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A Private Lakefront Community
La'Dontе Harris .......... 10,11
Senior Spotlight
It was the dynamic football mind and natural athletic ability that allowed him to take the field as a true freshman in 2004. Wide Receivers Coach Dabo Swinney will be quick to admit that there have not been many players that he has trusted to take the field as quickly as this Tiger senior.

Chris Wade .......... 13
Senior Spotlight
This Tiger defensive back is a study in perseverance. The senior from Newman, GA originally wanted to walk on to the team in 2004 as a placekicker. However, coaches were impressed with his speed and quickness during his tryout for the team that they approached him about playing as a wide receiver.

1957 Clemson Team ......... 115
50th Anniversary
The 1957 football team is being honored on its golden anniversary this "Tiger Football Reunion Day." Coach Frank Howard and his staff's pictured left love affair with the team was likely predicated on Clemson's four-game winning streak after disappointing losses to North Carolina and N.C. State early in the year.

Tiger Track & Football .... 118,119
Tiger Dual-Sport Speedsters
Clemson has had a big-play offense the last two years thanks to the abilities of many players, but two in particular, Jacoby Ford and C.J. Spiller (pictured left), have the ability to change a game. What separates them from other gridiron players can be traced to accomplishments in the sport of track and field.

The Last Word .......... 120
2007 Senior Class
This class has seen the Tigers gain seven wins over ranked teams, just one short of the school record. This group has seen Clemson make a steady improvement, reaching a level of consistency that has not been seen here since the 1986-91 era. That was the last time Clemson won at least eight games three years in a row.
Tigers vs. Eagles for ACC Atlantic Division Title
Clemson and Boston College will play for the ACC Atlantic Division Championship this evening at Memorial Stadium. It will be a landmark victory for the winner. Clemson has not won an ACC title since 1991, and Boston College has never been an outright conference champion.

An independent through 1990, Boston College joined the Big East in 1991 and remained in that league through the 2004 season. It became a member of the ACC in 2005. The closest Boston College has come to a league title was in 2004, its last year in the Big East. Entering the final game of that season, it had to defeat Syracuse at home on the Saturday after Thanksgiving to claim the Big East title (outright). But, Syracuse pulled off the 43-17 victory, allowing Pittsburgh to go to a BCS Bowl as the Big East Champion.

Clemson has not won an ACC Championship since 1991, when a defense led by future NFL players Levon Kirkland, Chester McCloikton, and Brentson Buckner led the nation in rushing defense. The Tigers were 9-1-1 in the regular season that year and had a 6-0-1 record in the ACC, good enough for the league title.

The Tigers have more ACC titles (13) than any other school. Clemson also won the Southern Conference title in both 1940 and 1948, giving the program 15 conference championships in its history.

The winner of the Clemson vs. Boston College game will face the winner of the November 24 contest between Virginia and Virginia Tech in the ACC title game in Jacksonville, FL on December 1 at 1:00 PM.

Two Straight Overtime Matchups
Clemson and Boston College have gone to overtime each of the last two years, and both games have ended in Eagle victories. Those losses to Boston College kept Clemson out of the ACC title game each year. The way the tiebreakers fell each of the last two years, had Clemson scored just one more point in regulation against the Eagles, it would have been Atlantic Division Champions each year.

But Boston College won the last meeting between the two teams in Death Valley by a 16-13 score in overtime. The Eagles won last year in Boston by a score of 34-33 in double overtime. This is not the only Clemson series versus an ACC team in which back-to-back games went to overtime. In 2004 and 2005, Clemson split consecutive overtime games with Miami (FL). Clemson won the 2004 game in the Orange Bowl by a score of 24-17 in one overtime, then in 2005, the Hurricanes beat Clemson 36-30 in three extra periods.

Overall, Clemson and Boston College have played 16 times on the gridiron, and the series is tied 7-7-2. Clemson has not beaten Boston College since 1958, a 34-12 win in Death Valley. The Eagles have a 4-0-1 record against Clemson since that game.

The teams first met in the 1940 Cotton Bowl (at the end of 1939 season), and the Tigers came away with a 6-3 victory. Banks McFadden led Clemson with his outstanding play as a quarterback, punter, and defensive back. That was Clemson's first bowl game in history. It gave Clemson a 9-1 record that season.

Boston College Update
It has been a great first season for Boston College Head Coach Jeff Jagodzinski. He led the Eagles to an 8-0 start, a winning streak that brought Boston College to a #2 national ranking. The season started with three straight conference victories, wins over Wake Forest, N.C. State, and Georgia Tech.

The winning continued with four straight non-conference wins, including a win at Notre Dame that was played on his father's birthday. The season reached a crescendo with a come-from-behind win at Virginia Tech on a Thursday night on ESPN. That moved the Eagles to #2 in the polls. A loss at home to Florida State and a setback at Maryland followed, but Boston College still controls its own destiny as far as reaching the ACC Championship game.

Quarterback Matt Ryan is the leader of the Eagle offense, which has been led by the Heisman Trophy radar all season. He has Boston College at the top of the ACC charts in terms of total offense and passing offense, and has the team second in scoring offense (behind Clemson).

Ryan has completed 59.4 percent of his passes for 3,269 yards and 24 touchdowns. He is first in the ACC in passing offense, while Clemson's Cullen Harper is second.

Boston College has three of the top-10 pass catchers in the ACC in terms of receptions per game. Brandon Robinson is the top wideout with 48 catches for 700 yards and five touchdowns. Andre Callender is a big-play performer with 44 receptions for 470 yards, while tight end Ryan Purvis has added 44 catches for 431 yards. Callender is the top rusher with 734 yards on 154 carries, a 4.8-yard average, and eight rushing touchdowns. He has 12 total touchdowns, most in the ACC.

The Eagles lead the ACC in rushing defense and are second in the nation overall, allowing just 66 yards per game. They will be a stiff challenge for Clemson's running game that features James Davis and C.J. Spiller. Safety Jamie Silva is the top tackler with 94 stops, while defensive end Alex Albright has 7.5 sacks, third-most in the ACC. Silva is tied for the ACC lead in interceptions (5), while DeJuan Tribble has added four thefts. Boston College's defense has an ACC-best 16 interceptions as well.

Tigers in Top 20 in Scoring Offense & Defense
Clemson is 16th in the nation in scoring offense and 15th in scoring defense, one of six teams nationally who are in the top 20 in the nation in both categories. The other schools in the top 20 in both are Kansas, Oklahoma, Boise State, West Virginia, and Louisana State. Clemson is averaging 37 points per game, including 47.8 points per game over the last four weeks. The Tigers have outscored their last four opponents by a 191-51 margin, including an 88-0 advantage in the second quarter.

The Tigers have outscored the opposition by 19.1 points per game this season. That is ninth-best in the nation. Kansas has a +31.0 scoring margin to lead the nation this year, while Oklahoma is second with a +28.2 figure.

Clemson Defensive Has Outstanding Numbers
Clemson is third in the nation in pass defense, fifth in total defense, and 15th in scoring defense. Coaches have said many times that you win titles with your defense, and the Tigers are on track to reach the ACC Championship game with a victory over Boston College.

So far this year, Clemson has allowed just 282.6 yards per game, fifth-best in the nation. Clemson has not finished in the top five in the nation in total defense since 1991, when the Tigers finished fourth (263.2). In 1990, Clemson had the nation's best figure (216.9), the only season that Clemson has been #1 in total defense.

This is the third year that Clemson has been in the top 20 in total defense under Coordinator Vic Koening. Clemson finished 20th in 2005 (316.6), while the 2006 team finished 13th (280.8).

Leading the way defensively with 101 tackles is Nick Watkins. He had 15 tackles in the win over Wake Forest last weekend. The senior is 10th in Clemson history in tackles (369). Michael Hamlin is also having an All-ACC year with 68 tackles and four interceptions. Traimaine Billie is third on the squad with 63 stops, while Chris Clemmons has 61. Phillip Merling leads the defensive linemen with 59 tackles, including 14 tackles for loss and four sacks.

Tigers Prominent in Top-25 Stat Rankings
Clemson has an 8-2 record and is ranked #15 in the BCS poll, #15 by AP, and #16 by USA Today this week. Based on those team rankings, one would think that Clemson has some individuals in the top 25 in various statistical categories. A look to the NCAA stats shows that to be the case. No less than six Tigers are in the top 25 in various categories in this week's NCAA statistics.

The highest Tiger in any category is C.J. Spiller, who is fifth in the nation in kickoff returns. He has
had a kickoff return for a score each of the last two games, an 84-yarder at Duke and a 90-yarder against Wake Forest. He became the first Tiger to return a kickoff for a touchdown in consecutive games. Those were his eighth and ninth career touchdowns of 50 yards or more. The kickoff return for a touchdown was the first allowed by Wake Forest, since 2002.

Spiller has a 32.8-yard average per kickoff return this year, best in the ACC.

Cullen Harper is 13th in the nation in passing efficiency (154.1). He has 26 touchdowns passes against just four interceptions, and the 6.5-to-1 touchdown-to-interception ratio is fourth-best in the nation.

During the last four games, Harper has completed 84-109 passes, a 77-percent accuracy, for 902 yards and 12 touchdowns against just one interception. His pass efficiency rating is 181.1 in the last four games as well.

Wideout Aaron Kelly is tied for 16th in the nation in receptions per game and 28th in reception yards per game. He has had at least one touchdown catch in five straight games, tying a school record. One against Boston College would break the record that he shares with Derrick Hamilton (2003). Kelly’s 11 touchdown receptions are already a school record, one better than the total Hamilton had in 2003.

Placekicker Mark Buchholz leads the ACC in scoring with 9.0 points per game, tied for 24th-best in the nation. He has made 16-24 field goals, and the 1.6 field goals per game are 24th-best in the nation. Last week, he became the first Tiger to make three field goals of at least 45 yards in one game.

Punter Jimmy Maners has quietly had an outstanding year. With the success of the Tiger offense of late, he has not had many opportunities, but he has a 43.7-yard average for the year, good for 17th-best in the nation.

Finally, Phillip Merling is 25th in the nation in tackles for loss per game. He had three tackles for loss last week against Wake Forest, including two sacks, and has 14 tackles for loss in 2007.

Two-Top Quarterbacks on Display
The top-two quarterbacks in the ACC will compete when Clemson plays host to Boston College. The quarterback of the winning team will have a leg up on being named First-Team All-ACC. Clemson quarterback Cullen Harper is having a strong year. He has already established 20 school records on a season or game basis, and many more should be on the way if he continues his current pace.

The junior from Alpharetta, GA had his best game of the year (statistically) against Central Michigan when he completed 20-22 passes for 273 yards and five touchdowns, leading to a Tiger-record 261.4 pass efficiency figure.

Harper continued his fine play at Maryland, completing 20-26 passes for 179 yards and two touchdowns. Last week in the important win over Wake Forest, he completed 27-35 passes for 266 yards and three touchdowns. For the season, he has 26 touchdown passes against just four interceptions. He is also averaging 243.2 yards per game through the air.

Ryan has been rated among the top candidates for the Heisman Trophy this year. He has completed 276 passes for 3,289 yards and 24 touchdowns. He leads the ACC in passing yards per game (326.9) and is second to Harper in touchdown passes.

Harper has the upperhand over Ryan in terms of passing efficiency and completion percentage, but Ryan has the upperhand in terms of passing yards and total offense.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Ryan</th>
<th>Harper</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Games</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion %</td>
<td>59.4</td>
<td>66.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passing Yards/Game</td>
<td>326.9</td>
<td>243.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Yards/Attempt</td>
<td>7.03</td>
<td>7.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passing Yards/Completion</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>11.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Touchdown Passes</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass Attempts/Interception</td>
<td>35.8</td>
<td>80.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Touchdown/Interception Ratio</td>
<td>1.8/1</td>
<td>6.5/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passing Efficiency</td>
<td>129.8</td>
<td>154.1</td>
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</table>

Two-Sport Athletes
Two of the top two-sport athletes in the ACC will be on display this evening. Clemson placekicker Mark Buchholz is a senior captain of the Clemson men’s soccer team, while Boston College punter Johnny Ayers is a starting infielder for the Eagles’ baseball squad.

This is actually the second time in two weeks that Buchholz will be playing against Boston College in a “Senior Day” game. On November 4, Buchholz helped the Tiger soccer team to a 1-0 upset of #6 Boston College in a match at Riggs Field. That was Buchholz’ “Senior Day” for men’s soccer. He still has another year of eligibility in football, so this will not be his “Senior Day” for football, but it will be the case for 16 Tiger seniors on the 2007 team.

Buchholz is having quite a year on the gridiron. Last week in the win over Wake Forest, he became the first Tiger to boot three field goals of at least 45 yards in the same game. He converted from 48, 52, and 46 yards in helping Clemson to a 44-10 victory. The 52-yarder was the first field goal of at least 50 yards by a Tiger since David Richardson kicked a 52-yarder at Wake Forest in 1997.

Buchholz’s 52-yard effort came on the last play of the first half. Richardson was at the game, but he made an early exit to get to his tailgating spot before the last drive, and thus he missed Buchholz’s kick.

Buchholz is now leading the ACC in scoring with 90 points. He is 16-24 on field goals and a perfect 42-42 on extra points. He has a great opportunity to break the school record for kickoff scoring in a season. The existing mark is 107 points by Chris Gardocki in 1989. It is interesting to note that Gardocki scored 13 points in a 44-10 win over Wake Forest in a game at Clemson. Last Saturday, Buchholz totaled 14 points in a 44-10 win over the same Demon Deacons in Death Valley.

Ayers, a senior from Virginia, is sixth in the ACC and 38th in the nation in punting (42.0). He is an infielder on the baseball diamond, where he hit .328 last year, second-best on the team. While Buchholz will have faced two Eagles teams at Clemson this year, Ayers will do the same this academic year. Ayers will be with the Boston College baseball team when it plays at Clemson from March 14-16. Last year, he played in all three contests at Doug Kingsmore Stadium and was 3-for-14 at the plate.

Davis & Kelly in Top 10 in Tiger History
Clemson’s balance on offense has been a key to its recent four-game winning streak. The balance is typified by the performances of running back James Davis and wide receiver Aaron Kelly. Both players have outstanding teammates working with them…C.J. Spiller as a running back and Tyler Grisham as a wideout.

Both Davis and Kelly are already in the “800 club” and are on track to reach 1,000-yard seasons in their respective categories. Davis has 860 rushing yards on 156 carries and eight rushing scores. Kelly has 67 catches for 841 yards and a school-record 11 touchdown receptions.

Both juniors have moved into the top five in Tiger history in their respective areas of expertise. Davis is third on Clemson’s career rushing list with 2,926 yards. He only trails Travis Zachery (3,058) and Raymond Priester (3,066).

Kelly is fifth in catches (144). Derrick Hamilton is the recordholder with 167, so he could reach that total by year’s end. Kelly has 16 career touchdown catches and needs just three to break Glenn Smith’s school record of 18. That is one of the oldest Tiger records, as Smith played from 1949-51.

Clemson Career Rushing Leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rk</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>TD</th>
<th>TDs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Raymond Priester</td>
<td>1994-97</td>
<td>5.05</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Travis Zachery</td>
<td>1998-01</td>
<td>6.91</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>James Davis</td>
<td>2005-07</td>
<td>5.24</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kenny Flowers</td>
<td>1983-86</td>
<td>5.90</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Terry Allen</td>
<td>1987-89</td>
<td>5.23</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Woodrow Danzler</td>
<td>1996-98</td>
<td>5.59</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Buddy Gore</td>
<td>1966-68</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>429</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ray Yaeger</td>
<td>1968-70</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chuck McSwain</td>
<td>1979-82</td>
<td>4.83</td>
<td>480</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Stacey Driver</td>
<td>1982-85</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>412</td>
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Clemson Career Receiving Leaders

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Derrick Hamilton, WR</td>
<td>2001-03</td>
<td>2312</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Rod Gardner, WR</td>
<td>1997-99</td>
<td>2496</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Terry Smith, WR</td>
<td>1990-93</td>
<td>2681</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Perry Tuttle, WR</td>
<td>1974-81</td>
<td>2534</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Aaron Kelly, WR</td>
<td>2005-07</td>
<td>2439</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kevin Youngblood, WR</td>
<td>2000-03</td>
<td>1713</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chansi Stuckey, WR</td>
<td>2003-06</td>
<td>1760</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>2223</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Brian Wofford, WR</td>
<td>1996-99</td>
<td>1857</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Airese Currie, WR</td>
<td>2001-04</td>
<td>2020</td>
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Mark Buchholz, who already has one Senior Day win over Boston College, became the first Tiger to kick three field goals of at least 45 yards last Saturday against Wake Forest.
## Statistical Matchup

### Clemson vs. Boston College

### Associated Press

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<td>Oregon</td>
<td>7-12</td>
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<td>Redskins</td>
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### National Polls

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### 2007 Results & Schedule

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<th>W-L</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td><em>Florida State</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>24-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Louisiana-Monroe</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>49-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>Furman</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>28-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 16</td>
<td><em>at N.C. State</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>42-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 23</td>
<td><em>at Georgia Tech</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>28-12</td>
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<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td><em>Virginia Tech</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>23-41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>Central Michigan</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>70-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 27</td>
<td><em>at Maryland</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>30-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 3</td>
<td><em>at Duke</em></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>47-10</td>
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<td>Nov. 10</td>
<td><em>Wake Forest</em></td>
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<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>at South Carolina</td>
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- ACC game; Note: All times are PM and EST, home games in bold.

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**Aaron Kelly has 67 receptions and a school-record 11 touchdown catches this season. The junior also has 144 career catches.**

---

**Category**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Clemson</th>
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<td>654</td>
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<td>Yards/Play</td>
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<td>4-5</td>
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<td>Rushing Yards/Game</td>
<td>164.5</td>
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<td>Passing Yards/Game</td>
<td>258.8</td>
<td>161.8</td>
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<td>First Downs/Game</td>
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<td>19-1307</td>
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<td>Kickoff Returns</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Turnovers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third-Down Conversion</td>
<td>44.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Points</td>
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<td>29-27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Points/Game</td>
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<td>Touchdowns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interceptions By Defense</td>
<td>12-80</td>
<td>4-32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacks</td>
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### Passing

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### Receiving

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### Tackles

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<td>TFL</td>
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**Category**

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**2007 Schedule**

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<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td><em>N.C. State</em></td>
<td>ESPN2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 23</td>
<td><em>at Georgia Tech</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td><em>Virginia Tech</em></td>
<td>ESPN2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td><em>at Georgia Tech</em></td>
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<td>7:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td><em>at Duke</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td><em>at Maryland</em></td>
<td>ESPN2</td>
<td>7:45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ACC game; Note: All times are PM and EST, home games in bold.
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By Bucky Berlin

It is not hard to miss Barry Richardson. At 6'7" and 330 pounds, he is as imposing on the football field as he is walking around campus. Surprisingly enough, the native of Mount Pleasant, SC is about as quiet and soft-spoken as they come. Former running back Reggie Merriweather does not remember him saying much after "hello" during Richardson's recruiting visit. Regardless, the gentle giant has earned the respect of his coaches and teammates in four years as Clemson's starting left offensive tackle.

Besides, what is there to talk about as #79 pancakes you into the ground? True gladiators that do the dirty work in the trenches, linemen rarely get the credit and recognition they deserve. Their skilled and physical play determines how much time a quarterback has to throw or whether a running back will make it out of the backfield. When watching a game, their play is often overlooked as the action moves elsewhere. But without them, plays do not develop, points are not scored, and games are not won.

Offensive linemen have a system of rating their performance unique to their position that is based on blocking success, quarterback protection, and total offensive yardage, among other things. Whether it is staying on a block for the duration of a play or flat-out knocking a guy down, linemen must win the battle at the line of scrimmage in order to be successful. When recruiting a lineman out of high school, coaches are often just looking for the biggest and most physical guys on the block.

Clemson's Offensive Line Coach Brad Scott first heard about Richardson during a phone call from Bob Hayes, the head coach at Wando High School. Hayes had a big offensive lineman who was going to graduate a year early, and he suggested that Scott take a look at him. A three-year starter at Wando High, he had an 85-percent grade as a senior, totaling 15 knockdowns and 16 pancake blocks. Seeing a raw but extremely athletic player on tape, Scott was quick to offer Richardson a scholarship.

"I thought this was the best opportunity for me to come in and play, and actually win," reflected Richardson on his selection of Clemson. "I decided to commit after making my visit. The players on the team treated me as a friend, and that really meant a lot to me."

Richardson would become the first-ever Tiger football recruit to finish high school in only three years. Little did Clemson coaches realize at the time that he would also start eight games as a true-freshman, the most in school history by a first-year freshman offensive lineman. Most offensive linemen are expected to go through a year of conditioning and development before seeing large amounts of playing time, but by overcoming doubts about his age and demonstrating his pure athleticism, Richardson made an early impact on the offensive line.

"We didn’t think he’d be a guy that could come in his first year and compete," said Scott. "Of course, we were wrong about that, because he competed extremely well from the first day of training camp."

He showed just how well a big man could move his feet soon after arriving on Clemson's campus. "The first day we ran conditions, that's when you recognized that he was extremely light on his feet," added Scott. "He wasn’t in near the shape that he’s in now, but he had a great stride on him."

With excellent change-of-direction skills, he competed well enough in passing and one-on-one drills that he saw action in each of the first four games of the 2004 season. Richardson still needed the experience that comes with regular offensive repetitions and live game-play, but his natural abilities were too much for coaches to ignore. Traveling to Florida State on September 25 for the fourth game of the season, Scott believed that Richardson had to be in the lineup.

"I knew we would need him to hold up against their great pass-rushing ends," said Scott, who originally did not start Richardson to avoid the pressure and media hype that would have come with a true-freshman starting against the highly-touted Seminoles. "The second series, we put him in and pretty much left him in after that. He played the rest of that game and has started every game since then, all the way through his senior year this season."

The Tigers would lose that game 41-22, but they had found their starting left tackle. Playing consistently in every game the rest of the year, he was given at least a 75-percent grade in each of his eight starts. He led Clemson at #10 Miami (FL) with a 78-percent grade on 59 plays and a season-high six knockdown blocks, followed by an impressive 81-percent grade against South Carolina. The Tigers would win five of their final six games in 2004.

Barry Richardson has been a starter at left offensive tackle since the middle of his true-freshman season in 2004. He has started a team-high 42 games entering today's game.
in rushing offense with 2,832 yards on the ground, an average of 218 yards per contest.

Running backs James Davis and C.J. Spiller found plenty of holes between Richardson and the other linemen, netting 2,123 rushing yards between them. In the primetime game against #13 Georgia Tech that saw Davis rush for 216 yards and two touchdowns, and Spiller rush for 116 yards and a touchdown, Richardson was credited with nine knockdown blocks and an 85-per cent grade.

He finished the season with 75 knockdown blocks, second-most on the team, including the 11.5 he had at Wake Forest when he was named ACC Offensive Lineman-of-the-Week. Richardson was also named First-Team All-ACC in 2006.

After speculation that he might make the leap to the NFL following his junior year, he opted to return to Clemson for his senior season. He aims to follow in the footsteps of Gaines Adams and Tye Hill, former Tigers who returned for senior seasons in the past two years and then became first-round draft picks.

"He decided he wanted to go back, and he could use another year to get more mature," Vanessa (Richardson’s mother) said after it was announced that her son would be returning. "He'll be ready for the big guys next year."

The decision had implications off the football field as well.

"I did want to get my degree before I leave, because I knew the chances of someone coming back and getting a degree is probably slim-to-none," admitted Richardson.

Coming into this year, Richardson had started 32 consecutive games with 141 career knockdown blocks. Anchoring a line with four new starters, he has been relied upon heavily to get Clemson’s offense rolling. It did just that on September 22 at N.C. State, totaling 508 yards of total offense in the 42-20 win, including 340 rushing yards.

In a 30-17 victory at Maryland on October 27, Richardson once again earned ACC Offensive Lineman-of-the-Week honors with a 93-per cent grade and eight knockdown blocks. The Tiger offense totaled 428 yards, with 249 of them coming on the ground. He continued his fine play at Duke, where he graded 91 percent and was named ACC Offensive Lineman-of-the-Week for the second week in a row and fourth time in his career.

As Richardson prepares to wrap up the 2007 season and improve his NFL stock, he hopes to fulfill several preseason expectations. He was named to the watch lists for several awards and as an All-America candidate before the season even got underway.

Richardson will likely receive an NFL Combine invitation in addition to his individual workouts at Clemson. He is already rated among the top-five offensive tackles eligible for the 2008 draft by several experts and should project as a first or second-round pick as the draft gets closer. His size, proven athletic ability, and tremendous playing experience have laid the groundwork for an impressive resume. All of these things should give Richardson an edge in transitioning to the next level of football.

"There's not many 6'7", 330-pound guys that can move and are as athletic as he is," stated Scott. "Naturally for a left tackle, that's what the league is looking for. How high will he go? That all depends on Barry and how he finishes this year, and then how he does later. The thing I like about him is he's not focused on that, he's focused on Clemson and trying to help us win being the best player he can be for our team. He's a very unselshy player."

Richardson will leave a rather large hole in the offensive line next year, pun intended.

"He's been a pleasure to coach and is an outstanding youngster," said Scott. "He'll be missed. Since I've been the line coach, he's been my starting left tackle."

Leaving with a bright future in football and a college degree (he will earn his degree in health science in December, just three-and-a-half years after he set foot on campus), the shell of the soft-spoken Richardson may have been cracked a little bit during his four years in Tiger town.

"I think I've opened up a little more, socially," said Richardson. "In high school, I wasn't that much of a talker...I'm still not. Socially, I think I've developed more."

Like most of his fellow alumni, he will fondly miss the atmosphere that surrounds Tiger football.

"I like the people around here," added Richardson. "They're always friendly, always smiling at you, win or lose."

Clemson will miss big Barry Richardson, but they wish him the best, as he represents them on the next playing field.
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By Bucky Berlin

Sitting down on the couch, La’Donte Harris notices the football game playing on the television screen in the center of the room. The Patriots are pummeling some poor team as Tom Brady throws another touchdown pass. The commentators are not bothering to talk about that game anymore, taking the time to instead discuss an upcoming matchup between the Patriots and Colts.

It is in that moment that one might conjure up some parallels between Donte, as he’s better known, and some of the great names in football.

“Donte was like a coach on the field for us; he was making a lot of calls for us,” said the wideout’s former high school coach, Danny Kimble, Sr. “I’d trust Donte just like I probably did one of my assistant coaches. He was just that in tune with the game.”

La’Donte Manning, anyone?

“He’s a student of the game...he studies it,” added Kimble. “He’s just a football mind.”

OK...how about, La’Donte Beichick?

“I call him Coach Harris,” said Tiger Assistant Head Coach and Wide Receivers Coach Dabo Swinney. “He doesn’t miss anything. His work ethic is tremendous and his toughness is off the charts. I’ve never coached a tougher kid.”

While he has yet to make a full name for himself as a football coach, he is well on his way. Known for being a coach among players, he credits the fact that he is the only senior wideout on the squad.

“I’ve become a smarter player now that I’ve been here a long time,” said Harris. “I’m more like a coach to the younger guys since I played as a true freshman. I feel like I have matured, and I’m trying to learn the game more so it can better me for when I get out there and try to become a coach.”

It is not hard to imagine that the coaching genes brew in Harris’ hometown of Gadsden, AL. Legendary Clemson Head Coach Danny Ford graduated from Gadsden High School in 1966.

“I’m hoping that I can keep him here next year as a student assistant,” said Swinney. “I’d hire him in a heartbeat. He’s been like my assistant coach the past couple of years.”

With a profession in coaching seemingly lined up, do not be too quick to overlook this athlete’s performance on the field. Or was it the court?

Seemingly ironic, Harris admits that his mother always wanted him to play football, while his father wanted him to instead focus on basketball.

“I didn’t really care, I just wanted to play something,” admitted Harris. “They used to fuss and fight about what they wanted me to play. I said I’ll just play both, then, and whatever one takes me the furthest, then I’ll just continue on with that.”

One afternoon early in his childhood, he remembers playing in the front yard when his uncle stopped by. With Harris’ father at work, his uncle took him to join the Mountain Ram Pee Wee Football League. The rest is history.

The way that Kimble describes his former athlete’s shiftiness makes one wonder if Harris played on the same field with anyone else. After following Harris’ pee we and middle school careers with great interest, Kimble was quick to involve him on the high school squad.

He had “it,” playing practically every position on the field, from wideout and running back on offense to cornerback and safety on defense. When the starting quarterback was injured his senior year, Harris took the reigns of the offense from under center.

“If he’s on the field, you’ve got to get the ball to him,” said Kimble. “If you threw a swing pass to Donte, it’s just like giving him a handoff out of the backfield, because he’s going to make people miss in space. He did everything for us. He’s a guy that, if he’s on your team, he has to be on the field somewhere.”

In Litchfield High School’s offense over a four-year span, one can credit Harris for 50 touchdowns (23 receiving, 17 rushing, five passing, five returns). The team reached the third and fourth round of the playoffs in the majority of his years. He led the basketball team to the state playoffs three years as well, noting that he even “ran a couple of bases” for the baseball team.

Despite Harris’ athletic accomplishments midway through high school, Harris had not really considered playing football in college. It was not until Coach Kimble called Harris to his office one day during his junior year that he realized schools were scouting him. It was that day that he understood that he needed to start thinking about his future.

“I’ve been around and been through the game long enough to know talent when I see it, and I knew that Donte could play somewhere,” commented Kimble.

Kimble recalls when Darrell Harris told him that his son was going to be the next big thing. The younger Harris made a believer out of him.

“I remember one game against one of our area teams...it was a game that had playoff implications,” reflected Kimble. “Donte returned a punt against that team, and I think everybody on their team put a hand on Donte. When we looked at the film, at least nine or 10 players had a chance to tackle him, and nobody did.”

La’Donte Harris began the Tigers’ recent string of recruits from the state of Alabama in 2004. The Gadsden, AL native and reserve wide receiver is a veteran of 45 games.
La’Donte Harris
Senior Spotlight

Scoring a touchdown on that punt return, Harris led Litchfield High to the win and the playoffs. Coach Kimble will never forget that play.

History repeated itself when Swinney traveled to his home state of Alabama to recruit him in 2003. The echoes about this kid down at Litchfield High drew Swinney to a practice one day. The connection between the new Tiger coach and Harris was immediate—the offer barely had time to settle on the table before it was snatched up. Harris was so impressed with Swinney and Clemson that, without visiting another college, he committed to Clemson.

“I committed to Clemson after my junior year,” said Harris. “I wanted to play receiver coming out of high school. I thought it would be a good program to go to since the offense was balanced and Clemson used a lot of receivers. When I came up on an unofficial visit, Coach Swinney took us around the campus. My dad liked it because it’s a small town.”

The low-key lifestyle around Tigertown pulled Harris and his father in right away.

“You can’t get in too much trouble, because it isn’t a big city,” added Harris. “I really didn’t want to be in a big city anyway.”

Harris’ mother approved the decision, even though she had not previously heard about Clemson.

“Donte...he’s one of these kids that, if there is something that he wants, he’s going to go after it. He’s very determined.”

Mrs. Harris does remember a school that her son would talk about all the time growing up...Florida State. The schools would have something in common...their coaches were related by blood.

“When Coach (Tommy) Bowden came to the house, he said ‘Well, you got the next best thing to it’, recalled Joanne Harris.

Harris’ versatility was just one of the things that Coach Swinney liked about him. With a high school career that consisted of 1,817 rushing yards, 1,433 receiving yards, 576 passing yards, and 794 return yards, he seemed the ideal fit for Swinney’s squad.

“He was extremely intelligent and played with an unbelievable toughness,” remembered Swinney. “Every week you’d turn the film on, and he wasn’t great at anything, he was just good at everything.”

“Coming into a season after losing marquee wideouts Derrick Hamilton and Kevin Youngblood, Swinney was in desperate need of some help.

“At that time, I was looking for a player that I could build a corps around as far as having a guy that could be dependable, show up everyday, have a coach among the players...that’s what he’s been,” said Swinney. “Obviously, we have some guys that are stronger and faster, but Donte brings a tremendous toughness to our group.”

It was his dynamic football mind and natural athletic ability that allowed Harris to take the field as a true freshman. Swinney will be quick to admit that there have not been many wideouts that he has trusted to take the field as quickly as Harris.

“I know I can count on him, I know that I can depend on him, and it is a great comforting feeling knowing that you’ve got a guy like that,” added Swinney. “He has a ton of respect from his teammates...they all look up to him. He has really created a nice niche for himself.”

Swinney was sure to note how active Harris has been in the community while at Clemson, appointed to represent the team by Coach Bowden on several occasions. His coaches will go to all lengths to describe how invaluable he has been to the teams he has played on. He is credited for being an unselfish leader, making a regular impact on special teams and in blocking schemes.

On the field for 137 snaps in 11 games as a freshman, Harris has consistently continued that trend his entire college career. He notched his first collegiate touchdown in 2005, a 16-yard pass from Will Proctor against Temple. He was on the receiving end of another player’s first career touchdown, getting into the endzone from 42 yards out after hauling in a pass from Willy Korn earlier this season.

Harris refers back to the way his parents raised him to explain how he made it to where he is now. Having both parents at home was something that only he and one other of his friends shared.

Something about that, Harris thinks, might explain why he and that particular friend were two of the few that made it to college.

“I looked up to my dad a lot,” smiled Harris. “A lot of my friends didn’t have their fathers growing up, so I was blessed to have both of my parents.”

“I told Donte that if he wasn’t my son, I’d be jealous,” said Darrell. “I think the whole time that Donte has been playing organized sports, I think I’ve missed just one game, and that was because I was needed at work. But we never missed anything that Donte ever did. We were always there to support him regardless. He was a good son to have.”

The message from Harris to their son was simple...it was always a good game.

“He always told me he was proud of me no matter what,” stated Harris of his father. “He said, ‘you can quit football and come home today, I’m still proud of you,’ and that was real encouraging. ‘I don’t care if you ever play football again, I’m proud of you.’

His mother used to joke with her son that if things did not work out, the military was always next door. Apparently, that was enough to keep him focused. Independent, respectful, and patient, he did not complain growing up. Even in high school, he always seemed like the leader. Noticeably unselfish, he always took up for his teammates.

Harris brought that same attitude to Clemson.

“I have learned a lot here,” reflected Harris on his college experience. “I’ve learned that football is not the only answer to success.”

After first coming to Clemson with nothing but grandeur and reaching the NFL on his mind, Harris quickly realized how precious it all was. While it was football that had gotten him here, getting an education was the priority. He knew how quickly it could all disappear, just as anyone around football knows how players are always one play away from a career-ending injury.

“ Injury without education is nothing,” said Harris. “I’m thinking outside the box.”

He will miss running down the Hill the most; though, there are not many Clemson football players that do not. He’ll always remember his first catch at Texas A&M his freshman season.

“We lost pretty bad,” laughed Harris. “Even though we lost, Coach Swinney came up to me and said ‘great catch...it’s your first catch.’

The catch earned himself a spot on Swinney’s wall, as do other wideouts with their first catch, forever immortalized in the moment. He is glad to be on that wall.

Away from football, Harris prefers a laid-back lifestyle. “I’m pretty much a loner...I’ll just hang with my girlfriend most of the time. I like to just hang out. I don’t really like to go to parties or anything.”

Having self-diagnosed superstitious football habits, Harris is lucky to have attracted a girlfriend that has stuck with him for three years.

“If I had on a t-shirt that I played a good game in. I’m going to wear that t-shirt again,” admitted Harris. “If I had gray underwear on, I’ll wear it again. If we lose, I probably won’t wear that stuff, I’ll try something else.”

Where superstition does not provide answers, Harris looks to those closest to him for support.

“My girlfriend motivates me, keeps me looking towards the future,” noted Harris.

If things just aren’t going well, his parents are always just a phone call away, too.

So, what does the future hold for Harris? A career in coaching seems the obvious answer. His mother would love to see him keep playing football, and he just may see what opportunities arise.

Football is second-nature.

“If I’m not playing sports, I’d love to stay around it. I’m going to take coaching as far as I can go.”

Nothing too fast for the simpleton he is, though. After graduating in May with a degree in sport management, Harris intends to “play it smooth,” with no rush to get out in the “real world,” having just turned 21.

“I’m still young...still a baby,” smiled Harris.

Always taking what he has and making the most of it, Harris will go forward, never forgetting where he has come from and the people that have always loved him.

“Donte is a special kid, a special guy,” Kimble said. “He has a great family. I’m proud for him and I wish him the best in whatever he decides to do.”

Bucky Berlin, a senior from Jamestown, NC, is a sportswriter for Clemson’s student newspaper, The Tiger.
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By Kyle Tucker

Defensive back Chris Wade is a study in perseverance. The senior from Newnan, GA, originally wanted to walk on to the Clemson team in 2004 as a placekicker. However, coaches were so impressed with his speed and quickness during his tryout for the team that they approached him about playing as a wide receiver, as there were no more roster spots for a kicker. Surprised but excited, Wade gladly accepted.

The son of a high school coach, Wade grew up around football. It was not football, though, that Wade excelled at early on. Before age 10, he was crowned a state champion in gymnastics, but gave up that sport for his first love, soccer.

As is the case for most coaches’ sons, it was hard to escape playing football. Wade was a standout defensive back and kicker at East Coweta High School, playing for his father Clint, who served as the Indians’ defensive coordinator.

Wade was not recruited out of high school and enrolled at nearby West Georgia his freshman year. It was during that year that he realized he was missing out on chasing a lifelong dream. He decided to transfer to Clemson and try out for the team.

The decision was quite easy for Wade. He is the grandson of Clemson Hall of Fame member Don Wade, who passed away this past summer. Don Wade had been a member of Clemson’s 1951 Orange Bowl team and later served as a coach under Frank Howard. So, one can see Wade grew up as a Tiger fan.

The Clemson senior enrolled in August of 2004, and was on the team soon after. “I never really thought I could make the team,” explained #17. “The whole thought of trying out originated with my grandfather, and the fact that our entire family is made up of Clemson fans. I had a cousin who was on the team for five years, and that kind of inspired me to try out as well. It was overwhelming when I realized I was on the team.”

His 2004 season was spent on the scout team, but his efforts did not go unnoticed by the Tiger coaching staff. Combined with a strong work ethic, his speed and quickness turned many heads. He was even given the nickname “zoom-zoom” by Wide Receivers Coach Dabo Swinney.

As is the case for all walk-ons, Wade says he will always remember running down the Hill for the first time. “I was able to dress out for the Utah State game in the 2004 season,” remembered Wade. “Touching Howard’s Rock and seeing all the fans below me made the hair on my neck stand up. Thinking about all those times I had watched others do that as a fan, and then all of a sudden I was experiencing it myself, made it a dream come true. Running down the Hill never gets old...the feeling is absolutely electric.”

With his competitive nature taking over, Wade made a personal goal to contribute to the team beyond playing on the scout team in practice. He made a few appearances in games in both the 2005 and 2006 seasons as a special teams player, but Wade wanted to hold down a permanent spot on one of the special teams.

On the eve of preseason camp in 2007, Wade was one of five walk-ons who learned he would be placed on scholarship. The news was so stunning that it took him nearly five minutes to convince his dad he was serious when he made the call home.

In the season-opener against #19 Florida State, Wade recorded a tackle on a kickoff, a play that he claims as one of his favorite memories as a Tiger. “I had worked so hard to get a spot on the kickoff team,” explained Wade. “All summer, I dreamed of that game and visualized making a play. It was a very rewarding moment. It was very easy to play, react, and not think in that game because of the confidence Coach (André) Powell had shown in me. The way he has taught me technique on kickoff coverage has really helped.”

Wade has five tackles and a recovered fumble so far in 2007, all on special teams. He is tied for seventh on the team in special teams tackles. He has also accomplished the tackles despite playing with a large cast on his left arm after breaking a bone in his forearm against Furman in September. He only missed the N.C. State game and was back on the field two weeks after the injury occurred when playing close to home at Georgia Tech.

“I would have played that game in a full body cast if I had to,” laughed Wade.

In many ways, the broken arm and his subsequent recovery have been a microcosm of his career. Every time things have gotten tough, Wade has worked harder. His hard work is rewarded every time the Tigers line up for a kickoff.

“I will really miss kickoffs in night games at Death Valley,” he said. “The whole crowd is jumping up and down and ‘Zombie Nation’ is playing. The adrenaline rush at that moment is indescribable.”

Wade has been a key to Clemson’s improvement on kick coverage in recent weeks. Tiger opponents have returned kickoffs to just the 25 yard-line on average during the last four games.

Reflecting on his career, Wade added, “I will really miss the bonds that I’ve made with my teammates. I’m very thankful for my time here, and I hope that in some way I was able to carry on my grandfather’s legacy.”

It is a safe bet that Don Wade is watching with a smile on his face.

Kyle Tucker, a punter at Clemson from 1999-03, worked in the Clemson Sports Information Office from 2004-06, and he is now a teacher and coach at Cartersville (GA) High School. He is also Chris Wade’s cousin.
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By Sanford Rogers

The Tigers will run down the Hill for the final time in 2007 when they play host to nationally-ranked Boston College. The Tiger seniors will also make their final entrance into Death Valley as players. Some 1,000 miles away from Clemson in Natchitoches, LA, former Tiger defensive lineman J.C. Harper may take a brief moment to remember his senior day at Clemson some 19 years earlier.

More importantly, Harper will recall his days growing up in the shadows of Memorial Stadium as the son of Tiger Assistant Head Coach Tom Harper. His experience of being the son of a successful coach, coupled with his playing days as a defensive lineman, make it no surprise that Harper has made football his life's work.

This evening, Harper will be on a sideline in Natchitoches, LA, as his visiting Stephen F Austin squad tries to gain a victory over Northwestern State. Harper is just one of three Clemson Alumni (Rickie Bustle at Louisiana-Lafayette and Bobby Johnson at Vanderbilt are the others) to serve as a college head coach in 2007, but it is no shock to see this 42-year-old directing a college program.

"I have been around football all my life," said Harper. "With my dad being a college coach, we moved around a lot when I was young. But Clemson was the place where we settled down for the end of my high school career. It is a place that means a great deal to me. I may not have lived in Clemson for a long time, but it will always be special to me."

For Harper, the decision to join the Tiger program as a player was not as clear-cut as most would expect. Following his junior year of high school, he attended football camp at Georgia. The Bulldogs liked what they saw, and soon thereafter, Vince Dooley offered a scholarship and Harper accepted. That decision puzzled his father.

"My dad didn't say a whole lot about it," recalled Harper. "But he did come to almost every one of my high school games when I was a senior. Near the end of the year, my dad asked me if I was really going to Georgia. When I told him that is what I intended to do, he wanted to know why. I told him that other coaches would call me on Monday and Tuesday and tell me how good I was, but the only thing he ever did was tell me what I wasn't doing."

Harper credits his father for his development as a person, football player, man, and football coach, but to say there were copious amounts of praise from the elder Harper would not be accurate. His father was old-school in most of his ways, which is no surprise considering he played for the legendary Bear Bryant at Kentucky.

"My dad was rough on me," the younger Harper stated. "He demanded the best and wanted me to give my best in everything that I did. That was one reason why I wasn't sure about Clemson early on. I didn't know how it would work playing for my father. And for him to be my position coach made it even more of a question."

All of those questions were put to rest, first by the F. Coach Danny Ford, and more importantly by his mother Coral.

"The day after I told my dad I was really going to go to Georgia, I was in English class at Daniel High School when Coach Ford knocked on the door," remembered Harper. "He took me out of class and said we were going to spend some time together. That day, he took me around Clemson, drove me out to Mac's Drive-In, and then we rode around a little more. When we got back to the school, he asked me if I was really going to turn my back on all these people that I meant so much to. That night, I committed to Clemson."

For Ford, his intense apprehension to commit to Clemson came down to one thing...his father.

"I know J.C. liked Clemson a lot," recalled Ford. "But to play for his dad was a hard thing for him to think about. Coach Harper was a great man and a great football coach. He gave our program a big boost when he came in before the 1981 season. But to J.C., playing for his dad was something he had to accept. I'm certainly glad that he did. J.C. Harper was a fine football player and a fine young man. We were glad to have him at Clemson."

The decision to attend Clemson was more than just a good decision for the younger Harper, it was a great one. He lettered four times (1985-88) as a defensive lineman. In those four years, Clemson posted a 34-12-1 record, with ACC titles in 1986, 1987, and 1988.

Following his playing days at Clemson, Harper had to cope with the unexpected passing of his father, who died of a heart attack in the spring of 1989, just five months after the younger Harper played his final game in a Tiger uniform.

Following graduation from Clemson, Harper began to climb the coaching ladder. Stops included graduate assistant stints at North Carolina under Mack Brown and at Notre Dame under Lou Holtz. He then logged stops at Northwestern State, McNeese State, and Western Michigan before joining Robert McFarland's staff at Stephen F Austin. When McFarland left in December of 2006 to move to Iowa State as offensive coordinator, Lumberjack officials looked no further than Harper.

"I think I have learned a lot from everyone I have coached or played with," he said. "Coach Ford, Coach Holtz, and Coach Brown are all different in their approaches, but all have gotten results. I like to think I have taken something from each of them."

The task of putting together his first staff at Stephen F Austin was the first challenge Harper had to complete. Two of the hires, Arlington Nun and Todd Schonar, were teammates of his at Clemson.

"Arlington was already on the staff here and I hired Todd shortly after I was hired," said Harper. "Arlington was a great defensive back in college and Todd really knows the quarterback position. I'm fortunate that they are working with me. They are good football coaches and good people."

For Nun, the opportunity to first play with (and now coach with) Harper has been an experience too good to be true. "J.C. is a 'natural' as a head coach," he said. "He has been around football his entire life and knows what it takes to be successful. There is no question that he will lead this program to big things. I'm happy to be a part of it."

With college football being so time-consuming, Harper does not have the chance to follow the Clemson program closely. Thanks to email and a diligent staff at Clemson, he does see the success of the program.

"Ren Windham in the Clemson football office does a great job sending emails out about what is happening," he continued. "A few weeks ago, I read the email about Sarah Little being named Mother-of-the-Year and 'doting the i' at a game. I remember 'Mama Sarah' very well. No matter how bad a practice was or what a coach said to you, she was always there offering encouragement."

"I took that email to my athletic director and told him that is what made Clemson the special place that it is. It is my hope that we can make that kind of impact on young people here."

It will not be a surprise to see J.C. Harper make just such an impact. His experience, first as a son of a great coach and then as a player at Clemson, points to great success in the future.

Sanford Rogers worked in the Clemson Sports Information Office from 1989-93 and now works in sales in Greenville, SC.
By Tim Bourret

Clemson University Athletic Director Dr. Terry Don Phillips was named one of the 100 Most Influential Sports Educators in America, the Institute for International Sport announced in October. Phillips was one of just four Division I athletic directors on the list, joining Terry Holland (East Carolina), Mark Murphy (Northwestern), and Gary Walters (Princeton).


The list is the result of a three-year project by the Institute aimed at honoring sports educators who have “made a lasting impact on the lives of young athletes, and who are providing a blueprint to other sports educators to do likewise.”

The core criteria used for selection to the prestigious list was the effective use of sport as a meaningful tool.

“In America and in many other countries, we honor elite athletes, winning coaches, wealthy team owners, and media moguls,” said Institute Executive Director Dan Doyle. “We praise sports educators, yet we really don’t honor them in a manner befitting their admirable impact on society. This project is aimed at honoring individuals and organizations who have creatively and effectively used sport in the very best way...as a means to educate and shape positive values.”

From the time the institute announced the project in 2004, the organization received over 1,500 nominations for individuals and “teams.” After reducing the list to 200 individual finalists and 30 “team” finalists, the institute appointed a final selection committee, consisting of coaches, athletic administrators, journalists, and academicians. David Bloss, former sports editor of The Providence Journal, chaired the committee.

Phillips has spent his sixth year at Clemson as athletic director. In June of 2006, he was recognized nationally by the National Association of College Directors of Athletics as Athletic Director-of-the-Year for the Southeast Region at the Division I-A level.

He has made great strides at Clemson in terms of facilities, including the WestZone project at Memorial Stadium. The overall sports program had its highest finish in the Sears Directors Cup in five years in 2007. Academically, the 15 sports programs had an all-time record 2.93 GPA in 2006-07.

Phillips also had a successful administrative career as athletic director at Oklahoma State from 1994 to 2002. He was a senior associate athletic director at Arkansas, his alma mater, from 1988 to 1994, and he also has experience in the athletic administration field at Florida, Missouri, Liberty, and Louisiana-Lafayette.

Phillips has an undergraduate degree from Arkansas, a master’s degree from Virginia Tech, a doctorate degree from Virginia Tech, and a law degree from the Arkansas School of Law. He is also a member of the Arkansas Bar, the American Bar Association, and the Sports Lawyers Association.

In addition to his duties as Clemson’s athletic director, Phillips has served with the NCAA Infractions Appeals Committee and works with the NCAA certification program.

Tim Bourret is Clemson’s Sports Information Director and is in his 30th year at Clemson.

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Top-100 Most Influential Educators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Title/Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vivian Acosta</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre Agassi</td>
<td>Tennis player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Afton</td>
<td>Executive director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birch Bayh</td>
<td>Former U.S. Senator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Beane</td>
<td>Baseball coach</td>
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<td>Notah Begay</td>
<td>PGA Tour golfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerome Bettis</td>
<td>Former NFL player</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Bigelow</td>
<td>Former NBA player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Bowman</td>
<td>Executive director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Myles Brand</td>
<td>NCAA Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Darrell Burnett</td>
<td>Clinical psychologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariah Burton-Nelson</td>
<td>Executive director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myles Campbell</td>
<td>High school athletic director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Jean Carpenter</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Coakley</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Conrad</td>
<td>Former women’s basketball coach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Costas</td>
<td>Sportscaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Curry</td>
<td>Sportscaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank DeFord</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita DeFrantz</td>
<td>Former Olympian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Harry Edwards</td>
<td>Activist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Engh</td>
<td>Organizational president</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Joe Ehrmann</td>
<td>Former football player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Epperson</td>
<td>Organizational co-founder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Farrey</td>
<td>Sports writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zina Garrison</td>
<td>Former tennis player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gallery</td>
<td>Former basketball player</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Donald Gould</td>
<td>Organization director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Christine Grant</td>
<td>Athletic administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilian Greene-Chamberlain</td>
<td>Motivational speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bud Greenpan</td>
<td>Film director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Griffin</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Harbaugh</td>
<td>Organizational executive director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father Theodore Hesburgh</td>
<td>Former university president</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Hillman</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. John Hoberman</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Holland</td>
<td>University athletic director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Hooton</td>
<td>Educator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil Jackson</td>
<td>NBA head coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Johnson</td>
<td>Organizational executive director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacey Johnson</td>
<td>Organizational co-founder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Josephson</td>
<td>Institute Trustee &amp; president</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackie Joyner-Kersee</td>
<td>Former Olympian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ronald Kamins</td>
<td>Sports psychiatrist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Kanani</td>
<td>Organizational executive director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Jo Kane</td>
<td>Organizational director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</td>
<td>Organizational director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billie Jean King</td>
<td>Former tennis player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Krzyzewski</td>
<td>Men’s basketball coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Richard Lapchick</td>
<td>Film director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Larry Leatherman</td>
<td>Institute co-founder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guy Lewis</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Lipsyte</td>
<td>Journalist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Logan</td>
<td>Former foundation executive director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. John Lucas</td>
<td>Olympic historian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainer Martens</td>
<td>Organizational president</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Messner</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Mitrano</td>
<td>Conference commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alonso Mourning</td>
<td>Former NBA player</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Moyer</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Padwa</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Paterno</td>
<td>Football coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Terry Don Phillips</td>
<td>Clemson Athletic Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Priest</td>
<td>College chairperson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Proulx</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ken Ravizza</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Riddell</td>
<td>Sports poet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cal Ripken, Jr.</td>
<td>Former baseball player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Roby</td>
<td>Former organization director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert Rotella</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Roebuck</td>
<td>University advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Russell</td>
<td>Former NBA player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Selleck</td>
<td>Sports psychologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Shropshire</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Shulman</td>
<td>Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kevin Speer</td>
<td>Former sports medicine director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roxanne Spillert</td>
<td>Organization president</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Staley</td>
<td>Women’s basketball coach</td>
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<td>Ron Stratten</td>
<td>Former NCAA Vice-President</td>
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<td>Vivian Stringer</td>
<td>Women’s basketball coach</td>
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<td>Sharon Stoll</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat Summitt</td>
<td>Women’s basketball coach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Summons</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<td>Judith Sweet</td>
<td>Former NCAA President</td>
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<td>Organizational founder</td>
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<td>Dr. Harold Vanderzwaag</td>
<td>Former program president</td>
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<td>Dr. Gary Wadler</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<td>Dr. Leroy Walker</td>
<td>Former U.S. Olympic President</td>
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<td>Gary Waters</td>
<td>University athletic director</td>
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<td>Peter Westphal</td>
<td>Organizational co-founder</td>
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<td>Andrew Zimmitti</td>
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and a goal of making Clemson one of the nation’s top 20 public universities - an institution that draws outstanding faculty and students, provides an unmatched academic experience, and helps drive the state’s economic development.

A 1970 Clemson graduate, Barker has said, “South Carolina needs a top-tier research university, and our students deserve to have access to a top-tier education without leaving their home state. Building Clemson’s academic, research, and service programs to the level where we can compete with anyone will benefit our state, students, and alumni.”

Clemson, already South Carolina’s top-ranked national public university, is making strides toward that goal. During Barker’s presidency, the university has:

• been recognized as Time Magazine’s “Public College-of-the-Year” and ranked #1 among the “Best Places to Work in Academia” by The Scientist Magazine;
• been ranked among the nation’s top 30 public universities by U.S. News & World Report and Kiplinger’s Magazine;
• developed and implemented an academic “Road Map” with eight emphasis areas aligned with South Carolina’s economic needs;
• launched major new education and research-based economic initiatives, including the Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) in Greenville, the Center for Advanced Materials in Anderson County, and the Clemson University Restoration Institute in North Charleston;
• redesigned the general education curriculum to focus on learning outcomes and give undergraduates more opportunities for study abroad, service-learning, and research;
• developed an innovative undergraduate research program called “Creative Inquiry,” which pairs small teams of students with a senior faculty member on multi-year voyages of discovery;
• continually set new records for applications at both the undergraduate and graduate levels;
• more than doubled external research funding, and completed Clemson’s largest capital campaign.

Working with state leaders and private industry partners, Barker has steered Clemson into a greater economic development role. The first technology neighborhood at the CU-ICAR campus near I-85 will be fully developed this year when construction of the Campbell Graduate Engineering Center is completed. Leading the academic programs are distinguished professors brought to the state to hold endowed chairs established under the South Carolina Research Centers of Excellence Act. Three of the four chairs devoted to automotive engineering - funded by financial support from BMW, Michelin, and Timken - have been filled.

Clemson is also investing more than $80 million to support an advanced materials industry cluster. The linchpin is the Advanced Materials Research Laboratory, located at the Advanced Materials Center off of I-85 in Anderson County (formerly known as Clemson Research Park). The facility includes one of the nation’s top optical materials and electron microscopy laboratories.

Earlier this year, Barker announced plans to invest more than $225 million in campus infrastructure, technology, and facilities in the core campus over the next five years, focusing on academic and student needs - including a campus computer network upgrade, renovations to bioengineering facilities, a new home for the Academic Success Center, and a life-sciences complex. Funding plans for additional facility upgrades are being developed, which will add to this initial project list.

He also is becoming a leading voice in higher education in South Carolina and beyond. He currently chairs the Division I Committee of the NCAA Board of Directors, and previously chaired the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, the regional accrediting agency.

For his leadership, Barker has received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, and the 2006 Chief Executive Leadership Award from the Council for Advancement & Support of Education (CASE) Southeastern District III. He was an invited speaker at the first-ever Forum on Presidential Leadership in June of 2006, sponsored by The Chronicle of Higher Education, and attended by more than 250 college and university presidents and trustees.

As Clemson’s President, Barker remains committed to the classroom. Each spring, he is part of a team that teaches an undergraduate course exploring “a sense of place” in architecture, literature, and history.

In presenting Barker with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2005, Washington University Chancellor Mark Wrighton said, “James F. Barker has taken the architectural skills and knowledge required to design a building and applied them to the future of a university. His architect’s vision, collaborative instincts, and sense of place are rapidly pushing Clemson up through the ranks of the nation’s top public universities. He has become a leader in national academic circles by creating a new model of education, building interdisciplinary partnerships among the professional schools, and the basic curriculum by tearing down artificial walls between disciplines.”

A native of Kingsport, TN, Barker earned his B.A. degree from Clemson in 1970 and his master of architecture & urban design degree from Washington University in Saint Louis, MO in 1973. He and his wife Marcia have a son Jacob and daughter-in-law Rita Bolt, and another son Britt.
Both as a football player and coach for over 30 years, “Coach” Joe Crosby has always understood the need for financial support of both the Athletic and Academic programs within all educational systems. With the purchase of each 23 ounce bottle of Coach's Low Country Boil® Seasoning marked with the Tiger Paw label, Coach's Low Country Brands™ will donate $2 per unit sold to be divided equally among the Academic (One Clemson Fund and Call-Me-Mister) and Athletic funds for Clemson University.

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In just five years, Dr. Terry Don Phillips has firmly put his imprint on the Tiger Athletic Department. It is obvious visually through the vast improvements in the program’s facilities, most notably the new WestZone at the Tigers’ Memorial Stadium. Through a practical and steady fiscal approach, the first phase of the $57-million project was completed in fall of 2006 with the installation of new locker rooms, a new scoreboard, and 1,000 private luxury suite and club level seats.

The Phase II funding, which includes a building and new strength training center for the football program, has been finalized, and construction is slated to continue after the 2007 football season.

His impact is also obvious in the consistent improvement of Clemson’s sports program. For the 2006-07 academic year, Clemson ranked #36 in the final Sears Directors’ Cup standings, the program’s best finish in five years and a 16-place improvement over the last three years. The Tigers scored 477 points in the poll, their third-highest total since the Sears Directors’ Cup began in 1993. Eight teams finished in the final top 25 of their respective rankings, also a five-year high.

The major revenue sports of football, basketball, and baseball have also reached a high level of national competition. All three were ranked in the top 15 in the nation at one point during the 2006-07 academic year. The football team has won eight games each of the last two years, the first time it has had back-to-back seasons of at least eight wins since the 1990-91 era.

The basketball team under Head Coach Oliver Purnell has been to postseason play three consecutive years, including the 2006-07 season when it won a school-record-tying 25 games. The baseball team continues to rank among the top programs in the nation, having reached the College World Series in 2006 and a super regional in 2007.

Led by the women’s tennis program, which has been to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament three of the last four years with two Final Fours, the women’s athletics program has also flourished. The women’s soccer team reached the Final Eight of the NCAA Tournament in 2006, while the volleyball squad joined the women’s tennis and women’s soccer teams by winning at least 60 percent of its matches. The rowing program was ranked in the top 15 in the nation as well.

Phillips was recognized nationally for his performance at Clemson in June, 2006 when he was honored by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics as the 2005-06 GeneralSports Turf Systems Athletic Director-of-the-Year for the Southeast Region of Division I-A. He was one of just four Division I-A athletic directors honored at the annual convention in New Orleans, LA.

In 2005-06, Clemson had six-top 25 programs, including top-10 final rankings in men’s soccer, golf, and baseball. It marked the first time since 1979 that Clemson reached the Final Four in soccer and the College World Series in baseball in the same academic year. Clemson was the only school in the nation to win a postseason football game, postseason basketball game, and College World Series baseball game.

From an academic standpoint, nine of Clemson’s 15 sports programs scored a perfect 100-percent graduation rate according to the Graduation Success Rate figures announced by the NCAA on December 19, 2005. Clemson was #7 in the nation among the 119 Division I-A institutions in percentage of programs with a 100-percent score. The football program had a 94-percent rate, fourth in the nation among Division I programs.

The outstanding academic performance continued in 2007. For the spring semester, the 15 sports programs had a combined GPA of 2.93, best on record. Eight of the 15 programs had a team GPA of 3.0 or better.

“There’s nothing worse than trying to maintain status quo,” said Phillips, who became Clemson’s 10th athletic director on July 1, 2002.

That motto has been a basic tenet that has characterized his career as an administrator and his pursuit to develop Clemson into a model athletic program in the 21st century. His beliefs are in line with the University’s overall goal of making Clemson one of the top-20 public universities in the nation. The school improved to a #30 ranking in U.S. News & World Report in 2006.

His resolve comes from a unique balance of experience in nearly every phase of college athletics, as well as a devotion to higher education that includes a doctorate and law degree. He remains a classroom presence by teaching a sports law section in the accountancy & legal studies department. In addition, he is past chair of the NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee, which serves the appellate role for all university and individual appeals arising from the Committee on Infractions.

Those influences are obvious in his strategic plan for Tiger athletics, which provides for a model program that can compete at the highest levels with academic integrity, concern for the student-athlete, financial responsibility, and in full compliance.

Future plans call for a new comprehensive football building at Memorial Stadium. It will benefit the entire athletic department, as it will create additional updated facilities in the McFadden Building for the Olympic sports. A “One Clemson Center” will also be constructed to showcase the history of Clemson University, including its military and athletic heritage.

Since Phillips’ arrival at Clemson, many highlights toward being a model program have occurred on the field as well, beginning with Clemson’s first-ever national championship in golf in the spring of 2003, the first title for any Tiger program in 16 years.

His second year included an incredible run on the gridiron to end the season, as Tommy Bowden’s Tigers defeated #3 Florida State in November and #6 Tennessee in the Peach Bowl. The football program has continued to make strides since then and ranked in the top 25 for the second time in the last three years with its #21 finish in 2005. In 2006, the program reached a #10 national ranking after a victory over #13 Georgia Tech. ESPN College GameDay covered that game, a first in Clemson history.

Excellence in academics has been a constant on his resume. He has an undergraduate degree from Arkansas (1970), a master’s from Virginia Tech (1974), a doctorate from Virginia Tech (1978), and a law degree from the Arkansas School of Law (1996). He is a member of the Arkansas Bar, American Bar Association, and Sports Lawyers Association.

From an experience standpoint, he has worked in nearly all phases of college athletics. He coached on the football staff at Virginia Tech, supervised spring sports and student-athlete enrichment at Florida, handled athletic fundraising and facility enhancement at Missouri and Arkansas, and had 15 years experience as an athletic director, including 13 at the Division I level, prior to his appointment at Clemson.

Football was transformed from a perennial losing status to defeating Oklahoma during five of the eight years he was associated with Oklahoma State (1994-02). For this, he received the National Football Foundation Oklahoma Chapter Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football Award in 2002. Additionally in 2006, he was named one of the top-25 most influential people in the history of Oklahoma State athletics by GoPokes Magazine.

When it came to success on the field and in the classroom, Oklahoma State’s programs were among the Big 12’s best. The achievements of the program included two national titles in men’s golf, a men’s basketball Final Four, two trips to the College World Series, 13 Big 12 titles, and 11 individual national champions, along with 53 academic All-Americans.

Before leading Oklahoma State, Phillips served as senior associate athletic director at Arkansas from 1988-94. He ran the daily operations and had oversight of facility projects for the men’s programs, and he was president of the Razorback Foundation.

Phillips was athletic director at Liberty (1980-81) and Louisiana-Lafayette (1983-88). He was also an assistant athletic director at Missouri (1981-83), and he began his administrative career in 1979 as an assistant athletic director at Florida.

Phillips began his career in college athletics coaching football. He started as a graduate assistant at Arkansas in 1976 and 1971. He moved on to Virginia Tech as an assistant coach from 1971-78 before joining the ranks of athletic administration.

Winning has been on Phillips’ resume since his playing days at Arkansas. He lettered on three Frank Broyles teams (1966,68,69). Arkansas was 27-5 in the three years and played in two Sugar Bowl games.

In addition to Phillips’ leadership with the NCAA Infractions Appeals Committee, he also works with the NCAA certification program. He currently serves on several ACC Committees: chair of the Committee on Infractions & Penalties, Committee on Awards, Television Committee, Men’s Basketball Committee, and Football Committee.

Phillips has two children, John Dennis (30) and Sarah-Jane (27), and three stepchildren, Meagan (18), Marshall (16), and Madison (14). His wife Tricia is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, and she earlier enjoyed a career in athletics and development. She is currently active in the Clemson and Seneca communities.
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When one looks at Head Coach Tommy Bowden’s resume, the first thing that comes to mind is consistency. Bowden has completed 10 seasons as a Division I head coach, and all 10 of his teams have been bowl eligible at the end of the regular season. Only five other active head coaches have had a team bowl eligible every year since 1997. His 65.0 winning percentage in 10 years as a head coach is 11th-best in the nation among active Division I coaches with at least 10 years of experience.

Each of his last seven teams has finished with a winning record. A winning season in 2006 gave him a Clemson coaching record seven consecutive winning seasons, and he became just the fifth head coach in ACC history to record seven straight winning seasons with the same program.

There has been consistency in terms of success against Clemson’s in-state rival (South Carolina). The Tigers have won six of the eight meetings since Bowden became Clemson’s head coach in 1999, and the 75-percent winning mark is the best of any Tiger head coach in history against the Gamecocks given a minimum of five games. All six wins have been recorded against future Hall of Fame Head Coaches Lou Holtz and Steve Spurrier.

In 10 seasons as a Division I head coach, Bowden has a 78-42 record, a 65-percent winning mark. In conference games, he has never had a sub-.500 record, and his overall conference record stands at 48-28 for a 63.2-percent winning mark.

In eight years at Clemson, he has a 60-38 mark and seven bowl appearances. He has 37 ACC wins as well. The only programs with more ACC wins during this time are Florida State and Georgia Tech. The 60 overall wins are third-most in Clemson history.

The 29-7 victory over South Carolina in the 2004 season-finale was not only the 600th win in Clemson history, it moved Bowden ahead of Hall of Fame Coach Jess Neely into third place on Clemson’s coaching victories list. Only Frank Howard and Danny Ford are ahead of Bowden.

Twice he has been ACC Coach-of-the-Year (1999, 03), joining Howard, Charley Pell, and Ford as the only two-time recipients of that award in Tiger history. In January of 2006, he was given the Grant Teaff National Coach-of-the-Year Award by FCA.

Off the field, Clemson has graduated nearly 80 percent of its seniors in his eight years. Clemson’s graduation success rate of 94 percent in 2005 was fourth-best among the 119 Division I-A programs. In 2003, Clemson was #11 in the nation, including second among public institutions, in the NCAA graduation-rate study for scholarship football signees who entered Clemson in 1996. Clemson was first in the nation in graduation rate among African-Americans (100 percent). Each of the top-six semester team GPAs have been recorded under Bowden. Fifteen seniors from his 2006 team have already graduated.

His 2006 team set numerous offensive records on its way to scoring 55 touchdowns and scoring nearly 33 points per game. Clemson had four First-Team All-ACC selections on offense, including 1,000-yard rusher James Davis, and the Tigers led the ACC in a majority of offensive categories.

The Tigers had a landmark 31-7 win over #13 Georgia Tech at Memorial Stadium. Clemson dominated the Yellow Jackets thanks in part to 332 combined rushing yards by James Davis and C.J. Spiller. That same weekend, ESPN College GameDay made its first-ever appearance in Tiger Town. It was the second win over a top-15 team in 2006, as the Tigers also won at #9 Florida State.

In 2005, Clemson had an 8-4 record, including a 3-2 mark against top-25 ranked teams. All four of the losses were by six points or less and by a total of 14 points. Two of those losses came in overtime, therefore the Tigers lost the four games by a combined five points at the end of regulation.

Clemson was in the top 25 in four national defensive rankings, including #11 in scoring defense. After the win over Colorado in the Champs Sports Bowl, the Tigers were ranked #21 in the final AP and USA Today polls. Clemson had three victories over top-20 ranked teams, the most in one season by a Clemson team since the 1989 season.

His 2004 team featured a defense that was #11 in the nation in pass efficiency defense. It had 42 sacks to finish in the top 10 in the nation. Clemson played a complete game at #10 Miami (FL) on November 6, 2004 and defeated the Hurricanes in the Orange Bowl 24-17 in overtime.

The win over Miami gave Bowden and the Tigers three wins over top-10 programs in a 13-game span, something that had been done at Clemson just once previously (1981 National Championship team). All three of those programs (Florida State, Tennessee, Miami) have won the national championship within the last decade.

Over the last four seasons, Bowden has won nine games over coaches who have won the national title (Bobby Bowden (three times), Phillip Fulmer, Larry Coker, Holtz (twice), Spurrier, and Howard Schnellenberger). These big wins have stimulated interest in the program. The Tigers averaged 81,506 fans per home game in 2006. Clemson has finished in the top 20 in home football attendance each of the last three seasons.

Bowden has been at Clemson, and six of the top-10 average attendance seasons have come during his tenure.

With Clemson’s selection to the 2004 Peach Bowl, he became the first head coach in Clemson and ACC history to take a team to a bowl game in each of his first five seasons. In fact, no coach had ever done so more than twice to open his career at Clemson. Under Bowden’s direction, Clemson had also appeared in the Peach Bowl in 1999, the Gator Bowl in 2000, the 2001 Humanitarian Bowl, the 2002 Tangerine Bowl, the 2004 Peach Bowl, and the 2005 Champs Sports Bowl prior to its invitation to the 2006 Music City Bowl.

The 2004 Peach Bowl appearance meant that it was the first time since the senior class of 1991 that Clemson went to a bowl game five straight years. Clemson’s red-shirt seniors of 2003 were the first group he recruited, so it was a natural for him to found his first group set. In December of 2003, Bowden cemented his place at Clemson by signing a seven-year contract, which will go through 2010.

The 2003 season was a breakthrough year in many ways. Clemson earned its highest-ever win over a ranked team with a 26-10 win over #3 Florida State. The Tigers also defeated #24 Virginia in a thrilling overtime contest. The 39-3 victory over a bowl-bound Georgia Tech team was Clemson’s largest victory margin in the series since 1900 as well.

The 2003 victory over Florida State, Clemson’s first in 12 tries since the Seminoles joined the ACC, was the beginning of...
a four-game winning streak to close the season. In those four games, Clemson outscored its opponents 156-48, an average score of 39-12. Clemson defeated arch-rival South Carolina in Columbia by a score of 63-17. It was the most points ever scored by a team in the 101-game series and the Tigers’ largest victory margin in the series since 1900.

The season concluded with a 27-14 win over #6 Tennessee, the highest-ranked team Clemson has defeated in a bowl game since 1981, when the Tigers defeated #4 Nebraska in the Orange Bowl to claim the national title. As a result, Clemson finished with nine wins and a #22 national ranking.

The 2002 season included victories over bowl teams Georgia Tech and Wake Forest, and a third victory in four years over arch-rival South Carolina. Clemson gained 434 yards of total offense in the 27-20 win over the Gamecocks, the most yards against Holtz’s defense all season.

Clemson had another record-setting season in 2001, a year that culminated with a Humanitarian Bowl win over Louisiana Tech. The 2001 campaign demonstrated Bowden’s ability to win in the long run, as he had the second-youngest “two-deep” in the ACC. Thirty-four of his top 44 players were underclassmen. Fourteen different freshmen saw action, including 10 who played in at least 10 games.

Bowden has a 60-38 record (612) as Tiger head coach and is 78-42 (.650) overall. He has recorded that ledger against a difficult schedule. In 1999, Clemson’s schedule was among the top 10 in the nation. In 2001, his squad defeated five teams that finished with a winning record. One of the wins was a 47-44 overtime triumph at #9 Georgia Tech.

When Bowden came to Clemson in 1998, he inherited a team with a 3-8 record. By late October of 2000, just 14 months after his first game, Clemson was ranked #3 in the nation in the USA Today poll after an 8-0 start. That ranking was the highest for the program in 16 years. The final #14 ranking in that same poll was the highest final listing for the program since the 1990 season.

Making a swift improvement is nothing new for Bowden. In 1997, he took over a 4-7 Tulane program and brought the Green Wave to a 7-4 mark in his first year. In 1998, the improvement continued with an 11-0 regular season and #7 national ranking. In 1999, Bowden elevated the Tigers from 3-8 to a bowl game and a 6-6 final record. The 2000 Tigers concluded the season with a 9-3 record, their highest win total since 1993.

When Bowden arrived at Clemson, he had one simple goal - improvement. He warned Tiger supporters that Clemson was unlikely to be a bowl participant in 1999, but his main focus was to improve. His goal of improvement was reached, and he was happy to be wrong about his prediction, as the Tigers were invited to the 1999 Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl. In 1999, Bowden accomplished a personal milestone that no Clemson coach had attained since 1981, the year the Tigers won the National Championship. He became the first Clemson coach since Ford to be named ACC Coach-of-the-Year.

Making strong improvement in his first year with a program was nothing new for Bowden. In the two seasons he was the head coach at Tulane, Bowden took a team that had been 4-18 in the two years previous to his arrival, and emotionally and numerically reversed the team’s fortunes with an 18-4 record, posted an 11-1 conference mark, and finished the 1998 season ranked #7 in the nation in both polls. Tulane and Tennessee were the only undefeated teams in college football in 1998.

The Green Wave scored 40 or more points in eight games in 1998, including each of the last seven games. In one game, the Green Wave scored 72 points and rolled up 704 yards of total offense. They converted 52 percent of their third-down opportunities for the season and had just 11 turnovers in over 800 plays. The 1998 season saw the program post a perfect 11-0 regular season under Bowden, its first perfect regular season since 1931. The Green Wave won Conference USA, its first league title since Tulane won the SEC in 1949. Bowden was named Conference USA Coach-of-the-Year.

A look to the list of coaches who had undefeated seasons in the 1990s shows two other men named Bowden. His father, Florida State Head Coach Bobby Bowden, had a perfect regular season in 1996 and 1999, while his brother Terry posted a perfect regular season in 1993. Obviously, the Bowdens are the first family of college coaching, and this “Wonder Years” environment had a lot to do with Tommy Bowden’s decision to enter coaching.

Bowden began his college football experience as a walk-on wide receiver at West Virginia. He played for his father between 1973-75 and then for Frank Cignetti during the 1976 season. As a junior, he caught 15 passes for 189 yards and one score. Bowden remained at West Virginia for the 1977 season and began his coaching career, serving as a graduate assistant on Cignetti’s staff. His interest in coaching only became more intense after that first year as a graduate assistant. His father then hired him as a secondary coach at Florida State for the 1978 season.

In 1980, Bowden joined the staff at East Carolina, where he coached for the spring-practice session of 1980. That spring, he moved to Auburn and served as the Tigers’ running backs coach for the 1980 season. Among the players he coached was James Brooks, who went on to a 13-year NFL career and is still second in Auburn history in rushing.

In 1981, Bowden returned to Tallahassee as the tight ends coach. In two more years at Florida State, the Seminoles posted a 15-8 mark. The 1982 team ranked #13 in the final poll, claimed a 9-3 record, and won a Gator Bowl title.

From 1983-86, Bowden served under Steve Sloan at Duke as the quarterbacks coach, and was named coordinator in 1985. In 1984, he made his first trip to Death Valley as a coach. Among the players he tutored was future NFL player Anthony Dilweg.

After four years at Duke, Bowden became the wide receivers coach at Alabama under Bill Curry. It was there that he refined his offensive coaching prowess under noted offensive mind Homer Smith.

In 1990, Bowden returned to a coordinator role, serving as Kentucky’s offensive coordinator and wide receivers coach. That year, he helped the Wildcats to their first upper division SEC finish since 1984.

In 1991, Bowden joined Pat Dye at Auburn. He remained with the Auburn program for six years, his longest stint as a college assistant. During his tenure, Auburn had a combined record of 46-20-2, including a perfect 11-0 season in 1993.

Born on July 10, 1954 in Birmingham, AL, he is married to the former Linda Joan White, who he first met when the two were in school together at Morgantown (WV) High School. The couple has two children, Ryan (25), a 2004 Clemson graduate and 2007 law school graduate of Regent University, and Lauren (22), a 2007 graduate of Clemson, who is an elementary school teacher.
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Clemson Football

Playing Experience
Three-year letterman and two-year starter on the offensive line at Missouri-Rolla (1973-75).

Education
B.A. degree in science education from South Florida in 1979...M.S. in athletic administration from Florida State in 1984.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
1983 Peach Bowl...1984 Citrus Bowl...1985 Gator Bowl...1986 All-American Bowl...1988 Fiesta Bowl...1989 Sugar Bowl...1990 Fiesta Bowl...1990 Blockbuster Bowl...1992 Cotton Bowl...1993 Orange Bowl...1994 Orange Bowl...1999 Peach Bowl...2001 Gator Bowl...2001 Humanitarian Bowl...2002 Tangerine Bowl...2004 Peach Bowl...2005 Champs Sports Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Bowl Seasons as a Head Coach
1995 Carquest Bowl.

Personal Data
Born September 30, 1954 in Arcadia, FL...married to Danyel...the couple has two sons (Jeff 26, John 23).

In his first season at South Carolina in 1994, he led the Gamecocks to their first postseason bowl win in school history in the Carquest Bowl...with the Seminoles, they were 10-0-1 in bowl games...with the win at the Carquest Bowl, Scott never tasted a bowl defeat in his first 12 bowl games as a coach...Florida State had a 44-6 (886) record with Scott as offensive coordinator, which was the most wins by a Division I program during those four years. Florida State also claimed the 1993 national title with Scott running the offense and finished no lower than fourth in the nation in a season...coached Heisman Trophy winner Charlie Ward...two of his five Seminole recruiting classes were ranked #1 in the nation (1985-89)...the 2000 Tiger offensive set 31 records, including total offense and touchdowns...as offensive coordinator in 2001, he directed Woodrow Dantzler to the first 2,000-1,000 passing-rushing season in NCAA Division I history...coordinated two of the top four offenses in Tiger history (2001-03)...coached three All-ACC offensive linemen in 2006, including first-teamers Nathan Barrett and Barry Richards...his son, Jeff was the Tigers’ holder for three years and is now an assistant coach at Presbyterian...his other son John graduated from Harvard, where he lettered in football and track, in 2006, and is now in medical school at Vanderbilt.

Scott Highlights

Playing Experience

Bowl Participation as a Player
1982 Independence Bowl.

Education

Coaching Experience
Playing Experience
Lettred three years at Alabama (1990-92); also a member of the 1988 and 1989 teams. member of the 1992 National Championship team. Academic All-SEC in 1990,92.

Bowl Participation as a Player
1990 Sugar Bowl...1991 Blockbuster Bowl...1991 Fiesta Bowl...1993 Sugar Bowl.

Education

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
1994 Gator Bowl...1995 Citrus Bowl...1997 Outback Bowl...1998 Music City Bowl...2000 Orange Bowl...2004 Peach Bowl...2005 Champs Sports Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Personal Data
Born November 20, 1969 in Birmingham, AL...married to the former Kathleen Bassett...the couple has three sons (Will, Drew, and Clay).

Swinney Highlights
Walk-on who went on to earn a scholarship as a wide receiver at Alabama and lettered three times (1990-92)...member of Alabama's 1992 National Championship team under Gene Stallings...his position coach was Tommy Bowden in 1989 and former Tiger Assistant Coach Woody McConvey from 1990 to 1992...a member of Sugar Bowl teams in 1990 and 1992 that won the SEC Championship... All-SEC Academic team and SEC Scholar Athlete Honor Roll member in both 1990 and 1992...coached four players at Alabama who have played in the NFL, including Freddie Milons, Alabama's all-time leading wideout in terms of receptions...Milons was an All-SEC selection in 1999 under the tutelage of Swinney...a part of six 10+ win seasons and five top-10 finishes at Alabama as a player and coach...coached in a total of five bowl games while at Alabama...highly-regarded recruiter who helped bring in 30 players during his coaching stint at Alabama...after his last season with the Tigers 2004 in 2000, he was in private business in Alabama acquired by ACC receiver Derrick Henriottm 2005...his wideout contributions to Clemson's 1,667 receiving yards in 1993, 1,679 in 1994, Airese Currie was one of the top 25 receivers at Oklahoma State in 2005...one of the top 25 receivers at West Virginia in 2005...First-team All-ACC wideout 2005...led the ACC in receptions the past three years...had 866 yards in 2005...Consistently the most-rewarded for receiving in a game (12) against Vick. WRs have been named one of the top-25 receivers at any ACC school in 2005...and 2006...led the ACC in wideouts...was a big reason Clemson finished 13th in the nation in total defense and 16th in scoring defense in 2006.

Playing Experience
Played at East Carolina in 1990 as an offensive lineman.

Education
B.S. degree in exercise science from East Carolina in 1997.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
1994 Liberty Bowl...1995 Liberty Bowl...2000 Insight.com Bowl...2001 Tangerine Bowl...2002 Insight.com Bowl...2004 Peach Bowl...2005 Champs Sports Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Personal Data
Born May 4, 1971 in Greenville, SC...married to the former Melissa Androus...the couple has a son (D.J. 1).

Blackwell Highlights
Began his coaching career at East Carolina, his alma mater, where he coached the rush linebackers between 1993-95, the Pirates earned trips to the Liberty Bowl in two of those seasons...played on the offensive line for East Carolina in the early 1990s...one of his best games came against national power Florida State at a freshman when he graded 85 percent...his playing career was cut short in 1991 by a neck injury...was a student assistant coach at East Carolina in 1992...attended nearby Berea High School in Greenville, SC...an assistant at Illinois State from 1996-99, where he helped lead one of the top turnarounds in NCAA Division I-AA football during that time period...in 1999, Illinois State had a school-best 10-2 record and advanced to the semifinals of the Division I-AA playoffs before losing to eventual national champion Georgia Southern...linebackers coach at Pittsburgh from 2001-03 and was a big reason the Panthers went to a bowl game three straight years...Pittsburgh finished 2002 with a 9-4 record and tied final ranking in the coaches poll...the season ended on a high note, as the Panthers defeated Oregon State 38-13 in the Insight.com Bowl...in 2002, the Panthers' point-prevention unit was 12th in the nation in total defense, 14th in scoring defense, 15th in pass efficiency defense, and 24th in rushing defense. Pittsburgh was one of just a few teams in the nation that limited the top 25 in all four major categories...had a lot to do with Clemson's improvement in 2003, he coached All-ACC linebacker Leroy Hill, who was second in the nation in tackles for loss; Hill was then named ACC Defensive Player-of-the-Year in the 2004 season...Clemson was in the top 10 in the nation in sacks and 11th in pass efficiency defense in 2004...coached linebackers Anthony Waters to a team-high 109 tackles and 13.5 tackles for loss in 2005...his 2005 and 2006 recruiting classes were consensus top 25...has coached nine players who have gone on to sign NFL contracts...his linebackers were instrumental in Clemson finishing 13th in the nation in total defense and 16th in scoring defense in 2006.

Playing Experience
Four-year letterman and two-year starter at quarterback for Furman (1999-02)...two-time All-Southern Conference selection at quarterback.

Education

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
2004 Peach Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Personal Data
Born July 21, 1979 in Cookeville, TN...single.
Assistant Coaches
Clemson Football

André Powell

Playing Experience
Letterman at Indiana in 1986 and 1987...named Most Improved Player in 1987 as a senior...attended Lees-McRae prior to attending Indiana.

Bowl Participation as a Player
1986 All-American Bowl...1988 Peach Bowl.

Education
B.S. degree in health, physical education, & recreation from Indiana in 1989.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
1988 Liberty Bowl...1996 Carquest Bowl...1998 Peach Bowl...1999 MicronPC.com Bowl...2000 Gahu Bowl...2001 Peach Bowl...2004 Continental Tire Bowl.

Personal Data
Born September 29, 1966 in Lockhart, SC...married to Joann...the couple has one son (André II 11) and two daughters (Alayna 8, Nikkia 5).

Chris Rumph

Playing Experience
Lettered four times as a linebacker at South Carolina (1991-94).

Bowl Participation as a Player
1995 Carquest Bowl.

Education
B.S. degree in retail management from South Carolina in 1994.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
2003 New Orleans Bowl...2004 GMC Bowl...2005 Motor City Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Personal Data
Born December 21, 1971 in Orangeburg, SC...married to Kila...the couple has two sons (Christopher 8, Elijah 1).

Ron West

Playing Experience
A member of two Gator Bowl teams as a reserve offensive lineman for Clemson in 1977 and 1978.

Bowl Participation as a Player
1977 Gator Bowl...1978 Gator Bowl.

Education
B.A. degree in industrial education from Clemson in 1979.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
1994 Alamo Bowl...1998 Liberty Bowl...1999 Peach Bowl...2001 Gator Bowl...2001 Humanitarian Bowl...2002 Tangerine Bowl...2004 Peach Bowl...2005 Champs Sports Bowl...2006 Music City Bowl.

Personal Data
Born February 12, 1957...married to the former Becky Home...they have a son (Brad 24) and a daughter (Lori 21).

Rumph Highlights
Four-time letterman at South Carolina (1991-94) had 32 tackles in nine games in 1992...made his first career start in a win at Clemson in 1992...as a part-time starter in 1993, he totaled 41 tackles...had 32 tackles in 11 regular-season games as a senior in 1994...under Head Coach Brad Scott...worked as a graduate assistant coach at South Carolina in the spring of 1997...head coach at Calhoun County High School in Saint Matthews, SC from 1997-01; he also served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks/running backs coach at Calhoun County High...coached one season (2002) at S.C. State, where he worked with defensive backs...coached outside linebackers for three seasons (2003-05) at Memphis under Head Coach Tommy West, who was Clemson’s head coach in the 1990s...helped Memphis to bowl appearances in all three seasons, including bowl victories in 2003 and 2005...Memphis won 24 games in his three seasons...the 2003 Memphis defense was ninth in the nation in total defense...one of his 2003 players (Cool Terry) was an All-Conference USA selection...the 2003 Tiger team won nine games, including the New Orleans Bowl...the 2004 Memphis team defeated SEC-rival Mississippi for the second straight year...helped the 2005 defense to finish 23rd in the nation in turnover margin and lead the league in rushing yards allowed per game (125.6), the 57th best mark in the country...two of his 2005 players (Tim Goodwell and Carlton Baker) were the top-two tacklers on the defensive unit, as Goodwell led the team in tackles with 102 and Baker had 88, including a team-best five sacks...coached the defensive line in his first season at Clemson in 2006...his players helped the Tigers finish 13th in the nation in total defense and 18th in rushing defense...uncle of Tiger defensive end Phillip Merling and is Merling’s position coach.

Powell Highlights
Played two years at Lees-McRae (1964-65) prior to earning two letters at Indiana (1966-67), led blocker for 1,000-yard rushing Anthony Thompson in 1967. Thompson went on to rush for over 6,000 yards...earned Indiana’s Most Improved Player award during his senior season...member of two bowl teams, including the 1986 All-American Bowl and 1988 Peach Bowl...served as a student and graduate assistant coach at Indiana during his first two years after his playing days...spent one season at South Carolina as a graduate assistant coach in 1990...after single years at Army (1991) and Virginia Military (1992); he was running backs coach at Rhode Island for two seasons...returned to Army for a season before spending five seasons as an assistant coach at Virginia (1996-00)...coached NFL players Thomas Jones, Germaine Crowell, Charles Kirby, Pat Washington, and Terrence Wilkins...running backs coach at North Carolina from 2001-06...coached Willie Parker at North Carolina, who went on to win a Super Bowl Championship Ring with the Pittsburgh Steelers, and Ronnie McGill, who finished his career 10th in school history with over 2,300 rushing yards...has significant experience coaching special teams; the Tar Heels were seventh in the nation in kickoff returns in 2005 and second in the ACC in 2006; North Carolina was the only team in the ACC to return a pair of kickoffs for touchdowns during both 2005 and 2006.

West Highlights
At Louisiana-Lafayette (1986-91), his defenses were among the nation’s top 20 in total defense three times...his defense was in the top 25 nationally in at least one defensive category for six straight years...part of the Baylor team that won the 1994 conference title...under his guidance, the offensive line helped the Tulane offense produce almost 4,700 yards and a school-record 375 points in 1997; the offensive line gave up just 11 sacks in 1998, the offensive line helped Tulane become the only school in the nation to average over 300 years passing and 200 yards rushing in the regular season...despite the nation’s smallest offensive line, Clemson averaged 403 yards in 1999, set 26 offensive records, and scored 42 touchdowns...transferred to Clemson from Marion Institute, where he was a junior college All-American...coached three-time, First-Team Academic All-American Kyle Young...Clemson was 10th in the nation in rushing in 2000...his offensive line paved the way for Woodrow Dantzler to become the first Division I player in NCAA history to pass for 2,000 yards and rush for 1,000 in a season...was a common denominator on the offensive staff of three of the top five offenses in Tiger history...Clemson set over 150 records on offense the five years West was on the offensive staff...moved from the offensive line to the defensive line in 2004...helped Clemson to an ACC-best 42 sacks in 2004...coached defensive end Games Adams, a unanimous first-team All-American in 2005 and the #4 overall pick of the 2007 NFL draft.
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Regions is a proud supporter of the Clemson Tigers.
Savor your Chili's favorites at Chili's Too, located in the University Union. Choose from a selection of flavorful appetizers like Boneless Buffalo Wings and our warm and crispy tostada chips served with house-made salsa. And try one of our refreshing salads. The Southwestern Cobb is piled high with juicy chicken, corn relish, bacon and lots of other mouth-watering ingredients. We also have Big Mouth Burgers, classic sandwiches, Guiltless Grilled Chicken, a wide array of beverages including beer and margaritas, and other American cuisine with a Southwestern flair.

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Memorial Stadium

“Death Valley”

Clemson’s Memorial Stadium has been held in high esteem for many years. Whether it be players from the 1940s and 1950s, opposing players from the 1970s and 1980s, or even professional players in the 1990s, the ambiance of this special setting is what college football is all about.

The storied edifice added to its legend when the first meeting of father and son head coaches (Bowden Bowl I) took place before a sellout crowd of more than 86,000 fans in 1999. Clemson has been in the top 20 in the nation in attendance 26 straight seasons. A crowd has exceeded 80,000 fans 46 times since the 1983 season. In 2006, Clemson was #14 in the nation in average home attendance with its 81,506 average, more than 100 percent of Memorial Stadium's capacity.

The facility’s mystique is derived from its many traditions, which date to its opening in 1942, the legendary games and players, and Clemson’s corresponding rate of success. Clemson has won 235 games in 65 years there and has won over 71 percent of the contests (235-92-7).

The stadium has definitely been good to the Tigers, but the stadium was constructed against the advice of at least one Clemson coach. Just before Head Coach Jess Neely left for Rice after the 1939 season, he gave Clemson a message.

"Don't ever let them talk you into building a big stadium," he said. "Put about 10,000 seats behind the YMCA. That's all you'll ever need."

Instead of following Coach Neely's advice, however, Clemson officials decided to build the new stadium in a valley on the western part of campus. The place would take some clearing, as there were many trees, but luckily there were no hedges.

The crews went to work, clearing, cutting, pouring, and forming. Finally on September 19, 1942, Memorial Stadium opened with Clemson defeating Presbyterian 32-13. Those 20,000 seats installed for Opening Day would soon grow.

When the original part of the stadium was built in the early 1940s, much of the work was done by scholarship athletes, including many football players. The first staking out of the stadium was done by two members of the football team, A.N. Cameron and Hugh Webb. Webb returned to Clemson years later to be an architecture professor, and Cameron went on to become a civil engineer in Louisiana.

The building of the stadium did not proceed without problems. One day during the clearing of the land, one young player proudly announced that he was not allergic to poison oak. He then commenced to attack the poison oak with a swing blade, throwing the plants to and fro. The next day, the boy was swollen twice his size and was hospitalized.

There are many other stories about the stadium, including one that Frank Howard put a chew of
tobacco in each corner as the concrete poured.

Howard said that the seeding of the grass caused a few problems. "About 40 people and I laid sod on the field," he said. "After three weeks, on July 15, we had only gotten halfway through."

"I told them that it had taken us three weeks to get that far, and I would give them three more week's pay for however long it took. I also told them we would have 50 gallons of ice cream when we got through. After that, it took them three days to do the rest of the field. Then we sat down in the middle of the field and ate up that whole 50 gallons."

Howard said that on the day of the first game in the stadium, "the gates were hung at 1:00 and we played at 2:00." But that would be all of the construction for a while. Then in 1956, 16,000 sideline seats were added. And in 1960, 5,658 west endzone seats were added in response to increasing attendance. With the large endzone, "Green Grass" section, this expansion increased capacity to 53,000.

Later, upper decks were added to each side as crowds swelled - the first in 1978 and the second in 1983. It increased capacity to over 80,000, which makes it one of the largest on-campus stadiums.

In 2006, the WestZone was added, an area that contains locker rooms and a luxury club level that holds 1,000 seats.

The effect that spiraling inflation has had in this century can be dramatically seen in the differences in stadium construction. The original part of Memorial Stadium was built at a cost of only $125,000, or at $6.25 per seat. The newest upper deck was finished in 1983 at a cost of $13.5 million, or $866 per seat.

Through the years, Memorial Stadium has become known as "Death Valley." It was tagged by the late Presbyterian Coach Lonnie McMillan. After bringing his teams to Clemson for years and getting whipped, he said the place was like "Death Valley."

A few years later the name stuck.

In 1974, the playing surface was named Frank Howard Field for the legendary coach because of his long service and dedication to the University.

Luckily, the stadium wasn't built behind the Y.
Running Down The Hill

"The Most Exciting 25 Seconds in College Football"

What has been described as, "the most exciting 25 seconds in college football from a color and pageantry standpoint," actually started out as a matter-of-fact entrance, mainly because of necessity.

The first 20,000 seats in Memorial Stadium were built and ready for use before the 1942 season, less than a year after Pearl Harbor was bombed and the United States was drawn into World War II.

The shortest entry into the stadium was a short walk down Williamson Road from Fike Fieldhouse's dressing rooms to a gate at the top of the Hill, which is located behind the east end zone. There were no dressing facilities in the west end zone, there was only a big clock where the hands turned and a scoreboard, which was operated by hand.

The team would dress at Fike, walk down Williamson Road, come in the gate underneath where the scoreboard now stands, and jog down the Hill for its warm-up exercises. There was no fanfare, no cannon shot fired, no Tiger Paw flag, no Tiger Rag played...just the team making its entrance and lining up to do the side-straddle hop.

That is pretty much the way things went for the next 25 years.

Either in 1964 or 1965, S.C. Jones, a member of the class of 1919, made a trip to California. He stopped at a spot in Death Valley, CA and picked up this white flint rock.

He presented it to Head Coach Frank Howard as being from Death Valley, California to Death Valley, South Carolina."

The rock laid on the floor in Howard's office in Fike Fieldhouse for years. One day, he was cleaning up his office and told Gene Willimon, who was executive secretary of IPTAY, to "take this rock and throw it over the fence, or out in the ditch...do something with it, but get it out of my office!"

Willimon did not think that was the way a rock should be treated. After all, it had been brought 3,000 miles by a very sincere Clemson fan.

By the mid-1960s, Memorial Stadium was living up to its moniker ("Death Valley") because of the number of victories that had been recorded there. Actually, the name was first used by Lonnie McMillan, head coach at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC in the 1940s.

McMillan and the other Blue Hose coaches before him used to open each season by playing at Clemson. Seldom scoring (24 shutouts in 39 games), and with only three victories and four ties to show for it, his teams were getting "killed" by the Tigers regularly. In 1948, McMillan made this comment to the press that he was taking his team to play Clemson in "Death Valley!"

An occasional reference to Memorial Stadium by that name could be heard for the next four years, but when Howard started calling it "Death Valley" in the 1950s, the name took off like wildfire. The team celebrated the 60th year in the "Valley" in 2011.
But getting back to Howard's Rock.

The rock was mounted on a pedestal at the top of the Hill on the east side of the stadium. It was unveiled September 24, 1966 when Clemson played Virginia. The Tigers were down 18 points with 17 minutes remaining and came back to win (40-33) on a 65-yard pass play from Jimmy Addison to Jacky Jackson in the fourth quarter. That was quite a spectacular debut for that rock.

The team members started rubbing the rock prior to running down the Hill on September 23, 1967, a day when Clemson defeated Wake Forest by a score of 23-6.

Prior to running down the Hill that day, Howard told his players, "If you're going to give me 110 percent, you can rub that rock. If you're not, keep your filthy hands off it."

Howard told of the incident the next day on his Sunday television show, and the story became legend.

When Hootie Ingram succeeded Howard as head coach prior to the 1970 season, Ingram decided that the team would make its final entrance on the field out of the dressing room in the west end zone. In all home games in 1970 and 1971, and the first four games of 1972 when the Tigers did not run down the Hill, their combined record was 6-6. The team decided it wanted to come down the Hill once prior to the South Carolina game in 1972. The result, in a cold, freezing rain, was a 7-6 victory when Jimmy Williamson knocked down a two-point conversion attempt, which preserved the win.

The Tigers have made the entrance for every home game since 1942, except for the seasons mentioned above - 319 times heading into the 2007 season.

After final warmups, the team goes back into its dressing room under the west end zone stands for final game instructions. About 10 minutes before kickoff, the team boards two buses, rides around behind the north stands to the east end zone, and disembarks to the top of the Hill behind Howard's Rock.

At the appointed time, the cannon booms, and led by a giant Tiger Paw flag, the band forms two lines for the team to run between and strikes up "Tiger Rag..." the frenzy starts in all sincerity and usually lasts for three hours.

It is a tradition that has inspired Clemson players for many years.

"The Rock has strange powers. When you rub it, and run down the Hill, the adrenaline flows. It's the most emotional experience I've ever had."

Six-time All-Pro and former Tiger All-American Michael Dean Perry
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Bench It!

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## Tiger All-Americans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Player, Pos.</th>
<th>AP</th>
<th>UPI</th>
<th>FC</th>
<th>FW</th>
<th>WC</th>
<th>SN</th>
<th>FN</th>
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<td>1928</td>
<td>O.K. Presley, C</td>
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<td>3</td>
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</table>

**Note:** First-team selections only.

### AP All-Americans

- **Player, Pos.:**
  - Banks McFadden, B
  - Lou Cordleone, L
  - Bennie Cunningham, TE
  - Jerry Butler, WR
  - Jerry Kinard, FS
  - Terry Kinard, FS
  - David Treadwell, PK
  - Stacy Long, OT
  - Jeb Flesch, OG
  - Stacy Seegars, OG
  - Anthony Simmons, LB
  - Keith Adams, LB
  - Gaines Adams, DE

### Multi-Year All-Americans

- **Player, Pos.:**
  - Joe Blalock, WR
  - Bennie Cunningham, TE
  - Joe Bostic, OG
  - Terry Kinard, FS
  - William Perry, MG
  - John Phillips, OG
  - Donnell Woolford, CB
  - Stacey Long, OT
  - Chris Gardocki, PK
  - Jeb Flesch, OG
  - Stacey Seegars, OG
  - Anthony Simmons, LB
  - Keith Adams, LB
  - Kyle Young, C

**Note:** First-team selections only.

---

Gaines Adams
All-American, 2006

---

* * unanimous All-American; **AP** - Associated Press; **UPI** - United Press International (defunct in 1995); **FC** - Football Coaches; **FW** - Football Writers; **WC** - Walter Camp; **SN** - Sporting News; **FN** - Football News; **NEA** - Newspaper Enterprise of America; **SH** - Scripps-Howard; **CP** - College & Pro Football Weekly; **INS** - International News Service
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Travis Rankin, 2000

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### First-Round Draft Picks

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<thead>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Gaines Adams</td>
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<td>4</td>
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**Tye Hill**
2006 First-Round Draft Pick
Saint Louis Rams

**Gaines Adams**
2007 #4 Overall Draft Pick
Tampa Bay Buccaneers
### Pro Bowl Players

Justin Miller  
Pro Bowl Selection, 2006

The Pro Bowl is a annual professional American football all-star game that involves the best players from the National Football League (NFL). The game is played to select the NFL's best players from the regular season. The Pro Bowl has been held annually since 1950.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player, Pos.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Harold Olson, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Mathis, RB</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Butler, WR</td>
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<td>Bills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dwight Clark, WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Mack, RB</td>
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<td>Browns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dale Hatcher, P</td>
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<td>Kevin Mack, RB</td>
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<td>Terry Kinard, FS</td>
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<td>Justin Miller, KR</td>
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Clemson Football

#40 Andre Branch
DE • Fr.
Richmond, VA

#90 Kourtnei Brown
DE • Fr.
Charlotte, NC

#89 Miguel Chavis
DT • Fr.
Fayetteville, NC

#85 Brandon Clear
WR • Fr.
Hoover, AL

#42 Byron Clear
DE • Fr.
Hoover, AL

#62 Mason Cloy
C • Fr.
Columbia, SC

#44 Scotty Cooper
LB • Fr.
Lake City, SC

#30 Chad Diehl
FB • Fr.
Lyman, SC

#21 Xavier Dye
WR • Fr.
Greenwood, SC

#12 Marcus Gilchrist
CB • Fr.
High Point, NC

#99 Jarvis Jenkins
DT • Fr.
Clemson, SC

#3 Willy Korn
OB • Fr.
Lyman, SC

#88 Brian Lithicum
TE • Fr.
Farmington, NM

#34 Brandon Maye
LB • Fr.
Mobile, AL

#2 DeAndre McDaniel
S • Fr.
Tallahassee, FL

#53 Bennie Moore
DE • Fr.
Saint Mary's, GA

#64 Wilson Norris
OG • Fr.
Pickets, SC

Tiger Rally Cats

Kneeling (left to right): Mollie McPhail, Mallory Mitchell, Brittany Williams, Brenna Kiffmeyer.
Sitting: Lauren Evans, Aria Webber, Jessica Teague, Keri Miller, Jessica Kurtz, Cristin May,
Janelle Shoop, Jessica Tolley, Katie Horton, Megan Langworthy, Cory O'Tuel, Jennifer Jordan.
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Clemson Football

#51 Eddie Adams
LS • Fr.
Greenwood, SC

#83 Clay Baldwin
PK • Fr.
Greenwood, SC

#16 Kyle Davison
WR • Jr.
Alpharetta, GA

#92 John Early
PK • Jr.
Darlington, SC

#99 Brian Hill
WR • So.
Clemson, SC

#19 Ike Ihewunwa
S • So.
Powder Springs, GA

#90 Matthew Knowles
DE • Jr.
Greenville, SC

#46 Brandon Oliver
LB • Jr.
Sumter, SC

#52 Charles Roediger
LS • Jr.
Advance, NC

#12 Brandon Speekeik
GR • So.
Oregon, OH

#53 Preston Stone
OL • Jr.
Arlington, TX

#69 Tim Triplett
LB • So.
Beaufort, SC

#37 Ronald Watson
RB • So.
Mauldin, SC

#46 Britton Whetsell
LB • Jr.
Bowman, SC

#61 John Wright
DE • Fr.
Anderson, SC

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### Clemson Offense

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Pos.</th>
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<th>Player</th>
<th>Hgt</th>
<th>Wgt</th>
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<td>Barry Richardson</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LG</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Chris McDuffie</td>
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<td>330</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>65</td>
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<td>RG</td>
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<td>Christian Capote</td>
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### Boston College Defense

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<td>Nick Larkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kevin Akins</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Mike McLaughlin</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Mark Herzlich</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>DeJuan Tribble</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Paul Anderson</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Jaron Watkins</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Taji Morris</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Johnny Ayers</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### When Clemson Has the Ball

### Boston College Offense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Hgt</th>
<th>Wgt</th>
<th>Cl.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Gosder Cherilus</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LG</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Ty Hall</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Matt Tannent</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>So.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RG</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Clif Ramsey</td>
<td>6-6</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Anthony Castonzo</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Ryan Purvis</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Kevin Challenger</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>QB</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Matt Ryan</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TB</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Andre Callender</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FB</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>James McCluskey</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Brandon Robinson</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PK</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Steve Aponavicius</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### When Boston College Has the Ball

### Clemson Defense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Hgt</th>
<th>Wgt</th>
<th>Cl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Phillip Merling</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NG</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>Dorell Scott</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DT</td>
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<td>Jamie Cumbie</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BE</td>
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<td>Ricky Sapp</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>So.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLB</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Tramaine Billie</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MLB</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Cortney Vincent</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WLB</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Nick Watkins</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Chris Chancellor</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>So.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAT</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Michael Harlin</td>
<td>6-3</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Chris Clemens</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
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<td>Credzon Butler</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>So.</td>
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<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Jimmy Maners</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollment: 14,500
Nickname: Eagles
Colors: Maroon & Gold
Conference: Atlantic Coast
Home Field (Capacity): Alumni Stadium (44,500)
President: Rev. William P. Leahy, S.J.
Athletic Director: Gene DeFilippo
First Year of Football: 1893
Athletic Website: BCEagles.com

School Information
Location: Chestnut Hill, MA

Coaching Staff
Head Coach: Jeff Jagodzinski (Wisconsin-Whitewater '85)
Record at School Entering 2007 (Seasons): 0-0
Career Record Entering 2007 (Seasons): 0-0
Assistant Coach Position(s)
Jack Bicknell, Jr. OC, OL Boston College '86
Steve Logan OC Tulsa '75
Frank Spaziani DC Penn State '69
Don Yanowski STC, TE Toledo '82
Mike Stravo RC, DB Boston College '95
Jeff Comissiong DL Maine '97
Ryan Day WR New Hampshire '02
Bill McGovern LB Holy Cross '86
Ben Sirmans RB Maine '93

Team Information
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 44/17
Starters Returning/Lost: 18/7

#98 Alex Albright DE Sr. Cincinnati, OH
#19 Paul Anderson S+ Jr. Staten Island, NY
#83 Steve Aponavicius PK Jr. Easton, PA
#46 Johnny Ayers OL Sr. Oakton, VA
#23 Billy Bennett PK Fr. San Diego, CA
#60 Ron Brace DT Jr. Springfield, MA
#32 Andre Callender RB Jr. Roselle, NJ
#84 Kevin Challenger WR Sr. Montreal, Quebec
#77 Gosder Cherilus DT Sr. Somerville, MA
#40 Jo-Lonn Dunbar LB Sr. Syracuse, NY
#18 Rich Gunnell WR So. East Windsor, NJ
#78 Ty Hall QB Sr. Cincinnati, OH
#94 Mark Herzlich LB Jr. Wayne, PA
#71 Carlos Huggins OG Jr. Coral Springs, FL
#66 Rich Lapham OL Fr. Amherst, NY
#57 Nick Larkin DE Sr. Cincinnati, OH
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- Clemson’s commitment to providing individual attention to its students is evident in a 14-to-1 student-faculty ratio and a 42 percent rate of class sections with fewer than 20 students.

- Creative Inquiry gives undergraduate students the opportunity to develop essential research and discovery skills while working alongside peers and faculty for course credit. Projects are integrated in almost every major with the goal of building students’ capacities to find, analyze and evaluate information.

- Clemson’s Academic Success Center, which earned international acclaim as the Outstanding Supplemental Instruction Program in 2006, provides comprehensive academic support services to promote academic success and personal growth.

- Service-learning uses community-service experiences to enhance the academic classroom experience. Students identify and analyze real community needs, develop solutions to meet those needs and implement the solutions.

- Communication Across the Curriculum integrates oral, written and visual communication in all disciplines. Professors provide students with practical challenges that teach them to think and communicate effectively.

- Living and learning communities allow students with similar interests to live together and access academic and cultural support right at home. Communities serve a wide variety of groups, including engineering and science, business, and civically and service-minded students.
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The legendary John Heisman was the Tigers' head football coach (1900–03) and head baseball coach (1901-03) over 100 years ago. A total of 201 donors this year have pledged $10,000 apiece towards one of IPTAY's most prestigious donor programs.

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Jamae E. Mcclendon ........................... Roseville, GA
Bruce McClure ................................... Anderson, SC
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Mr. & Mrs. William A. Mullin ................ Piedmont, SC
Robby & Meg Newton ......................... Clemson, SC
Ernest M. Norville ............................... Wellesly, MA
William R. O'Dell ............................... Madison, GA
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Donnie Patterson ............................... Anderson, SC
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Michael E. Roddey .............................. Greenville, SC
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Sandra S. Stasby White Rock .................. Columbia, SC
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Small's Incorporated ........................... Kershaw, SC
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Dr. Randolph R. Smith ....................... Augusta, GA
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Marshall Stith .................................... Sullivan's Island, SC
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Whaley Foodservice Repairs, Inc. .......... Lexington, SC
Arlon & Mary Ann Whitley ................. Clemson, SC
Louis A. Williamson ......................... Williamson, SC
Charles P. Willimon, Jr. .................... Simpsonville, SC
Jason D. Wilson ................................. Greenwood, SC
Tom P. & Shannon Winkopp ................... Clemson, SC
James M. Zachrich, Jr. ....................... Hilton Head Island, SC

Clemson Alma Mater

Where the Blue Ridge yawns its greatness Where the Tigers play Here the sons of dear old Clemson Reign supreme aye.

Chorus
Dear old Clemson, we'll triumph And with all our might That the Tigers' roar may echo 'O'er the mountain heights.

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Eileen K. Addis .................................. Greenville, SC
Bryan P. Albert .................................. Columbia, SC
Ashmore Brothers .................................. Greer, SC
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Askew .......... Greenville, SC
D.L. Aydlett, Jr. ................................. Charleston, SC
Mr. James G. Bagnal III .................... Spartanburg, SC
James Bannon .................................. Greenville, SC
John Phillip Barber, Jr. ................. Spartanburg, SC
John M. Barnes ................................ Rock Hill, SC
Dr. W. Ronald Barrett ....................... Gaffney, SC
Michael L. Baur ................................ Simpsonville, SC
Rick L. Beasley ................................. Florence, SC
Scott Bell ........................................ Clinton, SC
Brian Benencaley .............................. Columbia, SC
Andy Berry III ................................... Mount Pleasant, SC
Best & Flatt ..................................... Columbia, SC
Ronald & Debra Blackmore .............. Beaufort, SC
Luther C. Boliek ................................ Greenville, SC
The Booth Company, Inc. ............... Sumter, SC
In Memory of E.M. Bost ...................... Simpsonville, SC
Joe B. Bostic .................................... Greenville, NC
Louis M. Boulware ............................ Winnsboro, SC
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William & Gail Cobb ...................... Jacksonville, FL
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Laurin & Billy Collar ......................... Mount Pleasant, SC
John L. Cote, Jr. ............................... Myrtle Beach, SC
J. Richard Cottingham ..................... Seneca, SC
Jack D. Cox ....................................... Rock Hill, SC
M. R. & J.C. Culler ............................. Orangeburg, SC
Donald & Kasey Curfus ................. Laurens County, SC
Richard Davies ................................. Charlotte, NC
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Drummond Glover Development ........... Jasper, AL
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Marion D. Hawkins, Jr. ................... Havelock, NC
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Helen T. Hill ................................. Charleston, SC
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The legendary John Heisman was the Tigers' head football coach (1900–03) and head baseball coach (1901-03) over 100 years ago. A total of 201 donors this year have pledged $10,000 apiece towards one of IPTAY's most prestigious donor programs.
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Rob Freeman
Paul & Holly Gaught
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The IPTAY Scholarship Foundation, founded in 1934, was the first scholarship fundraising organization in college athletics. Its roots trace back to October 16, 1931 following a surprising 6-0 football loss to The Citadel. After the game, Captains Frank Jervey, Pete Hefner, Head Coach Jess Neely, and Assistant Coach Joe Davis met in a car outside the stadium in Florence, SC to discuss various ways Clemson could establish its football program to a competitive status.

Shortly after the meeting, Dr. Rupert Fike offered his help after corresponding with Jervey. Neely believed he could run a successful football team if he was provided a $10,000-a-year increase in scholarships. Jervey originally called for members to pay $30 a year, but Fike recommended a smaller amount, which he believed would lead to more members. Fike charged 100 people to step forward and pay $10 a year to the organization, which is where the name IPTAY originated (I Pay Ten A Year).

The purpose of IPTAY is “to provide annual financial scholarship support to the athletic department and to assist in every possible way to regain the high athletic prestige which rightfully belongs to Clemson.”

In 1934, the first year of IPTAY, a little over $1,600 was raised. Some donors negotiated payments in the form of bartering because of the Great Depression. Milk, sweet potatoes, turnip greens, and other goods were accepted in an attempt to build a solid membership base.

However, the hard work of Fike and his colleagues began to pay off in 1939 as the Tigers went to their first bowl game, the 1940 Cotton Bowl, where they defeated Boston College 6-3 and finished the season in the AP Top-25 poll for the first time in school history. Coincidentally, IPTAY reached Neely’s $10,000 goal for the first time in 1939.

IPTAY has over 21,000 donors, which includes 16,000 IPTAY members and over 5,000 Cubs, Collegiate Club members who continue Fike’s mission of providing annual scholarships for student-athletes, paying IPTAY’s operating expenses, and maintaining an adequate reserve fund deemed appropriate by the IPTAY Board of Directors. The contributions ensure all 19 sports annually obtain the maximum scholarships offered by the NCAA.

Even though the mission of IPTAY set forth in 1934 remains the same, its scope has grown tremendously over the years. It not only provides annual athletic scholarships, but it has also provided over 1,600 academic scholarships and raised over $3.5 million through the IPTAY Academic Scholarship Endowment, which was established in 1982. IPTAY has been the key in building and maintaining the outstanding facilities essential for Clemson to remain one of the top intercollegiate programs in the country. IPTAY has played a critical role in various construction projects and renovations throughout the athletic department. In addition to fulfilling the mission of raising funds for scholarships, IPTAY has played a vital role in providing a wide variety of amenities enjoyed by all students.

IPTAY is considered by many to be the father of athletic fundraising. It was the first organization in the nation to build and fund an academic support facility built solely for educational support of student-athletes. Vickers Hall opened in 1991 and has established itself as a nationally recognized program for student-athlete support.

The IPTAY Collegiate Club was started in 1997 solely designed for the college student as a scion of the IPTAY organization. The IPTAY representative program went online in 2004 with IPTAYReps.com, which allows representatives to electronically keep track of the donors they represent.

Operating under the guidance of its board of directors and the leadership of the athletic department’s external affairs division, IPTAY continuously receives the annual support of our donors. Some changes in recent years include the addition of the Tiger Club, CATS (Clemson Active Teen Support), and the Collegiate Club, an update in its database technology, and the addition of two new levels to IPTAY membership, the Howard ($2,100) and the McFadden ($5,600) levels of giving.

IPTAY introduced the endowment of positions program under former Executive Director George Bennett. IPTAY implemented the endowment of positions program in April, 1994 at the 65th birthday celebration for former Tiger Head Coach Frank Howard. The first endowment honored Howard, who coached at Clemson for 35 years and established much of the Tiger football’s storied tradition.

The Heisman Scholarship Level, established during the 2005 campaign, is the highest annual donation level. Bert Henderson, executive director of IPTAY, set a goal to recreate Fike’s 1934 vision of having 100 people come forward giving $10 annually. The 100-charter-member goal for the $10,000 donation level was not only reached, but surpassed thanks to the generous support of our donors.

Today, the organization continues its missions established over 70 years ago to provide annual scholarships for Clemson’s student-athletes. Under the department of external affairs, IPTAY will expand its organizational service to move toward a broader scope of full-service. This will include capital gifts, improved marketing plans, estate planning, and increasing our membership through our IPTAY representative program.

For more information on IPTAY or determining other ways to contribute, please call the IPTAY Office at (864) 656-2115 or log on to ClemsonTigers.com.
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Andy Ford
Graduate Assistant Coach (Defense)

Responsibilities: Graduate assistant coach who will work with the defense.

Playing Experience: Four-year letterman at Clemson (1993-96)...started 15 games from 1994-96 as a cornerback and free safety...only career punt return went for 26 yards and a touchdown against Western Carolina in 1995, the first time the Tigers had scored on a blocked punt return since 1989...played in three bowl games.

Coaching Experience: Defensive backs coach at Sumter (SC) High...assistant coach at Beaufort (SC) High...defensive coordinator at East Chapel Hill (NC) High...defensive backs coach at Cary (NC) High...graduate assistant coach (defense) at Clemson in 2005-06.

Education: Earned a degree in business management from Clemson in 1998.

Personal: Born February 3, 1975 in Seoul, Korea...twin brother Peter also lettered for the Tigers (1993-96) at centerback...married to the former Marjory Grant...son Janaun (8).

Mike Dooley
Graduate Assistant Coach (Offense)

Responsibilities: Graduate assistant coach who will work with the Clemson offense.

Playing Experience: Defensive end at Furman who lettered from 1993-95...missed his senior year due to injury...had a sack against Clemson in 1994...Furman reached the Division I-AA playoffs his final season...Academic Honor Roll...graduate of Stephens County High in Toccoa, GA where he played for four seasons.

Coaching Experience: Assistant coach at Greenville (SC) High from 1998-04...defensive coordinator from 2000-04 and assistant head coach in 2004...during his last three years on the staff, Greenville High posted a 33-4 record, including a 12-1 ledger in 2003...video graduate assistant (defense) at Clemson in 2005-06.

Education: Earned a degree in health & exercise science from Furman in 1998.

Personal: Born May 1, 1975 in Toccoa, GA...single.

Daric Riley
Video Graduate Assistant (Defense)

Responsibilities: Graduate assistant who will work with the Clemson defense on practice and game video.

Playing Experience: Defensive back and special teams player at Charleston Southern who lettered from 1995-98.

Coaching Experience: Graduate assistant defensive backs coach at Charleston Southern in 1999...defensive backs coach at Fairleigh 2000...quarterbacks coach, defensive backs coach, special teams coach, strength & conditioning coordinator, and junior college recruiting coordinator at Pikesville in 2001-02...defensive backs coach and special teams coach at Newberry in 2003...defensive backs coach and special teams coach at Truman State from 2004-06.

Education: Earned a degree in science & physical education as well as science & psychology from Charleston Southern in 1998.

Personal: Born June 29, 1977 in Sycamore, Ill...single.

Ryan Sulkowski
Video Graduate Assistant (Offense)

Responsibilities: Graduate assistant who will work with the Clemson offense on practice and game video.

Playing Experience: Offensive lineman at Valdosta State who lettered from 1996-98.

Coaching Experience: Graduate assistant coach at Valdosta State from 1998-01...tight ends and running backs coach at Lynn-Rhyme in 2001-02...running game coordinator and offensive line coach at Austin Peay in 2002-03...recruiting coordinator and offensive line coach at Chowan in 2003-04...assistant head coach, offensive coordinator, quarterbacks coach, running backs coach, and wide receivers coach at Hargrave Military Academy from 2004-06.


Donald Hymel
Assistant AD • Football Operations

Donald Hymel is in his ninth season as the Assistant Athletic Director for Football Operations. His main responsibility is working with the day-to-day operations of the football program. Some main emphasis areas include working with professional scouts, overseeing the walk-on program, handling coaches clinics and summer camp, travel insurance, proper exchange of videos between teams, and handling official and unofficial campus visits by recruits.

Hymel came to Clemson after a three-year stint as the assistant equipment manager at Tulane. In 1998, he served as an administrative assistant with the Green Wave program in addition to his duties of assistant equipment manager.

While at Tulane, Hymel (pronounced HEE-mel) also assisted the football program in conducting such activities as the annual coaches’ clinic, alumni golf tournament, summer camp, and kickoff cruise.

Hymel, 44, was the head football equipment manager at Nicholls State before accepting his position at Tulane. He is familiar with the ACC, as he worked as a student assistant in North Carolina's recruiting office.

Hymel is a 1988 graduate of Louisiana State, where he was a student equipment manager. He also has done postgraduate studies at the U.S. Sports Academy in Mobile, AL.

Andy Johnston
Assistant AD • Football Management

Andy Johnston is in his 11th year as the assistant athletic director for football management. His responsibilities with the team include managing the program’s day-to-day operations. Although this is his 11th year with the football program, he has been involved with the Clemson athletic department for 26 years. From 1983-97, he was the winningest women's tennis coach in Clemson history.

In those 15 years, Johnston guided his squad to five consecutive ACC titles (1983-87), 12 top-25 finishes, and six NCAA Tournaments. He was named ACC Coach-of-the-Year for the fourth time and Southeast Region Coach-of-the-Year for the second time in 1993. Seven players he coached at Clemson were named to the ACC 50-Year Anniversary team in 2002.

Johnston has a 264-166 record at Clemson and a career mark of 263-167. He was the coach at Furman in 1982 before coming to Clemson. His best season at Clemson was his rookie year when the team had a 30-5 record and finished #7 in the rankings. That team won all nine flights of the ACC Tourney, the only tennis team in Tiger history to do that. He coached tennis pro and Lady Tiger Gigi Fernandez, who was inducted into the Clemson Hall of Fame in 2005.

Johnston played for the Tigers on the hardcourt and earned his degree in administrative management in 1979. He then served as the assistant men's tennis coach for the 1980 season before moving on to Furman.

Johnston, 50, is a native of Summerville, SC. He is married to the former Sophia Woons and has two daughters, Caylyn (20) and Kiera (17).

Andy Johnston and wife Sophie
Athletic Department Staff
Clemson University

David Abernethy
Senior Assistant Strength Coach

Rick Bagby
Video Services Director

Joey Batson
Director of Strength & Conditioning

Michelle Bensman
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Jennifer Benton
Football Administrative Assistant, Defense

Sam Blackman
Senior Associate Sports Information Director

Tim Bourret
Assistant Athletic Director, Sports Information

Dr. Larry Bowman
Team Orthopedic Surgeon

Donna Bullock
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Charlie Bussey
Tiger Letterwinners Association Coordinator

Steve Coleman
Information Technology Consultant

Bobby Couch
Executive Director of Major Gifts

Bill D'Andrea
Senior Associate Athletic Director, External Affairs

Jeff Davis
Assistant Athletic Director, Major Gifts Program

Beth Douglas
Football Administrative Assistant, Coach Bowden

Mike Echols
Supervisor of Athletic Grounds

Stephanie Ellison
Assistant Athletic Director, Compliance Services

Tony Eubanks
Team Advisor

Travis Furbee
Assistant Athletic Director, Ticket Operations

Wayne Gibson
Assistant Ticket Operations Manager

Phil Grayson
Associate Athletic Director, Administration

Larry Greenlee
Assistant Director of Strength & Conditioning

Henry Guess
Assistant Video Services Director

David Helms
Assistant Strength Coach

Bert Henderson
IPTAY Executive Director

Brian Hennessy
Associate Sports Information Director

Van Hilderbrand
Associate Athletic Director, Event Manager

Katie Hill
Senior Associate Athletic Director, Internal Affairs

Dr. Loreto Jackson
Performance Coordinator

Wayne Jenness
Director of Donor Services
Athletic Department Staff

Les Jones
Associate Athletic Director, Capital Improvements

Libby Kehn
Assistant Sports Information Director, Website Coordinator

Barbara Kennedy-Dixon
Assistant Athletic Director, Senior Women's Administrator

Larry LaForge
NCAA-ACC Representative

Chad Lampman
Assistant Video Services Director

Christine Long
Assistant Sports Information Director

Bob Mahony
IPTAY Associate Executive Director

Tim Match
Associate Athletic Director, Marketing & Sponsorship

Tina Middleton
Assistant Ticket Operations Manager

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Mike Money
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The Clemson Tiger Sports Network supplies Tiger fans with a full day of broadcast each football Saturday. Each broadcast day has three programs, “Tiger Tailgate Show,” “Game Day Broadcast,” and the “Fifth Quarter Show.”

A tradition since the 1970s, the “Tiger Tailgate Show” is a two-hour entertainment and interactive program. It is produced on the lawn of Littlejohn Coliseum (at the corner) closest to Memorial Stadium.

The program begins three hours prior to kickoff. Marsha Byers, Duane Evans, Ben Mistead, Don Munson, Ralph Patterson, and Whitney Walters will host the show. It is the gathering place on gameday. Interviews with former players, games, display items, and excitement are all part of the show.

The game broadcast is anchored by Pete Yanity. The sports director at WSPA-TV (Ch. 7) in Spartanburg, SC, took over in September, 2003 after the passing of Jim Phillips, who had been the longtime voice of the Tigers since 1968. Yanity has been a part of the broadcast team since the 2001 season as the host of the pregame, halftime, and postgame shows, and as the sideline reporter during games.

Yanity has been the sports director at WSPA-TV in Spartanburg the last 17 years. He has also been a sideline analyst for 11 years on Carolina Panther preseason football games and has considerable play-by-play experience for Comcast Sports Southeast, covering various college events, including Tiger football and baseball. Yanity is also the voice of Tiger basketball, and the host of the Tommy Bowden and Oliver Purnell Television Shows.

Joining Yanity in the booth is former Clemson offensive lineman Will Merritt, who played for the Tigers from 1998-01. He was a starter during the 2000 and 2001 seasons when he was named Second-Team All-ACC.

Merritt worked on the Clemson radio network pregame and postgame shows during the 2002 season. He also provided color commentary on the broadcast tape-delay broadcasts of selected 2002 games. In 2003, he became the color analyst of the gameday broadcasts.

Patrick Sapp completes the broadcast team as the sideline commentator. The former Tiger quarterback and linebacker (1992-95) is in his first season as sideline commentator. As a player, he passed for 2,278 yards in three seasons. As a senior, he moved to linebacker, where he totaled 64 tackles and a team-high 5.5 sacks prior to being drafted in the second round of the NFL draft by the Chargers. Sapp is currently a development officer for the Clemson Alumni Association.

As has been the case in the past, the gameday broadcast begins with the Tommy Bowden Pregame Show. Bowden meets with Sports Information Director Tim Burrell to provide Clemson fans with the latest lineup and strategy information. Yanity and Merritt also provide a last-minute scene-setter that includes the latest lineup and weather information.

After the game, fans can tune into the “Fifth Quarter Show,” hosted by Munson and Dan Scott, or attend the show live from Wild Wing Cafe in downtown Greenville, SC. Interviews with Head Coach Bowden along with Assistant Coaches Rob Spence and Vic Koenning are also included. An added feature includes locker room interviews with Clemson’s top players that day. A rundown of the game stats and audio highlights are also provided.

Fans can follow the Tigers by listening to “Tiger Calls” each Thursday evening with Bowden and Munson from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The shows will air live from several BI-LO grocery stores in the Clemson area.

The Clemson Tiger Sports Network also produces the Tommy Bowden Television Show, a recap of the previous game’s highlights. Yanity serves as the host of this program that gives fans insight into the coaches’ decisions during the previous game and takes an up close look at your favorite players.

For more information, contact Robert Gahagan (General Manager) at Clemson Tiger Sports Properties, P.O. Box 552, Clemson, SC 29633-0552, or by phone at (864) 654-5544 and via fax at (864) 654-5509.

**Broadcast Team**

**Pete Yanity**
- Play-By-Play Announcer
- Named the play-by-play announcer after the sudden passing of Jim Phillips on September 9, 2003. Phillips was the Voice of the Tigers for 36 years.
- In his sixth year with the network. He served as sideline commentator during the 2002 season.
- Other duties include being sports director at WSPA-TV (Spartanburg, SC) since 1990, sideline work on the Panthers’ pre-season television network, and play-by-play and color analysis on selected games on Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast.
- 1985 graduate of Ohio.
- Married to wife Kelly. The couple has two children, Paige and Trey.

**Will Merritt**
- Color Commentator
- In his sixth year and third as color commentator.
- Worked the pregame and postgame shows in 2002, his first full school outside.
- Color commentator on tape-delay broadcasts of 2002 games.
- Second-Team All-ACC offensive guard at Clemson in 2000-01.
- Member of All-ACC Academic team for three seasons.
- 2000 graduate of Clemson.
- Married to wife Melissa. The couple has a daughter, Reagan.

**Patrick Sapp**
- Sideline Commentator
- In his first year as sideline commentator.
- Employed as a development officer for the Clemson Alumni Association.
- Totaled 2,278 passing yards in 23 games (14 starts) as a quarterback at Clemson from 2002-04.
- Moved to linebacker as a senior in 1995 and had 53 tackles along with four tackles for loss and a team-high 5.5 sacks.
- Drafted in the second round of the 1996 NFL draft by the San Diego Chargers.
Memorial Stadium Records

**Clemson Team**

- **Total Offense:** 756 vs. Wake Forest, 10/31/81
- **Plays:** 95 vs. N.C. State, 10/7/00
- **Yards Per Play:** 9.1 vs. Louisiana Tech, 9/30/06
- **Rushing Yards:** 536 vs. Wake Forest, 10/31/81
- **Rush Attempts:** 73 vs. Virginia, 10/21/72
- **Yards Per Rush:** 10.3 vs. Presbyterian, 9/22/45
- **Rushing Touchdowns:** 11 vs. Presbyterian, 9/22/45
- **Passing Yards:** 359 vs. Temple, 10/22/05
- **Pass Completions:** 31 vs. Miami (FL)^, 9/17/05
- **Pass Attempts:** 55 vs. Miami (FL)^, 9/17/05
- **Pass Efficiency:** 235.4 vs. Virginia, 10/8/83
- **Passing Touchdowns:** 4 vs. Auburn, 11/22/47
- **First Downs:** 4 vs. Texas-EI Paso, 10/4/97
- **Points:** 4 vs. Duke, 12/1/01
- **Interceptions:** 4 vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/13/03
- **Penalties:** 15 vs. Wake Forest, 11/2/85
- **Penalty Yards:** 15 vs. Duke, 10/17/87
- **Punt Return Yards:** 227 vs. Georgia Tech, 9/26/87
- **Kickoff Return Yards:** 165 vs. Maryland, 11/16/02
- **Interception Return Yards:** 131 vs. Western Carolina, 9/25/82
- **Interceptions By Defense:** 5 vs. Georgia, 11/3/98
- **Penalties By Defense:** 5 vs. North Carolina, 11/4/95
- **Fumbles:** 5 vs. Presbyterian, 9/11/99
- **Fumbles Lost:** 5 vs. many
- **Sacks By Defense:** 12 vs. Furman, 9/796
- **Sacks:** 12 vs. Presbyterian, 9/3/99
- **Tackles For Loss:** 19 vs. N.C. State, 10/24/87
- **Pass Breakups:** 18 vs. The Citadel, 10/4/86

**Clemson Individual**

- **Total Offense:** 376 by Woodrow Dantler vs. Florida State, 11/3/01
- **Rushing Yards:** 263 by Raymond Priester vs. Duke, 11/11/96
- **Rush Attempts:** 36 by Ray Vaquer vs. Wake Forest, 10/18/69
- **Passing Yards:** 343 by Brandon Streeter vs. Virginia, 9/11/99
- **Pass Completions:** 31 by Charlie Whitehurst vs. Miami (FL)^, 9/17/05
- **Pass Attempts:** 55 by Charlie Whitehurst vs. Miami (FL)^, 9/17/05
- **Completion % (min. 15 att.)** 94.1 by Woodrow Dantler vs. The Citadel, 9/2/00
- **Pass Efficiency:** 247.2 by Woodrow Dantler vs. The Citadel, 9/2/00
- **Passing Touchdowns:** 4 by Bobby Gage vs. Auburn, 11/22/47
- **Receptions:** 12 by Airese Curie vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/13/03
- **Receiving Yards:** 161 by Perry Tuttle vs. Wake Forest, 10/31/81
- **Receiving Touchdowns:** 3 by Dreher Gaskin vs. Auburn, 11/21/53
- **All-Purpose Yards:** 297 by Tony Home vs. Texas-G.A.M., 12/12/68
- **Kickoff Return Yards:** 160 by John Shields vs. Alabama, 10/25/69
- **Interceptions:** 3 by Kit Jackson vs. Wake Forest, 10/30/65
- **Sacks:** 4 by Keith Adams vs. Duke, 11/6/99
- **Tackles For Loss:** 6 by Keith Adams vs. Duke, 11/6/99

**Opponent Team**

- **Total Offense:** 557 by Florida State, 11/3/01
- **Plays:** 99 by South Carolina, 11/23/48
- **Yards Per Play:** 8.6 by Florida State, 11/3/01
- **Rushing Yards:** 409 by N.C. State, 10/25/75
- **Rush Attempts:** 74 by North Carolina, 11/14/70
- **Yards Per Rush:** 7.5 by Texas A&M, 9/30/05
- **Rushing Touchdowns:** 6 by N.C. State, 10/25/75
- **Passing Yards:** 454 by Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Pass Completions:** 35 by Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Pass Attempts:** 58 by The Citadel, 10/4/66
- **Passing Touchdowns:** 4 by N.C. State, 10/31/98
- **First Downs:** 46 by Florida State, 11/3/01
- **Points:** 4 by Florida State, 11/3/01
- **Penalties:** 4 by Georgia Tech, 9/11/04
- **Penalty Yards:** 31 by Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Kick Return Yards:** 150 by Florida State, 9/20/97
- **Interceptions By Defense:** 6 by Auburn, 11/21/53
- **Fumbles:** 9 by Presbyterian, 9/18/54
- **Fumbles Lost:** 6 by Duke, 10/19/68

**Opponent Individual**

- **Total Offense:** 450 by George Godsey, Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Rushing Yards:** 227 by Ted Brown, N.C. State, 11/25/75
- **Rush Attempts:** 38 by Tom Kite, Georgia, 10/7/85
- **Passing Yards:** 454 by George Godsey, Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Pass Completions:** 35 by Georgia Godsey, Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Pass Attempts:** 57 by Kip Allen, The Citadel, 10/4/66
- **First Downs:** 57 by George Godsey, Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Receptions:** 14 by Kelly Campbell, Georgia Tech, 10/28/00
- **Receiving Yards:** 249 by Peter Warick, Florida State, 9/20/97
- **All-Purpose Yards:** 374 by Peter Warick, Florida State, 9/20/97
- **Tackles for Loss:** 4 by Ross Brown, Notre Dame, 11/12/77

^ - multiple game outcome;

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Linebacker Keith Adams holds the Memorial Stadium record for sacks and tackles for loss. As a sophomore, Adams totaled four sacks and six tackles for loss against Duke on November 6, 1999.

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Information

Concession Stands
Concession stands are located beneath all stands in Memorial Stadium and can be reached from any portal.

Emergencies
First Aid stations are located at: South side - under Section J, North Side - under Section T, North Top Deck - under Section K, South Top Deck - under Section E. Trained nurses are on hand. Should a doctor be needed, ask any usher. Emergency calls (864) 656-2999 are received in the security booth.

Handicapped
Special entrances have been provided at Gates 1 and 5 for the handicapped.

Lost & Found
If any article is lost or found, please report it to the Gate 1 information booth.

Notice
 Solicitation for any purpose is prohibited at an athletic contest in Clemson Memorial Stadium.

Pass Outs
Passouts are allowed, however fans will have to go through the same level of security screening as they did upon entering the stadium.

Prohibited Items
Umbrellas, folding chairs, chaise lounges, food, and beverage containers of any type, including alcoholic beverages, thermos jugs, and ice chests.

Public Address System
The public address system is intended for spectators' information concerning the game. Do not request the use of the public address system to make social contacts.

Season Ticket Holders/Other Visitors
Season ticket holders and other visitors to Memorial Stadium are requested to enter at Gates 1, 5, 9, 11, or 13. Persons with top deck tickets must enter the stadium via the ramps, which are located behind the North and South Stands. Ramp entrances are adjacent to Gates 1 and 13 (South) and Gates 5 and 9 (North).

Will-Call
Will-call tickets can be picked up at the Clemson Athletic Ticket Office at Gate 9.

Clemson Memorial Stadium, known to Tiger faithful as "Death Valley," seats more than 81,000 loyal fans. It is located on the western side of the Clemson University campus, while the campus is only a two-hour drive from Atlanta, Charlotte, and Columbia. The beaches of coastal South Carolina are only four hours away, while the awe-inspiring sights of the Blue Ridge Mountains can be viewed just a few miles northwest of Clemson.

Driving Distances to ACC Institutions

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<th>Institution</th>
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Note: Distances in miles.
This brief NCAA rules education is aimed at outlining basic recruiting rules to help potential Tiger students-athletes and parents better understand the extensive process. Clemson University is committed to recruiting and conducting our athletic program with the highest level of integrity. If you have questions about NCAA rules, please contact Clemson’s compliance services at (864) 656-1580 or through our website at ClemsonTigers.com and click on compliance.

Important NCAA Terms

Academic Credentials - A prospect should check with his high school guidance office to see if he is taking classes that will meet NCAA eligibility standards. A prospect should do this early - prior to his sophomore year - and keep track of core courses. A prospect will need to take either the ACT or SAT for NCAA certification.

Contact - NCAA rules define a contact as a face-to-face interaction with a prospect and/or his parents off Clemson’s campus by a coach. The NCAA sets a contact period for football prospects from late November through the end of January. That is the only time coaches can meet with a prospect away from the Clemson campus.

Core Courses - Courses at a prospect’s high school that are considered college preparatory. For the class entering Clemson in 2008, 16 core courses are required, including four in English, three in math, two in science, one additional from English, math, or science, two social sciences, and four additional courses. A high school prospect's guidance counselor will have a list of the school’s core courses, or you can visit the NCAA Clearinghouse’s website at NCAAclearinghouse.net for more information.

Dead Period - Recruiting period when coaches may not have face-to-face contact with prospects on or off campus. Coaches may continue to telephone and write a prospect.

Evaluation - In April and May of a prospect’s junior year, coaches will come to a prospect’s high school, and review his athletic and academic credentials with his coach. In the fall, they may watch a prospect compete one time, but they will not have any contact.

Home Visit - During the contact period, a senior prospect may invite college coaches to his home to meet his parents, and to talk in detail about the football program and academic offerings at any college the prospect is considering.

Receiving Mail - Prior to September 1 of a prospect’s junior year, NCAA rules allow Clemson to mail a questionnaire, NCAA educational information, and a summer-camp brochure to a prospect. After September 1 of the prospect’s junior year, coaches can provide a prospect with personalized letters, a media guide, and copies of newspaper articles. A prospect can receive a football game program when he visits the Clemson University campus.

Recruiting - A term used to describe the process of acquainting a prospect with a college and the coaches of that college, who are striving to learn more about a prospect. Only coaches can recruit - no one else is permitted to persuade a prospect to play sports at a particular college.

Prospect - Any student who has entered the ninth grade. Once a person becomes a prospect, NCAA rules define how college coaches can interact with that prospect.

Standardized Test - A prospect must take the SAT or ACT before enrolling in college full-time. A prospect may take the SAT or ACT more than once and use the best sub-score from different tests to achieve the highest score. Both Clemson and the NCAA Clearinghouse require scores to be reported directly from the testing agency. When registering for the test, list the Clearinghouse Code (9999) and Clemson (5111 (SAT), 3842 (ACT)). Clemson University admissions require students to present either an SAT or ACT writing score. The writing score will not be used to determine a prospect’s qualifier status.

Telephone - Clemson football coaches can call a prospect once in May of the prospect’s junior year. After September 1 of a prospect’s senior year, a coach can call a prospect once a week. A prospect can expect unlimited calls during the contact period, before his official visit and once the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent.

Frequently Asked Questions

• Are a prospect’s parents invited for an official visit? Yes. NCAA rules allow a school to provide lodging and meals for parents or legal guardians who accompany their child. However, NCAA rules do not allow schools to provide transportation for parents unless they drive with their son.

• Can a prospect visit Clemson anytime during his high school career? Yes. A prospect can have his high school coach call Tiger coaches to set up an unofficial visit. He can attend a football game and talk with Tiger coaches, and it does not count as a contact when it is on Clemson’s campus. There are times a prospect cannot visit - NCAA rules refer to them as “dead periods,” and coaches will not schedule to meet with a prospect during that time period.

• Can IPTAY members help recruit me? No. NCAA rules are clear; only Clemson coaches can telephone, contact, and evaluate a prospect. Only college coaches can offer unofficial/official visits.

• Is the prospect’s high school coach invited for an official visit? NCAA rules are such that high school coaches may not be provided any expenses for official visits.

• What is a National Letter of Intent (NLI)? It is a contract; a prospect and his parents sign a promise that the prospect will attend a particular college. In return, that college promises a prospect financial aid. A prospect signs it during his senior year (in February for football). Once the prospect signs it, he cannot be recruited by any other institution, and it is a binding contract for the prospect’s first year in college at the school that provides the NLI.

• What is an official visit? A prospect can take a total of five official visits (one per institute), which are expense-paid. Before the visit, the prospect must present a high school transcript, proof of an SAT, ACT, PACT, or PSAT test, and be registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse. Official visit invitations are extended by Tiger coaches only. Official visits may not occur prior to the first day of class of the prospect’s senior year in high school.

• What is the NCAA Clearinghouse? It is the agency that certifies a prospect’s eligibility for NCAA Division I and Division II. A prospect should register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at the conclusion of his senior year in high school. Applications are available in the prospect’s guidance office or online at www.NCAAclearinghouse.net. Cost is $50.
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Vickery Hall is a $3-million structure that is as impressive aesthetically as any of the other Clemson University facilities. The importance of Vickery Hall to the Clemson athletic department is not found in the structure itself, but in the many programs that the building houses.

Vickery Hall opened in the fall of 1991 and was the first facility in the country constructed solely for the all-around academic support of student-athletes. The two-story, 27,000 square-foot building is open all day and into the evening hours to accommodate student-athletes' extended schedules. It is a vital reason why the number of student-athletes on the ACC and Clemson Academic Honor Rolls has continued to grow since its opening.

Our programs are dedicated to providing a holistic, educational experience by inspiring an environment of respect, integrity, and excellence. Through our services, we guide and encourage each individual to reach his or her full potential as a student, as an athlete, and as a citizen.

Vickery Hall Values

We believe that you can win ACC and National Championships with men and women who strive for academic and athletic excellence, and who share values of honesty, open communication, fairness, balance in their personal life, integrity, life-long learning, accountability, and commitment.

Vickery Hall Staff Members:

- are honest in their dealings with athletes, coaches, parents and administrators.
- are technically sound in their approach to advising.
- are committed to developing expertise that is recognized nationally.
- are committed to helping each other meet the challenges of motivating student-athletes toward their best academic efforts.
- are known for treating athletes consistently and with concern for their future.
- are chosen for Clemson and demonstrate a commitment to decision-making that is in the best interest of Clemson.
- are committed to retention, graduation, and life-long connection for student-athletes.
- understand that they are expected to perform at their highest level in the classroom and on the playing field.
- understand that they are obligated to follow rules, train for championships, and receive their undergraduate degrees.
- realize that in exchange for their participation in intercollegiate athletics, they receive a college education, a network of support, and life-long relationships.

Vickery Hall Facts

- Named in honor of Dean Kenneth Vickery, longtime Clemson Faculty Athletic Representative.
- Located in the heart of Clemson's campus.
- Built around the five CHAMPS commitments: academic, athletic, personal growth, community service, and career development.
- employs four learning specialists.
- Offers both wired and wireless internet connections.
- Recipient of Division I Athletic Director Award of Excellence.
- Employs a staff of 14 full-time employees, all with at least a master's degree in counseling or education.
- Experience of the staff in academic advising exceeds a combined 70 years.
- Employs over 100 tutors, a majority of which have either an undergraduate degree or pursuing an advanced degree.
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10 NATIONAL TITLES
5 HEISMAN TROPHY WINNERS
618 ALL-AMERICANS
139 NO. 1 NATIONAL RANKINGS
132 BOWL VICTORIES
19 AFCA GRADUATION AWARDS
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55 PLAYERS AND 23 COACHES IN THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION’S COLLEGE HALL OF FAME
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Funds for the WestZone have come from private donations, the assistance of IPTAY, existing athletic department funds, and the issue of state bonds. Completing the WestZone Initiative will have a profound effect on Clemson recruiting efforts and the overall quality of the Tiger athletic program.

The initial construction of the WestZone added approximately 142,000 square feet to the stadium on four levels, and finishing it will add approximately 50,000 square feet of new space and reconfigure approximately 12,000 square feet of existing space.

The strength & conditioning area will be located in the southwest corner of the WestZone. Concrete retaining walls have been installed on the south and west sides of this area during Phase I. This area will consist of an open floor space on level-one with a Mezzanine level on the west end of the open room.

“The footprint for the football strength & conditioning facility is already there in the WestZone building,” said Clemson Associate Athletic Director Robert Ricketts. “We’re just completing the facility.”

The equipment room will be expanded to include, among other items, new offices and a new laundry room. When completed, the expanded equipment room and storage will occupy about 6,000 square feet of space.

The football staff offices and meeting rooms will be composed of approximately 4,000 square feet of existing space and 18,000 square feet of new space. The new space will be built on the outside of the WestZone building facing Lot 5.

The work will include offices for the head coach, assistant coaches, and support staff along with position meeting rooms and a 150-seat auditorium with a sloped floor and theater seating. A portion of the existing recruiting room will be used for the new offices and meeting rooms, requiring the existing recruiting area to be expanded to the north.

The training room, located on the north side of the home team's locker room, will be expanded to include a new hydrotherapy room, new offices, and examination rooms. The training room will occupy about 6,200 square feet of space.

The level-three concourse will be expanded with the addition of the football offices. This space, the roof of the new football offices, will be utilized for gameday marketing activities and to provide fans additional space to gather inside the stadium.

Clemson is committed to building a model sports program - one that propels our university into achieving and maintaining national athletic rankings that rival our competitors. The WestZone Project is a major step forward in building a total sports program.

When the WestZone is completed, Clemson will be better able to recruit and nurture top-quality student-athletes, attract and retain outstanding coaches and staff, provide recruits and fans outstanding facilities, and promote Clemson school spirit.

Athletic Director Dr. Terry Don Phillips has made the completion of the WestZone a top priority for athletics, and he acknowledges the challenge in finishing the project. "We have a lot of work to do," he said. "But this is one of the universities in America that can get it done."

To be a consistent contender at the highest level of competition, Clemson must recruit the best student-athletes in the nation - student-athletes who can compete both academically and athletically. The nation's best recruits are impressed by superior facilities, top coaches, and a strong sense of excitement along with school spirit. They desire an environment in which they will have a positive, nurturing experience.

"It is not a coincidence that the quality of our recruiting classes has improved dramatically since we began moving dirt and pouring mortar in the west endzone of Memorial Stadium," said Head Coach Tommy Bowden.

Coaching is the most critical component of such an environment. An outstanding coach can sometimes transform meager resources into a good program, but the greatest success comes when top-quality coaching combined with top-quality facilities allows that coach to recruit successfully on a consistent and continuing basis.

James Davis, 2005 ACC Rookie-of-the-Year, said that one of the biggest contributing factors in coming to Clemson was the University's commitment to upgrading facilities. "Does Clemson want to be a championship program?" asked Davis when considering Clemson. "The WestZone initiative showed me that it does."

Building success requires building for success. While the WestZone is located in Memorial Stadium, the completed project will provide resources for Clemson's total sports program, permitting all Tiger teams and athletes to compete with the nation's best. Moving all football operations to the WestZone will open up space in the Jervey and McFadden buildings for the other 18 sports to improve their facilities for recruiting, and have more office, training, conditioning, and sports medicine space. This will greatly enhance the overall performance, both on and off the field of competition, for all 19 Clemson sports.

Jay Crout, Clemson men's swimming & diving two-time team captain, said, "With the football program's move to the WestZone, the Jervey weightroom will be completely devoted to Olympic sports, providing a recruiting advantage that very few schools will be able to match. These sports will be able to expand into the McFadden building, providing considerably more room for the staff and coaches of every team. These may seem like minor benefits, but these things can be the small changes that help make the difference in all of our teams winning more conference championships."
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"Its Only Limitation Is Your Imagination!"™
One of the most important facilities on the Clemson athletic landscape is the strength & conditioning facility. Located in Jervey Athletic Center, it has continued to keep up with one of the most progressive areas in college sports. Director of Strength & Conditioning Joey Batson, who is in his 11th year, makes sure Clemson student-athletes in all sports are ready for competition.

In the summer of 2004, he oversaw a third major facility enhancement. When he came to Clemson, the facility covered 11,000 square feet. It has continued to grow and now covers nearly 15,000 square feet. It is one of the most modern all-around facilities in the country.

The following improvements were made:

- State-of-the-art sound system
- Eight flat-screen plasma televisions
- State-of-the-art ventilation system
- New lighting system
- 10 new multi-functional Clemson power racks
- Mondo-rubber flooring throughout entire weight room
- New orange upholstery on all weightlifting equipment
- New paint on surrounding walls and columns
- Carpeting in entrances and offices
- Front entrance drop ceiling
- Metal overlay for awards displays
- Reconstruction of entryway walls
- Two computerized message displays

The plush atmosphere provides an interesting contrast to the physical exertion that takes place within the facility. When a Tiger student-athlete enters the etched-glass doors, he is greeted by nearly $700,000 worth state-of-the-art equipment.

The 10 plasma televisions are positioned throughout the facility and are used for training and instruction, as strength coaches film athletes and work with them on their form.

Clemson has a staff of five full-time strength coaches along with four graduate assistant coaches, and numerous student assistant coaches who ensure a Tiger football player receives as much individual attention as possible. Training programs are position specific, and are designed to meet the specific needs of each student-athlete.

Batson is one of the most highly-regarded strength coaches in the country. In his 10 years directing the program, he has coached 14 strength All-Americans. He is a major reason the Clemson football program has been to a bowl game in eight of his 10 years. Also, nine of his former assistant strength coaches at Clemson are now strength training directors at NFL or college programs.

### Strength All-Americans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Jeff Davis, LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Lee Ranney, DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>William Perry, MG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Kenny Flowers, TB</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Jim Riggins, TE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Ty Granger, DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Danny Pearman, TE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Donnell Woolford, DB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Vince Taylor, LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Levon Kirkland, OLB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Mike Brown, C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Brentson Buckner, DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Stacy Seagars, OG</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Nelson Welch, PK</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Brian Dawkins, SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Raymond White, MG</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lamont Hall, TE</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Jason Gamble, C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Damontie McKenzie, DL</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Terry Jolly, DT</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Woodrow Danzler, OLB</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Nick Eason, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>John Leake, LB</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Gregory Walker, OT</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Leroy Hill, LB</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Steven Jackson, FB</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Dustin Fry, C</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Anthony Waters, LB</td>
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### Dedication Award

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Names</th>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Kenny Flowers, LB</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Ty Granger, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Mark Drag, MG</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Jeff Bak, C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Mark Drag, MG</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Arthur Russie, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Collins White, C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Warren Fomey, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Ed Glenn, TE</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Stephen Wynn, TE</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Patrick Sapp, OLB</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Raymond White, MG</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Jason Gamble, C</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Jason Gamble, C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Kyle Young, C</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Kyle Young, C, OLB</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Chad Carson, LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Nick Eason, DT</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Jackie Robinson, WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Tony Elliott, WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Chip Myrick, OG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Chansi Stuckey, WR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Left to right: Richard Franzblau, Tyler Stuart, Laura Sherbondy, Dennis Love, David Helms, Joey Batson, Larry Greenlee, Daniel Hurst, Spencer Lovelace, David Abernethy.
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Gaffney
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Tammy Kelly
Sumter
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Jim McGill
Simpsonville
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Steve Merritt
Taylors
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Charlie Stuart
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Denise Thomas
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Buck Tolbert
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Many people often ask, "How does Tiger Band prepare for its show each week?" The answer lies in months of preparation. Fans often approach the staff and band members and suggest new songs to perform or provide insight on what they would like to see. What many people do not realize is that the season’s performances, songs, and movements are all carefully planned long before the first day of classes.

Recent research has accurately suggested that college bands spend approximately one-and-a-half hours preparing for every minute of a halftime show. So, a six-minute halftime show takes approximately nine hours of rehearsal time.

Tiger Band rehearses three days a week for two hours...it takes roughly two weeks to put a show on the field with the given rehearsal time. Keep in mind, Tiger Band does much more than just play at halftime. There’s also the pregame show, cheers, and “stands” music to keep up with.

Throughout the summer, Directors Dr. Mark Spede and Dr. Brian Sproul spend hours developing ideas for the season. Some shows, like Homecoming’s “Everybody’s Playing Guitar Hero”

**Tiger Band Commitment**

Tiger Band needs your assistance to reach our goal of raising two million dollars before next fall! Thanks to gracious friends of Tiger Band as well as the Clemson University Tiger Band Association, we are over halfway to reaching our goal. But we still need your help. Please visit Tiger Band’s official website online at Clemson.edu/TigerBand to see how you can help shape the future of Tiger Band. You can also purchase Tiger Band logoed items, such as shirts, hats, kuzis, CDs, etc., at ClemsonTigerBandGear.com.

Tiger Band CD

You can purchase Tiger Band’s latest CD (“Solid Orange: We ARE Pride”) at local shops or call the band office at (864) 656-3380. There are 52 tracks, including all your favorite Tiger Band hits. All proceeds go to the Tiger Band scholarship fund.

The first step in the process is to determine what the band will play. "We try to find a common thread between songs to give our halftime shows a theme," added Sproul.

This year, Tiger Band paid tribute to the music of "West Side Story" and the "Guitar Hero" video game, and it will take its fans on a musical "World Tour." After determining what to play, the music must be arranged specifically for the band. The arranging process, depending on the difficulty of the song, can take as long as a full workweek. Most of Tiger Band’s arrangements are done by either Spede or Sproul.

The next step in the creative process is to chart the student’s positions on the field for each song, as computer software aids in the process. They are taught to visualize a grid on the field and know their positions based on a set of coordinates, or specific points such as the numbers, hashes, sidelines, and yard lines as fixed reference points.

From there, students learn a specific path for each show and a specific number of counts between each picture. The last element of each show is the CLEMSON spellout. Students must learn a different position in the spellout for each show, as their spot is based on the last picture of the halftime show.

The Clemson pregame show is constant each year. Tiger Band has been performing its pregame show in its current form since the mid-1980s. "The new video entrance this year was added to ‘set the stage’ for ‘the most exciting 25 seconds in college football’ said Spede. "We wanted to create a high level of drama and get the fans excited for each game. With the band outside the stadium, we can start our pregame show with more of a bang."

We hope all fans have enjoyed this year’s Tiger Band. The students have worked countless hours for the thrill of performing in Death Valley.

Senior Drum Major Trey Shirley remarked, "The Tiger Band experience is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that we’ll never forget. We also bid our graduating seniors farewell and wish them the best as they become Clemson alumni.

Written by Dr. Brian Sproul, Assistant Director of Bands.

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PICK UP RO-TEL AND VELVEETA AT BI-LO
In the summer of 1975, Chuck Kriese was a young and enthusiastic tennis coach who was ready to take the college level by storm. Just three years out of college after graduating from Tennessee Tech, he had never been a head coach at the college level. The most impressive listing on his resume was his coaching experience under noted tennis guru Harry Hopman, an Australian who had a tennis academy in Port Washington, NY.

The most important item on his resume in the eyes of then Tiger Athletic Director Bill McLellan was a recommendation from Tennessee Tech Athletic Director Don Wade, a Clemson Hall of Fame football player in the 1950s and assistant coach under Frank Howard. McLellan figured Wade knew what he was talking about, so he hired Kriese at the age of 25.

From such an unimpressive initial resume has come one of the most impressive coaching careers in Clemson athletic history. That career will come to a close next August. Kriese announced a few weeks ago that the 2007-08 season will be his final one directing a program he built into a national power.

The secret to Kriese's success for the last 33 years has been his fearless approach to his daily duties. That was obvious from the first recruiting phone call he made when he took the job in 1975.

"There was a recruit in New York named John McEnroe," recalled Kriese, "I thought Clemson was a great place, so why wouldn't a kid from New York want to come here to play tennis."

Kriese struck out on his sales pitch to McEnroe, who went to Stanford and led it to an NCAA title before going on to a remarkable pro career. But it was that youthful enthusiasm, a feeling that he could conquer the profession by out-working everyone, that was a part of his character from day-one.

He kept that youthful enthusiasm through some early struggles. He took over a program that had 7-14 with a 6-6 ACC record in the spring of 1975. He had a losing record (17-18) his first year, then a 21-15 ledger his second season. In 1978, the Tigers were 18-12 and showing signs of improvement with a 3-3 ACC record.

The 1979 season was a breakthrough year for Kriese, and it was my first spring at Clemson. I covered most of the Olympic sports under Bob Bradley, so I got to know Kriese very well.

When I met him with to author the season outlook for that spring, the interview took about two hours. He was full of enthusiasm about that coming season, and his drive for excellence reminded me of Bobby Knight. Later in the interview, it was obvious that the Indianapolis, IN native had patterned many of his coaching theories after Knight, who at the time was the top coach in college basketball.

While Kriese had been rejected by McEnroe, he went hard after some outstanding recruits in those early years. The first star of the program who brought the Tigers to another level was Mike Gandolfo, who became the ITA Senior Player-of-the-Year in 1980, the first of three senior players-of-the-year in a four-year period for Kriese.

Mark Dickson, Pender Murphy, and Jean Desdunes were all players who brought Clemson to a consistent top-10 national program. In 2002 when the ACC named its 50-year anniversary team, the Tigers had 15 members, all coached by Kriese. It was the high total among ACC tennis programs and the most representatives of any Clemson sport.

That 1979 season brought Clemson an ACC regular-season title, its first-ever top-20 national ranking, and its first trip to the NCAA Tournament. The spring of 1980 was even better, as the Tigers won their first ACC title in 11 years. It was also the first of 10 ACC titles for Kriese. Clemson posted a 32-5 overall record and ranked #8 in the final NCAA national poll after reaching the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament for the first time ever with a victory over Princeton before losing to top-ranked Stanford.

Kriese took a cue from then Florida State Football Coach Bobby Bowden. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Bowden built a reputation for his program by competing against top-10 teams on the road. And he came away with victories, bringing credibility to his program.

Kriese had the same approach. A look to the results page in the Clemson men's tennis guide shows that his 1980 team played 13 matches against top-25 teams, 12 of which were away from home. His 1982 schedule was even more challenging, as the Tigers faced Southern California, UCLA (twice as #1), Southern Methodist, Pepperdine, and Arkansas, all on the road. The Tigers played 15 matches against top-10 teams that year, and they came away with seven wins. (Kriese enters the 2008 season with 125 career victories over top-25 teams.)

At the conclusion of the 1981 season, the Tigers sported a 30-7 record, ranked #7 in the country, and reached the Final Eight of the NCAA Tournament. Kriese was named national coach-of-the-year by the ITA, the first coach in any sport at Clemson to win a national coach-of-the-year award, a full six months ahead of Danny Ford's national coach-of-the-year award that same season. He has six ACC Coach-of-the-Year trophies, tied for second-most in Clemson history.

Like Ford did with football, Kriese dominated the ACC and had a truly national program in the 1980s. While Ford won five ACC titles and had seven top-10 teams in the decade, Kriese won nine ACC titles and finished in the top 15 in the nation in all 10 years.

The winning has continued into the 1990s and the 21st century, as Clemson finished with a 31-10 record in 2007 and a #23 final ranking.

"Chuck Kriese is one of the top coaches in our athletic program's history," said Athletic Director Dr. Terry Don Phillips. "His list of accomplishments is considerable. He put our men's tennis program on the national map. He has had a positive influence on so many young men who have played for him over the last 33 years.

"What has been most impressive has been his ability to produce a winning program for such a long period of time. He has 130 wins and five NCAA Tournament bids in the last five years. He has put this program on a strong foundation for the future."

Winning late in his career is an accomplishment Kriese shares with former Tiger Baseball Coach Bill Wilhelm, the only head coach in school history with more years of service (36). Wilhelm averaged 51 wins over his last seven years and took the Tigers to the NCAA Tournament each of those seasons.

In his final 32 years at Clemson, Kriese has a 670-399 record (62.7 winning percentage). He is among the top-10 winningest active coaches in Division I tennis. He also has 165 career ACC wins, more than any other men's tennis coach in history.

Overall, Kriese has led Clemson to 24 NCAA Tournament appearances, including seven trips to the Elite Eight and 12 Sweet 16 appearances. The Tigers have finished in the top 25 of the coaches poll 16 times since 1979 as well.

It has truly been an exemplary program, one Clemson University has been proud of for 33 years. This spring, take the opportunity to come out to the Hoke Sloan Tennis Center and follow the Tigers, as one of Clemson's best coaches strives for greatness one more time.

Chuck Kriese will retire after this season, his 33rd at Clemson. He is among the top-10 winningest coaches in Division I history and has led Clemson to 24 NCAA Tournament berths.
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**All-Sports Schedule**

*2007-08 Clemson Athletics*

**Date** | **Day** | **Sport & Opponent** | **Time**
--- | --- | --- | ---
Nov. 18 | Sun. | WOMEN'S SOCCER in ACC Tournament @ Cary, NC | TBA
Nov. 19 | Mon. | WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Old Dominion | 2:00 PM
Nov. 20 | Tue. | WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY in NCAA Championships @ Terre Haute, IN | Morning
Nov. 20 | Tue. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Vanderbilt | 7:00 PM
Nov. 21 | Wed. | WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL at Maryland | 5:00 PM
Nov. 22 | Thu. | WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL at Boston College | 7:30 PM
Nov. 22 | Thu. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Rice in Coors Classic @ Boulder, CO | 7:00 PM
Nov. 24 | Sat. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Gardner-Webb | TBA
Nov. 27 | Tue. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Purdue in Big Ten/ACC Challenge | 7:00 PM
Nov. 29 | Thu. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL at Michigan State in Big Ten/ACC Challenge | 8:30 PM
Nov. 30 | Fri. | MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD in Clemson Opener | 5:00 PM
Dec. 1 | Sat. | MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD in Clemson Opener | 10:00 AM
Dec. 2 | Sun. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL at Arkansas | 3:00 PM
Dec. 5 | Wed. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL at Georgia Tech | 7:30 PM
Dec. 7 | Fri. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. James Madison | 7:00 PM
Dec. 16 | Sun. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Charleston Southern | 2:00 PM
Dec. 18 | Tue. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL at Dayton | 7:00 PM
Dec. 20 | Thu. | MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Puerto Rico-Mayaguez in San Juan Shootout @ Guaynabo, Puerto Rico | 3:00 PM
Dec. 21 | Fri. | MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. DePaul in San Juan Shootout @ Guaynabo, Puerto Rico | 3:00 PM
Dec. 22 | Sat. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. South Carolina | 2:00 PM
Dec. 29 | Sat. | MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Samford | 4:30 PM
Jan. 1 | Tue. | MEN'S BASKETBALL at Alabama | 4:30 PM
Jan. 2 | Wed. | MEN'S TENNIS in Clemson Winter Shootout @ Charleston, SC | All Day
Jan. 2 | Wed. | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL at Charlotte | 7:00 PM

* - ACC regular-season game/match; Note: Bold denotes event hosted by Clemson; all times are EST; list compiled by McKenna Maertens.

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Clemson baseball has a storied tradition of excellence, and the 2008 squad hopes to build on that tradition with another trip deep into the NCAA Tournament. For the Tigers to realize their goals, they must do so with many new players, as several key contributors from the 2007 team departed.

“Our goals are always the same...to win the ACC Championship and put ourselves in a position to host a regional, super regional, and advance to Omaha to compete for the National Championship,” said Head Coach Jack Leggett, whose 649 wins in 14 seasons are fourth-most in the nation during his tenure. “That means we have to be consistent with everything we do during the season, including winning in the ACC and winning midweek games.”

Gone are the likes of Andy D’Alessio, Taylor Harbin, Brad Chalk, Marquez Smith, Daniel Moskos (#4 overall pick), David Kopp, Alan Farina, Stephen Clyne, and P.J. Zocchi, nine of the Tiger-record 11 players selected in the 2007 Major League draft. However, two draftees, catcher Doug Hogan and shortstop Sam Widmann, elected to return and be leaders of the 2008 team.

“This year is going to be a very interesting one,” said Leggett. “We have an experienced catcher back in Doug Hogan. But we have to develop some depth in our infield, where we lost some very good players.

“Stan Widmann will be coming back (from a season-ending neck injury), and hopefully he will be healthy and 100 percent. But we have to develop some of the other infielders to be more consistent and try to give them as much experience as we can.”

In order for the Tigers to up their total of 21 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances (third-longest streak in NCAA history), the pitching staff must also replace some outstanding arms.

“Two of our guys are established as weekend starters...D.J. Mitchell and Ryan Hinson,” stated Leggett. “We worked this fall to see who’s going to be best suited to be our third and fourth starters. We have several others who could work in the roles of middle relief as well as at end of games.”

Nine-year Pitching Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Kevin O’Sullivan departed to become head coach at Florida, therefore Leggett turned to Kyle Bunn, formerly of Mississippi, to take over as Clemson’s pitching coach. Also moving over to the role of recruiting coordinator is Tom Riginos. Riginos, Bunn, and Volunteer Assistant Coach Toby Bicknell were big reasons the Tigers’ incoming recruiting class was ranked #15 in the nation by Baseball America.

Bunn will turn to Mitchell and Hinson, both juniors, to lead the pitching staff. Mitchell, a righthander, made his debut on the mound a year ago and had a 5-0 record with a 3.27 ERA in 15 outings. Hinson, a lefty, was 6-2 with a 2.74 ERA in 82.0 innings pitched in 2007.

Junior righty Matt Vaughn, who sported a 2.75 ERA and allowed just one homer in 2007, will vie for a weekend spot, as will sophomore lefty Matt Zoltak, who struggled in 2007 but showed flashes of a promising future.

Sophomore righties Justin Sarratt and Josh Thraikill both have spent a full season in the program and have the ability to start. Sarratt was a middle reliever in 2007, while Thraikill was hampered by injuries after appearing in just three games.

Juniors William Bond and Alec Martin are valuable lefthies that have been used to get lefthanded batters out. Senior Brock Schnabel and freshman Graham Stoneburner, both righties, will both provide depth on the staff. Stoneburner, who can also be in the infield, red-shirted in 2007 after suffering a season-ending leg injury prior to the season.

Six new hurlers were added to the mix. Freshman righties Kyle Deese and Trent Rothlin (35th-round draft pick) along with freshmen lefties Craig Gullickson (son of former Major Leaguer Bill Gullickson) and Casey Harman will vie for innings.

Junior righty Clinton McKinney, a transfer from UNC Greensboro, features a submarine delivery that will be effective in getting righthanded batters out. McKinney had a 3.37 ERA and struck out 35 against only seven walks in 2007. Junior college transfer and righthander Trey Dukel will add depth as well.

The pitchers’ receiver and team’s best power threat will be Hogan, who hit .350 with 13 home runs and 46 RBIs in 2007. The Columbia, SC native led last season on a 15-game hitting streak and hit a Tiger-record 600 in the NCAA Tournament.

Junior Adam Ward and freshman John Nester will compete for the backup role at catcher.

The Tigers must replace the two corner-infield spots with the loss of D’Alessio (1B) and Smith (3B). Sophomore Ben Paulsen is a candidate to start at first base after showing his power potential last year. Sophomore Tim Morris will also compete at first base.

Sophomore J.D. Burgess started 44 games at second base in 2007 and hit .340 in the last 14 contests. He will compete for the starting job with sophomore Mike Freeman, who hit .237 in 48 games (40 starts) as a second-baseman at Georgia in 2007.

Widmann returns as the leader in the infield at shortstop. The Hurst, TX native, who joins Hogan and Vaughn as team captains in 2008, missed all but six games in 2007 after suffering a neck injury. The junior, who hopes to be fully recovered by opening day, is a career .303 hitter in 130 starts.

The starting role at third base is up for grabs, as two newcomers will vie for the role. Junior college transfer Matt Sanders and freshman John Hinon, a 40th-round draft pick, both have a chance to start in their first season at Clemson.

Although only five deep, the outfield has talented players. Sophomore Wilson Boyd hit .285 in 45 starts in 2007 and is a candidate to start in left field. Sophomore Alex Lee will also compete for a starting spot after posting solid numbers off the bench as a freshman.

Addison Johnson, who started 52 games in left field as a freshman in 2007, will start in center. The 5’7” speedster hit .286 and was one of the team’s most clutch hitters in the postseason. Johnson, a lefthander, will also have a chance to pitch.

Freshmen Chris Epps (28th-round draft pick) and Jeff Schaus (35th-round draft pick) showed their prowess in the fall and will vie for the right-field spot.

The 2008 schedule will be one of the nation’s toughest. Along with their ACC slate, the Tigers will play games against South Carolina (4), Central Florida (3), and Georgia (2). Clemson will also play Presbyterian at Greenville’s West End Field in April.

Brian Hennessy is an Associate Sports Information Director in his seventh year at that position at Clemson. He previously worked as a student/g Graduate assistant at Clemson for six years.
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By Amanda Wolk

It is an exciting time to be part of Clemson rowing. Leading the way towards this excitement is an entirely new coaching staff, a new waterfront training center, an expanded fleet, and one of the finest rowing venues in the country. Along with a national reputation of academic excellence, Clemson and its rowing program are making a statement and looking forward to the future.

Head Coach Richard Ruggieri arrived at Clemson earlier this year after building a top-20 team at the Division I level. He is just the second head coach in the history of the Tiger program, which began during the 1998-99 academic year.

Ruggieri spent the past seven seasons as head coach at Louisville. During his time there, the Cardinals steadily climbed the ranks in the South Region along with the national scene. In 2007, Louisville’s Varsity 8+ ranked #17 in the nation, #4 in the South Region, and was the second-place finisher at the Big East Championships.

“We are excited to have Richard join our athletic department,” said Associate Athletic Director Barbara Kennedy-Dixon, who oversaw the program. “He brings with him a great deal of knowledge, experience, enthusiasm, and passion for the sport. Richard has the credentials to continue building Clemson rowing into a consistent top-20 program. We look forward to his leadership in our continuous pursuit of academic and athletic excellence.”

Ruggieri brings in a talented coaching staff that includes Sarah Donaldson and Corrie McGrath. Donaldson represented the United States from 1997-04, participating in two Olympics and six World Championships. The results were impressive, as she finished with three World Championship medals and was a five-time finalist. She serves as the assistant varsity coach in addition to being director of operations for the Tigers.

“Coach Donaldson is someone I have known for many years and whose success gave me great happiness,” said Ruggieri. “She has always been an incredible athlete, hard worker, and technician, but her humbleness is what sets her apart. She will be an amazing role-model who will help set us apart in the world of collegiate rowing.”

McGrath joins the Tiger rowing program after a successful career at Washington State, where she earned many accolades, including receiving All-America honors. She most recently served as the varsity lightweight coach at Central Florida, who finished #5 in the nation. McGrath serves as the head coach for the Tiger novice team along with her duties as director of recruiting.

“Coach McGrath brings a wealth of success at all levels,” Ruggieri added. “She has been coached and mentored by some of the best, and it is this knowledge and experience that will serve her well at Clemson. Her work ethic and dedication will go far as a coach, role-model, and recruiter.”

Former Tiger letterwinners Barb Breimann and Brittany Gamble are also new additions to the staff. Breimann serves as the graduate assistant, as her responsibilities include coaching and training the novice team. Gamble is serving as a volunteer coach, and she will also work with the novice team.

Construction was recently completed on an 11,500-square-foot training facility that is among the best in the nation. The facility includes a 2,000-square-foot training area, 80 individual lockers, an athletic training and recovery facility, a reception area, a conference and video room, coaches offices, a kitchen, and team lounge. Clemson also boasts one of the finest fleets in all of women’s rowing. In addition, Clemson is the only school that has a full-buoyed, six-lane course.

“We are fortunate to have this infrastructure in place, and because of this, we again will play host to the ACC Rowing Championships,” said Ruggieri.

“All roadway Clemson’s home facility this year will be the U.S. Men’s Olympic Rowing Team. The defending Olympic Champions chose to train in Clemson for over four months in preparation for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. We look forward to serving as hosts for both, and in the process spreading the name of our Clemson Tigers.”

With everything in place for success, the Tigers are looking forward to a victorious spring season by building upon its fall-season success. The Tigers posted the highest finishes in school history at the prestigious Head of the Charles regatta in Boston, MA. The Varsity 4+ team finished third overall and placed first in the college division, while the Varsity 8+ finished 11th out of 38 boats and placed eighth in the college division.

“In only five weeks, this team came together in so many ways,” continued Ruggieri. “To place 10 spots higher than last year is a strong statement for our women. We are pleased to be ranked with such strong programs, and we will continue to learn and grow, both as rowers and teammates.”

The winning continued at the Head of the Hooch regatta, where the Tigers’ Varsity 4+ team came away with a first-place finish.

“We head into the winter season with the goal of enhancing overall fitness and competitiveness,” stated Ruggieri. “It is our goal to open the Varsity 8 and see who will rise to the top. The door is wide open, and if we can accomplish our winter training goals, we will come out deeper and stronger.”

The Tigers will begin the spring season on March 1 at home against Eastern Michigan in a head-to-head regatta. Michigan State and Boston College will also visit Clemson this spring. The annual Clemson Challenge and Clemson Sprits will again be held this spring as well.

The Tigers will hit the road in April to compete in the San Diego Crew Classic for the second straight year. For the fourth time in as many years, the ACC Championship will be contested in San Diego.

“In a short amount of time, our rowers have achieved historical results and have done so in a positive manner,” said Ruggieri. “We will always strive to perform athletically, but I am equally impressed with our rowers, as individuals and students. We will continue to improve each and every day. Our future depends upon it.”

Clemson will rely heavily on senior captain Suzanne Van Fleet, who represented the United States at the Under-23 World Championships. Van Fleet and her teammates earned a bronze medal in the championships.

“It is a great honor to represent your country, and Suzanne has shown a great deal of dedication throughout the process,” said Ruggieri. “I look forward to reinforcing the lessons learned this summer in training, racing, and team development.”

The Tigers will also look to the other senior captains, Lizzie Jennings and Blair Brendle, for consistent performances and leadership. Coxswains Abbey Fernandez and Elyse Roenick are also in their fourth year with the program and will play an integral part during the 2008 season. Lindsay Sheppard, Ford Heiner, Jamie Horgan, and Cate Cornett round out this year’s senior class, which is the largest graduating class in the program’s history.

“As a team, we share the same goals of all top Division I programs, and that is to be invited to the NCAAs and compete for a national title,” admitted Ruggieri. “These are realistic goals, but only attainable if we commit daily to the task at hand. With a strong group of coxswains and a perfect training environment, our athletes will continue to push forward.”

Amanda Wolk, a first-year graduate student from Berryville, VA, is a graduate assistant in the Clemson Sports Information Office. She previously worked as a student assistant at Clemson for four years.
By Brent Breedin

Clemson's 1957 football team is being honored on its golden anniversary this "Tiger Football Reunion Day," but on its silver anniversary in 1982, team members received no such recognition for having finished ranked #18 in the final 1957 UPI poll.
Blame the snub on policy, if you will, but chances are that retired Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Frank Howard would have made an exception to the "only bowl teams" rule still in existence in 1982 had he been in charge at the time.

Clemson's "football reunion" program commenced in 1964 on the silver anniversary of the 1939 Tigers' defeat of Frank Leahy's Boston College team in the 1940 Cotton Bowl. Through the new millennium, only Clemson bowl teams were invited to return as University guests on the 25th and 50th anniversaries of their achievements.

The 1957 Tigers were not only one of Coach Howard's favorite teams, but they also ranked high with me. I had covered most of the Tiger games from 1949 through 1956, either as a sports editor of the Anderson Independent-Mail or as Clemson's sports information director.

In 1957, I was probably the team's #1 fan...at least in Pakistan, where I spent the entire season. Even though this was before the days of cell phones and email, I would regularly cable Coach Howard to tell him that I was pulling for them...even after those disappointing losses at the start of the season against Jim Tatum's North Carolina Tar Heels (26-0) and Earle Edwards' N.C State Wolfpack (13-7).

After all, these veteran Tigers off the fine 1955 and 1956 teams, coupled with great new backfield talent, such as sure-fire pro quarterback prospect Harvey White and a half-dozen running backs capable of playing in the NFL (Bill Mathis, Doug Cline, Mike Dukes, Rudy Hayes, George Usry, Bob Spooner), added up to a class act. In fact, Mathis played on the Jets' Super Bowl Championship team, and Cline, Dukes, and Hayes all played in the NFL.

They opened the season with 10 touchdowns against Presbyterian in a 66-0 win, the second-most lopsided victory in the series' 39-year history.

Coach Howard's love affair with the 1957 team was likely precipitated on its four-game winning streak after disappointing losses to North Carolina and N.C. State early in the season. Nothing came easy. Even the 20-6 victory over Virginia required three second-half touchdowns. The three subsequent wins, however, were all particularly special.

First, there was the 55th-annual "Big Thursday Game" against a slightly-favored South Carolina squad. Coach Howard attributed Clemson's 13-0 triumph to great blocking and tackling, with an All-plus effort to end Ray Masneri, "an All-American today," Coach Howard said after the game.

White completed three of four passes for 103 yards and what should have been two touchdowns...a 15-yarder to Sonny Quesenbury to conclude an 86-yard drive late in the second quarter and a 60-yard completion to Whitey Jordan, who caught the ball on the Gamecock 15 but dropped it on the one, requiring a scoring plunge by Hayes.

Nine days later in Houston, TX, Coach Howard would try to even things up with friend and former boss Jess Neely of Rice. Coach Howard was 2-1 over Neely entering the 1957 contest. Rice's 1955 victory denied Clemson a top-20 finish Neither team was ranked at gametime in 1957 because of early-season losses. Both were now winning and could see some light at the end of the season's tunnel.

The Owls' only score in a Tiger 20-7 win came in the second quarter on a 17-play, 70-yard drive, engineered by All-America quarterback King Hill. White answered, completing a 20-yard touchdown pass to Jordan on fourth down. In the third quarter, White completed another fourth-down scoring pass to Charlie Home for a 14-7 lead. And in the final quarter, Quesenbury scored on a four-yard run.

Rice went on to win the remainder of its games, the 1957 Southwest Conference title, and registered a final AP ranking of #8. It was the first time that a Tiger team had ever triumphed over an opponent that went on to finish in the top 10.

The Tigers' fourth win in a row (over Maryland 26-7) was before a record Memorial Stadium crowd of 28,000. It was Coach Howard's first win in a series that began in 1952 and continues uninterrupted to this day. While and his teammates came roaring back from a 7-0 halftime deficit to score four touchdowns. While completed passes of 65 yards to Jordan and 20 yards to Mathis, while Usry ran 27 yards and Spooner plunged two yards for scores.

Now with a #14 AP ranking, Clemson was visiting Duke for the first time since 1936. The #11 Blue Devils and the Tigers were playing for the ACC title and an Orange Bowl berth. Rain fell much of the first half, which looked good for the Tiger running game...except for the likelihood of fumbles.

Outgaining Duke 399 yards to 247 and in first downs 22-12, the Tigers four lost fumbles to none for the Blue Devils, and that proved the difference, as they triumphed 7-6. Clemson had drives to the Duke one, five, seven, and 17 that came up empty, three times because of fumbles.

Duke scored late in the second quarter. Spooner bobbled over from the two in the fourth quarter, but White's conversion was wide to end the scoring...though White's last-minute passing attack took his team to the Blue Devil 26 as time ran out.

Despite a letdown against wireless Wake Forest a week later in Tigertown, Clemson rallied from a first-quarter 6-0 deficit to win 13-6. All of the Tiger points were scored in the final 90 seconds of play...a White-to-Cline touchdown pass covered 23 yards, then a minute later, Cline plunged over from the one following the Demon Deacons' unsuccessful attempt on a fourth-down play deep in their territory.

The season ended on a high note on November 30 in Greenville, SC with a 45-6 drubbing of Furman. White completed 13-24 passes for 258 yards, three touchdowns, and no interceptions.

Postseason honors included All-ACC for team captain John Gidrijan, White, and Masneri, the Jacobs South Carolina Blocking Trophy went to Bill Thomas, academic All-America honors went to White, and academic All-ACC accolades went to both White and Home. The 1957 team finished in the top 20 in the nation in scoring offense, total offense, and passing offense along with scoring defense and total defense.

That Tiger team may also have set a record for number of married players among the top-22 players, including H.B. Brouton, Donnie Bunton, Dukes, Bill Few, Gidrijan, Hayes, Jordan, Leon Kaltenbach, Jim Padgett, Spooner, and White. This contradicted Coach Howard's short-lived decision in 1952 to not recruit married players.

With Clemson's highest national ranking in any poll since 1950, he did not seem to mind.

Brent Breedin served as Clemson Sports Information Director from 1952-55. He spent the first four games and final three games of the 1956 season as resident manager of Hunt International Petroleum Company in Pakistan. He took his annual leave that year from mid-October to mid-November to attend the South Carolina, Virginia Tech, Maryland, and Miami (FL) games. He is now semi-retired and living in Columbia, SC.
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By Philip Sikes

For the first 10 games this year, Tiger fans and opponents knew a big play was just one opportunity away. Clemson has had a big-play offense the last two years thanks to the abilities of many players, but two players in particular, Jacoby Ford and C.J. Spiller, have the ability to change a game, literally in a matter of seconds. What separates these student-athletes from other gridders can be traced to accomplishments in the sport of track & field.

Last July, the website HeismanPundit.com released a list of the 10-fastest players in college football. Both Ford and Spiller appeared on the list, and when one considers both their football and track exploits, it is easy to see why.

Spiller rushed for 938 yards and a school-record 7.3 yards per carry as a freshman in 2006. He was a first-team freshman All-American by every major service after scoring 12 total touchdowns, a school record for a first-year player.

Ford returned a punt and kickoff for a score in 2006, and he was a second-team freshman All-American. He was the only player in the nation with a 90-yard kickoff return for a touchdown and a 90-yard punt return for a score. He gained 883 all-purpose yards on just 51 touches, an average of 17.3 yards every time he toled the ball.

Both stood out on the track as freshmen as well. Ford blistered the Clemson indoor facility track in February to a time of 6.52 seconds in the 60m dash, the nation’s fastest time last year among collegiate sprinters. He captured the conference crown in the event and finished third at the NCAA Championships to earn All-America honors. He also was named ACC Indoor Freshman-of-the-Year.

Spiller helped the 4x100m relay team to a seventh-place finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships, earning All-America honors. He was also All-ACC in the 100m dash.

Men’s Track & Field Head Coach Bob Pollock believes the experience for Ford and Spiller was beneficial to both sides of the equation. “Both Jacoby and C.J. certainly added another dimension to our team, ” Pollock remarked. “Two-sport athletes have been big factors in our program throughout the years, not just recently.”

Historical Perspective

The idea of competing in both track and football at Clemson began to take shape in the late 1970s. Wideout Jerry Butler came to Clemson on a track scholarship. In fact, when he played in the North-South High School All-Star game in Myrtle Beach and had a long run, Tiger coaches at the game asked, “Where is that guy going to school?”

A coach from another school had to inform the coaches that he was going to Clemson on a track scholarship. That scholarship was quickly converted to football, and he is now in the Clemson Ring of Honor. In track, he won the 60-yard title at the ACC meet in 1978.

Two-time ACC champion, 4x100m relay (1991)

ACC indoor champion, 55m (1991)

Second-round NFL draft pick (1991)

NFL player (1991-93)

Five-time NCAA All-American, track (1990-92)

Six-time ACC champion, track (1990-93)

ACC champion, football (1991)

NFL player (1993-96)

Two-time ACC champion, 4x100m relay (2002)

NCAA East Region champion, 100m (2003)

Three-time ACC champion, 100m relay (2002-04)

First-Team All-ACC, football (2004)

Fifth-round NFL draft pick (2005)

Two-time ACC champion, 4x100m relay (2003-04)

ACC indoor champion, 60m (2004)

ACC outdoor champion, 100m (2004)

First-team All-American, football (2005)

First-round NFL draft pick (2006)

NFL All-Rookie pick (2006)

Second-team freshman All-American, football (2006)

NCAA indoor All-American, 60m (2007)

ACC indoor champion, 60m (2007)

ACC Indoor Rookie-of-the-Year (2007)

Southeast Region Track Athlete-of-the-Year (2007)

First-team freshman All-American, football (2006)

Three-time ACC Rookie-of-the-Week, football (2006)

NCAA outdoor All-American, 4x100m relay (2007)

Outdoor All-ACC: 100m (2007)

A few years later, cornerback Rod McSwain won an ACC title with the 4x100m relay team. In the spring of 1983, he competed in a race against Auburn’s Bo Jackson at the Clemson track facility.

The first griddler from Clemson to earn All-America honors in track was Doug Thomas, the Tigers’ primary kickoff return specialist and sold wideout in 1989 and 1990. He helped the 1991 4x100m relay team to All-America recognition, while also helping the group to consecutive ACC titles.

Larry Ryans won five All-America honors from 1990-92 as a sprinter and hurdler. James Trapp, the most decorated football player to run track at Clemson, was a 10-time All-American and U.S. Olympian in the 1992 games in Barcelona. He played 11 seasons in the NFL as a defensive back.

Clemson’s two-sport success has flourished in recent years under renowned Sprint Coach Charles Foster. A former Olympic hurdler, Foster has been instrumental in the development of gridiron stars Airese Currie, Tye Hill, Yard, Ford, and Spiller.

“Coach Foster does a great job with Jacoby and I by helping us get faster,” Spiller said. “I’ve always taken a lot of pride in my speed. He works with us on foot placement and stride length. He also works with us on our stance as we run. He does a great job with the little things that sometimes don’t get recognized.”

The production of the student-athletes coached by Foster receives plenty of attention. Currie, an All-ACC wide receiver for the Tigers who went on to play for the Chicago Bears, was an All-American in the 4x100m relay and East Region champion in the 100m dash. Hill won four ACC titles in short sprints and relays, then the defensive back was drafted in the first round by the Rams in 2006.

The overriding factor among all the two-sport athletes Foster has coached is confidence, a trait he helps instill in each sprinter in his group.

“Among all of the guys I’ve coached, the mutual factor they had was confidence,” Foster explained. “Airese had a confidence about himself, then he ended up being the top receiver in the ACC his senior season. I take a great deal of pride in that.”

Tye Hill was the 2004 ACC outdoor champion in the 100m. Two years later, he was a first-round draft pick of the Saint Louis Rams.
Clemson’s Football & Track Connections

Tiger Dual-Sport Speedsters

The two-sport stars are not just limited to Clemson, as college football coaches around the nation are utilizing the speedsters they have at their disposal. Trindon Holliday of Louisiana State was runnerup at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the 100m dash in 2007. He serves as an “X-factor” for the Bayou Bengals, whose opponents have to respect his speed as a tailback and kick returner.

Jamaal Charles of Texas finished fifth in the NCAA in the 100m dash last season and is one of the top young running backs in the country. He rushed for 831 yards and seven touchdowns in 2006. Michael Ray Garvin was an All-American in track for Florida State with the 4x100m relay team and is now a starting cornerback for Bobby Bowden’s football squad.

The benefits of having football players who compete in track have been overwhelming for Pollock’s program. Clemson is known for its avid fan base in football, but in February, some of that support spilled over to indoor track season.

Clemson served as the host site for the 2007 ACC Indoor Championships, and overall the three days of the meet turned out good results in terms of attendance. The crowd began to overflow as the finals for the sprints neared. The anticipation of seeing Ford and Spiller took center stage. Then add NCAA champions Walter Dix (Florida State) and Tiger sophomore Travis Padgett into the mix, and the facility was easily at its capacity. Ford blistered the track with his 6.52 time, which sent the pro-Tiger crowd into an uproar.

“The most exciting thing for me was to see our student-athletes support each other,” Pollock stated. “We had football players come out to the meet, and one of them told me he was here not just to support Jacoby and C.J., but our entire track team. We appreciate that kind of support. You see more people taking an interest in our sport, and I think having football guys that run track is a big part of that.”

Transitioning From Football to Track

The life of a student-athlete could be described as organized chaos. In addition to attending classes and academic functions, they spend most of their time in the weightroom and at practice. As if Ford and Spiller were not busy enough with football, there is not much “down” time as the two transition into track season. But the duo quickly gelled with their track teammates following last season’s Music City Bowl and was able to help almost immediately.

“Jacoby and C.J. bonded well with the other guys,” Pollock noted. “They have fun when they’re out there. I enjoy being around them because they’re not just outstanding athletes, they’re great people.”

It takes a special character to adapt quickly to Foster’s self-proclaimed “unorthodox” coaching style, but Ford and Spiller proved up to the task.

“They had to develop confidence in whether or not I knew what I was talking about,” Foster recalled. “I told them both if they would join me instead of pushing me away, that they would probably find out it (my style) does work.”

As well as both fared on the track as freshmen, Foster expects much bigger things are in store for them the second go-round.

“The amount of energy that has to be exerted is tremendous in track & field,” Foster added. “Guys that truly want to do it run much faster once they have an understanding of how much stress you’re applying to your body. The first year, they were both feeling their way around. I suspect they will not be as tentative when they come out in the spring.”

Ford and Spiller, both natives of Florida, have taken the lessons learned after one year of collegiate track and applied it to the football field with good success in 2007. Through 10 games, Ford is among the team leaders in all-purpose yards, receiving yards, and rushing yards. Unfortunately, he suffered a broken ankle in the win at Maryland and was lost for the remainder of the season. His status for the track season is up in the air at this time.

Like Ford, Spiller is near or atop several offensive stats, including all-purpose yards, rushing yards, and receptions.

Foster believes that with another year of track, both will be nightmare matchups for future opponents.

“Jacoby and C.J. will benefit greatly from another year in track & field,” Foster said. “I think they will have a better understanding of what to do this season. Their confidence level will then go up even higher. When they get back to football the next fall (2008), they’re going to be monsters.”

Above, C.J. Spiller (#28) sprints to block a Louisiana Tech player, helping to spring Jacoby Ford (#6) on a 94-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in 2006. Spiller and Ford are two of the fastest college football players in the nation.

Spiller (back) and Ford (front) helped Clemson to a seventh-place finish in the 4x100m relay at the NCAA meet last season.

Under the tutelage of Sprint Coach Charles Foster, Jacoby Ford captured the ACC title in the 60m indoors with a time of 6.52 in 2007.
By Tim Bourret

It all comes down to this. As we have seen Bill Parcells say in those NFL Films videos over and over, “This is it, this is why you lift all those weights in the offseason.”

This is why players have a summer workout program. This is why players and coaches spend hours reviewing film to determine tendencies and work to get an edge.

All that hard work comes down to tonight’s ACC Atlantic Division “championship” game between Clemson and Boston College. The winner advances to the ACC Championship game in Jacksonville, FL on December 1.

I have been asked many times this week when was the last time Clemson played a game this big in Death Valley? Well, it depends on the question.

When was the last time Clemson could win its last two ACC games (in this year’s case, including an ACC title game) and win an ACC title? You do not have to go back that far to find the answer.

In 2000, the Tigers won their first six ACC games, but they lost a heartbreaker to Georgia Tech then lost at Florida State 54-7, and the Seminoles had another title. But, if Clemson had won both of those games in 2000, it would have been ACC Champions. So in a sense, we are in the same situation as seven years ago.

When was the last time Clemson entered a game in Death Valley with a chance to win a title? I know we are comparing apples and oranges a bit here, but the last time Clemson entered a game in Death Valley needing just one win to claim a title was 1991. The Tigers defeated Maryland on that day to clinch the ACC Championship.

There was a celebration after that 40-7 victory 16 years ago. The team even dumped the Gatorade bucket over Coach Ken Hatfield’s head when the victory was clinched. But, there was not the euphoria we could see today, because winning the ACC in those days was a common occurrence. The 1991 ACC title was Clemson’s sixth in an 11-year period, a time when there were only eight teams in the ACC.

When was the last time the atmosphere was this electric in Death Valley? Last year’s win over #13 Georgia Tech was very special. The additional buzz around campus due to ESPN GameDay’s arrival for the first time added to the build-up. But, the 31-7 victory did clinch anything for the Tigers. Clemson was 7-1 after that game and in position to win the Atlantic Division title, but Clemson won only one more game, and Wake Forest came away with the division title, and later, the ACC title.

A 1983 victory over Maryland was among the most memorable I have seen in any stadium from an electricity standpoint. At 7:00 AM the morning of that crisp and sun-drenched day of November 12, over 3,000 Clemson students arrived at the stadium to blow up 363,000 balloons. The balloons were released as the Tigers ran down the Hill, and I remember how dark it appeared in the press box when the balloons sailed upward. There were so many balloons that it blocked out the sun.

Clemson jumped out to a 42-7 lead in the third quarter before defeating Boomer Esiason and company 52-27. Kevin Mack rushed for a career-high 186 yards, including a 42-yard run in one shoe on his last carry in Death Valley. Maryland was ranked #11 entering that game, so it was an impressive performance by Danny Ford’s Tigers. But what was most impressive was the enthusiasm of the Tiger fans for a team that could not go to a bowl.

My all-time electric atmosphere in Death Valley was the 1981 Georgia game. Herschel Walker and his defending national champions came to Clemson ranked #4 in the country and undefeated. Walker was the hottest name in college football at the time.

Clemson forced Georgia into nine turnovers that September day, still a record for a Tiger defense. It held Walker out of the endzone, as Clemson came away with a 13-3 victory. When you watch a tape of that game, you have a hard time hearing the announcers because of the fever pitch the crowd cheered throughout the game. It proved to be Georgia’s only regular-season loss in the three years that Walker played at Georgia.

But, that Georgia game in 1981 still did not clinch anything. It was not even an ACC game.

You can read between my previous lines of this article...this very well could be the most electric atmosphere we have seen in Death Valley history.

It is a perfect storm of emotion for Clemson players, coaches, and fans. There is the motivation of playing Boston College, a long-time rival. I know Boston College is only in its third year in the ACC, but the two teams first played in the 1940 Cotton Bowl, Clemson’s first-over bowl appearance. Banks McFadden led Clemson to a 6-3 victory, one of Clemson’s most important wins in its history.

There were also two games against Doug Flutie-led Boston college teams in the 1980s. Clemson had just two combined losses and two combined ties during the 1982 and 1983 seasons, and two of those blemishes came against the Eagles.

Current Tigers know Boston College as a team that has ruined their ACC title chances each of the last two years. Boston College defeated Clemson in overtime in both 2005 and 2006. If Clemson had scored just one more point in regulation in each game, the Tigers would have been in the ACC title game as Atlantic Division champions each year.

An additional motivation for the Tigers will be that it is Senior Day. For 16 Tigers, it will be the last time they rub Howard’s Rock and run down the Hill.

It has been a wild ride for these players, especially for Tramaine Billie, Christian Capote, Chris McDuffie, Brandon Pilgrim, and Nick Watkins. Those five scholarship players were first-year freshmen when Clemson defeated #3 Florida State and #6 Tennessee during the last four games of 2003. They saw the Tigers go from 5-4 and in the depths of despair after a loss at Wake Forest to finish in the top 25 in the final polls. Now, four full seasons later after a convincing win over the Demon Deacons, the Tigers have a chance to do something special.

This class has seen the Tigers gain seven wins over top-25 ranked teams, and a win today would make eight, just one short of the record nine for one class. This group has seen Tiger football make a steady improvement, reaching a level of consistency that has not been seen here since the 1986-91 era. That was the last time Clemson won at least eight games three years in a row.

But starting tonight, there is a lot more on the table. An ACC Atlantic Division title, a win over the state rival, a 10-win season (which has not been achieved since 1990), an ACC Championship, and an Orange Bowl bid are all within their grasp. Many did not think that would be the case five weeks ago.

It should be an electric atmosphere, perhaps the best this 65-year-old stadium has ever seen.
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