

# JACKSON STATE

vs

# TENNESSEE STATE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 | 6 PM

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# THE 2022 SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC PRESENTED BY FEDEX OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAM

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## #ClassicMemphis



The 2022 Southern Heritage Classic presented by FedEx Official Souvenir Program is published by SMC Entertainment. Editorial content was provided by Duane C. Lewis of Jackson State University and Nick Guerriero of Tennessee State University. Design and digital flipbook management by FABDesignStudios.com.

For more information regarding the Southern Heritage Classic, please write or call:  
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The Southern Heritage Classic presented by FedEx can be reached online at [www.southernheritageclassic.com](http://www.southernheritageclassic.com)

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# WELCOME TO MEMPHIS



City of Memphis Mayor  
Jim Strickland



Shelby County Mayor  
Lee Harris

WELCOME BACK

# 33<sup>RD</sup> SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC

THE JACKSON STATE TIGERS  
COACHED BY NFL HALL OF FAMER: DEION SANDERS

VS.

THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS  
COACHED BY COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAMER:  
EDDIE GEORGE

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# CLASSIC CULTURAL CELEBRATION

## Thursday, September 8

**Just Heal Bro Tour** – 7 p.m., Michael D. Rose Theater at the University of Memphis. It's a FREE event geared toward helping black men better address mental health. For information, visit [www.justheal.co](http://www.justheal.co).

**Classic Concert Presented by AARP Tennessee** – 8 p.m., The Orpheum Theatre. **The O'Jays** – Last Stop on the Love Train. The Final Tour. With **Jay Lamont**. 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](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To charge by phone, call 1-800-745-3000.

## Friday, September 9

**Classic College & Career Fair** – 9 a.m., Pipkin Building at Tiger Lane/Liberty Park. 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](mailto:seria.ross@memphistn.gov). Visit online at [www.cityofmemphisyouth.org](http://www.cityofmemphisyouth.org). Free admission.

**Classic Coaches Luncheon presented by FedEx** – Noon, Renasant Convention Center/Grand Ballroom. A Classic salute to JSU head football coach **Deion Sanders** and TSU head football coach **Eddie George**. Special guest speaker: **Penny Hardaway**, Head Basketball Coach, University of Memphis. Invitation only.

**Classic Funk Fest** – 8 p.m., Landers Center. Let's get funky with **The Bar-Kays**, **ConFunkShun**, **Original Lakeside** and **SOS Band**. Hosted by **Jay Lamont**. Tickets \$98, \$88 and \$68 plus service charges. All seats reserved. Tickets available at the Landers Center Box Office and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To charge by phone, call 1-800-745-3000.

## Saturday, September 10

**Classic Tailgate** – 8 a.m., Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium parking lots and Tiger Lane. Friends, Food and Football. Available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) For more information, call (901) 729-4344.

**Penny Hardaway 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](http://www.memphisdistrictgolfclassic.org).

**Classic Parade** – 9 a.m. Presented by the Orange Mound Community Parade Committee as a salute to the Southern Heritage Classic. The parade route is along Park Avenue from Haynes to Airways featuring area high school marching bands. For information, contact Claudette Boyd at (901) 413-7109 or online at [www.omcpc.com](http://www.omcpc.com).

**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](mailto:christiankj@scsk12.org).

**Classic Fashions & Brunch** – 11 a.m., The Guest House at Graceland. **"A Touch of Elegance"** presented by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. – Memphis Chapter. Tickets: \$75. For tickets and information, call (901) 482-6036 or online at [www.ncbwmemphistn.com](http://www.ncbwmemphistn.com).

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

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# TWO STORIED PROGRAMS

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.

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.



**John Merritt** (left, with Grambling State coach **Eddie Robinson**) coached Jackson State to a national championship in 1962 and promptly left for Tennessee A&I in '63. He would guide the now-called TSU program to seven national titles and five undefeated seasons before retiring in 1983.



**3**

Black-college National Championships

**13**

**1996**

Most recent championship

**2013**

**12**

Joined in 1977

FCS playoff appearances

**6**

Joined in 1981

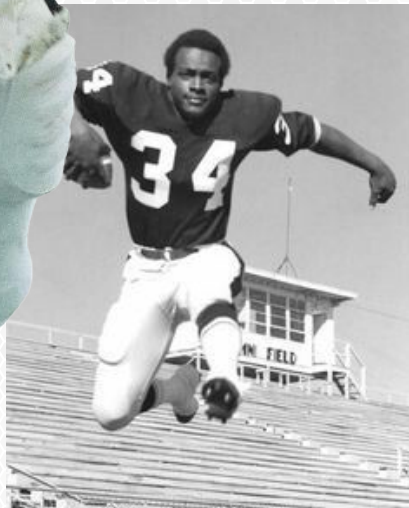
**1997**

Most recent playoff appearance

**2013**



While at JSU, **Walter Payton** once rushed for seven touchdowns in a game. He later went on to establish himself as one of the NFL's best running backs of all time.



**Richard Dent** was named Super Bowl XX MVP and still ranks as one of the NFL's all-time great pass rushers.



**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 stars, 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 picks, seven of which were returned for touchdowns.



## ROBERT BRAZILE LB

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

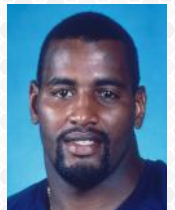
The consensus All-American at JSU joined the Oilers as the No. 6 overall pick in the 1975 Draft and started all 147 games he played in the NFL. Right out of the gate, Robert helped Houston to a 10-4 record, its first winning season in eight years. He became one of the league's dominant outside linebackers,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



## 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.



## 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.



## WALTER PAYTON RB

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

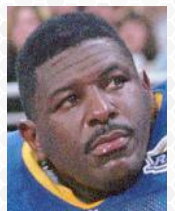
Walter parlayed his great college career at JSU into a No. 4 overall pick by the Bears in 1975. He missed one game as a rookie, then rolled off 186 consecutive starts. The two-time NFL MVP retired as the career leader with 16,726 rushing yards and won the NFC rushing title for five straight years from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



## 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.



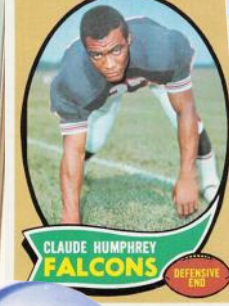
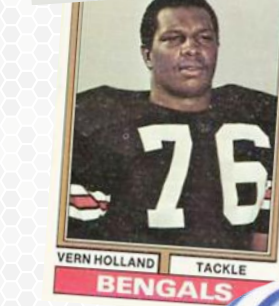
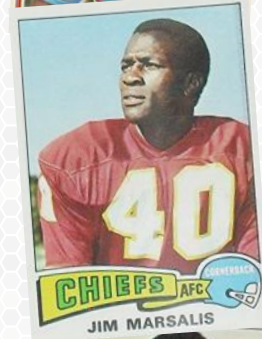
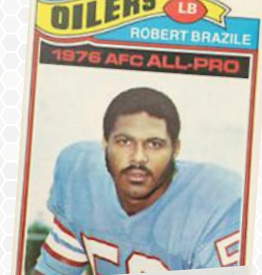
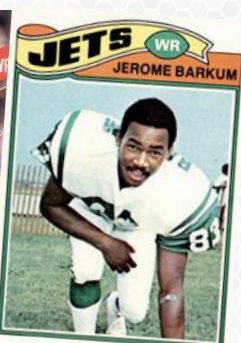
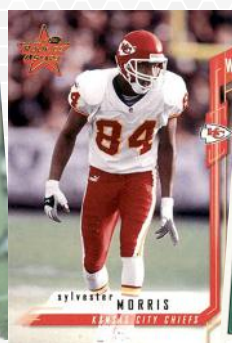
## 1ST-ROUND PICKS IN THE NFL DRAFT

### JACKSON STATE

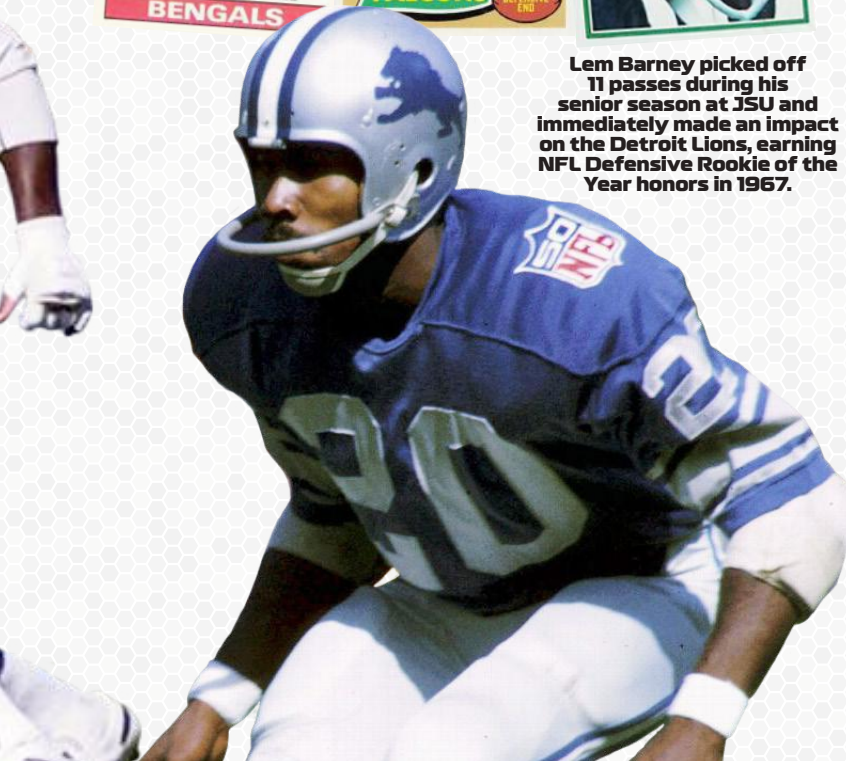
1972	Jerome Barkum	WR	9th	NYJ
1974	Don Reese	DE	26th	MIA
1975	Walter Payton	RB	4th	CHI
1975	Robert Brazile	LB	6th	HOU
1993	Lester Holmes	G	19th	PHI
2000	Sylvester Morris	WR	21st	KC
2000	Rashard Anderson	DB	23rd	CAR

### 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



Lem Barney picked off 11 passes during his senior season at JSU and immediately made an impact on the Detroit Lions, earning NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year honors in 1967.



# CLASSIC MATCHUP



	JSU	TSU
Turnover margin	+3	-2
Penalties	111	92

## OFFENSE IN 2021

Points per game	27.5	19.7
Yards per game	337.8	318.4
Pass yds./game	248.5	203.6
Rush yds./game	89.2	114.7
Avg. poss. time	29:25	30:04
Pass TDs/INTs	30/8	13/6
Sacks allowed	36	28
Fumbles/Lost	20/14	13/8
Total giveaways	22	14
Red Zone scores	76.2%	86.2%
Red Zone TDs	42.9%	69.0%
3rd down conv.	38.1%	44.7%
4th down conv.	21.4%	33.3%

## DEFENSE IN 2021

Points per game	14.9	26.9
Yards per game	256.8	364.5
Pass yds./game	157.1	207.8
Rush yds./game	99.7	156.6
Pass TDs/INTs	14/13	16/7
Sacks made	54	19
Opp. fumbles/lost	21-12	11/5
Total takeaways	25	12
Red Zone scores	71.4%	81.0%
Red Zone TDs	64.3%	71.4%
3rd down conv.	44.9%	35.8%
4th down conv.	54.5%	41.7%

## SPECIAL TEAMS IN 2021

FG made/att.	4/12	10/18
Avg. yds./punt	35.3	39.8
Punt return avg.	14.1	10.6
Punt return TDs	1	0
Kickoff return avg.	24.3	19.8
Kickoff return TDs	2	1

## JSU's 2021 RESULTS (11-2)

S.5	Florida A&M	W	7-6
S.11	Tennessee State	W	38-16
S.18	at La.-Monroe	L	7-12
S.25	Delta State	W	24-17
0.9	at Alabama A&M	W	61-15
0.16	Alabama State	W	28-7
0.23	Bethune-Cookman	W	42-12
0.30	at Miss. Valley State	W	28-19
N.6	Texas Southern	W	41-21
N.13	at Southern	W	21-17
N.20	Alcorn State	W	24-10
D.4	Prairie View A&M	W	27-10
D.18	South Carolina State	L	10-31

## JSU TEAM LEADERS

Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Peyton Pickett	107	450	4.2	5

Passing	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TDs	Int.
Shedeur Sanders	65.9	3,231	30	8	

Receiving	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Keith Corbin III	69	921	13.3	7

## TSU's 2021 RESULTS (5-6)

S.5	Grambling State	L	10-16
S.11	Jackson State	L	16-38
S.18	Kentucky State	W	41-7
S.25	at SE Missouri State	L	14-47
0.2	at Austin Peay	W	24-22
0.16	Tennessee Tech	W	20-13
0.23	at Eastern Illinois	W	28-0
0.30	Murray State	W	27-21
N.6	at UT-Martin	L	20-41
N.13	Austin Peay	L	7-36
N.20	at Mississippi State	L	10-55

## TSU TEAM LEADERS

Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Devon Starling	180	800	4.4	3

Passing	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TDs	Int.
Jeremy Hickbottom	57.6	1,847	12	4	

Receiving	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
Rodell Rahmaan	29	484	16.7	6



# HEAD 2 HEAD

MATCHUP 2 WATCH

## SHEDEUR SANDERS vs. TSU SECONDARY

In just his second college game, quarterback Shedeur Sanders lit up the Memphis night last year. The Jackson State freshman set a Classic record with 30 completions, mostly on short throws. He went 19-for-22 on passes 5 yards or less beyond the line of scrimmage. Now with a year under his belt and a collection of deep threats, will he challenge the TSU secondary down the field?

➤ **THE RIVALRY:** Tennessee State owns a 17-11 head-to-head record against Jackson State in the Southern Heritage Classic. TSU, which has played in all 30 previous Classic games, is 17-13 overall. TSU has won 13 of the last 17 meetings, including a 7-game winning streak (2003-09) and a 6-gamer (2012-17). JSU did win the two most recent meetings, 49-44, in 2019 and 38-16 last year.

➤ **MEMPHIS IS FERTILE RECRUITING FOR CLASSIC TEAMS:** The Memphis metro area is well represented on both Jackson State's and Tennessee State's rosters. JSU features 3 players from the area, including starting linebacker Aubrey Miller Jr. from Whitehaven. TSU's roster includes 6 Memphians, including starting QB Draylen Ellis from Olive Branch/Kirby.



➤ **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). Sanders won their first matchup as coaches, 38-16, last year.

➤ **LIBERTY STADIUM KIND TO GEORGE:** TSU head coach Eddie George called Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium 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). He suffered a loss in his second career game as a coach, 38-16, last year.



➤ **SIZZLING START:** In the 2019 Classic game, 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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# 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.

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.

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.

Presently, this public, coeducational institution, is supported by legislative appropriations supplemented by student fees and federal and private grants. As a Carnegie-designated higher research institution, Jackson State continues to enhance the state, nation and world through comprehensive economic development, healthcare, technological and educational initiatives.

With a student enrollment approaching 10,000 and a 250-acre campus, Jackson State University's transformation is a testament to resilience, vision, and leadership.

Washington Monthly magazine has annually ranked JSU among the nation's top colleges for social mobility, research, and service, and it also is considered one of the top "Military Friendly Schools." Accredited by the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the University offers 47 bachelor's degrees, 37 master's degrees, one specialist-in-education degrees, and 13 doctoral degrees.

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# JACKSON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Thomas K.  
**HUDSON**

President



**T**homas K. Hudson, J.D. was named President of Jackson State University on November 19, 2020, by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, after serving as Special Assistant to the President and Chief Diversity Officer.

Under President Hudson's leadership, JSU increased Fall 2021 enrollment, the only enrollment increase in the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning system. JSU also retained its High Research designation by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

During the past fiscal year, the Division of Research and Economic Development garnered \$54.4 million in research awards, including more than \$11 million from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, to establish the RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research.

With President Hudson at the helm, JSU's brand recognition has increased exponentially, elevating the institution as a leader among HBCUs in academics, research, athletics and student success.

The university also became the first HBCU to launch a Financial Wellness Center to educate students on financial literacy, preparing them for economic success. President Hudson also helped establish JSU's first-ever endowed real estate studies scholarship and is pushing an evolving and innovative curriculum to meet the needs of current and future students. He has been instrumental in developing collaborations that will offer students real-life experiences and provide the world with a diverse talent pipeline, as seen in JSU's partnerships with FedEx and Mississippi College.

President Hudson is determined to keep education affordable. During the world's most challenging time, he ensured JSU was the only state institution of higher learning that did not see a tuition increase and covered student tuition balances during Fall and Spring 2020. Under his direction, JSU's financial resources have also been fortified.

In October 2021, President Hudson released the university's strategic plan - JSU Elevate, which outlines JSU's priorities for 2021-26.

JSU Elevate is a framework of six institutional goals that Jackson State University is executing to raise the institution's profile. It was spearheaded by a cross-disciplinary committee of faculty, administrators, staff and students to propel JSU forward and achieve growth in academics, research, athletics, facilities, customer service and brand management. The comprehensive plan included input from the entire campus community.

President Hudson grew up in Jackson, Miss., where he attended and graduated from JSU in 1999. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law. With an equity-based focus, President 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.

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.

President Hudson and his wife Phylandria have two daughters, Josephine and Abigail.

Ashley  
**ROBINSON**

Athletic Director



**N**ow in his fifth year in leading athletics, Vice President/Director of Athletics Ashley Robinson continues to lead Jackson State University to new heights.

Robinson, whose motto at Jackson State is "Building on Tradition, Blazing New Trails," has done just that and more in leading the way in the elevation of Tiger Athletics. In 2022, Robinson received the prestigious 2021-22 Cushman & Wakefield Athletic Director of the Year award by the National Association of College Directors of Athletics (NACDA).

JSU student-athletes combined to post a 3.2 grade-point average for the 2021-22 academic year, with 12 teams earning 3.0 GPAs with 55 graduates.

Among the on-field highlights during the past year, Jackson State won its first SWAC football championship since 2007. Women's basketball became the first SWAC team in more than a decade to win three consecutive league regular-season championships while also winning back-to-back conference tournament titles. JSU men's cross country won the SWAC Championship, women's volleyball won its second consecutive SWAC regular-season championship, and women's tennis won its second straight SWAC regular-season title and first conference championship since 2005.

Robinson and JSU leadership named Pro Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders as head coach of Jackson State. The hire of Sanders not only galvanized JSU football but transformed college athletics on and off the field. Sanders led JSU to an 11-2 record and the SWAC Championship in 2021 while elevating the Jackson State University brand to become one of the most recognized in sports and culture today. Jackson State led FCS in football attendance last fall, averaging more than 42,000.

In March 2022, Robinson hired NBA Champion Mo Williams as head men's basketball coach, again illustrating his forward-thinking approach in bring one of the all-time great players in the history of the city of Jackson home to lead the program.

Robinson has led JSU athletics to 11 championships during his tenure, including historic titles highlighted by men's basketball (2021), baseball (2021), football (fall 2021), and women's basketball (spring 2022) going undefeated in conference play.

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.

Robinson's tenure was marked by championships in competition, academic success and the completion of athletic facilities and renovations.

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.

He has also held administrative positions at Delaware State and Mississippi Valley State, where he eventually became athletic director in 2012.

Robinson has three daughters, Ashlynn, Paisley and Promise, and a son Jalen.



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# JACKSON STATE SEASON OUTLOOK

Sophomore quarterback Shedeur Sanders had a remarkable freshman season at Jackson State, where he earned Southern Heritage Classic MVP, as well as the Jerry Rice Award as the FCS's top freshman. With a year of experience, more is expected of him this season – he is the SWAC Preseason Player of the Year and was named to the Walter Payton Award Watch List.



## 2022 Schedule

S.4	Florida A&M (in Miami)	W, 59-3
S.10	Tennessee State (in Memphis)	6:00
S.17	Grambling State	1:00
S.24	Mississippi Valley State	1:00
0.1	<bye>	
0.8	at Alabama State	2:00
0.15	Bethune-Cookman (in Jacksonville)	3:00
0.22	Campbell	2:00
0.29	Southern	1:00
N.5	at Texas Southern	6:00
N.12	at Alabama A&M	4:00
N.19	at Alcorn State	2:00

All times Central

## J-State reloads for another title run toward Celebration Bowl

As head coach Deion Sanders embarked on his first fall football season back in 2021, he and his team had high goals for its level of success on the gridiron, despite having 13 FBS transfers as well as 44 freshmen, one of which was expected to be the starting quarterback.

Those in the media weren't so optimistic as to the immediacy of the football program's turnaround. Jackson State was picked by those in the press to finish third in the SWAC Eastern Division.

Yet, Sanders, the team and JSU's faithful fans had their collective eyes set much higher.

"Not only do you expect us to win, but we expect us to win," remarked Sanders during the 2021 preseason. "We're the only team in the country that people expect — in the first year — to win it all."

JSU nearly fulfilled those championship aspirations last autumn, winning the SWAC title before falling to South Carolina State in the Celebration Bowl, which crowns the black-college national champions.

Despite the disappointment, the confidence the Tigers built and the energy surrounding Jackson has carried over into the 2022 season.

That positive vibe gained intensity when on National Signing Day, Jackson State received a commitment from 5-star prospect

Travis Hunter. The cornerback/receiver from Suwanee, Ga., had been ranked as high as No. 1 overall in some polls, and unexpectedly flipped from Florida State to the HBCU school.

"This is the biggest signing-day moment in the history of college football," said Steve Wiltfong of 247Sports.

What is unquestionably the case is the Hunter signing's significance to the visibility of not only Jackson State, but HBCUs as a whole.

As summer gives way to fall, Jackson State's 11-2 record last year hasn't faded but only built the foundation for what many expect as a return trip to Atlanta in December to complete the unfinished business of 2021.

Many of those key transfers are returning. Those freshmen now have a year under their belt. JSU's overall recruiting class was by far the best in FCS, and another trove of FBS transfers have strengthened the roster.

On offense, quarterback Shedeur Sanders gained confidence as the season progressed and wound up winning the Jerry Rice Award as the best freshman in FCS.

After a slow start in a soggy, season-opening win in the Orange Blossom Classic, Sanders found his rhythm in last year's Southern Heritage Classic, throwing for 362 yards and 3 TDs in an MVP performance.



Camron Buckley started at Texas A&M before transferring to Indiana, where he only got into 4 games last year.

He finished the season with 3,231 yards with 30 touchdowns and a 65.8 completion percentage.

Joining him in the backfield is junior Santee Marshall, who last year split the bulk of the ball-carrying duties with the now-graduated Peyton Pickett.

Marshall gained 449 yards on the ground. Returnee J.D. Martin ranked third on the squad with 227 yards.

In the receiving corps, three of the top 5 receivers departed, including top pass catcher Keith Corbin, who led the team with 69 receptions for 921 yards.

Malachi Wideman and Trevonte Rucker ranked 2-3 on the team and combined for 60 catches and 14 TDs.

Returnee Shane Hooks (16 catches in 2021) joins transfers Camron Buckley, Dallas Daniels and Rico Powers along with 4-star freshman Kevin Coleman to give JSU one of the most talented groups of receivers in FCS.

D.J. Stevens has emerged as the top tight end after the departure of Kyland Richey.

Up front, senior tackle Demetri Jordan highlights an experienced line and is joined by transfers Zachary Breaux (La.-Monroe) and Willis Patrick (Angelo State). Sophomores Tyler Brown, Evan Henry



**Wide receiver Trevonte Rucker had the team's best yards-per-reception average last year, racking up 19.8 yards over 26 receptions as a freshman.**

and Kirk Ford will work with senior Tony Gray for the bulk of the guard duty.

On **defense**, the four-man front is headlined by sophomores Nyles Gaddy, Devonta Davis and Jeremiah Brown, who combined for eight sacks.

Senior transfer Jason Mercier (Florida International) provides some experience on the interior, as well as Texas A&M transfer Antonio Doyle. Senior Justin Ragin returns as an edge rusher after posting five sacks last year.

The defensive line took a hit with the departure of James Houston, who was JSU's lone NFL Draft pick. His amazing production on the field garnered much attention, as he racked up 16½ sacks and 24½ tackles-for-loss.



**Tennessee transfer Nyles Gaddy returns for his sophomore season as an edge rusher. The talented lineman posted 34 tackles, five QB hits and four sacks as part of a potent four-man front for the JSU defense.**

Among the linebacking corps, graduate Aubrey Miller is back, however. The Memphis Whitehaven product led the team in tackles (109) and ranked second in sacks (6½) en route to earning first-team All-SWAC honors.

Sophomore Baron Hopson will man the middle position. Linebacker support is provided by transfer Jurriente Davis (MTSU) and junior Khalil Arrington.

Similarly compared to the receiving corps, the depth in the secondary is jam-packed with talent to the degree that last year's starters cannot assume to be starting in 2022.

The two corner positions will be manned by senior De'Jahn 'Nugget' Warren and sophomores Ke'Vric Wiggins, Jalin Hughes and Anthony Petty.

The deep secondary is comprised of senior nickel Isaiah Bolden and sophomores Cam'Ron Silmon-Craig and Herman Smith.

Silmon-Craig is the top tackler among the DBs, as he registered 48 stops to go along with three interceptions and five pass breakups.

Graduate transfer Gregory Grate (MTSU) and junior returnee John Huggins will vie for playing time.

That talented group doesn't even include returnee Shilo Sanders or Hunter, the top recruit.

Sanders led the team with four interceptions last year as he took home second-team All-SWAC honors. He made the preseason first team All-SWAC in 2022 but is rehabbing an ACL injury. He didn't play in the season opener.

Hunter is recovering from offseason surgery on his right ankle. His playing time will be closely monitored but is

expected to play both sides of the ball.

Among the **special teams** unit, there is considerable competition for playing time.

Returnee Glenn Misiak went 2-for-6 in field-goal tries last year and is being pressed by freshman Alejandro Mata.

Lane McGregor averaged 34.7 yards per punt last year, and Alabama transfer Sam Johnson has come in to solidify the punting game.

Bolden looks to handle much of the kickoff return duties. He was the primary kickoff returner last year, with 2 returned touchdowns.

Coleman replaces Warren Newman in the punt return setup. Newman's lone punt-return TD of 2021 came in the Southern Heritage Classic.



**Redshirt sophomore Shilo Sanders had a team-leading four interceptions as the JSU defense tied for the SWAC lead with 13 pick-offs.**

# JACKSON STATE HEAD COACH

# DEION SANDERS

## ***'Coach Prime' has elevated JSU program in short order***

**D**eion Sanders has always been a game-changer. In his tenure as head football coach of Jackson State University, Sanders has again changed the game for Tiger Football, the Department of Athletics, the University as a whole, the Southwestern Athletic Conference, College Football, and the Nation.

An unprecedented calendar year of 2021 showed the power of the influence of Sanders and the brand of Jackson State University coming together as one, seemingly in perfect alignment.

As the Southwestern Athletic Conference played a spring 2021 football season due to the coronavirus, the number 21 Sanders donned on his way to a Pro Football Hall of Fame career became immersed at JSU.

Sanders, named as the 21st head coach in the proud history of JSU football on Sept. 21, 2020, led the Tigers in his first game as head coach on Feb. 21, 2021. A 53-0 win began the Coach Prime era that was a touch point of the elevation of JSU football and the University into becoming one of the most impactful and recognizable brands nationwide.

With viewership for the first two games surpassing more than 200,000 online views on ESPN3, the power of Coach Prime and JSU transformed the network and led to the final four contested games of the spring season televised on linear television on ESPN or ESPN2 as JSU posted a 4-3 record.

In Fall 2021, Sanders led Jackson State back to championship glory with a school-record 11-win season and the first Southwestern Athletic Conference football championship since 2007. JSU went undefeated in conference play (8-0)

and won nine consecutive games to complete the regular season en route to the first-ever berth in the Celebration Bowl.

Jackson State set an FCS record for attendance in Fall 2021, averaging more than 42,000 fans per home game.

Coach Prime was named SWAC Coach of the Year, FCS Eddie Robinson National Coach of the Year, BOXTOROW National Coach Of The Year, and Black College Hall of Fame Coach Of the Year in 2021. Freshman QB Shedeur Sanders shone brightly in the national spotlight as his father, as he was named as the FCS Jerry Rice Freshman of the Year after passing for 3,231 yards and 30





RS



touchdowns with only eight interceptions.

A fierce advocate for additional exposure and a level playing field for all Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Sanders has continued to push for opportunities to highlight talent in the SWAC and across the culture. In March 2022, Sanders held a Pro Day featuring athletes from four other schools in the state of Mississippi to provide a platform in front of 22 NFL teams and the Canadian Football League. In April 2022, Jackson State became the first HBCU to have its spring football game televised live nationally on ESPN.

The influence of Coach Prime has directly

impacted Jackson State football, as several of the nation's best players have made their way into the program. University of Florida transfer James Houston IV was a dominant player for JSU in 2021, earning All-SWAC and All-America accolades as he ranked second in the nation in both sacks (16½) and tackles for loss (24½).

In December 2021, wide receiver/cornerback Travis Hunter, the top high-school prospect in the nation, signed a national letter of intent with Jackson State football and enrolled at JSU in spring 2022. The JSU Football impact and influence continued into Summer 2022 as Coach Prime, Shedeur, and Travis were featured on the cover of



 @DeionSanders



## COACHING EXPERIENCE

2017-20 Trinity Christian School  
Offensive Coordinator

2021- Jackson State  
Head Football Coach

Year	Overall	SWAC
2021 (s)	4-3	3-2
2021 (f)	11-2	8-0
2022	1-0	0-0

the July issue of Sports Illustrated.

In partnership with Barstool Sports, "Coach Prime," a behind-the-scenes documentary highlighting the student-athletes, coaches, and staff of JSU Football and Jackson State University, averaged nearly 400,000 views per show in 12 episodes over two seasons.

An eight-time Pro Bowler, nine-time All Pro, 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, who also played nine seasons of Major League Baseball with the New York Yankees, Atlanta Braves, San Francisco Giants, and Cincinnati Reds, is the only athlete to play in both a Super Bowl and a World Series.

Among his accolades, Sanders set an NFL record with 19 return touchdowns in his career and was the NFL's Defensive Player of the Year in 1994.

A two-time football All-American at Florida State who also played baseball and ran track, Sanders was a first-round draft choice of the Atlanta Falcons in 1989. In 2020 for the 100th season of the National Football League, Sanders was named to the NFL's All-

Time Team.

In 2011, Sanders was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. In that same year, Sanders was also inducted into the National Football Foundation's College Football Hall of Fame.

Sanders 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.

Prior to leading Jackson State, Sanders had been coaching for over a decade. Sanders was the offensive coordinator at Trinity Christian School in Cedar Hill, Texas, leading the Tigers to three-straight Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools titles and a 42-3 record.

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 1,100 kids throughout Dallas, Texas and Memphis, Tennessee, utilizing sports and education as a platform for success and leadership.

He is the proud father of five children: sons Deion Jr., Shilo, and Shedeur, and daughters Deiondra and Shelomi. His youngest daughter Shelomi is an incoming freshman on the JSU women's basketball team.



## IN THE NFL

**Defensive Back**  
Atlanta, San Francisco, Dallas,  
Washington, Baltimore

1989-2000, 2004-05

Sanders joined the pros after the Falcons made him the fifth overall pick in the 1989 NFL Draft. He quickly became a star, recording 10 touchdowns in five seasons in Atlanta - 3 defensive, 3 kickoff return, 2 punt return and 2 via reception. He signed with the 49ers in 1994, earning NFL Defensive Player of the Year honors. His teams won back-to-back Super Bowls in 1994 with San Francisco and 1995 with Dallas. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2011.



## IN COLLEGE

**Defensive Back**  
Florida State

1985-88

Sanders came to Tallahassee as a three-sport athlete out of North Fort Myers [Fla.] High School, also competing in baseball and track. He became a two-time consensus All-American cornerback for the Seminoles in 1987 and '88 after making third-team All-American as a sophomore. In addition to winning the Jim Thorpe Award in 1988 as the nation's best defensive back, he also led the country in punt-return average. FSU went a combined 38-9-1 during Sanders' four years there.



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# JACKSON STATE ASSISTANT COACHES



BARTOLONE



BREWSTER



HARRELL



HART



MARKUSON



MATHIS



RICARD



TAYLOR



THURMAN



WEEKS

**Brett Bartolone** brings the Air Raid offense back to Jackson State after being named offensive coordinator in Spring 2022.

He comes to JSU after serving as offensive analyst and assistant quarterbacks coach at Nevada, where the Wolfpack had the 4th-ranked passing offense in the nation last year.

Under his tutelage, QB Carson Strong was named the Mountain West Offensive Player of the Year after throwing 36 TD passes, a Nevada single-season record.

In 2018 and 2019, he was the offensive coordinator at Division III Carleton College (Minn.). In both seasons, the Knight QBs led the conference and finished Top 10 in the country in completions per game.

His lineage stems from Washington State's wide-open offense under Mike Leach. He was a wide receiver during his playing days, when he led the team in receptions as a freshman in 2012.

He sustained career-ending shoulder injuries, but began working with the receivers and offensive coaches as a student assistant.

**Tim Brewster** begins his first season on the Jackson State staff, working with the Tiger tight ends.

Brewster is coming off a successful stint as tight ends coach at Florida under Dan Mullen, where he coached future NFL 1st-round draft pick Kyle Pitts.

He also worked at North Carolina as assistant head coach overseeing tight ends. His recruiting efforts with the Tar Heels helped garner a 19th-best recruiting class in 2020, according to 247sportsÆ rankings.

The Phillipsburg, N.J., native also worked in the college ranks at Texas, Florida State and Texas A&M, and served as head coach at Minnesota (2007-10), leading the Gophers to two bowl games.

**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.

Prior to his stint at Florida Atlantic, he was the head coach at 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. He played four games in the NFL with the New York Giants (1994-95).

**André Hart** is in his third season as linebackers coach. 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.

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** coaches the defensive backs. Mathis previously coached with Sanders at Trinity Christian. Last year, JSU's secondary tied for the SWAC lead with 13 interceptions, and the entire defense ranked No. 1 in the league in passing defense (157.1 yards per game).

He helped lead Trinity to three straight 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.

Former NFL standout **Alan Ricard** works with the special teams units. 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 wide receivers 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, where last year the JSU defense ranked in the FCS Top 10 in 12 statistical categories.

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** is in his third season as the defensive line coach. 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

Jalen  
**ALEXANDER**

Sr., Safety  
Buford, Ga.  
Grayson H.S.  
tr-Duke



Tyson  
**ALEXANDER**

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



Christian  
**ALLEN**

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



J.P.  
**ANDRADE**

Sr., Quarterback  
Laverne, Calif.  
Bonita H.S.  
tr-Ohio State



Khalil  
**ARRINGTON**

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



Jackson  
**BARRY**

Fr., Linebacker  
Prosper, Texas  
Prosper H.S.



Tayvion  
**BEASLEY**

Fr., Cornerback  
Inglewood, Calif.  
St. John Bosco H.S.



Isaiah  
**BOLDEN**

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



Zachary  
**BREAUX**

Grad., Offensive Lineman  
Harvey, La.  
Brother Martin H.S.  
tr-La.-Monroe



Jeremiah  
**BROWN**

Soph., Linebacker  
Carrabelle, Fla.  
Lincoln H.S.



Tyler  
**BROWN**

Soph., Offensive Lineman  
Jackson, Miss.  
St. Joseph Catholic H.S.  
tr-La.-Lafayette



Alvin  
**BRUMFIELD**

Sr., Linebacker  
Hattiesburg, Miss.  
Oak Grove H.S.



Camron  
**BUCKLEY**

Grad., Wide Receiver  
Dallas, Texas  
Cedar Hill H.S.  
tr-Indiana



Kris  
**CASSEL**

Fr., Defensive Lineman  
Norcross, Ga.  
Meadowcreek H.S.



Kevin  
**COLEMAN** Jr.

Fr., Wide Receiver  
St. Louis, Mo.  
St. Mary's H.S.



Cole  
**CUCITRONE**

Jr., Linebacker  
Cave Creek, Ariz.  
Cactus Shadows H.S.  
tr-Maricopa C.C.



Dallas  
**DANIELS**

Grad., Wide Receiver  
Dayton, Ohio  
Trotwood Madison H.S.  
tr-Western Illinois



Devonta  
**DAVIS**

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



Jelani  
**DAVIS**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Ladue H.S.  
tr-Dodge City C.C.



Jurriente  
**DAVIS**

Jr., Linebacker  
Greensboro, N.C.  
Dudley H.S.  
tr-MTSU



Quaydarius  
**DAVIS**

Fr., Wide Receiver  
Dallas, Texas  
Skyline H.S.



Antonio  
**DOYLE**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Lutheran North H.S.  
tr-Texas A&M



Daelyn  
**DUNN**

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



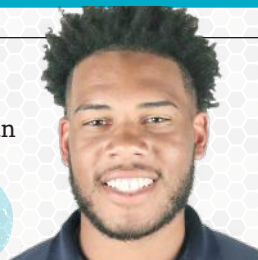
Katron  
**EVANS**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Norfolk, Va.  
St. Frances H.S.



Kirk  
**FORD**

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



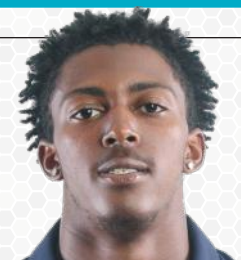
Jasper  
**FRIIS**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Starnberg, Germany  
Aquinas H.S.  
tr-Iowa Central C.C.



Nyles  
**GADDY**

Jr., Linebacker  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Father Ryan H.S.  
tr-Tennessee



Willie  
**GAINES**

Jr., Wide Receiver  
Cocoa Beach, Fla.  
Cocoa H.S.  
tr-Dodge City C.C.



Charlton  
**GOODELL**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Atlanta, Ga.  
Cambridge Milton H.S.



Deontae  
**GRAHAM**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Cardinal Ritter C.P.  
tr-Quincy



Gregory  
**GRATE**

Grad., Safety  
Miami, Fla.  
Carol City H.S.  
tr-MTSU



Tony  
**GRAY**

Sr., Offensive Lineman  
Loganville, Ga.  
Grayson H.S.  
tr-Central Florida



Josh  
**GRIFFIS**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
Stark, Fla.  
IMG Academy  
tr-Florida State



Aarion  
**HARTMAN**

Grad., Long Snapper  
Patterson, La.  
Patterson H.S.  
tr-Southern



Devin  
**HAYES**

Grad., Offensive Lineman  
Orlando, Fla.  
Jones H.S.  
tr-Florida Atlantic



Evan  
**HENRY**

Soph., Offensive Lineman  
Dallas, Texas  
DeSoto H.S.  
tr-La.-Monroe



Shane  
**HOOKS**

Sr., Wide Receiver  
Orlando, Fla.  
Olympia H.S.  
tr-Ohio



Baron  
**HOPSON**

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



John  
**HUGGINS**

Jr., Safety  
Daytona Beach, Fla.  
Pine Ridge H.S.  
tr-Garden City C.C.



Jalin  
**HUGHES**

Soph., Cornerback  
Ft. Worth, Texas  
Fossil Ridge H.S.  
tr-Snow College



Travis  
**HUNTER**

Fr., Cornerback  
Suwanee, Ga.  
Collins Hill H.S.



Caleb  
**JOLIVETTE**

Sr., Running Back  
Houston, Texas  
Manvel H.S.  
tr-Sam Houston State



# MEET THE JACKSON STATE TIGERS CONT.

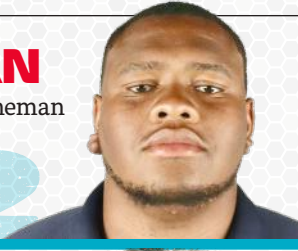
Rufus Carl  
**JONES**

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



Demetri  
**JORDAN**

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



Santee  
**MARSHALL**

Sr., Running Back  
New Orleans, La.  
Edna Karr H.S.  
tr-Miles College



J.D.  
**MARTIN**

Jr., Running Back  
Wetumpka, Ala.  
Wetumpka H.S.  
tr-East Central C.C.



Alejandro  
**MATA**

Fr., Kicker  
Buford, Ga.  
Buford H.S.



Lane  
**MCGREGOR**

Sr., Punter  
Pontotoc, Miss.  
Pontotoc H.S.  
tr-Miss. Delta C.C.



Jason  
**MERCIER**

Sr., Defensive Lineman  
Boynton Beach, Fla.  
Atlantic Community H.S.  
tr-Florida International



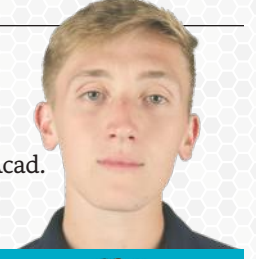
Aubrey  
**MILLER** Jr.

Grad., Linebacker  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Whitehaven H.S.  
tr-Missouri



Glenn  
**MISIAK**

Soph., Kicker  
Columbus, Miss.  
Columbus Christian Acad.  
tr-Mississippi College



Desmond  
**MOULTRIE**

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



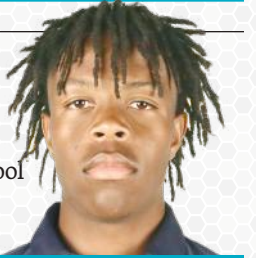
Willis  
**PATRICK**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Grand Prairie, Texas  
Mansfield H.S.  
tr-Angelo State



Kobe  
**PAUL**

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



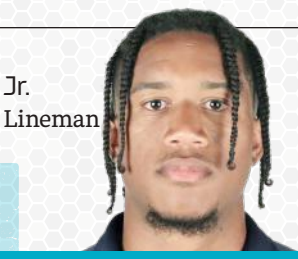
Anthony  
**PETTY**

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



Michael  
**PLEAS** Jr.

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
Lincoln H.S.



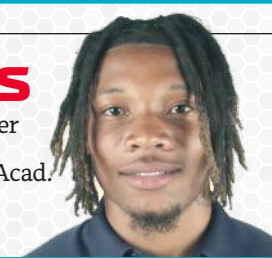
Jacob  
**POLITTE**

Fr., Long Snapper  
Lubbock, Texas  
Cooper H.S.



Rico  
**POWERS**

Soph., Wide Receiver  
Atlanta, Ga.  
Hapeville Charter Acad.  
tr-South Carolina



Justin  
**RAGIN**

Grad., Defensive Lineman  
Collierville, Tenn.  
Collierville H.S.



Julius  
**REYNOLDS**

Fr., Defensive Lineman  
Modesto, Calif.  
Central Catholic H.S.  
tr-Fresno State



Matthew  
**RICCIARDI-VITALE**

Grad., Quarterback  
Haddon Heights, N.J.  
Paul VI H.S.  
tr-Temple



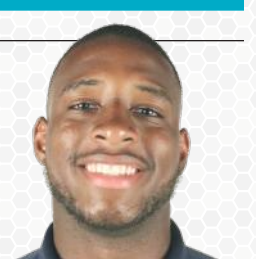
Tre'Von  
**RIGGINS**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Lakewood H.S.  
tr-Illinois



Jency  
**RILEY**

Soph., Tight End  
Greensburg, La.  
St. Helena Academy





Trevonte  
**RUCKER**

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



Delano  
**SALGADO**

Grad., Cornerback  
Laveen Village, Ariz.  
Mountain Pointe H.S.  
tr-Georgetown



Shedeur  
**SANDERS**

Soph., Quarterback  
Canton, Texas  
Trinity Christian School



Shilo  
**SANDERS**

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



Trace  
**SHUMANS**

Soph., Offensive Lineman  
Baxley, Ga.  
Appling County H.S.



Cam'Ron  
**SILMON-CRAIG**

Soph., Safety  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Trinity Christian School



Christopher  
**SMITH**

Soph., Running Back  
New Orleans, La.  
Brother Martin H.S.



Herman  
**SMITH III**

Soph., Safety  
San Diego, Calif.  
Lincoln H.S.



Julian  
**SMITH**

Soph., Wide Receiver  
Glenwood, Ill.  
Calumet Tech H.S.  
tr-Trine Univ.



D.J.  
**STEVENS**

Grad., Tight End  
Ridgeland, Miss.  
Ridgeland H.S.



David  
**STUDSTILL**

Jr., Wide Receiver  
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.  
Palm Beach Gardens H.S.



Reggie  
**SWINTON**

Fr., Running Back  
Little Rock, Ark.  
Mills Univ. Studies H.S.



Grayson  
**THOMPSON**

Soph., Quarterback  
Denton, Texas  
Ray Braswell H.S.  
tr-North Texas



Michael  
**THOMPSON**

Sr., Safety  
Clinton, Miss.  
Clinton H.S.  
tr-Ole Miss



Tru  
**THOMPSON**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
Grayson, Ga.  
Grayson H.S.  
tr-Florida State



Donald  
**TURLEY**

Fr., Linebacker  
Chillicothe, Ohio  
Chillicothe H.S.



Zyon  
**WALKER**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Whitehaven H.S.  
tr-South Alabama



De'Jahn  
**WARREN**

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



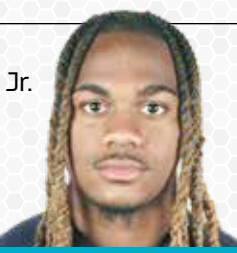
Malachi  
**WIDEMAN**

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



Ke'Vric  
**WIGGINS Jr.**

Soph., Cornerback  
Spring, Texas  
Klein Collins H.S.  
tr-La.-Monroe



Jeremiah  
**WILLIAMS**

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



# 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.

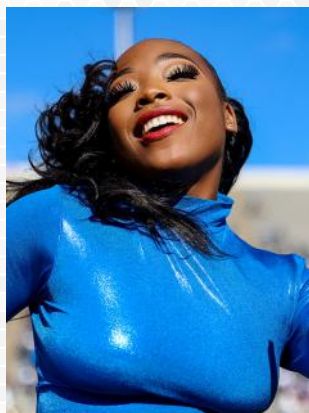
“We don’t have the very best musicians, or the most precise drill formations,” says O’Neill Sanford, the director of bands at Jackson State. “But no one else can bring the same energy and showmanship, and electrify a crowd of 110,000 people like we can,” he says. “That’s what everyone wants to see.”

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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# JACKSON STATE ROSTER

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
29	Alexander, Jalen	Gr.	S	5-11	160	Buford, Ga.	Grayson
25	Alexander, Tyson	R-So.	RB	5-11	195	DeSoto, Texas	DeSoto
14	Allen, Christian	R-So.	WR	5-10	190	Mendenhall, Miss.	Mendenhall
7	Andrade, J.P.	Sr.	QB	6-3	215	Laverne, Calif.	Bonita
52	Arrington, Khalil	Jr.	LB	6-1	215	Montgomery, Ala.	Lee
39	Baeza, Gerardo	So.	K	5-10	187	Boaz, Ala.	Boaz
62	Barbee, Kejuan	So.	DL	5-11	250	Chicago, Ill.	Urban Prep/Bronzeville
51	Barry, Jackson	Fr.	LB	5-10	222	Prosper, Texas	Prosper
28	Beasley, Tayvion	Fr.	CB	5-11	170	Inglewood, Calif.	St. John Bosco
67	Blackmon, Elliot	Jr.	OL	6-3	284	Canton, Miss.	Canton
23	Bolden, Isaiah	Sr.	CB	6-2	205	Tampa, Fla.	Wesley Chapel
51	Breaux, Zachary	Gr.	OL	6-4	317	Harvey, La.	Brother Martin
42	Brown, Jeremiah	So.	LB	6-2	220	Carrabelle, Fla.	Lincoln
56	Brown, Tyler	So.	OL	6-3	319	Jackson, Miss.	St. Joseph Catholic
38	Brumfield, Alvin	Sr.	LB	5-10	186	Hattiesburg, Miss.	Oak Grove
1	Buckley, Camron	Gr.	WR	6-2	198	Dallas, Texas	Cedar Hill
55	Burgess, Frankie	So.	DL	6-3	230	Pahokee, Fla.	Pahokee
93	Cassel, Kris	Fr.	DL	6-3	240	Norcross, Ga.	Meadowcreek
3	Coleman, Kevin Jr.	Fr.	WR	5-11	170	St. Louis, Mo.	St. Mary's
48	Cucitrone, Cole	Jr.	LB	5-11	227	Mesa, Ariz.	Cactus Shadows
4	Daniels, Dallas	Gr.	WR	6-1	180	Dayton, Ohio	Trotwood Madison
97	Davis, Devonta	So.	DL	6-3	290	Union Springs, Ala.	Bullock County
96	Davis, Jelani	Jr.	DL	6-1	295	St. Louis, Mo.	Ladue
32	Davis, Jurriente	Jr.	LB	6-0	231	Greensboro, N.C.	Dudley
9	Davis, Quaydarius	Fr.	WR	6-0	193	Dallas, Texas	Skyline
16	Douglas, Norman Jr.	R-Jr.	QB	6-1	172	Burtonsville, Md.	Paint Branch
22	Doyle, Antonio	Jr.	DL	6-3	241	St. Louis, Mo.	Lutheran North
44	Dunn, Daelynn	Sr.	LB	6-2	250	San Diego, Calif.	Lincoln
40	Dunn, Frankie	R-Fr.	CB	5-8	150	Jackson, La.	Feliciana
90	Evans, Katron	So.	DL	6-5	315	Norfolk, Va.	St. Frances
70	Ford, Kirk	R-So.	DL	6-4	320	Keller, Texas	Keller
77	Fris, Jasper	Jr.	OL	6-6	330	Starnberg, Germany	Aquinas
57	Gaddy, Nyles	R-So.	LB	6-4	230	Nashville, Tenn.	Father Ryan
10	Gaines, Willie	Jr.	WR	5-9	170	Cocoa Beach, Fla.	Cocoa
50	Goodell, Charlton	So.	DL	6-1	290	Bradenton, Fla.	Cambridge Milton
64	Graham, Deontae	R-Jr.	OL	6-5	290	St. Louis, Mo.	Cardinal Ritter Coll Prep
65	Graham, Timontre	Sr.	DL	5-11	230	Mobile, Ala.	LeFlore Magnet
9	Grate, Gregory	Gr.	S	5-11	197	Miami, Fla.	Carol City
74	Gray, Tony	R-Sr.	OL	6-5	310	Loganville, Ga.	Grayson
91	Griffis, Josh	Jr.	DL	6-4	275	Stark, Fla.	IMG Academy
84	Hagler, Hayden	Jr.	TE	6-4	222	Sulphur, La.	Sulphur
58	Hartman, Aarion	Gr.	LS	6-0	250	Patterson, La.	Patterson
79	Hayes, Devin	Gr.	OL	6-6	330	Orlando, Fla.	Jones
71	Henry, Evan	So.	OL	6-4	310	Dallas, Texas	DeSoto
88	Henton, Alex	R-So.	TE	6-4	225	Fort Valley, Ga.	Peach County
5	Hooks, Shane	Sr.	WR	6-4	205	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
47	Hopson, Baron	So.	LB	6-1	220	Leesburg, Ga.	Lee County
6	Huggins, John	Jr.	S	6-2	205	Daytona Beach, Fla.	Pine Ridge
27	Hughes, Jalin	So.	CB	6-1	180	Ft. Worth, Texas	Fossil Ridge
98	Humphrey, Jacob	So.	DL	6-4	310	Lake Charles, La.	Sam Houston
29	Hunt, Andre	Jr.	WR	6-0	190	Palmdale, Calif.	Paraclete
40	Hunt, Donovan	R-Fr.	RB	5-11	181	Brookfield, Wis.	Brookfield East
12	Hunter, Travis	Fr.	CB	6-1	165	Suwanee, Ga.	Collins Hill
36	Johnson, Marquis	Sr.	CB	5-10	167	Atlanta, Ga.	Kipp Academy
46	Johnson, Sam	Jr.	P	6-3	215	Birmingham, Ala.	Oak Mountain

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
33	Jolivet, Caleb	Sr.	RB	5-10	175	Houston, Texas	Manvel
68	Jones, Rufus Carl	R-Fr.	DL	6-3	330	Milbrook, Ala.	Stanhope Elmore
72	Jordan, Demetri	Sr.	OL	6-5	330	Lubbock, Texas	Coronado
66	Laban, Josiah	Fr.	OL	6-0	277	Anaheim, Calif.	Servite
38	Marshall, Santee	Sr.	RB	5-10	170	New Orleans, La.	Edna Karr
8	Martin, J.D.	Jr.	RB	6-0	190	Wetumpka, Ala.	Wetumpka
4	Mata, Alejandro	Fr.	K	5-9	180	Buford, Ga.	Buford
49	Mathews, Emari	Fr.	RB	5-9	210	Midlothian, Texas	Trinity Christian
27	May, Kevin	R-Fr.	RB	5-11	195	Jackson, Miss.	St. Joseph
17	McClelland, Bronson	So.	QB	6-0	210	Katy, Texas	Katy
30	McGregor, Lane	So.	P	5-10	190	Pontotoc, Miss.	Pontotoc
31	Mercier, Jason	Sr.	DL	6-3	262	Boynton Beach, Fla.	Atlantic Community
45	Miller, Aubrey Jr.	Sr.	LB	6-2	225	Memphis, Tenn.	Whitehaven
35	Misiak, Glenn	R-So.	SPC	6-0	160	Columbus, Miss.	Columbus Chr. Acad.
24	Moultre, Desmond	So.	RB	5-11	190	Pontotoc, Texas	Lamar
73	Patrick, Willis	Sr.	OL	6-4	347	Grand Prairie, Texas	Mansfield
39	Patton, Dazerick	Fr.	S	5-9	204	Hattiesburg, Miss.	Oak Grove
83	Paul, Kobe	Fr.	WR	5-11	150	Cedar Hill, Texas	Trinity Christian
26	Petty, Anthony	So.	CB	5-11	180	Wiggins, Miss.	Stone Hill
41	Pleas, Michael Jr.	So.	DL	6-3	245	Tallahassee, Fla.	Lincoln
37	Politte, Jacob	R-Fr.	LS	6-1	195	Lubbock, Texas	Cooper
6	Pope, Mark	Gr.	WR	6-0	172	Miami, Fla.	Southridge
11	Powers, Rico	R-So.	WR	6-2	180	Atlanta, Ga.	Hapeville Charter Aca.
54	Ragas, Bobby	So.	LB	6-3	206	New Orleans, La.	John Curtis Chr.
92	Ragin, Justin	Sr.	DL	6-5	230	Memphis, Tenn.	Collierville
95	Reynolds, Julius	R-Fr.	DL	6-5	280	Modesto, Ca.	Central Catholic
18	Ricciardi-Vitale, Matthew	Gr.	QB	5-11	170	Haddon Heights, N.J.	Park VI
60	Riggins, Tre'von	R-Jr.	DL	6-3	270	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Lakewood
81	Riley, Jency	So.	TE	6-5	215	Greensburg, La.	St. Helena
15	Rucker, Trevonte	So.	WR	6-0	170	Ocala, Fla.	Vanguard
29	Salgado, Delano	Gr.	CB	5-10	188	Laveen Village, Ariz.	Mountain Pointe
2	Sanders, Shedeur	So.	QB	6-2	215	Canton, Texas	Trinity Christian
21	Sanders, Shilo	R-So.	S	6-0	195	Canton, Texas	Trinity Christian
23	Sherwood, Tayari	So.	WR	5-11	169	Miami, Fla.	Norland
59	Shumans, Tracy	So.	OL	6-4	310	Baxley, Ga.	Appling County
7	Silmon-Craig, Cam'Ron	So.	S	5-10	175	Birmingham, Ala.	Trinity Christian
22	Smith, Christopher	So.	RB	5-9	177	New Orleans, La.	Brother Martin
19	Smith, Herman III	So.	S	6-0	190	San Diego, Calif.	Lincoln
89	Smith, Julian	So.	WR	5-6	152	Glenwood, Ill.	Calumet Tech
86	Stevens, DJ	Jr.	TE	6-3	220	Ridgeland, Miss.	Ridgeland
82	Studstill, David	Jr.	WR	5-11	185	Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.	Palm Beach Gardens
44	Swinton, Reggie	Fr.	RB	5-10	204	Little Rock, Ark.	Mills Univ. Studies
12	Thompson, Greyson	R-So.	QB	6-3	205	Denton, Texas	Ray Braswell
35	Thompson, Michael	Sr.	S	5-9	182	Clinton, Miss.	Clinton
94	Thompson, Tru	R-Jr.	DL	6-0	308	Grayson, Ga.	Grayson
53	Turley, Donald	R-Fr.	DL	6-2	210	Chillicothe, Ohio	Chillicothe
75	Walker, Zyon	So.	OL	6-0	305	Memphis, Tenn.	Whitehaven
63	Ward, Amari	Fr.	OL	6-1	310	Gainesville, Fla.	Lake Wales
4	Warren, De'Jahn	Sr.	CB	6-1	185	Landover, Md.	Suitland
26	Weeks, J.J.	Fr.	WR	5-7	193	Corpus Christi, Texas	Falfurrius
61	Whaley, Keivion	So.	OL	6-3	235	Lansing, Mich.	Thornton Frac. So.
13	Wideman, Malachi	R-Jr.	WR	6-5	190	Venice, Fla.	Venice
5	Wiggins, Ke'Yric Jr.	So.	DB	5-11	175	Spring, Texas	Klein Collins
36	Wilkerson, Sy'veon	So.	RB	5-9	204	Elkridge, Md.	Our Lady of Good Counsel
99	Williams, Jeremiah	R-Fr.	DL	6-3	280	Lexington, Miss.	Holmes Co. Central

[@GoJSUTigers](#)

## JSU STAFF

**Head Coach:** Deion Sanders  
**Assistant Coaches:**

Brett Bartolone, Offensive Coordinator/QBs  
 Tim Brewster, Tight Ends  
 Gary Harrell, Running Backs  
 André Hart, Linebackers  
 Mike Markuson, Offensive Line  
 Kevin Mathis, Defensive Backs  
 Alan Ricard, Special Teams Coordinator  
 T.C. Taylor, Wide Receivers  
 Dennis Thurman, Defensive Coordinator  
 Jeff Weeks, Defensive Line

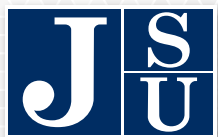
**Special Assistant to the Head Coach:** Michael Pollock

**Director of Player Personnel:** Otis Riddley

**Strength & Conditioning:** Maurice Sims

**Head Trainer:** Lauren Askeveld

**Equipment Manager:** Dominique Jasmin-Pasley



## QUICK FACTS

**Location:** Jackson, Miss. | **Enrollment:** 7,040 | **Conference Affiliation:** SWAC | **Final 2021 Record:** 11-2 (8-0 in SWAC) | **Home Field:** Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium  
**Primary Offensive System:** Multiple Pro Style Set | **Primary Defensive System:** 4-2-5 | **Starters Returning/Lost:** 11/13 | **Freshmen:** 21, **Sophomores:** 39, **Juniors:** 19, **Seniors/Grad:** 29

# LIVE MUSIC IS NOW PLAYING IN TENNESSEE



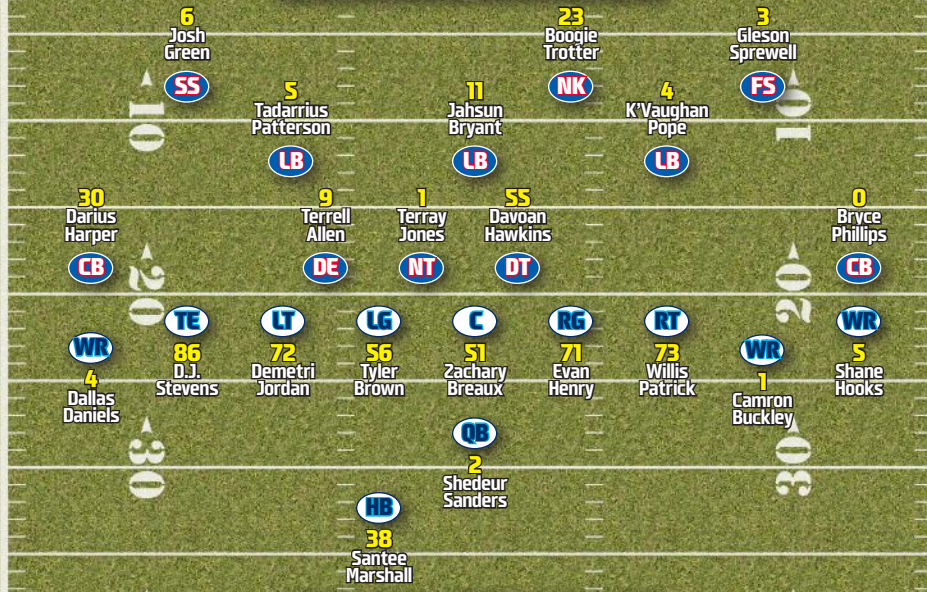
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### THE JSU TIGERS

1	Camron Buckley	WR
2	Shedeur Sanders	QB
3	Kevin Coleman Jr.	WR
4	De'Jahn Warren	CB
4	Dallas Daniels	WR
5	Ke'Vric Wiggins Jr.	DB
5	Shane Hooks	WR
6	John Huggins	S
6	Mark Pope	WR
7	Cam'Ron Silmon-Craig	S
7	J.P. Andrade	QB
8	J.D. Martin	RB
9	Gregory Grate	S
9	Quaydarius Davis	WR
10	Willie Gaines	WR
11	Rico Powers	WR
12	Travis Hunter	CB
12	Greyson Thompson	QB
13	Malachi Wideman	WR
14	Christian Allen	WR
15	Trevonte Rucker	WR
16	Norman Douglas Jr.	QB
17	Bronson McClelland	QB
18	Matthew Ricciardi-Vitale	QB
19	Herman Smith III	S
21	Shilo Sanders	S
22	Antonio Doyle	DL
22	Christopher Smith	RB
23	Isaiah Bolden	CB
23	Tayari Sherwood	WR
24	Desmond Moultrie	RB
25	Tyson Alexander	RB
26	Anthony Petty	CB
26	J.J. Weeks	WR
27	Jalin Hughes	CB
27	Kevin May	RB
28	Tayvion Beasley	CB
29	Jalen Alexander	S
29	Andre Hunt	WR
30	Lane McGregor	P
31	Jason Mercier	DL
32	Jurriente Davis	LB
33	Delano Salgado	CB
33	Caleb Jolivet	RB
35	Michael Thompson	S
35	Glenn Misiak	SPC
36	Marquis Johnson	CB
36	Sy'veon Wilkerson	RB
37	Jacob Politte	SPC
38	Alvin Brumfield	LB
38	Santee Marshall	RB
39	Dazerick Patton	S
39	Gerardo Baeza	K
40	Frankie Dunn	CB
40	Donavan Hunt	RB
41	Michael Pleas Jr.	DL
42	Jeremiah Brown	LB
43	Alejandro Mata	K
44	Reggie Swinton	RB
44	Daelyn Dunn	LB
45	Aubrey Miller, Jr.	LB
46	Sam Johnson	P
47	Baron Hopson	LB
48	Cole Cucitrone	LB
49	Emari Matthews	RB
50	Charlton Goodell	DL
51	Jackson Barry	LB
51	Zachary Breaux	OL
52	Khalil Arrington	LB
53	Donald Turley	DL
54	Bobby Ragas	LB
55	Frankie Burgess	DL
56	Tyler Brown	DL
57	Nyles Gaddy	LB
58	Aarion Hartman	LS
59	Trace Shumans	OL
60	Tre'von Riggins	DL
61	Keivion Whaley	OL
62	Kejuan Barbee	OL
63	Amari Ward	OL
64	Deontae Graham	OL
65	Timontre Graham	DL
66	Josiah Laban	OL
67	Elliot Blackmon	OL
68	Rufus Carl Jones	DL
70	Kirk Ford	DL
71	Evan Henry	OL
72	Demetri Jordan	OL
73	Willis Patrick	OL
74	Tony Gray	OL
75	Zyon Walker	DL
77	Jasper Friis	OL
79	Devin Hayes	OL
81	Jency Riley	TE
82	David Studstill	WR
83	Kobe Paul	WR
84	Hayden Hagler	TE
86	DJ Stevens	TE
88	Alex Henton	TE
89	Julian Smith	WR
90	Katron Evans	DL
91	Josh Griffis	DL
92	Justin Ragin	DL
93	Kris Cassel	DL
94	Tru Thompson	DL
95	Julius Reynolds	DL
96	Jelani Davis	DL
97	Devonta Davis	DL
98	Jacob Humphrey	DL
99	Jeremiah Williams	DL

# JACKSON STATE

## TENNESSEE STATE DEFENSE

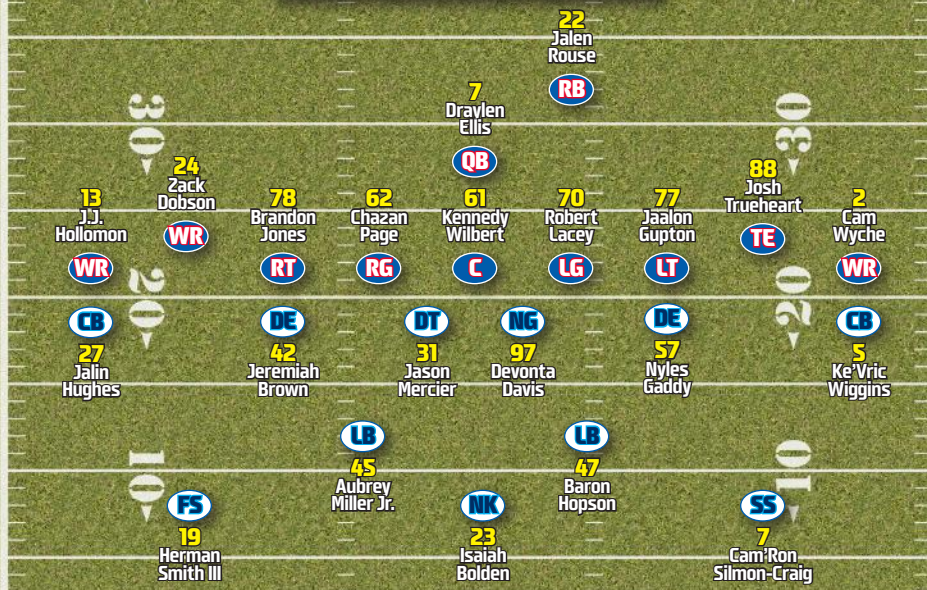


## JACKSON STATE OFFENSE

 **TOYOTA**

# STARTING LINEUPS

## TENNESSEE STATE OFFENSE



## JACKSON STATE DEFENSE

# TENNESSEE STATE

### THE TSU TIGERS

0	Chevalier Brenson	WR
0	Bryce Phillips	CB
1	Terry Jones	DL
1	Gerard Turner	WR
2	Jashon Watkins	CB
2	Cam Wyche	WR
3	Gleson Sprewell	S
3	Devon Starling	RB
4	Chayil Garnett	QB
4	K'Vaughan Pope	LB
5	Dayron Johnson	WR
5	Tadarrius Patterson	DL
6	Josh Green	S
6	TySean Jefferson	WR
7	Ken Andrews	LB
7	Draylen Ellis	QB
8	Deveon Bryant	QB
8	James Green	LB
9	Terrell Allen	DL
9	Heath Williams	QB
10	Fondren Hollis III	DL
10	Tucker Pope	QB
11	Jahsun Bryant	LB
11	Zaire Thornton	WR
12	Edwin Rhodes III	QB
12	Dion Villiers	DL
13	J.J. Holloman	WR
13	Dylan King	DL
14	Da'Shon Davis	WR
14	Brandon Wilson	DL
15	Ken Garlington	DL
15	Martino Owens	QB
16	John Roberts IV	WR
17	Mike Mitchell	RB
17	Austin Yelder	LB
18	Terry Straughter	LB
19	Tony Amerson	RB
19	Kendall Johnson	LB
20	Tre Boone III	RB
21	Jordan Helton	S
22	Jalen Rouse	RB
22	Boogie Trotter	CB
24	Zack Dobson	WR
24	Cory Gross	CB
25	Christian Smith	DL
26	Chancellor Lorick	CB
27	Marcellious Lockett	DL
28	Jalen McClendon	DL
29	Jordan Gant	RB
30	Darius Harper	DL
30	James Thorpe	RB
31	Micah Gay	LB
32	Mack Guice	CB
33	Dorian George	CB
34	James Reese IV	DL
35	Rodricus Jones	DL
36	Zachery Drake	DL
37	Michael Crawford	LB
38	Amari LeFlore	S
39	Logan McGraw	LB
40	Detoye Adewole	DE
41	Kaleb Mosley	P/K
42	Christon Taylor	LB
43	Kamden Edwards	FB
44	Craig Cunningham	RB
44	Maurice McDonald	LB
45	Jaylen Moore	LB
46	Kobie Stillwell	P
47	Ahmad Nelson	LB
48	Chris Walker	DL
50	Davion Nash	LB
51	Deron Johnson	LB
52	Carson Buchanan	LS
55	Christopher Georgia	DL
55	Davoan Hawkins	DL
57	Khalif Maddox	DE
58	Kaden Truitt	C
60	Evan Neal	DL
61	Kennedy Wilbert	DL
62	Chazan Page	DL
64	Darrell Branch	DL
67	Chandon Page	DL
68	Peter Rouse	DL
70	Robert Lacey	DL
71	Alex Valbuena	G
72	Rod Green	DL
73	Jamari Freeman	DL
74	Mayson Harris	DL
76	Romello Tarver	DL
77	Jaalon Gupton	DL
78	Brandon Jones	DL
81	Jahee Blake	WR
82	Christian Smith	WR
84	Benjamin Johnson II	TE
85	Thomas Nance	TE
86	Rayonta Rose	WR
87	Jytireus Smith	TE
88	Josh Trueheart	TE
89	Brandon Palmer	WR
90	Connor Ridderhoff	LS
91	Abraham Alabi	DL
94	Evan McClary	DE
95	Avery Blaikie	DL
96	Cameron Stewart	DL
98	Matthew Phillips	K/P
99	James Lowery	K/P

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# TENNESSEE STATE ROSTER

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
40	<b>Adewole</b> , Detoeye	So.	DL	6-4	245	Antioch, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
91	<b>Alabi</b> , Abraham	R-So.	DL	6-4	310	Reynoldsburg, Ohio	Pickerington Central
9	<b>Allen</b> , Terrell	Jr.	DL	6-0	275	North Little Rock, Ark.	North Little Rock
19	<b>Amerson</b> , Tony	Gr.	RB	5-11	218	Montgomery, Ala.	St. James School
7	<b>Andrews</b> , Ken	So.	LB	6-3	222	Baton Rouge, La.	Southern Lab
95	<b>Blaikie</b> , Avery	R-Jr.	DL	6-3	285	Colts Neck, N.J.	Colts Neck
81	<b>Blake</b> , Jahee	Fr.	WR	6-5	215	Lynchburg, Va.	Fork Union Mil. Aca.
20	<b>Boone</b> , Tre III	So.	RB	6-0	195	Clinton, Md.	St. Stephens-St. Agnes
64	<b>Branch</b> , Darrell	R-So.	OL	6-2	300	Gilbert, Ariz.	Higley
0	<b>Brenson</b> , Chevalier	R-Fr.	WR	6-2	217	St. Louis, Mo.	Christian Brothers
8	<b>Bryant</b> , Deveon	R-Jr.	RB	6-0	275	Bellwood, Ill.	Proviso West
11	<b>Bryant</b> , Jahsun	Sr.	LB	6-2	225	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
52	<b>Buchanan</b> , Carson	R-So.	LS	6-0	265	Nashville, Tenn.	Antioch
37	<b>Crawford</b> , Michael	R-Sr.	LB	6-1	230	Lynwood, Ill.	Thornton Frac. S.
44	<b>Cunningham</b> , Craig	Fr.	RB	5-10	190	Memphis, Tenn.	Lausanne Coll.
14	<b>Davis</b> , Da'Shon	Jr.	WR	5-11	195	Quincy, Fla.	Jefferson County
24	<b>Dobson</b> , Zack	Sr.	WR	5-8	170	Lonsdale, Tenn.	Fulton
36	<b>Drake</b> , Zachery	So.	DB	6-0	170	Nashville, Tenn.	Maplewood
43	<b>Edwards</b> , Kamden	R-Fr.	RB	5-10	225	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Tyner Academy
7	<b>Ellis</b> , Draylen	Jr.	QB	6-0	175	Olive Branch, Miss.	Kirby
73	<b>Freeman</b> , Jamari	Fr.	OL	6-4	300	Fairburn, Ga.	Langston Hughes
29	<b>Gant</b> , Jordan	Fr.	RB	5-10	205	Lakeland, Fla.	Kathleen
15	<b>Garlington</b> , Ken	R-Sr.	DB	5-9	185	Antioch, Tenn.	Brentwood Aca.
4	<b>Garnett</b> , Chayil	R-So.	QB	6-2	225	Lakeland, Fla.	Lake Wales
31	<b>Gay</b> , Micah	Fr.	LB	6-1	200	Johns Creek, Ga.	Johns Creek
33	<b>George</b> , Dorian	So.	CB	6-0	192	Memphis, Tenn.	Germantown
55	<b>Georgia</b> , Christopher	Sr.	OL	6-3	328	Warner Robins, Ga.	Warner Robins
8	<b>Green</b> , James	R-Sr.	LB	6-1	220	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
6	<b>Green</b> , Josh	Jr.	S	5-11	184	Orlando, Fla.	Olympia
72	<b>Green</b> , Rod	Fr.	OL	6-5	305	Dayton, Ohio	Springfield
24	<b>Gross</b> , Cory	Sr.	CB	6-2	205	Rochester, N.Y.	Brockport
32	<b>Guice</b> , Mack	Fr.	CB	5-11	170	Huntsville, Ala.	Madison County
77	<b>Gupton</b> , Jaalon	R-Jr.	OL	6-5	290	Nashville, Tenn.	Stratford
30	<b>Harper</b> , Darius	Sr.	DB	6-0	185	Brentwood, Tenn.	Ravenwood
74	<b>Harris</b> , Mayson	R-Jr.	OL	6-0	336	Nashville, Tenn.	Pearl-Cohn
55	<b>Hawkins</b> , Davoan	R-Sr.	DL	6-2	286	Lauderdale Hill, Fla.	Chaminade-Madonna
21	<b>Helton</b> , Jordan	So.	S	6-1	200	Memphis, Tenn.	Mem. Univ. School
10	<b>Hollis</b> , Fondren III	R-So.	DB	5-11	175	Decatur, Ga.	Columbia
13	<b>Holloman</b> , J.J.	R-Sr.	WR	6-3	215	Covington, Ga.	Newton
6	<b>Jefferson</b> , Tysean	Fr.	WR	5-5	150	Nashville, Tenn.	Beech
84	<b>Johnson</b> , Benjamin II	R-Sr.	TE	6-2	230	Lithonia, Ga.	Georgia Military
5	<b>Johnson</b> , Dayron	Jr.	WR	5-9	180	Springfield, Tenn.	Springfield
51	<b>Johnson</b> , Deron	R-Jr.	LB	6-1	228	Sacramento, Calif.	Pleasant Grove
19	<b>Johnson</b> , Kendall	So.	LB	6-6	237	Jackson, Tenn.	Olympia
78	<b>Jones</b> , Brandon	Sr.	OL	6-6	330	Dacula, Ga.	Dacula
35	<b>Jones</b> , Rodricus	Fr.	OLB	6-2	221	Birmingham, Ala.	Huffman
1	<b>Jones</b> , Terray	Sr.	DL	6-1	310	Madison, Fla.	Madison County
13	<b>King</b> , Dylan	Fr.	DB	6-3	190	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	Oakland
70	<b>Lacey</b> , Robert	Sr.	OL	6-3	340	Mobile, Ala.	Blount
38	<b>LeFlore</b> , Amari	So.	S	5-10	180	Ridgeland, Miss.	St. Andrews Epis.
27	<b>Lockett</b> , Marcellious	Jr.	DB	5-8	162	Lithonia, Ga.	Martin Luther King
26	<b>Lorick</b> , Chancellor	Fr.	CB	5-10	175	Columbia, S.C.	Lipscomb Academy
99	<b>Lowery</b> , James	R-So.	K/P	5-10	225	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	American Heritage

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
57	<b>Maddox</b> , Khaliq	Fr.	DE	5-10	260	Gainesville, Ga.	Gainesville
94	<b>McClary</b> , Evan	Fr.	DE	6-2	240	St. Louis, Mo.	Germantown
28	<b>McClendon</b> , Jalen	So.	DB	6-0	170	Tampa, Fla.	Chamberlain
44	<b>McDonald</b> , Maurice	R-Jr.	LB	6-1	225	Houston, Texas	Houston Christian
39	<b>McGraw</b> , Logan	Fr.	LB	5-11	220	Wyandotte, Mich.	Roosevelt
17	<b>Mitchell</b> , Mike	R-Sr.	RB	6-0	195	Brooksville, Pa.	Pleasant Valley
45	<b>Moore</b> , Jaylen	R-Fr.	LB	6-2	200	Smyrna, Tenn.	Lipswatts Creek
41	<b>Mosley</b> , Kaleb	Sr.	P/K	5-10	187	Montgomery, Ala.	Carver
85	<b>Nance</b> , Thomas	Sr.	TE	6-3	275	Eagle Lake, Fla.	Lake Region
50	<b>Nash</b> , Davion	Sr.	LB	6-0	240	East St. Louis, Ill.	St. Louis Univ.
60	<b>Neal</b> , Evan	So.	OL	6-5	338	Cleveland, Tenn.	Cleveland
47	<b>Nelson</b> , Ahmad	So.	LB	6-2	225	Birmingham, Ala.	Minor
15	<b>Owens</b> , Martino	So.	QB	6-2	186	Nashville, Tenn.	Pearl-Cohn
67	<b>Page</b> , Chandon	Jr.	OL	6-3	307	Nashville, Tenn.	Pearl-Cohn
62	<b>Page</b> , Chazan	So.	OL	6-1	230	Nashville, Tenn.	Lipscomb Academy
89	<b>Palmer</b> , Brandon	Fr.	WR	6-0	180	Johns Creek, Ga.	Johns Creek
5	<b>Patterson</b> , Tadarrius	Sr.	DL	6-1	228	Birmingham, Ala.	Geo. Wash. Carver
0	<b>Phillips</b> , Bryce	Fr.	CB	6-1	185	Orange, Calif.	Orange Lutheran
98	<b>Phillips</b> , Matthew	R-Sr.	K/P	5-10	175	Brentwood, Tenn.	Brentwood
4	<b>Pope</b> , K'Vaughan	Sr.	LB	6-1	225	Dinwiddie, Va.	Dinwiddie
10	<b>Pope</b> , Tucker	So.	QB	6-2	215	Cleveland, Tenn.	Walker Valley
34	<b>Reese</b> , James IV	R-Jr.	DB	5-10	190	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
12	<b>Rhodes</b> , Edwin III	So.	QB	6-1	211	Miami, Fla.	American
90	<b>Ridderhoff</b> , Connor	Fr.	LS	6-2	240	Chelsea, Ala.	Chelsea
16	<b>Roberts</b> , John IV	Fr.	WR	6-0	175	Nashville, Tenn.	Tenn. Valley Prep
86	<b>Rose</b> , Rayonta	Fr.	WR	6-1	207	Belmont, N.C.	South Point
22	<b>Rouse</b> , Jalen	So.	RB	5-11	185	Richmond Hill, Ga.	Richmond Hill
68	<b>Rouse</b> , Peter	Sr.	OL	6-2	280	Cleveland, Ohio	Cleveland Heights
25	<b>Smith</b> , Christian	R-Jr.	DB	5-9	180	Atlanta, Ga.	Westlake
82	<b>Smith</b> , Christian	R-Fr.	WR	6-0	185	Nashville, Tenn.	Father Ryan
87	<b>Smith</b> , Jytireus	Jr.	TE	6-3	245	Gulfport, Miss.	Gulfport
3	<b>Sprewell</b> , Gleson	Gr.	S	6-2	195	Surprise, Ariz.	Centennial
3	<b>Starling</b> , Devon	Jr.	RB	6-1	210	Nashville, Tenn.	Cane Ridge
96	<b>Stewart</b> , Cameron	Jr.	DL	6-3	380	Chattanooga, Tenn.	McCallie
46	<b>Stillwell</b> , Kobie	R-Fr.	P	6-4	190	Columbus, Ohio	Fork Union
18	<b>Straughter</b> , Terry	Gr.	LB	6-0	238	Opa Locka, Fla.	Miami Carol City
76	<b>Tarver</b> , Romello	R-Jr.	OL	6-5	272	Delray Beach, Fla.	Oxbridge Academy
42	<b>Taylor</b> , Christon	Gr.	LB	6-0	226	Hoover, Ala.	Hoover
11	<b>Thornton</b> , Zaire	So.	WR	6-2	180	Atlanta, Ga.	Mays
30	<b>Thorpe</b> , James	Fr.	RB	6-2	245	Atlanta, Ga.	The Heritage Sch.
23	<b>Trotter</b> , Boogie	Fr.	CB	5-9	170	Nashville, Tenn.	Tenn. Valley Prep
88	<b>Trueheart</b> , Josh	Gr.	TE	6-5	254	Nashville, Tenn.	Stratford
58	<b>Truitt</b> , Kaden	Fr.	C	6-2	255	Edinburg, Texas	Robert Vela
1	<b>Turner</b> , Gerand	So.	WR	6-0	205	Miami, Fla.	South Miami Sr.
71	<b>Valbeuna</b> , Alex	Fr.	G	6-0	275	Antioch, Tenn.	Ezell-Harding Chr.
12	<b>Villiers</b> , Dion	Fr.	DB	5-11	165	Lakeland, Fla.	Lake Gibson
48	<b>Walker</b> , Chris	So.	OL	6-4	265	Sanford, Fla.	Seminole
2	<b>Watkins</b> , Jashon	R-So.	CB	6-4	200	Memphis, Tenn.	E. Nashville Magnet
61	<b>Wilbert</b> , Kennedy	Jr.	OL	6-1	293	Memphis, Tenn.	Middle College
9	<b>Williams</b> , Heath Jr.	R-Jr.	QB	6-0	205	Clarksville, Tenn.	Northeast
14	<b>Wilson</b> , Brandon	Fr.	DB	5-11	175	Montgomery, Ala.	Park Crossing
2	<b>Wyche</b> , Cam	Sr.	WR	6-1	185	Douglasville, Ga.	South Paulding
17	<b>Yelder</b> , Austin	Fr.	LB	6-1	215	Montgomery, Ala.	Lee

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## TSU STAFF

**Head Coach:** Eddie George

**Assistant Coaches:**

- Theron Aych, Offensive Coordinator
- Joe Bowden, Asst. Head Coach/Linebackers
- Michael Brewster, Tight Ends
- Keith Burns, Special Teams/Defensive Specialist
- Brandon Fisher, Defensive Coordinator
- Anthony Lewis, Offensive Line
- Richard McClutt, 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 Football Trainer:** Sash-sha Collier

**Equipment Manager:** Dalton Pritchard



## QUICK FACTS

**Location:** Nashville, Tenn. | **Enrollment:** 9,165 | **Conference Affiliation:** Ohio Valley | **Final 2021 Record:** 5-6 (3-3 in OVC) | **Home Field:** Nissan Stadium and Hale Stadium  
**Primary Offensive System:** Spread/Pro Style | **Primary Defensive System:** 4-2-5 | **Starters Returning/Lost:** 9/13 | **Freshmen:** 31, **Sophomores:** 26, **Juniors:** 21, **Seniors/Grad:** 28



# HERSHEY'S



# TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Walter S. Davis  
Humanities Bldg.

**F**ounded 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS 2022**

# **SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC**



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# TENNESSEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

*Dr. Glenda Baskin*

**GLOVER**

President



**D**r. Glenda Baskin Glover serves as President of Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee, a position she has held since January 2013. Under her leadership as the university's first female president, TSU has experienced a significant increase in alumni fundraising, research dollars and academic offerings.

In 2022, President Joe Biden appointed Dr. Glover to serve as Vice Chair of the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Dr. Glover 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 country. Her past employment also includes high level positions in the corporate sector as she 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, where she chairs the audit committee, and is experienced in corporate governance. She is a frequently sought keynote speaker at churches, national conventions, professional associations and community groups.

Her 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.

Dr. Glover is a member of several professional, civic, and non-profit organizations. She is also the recipient of numerous awards and honors, and recently received the prestigious Thurgood Marshall College Fund Education Leadership Award as the 2018 HBCU

President of the Year. Glover was also named to Essence Magazine's 2019 "Woke 100" List of influential African American women change agents and power players that also included First Lady Michelle Obama, and Gayle King of CBS This Morning News. In 2013, she was named to Diverse Issues in Higher Education's prestigious list as one of the "Top 25 Women in Higher Education." Dr. Glover also serves as the International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Dr. Glover and her husband, Charles, are the parents of two adult children, Attorney Candace Glover-Datcher, and Dr. Charles Glover II. They are also the proud grandparents of three grandsons, Lincoln Mathis Glover, Langston Emmanuel Datcher and Everett Miles Glover.

*Dr. Mikki*

**ALLEN**

Athletic Director



**D**r. Mikki Allen was appointed Director of Athletics for Tennessee State University on April 9, 2020.

Allen is a bold leader who moves forward while honoring the past. He's a winner with roots in Middle Tennessee and understands that championships come from relentless work and a fearless vision. He comes to Tennessee State University after 11 years in sports administration, including his most recent position as the Assistant Director of Athletics for Player Relations and Development at the University of Tennessee.

After being hired in the middle of a global pandemic, Allen has proven he isn't your typical first-time AD hire. His resumé boasts more than a decade of fundraising and administrative experience. That experience garnered him an immediate seat on TSU President Glenda Glover's executive team.

Upon his arrival, Allen began restructuring the athletic department and unveiled a refreshed and modernized brand identity, "Unleash the Roar", that included an updated, sleeker version of the iconic Tigers' logo.

Looking for a winning and family-like atmosphere, Allen made several staff changes and in April of 2021, Allen made another leadership change, this time in football and hired Tennessee Titans legend, NFL All-Pro, Heisman Trophy winner and successful entrepreneur Eddie George to be the new head coach of the TSU football team. The bold hire was the top story for several days in April as every major national news outlet covered the story. George hired one of the most professionally decorated coaching staffs, not just in the FCS, but in the entire country, bringing in former Raiders and Browns head coach Hue Jackson as his offensive coordinator, NFL and collegiate assistant Brandon Fisher as the defensive coordinator and Philadelphia Eagles legend Clyde Simmons to coach the defensive line, among others.

Allen also made a change in women's basketball and hired long-time Auburn Associate Head Women's Basketball Coach Ty Evans to lead the Lady Tigers. Subsequently after hiring Evans, Allen also solidified a contract for legendary alum and Director of Men's and Women's Track and Field, Chandra Cheeseborough-Guice.

Allen has been strategically developing a facility enhancement plan that will have a positive impact on helping to advance all 15 TSU sports programs. During this process, Allen tapped into his entrepreneurial background that would feed his relentless commitment to setting up an infrastructure that will support external engagement and fundraising opportunities for alumni, corporations, and Big Blue fans.

With his background in development, Allen Launched the Tennessee State Athletic Fund, a fundraising arm dedicated to providing financial resources necessary for student-athletes to have a championship level educational and athletic experience.

Under Allen's leadership, the Tennessee State Athletics program has already received the largest private gift commitment in its' long-storied history.

A native of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Allen was a four-year letterman and member of the Tennessee Volunteers' 1998 National Championship team. His brief stint in the NFL was cut short due to injury.

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



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# TENNESSEE STATE SEASON PREVIEW



Running back Devon Starling eclipsed 100 yards of total offense six times during the 2021 season, and the Tigers went 4-2 in those games. The junior from Nashville Cane Ridge posted a season-high 195 yards of combined rushing and receiving against UT-Martin.

## 2022 Schedule

S.3	at Eastern Washington	L 29-36
S.10	Jackson State (in Memphis)	6:00
S.17	at Middle Tennessee State	6:00
S.24	<bye>	
0.1	Lane College	1:00
0.8	Bethune-Cookman †	5:00
0.15	at Tennessee Tech	6:00
0.22	Eastern Illinois †	2:00
0.29	at Murray State	2:00
N.5	SE Missouri State †	5:00
N.12	UT-Martin †	4:00
N.19	at Texas A&M-Commerce	2:00

† - Nissan Stadium | All times Central

## All signs point up for significant progress in Year 2 for George

by Stephen Featherston, TSU Assistant Director of Athletic Communications

In Eddie George's first year as the TSU head coach in 2021, the Tigers finished 5-6 overall with a 3-3 mark in the Ohio Valley Conference. His Tigers averaged 19.73 points per game and accounted for 3,502 total yards, with 2,240 yards coming through the air, and 2,240 yards on the ground. The Tigers had 13 touchdowns both on the ground and in the passing game. TSU had a four-game win streak in the middle of the season, before dropping three straight to finish the year.

All-OVC Preseason selection Draylen Ellis will command the TSU offense at the quarterback position this season after transferring in from former OVC foe Austin Peay. Ellis finished the 2020-21 season as the OVC Co-Freshman of the Year along with now teammate Devon Starling. Ellis led the OVC in passing touchdowns last season (19) while passing for 2,625 yards. He set program records for passing yards per game (262.5) and total offense per game (268.5).

Ellis won't be the only All-OVC Preseason selection lined up on the field for the Tigers, as Devon Starling will be one of the feature backs in George's offense, along with Jalen Rouse. Starling is set to build upon a strong sophomore campaign that saw him combine

for over 1,100 all-purpose yards. The third-year Tiger rushed for 800 yards and three touchdowns, while also catching 37 passes for 312 yards.

There will be no shortage of skill at the wide receiver position, as Ellis will have many strong targets to throw the ball to. The Tigers graduated 658 yards and seven touchdowns through the air and will look for new and old faces to step up to fill that void. Sophomore Zaire Thornton highlights the wide receiver room, as he was selected to the All-OVC Preseason team. Thornton played in all 11 games last season and hauled in 26 passes for 398 yards and two scores, to give him 40 career catches and 554 yards in his career.

J.J. Holloman will look to provide Ellis with another set of strong hands, as the former Georgia Bulldog and FIU Panther arrives at TSU with 33 career receptions, 533 yards, and six touchdowns. Ball State transfer Karate Brenson is expected to be another transfer that will see a significant role in the Tiger offense. Brenson played in three games for the Cardinals a season ago and caught two passes for 12 yards. Third-year Tiger Gam Wyche returns as one of TSU's more experienced receivers as he has amassed 680 yards on 39 receptions and two



QB Draylen Ellis moves over from Austin Peay, where he earned the OVC co-Freshman of the Year in 2020-21.

touchdowns in his Tiger career.

Senior Zack Dobson will look to serve in a large role in the slot as he also provides experience, hauling in a combined 39 receptions, 479 yards, and seven touchdowns across three seasons at Middle Tennessee and TSU.

Sixth-year senior Josh Trueheart will get the start at tight end for the Tigers. The Nashville native has played in 35 games and has caught 26 passes for 292 yards and two scores.

Left guard Robert Lacey will lead the TSU offensive line. Robert was named an All-OVC Preseason selection and was most recently named to the 2023 Senior Bowl Watchlist. Jaalon Gupton will hold down the left tackle position, while junior Kennedy Wilbert will be in the middle at the center position. The right side of the line will feature sophomore Chazan Page at guard, while senior Brandon Jones at tackle.

The Tiger **defense** will be led by three All-OVC Preseason selections in James Green at linebacker, and Terray Jones and Tadarrius Patterson on the defensive line. K'Vaughan Pope, a transfer linebacker from Ohio State was selected as a Newcomer to Watch in the OVC.



*Slot receiver Zaire Thornton made an impression as a freshman, and many see a larger contribution from the Atlanta native this fall. So much so, he made the Preseason All-OVC team.*

In 2021 the TSU defense recorded nine interceptions, forced seven fumbles, and collected 25 sacks to go along with 68½ tackles for loss.

The Tigers' front four will consist of Jones, Patterson, Davoan Hawkins, and Terrell Allen. Jones finished with 28 tackles and three sacks last season, while Patterson finished with 30 tackles and 5.5 sacks. Hawkins, a former Kentucky defensive lineman is back for his third season, as he comes into the year with 61 career tackles and seven sacks. Jones finished last season with 22 tackles and two sacks. Allen, a transfer from Austin Peay who earned All-American honors as well as Second Team All-OVC honors a year ago is expected to be a key part of the rotation. Allen finished last season with 36 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, and



*Linebacker K'Vaughan Pope saw his playing time diminished at Ohio State, where he got into only 9 games over the past two seasons combined. He now hopes for a fresh start after transferring to Tennessee State.*

five sacks.

Green will be the leader in the middle of the TSU defense along with Jahsun Bryant, and Pope. Bryant returns for his fifth year after playing in 10 games and recording 75 tackles in 2021, which was the second most behind Bryant. The Nashville native forced and recovered two fumbles, while also notching three pass breakups, and two quarterback hurries.

Pope is expected to see lots of time at the linebacker position after transferring in from Ohio State. He played in 31 career games as a Buckeye and was a key contributor on special teams. Terry Straughter returns for his fifth year and will provide depth in the middle along with sixth-year Tiger Michael Crawford. Straughter has played in 35 career games at TSU and has racked up 118 career tackles, while Crawford has seen action in 29 games as Tiger, collecting 22 tackles.

Gleson Sprewell will get the start at strong safety after transferring in from Houston. The Arizona native played in 33 career games for the Cougars over a span of four seasons. He totaled 115 tackles, seven pass breakups, and six interceptions. He returned one interception for a touchdown in 2018. Bryce Phillips will start at one of the corner positions after transferring in from Santa Ana College. The California native played in nine games and recorded 19 tackles, two interceptions, one sack, and seven pass breakups.

Junior Josh Green will get the start at strong safety. The Florida native has played in 31 career games for TSU while collecting 169 tackles, 12 pass breakups, and six interceptions.

Buffalo transfer Cory Gross will provide depth at the safety position for TSU, along with James Reese IV. Gross played in 31 games for the Bulls over a span of three

seasons and recorded 149 tackles, two pass breakups, and one interception.

In **special teams**, veteran punter and fifth-year man Kaleb Mosley will once again handle the punting duties for the Tigers. Mosley was named to the FCS Punter of the Year Watch List after leading the OVC in punting average (41.7) last year. He recorded 10 punts of 50+ yards and landed 15 punts inside the 20. The Alabama native recorded a 61-yard punt at Eastern Illinois. Mosley has played in 37 career games.

Arkansas transfer and Brentwood native Matthew Phillips is expected to back up Mosley on kickoffs and field goals. Phillips played in seven games and finished his Arkansas career 1-of-1 with a 26-yard field goal. He punted four times for 152 yards as a freshman.



*Ball-hawking strong safety Josh Green returns for his junior season after registering 63 tackles and 5 pass breakups last year.*

# TENNESSEE STATE HEAD COACH

## EDDIE

# GEOORGE

### **Big Blue boss working OT to elevate football program**

**E**ddie George was announced as the 22nd head football coach at Tennessee State University on April 13, 2021. The 2021 TSU season was the first coaching experience of any kind for him.

"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."

Despite his lack of coaching experience, George quickly showed that he was an excellent fit to lead a college program.

Big Blue finished the 2021 season with a 5-6 record. However, the final mark did not show on the surface all the progress made during the season. George managed a team with 56 freshmen (more than half the team), a transfer quarterback in Jeremy Hickbottom and a newly assembled coaching staff.

The Tigers started out of the gate 1-3, then won four in a row. The win streak included a 28-0 shutout victory at Eastern Illinois. Tennessee State sat at 5-3 before dropping the season's final

three contests.

Still, George knows he has TSU's program headed in the right direction as he instills in his staff and players the proper mindset to become successful in any endeavor.

"I am trying to establish something with longevity, and I've had that experience in my business life," he told SI.com. "Being a coach and a leader is about service to others, not my ego. Coaching and preparing young men is only part of the job.

"The head coach is like the CEO of a business; he delegates like Chris Paul or Magic Johnson on a basketball team."







The Tennessee State 'CEO' knows the challenges facing him, but rising to the occasion is something that Coach George has done for much of his life, whether on the field or in the board room.

He is driven to take Tennessee State back to the heights of success of prior decades.

"This is not a university foreign to excellence," he acknowledged. "The bones of a good program are here. It is time to bring it all together and take it to the next level."

He gives credit to Jackson State coach Deion Sanders for helping him not only decide to accept this challenge but also some of the details regarding management once he took over.

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,



 [@EddieGeorge2727](https://twitter.com/EddieGeorge2727)



## COACHING EXPERIENCE

2021- Tennessee State  
Head Football Coach

Year	Overall	OVC
2021	5-6	3-3
2022	0-1	0-0

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 into the College Football 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 also started his own business, the Edward George Wealth Management Group. It is here that he forged a positive relationship with TSU President Glenda Glover.

He also owns a restaurant in Columbus called Eddie George Bar and Grille 27.

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.

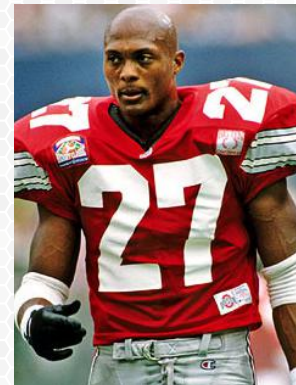
He is married to Tamara "Taj" George and they have two sons, Eriq and Jaire.



## IN THE NFL

Running Back  
Houston/Tennessee, Dallas  
1996-2004

George was taken No. 14 in the first round of the 1996 NFL Draft and immediately became a workhorse back for the Oilers/Titans. He logged at least 300 carries in each of his eight seasons with the team and made four straight Pro Bowl appearances (1997-2000). The Titans reached Super Bowl XXXIV during his fourth pro season. George became only the second running back in NFL history to rush for 10,000 yards while never missing a start, joining Jim Brown.



## IN COLLEGE

Running Back  
Ohio State  
1992-95

After playing sparingly his first two years in Columbus, George became a force as a junior, rushing for 1,442 yards and 12 touchdowns. He vaulted to a consensus All-American during his senior campaign, tallying a school-record 1,927 yards on the ground and 24 TDs. The Buckeyes won their first 11 games in 1995 and were ranked No. 2 before losing to Michigan in the regular-season finale. He did, however, take home the Heisman Trophy, narrowly beating Nebraska's Tommie Frazier.



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**U.S. AIR FORCE**

# TENNESSEE STATE ASSISTANT COACHES



AYCH



BOWDEN



BREWSTER



BURNS



FISHER



LEWIS



MCNUTT



PEARSON



SIMMONS



SMITH

**Theron Aych** joins the TSU coaching staff this year as offensive coordinator after one season at UTEP coaching the wide receivers.

He worked from 2017-20 as the receivers and tight ends coach at Arizona under Kevin Sumlin, where he developed a consistent quartet of pass catchers in a run-heavy offensive scheme.

This included Shun Brown, who picked up honorable mention All-Pac 12 honors with 43 receptions for 573 yards and six touchdowns.

His previous experience as an offensive play-caller came at Angelo State (2011-15), where he helped the Rams lead Division II in total offense. QB Kyle Washington threw for 27 TDs en route to being named Lone Star Conference Offensive Player of the Year.

The Zachary, La., native has also worked at Houston, Washington and Central Missouri.

**Joe Bowden** joined the Tennessee State staff in the spring of 2021 and is coaching the linebackers. Bowden came 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.

**Michael Brewster** is a new addition to the TSU staff as tight ends coach, after working for two seasons as quality control coach at Cincinnati under Luke Fickell.

In his brief career as a coach, he has also gained experience at Orangewood Christian School in Maitland, Fla., Western Michigan and Bowling Green.

He was a 5-star prospect at Edgewater High School in Orlando, which helped earn him a scholarship at Ohio State.

He started 49 consecutive games for the Buckeyes from 2008-11. While in Columbus, he earned Freshman All-American honors, first-team All-Big Ten, first-team All-American and was a finalist for the Rimington Trophy, which goes to the nation's best center.

**Keith Burns** joined Eddie George's staff at Tennessee State after working the previous 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.

**Anthony Lewis** joined the TSU staff as offensive line coach this spring after working 10 seasons at Angelo State.

Most recently, he helped develop the skills of TSU transfer Willis Patrick, who earned Division II All-American honors at the San Angelo, Texas-based school.

Patrick and two others each earned first-team All-Lone Star Conference honors in 2021, helping the Rams reach the D2 quarterfinals.

The San Antonio native was an accomplished lineman himself, earning All-LSC accolades in 2013. While there, he helped ASU break the school's single-season record for total yards per game.

**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 came 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.



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# MEET THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS

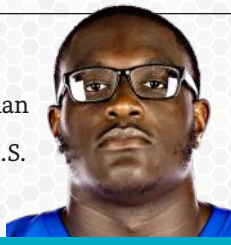
*Detoye*  
**ADEWOLE**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Antioch, Tenn.  
Cane Ridge H.S.



*Abraham*  
**ALABI**

Soph., Defensive Lineman  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio  
Pickerington Central H.S.  
tr-Eastern Kentucky



*Terrell*  
**ALLEN**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
North Little Rock, Ark.  
North Little Rock H.S.  
tr-Austin Peay



*Tony*  
**AMERSON**

Grad., Running Back  
Montgomery, Ala.  
St. James School  
tr-Georgia Tech



*Ken*  
**ANDREWS**

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



*Avery*  
**BLAIKIE**

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



*Darrell*  
**BRANCH**

Soph., Offensive Lineman  
Gilbert, Ariz.  
Higley H.S.  
tr-Arizona



*Deveon*  
**BRYANT**

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



*Jahsun*  
**BRYANT**

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



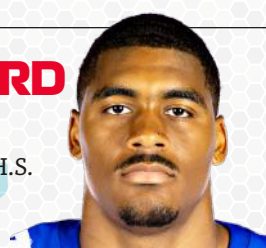
*Carson*  
**BUCHANAN**

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



*Michael*  
**CRAWFORD**

Sr., Linebacker  
Lynwood, Ill.  
Thornton Frac. So. H.S.



*Da'Shon*  
**DAVIS**

Jr., Wide Receiver  
Quincy, Fla.  
Jefferson County H.S.



*Zack*  
**DOBSON**

Sr., Wide Receiver  
Lonsdale, Tenn.  
Fulton H.S.



*Draylen*  
**ELLIS**

Jr., Quarterback  
Olive Branch, Miss.  
Kirby H.S.  
tr-Austin Peay



*Ken*  
**GARLINGTON**

Sr., Defensive Back  
Antioch, Tenn.  
Brentwood Academy



*Chayil*  
**GARNETT**

Soph., Quarterback  
Lakeland, Fla.  
Lake Wales H.S.  
tr-Auburn



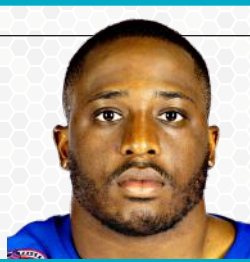
*Christopher*  
**GEORGIA**

Sr., Offensive Lineman  
Warner Robins, Ga.  
Warner Robins H.S.  
tr-Murray State



*James*  
**GREEN**

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



*Josh*  
**GREEN**

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



*Cory*  
**GROSS**

Sr., Cornerback  
Rochester, N.Y.  
Brockport H.S.  
tr-Buffalo



*Jaalon*  
**GUPTON**

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



*Darius*  
**HARPER**

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



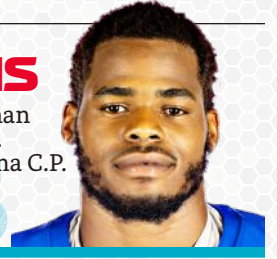
*Mayson*  
**HARRIS**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Pearl-Cohn H.S.



*Davoan*  
**HAWKINS**

Sr., Defensive Lineman  
Lauderdale Hill, Fla.  
Chaminade-Madonna C.P.  
tr-Kentucky



*Jordan*  
**HELTON**

Soph., Safety  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Memphis Univ. School



*Fondren*  
**HOLLIS III**

Soph., Defensive Back  
Decatur, Ga.  
Columbia H.S.



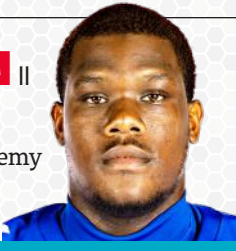
*J.J.*  
**HOLLOMAN**

Sr., Wide Receiver  
Covington, Ga.  
Newton H.S.  
tr-Georgia



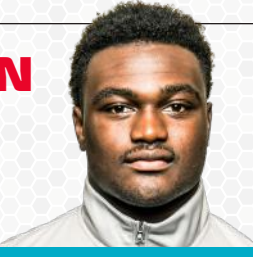
*Benjamin*  
**JOHNSON II**

Sr., Tight End  
Lithonia, Ga.  
Georgia Military Academy



*Dayron*  
**JOHNSON**

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



*Deron*  
**JOHNSON**

Jr., Linebacker  
Sacramento, Calif.  
Pleasant Grove H.S.  
tr-American River College



*Kendall*  
**JOHNSON**

Soph., Linebacker  
Jackson, Tenn.  
Olympia H.S.



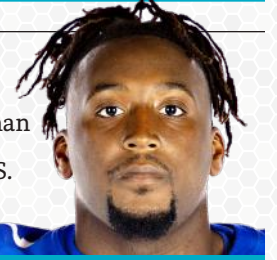
*Brandon*  
**JONES**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Dacula, Georgia  
Georgia Military College



*Terray*  
**JONES**

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



*Robert*  
**LACEY**

Sr., Offensive Lineman  
Mobile, Ala.  
Blount H.S.  
tr-Hutchinson C.C.



*Amari*  
**LeFLORE**

Soph., Safety  
Ridgeland, Miss.  
St. Andrews Episcopal



*Marcellious*  
**LOCKETT**

Jr., Defensive Back  
Lithonia, Ga.  
Martin Luther King H.S.



*Chancellor*  
**LORICK**

Fr., Cornerback  
Columbia, S.C.  
Lipscomb Academy



*James*  
**LOWERY**

Soph., Kicker/Punter  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.  
American Heritage H.S.  
tr-Northern Illinois



*Evan*  
**McCLARY**

Fr., Defensive End  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Germantown H.S.



*Jalen*  
**McCLENDON**

Soph., Defensive Back  
Tampa, Fla.  
Chamberlain H.S.



*Maurice*  
**McDONALD**

Jr., Linebacker  
Houston, Texas  
Houston Christian H.S.  
tr-South Alabama



*Logan*  
**McGRAW**

Fr., Linebacker  
Wyandotte, Mich.  
Roosevelt H.S.



# MEET THE TENNESSEE STATE TIGERS CONT.

Mike  
**MITCHELL**

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



Jaylen  
**MOORE**

Fr., Linebacker  
Smyrna, Tenn.  
Stewarts Creek H.S.  
tr-Bethel



Kaleb  
**MOSLEY**

Sr., Punter/Kicker  
Montgomery, Ala.  
Carver H.S.



Thomas  
**NANCE**

Sr., Tight End  
Eagle Lake, Fla.  
Lake Region H.S.  
tr-South Florida



Davion  
**NASH**

Sr., Linebacker  
East St. Louis, Ill.  
St. Louis Univ. H.S.



Evan  
**NEAL**

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



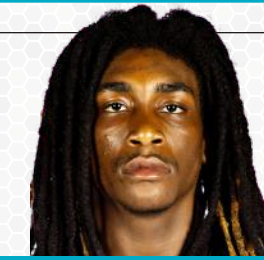
Ahmad  
**NELSON**

Soph., Linebacker  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Minor H.S.



Martino  
**OWENS**

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



Chandon  
**PAGE**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Pearl-Cohn H.S.



Chazan  
**PAGE**

Soph. Offensive Lineman  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Lipscomb Academy



Brandon  
**PALMER**

Fr., Wide Receiver  
Johns Creek, Ga.  
Johns Creek H.S.



Tadarrius  
**PATTERSON**

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



Bryce  
**PHILLIPS**

Fr., Cornerback  
Orange, Calif.  
Orange Lutheran H.S.  
tr-Santa Ana College



Matthew  
**PHILLIPS**

Sr., Kicker/Punter  
Brentwood, Tenn.  
Brentwood H.S.  
tr-Arkansas



K'Vaughan  
**POPE**

Sr., Linebacker  
Dinwiddie, Ohio  
Dinwiddie H.S.  
tr-Ohio State



Tucker  
**POPE**

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



James  
**REESE IV**

Jr., Defensive Back  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Cane Ridge H.S.



Edwin  
**RHODES III**

Soph., Quarterback  
Miami, Fla.  
American H.S.



Connor  
**RIDDERHOFF**

Fr., Long Snapper  
Chelsea, Ala.  
Chelsea H.S.



John  
**ROBERTS IV**

Fr., Wide Receiver  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Tennessee Valley Prep



Rayonta  
**ROSE**

Fr., Wide Receiver  
Belmont, N.C.  
South Point H.S.  
tr-North Carolina





Jalen  
**ROUSE**

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



Peter  
**ROUSE**

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



Christian  
**SMITH**

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



Christian  
**SMITH**

Fr., Wide Receiver  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Father Ryan H.S.  
tr-Eastern Michigan



Jytireus  
**SMITH**

Jr., Tight End  
Gulfport, Miss.  
Gulfport H.S.  
tr-Pearl River C.C.



Gleson  
**SPREWELL**

Grad., Safety  
Surprise, Ariz.  
Centennial H.S.  
tr-Houston



Devon  
**STARLING**

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



Cameron  
**STEWART**

Jr., Defensive Lineman  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
McCallie H.S.



Kobie  
**STILLWELL**

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



Terry  
**STRAUGHTER**

Grad., Linebacker  
Opa Locka, Fla.  
Miami Carol City H.S.



Romello  
**TARVER**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Delray Beach, Fla.  
Oxbridge Academy  
tr-McNeese State



Christon  
**TAYLOR**

Grad., Linebacker  
Hoover, Ala.  
Hoover H.S.  
tr-North Alabama



Zaire  
**THORNTON**

Soph., Wide Receiver  
Atlanta, Ga.  
Mays H.S.



James  
**THORPE**

Fr., Running Back  
Atlanta, Ga.  
The Heritage School



Boogie  
**TROTTER**

Fr., Cornerback  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Tennessee Valley Prep



Josh  
**TRUEHEART**

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



Gerand  
**TURNER**

Soph., Wide Receiver  
Miami, Fla.  
South Miami Senior H.S.



Jashon  
**WATKINS**

Soph., Cornerback  
Memphis, Tenn.  
E. Nashville Magnet H.S.  
tr-Memphis



Kennedy  
**WILBERT**

Jr., Offensive Lineman  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Middle College



Heath  
**WILLIAMS** Jr.

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



Cam  
**WYCHE**

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



# 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."

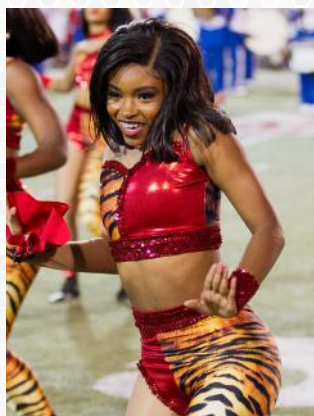
Students who achieve membership in "The Aristocrat of Bands" adhere to those standards today.

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.





Lee Harris, Mayor

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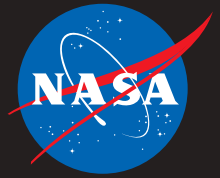


 @TVA\_Memphis | [tva.com/Memphis](http://tva.com/Memphis)

# CLASSIC PARADE

Classic GameDay gets off to a roaring start, and the Memphis neighborhood of Orange Mound takes center stage with the Classic Parade. More than 10,000 people line Park Avenue between Haynes Street and Airways Boulevard to see a spectacle consisting of floats, rides, clowns, and area high-school bands. Civic groups also participate and display their community pride. To top it all off, Jackson State's Sonic Boom of the South and Tennessee State's Aristocrat of Bands perform and help make this a Must See Event for the whole family.





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[intern.nasa.gov/](http://intern.nasa.gov/)

For more about our specific locations, visit:

[www.nasa.gov/about/sites/](http://www.nasa.gov/about/sites/)

## Pathways Internship Program

The Pathway Program provides current students and recent graduates with paid work experience and a dynamic development opportunity at the beginning of their careers.

Pathways provides three programs:

- NASA Pathways Intern Employment Program
- NASA Pathways Recent Graduates Program
- NASA Pathways Presidential Management Fellows Program

Pathways internships are listed on

[www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

This program offers the chance for permanent NASA employment.

## NASA Internships Program

NASA Internships provide students with hands-on, project-based experiences, both stipend-paid and volunteer, that directly relate to students' academic majors. Interns work on mentor-directed tasks designed to advance projects to the next level. Internship opportunities are available for:

- High School Students
- Undergraduate Students
- Graduate Students
- Educators

For more information on other internships, visit

[intern.nasa.gov](http://intern.nasa.gov)

These internships are not listed on USAJOBS.



# 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, Liberty Park 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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# CLASSIC SCORES

The Southern Heritage Classic began in 1990 to enhance the regional rivalry between HBCU powers Tennessee State and Jackson State. Since then, 30 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, 1,400,176 fans have passed through the turnstiles for an average attendance of 46,672.

<b>TEAM RECORDS:</b>				
	17-13	11-17	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 2OT

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-Cromartie 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

## 2021 Sept. 11

Tennessee State	0	7	0	9	—	16
Jackson State	7	3	14	14	—	38

Attendance: 46,171

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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# CLASSIC RECORDS

## RUSHING

### Most attempts —

- 33 Maurice Hampton, JSU in 1995
- 33 Preston Brown, TSU in 2010
- 32 Destrly Wright, JSU in 1998
- 27 Eric Gant, GSU in 1993
- 27 Charles Anthony, TSU in 2004

### Most rushing yards —

- 218 Preston Brown, TSU in 2010
- 175 Nathan McLaurin, JSU in 2000
- 171 Charles Anthony, TSU in 2004
- 156 Eric Gant, GSU in 1993
- 146 James Johnson, JSU in 1992

### Most yards per carry (min. 10 carries) —

- 10.9 Nathan McLaurin, JSU in 2000 (16-175)
- 9.9 Telvin Hooks, TSU in 2012 (10-99)
- 9.2 Calvin Davenport, TSU in 1998 (13-120)
- 8.9 Tarnak Counsilor, JSU in 2002 (14-125)
- 8.7 Charles Anthony, TSU in 2002 (13-113)

### Most touchdowns —

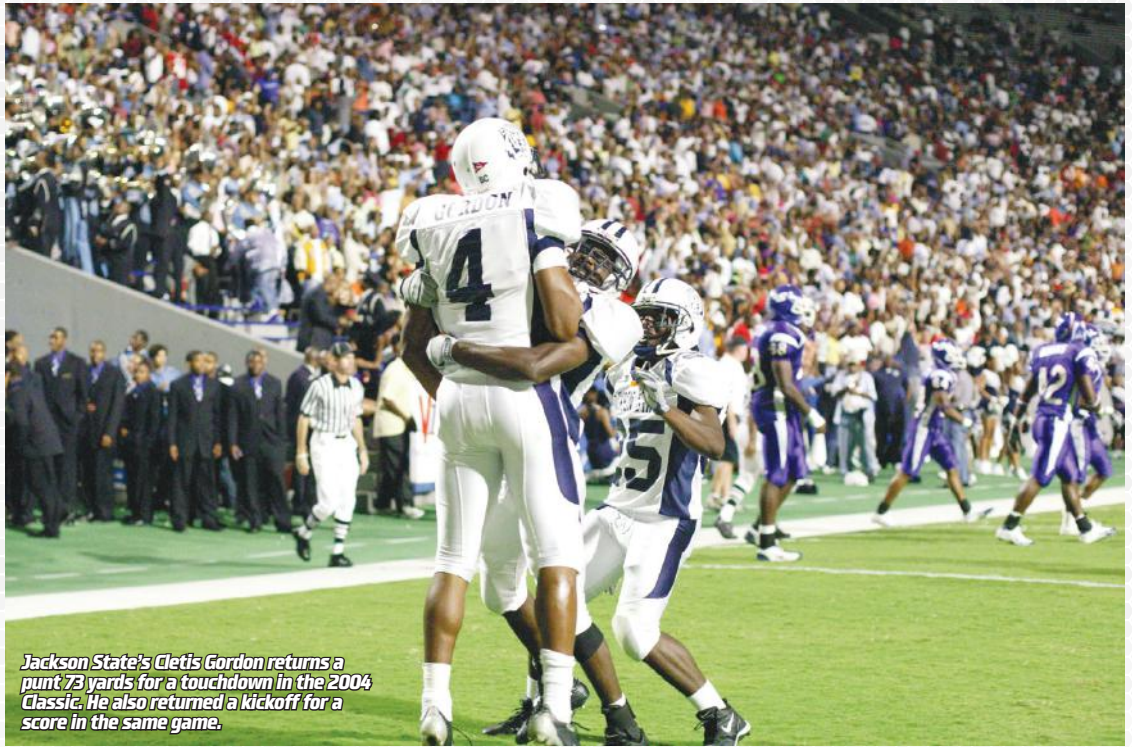
- 3 Darrell Asberry, JSU in 1994
- 3 Javarris Williams, TSU in 2006
- 3 Trabis Ward, TSU in 2012

### Longest rush —

- 68 Nathan McLaurin, JSU in 2000
- 54 Calvin McNairl, TSU in 2009 (no TD)
- 52 Tyson Alexander, JSU in 2019
- 51 Telvin Hooks, TSU in 2012 (no TD)



**Preston Brown**



**Jackson State's Cletis Gordon returns a punt 73 yards for a touchdown in the 2004 Classic. He also returned a kickoff for a score in the same game.**

### Most yards per completion (min. 20 att.) —

- 23.8 Ricky Jordan, JSU in 1992 (11-262)
- 17.5 Cameron Rosendahl, TSU in 2019 (22-384)
- 17.3 James Wade, TSU in 1992 (23-399)
- 16.7 O'Shay Ackerman-Carter, TSU in 2015 (15-250)
- 16.6 Leon Murray, JSU in 1998 (15-249)



**Casey Theriault**

## TOTAL OFFENSE

### Most plays —

- 69 Robert Kent, JSU in 2001 (16 rush, 53 pass)
- 63 James Wade, TSU in 1992 (14 rush, 49 pass)
- 58 Brent Lyles, JSU in 2017 (13 rush, 45 pass)
- 56 LaMontiez Ivy, JSU in 2015 (16 rush, 40 pass)
- 54 Casey Theriault, JSU in 2011 (15 rush, 39 pass)

### Most total offense yards —

- 399 James Wade, TSU in 1992 (10 rush, 399 pass)
- 372 Robert Kent, JSU in 2001 (34 rush, 338 pass)
- 369 Cameron Rosendahl, TSU in 2019 (15 rush, 384 pass)
- 355 Robert Kent, JSU in 2003 (28 rush, 327 pass)

## RECEIVING

### Most receptions —

- 11 Patrick Robinson, TSU in 1992
- 11 T.C. Taylor, JSU in 2001
- 10 Dan Williams, JSU in 2015
- 10 Steven Newbold, TSU in 2019
- 9 Tim Manning, JSU in 2003

### Most receiving yards —

- 196 Steven Newbold, TSU in 2019
- 182 Patrick Robinson, TSU in 1992
- 173 Dan Williams, JSU in 2015
- 139 Chris Rowland, TSU in 2019
- 123 Greg Spann, JSU in 1994
- 122 Tim Manning, JSU in 2003

### Most touchdowns —

- 2 Charles Jones, GSU in 1993
- 2 Greg Spann, JSU in 1995
- 2 Quincy Culberson, JSU in 1996
- 2 Corey Bradford, JSU in 1997
- 2 Julius Hull, TSU in 2000
- 2 Marvin Jones, TSU in 2001
- 2 T.C. Taylor, JSU in 2001
- 2 Carlos Wright, TSU in 2001
- 2 Steven Newbold, TSU in 2019

### Most yards per reception (min. 5 rec.) —

- 22.8 Marcellos Wilder, JSU in 2011 (5-114)
- 21.0 Jimmy Smith, JSU in 1990 (5-105)
- 21.0 La Shan Ausmer, JSU in 1994 (5-105)
- 20.5 Greg Spann, JSU in 1994 (6-123)
- 20.2 Corey Bradford, JSU in 1997 (5-101)

### Longest reception —

- 75 Antonius Kimbrough, JSU in 1992
- 67 Keith Corbin, JSU in 2021
- 64 Patrick Smith, TSU in 2015
- 64 Chris Sanders-McCollum, TSU in 2015
- 63 Isiah Bliss, JSU in 1992

## SCORING

### Most points —

- 18 Darrell Asberry, JSU in 1994 (3 rush)
- 18 Marvin Jones, TSU in 2001 (1 rush, 2 pass)
- 18 Javarris Williams, TSU in 2006 (3 rush)

### Most points kicking —

- 16 Joey Hudak, TSU in 2001
- 14 Jamin Godfrey, TSU in 2013
- 12 Seth Goodowens, TSU in 1999

### Most field goals —

- 4 Jamin Godfrey, TSU in 2013
- 3 Joey Hudak, TSU in 2001
- 2 8 times, last by Christian Jacquemin, JSU in 2017

### Longest field goal —

- 50 Seth Goodowens, TSU in 1999
- 50 Eric Perri, JSU in 2007
- 49 Christian Jacquemin, JSU in 2017
- 49 Antonio Zita, TSU in 2019

### Most point-after-touchdowns —

- 7 Joey Hudak, TSU in 2001
- 7 Adrian Salazar, JSU in 2019

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Longest punt —

- 66 Darby Williamson, JSU in 2014
- 64 Dominic Addison, JSU in 2002
- 61 Brett Bennett, JSU in 2007
- 61 Brett Bennett, JSU in 2009
- 60 Clifford Green, TSU in 1995
- 60 Dominic Addison, JSU in 2005

### Longest punt return —

- 81 Warren Newman, JSU in 2021
- 73 Cletis Gordon, JSU in 2004
- 72 Ernest Pate, JSU in 1992 (no TD)
- 67 Jarrett Morrow, TSU in 2003
- 63 Julius Hull, TSU in 2000 (no TD)

### Punt returns for touchdown —

- 20 Ahmed Safeullah, TSU in 2003 (blocked)
- 67 Jarrett Morrow, TSU in 2003
- 73 Cletis Gordon, JSU in 2004
- 40 Josh Miller, JSU in 2016 (blocked)
- 0 Ben Thomas, JSU in 2016 (blocked)
- 56 Patrick Smith, TSU in 2017
- 81 Warren Newman, JSU in 2021

### Longest kickoff return —

- 100 Avion Black, TSU in 1999
- 100 Josh Littles, JSU in 2019
- 96 Chris Rowland, TSU in 2019
- 91 Patrick Robinson, TSU in 1992 (no TD)
- 89 Cletis Gordon, JSU in 2004

### Kickoff returns for touchdown —

- 100 Avion Black, TSU in 1999
- 100 Josh Littles, JSU in 2019
- 96 Chris Rowland, TSU in 2019
- 89 Cletis Gordon, JSU in 2004
- 89 Terrell Kennedy, JSU in 2017

### Most tackles —

- 15 Ariane McCree, JSU in 2013
- 14 Nate Wellington, TSU in 1993
- 14 Charlie Crawford, JSU in 1997
- 13 6 times, last by Joseph Scott, JSU in 2004

### Most sacks —

- 4½ James Houston, JSU in 2021
- 3 Ebenezer Ogundeko, TSU in 2016
- 2½ Anthony Bass, TSU in 2014

### Most interceptions —

- 3 Picasso Nelson, JSU in 1995
- 2 5 times, last by De'Ante Saunders, TSU in 2014

### Interceptions returned for touchdown —

- 75 Lamar Carter, TSU in 1998
- 35 Dom. Rodgers-Cromartie, TSU in 2004
- 39 Ty/Ron Johnson, TSU in 2008
- 43 Eugene Clifford, TSU in 2008
- 78 Ryan Griffin, JSU in 2013
- 50 Daniel Fitzpatrick, TSU in 2013
- 45 De'Ante Saunders, TSU in 2014
- 25 Ezra Robinson, TSU in 2016

### Longest interception return —

- 78 Ryan Griffin, JSU in 2013
- 75 Lamar Carter, TSU in 1998
- 71 De'Ante Saunders, TSU in 2013 (no TD)

# PLAYING OUR PART



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Since the first Southern Heritage Classic was staged in 1990, 53 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)
- Dominique “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 (2010–21)
- 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 Rhaney** (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)
- Lachavious Simmons** (OL), TSU — Chicago (2020– )
- 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



Anthony Levine retired after the 2021 season to join the Ravens’ staff. He played 12 seasons in the NFL and captained one of the league’s best special teams units.

PHOTO: Shawn Hubbard/Baltimore Ravens



Lachavious Simmons was drafted in the 7th round of the 2020 NFL Draft by Chicago and made his first career start last season against Tampa Bay.

PHOTO: Chicago Bears



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

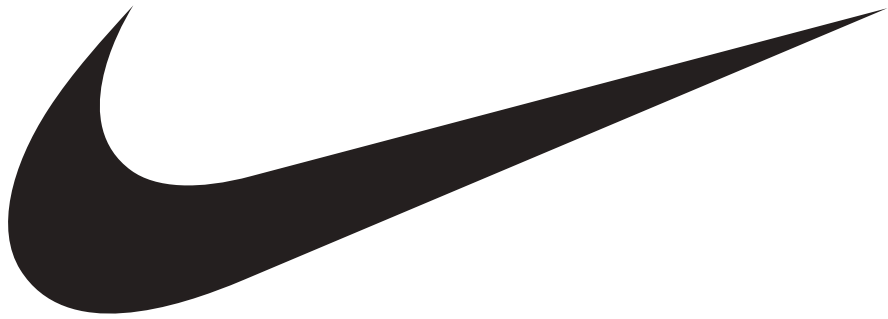
PHOTO: Jacksonville Jaguars



Two-time Pro Bowler Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie played 12 seasons in the NFL but retired after the 2019 season.

PHOTO: AP Images





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