Tre JOHNSON

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Orlando, Fla.
First Academy
tr — Southern Miss

79



Caleb JOLIVETTE

Jr., Wide Receiver
Houston, Texas
Manvel H.S.
tr — Sam Houston State

19



Rufus Carl JONES

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Millbrook, Ala.
Stanhope Elmore H.S.

68



Demetri JORDAN

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Lubbock, Texas
Coronado H.S.
tr — SMU

72



MEET THE JACKSON STATE TIGERS CONT.

Josh LANIER

Sr., Wide Receiver
Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Tuscaloosa Academy
tr — Alabama

1



Trey LOCKHART

Fr., Safety
Madison, Miss.
Bob Jones H.S.

26



Keith LOPEZ

Fr., Linebacker
New Iberia, La.
New Iberia H.S.

56



J.D. MARTIN

Soph., Running Back
Wetumpka, Ala.
Wetumpka H.S.
tr — East Central C.C.

8



Kevin MAY

Fr., Running Back
Madison, Miss.
St. Joseph H.S.

27



Abdul-Malik McCLAIN

Soph., Linebacker
Atlanta, Ga.
JSerra Catholic H.S.
tr — USC

55



Lane McGREGOR

Jr., Specialist
Pontotoc, Miss.
Pontotoc H.S.
tr — Mississippi Delta C.C.

30



Aubrey MILLER Jr.

Sr., Linebacker
Memphis, Tenn.
Whitehaven H.S.
tr — Missouri

45



Coynis MILLER

Jr., Defensive Lineman
Birmingham, Ala.
Jackson-Olin H.S.
tr — Auburn

94



Glenn MISIAK

Jr., Specialist
Columbus, Miss.
Columbus Christian Aca.
tr — Mississippi College

35



John MITCHELL

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Lexington, Miss.
Holmes Central H.S.

76



Cedric MOFFETT II

Jr., Defensive Back
Georgetown, Miss.
Pearl H.S.
tr — Holmes C.C.

17



Desmond MOULTRIE

Fr., Running Back
Arlington, Texas
Lamar H.S.

24



Warren NEWMAN

Sr., Wide Receiver
New Orleans, La.
Edna Karr H.S.

10



C.J. NUNNALLY

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Douglasville, Ga.
South Paulding H.S.

46



Marcus O'NEAL

Fr., Specialist
Jackson, Miss.
Callaway H.S.

48



Kobe PAUL

Fr., Wide Receiver
Cedar Hill, Texas
Trinity Christian School

83



Anthony PETTY

Soph., Cornerback
Wiggins, Miss.
Stone Hill H.S.

25



Dwayne PICKETT Jr.

Sr., Safety
Jackson, Miss.
Callaway H.S.
tr — East Mississippi C.C.

39



Peyton PICKETT

Sr., Running Back
Arlington, Texas
Sam Houston H.S.
tr — Liberty

22



Bailey RABORN

Sr., Specialist
Lafayette, La.
St. Thomas More H.S.
tr — McNeese State

36



**Justin
RAGIN**

Sr., Defensive Lineman
Memphis, Tenn.
Collierville H.S.

92



**James
REDDICK II**

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Fort Valley, Ga.
Peach County H.S.

66



**Kyland
RICHEY**

Sr., Tight End
Cedar Hill, Texas
Cedar Hill H.S.

85



**Tre'von
RIGGINS**

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Bradenton, Fla.
Lakewood H.S.
tr - Illinois

93



**Tim
ROBINSON**

Jr., Safety
Jackson, Miss.
Callaway H.S.

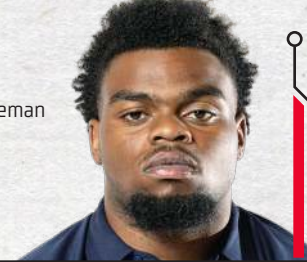
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**Braezhon
ROSS**

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Las Vegas, Nev.
Desert Pines H.S.

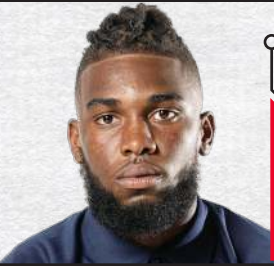
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**Trevonte
RUCKER**

Fr., Wide Receiver
Ocala, Fla.
Vanguard H.S.

15



**Lafonzo
RUFFIN**

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Miami, Fla.
La Salle H.S.

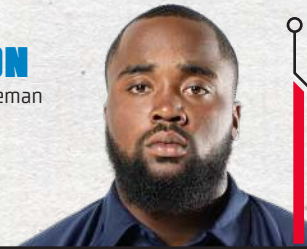
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**Vincent
SAMPSON**

Sr., Offensive Lineman
Cloutiersville, La.
Menard H.S.

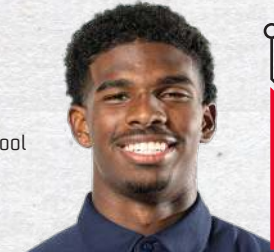
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**Shedeur
SANDERS**

Fr., Quarterback
Cedar Hill, Texas
Trinity Christian School

2



**Shilo
SANDERS**

Soph., Safety
Cedar Hill, Texas
Trinity Christian School
tr - South Carolina

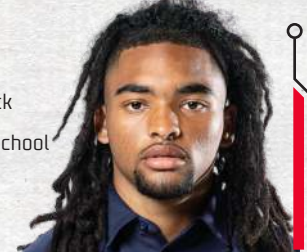
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**Cam'Ron
SILMON**

Fr., Defensive Back
Birmingham, Ala.
Trinity Christian School

12



**Herman
SMITH III**

Fr., Defensive Back
San Diego, Calif.
Lincoln H.S.

19



**Dylan
SPENCER**

Fr., Offensive Lineman
Jackson, Miss.
Callaway H.S.
tr - Missouri

73



**Greyson
THOMPSON**

Fr., Quarterback
Denton, Texas
Braswell H.S.
tr - North Texas

12



**De'Jahn
WARREN**

Jr., Cornerback
Landover, Md.
Suitland H.S.
tr - Lackawanna C.C.

4



**Malachi
WIDEMAN**

Fr., Wide Receiver
Venice, Fla.
Venice H.S.
tr - Tennessee

13



**Kev'Ric
WIGGINS**

Fr., Defensive Back
Spring, Texas
Klein Collins H.S.
tr - La.-Monroe

26



**Greg
WILLIAMS**

Jr., Running Back
Memphis, Tenn.
White Station H.S.
tr - Memphis

31



**Jeremiah
WILLIAMS**

Fr., Defensive Lineman
Lexington, Miss.
Holmes County Central H.S.

95



**Al
YOUNG**

Sr., Defensive Back
Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Central H.S.
tr - SE Missouri State

9



SONIC BOOM OF THE SOUTH



Roderick Little
Band Director



The marching band began in the 1940s at what was then Jackson State College, under the directorship of Frederick D. Hall, who had directed a band at the college as early as the 1920s, in addition to the chorus and orchestra. It was initially made up of students from Jackson College and Lanier High School

The band marches with a high step, raising the knees to 90° and pointing the toes downwards. This military-style march is distinct from that employed by high-school bands who march with a “corps step,” keeping feet close to the ground and landing heel first, rolling forward onto the toes.

The marchers also sway their bodies side-to-side in unison. When the band performs displays where the initials of the university (“JSU”) or other initials are formed the marchers have to take exact steps of 22½ inches.

The Sonic Boom of the South is exponent of the high-stepping, high-energy, razzle-dazzle style that has developed in historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in the Deep South.

Known as “show style,” it combines the military marching band tradition with funky syncopated rhythms and elements of jazz, R&B, pop and hip-hop. The bands play with tremendous power and incorporate tightly choreographed dance routines into elaborate field drills.

This unique American art form has honed and perfected itself over many

decades and is now breaking through into wider cultural prominence.

Behind the drum majors, swinging their hips and smiling, are ten young women known as the Prancing J-Settes. They’re wearing silver boots, blue-and-silver capes, and showgirl leotards with sequins and tassels. Nicknamed “The Thrill of a Million Eyes,” the J-Settes were recently voted the best female danceline of all the historically black college marching bands.

These dancelines developed out of the drum majorette tradition. They gave up batons to concentrate on dance. The J-Settes have a wide repertoire of moves, ranging from elegant interpretations of symphonic music to high-speed booty-shaking and go-go routines. They claim to have pioneered a raunchy pelvic thrusting move known as “bucking” that has since become widespread in dancelines.

Michelle Obama, in her commencement speech at Jackson State in April 2016, called the Sonic Boom of the South one of the best bands in the country, and told university officials how much she enjoyed watching the band’s performances on YouTube.

The Boom, as it’s known for short, played at the 2016 inauguration of Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant, and

just headlined the annual Jackson Christmas Parade, a holiday tradition drawing thousands of spectators.

“We don’t have the very best musicians, or the most precise drill formations,” says O’Neill Sanford, the director of bands at Jackson State. “But no one else can bring the same energy and showmanship, and electrify a crowd of 110,000 people like we can,” he says. “That’s what everyone wants to see.”

For more than 70 years, the famous JSU band has mystified and thrilled audiences throughout the nation with its thunderous sounds and spectacular field show maneuvers.

Currently under the direction of Roderick Little, the 300-member Sonic Boom of the South is sure to deliver a performance booming with excitement every time.

During the mid-1970s, the “Tiger Run-On,” the band’s traditional halftime field entrance,

was perfected. The fast, eye-catching maneuver brings fans to their feet.

In addition to the many stellar performances by the marching band, in 2003 the “Boom” was enshrined in the NCAA Hall of Champions. The band was also filmed by EA Sports for inclusion in the 2005 version of the video game “NCAA Football 2005.”



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CLASSIC TAILGATE

Preparing for the Big Game must include a visit to the Classic Tailgate, where Classic patrons pull out all the stops celebrating the convergence of friends, food and football. The party starts early on GameDay and lasts well into the night, as the Tailgate fills up Tiger Lane, the Fairgrounds and nearby Tobey Park. Sponsors engage with the fans using interactive displays and give-aways. The Classic Tailgate is definitely a sensory explosion of sights, sounds and the irresistible smells of cookouts.



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OF INVESTIGATION



CLASSIC SCORES

The Southern Heritage Classic began in 1990 to enhance the regional rivalry between HBCU powers Tennessee State and Jackson State. Since then, 29 games have been staged with the two schools squaring off in all but two occasions, as JSU could not appear in 1991 and 1993. Fellow HBCU schools Mississippi Valley State and Grambling State filled the void. The games have generally taken place in the first half of September — the notable exception being the postponement of the 2001 game (originally scheduled for Sept. 15) until Thanksgiving Day due to the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. Since 2007, the second Saturday in September has been reserved for the Classic Football Game. In all, 1,354,005 fans have passed through the turnstiles for an average attendance of 46,689.

TEAM RECORDS:				
	17-12	10-17	1-0	1-0

1990 Sept. 8

Jackson State	7	7	0	0	-	14
Tennessee State	3	0	20	0	-	23

Attendance: 39,579

1991 Aug. 31

Miss. Valley State	0	7	0	3	-	10
Tennessee State	0	0	0	7	-	7

Attendance: 25,891

1992 Sept. 12

Jackson State	0	21	7	10	-	38
Tennessee State	0	0	6	12	-	18

Attendance: 37,437



1993 Sept. 18

Grambling State	6	13	7	7	-	33
Tennessee State	7	0	6	15	-	28

Attendance: 41,669

1994 Sept. 10

Jackson State	7	7	3	14	-	31
Tennessee State	6	0	6	0	-	12

Attendance: 50,047

1995 Sept. 9

Tennessee State	0	6	0	13	-	19
Jackson State	6	12	6	0	-	24

Attendance: 48,533

1996 Sept. 14

Jackson State	6	8	7	0	-	21
Tennessee State	0	0	0	14	-	14

Attendance: 55,212

1997 Sept. 13

Tennessee State	3	17	0	8	-	28
Jackson State	7	10	0	14	-	31

Attendance: 61,171

1998 Sept. 12

Jackson State	0	13	8	0	-	21
Tennessee State	6	21	6	0	-	33

Attendance: 55,545

1999 Sept. 11

Tennessee State	14	10	14	10	-	48
Jackson State	7	6	0	20	-	33

Attendance: 50,723

2000 Sept. 16 20T

Jackson State	14	6	6	7	9	42
Tennessee State	0	6	21	6	6	39

Attendance: 52,113

2001 Nov. 22

Tennessee State	21	24	9	10	-	64
Jackson State	0	14	13	6	-	33

Attendance: 28,690

2002 Sept. 14

Jackson State	14	7	7	3	-	31
Tennessee State	3	14	3	8	-	28

Attendance: 42,914

2003 Sept. 13

Tennessee State	7	9	14	14	-	44
Jackson State	0	6	0	8	-	14

Attendance: 52,603

2004 Sept. 18

Jackson State	0	0	7	13	-	20
Tennessee State	0	0	0	21	-	21

Attendance: 55,015

2005 Sept. 10 OT

Tennessee State	0	0	7	7	6	20
Jackson State	0	7	7	0	0	14

Attendance: 48,300

2006 Sept. 16 OT

Jackson State	9	0	0	14	7	30
Tennessee State	0	13	7	3	8	31

Attendance: 53,441



2007 Sept. 8

Tennessee State	6	0	0	10	-	16
Jackson State	7	3	3	0	-	13

Attendance: 50,879



Freshman Dominique Rodgers-Gromartie returned an interception for a touchdown in the 4th quarter of the 2004 Classic that tied the game at 7-7 in an eventual 21-20 TSU victory. The defensive back played in 4 Classics between 2004-07, and Tennessee State went 4-0, winning by a combined margin of 11 points.

2008 Sept. 13

Jackson State	10	0	0	8	-	18
Tennessee State	0	28	10	3	-	41

Attendance: 50,794

2009 Sept. 12

Tennessee State	2	6	0	6	-	14
Jackson State	0	0	0	7	-	7

Attendance: 43,306

2010 Sept. 11

Jackson State	0	14	7	12	-	33
Tennessee State	7	0	12	7	-	26

Attendance: 44,688



2011 Sept. 10

Tennessee State	14	10	2	3	-	29
Jackson State	14	7	7	7	-	35

Attendance: 43,532

2012 Sept. 8

Jackson State	3	3	6	0	-	12
Tennessee State	0	21	10	7	-	38

Attendance: 42,257

2013 Sept. 14

Tennessee State	3	6	7	10	-	26
Jackson State	7	0	3	6	-	16

Attendance: 42,400

2014 Sept. 13

Jackson State	0	0	7	0	-	7
Tennessee State	21	14	0	0	-	35

Attendance: 46,914

2015 Sept. 12

Tennessee State	14	7	14	0	-	35
Jackson State	9	0	9	7	-	25

Attendance: 48,335

2016 Sept. 10

Jackson State	13	10	3	0	-	26
Tennessee State	13	6	14	7	-	40

Attendance: 46,263

2017 Sept. 9

Tennessee State	10	0	0	7	-	17
Jackson State	3	6	0	6	-	15

Attendance: 47,407



2019 Sept. 14

Tennessee State	7	7	9	21	-	44
Jackson State	21	7	14	7	-	49

Attendance: 48,347

• 2018 game was canceled due to prolonged lightning and severe weather on GameDay
 • 2020 game was canceled due to COVID-19 protocols



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Since the first Southern Heritage Classic was staged in 1990, 52 players have gone on to play in the National Football League. Perhaps the two most prominent of those athletes are wide receiver Jimmy Smith, who collected 862 career receptions in 12 seasons, and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie, who went from the TSU campus to the Super Bowl in the span of about nine months.

- Brent Alexander (DB), TSU — *Arizona, Carolina, Pittsburgh, NY Giants* (1994–2005)
- Ashley Ambrose (CB), MVSU — *Indianapolis, Cincinnati, New Orleans, Atlanta* (1992–2004)
- Bennie Anderson (OL), TSU — *Baltimore, Buffalo, Miami* (2001–06)
- Rashard Anderson (DB), JSU — *Carolina* (2000–01)
- Eric Austin (DB), JSU — *Tampa Bay* (1996)
- Tim Barnett (WR), JSU — *Kansas City* (1991–93)
- Marcus Benard (LB), JSU — *Cleveland, Arizona* (2009–14)
- Avion Black (WR), TSU — *Buffalo, Houston* (2000–02)
- Terrell Bonds** (DB), TSU — *Baltimore* (2020–)
- Corey Bradford (WR), JSU — *Green Bay, Houston, Detroit* (1998–2006)
- Curtis Caesar (WR), GSU — *NY Jets* (1995)
- Cedric Davis (CB), TSU — *Arizona* (1995)
- Lamar Divens (DT), TSU — *Baltimore, Tampa Bay, San Francisco* (2008–12)
- Marcus Dowdell (WR), TSU — *New Orleans, Arizona* (1992–96)
- Kadeem Edwards (OL), TSU — *Tampa Bay* (2014)
- Randy Fuller (DB), TSU — *Denver, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Seattle* (1994–99)
- Cletis Gordon (CB), JSU — *San Diego, Dallas, Carolina* (2006–11)
- Tracy Greene (TE), GSU — *Kansas City, Pittsburgh* (1994–95)
- Lester Holmes (OL), JSU — *Philadelphia, Oakland, Arizona* (1993–2000)
- Ronald Humphrey (RB), MVSU — *Indianapolis* (1994–95)
- Ligarius Jennings (CB), TSU — *Cincinnati* (2001–02)
- Domonique "D.J." Johnson (CB), JSU — *NY Giants, Tampa Bay, Philadelphia, Washington* (2009–12)
- Jaymar Johnson (WR), JSU — *Minnesota, Arizona* (2008–11)
- Chris Jones (WR), JSU — *Minnesota* (2005)
- Clarence Jones (WR), TSU — *NY Jets* (1996)
- Roger Jones (CB), TSU — *Tampa Bay, Cincinnati, Tennessee* (1991–97)
- Eric Joyce (DB), TSU — *Chicago* (2002)
- Antonius Kimbrough (WR), JSU — *Denver* (1993–94)
- Anthony Levine** (DB), TSU — *Green Bay, Baltimore* (2010–)
- Paul McJulien (K), JSU — *Green Bay, LA Rams* (1991–93)
- Sylvester Morris (WR), JSU — *Kansas City* (2000)
- Roderick Mullen (DB), GSU — *Green Bay* (1995–99)
- Toby Myles (OL), JSU — *NY Giants, Cleveland, Oakland* (1999–2001)
- Cecil Newton (OL), TSU — *Baltimore* (2011)
- Marlo Perry (LB), JSU — *Buffalo* (1994–99)
- Demetrius Rhane (OL), TSU — *St. Louis/LA Rams, Washington* (2014–17)
- Rico Richardson (WR), JSU — *Houston, Tennessee* (2013–15)
- Patrick Robinson (WR), TSU — *Cincinnati, Arizona* (1993–94)
- Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (CB), TSU — *Arizona, Philadelphia, Denver, NY Giants, Oakland, Washington* (2008–19)
- Chris Rowland** (WR), TSU — *Atlanta* (2020–)
- De'Ante Saunders (DB), TSU — *Cleveland* (2015)
- Simon Shanks (LB), TSU — *Arizona* (1995)
- Fernando Smith (DL), JSU — *Minnesota, Jacksonville, Baltimore, St. Louis* (1994–2000)
- Jimmy Smith (WR), JSU — *Dallas, Jacksonville* (1992–2005)
- Lawrence Smith (OL), TSU — *Buffalo* (2004)
- Robert Staten (FB), JSU — *Tampa Bay* (1996)
- Larry Tharpe (OT), TSU — *Detroit, Arizona, Pittsburgh* (1992–2000)
- Michael Thompson (OL), TSU — *Atlanta* (2000–02)
- Dan Williams (DE), TSU — *Denver, Kansas City* (1993–2000)
- Javarris Williams (RB), TSU — *Kansas City, Houston, Washington* (2009–12)
- Bernard Wilson (NT), TSU — *Tampa Bay, Arizona* (1993–98)
- Sean Woodson (DB), JSU — *Buffalo* (1997)

SOURCE: pro-football-reference.com



Rashard Anderson is one of four former Classic players selected in the 1st round of the NFL Draft.



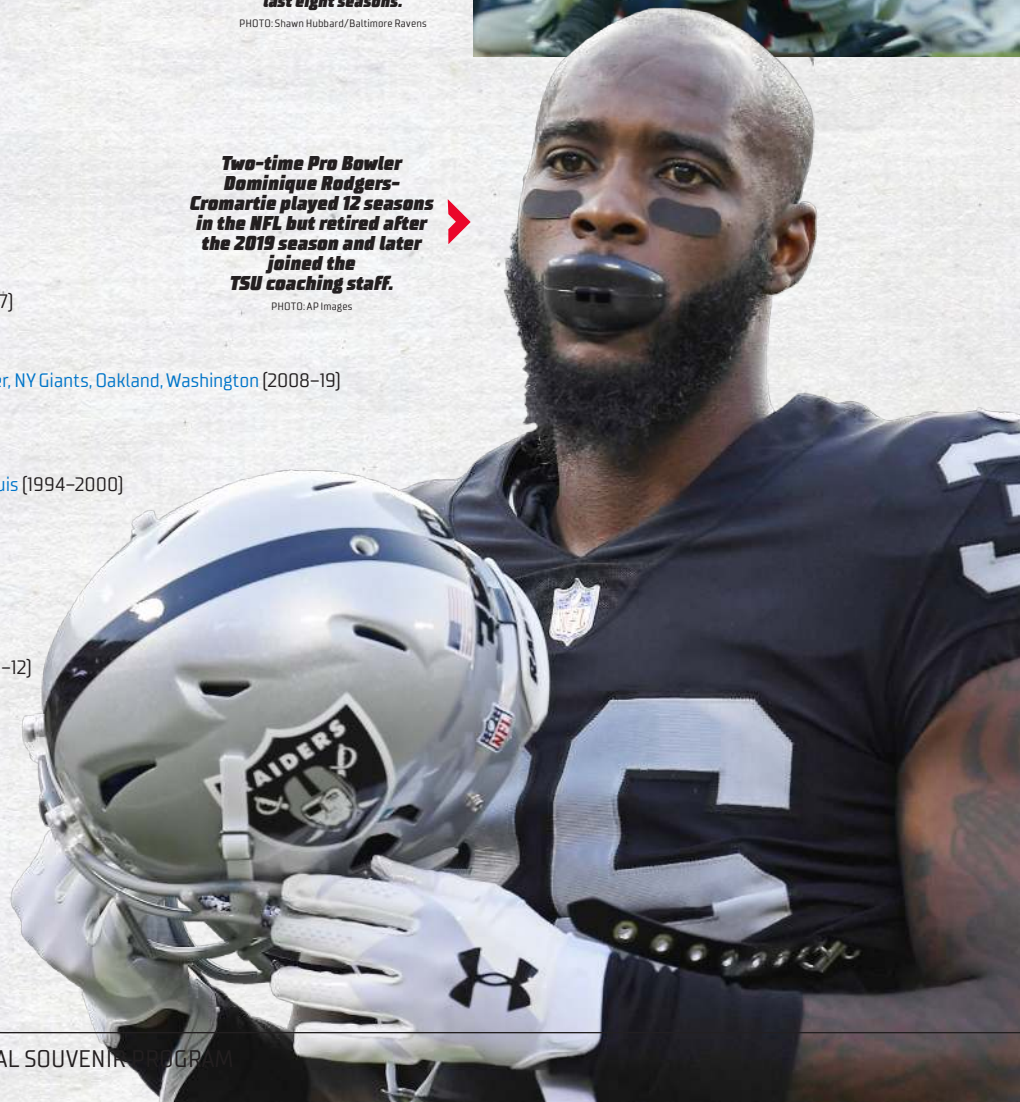
Jimmy Smith twice registered 100-reception seasons with the Jaguars.

PHOTO: Jacksonville Jaguars



Anthony Levine has played in all but one game for the Baltimore Ravens over the last eight seasons.

PHOTO: Shawn Hubbard/Baltimore Ravens



Two-time Pro Bowler Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie played 12 seasons in the NFL but retired after the 2019 season and later joined the TSU coaching staff.

PHOTO: AP Images



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