South Carolina vs Clemson (11/29/2008)

Clemson University

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CLEMSON GAMEDAY 2008

VERSUS SOUTH CAROLINA

"THUNDER & LIGHTNING"

C.J. SPILLER
Running Back

HOWARD'S ROCK

JAMES DAVIS
Running Back

SOLID ORANGE DAY

FROM DEATH VALLEY, CA
TO DEATH VALLEY
CLEMSON, SC
PRESENTED TO
COACH FRANK HOWARD
AND THE
enjoy **HOME GAMES** all year long.

The Reserve at Lake Keowee is just 17 miles from Death Valley. So when you have a home here, the excitement doesn’t end when football season does. With thirty miles of pristine shoreline, The Reserve is the ideal place for swimming, boating, fishing and exploring. Today you’ll enjoy over $100 million worth of completed amenities, including a Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, a 200-slip Marina and a lively Village Center. Best of all, whenever the Tigers aren’t playing, you are.

Homesites begin from $200,000 Including Membership.

**COME SEE how it LIVES.**

Call 866.208.5787 today to arrange your Discovery Package, which includes accommodations at one of our exclusive Guest Cottages.
Gameday in Death Valley

Clemson Schedule

Alabama
August 30
Georgia Dome
Atlanta, GA
L, 10-34

The Citadel
September 6
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
W, 45-17

N.C. State
September 13
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
W, 27-9

S.C. State
September 20
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
W, 54-0

Maryland
September 27
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
L, 17-20

Wake Forest
October 9
BB&T Field
Winston-Salem, NC
L, 7-12

Georgia Tech
October 18
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
L, 17-21

Boston College
November 1
Alumni Stadium
Chestnut Hill, MA
W, 27-21

Florida State
November 8
Doak S. Campbell Stadium
Tallahassee, FL
L, 27-41

Duke
November 15
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
W, 31-7

Virginia
November 22
Scott Stadium
Charlottesville, VA
W, 13-3

South Carolina
November 29
Memorial Stadium
Clemson, SC
12:00 PM

Today’s Features

Today’s Game
Clemson & South Carolina Stats, Results, & Schedules
James Davis (Senior Spotlight)
C.J. Spiller (Tiger Spotlight)
Senior Veteran Reserves (Senior Spotlight)
Tiger Band (“Another Season in the Books for Tiger Band”)
Clemson Baseball Preview
Clemson Rowing Preview
WestZone Project Progress (Phase II)
What Was “Big Thursday”? (Clemson vs. South Carolina Rivalry)
The Last Word (2008 Senior Class)

Players & Coaches

Dabo Swinney, Interim Head Coach
Clemson Assistant Coaches
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Meet the Tiger Rockies
Meet the Tiger Reserves
Clemson Alphabetical Roster
Clemson Numerical Roster
Probable Starting Lineups
South Carolina Numerical Roster
South Carolina Profile
Meet the Gamecocks
Clemson Football Support Staff

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Memorial Stadium (“Death Valley”)
Running Down the Hill
All-Americans
First-Round Draft Picks
Super Bowl Champions
Pro Bowl Players
Alma Mater

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James F. Barker, President
Dr. Terry Don Phillips, Athletic Director
Board of Trustees
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Heisman Donors
Vehicle Donors
Athletic Department Staff
Radio Network & Affiliates
Stadium & Parking Information
NCAA Compliance
Vickery Hall (Student-Athlete Enrichment)
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Cheerleaders
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Strength & Conditioning
Memorial Stadium Records
Photo-of-the-Week
All-Sports Schedule
WestZone Leadership Gifts
Clemson vs. South Carolina Series

• This will be meeting #106 between Clemson and South Carolina and the 100th consecutive year the two schools meet on the gridiron. That is the third-longest streak of consecutive years played in any rivalry nationwide.
• The series dates to 1896 and the first year of football at Clemson, while it was the fourth for South Carolina. Clemson holds a 64-37-4 lead since that first meeting in Columbia. The Tigers have more wins over South Carolina than any other school, and those wins represent over 10 percent of Clemson’s all-time win total (631). When Clemson won in 2004, it was its 600th all-time win.
• Clemson won last year by a score of 23-21 on a 35-yard field goal on the last play of the game by Mark Buchholz. Cullen Harper completed four passes for 70 yards, all to Aaron Kelly, on the game-winning drive.
• Each of the last three games in the series have been decided by four points or less. In fact, the margin has gone in descending order. The Tigers won by four points (13-9) in Columbia in 2005, then South Carolina won by three points (31-28) in 2006. The Tigers won by two points in 2007 (23-21). How about a one-pointer this year?
• The Tiger and Gamecock seniors of 1965 experienced four consecutive games decided by four points or less. That is the only time it has happened in the history of the series. Clemson won in 1962 (20-17) and 1963 (24-20), then South Carolina won in 1964 (7-3) and 1965 (17-16). However, even those players did not experience all four games. In 1962, freshmen were not eligible, so those 1965 seniors did not even dress for the 1962 game. Thus, if today’s game is decided by four points or less, these two senior classes will have played the most competitive years in the history of the series.
• The Gamecocks won the last time the two teams met at Memorial Stadium by a score of 31-28, but the Tigers have won five of six, nine of 11, and 15 of the last 20 games in the series. Since 1988, Clemson is 9-1-1 in games played in Columbia, but just 6-4 in games played in Tigertown. The visiting team has won each of the last three games.
• This year’s Tiger senior class has a 2-1 record against South Carolina. Clemson classes who have beaten South Carolina four consecutive years were the seniors of 1900, 1919, 1930, 1993, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1983, 1991, 2000, and 2005. In 2005, Charlie Whitehurst became the only quarterback in series history to lead his team to four victories as a starting quarterback.
• Today’s game will be played on the Saturday after Thanksgiving for the third year in a row, but just the third time since 1984. Clemson has an 8-3 record against South Carolina when the game is played on the Saturday after Thanksgiving or on Thanksgiving Day. The only game played on Thanksgiving Day was the 1963 contest that was moved from the Saturday before Thanksgiving due to the death of President John F. Kennedy.

Battle of Top-Five Pass Defenses

Today’s game will be a battle of teams with outstanding defenses, especially when it comes to pass defense. Both Clemson and South Carolina are in the top five in the nation in pass defense. South Carolina is second, allowing just 156.7 passing yards per game, while Clemson is fifth, allowing 163.2 passing yards per contest. Southern California has the top pass defense in the nation, allowing just 123.3 passing yards per game.

The Tigers and Gamecocks are similar in other areas as well. Clemson is in the top 15 in the nation in scoring defense (13th), total defense (15th), and pass efficiency defense (15th). South Carolina is 11th in total defense, 18th in pass efficiency defense, and 23rd in scoring defense.

The South Carolina defense is led by safety Emanuel Cook, who has 81 tackles, 23 more than any other Gamecock. Eric Norwood is second in tackles with 58 and has 12.5 tackles for loss along with nine sacks. Marvin Sapp is another outstanding defender with 57 tackles. Jasper Brinkley is also a top-flight linebacker with 45 stops.

Clemson has held its last two opponents to seven points or less and under 200 yards of total offense. That is the first time that Clemson has held consecutive ACC foes under 10 points since the 1997 season, when the Tigers beat Wake Forest (12-3) and Duke (58-7) in consecutive games.

It is the first time since 1979 that Clemson has held consecutive ACC opponents under 200 yards of total offense.

Tigers 3-1 in Second Half of ACC Season

Clemson posted a 3-1 record in the second half of its ACC schedule. Only N.C. State has posted a better winning percentage over the last half of the league slate. The Wolfpack will finish its regular season today against Miami (FL). If the Hurricanes win that game, no ACC team will have a better record than Clemson during the second half of the league season.

N.C. State is 3-0 in the second half heading into that game. Boston College, Miami, and Virginia Tech are all 2-1 in the second half and could tie Clemson for the best record in the second half of the season. Two of Clemson’s three wins in the second half were on the road, victories at Boston College and Virginia. The win at Boston College was Clemson’s first over the Eagles since 1958.

Boston College has not lost since the Tigers’ 27-21 win on November 1.

All in the Family

Each school in today’s game has a father-son coaching combinations on its sideline. The Tigers are represented by the Scott family and the Gamecocks are represented by the Spurrier family.

Brad Scott is Clemson’s assistant head coach and offensive line coach. He is in his 10th year as an assistant with the Tiger program. His son, Jeff, played for the Tigers from 2000-02 and started this year as a graduate assistant. When Tommy Bowden resigned as head coach, there was a staff re-alignment, as Jeff was promoted to a full-time position as wide receivers coach. Therefore, this will be the sixth game that the Scotts have worked together on the staff in a full-time capacity.

Steve Spurrier is the head coach of the Gamecocks and is in his fourth year leading the program. His son, Steve, Jr., is the wide receivers coach for South Carolina. They have worked together for many years. This is their fourth year together at South Carolina. They also were on the same staff at Florida and with the Washington Redskins.

This is actually the second consecutive Tiger game that there has been a father-son coaching combination. Last weekend, Virginia had the Groh family, Head Coach Al Groh along with his son, Mike, Virginia’s offensive coordinator.
Knowing Both Sides of the Rivalry

South Carolina Defensive Coordinator Ellis Johnson will coach against Clemson today. Johnson spent three seasons at Clemson from 1994-96, including two as defensive coordinator (1995-96). The Tigers had records of 8-4 and 7-5 in his two years as defensive coordinator. Clemson was also 10th in the nation in scoring defense (16.2) and 16th in pass efficiency defense in 1995.

Johnson is the 10th coach to serve on the staffs at both Clemson and South Carolina since 1989. The list includes current Clemson Associate Head Coach and Offensive Line Coach Brad Scott, who was South Carolina’s head coach from 1994-98. Former Clemson Head Coach Tommy West (1994-98) also served on the staff at South Carolina (1991,92).

Tiger & Gamecock Coaches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coaches</th>
<th>South Carolina</th>
<th>Clemson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mile Aldridge</td>
<td>1991-93 (3)</td>
<td>1985-89,93-95 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bibe</td>
<td>1989-93 (5)</td>
<td>1997,98 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Eisaccia</td>
<td>1992,93 (2)</td>
<td>1994-98 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clyde Christensen</td>
<td>1991 (1)</td>
<td>1994-95 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellis Johnson</td>
<td>2008 (1)</td>
<td>1994-96 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woody McCorvey</td>
<td>1998 (1)</td>
<td>1983-89 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Reedy</td>
<td>1998 (1)</td>
<td>1978-89 (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Scott</td>
<td>1994-98 (5)</td>
<td>1999-08 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Stockstill</td>
<td>2004 (1)</td>
<td>1989-02 (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy West</td>
<td>1991,92 (2)</td>
<td>1982-89,94-98 (13)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Since 1989.

Individual Milestones & Records in Range

- Cullen Harper is second in Clemson history in career completions (489) and needs 11 completions to become just the second player in Tiger history with 500 completions. Charlie Whitehurst, who had 817 completions from 2002-05, is the only Tiger to reach that figure so far. Harper also has 5,357 career passing yards, fourth-most in school history.
- James Davis has 3,764 career rushing yards and needs 203 to break Raymond Priester’s Tiger career rushing record. Priester had 3,966 between 1994-97. Davis needs four touchdowns to tie Travis Zachery’s career touchdown record of 50. Davis also needs one 100-yard rushing game to tie Priest’s career record of 15.
- C.J. Spiller needs 20 receiving yards to establish the school record for receiving yards by a running back in a season. The record is 414 by Zachery in 2001.
- Aaron Kelly has an ACC-record 222 career catches. He needs 99 receiving yards to become Clemson’s all-time leader in that category. He has 2,583 receiving yards entering today’s game, and the record is 2,681 by Terry Smith (1990-93).
- Michael Hamlin has 13 career interceptions and 17 career takeaways. He is tied for third in school history in interceptions and is second in takeaways. He needs just two takeaways to tie Terry Kinard’s school record of 19. Kinard was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2001, so that is pretty good company. Hamlin also needs just 57 interception return yards to become Clemson’s career leader.

Davis & Spiller vs. South Carolina

Running backs James Davis and C.J. Spiller have both had 100-yard rushing games against South Carolina in their respective careers. Davis has two in fact, both in Columbia (2005,07). If he gets a third today, he will be just the second Tiger in history with three 100-yard rushing games against the same opponent. Kenny Flowers had three against Duke in his career (1983-86). Davis had 27 carries for 145 yards as a freshman against the Gamecocks and 23 rushes for 122 yards in the win at Williams-Brice Stadium in 2007.

Spiller had 10 carries for 155 yards against South Carolina in 2006, the third-highest rushing total in history by a Tiger against the Gamecocks. That included an 80-yard run, Clemson’s longest run against South Carolina in history.

Clemson has actually had a 100-yard rusher against South Carolina each of the last four years. In 2004, Reggie Meriweather had 125 yards on 28 carries in the Tigers’ 29-7 win. As you can see by the chart below, four of the top-13 individual rushing performances in Clemson history against South Carolina have taken place in the last four years. Overall, Clemson has had 33 100-yard rushing performances against South Carolina, including three in one game in 1978.

Davis and Spiller have combined for 529 yards on 87 carries against the Gamecocks in their careers, an average of 6.1 yards per rush. Davis has 61 carries for 286 yards and a touchdown, while Spiller has 26 carries for 243 yards and two scores. That is 9.3 yards per carry for Spiller.

Clemson’s Top Rushing Games vs. South Carolina

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rk Player</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Car.</th>
<th>Yds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ken Calcutt</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Buddy Gore</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. C.J. Spiller</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Sid Tinsley</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. James Davis</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Harold Goggins</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Raymond Priester</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Warren Rachford</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Reggie McNealy</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. James Davis</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

James Davis (#1) and C.J. Spiller (#28) have combined for three of the top-13 individual rushing performances in the history of the Clemson vs. South Carolina football rivalry.
### Clemson vs. South Carolina

#### National Polls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Clemson</th>
<th>Opp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associated Press (November 23, 2008)</td>
<td>3699</td>
<td>3234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Today (November 23, 2008)</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>727</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passing Yards/Game</td>
<td>133.4</td>
<td>294.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Efficiency</td>
<td>114.7</td>
<td>130.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Downs/Game</td>
<td>220.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time of Possession/Game</td>
<td>125.6</td>
<td>102.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Int.</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacks</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnovers</td>
<td>8.8</td>
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<td>Interceptions By Defense</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>39.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Goals</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punt Returns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnover %</td>
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<td>13.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receiving Yards/Game</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Tackles Int.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tackles Avg.</td>
<td>11.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tackles TD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tackles LG</td>
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### Statistics

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Total Yards</td>
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<td>Total Yards/Game</td>
<td>291.9</td>
<td>156.7</td>
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<td>Total Sacks</td>
<td>6-58</td>
<td>34-21</td>
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<td>Total TD</td>
<td>118.2</td>
<td>105.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Penalties</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>31.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Turnovers</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Interceptions By Defense</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Field Goals</td>
<td>19-28</td>
<td>10-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Punt Average</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>42.2</td>
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<td>Total Penalties</td>
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<td>Total Field Goals</td>
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<td>34-29</td>
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#### Results & Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>W-L</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-29</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>ESPn2 12:00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Year: 2008
* ACC game; Note: All games are PM and EST; home games in bold.

### South Carolina

#### National Polls

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<td>Associated Press (November 23, 2008)</td>
<td>3498</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA Today (November 23, 2008)</td>
<td>733</td>
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<td>Passing Yards/Game</td>
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* Year: 2008
* SEC game; Note: All times are PM and EST; home games in bold.

Michael Hamlin has a team-high five interceptions in 2008. He also has 13 career interceptions, tied for third-most in Tiger history.
COACH BOWDEN'S
ALL-STAR DRESSINGS

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James Davis is one of the most well-known running backs in Clemson history. He is certainly one of the most popular. If you attended any of the last four Fan Appreciation Days in August, you could see that. The 5'11" native of Atlanta, GA has brought speed, toughness, and competitiveness to the backfield. More importantly, he has provided leadership off the field. It is safe to say that Davis has made a huge impact on the Tiger program.

As a highly-recruited running back, Davis chose Clemson over Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia Tech to name a few. Davis was immediately integrated into the offense as a freshman in 2005. In his first game against #17 Texas A&M, he rushed for 101 yards and scored a touchdown in the Tigers' 25-24 win over the Aggies.

He would go on to be Clemson's leading rusher and finish fourth in the ACC with 879 yards. Furthermore, his nine touchdowns established a single-season record by a Tiger freshman. The "icing on the cake" came when Davis was named ACC-Rookie-of-the-Year and MVP in the win over Colorado in the Champs Sports Bowl when he gained 150 rushing yards.

Davis continued to improve as the years went on. As a sophomore, he rushed for 1,187 yards and 17 touchdowns. That rushing touchdown total established a school record and helped him earn First-Team All-ACC honors. His season included a career-high 216 rushing yards against #13 Georgia Tech on national television. He joined C.J. Spiller on the stage of ESPN's College Gameday postgame show.

Then as a junior, Davis added 12 touchdowns and rushed for 1,064 yards. He was again named First-Team All-ACC.

His senior year has not been as productive, but he does have a pair of 100-yard rushing games and has had his best year in terms of receiving. He enters his final regular-season game needing 203 yards to become Clemson's all-time leading rusher and needs just four touchdowns to become the school's all-time leader in that category.

With his success in mind, I began the task of brainstorming to see what I would write about for his senior feature story. He is one of Clemson's most popular players ever. Just go to a game and see how many people are wearing his #1 jersey. Television announcers repeatedly note his athletic talent, and he might have the thickest file in Clemson's SID office, because he has been the subject of countless feature stories.

I decided to follow Davis around for a day to see what his life was like. I wanted to find out what James Davis was behind the helmet and football jersey.

I met Davis at 9:00 AM for his English 304 business writing class. The class was intimate, with just 18 students. Being that it was a Monday morning, I expected the class to be somewhat sluggish. However, I was surprised. Davis' professor (Ashley Cowden) was energetic, and that rubbed off on the students. He took notes as she discussed job applications, building resumes, and preparing for job interviews. This information was especially useful, as Davis will graduate in December and enter a new chapter in his life.

As class ended, I asked Davis what was next. He responded with one word: "interviews." He has just one class on Mondays, but he has a full load on Tuesdays, the day most Tiger players do interviews in conjunction with Dabo Swinney's press conference. So, Davis does the bulk of his interviews on Monday morning.

We entered the McFadden team room at 10:24 AM, and writers immediately looked in his direction. Davis seated himself behind a table and six writers surrounded him. One reporter asked about his thoughts on the season.

Davis took a moment before answering, "It's been discouraging, but we have to be tough and do everything we can to win. There are a lot of talented guys on this team and the season isn't over." I watched as he answered every question ranging from bowl aspirations to offensive plays. No question was off-limits. Davis handled the interviews with grace. He was calm and collected as he shared his thoughts with writers who would use his words in their stories.

The opponent later that week was Boston College. Davis' response to the game was, "I feel like Boston College is a rival because we haven't been able to beat those guys since I've been here. I just want a win."

Davis got his win that weekend, as Clemson defeated the Eagles 27-21.

Just ask any writer who covers Clemson and they will tell you that they are going to miss their weekly Monday meetings with Davis. He is held in high regard by each media member because he always shows up to meet with them, regardless of the outcome or how he played, and faces the questions head-on like a team leader should. He has served in this role for four years.

Interviews ended at 10:40 AM because Davis had to lift weights. While we were near the locker room, he learned that the day's schedule had changed so that meetings and practice were later. He smiled because he knew he would be able to take a nap. Ever the teammate, Davis informed wide receiver Tyler Grisham of the change in schedule as they retrieved their workout clothes from their equipment room lockers. It took Davis longer to get ready than expected. So, as we walked down the stairs to the weightroom, I asked him what the holdup was about.

"I was talking to Cullen (Harper) and Aaron (Kelly) about the game this week," he said.

I was impressed to see how focused he was on his upcoming opponent.

By 11:00 AM, we were in the weightroom. There were nine of his teammates in there as we entered. Each one was at a station doing some type of weight work. Davis was visibly happy to see Strength Trainers Larry Greenlee and Dennis Love.

"Did you see any of the (NFL) games last night?" Davis asked.

From there, the three discussed outcomes and particular plays.

Then, Davis began warming up with kettlebell work (hip flexibility with hurdles) and stretching. He did three sets of squats, adding more weight each time, then moved to the power-clean drill. The bench press was next, as he and Kelly spotted for one another. The two did six sets and added...
weight each time. During this period, wide receiver Xavier Dye came over. Dye informed me that Davis was his "big brother," to which Davis responded with a laugh. Davis teased Dye, a graduate of James F. Byrnes High School, about his alma mater's loss the previous Friday night. Suffice it to say, Dye ended the conversation there!

Perhaps the most memorable moment came when Davis decided to do more weightlifting, which was optional. Graduate Assistant Strength Trainer Marcus Bradley came to me and said, "That takes dedication."

Next, we headed out to eat lunch. In the car, Davis received a phone call from his brother Michael. The two talked about football and Davis inquired about his other brothers and sisters.

"Michael is the running back for his team," exclaimed Davis. "He's only a freshman, but he has talent. I talk to him every day and give him advice. I tell him to stay focused, because he has a chance to be a big-time college running back."

It was apparent that Davis was close to his family. He told me that he talks to his mother every day. Much of his dedication and hard work on the gridiron is fueled by the support of his family.

I left Davis at noon so he could go home and rest before practice. There was not much to observe in that.

We met again at 3:15 PM in McFadden for the first of three meetings. Coach Swinney was extremely accommodating and allowed me to sit in all of Davis' meetings. The first began at 3:30 PM.

It was the senior meeting, a gathering Coach Swinney holds twice a week. We walked in early and sat down. It was loud and noisy, as the seniors were trying to decide what underclassmen they wanted to invite to their next meeting. When Coach Swinney walked in, it got quiet in a hurry.

Coach Swinney was straightforward with the seniors, as he detailed what it would take to beat Boston College. "Winning starts with how you meet, how you practice, how you eat, and how you get to the stadium. When we walk on the field, we've got to expect to win."

The meeting accomplished its goal of instilling the week's goals for the seniors. Davis sat attentively and absorbed everything that was said.

The team meeting was next. The front row in the McFadden team room was reserved for the seniors. Davis sat in the front and I moved to the back of the room by the assistant coaches. Coach Swinney addressed the team in the same manner as he did with the seniors...straightforward and honest about what it would take to win at Boston College. He also reminded them of the series history.

Following the team meeting, Davis went to the training room to have his ankles taped for practice. Then another meeting, the running backs position meeting, began.

Running Backs Coach André Powell walked in and said, "We have a lot of things to go over."

He was true to his word, as the running backs learned what plays and schemes were going to be used against the Eagles. Davis was the most talkative player in the room. He asked questions and Coach Powell gave him answers. I was impressed with his desire to know every nuance of every play. He wanted to make sure he did not make any mistakes in the upcoming game.

Practice began promptly at 5:15 PM. It was a cold, blistering evening as I watched Davis work on pass protection and do scramble drills among others. He started off in the far section of the field going through drills with the other running backs and quarterbacks as the rest of the team went through normal stretching exercises. Afterwards, Coach Swinney brought the team together. He urged them to have energy and practice with passion.

Practice was organized into 22 five-minute periods. During each period, Davis would perform a different drill. Midway through practice, he caught passes from the quarterbacks. He then worked on blitz protections and other blocking techniques. Following that, the entire team came together and worked on running plays. After a few more periods, practice came to an end. The team huddled once again and reflected on the practice.

As the team broke away from the huddle, I went to find Davis. He was running and I had to catch up with him.

"Hurry up," he said. "It's cold out here!"

I waited for Davis to come out of the locker room. It was 8:45 PM. The day was coming to a close and it had been eventful, to say the least. It was apparent that he lived and breathed football, but he still had some studying to do when he arrived back home.

He was courteous and attentive while being interviewed by the media. He took on extra workout drills in the weight room. He asked questions in meetings so that there would be no hazy spots.

It was all in a day's work for the senior, one of hundreds of practices that he has endured in his time at Clemson. Like every other practice, he was passionate, driven, and determined. With qualities like those, the sky is the limit for this team leader.

Davis is first in Tiger history in career rushing touchdowns (44) and second in career rushing yards (3,764).

Ashley Earle, a senior from Easley, SC, is a student assistant in the Clemson Sports Information Office.

Coach Swinney meets with Davis and the seniors twice a week in the McFadden Building.
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Tiger Spotlight

C.J. Spiller

By Katrina Eddie

A famous quote by William Shakespeare begins, "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them."

C.J. Spiller is a real-life testimony to that statement. With his God-given speed, hard work, and dedication to his football career along with his ability to take it all in stride, Spiller has shown that he is a vital member of the Clemson football team.

Fourteen years ago in the small town of Lake Butler, FL, a young Spiller was prepared to take the field as a football player for the first time, until he discovered that it would be another year until that happened. He was too young and had to wait until he was the right age.

"I couldn’t play my first year because my birthday came late, so I had to be the waterboy," admitted Spiller. "It was kind of heartbreaking, but I knew once I got my chance, I would be ready."

Spiller played running back most of his prep career, with the exception of eighth grade when he played quarterback and led his team to an 8-0 record and a championship.

"I’ve always been in the backfield. My coach came to me the summer before going to high school and asked me if I wanted to play quarterback or switch to running back. I told him I would like to run the ball, and everything took off from there."

And take off it did. As a running back at Union County High School, Spiller used his speed to literally run away from opponents. In his high school career, he gained 5,511 yards on just 541 carries, a 10.2-yard average, and scored 93 touchdowns, 85 of which were rushing scores.

Spiller was named a first-team All-American by USA Today and Parade, the first running back to come to Clemson with that honor since 1989.

One way that he maintained his speed on the gridiron was by running track during football’s offseason. He was one of the top track athletes in Florida and was state champion in the 100m and 200m as a senior in high school.

Despite being from a town that was so close to Gainesville (home of the Florida Gators), Spiller was eager to start his college career at Clemson.

He had a breakout year as a freshman and showed Tiger fans and the nation what he could do in the backfield with an average of 7.3 yards per carry during the 2006 season, the best by an ACC player since Florida State’s Warrick Dunn in 1995. That average was also fourth-best in the nation and fourth-best in ACC history.

Dunn, who wore #28 as a Seminole, is an inspiration for Spiller and the reason he wears #28 for the Tigers.

Spiller also had two games with over 150 rushing yards (N.C. State, South Carolina), the first Tiger to do that in back-to-back games since Terry Allen in 1988. His 80-yard run against the Gamecocks was the longest by a Tiger in 13 years, and his 82-yard catch at Boston College was the longest by a running back in school history (a mark he has since broken). He was also a three-time ACC Rookie-of-the-Week and set Tiger freshman records with 1,415 all-purpose yards and 12 touchdowns.

"It was a great experience," remembered Spiller. "I knew coming in that I had two great running backs in front of me in James (Davis) and Reggie (Meneweather). And those guys did a great job of teaching me the plays and showing me things off the field as well. To get to play my freshman year was wonderful. One big concern coming to college was could I still run away from guys like I did in high school, and as the year went on, you could sense that I had gotten faster. I was very blessed."

That blinding speed earned him the nickname "Lightning" with Tiger fans, though it was not new to him. "I have had the name since high school. It has stuck with me."

Spiller faced a difficult personal decision at the end of the 2006 regular season when he considered leaving Clemson and returning to his home state to be closer to his family. In the end, he chose to honor his commitment to his school.

"Once I stepped back and thought about everything, I realized that it was best for me to stay here. My uncle, who is one of my mentors, did a great job of teaching me about the vows you make to someone...you just can’t walk away. It’s like a marriage...you just can’t walk out of it. So I did a lot of praying, and I’m still here today."

The 2007 season showed an even more dynamic Spiller on the gridiron. He was second in the ACC and 14th in the nation in kickoff returns, which earned him Honorable Mention All-ACC honors. He had two kickoff returns for touchdowns, one against Duke and another against Wake Forest. He also became the first Tiger to return a kickoff for a touchdown in consecutive games.

Spiller was the second-leading rusher on the team (behind Davis) with 768 yards, an average of 5.3 yards per carry. He was the third-leading receiver as well with 34 receptions for 271 yards. He had three 100-yard rushing games, including his outstanding performance against #21 Auburn in the Chick-fil-A Bowl when he had an 83-yard touchdown run, the longest in the history of the Peach/Chick-fil-A Bowl as well as Clemson’s bowl history.

Continuing in the tradition of running track in the offseason has allowed Spiller to maintain and even improve upon his already blazing speed. The past two years on the track have earned him honors in another pursuit. He received All-America and All-ACC accolades as a member of the 4x100m relay team that finished fourth in the nation with a time of 39.48. That team also included football teammate Jacoby Ford, as both Tigers use track to enhance their speed on the gridiron.

As the one who recruited Spiller three years ago, Interim Head Coach Dabo Swinney has much praise for what Spiller has accomplished in Tigertown, both on and off the field.

"He was already a great young guy when he got here, but he’s really developed into a man. He’s mature way beyond his years. On the football field, he was always a good player and had an unbelievable skill-set, but he’s really developed into a complete player. There’s nothing he can’t do. The sky is the limit for C.J. He has opportunities that will come his way because of the talents he possesses. He’s going to take that platform and really make a difference in the world."

"This season has been a little disappointing from a team standpoint. But no one can deny the fact that one of the major bright spots has been C.J...he’s been incredible. He makes a difference in every game he plays and he’s becoming dominant. He has scored just about every way you can score and has been very consistent. His effort and energy have been outstanding."
Not everyone has had nice things to say about Spiller. But for the speedster, that negativity only creates more motivation for him to give his all when he steps onto the field.

“People that criticize me...I applaud them. It makes me go out and play even harder. One thing I like to say is if you’re not getting criticized, that means you must not be doing something right.” I always keep that in the back of my mind. People always question my ability to keep ‘dancing around,’ but I see it as trying to make a play for my team.”

Spiller has enjoyed his reception from Tiger fans, who have rightfully dubbed him one-half of Clemson’s “Thunder & Lightning” running back duo.

When asked if he likes the nickname “Lightning,” he replied, “Oh yeah. It sums it up itself. It strikes fast, can be very dangerous, and destroys anything it hits.”

Davis had helped Spiller develop into the running back he is today and applauds the player he has become. “He’s a ‘baller.’ He plays at a high level and he’s unstoppable, and I think the team expects that out of him.”

“Thunder” has done his job of showing his younger teammate the ropes. “I coached him on running downhill and trying to find holes, and I think he has really brought his stock up this year with his ability.”

With the 2008 season coming to a close, Davis is sad to see their partnership come to an end. “We’ve had a great ride together.”

One thing fans may not know is that the “VCC” on Spiller’s eye-black stands for Victory Christian Center, his church at home in Lake Butler.

Off the football field, he enjoys watching television, namely ESPN and MTV’s “Cribs.” Seeing himself on TV is still surreal for him.

“I never really imagined myself being on SportsCenter. I’m a guy from a country town, and to be on it is a blessing. To have opportunities to be on it is like a dream come true.”

In 2008, Spiller has improved upon his amazing stats from the previous two seasons. He started the year off with a kickoff return against #24 Alabama, Clemson’s only touchdown of the game. In the home-opener against The Citadel a week later, he had six carries for 75 yards and three touchdowns. He added either rushing and/or receiving scores in games versus N.C. State, Maryland, Florida State, and Duke.

After sustaining a hamstring injury at Wake Forest, Spiller missed the home game against Georgia Tech on October 18.

The next week at Boston College, however, he was in top form as he tied the Tiger receiving-yardage record by running back with six catches for 105 yards. He was named Clemson’s MVP and won the first “Leather Helmet,” a tradition that began this year. He had a career-high 242 all-purpose yards, including a 64-yard kickoff return that changed the momentum. It led to Clemson’s 27-21 win, its first victory over the Eagles in 50 years.

A week later at #24 Florida State, he added two touchdowns, one rushing and one receiving. The game against Duke in Death Valley saw Spiller set yet another record, this time breaking the one he had previously tied at Boston College. His seven catches for 108 yards established the school record for receiving yards in a game.

It was his second 100-yard receiving game in three weeks. There had been just two 100-yard receiving games by a Tiger running back in the first 112 years of Clemson football. Also, his 83-yard touchdown reception was the longest by a running back in Clemson history and helped him earn ACC Offensive Back-of-the-Week honors for the second time in 2008. He now has 12 touchdowns of 50 yards or more in his career, another school record.

Having set all of these records and with even more in sight, one might think that Spiller is playing in order to consciously leave a legacy behind at Clemson. That, however, is not the case.

“I don’t have a favorite record that I’ve broken,” he admitted. “I don’t even know how many there are. I just let Tim (Bourret) tell me what they are. Records are meant to be broken. There are still a couple out there that I would love to get, but if it happens, it happens, and if it doesn’t, it doesn’t.”

One thing Spiller does hope to leave behind at Clemson is the memory that he was an upstanding person, both on and off the gridiron. “Football is going to end one day, but I want people to remember me as a guy who showed them tremendous respect. I’ve tried my best to treat everyone equal and give everyone a fair opportunity. That speaks more to me than scoring touchdowns and celebrating. I just want to be remembered as a guy that had great class and would treat everyone with the utmost respect.”

And with the way that he has carried himself in his time at Clemson, that status in the minds of others will not be hard to attain.

After the game he has made the last three years as a crucial part of the Tiger football team, Spiller has positioned himself as one of the nation’s most dynamic players. His speed, ability, devotion, and character have made a lasting impression on his coaches, teammates, and fans alike. So in the case of Spiller, was he born great, did he achieve greatness, or was greatness thrust upon him? Maybe the only fitting answer is...all of the above.

Kathrina Eddie, a junior from Sacramento, CA, is a student assistant in the Clemson Sports Information Office.

Spiller is one of the nation’s most electrifying players. He has a school-record 12 touchdowns of 50 yards or more in his career.

Spiller, a native of Lake Butler, FL, recorded two of his 30 career touchdowns against #24 Florida State in Tallahassee on November 8.
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#51 Eddie Adams
OG/LS • Greenwood, SC
For Eddie Adams, the decision to walk-on at Clemson was an easy one. He grew up a "rabid Clemson fan" in Greenwood, SC. Before his senior year at Greenwood High, he attended a summer camp at Clemson and was offered a walk-on spot by then Assistant Jack Hines as a long snapper.

"Some of my best childhood memories were attending Clemson games, so when the opportunity to play football arose, it seemed natural," he said. "It seems like a lot of work now and hopefully one day it'll pay off, but the friendships you make are what get you through the tough times."

All the hard work paid off, as Adams has appeared in two games this season, playing four snaps against The Citadel and five snaps against S.C. State.

One of Adams’ most memorable moments was running down the Hill the first time, which he described as "the biggest adrenaline rush of my life." Another memory was being part of the Spiritual Two-A-Days program, which allowed him to build a personal relationship with God and helped him through difficult times.

Adams plans on graduating next August (in just three years) with a management degree. After graduation, he is looking at options to either attend graduate school or enter the workplace.

#16 Kyle Davison
WR • Alpharetta, GA
Winston Churchill once said, "Never, never, never, never give up." Kyle Davison once tried out for the Tiger football team and did not make it, but he did not give up. And now, the Alpharetta, GA native proudly wears the #16 jersey as a wide receiver.

Milton High School was lucky to have a well-rounded player such as Davison for four years. During his days on the gridiron, he played quarterback, running back, wideout, safety, and returned kicks. "After his football career began at Clemson in his sophomore year, he was a member of the scout team, a special teams player, and a wide receiver.

Davison is the son of Jenny and Jay, and he noted that his father has been his biggest fan. Whether his father was coaching him from the sideline or his parents were cheering on from the stands, his passion for football has never changed.

On October 13, 2006, ESPN College GameDay came to Clemson for the Georgia Tech game.

#92 John Early
PK • Darlington, SC
John Early came to Clemson after kicking at Darlington High School, where he was valedictorian of his graduating class and was named the state’s kicker-of-the-year in AAA as a senior. After deciding long ago to attend Clemson, where he had attended games since the age of three, Early turned down offers from Presbyterian and S.C. State.

After meeting with Coach Dabo Swinney in both his senior year of high school and his first fall at Clemson, he was given a chance to walk on in the spring of 2006. Due to his unique onside kicking technique, he has appeared in two games, playing against Kentucky in the 2006 Music City Bowl and versus Virginia Tech in 2007.

"It’s incredible to be a part of such a high-profile program and to take part in all of its traditions," he said. "It’s a privilege to be on the field with the caliber of players at Clemson and to be surrounded by such a great fan base."

Early counts his most memorable moments at Clemson as running down the Hill and beating South Carolina last year in Columbia. After graduating with a biological sciences degree, he plans to attend dental school at MUSC next year.

#89 Brian Hill
WR • Clemson, SC
After just one year of playing high school football, Brian Hill walked on to the Clemson team. Four years later, he realizes what an accomplishment that was. "Growing up here made it an obvious choice to be considered," he said.

Hill is a native of Clemson, a mechanical engineering major, and is the son of John and Hokie.

"There is no other place quite like Clemson," said Hill. "The people are friendly, the area is beautiful, and the atmosphere is great. I have learned to appreciate that after 22 years."

Hill attended D.W. Daniel High School and played soccer and basketball all four years. As a senior, his first time on the gridiron, he started every game at wide receiver. According to Hill, he would have never played football had it not been for the encouragement from his family and friends.

Looking back on his career at Clemson, his favorite memory is the 2007 Chick-fil-A Bowl against #21 Auburn. "The week-long festivities and playing in the Georgia Dome made it an amazing trip."

"Running down the Hill and being a part of the team on game days is what I will miss the most," he continued.

After graduating from Clemson, Hill plans to attend medical school.

#59 Matthew Knowles
DL • Greenville, SC
A civil engineering major and native of Greenville, SC, Matthew Knowles did not have to travel far to attend college. The road he took to become a walk-on, however, was difficult and challenging. Yet, the experience has made a lasting impact on his life.

Knowles did not play football at J.L. Mann High School. In fact, after being cut from the C-team in ninth grade, the coaches told him he would probably be better suited for cross country.

"I was very skinny in high school," said the defensive end. "When I got my license in 10th grade, I was 6’2” and 130 pounds. I started lifting weights then, and I could only bench press 70 pounds."

When he came to Clemson, Knowles joined the club rugby team. After a successful stint, he decided to try out for football before the 2007 season. He earned a spot and was named Most Improved Walk-On during that spring.

His first playing time came against Central Michigan that season, when he played two snaps. Two weeks ago against Duke, he recorded his first career tackle in five snaps.

"Clemson is a great school with great people and an awesome Christian community," he said. "Being a walk-on is not about scoring a touchdown or being a hero. The team is truly a family. We are brothers and we all do what we can to help each other out, whether that means we catch the passes or run the opposing team’s defense each week."

Knowles plans to take the LSAT and attend law school upon graduation.

#46 Brandon Oliver
LB • Summerton, SC
This management major from Summerton, SC played linebacker at Scott’s Branch High School before choosing to come to Clemson after receiving offers from several smaller schools. Clemson’s high academic standing and achievements...
attract students from all around, and he was no exception, as he chose to come to Clemson because he liked the engineering program.

Brandon Oliver has appeared in one game as a Tiger. The linebacker played two snaps in Clemson’s 70-14 win over Central Michigan in 2007.

This season has not gone as Oliver would have liked, as he suffered an injury earlier in the year and has been unable to play in a game. However, he has still spent time around the team and continues to be a presence around the squad as he continues his rehab.

Oliver plans to graduate in December with a degree in business management.

As a graduate of Dorman High School, O’Sullivan was a part of a state championship football team and lettered three years in track and field. He was offered a scholarship to play football at Mars Hill College, but after one season, he decided he “wanted and needed a change.”

After spending a year at Spartanburg Technical College to earn more credits, he enrolled at Clemson in the fall of 2006. Cameron calls his time with the Tigers “a blessing” and credits his ups and downs on the football field for his personal growth during the college experience.

“God has really blessed me with the chance to be on this team and to play this great game,” he said. “It has taught me that nothing in life comes easy and will always require hard work. There are going to be times in life when I will have to sacrifice being comfortable and make physical sacrifices to accomplish a goal.

“The character that I’ve built from the hard work I’ve put in, the friendships with my teammates and coaches, and the blessings from God are the things that will be most important and useful in my life.”

He stated that his favorite Clemson football memory will occur today, when he runs down the Hill for the final time. “It will be a special moment. It will be a great conclusion to my playing career and all the hard work that I have put in to get here. It will be great to have my family there to see that as well.”

After college, Cameron would like to teach and coach in high school.

#59 Cameron O’Sullivan
LB • Spartanburg, SC
Cameron O’Sullivan, an education major, always wanted to attend school at a place like Clemson, but the linebacker never dreamed he would have been able to play football for the Tigers.

#12 Brandon Speweik
QB • Oregon, OH
This marketing major from Oregon, OH played quarterback at Saint Francis de Sales High School. He originally decided to play football at nearby Toledo, but he followed former Tiger Assistant Coach Rob Spence to Clemson and was offered a preferred walk-on position.

After coming down to tour the campus, Brandon Speweik fell in love with the Clemson atmosphere and environment and knew this was the right place for him. Although he has not had the opportunity to play in a game, he does not regret coming to Clemson due to the opportunities that have opened up for him outside of football, including meeting his future wife and opening doors in a profession that he could only dream about while growing up.

When recounting his favorite memories on the team, Speweik had several fond memories from the 2005 Champs Sports Bowl. “I did not know what to expect when we went to the game, but they really took care of us. We had the opportunity to do a lot of fun things and it was an overall great time with my teammates.”

After graduating next month, Speweik plans to move to Manhattan, NY with his fiancé to accept a job offer he received during the summer with a mobile advertising agency.

#53 Preston Stone
OL • Arlington, TX
Many walk-ons at Clemson come from the state of South Carolina, so Preston Stone is a bit of an anomaly. A native of Arlington, TX, Stone came to Clemson largely because of the influence of his parents, who grew up in Sumter, SC.

“I liked the state very much growing up, so I applied to a couple of schools here,” Stone admitted. “I got into Furman and Clemson and had to make a decision. Since Furman was smaller than my high school, I decided that Clemson was the right place for me. I could not have made a better decision.”

After being the captain of a nationally-recognized football team at Arlington Lamar High School, becoming a walk-on at Clemson was quite a change. Being, as he called it, “the lowest man on the totem pole” was a challenge, but it taught him some valuable lessons in the process. Those lessons enabled him to work his way up the depth chart. He has even appeared in five games at several different positions on the offensive line at Clemson.

“One of the most important things that I have learned is that even though I am not one of the star players that gets his name in the paper, on the internet, or gets recognition for his talent, I still play a significant role on the team,” he said. “I know that my actions and effort will go unnoticed to most fans, but I know the way that I practice and the attitude that I have on the practice field or in the locker room is seen by my teammates and will have an impact on them.”

Stone describes running down the Hill as “one of the most exciting and invigorating experiences I’ve ever had,” and describes his overall Clemson experience as “unparalleled.”

Stone is majoring in animal & veterinary sciences and plans to attend veterinary school upon graduation.

#46 Britton Whetsell
LB • Bowman, SC
Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, once said, “What you do is often as important as what you say.” Britton Whetsell is the poster child for the saying.

Whetsell began playing sports at a young age as a result of his grandfather’s encouragement. Along with running track and playing basketball, he began playing football in seventh grade.

During his high school years at Orangeburg Prep School, the linebacker played under Head Coach Don Shelley. It was then that Whetsell learned the meaning of hard work that he would later continue in college.

Playing football in a Tiger uniform has been a dream come true for Whetsell. In his college career, he has been selected as Scout Team Player-of-the-Year, Defensive Walk-on-of-the-Year, and was 11th on the team power index this past summer. With these accomplishments, Whetsell stated that his favorite Clemson football memory is “my first tackle against North Carolina in 2006.”

Whetsell, a construction science & management major who hails from Bowman, SC, is the son of Indun and Tim. In addition to thanking his parents, Whetsell would also like to thank the rest of his family and his high school football coach for their support and encouragement throughout his athletic career.

Even though it is coming to an end, Whetsell is appreciative of the opportunity to play football as a Tiger. “I am proud to say I put 100 percent into my football career at Clemson. I laid it all on the line and I have no regrets.”

Summaries written by Clemson Sports Information Student Assistants Ashley W. Adams (Kyle Davison, Brian Hill Britton Whetsell), Trey McCuirt, Eddie Adams, John Early, Brandon Oliver, Brandon Speweik, and William Quashnikov (Matthew Knowles, Cameron O’Sullivan, Preston Stone).
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We're drivers too.
In addition to being a teacher and a leader, James F. Barker is an architect, an artist, and a builder of one of the nation’s most-rapidly improving public universities...Clemson. Barker came to the office in 1999 with a clear vision and 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, our students, and our 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 twice 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.
- 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.
- set new records for students applications (at both the undergraduate and graduate levels), private giving, external research support, and study-abroad participation.
- opened a new “European portal” with the launching of the Thomas Green Clemson University Center in Brussels, Belgium.

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 is complete and classes are being taught at the Campbell Graduate Engineering Center there.

Barker is a leading voice in higher education, not only in South Carolina but nationwide. He currently chairs the Division I Committee of the NCAA Board of Directors and delivered a keynote address at a symposium in Washington D.C. on Global Best Practices in science & technology parks. It was sponsored by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Association of University Research Parks, and his topic was CU-ICAR. His essay, “The Architect as University President,” was published in The Chronicle of Higher Education in March of 2008.

For his leadership, Barker has received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, and The Cliff’s Business Person-of-the-Year Award from Greenville Magazine. He has also received the James T. Rogers Mentorship Service Award from the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools.

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 bachelor of arts 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.
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That was just the third time in school history that had been achieved, including the first time since the 1989-90 academic year. Clemson was one of just five programs nationally ranked in the top 25 of both sports.

Clemson's women's programs had a strong year, as the women's tennis and volleyball teams claimed ACC Championships. Both of those programs, plus the young rowing program, received NCAA bids and were ranked in the final top 25.

From an academic standpoint, all of Clemson's sports programs performed strongly in terms of the NCAA's graduation success rate and APR statistics. The student-athletes combined to earn a 2.89 GPA for the 2007-08 academic year, with eight sports programs posting at least a 3.0 GPA in one of the two semesters. The football program posted its highest team GPA on record as well.

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

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

Phillips remains a classroom presence by teaching a sports law section in Clemson's Accountancy & Legal Studies department. In addition, he is past chair of the NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee. He has written on diverse areas, such as antitrust and the NCAA, student-athlete welfare, alternative dispute resolution, and Title IX. His doctoral dissertation on Title IX involved a historical review of the law and was the first national study of Title IX implications on college athletic programs. This research spawned his intent and desire to study law.

From an experience standpoint, Phillips 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 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, coming from Oklahoma State Athletics.

Football was transformed from a perennial losing status to defeating Oklahoma during live 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 appearance, 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 the athletic director at Liberty (1980-81) and Louisiana-Lafayette (1983-88). He was also an assistant athletic director at Missouri (1981-83) and 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 1970 and 1971. He moved on to Virginia Tech as an assistant coach (1971-78) before joining the ranks of athletic administration.

Winning has been on Phillips' résumé since his playing days at Arkansas. He lettered on three Frank Broyles teams (1966,68,69), where he and his brother Loyd, an Outland Trophy winner, were starting defensive tackles. Arkansas had a 27-5 record in the three years, played two Sugar Bowl games, and played in the memorable 1969 National Championship game against Texas.

In addition to Phillips' tenure with the NCAA Infractions Appeals Committee, he also serves on the NCAA Select Committee for At-Risk Student-Athletes and works with the NCAA certification program. He currently serves on several ACC Committees, chair of the Committee on Infractions and Penalties, Committee on Awards, Television Committee, Men's Basketball Committee, and Football Committee.

Phillips has two children, John Dennis (31) and Sarah-Jane (28), and three stepchildren, Meagan (19), a sophomore at Clemson and proud member of Tiger Band, Marshall (18), and Madison (16). His wife Tricia is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and earlier enjoyed a career in athletics and development. She is now active in the Clemson and Seneca communities.
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had been assistant head coach for two years and had been in charge of the wide receivers since the 2003 season.

Swinney hit the ground running that week as he prepared for his first game as a head coach against a 5-1 Georgia Tech team. He had to reorganize his staff, and regroup his football team and Clemson Nation in just five days. While the Tigers lost a four-point decision, he accomplished many goals in that first week through his outstanding leadership qualities. One of the most impressive demonstrations of unity came during the team’s “Tiger Walk.”

Prior to the game, Swinney decided to have his team depart buses outside the Lot 5 parking lot near the WestZone at Memorial Stadium and experience the gameday atmosphere. Dressed in jackets and ties, the team was embraced by thousands of Tiger fans who stood 10 deep for the 200-yard march to the stadium. It was the centerpiece of his “All In” theme in his first week as head coach.

In his second week as head coach, an off-week, he invited the Clemson student body to a practice, and nearly 1,000 students showed up.

He spoke to the group and actually allowed some student participation during practice, as students were selected to attempt a field goal, punt against a live rush, and field a punt. He also took the entire team to the Greenville Children’s Hospital for a visit with young men and women fighting cancer.

Swinney is leading the Tigers during the second half of the season, and the task is not an easy one, as all six of his regular-season opponents had a winning record and were candidates for bowl games when he took over the job. However, the 38-year-old is ready for any challenge, as he has demonstrated throughout his career.

The 1993 Alabama graduate joined the Clemson staff prior to the 2003 season. In the last five years, the Tigers have finished in the top 25 of the final polls three times, recorded at least eight wins four times, and totaled 10 wins over top-25 teams, including victories over Florida State (4), Miami (FL) (1), and Tennessee (1) during his tenure in Tigertown.

Swinney has coached his wide receiver position to a level of consistency that has not been seen previously at Clemson. He has had a wideout finish first or second in the ACC in catches each of the last four years. In his first year, he had three of the top-10 receivers in the ACC, a first in Tiger history. He has coached a First-Team All-ACC wideout each of the last four years (three different players), also an unprecedented feat at Clemson.

In 2004 and 2005, Swinney coached the ACC reception champion (Airesse Currie in 2004, Chansi Stuckey in 2005). It was the first time Clemson had two different wideouts lead the ACC in receptions in consecutive years. In 2007, Aaron Kelly led the league in yardage, giving Swinney an ACC receiving king three out of four years. Stuckey earned First-Team All-ACC honors in back-to-back years, a first for a Clemson wideout in 25 years. He is now one of the top receivers for the New York Jets.

The play of Swinney’s wideouts was a big reason Clemson led the ACC in total offense, rushing offense, and scoring offense in 2006. Just the second time an ACC team led the conference in all three areas in the previous 25 years. Clemson also led the ACC and established school records for touchdowns (55) and yards per play (6.5). In 2007, he coached Aaron Kelly, a First-Team All-ACC selection who led the conference in receiving yards per game and touchdown catches (11). He also finished second in receptions per game with a school-record 88 catches, tied for the second-highest total in ACC history. His 11 touchdown catches were a Tiger record as well.

Kelly is now Clemson’s career reception leader with over 200 catches and was closing in on the ACC record when Swinney took this new position. He was also closing in on the school touchdown reception record, a mark held by Glenn Smith, who established the mark in 1951.

The Alabama native has a reputation as one of the top recruiters in the nation. In February of 2006, he was listed as the fifth-best recruiter in the nation by Rivals.com. It marked the second straight year that he had been lauded by the website as a top-25 national recruiter. He has signed 38 players in his five recruiting seasons and was a major reason Clemson’s 2008 recruiting class was rated #2 in the nation by ESPN.com when he signed 11...
players. He was named one of the top-25 recruiters in the nation by Rivals.com in 2007 as well.

When Swinney accepted this position on October 13, he described his feelings as “bittersweet” because he was taking over for Bowden, who had been his first position coach at Alabama in 1989. He had also brought him back to the coaching profession in 2003 and had a profound effect on his life. Both had followed similar paths as players, as Bowden was a walk-on at West Virginia and Swinney was a walk-on at Alabama.

Swinney received a commerce & business administration degree from Alabama in 1993 after lettering three times (1990-92). A walk-on who went on to earn a scholarship, Swinney was a wide receiver on Alabama’s 1992 National Championship team. He was also named Academic All-SEC along with being an SEC Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll member in 1990 and 1992.


After his playing career, Swinney served as a graduate assistant coach from 1993-95 at Alabama, where he coached in the 1994 Gator Bowl and 1995 Citrus Bowl. In December of 1999, he received a master’s degree in business administration from Alabama.

He became a full-time assistant coach at Alabama in February of 1996 under Head Coach Gene Stallings and coached a total of five seasons there on a full-time basis. He was assigned to coach the Crimson Tide’s wide receivers and tight ends in 1996, a season that saw Alabama win the SEC Western Division title and make an Outback Bowl appearance. The following year, he solely coached the tight ends under Head Coach Mike DuBose.

In 1998, he coached Alabama’s wide receivers, a position he held for three seasons. At the end of the 1999 campaign, Swinney coached the Crimson Tide in the 2000 Orange Bowl after winning the SEC Championship game. Wide receiver Freddie Milons was the game MVP.

Since 1997, he has had 15 former players either drafted or sign free-agent contracts with NFL teams. The list includes Currie, Derrick Hamilton, Kevin Youngblood, Stuckey, and Milons, an All-American who is still second in career receptions at Alabama.

During his time at Alabama, Swinney was a part of six years of at least 10 wins, five top-10 finishes, one national title (1992), three SEC championships (1989,92,99), and five SEC Western Division titles (1992,93,94,96,99) as a player and coach. He has coached the #2 receiver at Alabama (Milons) along with the #1 (Kelly) and #2 (Hamilton) receivers in Tide history.

From April of 2001 through February of 2003, Swinney was in private business in Alabama. He married the former Kathleen Bassett in 1994. They have three sons, Will (10), Drew (8), and Clay (5).
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Clemson Football

Brad Scott

- Associate Head Coach
- Offensive Line
- 10th Season at Clemson
- 27th Season Overall
- South Florida ’79
- Born September 30, 1954

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

Education

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach

Bowl Seasons as a Head Coach
1995 Carquest Bowl.

Personal Data
Born September 30, 1954 in Arcadia, FL…married to Daryl…the couple has two sons (Jeff 27, John 24)…Jeff is an assistant coach at Clemson on the 2008 staff.

Vic Koenning

- Defensive Coordinator
- Defensive Backs
- 4th Season at Clemson
- 23rd Season Overall
- Kansas State ’83
- Born February 26, 1960

Playing Experience

Bowl Participation as a Player
1982 Independence Bowl.

Education
B.S. degree in communications from Kansas State in 1983…M.A. degree in athletic administration from Memphis in 1989.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach

Personal Data
Born February 26, 1960 in Owasso, OK…married to Tracey…the couple has four children (Kimberly 28, Brady 12, Camden 8, Jackson 7).

David Blackwell

- Inside Linebackers
- 6th Season at Clemson
- 16th Season Overall
- East Carolina ’97
- Born May 4, 1971

Playing Experience
Played on the offensive line at East Carolina in the 1990 season.

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

Coaching Experience


Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach

Personal Data
Born May 4, 1971 in Greenville, SC…married to the former Melissa Andryukos…the couple has a son (D.J. 2).

2008 TIGER FOOTBALL
Coaching Experience

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 member.

Education
Earned a degree in health & exercise science from Furman in 1996.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
2007 Chick-fil-A Bowl.

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

---

Mike Dooley

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 member.

Education
Earned a degree in health & exercise science from Furman in 1996.

Coaching Experience

Bowl Seasons as an Assistant Coach
2007 Chick-fil-A Bowl.

Personal Data
Born May 1, 1975 in Toccoa, GA...single.
Chris Rumph

**Coaching Experience**
- Defensive Line
- 3rd Season at Clemson
- 7th Season Overall
- South Carolina ’94
- Born December 21, 1971

**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 GMAC Bowl...
- 2005 Motor City Bowl...
- 2006 Music City Bowl...
- 2007 Chick-fil-A Bowl...

**Personal Data**
- Born December 21, 1971 in Orangeburg, SC...married to Kila...the couple has two sons (Christopher 9, Elijah 2).

Jeff Scott

**Playing Experience**
- Three-year letterman as a wide receiver and holder at Clemson from 2000-02; he played for the Tigers with his father Brad Scott on the coaching staff...played on three bowl teams, including the 2000 squad that had a 9-3 record and top-15 national ranking.

**Bowl Participation as a Player**
- 2001 Gator Bowl...
- 2001 Humanitarian Bowl...
- 2002 Tangerine Bowl.

**Education**
- Earned a degree in secondary education from Clemson in 2003.

**Coaching Experience**

**Personal Data**
- Born December 28, 1980 in Arcadia, FL...married to the former Sara McDanel...son of Clemson Associate Head Coach Brad Scott...his brother John played football and track at Harvard and is now in medical school at Vanderbilt.

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...
- 2007 Chick-fil-A Bowl...

**Personal Data**
- Born February 12, 1957...married to the former Becky Home...the couple has two children (Brad 25, Lori 22).
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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 27 straight seasons. A crowd has exceeded 80,000 fans 52 times since the 1983 season. In 2007, Clemson was #16 in the nation in average home attendance with its 81,335 average, just under 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 240 games in 66 years there and has won over 71 percent of the contests (240-94-7).

The stadium has definitely been good to the Tigers, but it 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, a young player proudly announced that he was not allergic to poison oak. He then proceeded...
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 weeks' 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 1958, 18,000 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 of the stadium as crowds swollen - the first in 1978 and the second in 1983. It increased capacity to over 80,000, which makes it one of the nation's 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 $6.25 per seat. The stadium's 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, it wasn't built behind the Y.

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.

Death Valley Quotes

"Running down the Hill is still talked about everywhere I go. Players who played against Clemson when I was in college remember us running down the hill and thinking we would gain some type of spirit. The adrenaline rush was unbelievable for a Clemson player and quite a shock for the opponent." - Former Clemson All-American Jerry Butler

"I came here knowing it would be loud and Clemson would hit hard, but the noise was the biggest factor. I didn't concentrate as well because of it." - Herschel Walker after Clemson's 13-3 win in 1981, his only regular-season loss

"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 Tiger All-American Michael Dean Perry

"When Clemson players rub that Rock and run down the Hill, it's the most exciting 25 seconds in college football." - Brent Musburger, ABC Sports

"Remember being nervous before the game because there were 80,000 people dressed in orange. I even threw up before the game. It's the only time I've ever done that." - Former Duke quarterback Dave Brown

"There is no place louder or more picturesque than Death Valley. There, where Clemson folks see magic in a hill and a rock, orange gets more respect than anywhere this side of Gainesville, Florida." - Terence Moore, Atlanta Journal-Constitution

"When you get to the bottom of the Hill, it's like you're in a hole and all around you are nothing but Clemson fans. It's like the crowd is one big voice. You feel like little kings." - Former Clemson running back Rodney Blunt

"Death Valley really lives up to its image. I was impressed with this stadium. When you put 80,000 people in there, it feels like they are on top of you. I'd hate to be whoever comes here to play Clemson." - San Francisco quarterback Steve Young

"Florida was loud in the swamp. But the loudest, not only the stadium, but the loudest place I have ever been around in my life was definitely Death Valley. I was yelling at the top of my lungs and I couldn't even hear what I was saying. That place was unreal in how loud it was. I don't think I will ever be in a louder place than Clemson." - Florida State quarterback Chris Rix, 2001

"I'm very thankful that we're playing a day game at Clemson. The last time we were up there, it was extremely loud. I'm sitting here yelling at the calls to my guard, but we couldn't hear each other and we couldn't hear each other in the huddle. When you have fans that can get that loud and distract offenses like that, that's as important as having an All-American on your defense." - Florida State center David Castillo, 2005

"In the 2005 season, Clemson's Memorial Stadium, commonly known as 'Death Valley,' reached an extraordinary 126 decibels when a packed crowd of 79,135 fans observed Charles Bennett's sack of quarterback Kyle Wright during the Tigers' three-overtime heartbreaker against the Miami Hurricanes. This level easily surpassed the old record of 121 decibels set by Louisiana State fans in Tiger Stadium, which holds 92,400." - reallfootball365.com
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 endzone. There were no dressing facilities in the west endzone, there was only a big clock where the hands turned and a scoreboard that 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 warmup 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 a 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 Tiger wins that had been recorded there. Actually, the name was first used by Lonnie McMillan, head coach at Presbyterian 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 the 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. Clemson celebrated its 66th year in the "Valley" in 2007. 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 left and came back to win 40-35 on a 65-yard pass from Jimmy Addison to Jacky Jackson in the fourth quarter. That was quite a debut for the 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 6-9. 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 (326 times entering the 2008 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 prior to kickoff, the team boards three buses, rides around behind the north stands to the east endzone, 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.
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Seneca  
gregwales@allstate.com

## AP All-Americans

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## Multi-Year All-Americans

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<th>Pos.</th>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Banks McFadden</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Lou Cordleone</td>
<td>L</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Bennie Cunningham</td>
<td>TE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Jerry Butler</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Jim Stuckey</td>
<td>DT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Terry Kinard</td>
<td>FS</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Terry Kinard</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>David Treadwell</td>
<td>PK</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Stacy Long</td>
<td>OT</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>Jeff Kinard</td>
<td>FS</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Anthony Simmons</td>
<td>LB</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Anthony Simmons</td>
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</tr>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Keith Adams</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Gaines Adams</td>
<td>DE</td>
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</tr>
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Note: First-team selections only.
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First-Round Draft Picks

Gaines Adams
Defensive End
Tampa Bay Buccaneers
3rd round, 91st pick, 2007

First-Round Draft Picks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Pick</th>
<th>Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Terrence Flagler</td>
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<td>Wayne Simmons</td>
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<td>Trevor Pryce</td>
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<td>Antwan Edwards</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Rod Gardner</td>
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<td>Gaines Adams</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Buccaneers</td>
</tr>
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Bench It!

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Super Bowl Champions

Clemson Football

Trevor Pryce
Denver Broncos, 1997, 98

Chris Gardocki
Pittsburgh Steelers, 2000

Super Bowl Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Team</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1982,71</td>
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<td>Dwight Clark</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>1981,84</td>
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<td>Bernie Cunningham</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>1978,79</td>
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<td>Terrence Flagler</td>
<td>RB</td>
<td>1988,89</td>
<td>49ers</td>
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<td>Steve Fuller</td>
<td>QB</td>
<td>1985</td>
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<td>Chris Gardocki</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Andy Heiden</td>
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<td>Charlie Waters</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>1971,77</td>
<td>Cowboys</td>
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Note: Years reflect regular seasons.
One player can change the game. So can one vehicle. Change it up in the crossover that brings bold style and comfort to a new level. 24-mpg. 7-passenger seating. The hottest technology. With the power and agility of an all-star running back. There’s even a refrigerated console to keep everything chilled. Discover the game changing Flex at your Carolina Ford Dealer today.

*EPA estimated 17 city/24 hwy mpg FWD.
<table>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justin Miller</td>
<td>KR</td>
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LEXINGTON • 803.359.5541
Ben Ryan, 2004
David Tucker, 2005
Mitch Wilson, 1985
MANNING • 803.435.4357
Rick Hickson, 1977
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Raddy Bates, 1981
ST. GEORGE • 843.563.4556
Tripp Gaillard, 2003
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Ben Davis, 2004
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Jay Schrimpf, 1992
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Columbia, SC

David H. Wilkins
Greenville, SC

*Note: All cities are in South Carolina.

Trustees Emeriti

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<th>Hometown</th>
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<td>Louis P. Batson, Jr.</td>
<td>Greenville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fletcher C. Derrick, Jr.</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.G. DesChamps, Jr.</td>
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<td>Lawrence M. Grossett, Jr.</td>
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<td>Harold D. Kingsmore</td>
<td>Clemson</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Leslie Tindal</td>
<td>Pinewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Wood</td>
<td>Florence</td>
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Note: All cities are in South Carolina.
Eddie Adams
OG/LS • Jr.
Greenwood, SC

Kevin Alexander
DE • Jr.
Tiffin, OH

Terrance Ashe
WR • Sr.
Cheraw, SC

Thomas Austin
OL • Sr.
Camden, SC

Durell Barry
TE • Sr.
North Charleston, SC

Andre Branch
DE • Jr.
Richmond, VA

Kourtnei Brown
DE • Sr.
Charlotte, NC

Mark Buchholz
PK • Sr.
Alpharetta, GA

Crezdon Butler
CB • Jr.
Asheville, NC

Jeremy Campbell
LB • Jr.
Port Orange, FL

Sadat Chambers
S • Jr.
Pageland, SC

Chris Chancellor
CB • Sr.
Miramar, FL

Miguel Chavis
DT • So.
Fayetteville, NC

Brandon Clear
WR • Fr.
Hoover, AL

Byron Clear
DE • Fr.
Hoover, AL

Chris Clemons
S • Fr.
Pensacola, FL

Mason Clay
OL • Fr.
Columbia, SC

Kavell Conner
LB • Sr.
Richmond, VA

Scotty Cooper
LB • So.
Lake City, SC

Jamie Cumbie
WR • So.
Morris, IL

James Davis
RB • Sr.
Atlanta, GA

Kyle Davissone
WR • Sr.
Alpharetta, GA

Chad Diehl
FB • Fr.
Lyman, SC

Xavier Dye
WR • So.
Greenwood, SC

John Early
PK • Sr.
Darlington, SC

Nelson Faerber
WR • Sr.
Duluth, GA

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Tiger Rookies
Clemson Football

Spencer Adams TE • Fr.
Charlotte, NC

Dwayne Allen TE • Fr.
Fayetteville, NC

Daniel Andrews LB • Fr.
Jacksonville, FL

Spencer Benton PK • Fr.
Myrtle Beach, SC

Da Quan Bowers DE • Fr.
Bamberg, SC

Xavier Brewer CB • Fr.
Jacksonville, FL

Jaron Brown WR • Fr.
Cheraw, SC

Andre Ellington RB • Fr.
Moncks Corner, SC

Brandon Ford WR • Fr.
Wando, SC

Dalton Freeman OG • Fr.
Gaston, SC

Rashard Hall S • Fr.
Saint Augustine, FL

Jamie Harper RB • Fr.
Jacksonville, FL

Stanley Hunter LB • Fr.
Spartanburg, SC

Kyle Johnson WR • Fr./Gr.
Charlotte, NC

Marquan Jones WR • Fr.
Columbia, SC

Carlton Lewis LB • Fr.
Saint Augustine, FL

Antoine McClain OL • Fr.
Anniston, AL

Kenneth Page OG • Fr.
Columbia, SC

Kyle Parker QB • Fr.
Jacksonville, FL

Jon Richt QB • Fr.
Wadsworth, GA

Tarik Rollins LB • Fr.
Hollywood, FL

Matt Sanders OL • Fr.
Crestview, FL

Matt Skinner LS • Fr.
Jacksonville, FL

Brandon Thompson DT • Fr.
Thomasville, GA

Jonathan Willard LB • Fr.
Loris, SC

Dawson Zimmerman LG • Fr.
Lawrenceville, GA

#74 Antoine McClain, OL
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NAME/# BOWDEN

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Thursday, August 28
Jacksonville State 14 at Georgia Tech 41
Central Southern 7 at Miami (FL) 52
N.C. State 0 at South Carolina 34
Wake Forest 41 at Baylor 13

Saturday, August 30
Boston College 21 vs. Kent State 0*
Alabama 34 vs. Clemson 10*
James Madison 7 at Duke 31
Delaware 7 at Maryland 14
McNees State 27 at Georgia Tech 23
Southern California 52 at Virginia 7
Virginia Tech 22 vs. East Carolina 27*

Saturday, September 6
Georgia Tech 19 at Boston College 16
The Citadel 17 at Clemson 45
Northwestern 24 at Duke 20
Western Carolina 0 at Florida State 69
Maryland 14 at Middle Tennessee 24*
Miami (FL) 3 at Florida 26
William & Mary 24 at N.C. State 34
Richmond 0 at Virginia 16
Furman 7 at Virginia Tech 24
Mississippi 28 at Wake Forest 30

Thursday, September 11
North Carolina 44 at Rutgers 12

Saturday, September 13
N.C. State 9 at Clemson 27
Navy 31 at Duke 41
Chattanooga 7 at Florida State 46
Georgia Tech 17 at Virginia Tech 20
California 27 at Maryland 35
Virginia 10 at Connecticut 45

Saturday, September 20
Central Florida 7 at Boston College 34
S.C. State 0 at Clemson 54
Wake Forest 12 at Florida State 3
Mississippi State 7 at Georgia Tech 38
Eastern Michigan 24 at Maryland 51
Miami (FL) 41 at Texas A&M 23
Virginia Tech 20 at North Carolina 17
East Carolina 24 at N.C. State 30 (OT)

Saturday, September 27
Rhode Island 0 at Boston College 42
Maryland 20 at Clemson 17
Virginia 3 at Duke 31
Colorado 21 vs. Florida State 39*
North Carolina 28 at Miami (FL) 24
South Florida 41 at N.C. State 10
Virginia Tech 35 at Nebraska 30
Navy 24 at Wake Forest 17

Saturday, October 4
Boston College 38 at N.C. State 31
Duke 0 at Georgia Tech 27
Florida State 41 at Miami (FL) 39
Maryland 0 at Virginia 31
Connecticut 12 at North Carolina 38
Western Kentucky 13 at Virginia Tech 27

Thursday, October 9
Clemson 7 at Wake Forest 12

Saturday, October 11
Gardner-Webb 7 at Georgia Tech 10
Central Florida 14 at Miami (FL) 20
Notre Dame 24 at North Carolina 29
East Carolina 20 at Virginia 35

Thursday, October 16
Florida State 26 at N.C. State 17

Saturday, October 18
Virginia Tech 23 at Boston College 28
Georgia Tech 17 at College 23
Miami (FL) 49 at Duke 31
Wake Forest 0 at Maryland 26
North Carolina 13 at Virginia 16 (OT)

Saturday, October 25
Boston College 24 at North Carolina 45
Duke 16 at Vanderbilt 7
Virginia Tech 20 at Florida State 30
Virginia 24 at Georgia Tech 17
N.C. State 24 at Maryland 27
Wake Forest 10 at Miami (FL) 16

Saturday, November 1
Clemson 27 at Boston College 21
Duke 30 at Wake Forest 33 (OT)
Florida State 28 at Virginia Tech 31
Miami (FL) 24 at Virginia 17 (OT)

Thursday, November 6
Maryland 13 at Virginia Tech 23

Saturday, November 8
Notre Dame 0 at Boston College 17
Clemson 27 at Florida State 41
N.C. State 27 at Duke 17
Georgia Tech 7 at North Carolina 28
Virginia 17 at Wake Forest 28

Thursday, November 13
Virginia Tech 14 at Miami (FL) 16

Saturday, November 15
Boston College 27 at Florida State 17
Duke 7 at Clemson 31
North Carolina 18 at Maryland 17
Wake Forest 17 at N.C. State 21

Thursday, November 20
Miami (FL) 23 at Georgia Tech 41
That's because we've supplied gatherings of Tiger fans with great food for 20 years. From ribs and wings to our World Famous Calabash Chicken,® Fatz has everything you need to host the best tailgate on campus.

Tailgating is a Clemson tradition. And so is Fatz Cafe. That's because we've supplied gatherings of Tiger fans with great food for 20 years. From ribs and wings to our World Famous Calabash Chicken,® Fatz has everything you need to host the best tailgate on campus.

Call ahead to place your tailgating orders and ask about special pick-up times. Don't miss our World Famous Calabash Chicken® and Cheese Fries, now available at select concession stands.
Adams, Eddie

Alleyne, Tavone

Allen, Dwayne

Andrews, Daniel

Avery, Shawn

Baker, Alan

Barry, Durrell

Benton, Spencer

Bowers, DaQuan

Branch, Andre

Breit, Xavier

Clement, Chris

Cohan, Ben

Conner, Scott

Davies, James

Davidson, Kyle

Diehl, Chad

Dye, Xavier

Early, John

Ellington, Andre

Fauber, Brandon

Ford, Brandon

Fredrick, Jay

Freeman, Dalton

Gilliss, Marcus

Grant, Jamarcus

Grisham, Tyler

Haisont, Chris

Hall, Rashard

Hamilin, Michael

Harper, Cullen

Harper, Jamie

Humphries, Barry

Huttington, Bobby

Jackson, Rashad

Jackson, Richard

Johnson, Kyle

Jones, Marquuan

Kelly, Aaron

Knowles, Matthew

Korn, Wily

Lambert, Cory

Levis, Carlston

Leslie, Haydrian

Macko, Paul

Maners, Jimmey

Maxwell, Byron

Maye, Brandon

McClain, Antoine

McDaniel, DeAndre

Mckissic, Jock

Medlin, Jamal

Miller, Joshua

Moore, Rennie

Murichson, Antwon

Nobles, Kasey

North, Clinton

Oliver, Brandon

O’Sullivan, Cameron

Page, Kenneth

Parker, Kyle

Ramsey, Ben

Rich, Jon

Robinson, Akeem

Rodiger, Charles

Rollins, Tarik

Sanders, Mattal

Sapp, Ricky

Sensbaugh, Coty

Smith, David

Speweik, Brandon

Stone, Preston

Taylor, Rendrick

Walker, Landon

Wheat, Michael

Whetsell, Britton

Wilson, Jonathan

Zimmerman, Dawson

* spent one season as a red-shirt player, ** first-year transfer from East Carolina who is eligible for the 2008 and 2009 seasons, *** scheduled to graduate in May and will not return for the 2009 season.
Even game faces get thirsty.
For more than two centuries, the University of South Carolina has contributed to the greater good of society, improving the lives of individuals in the state and across the world.

South Carolina is in the midst of hiring 600 new professors during the next six years with two faculty recruiting programs and the annual replacement of faculty members retiring from service. This major investment in intellectual capital is aimed at further improving the University's teaching and research strengths.

South Carolina's international master's of business program is ranked #1 among all public universities in the nation according to U.S. News & World Report. The undergraduate program in international business is also ranked #1. The Moore School of Business is ranked among the top-50 collegiate entrepreneurship programs in the nation by Entrepreneur Magazine as well.

The award-winning 192,000-square-foot Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center features an eight-lane indoor pool, aerobics rooms, basketball and volleyball courts, a climbing wall, and an auxiliary gym and auditorium. An outdoor pool and sand volleyball courts face the University's Greek Village, which houses 19 fraternity and sorority organizations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ladi Ajiboye</td>
<td>DT</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Riverdale, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasper Brinkley</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Thomson, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moe Brown</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Anderson, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seaver Brown</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Clearwater, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emanuel Cook</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Rivera Beach, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Cook</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Savannah, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Culliver</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Gamecocks, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Davis</td>
<td>TB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Columbia, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick DiMarco</td>
<td>FB</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Altamonte Springs, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutch Eckerson</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Lumberton, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Garcia</td>
<td>QB</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Tampa, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marque Hall</td>
<td>OT</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Wingate, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemuel Jeanpierre</td>
<td>OG</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jarriel King</td>
<td>OT</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Hanahan, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dion LeCorn</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Ocala, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustin Lindsey</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordin Lindsey</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Matthews</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Cheraw, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenny McKinley</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Mableton, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamon Meredith</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Simpsonville, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Munnerlyn</td>
<td>CB</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Norwood</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Acworth, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Pepper</td>
<td>DT</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Greenville, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin Sapp</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weslye Saunders</td>
<td>TB</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Durham, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Smelley</td>
<td>Qb</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Sorensen</td>
<td>CB</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Florida State, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darian Stewart</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Huntsville, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Succop</td>
<td>PK/P</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Hickory, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Thomas</td>
<td>CB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>College Park, GA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Looking for a physician who is close to home?
Liberty Family Care
The Medical Center
Powdersville Medical Park
Easley Family Practice & Internal Medicine
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Call 442-8000 or visit PalmettoHealth.org/BaptistEasley. Now accepting new patients.

Family care you can believe in is in the bag.
South Carolina
Alphabetical Roster

#25 Mike Davis, TB

#40 Eric Norwood, LB

2008 TIGER FOOTBALL
Clemson University's award-winning research in carbon-dot technology holds great promise for cancer research. Through the work of Selah Technologies, a startup company based on Clemson’s carbon-dot research, University of South Carolina cancer researchers are applying Clemson’s discoveries in nanotechnology.

Join us — let’s collaborate for a healthy future.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Bowl</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Stadium</th>
<th>Network</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 20 Sat.</td>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>TBA Congressional Bowl</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>Nationals Park University Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>ACC vs. Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>New Mexico Bowl</td>
<td>Albuquerque, NM</td>
<td>Tropicana Field</td>
<td>ESPN2</td>
<td>Mountain West vs. WAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>St. Petersburg Bowl</td>
<td>Saint Petersburg, FL</td>
<td>Sam Boyd Stadium</td>
<td>ESPNews</td>
<td>Big East vs. C-USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 21 Sun.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl</td>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>Superdome</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Mountain West vs. Pac 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 23 Tue.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>Qualcomm Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>C-USA vs. Sun Belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 24 Wed.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Sheridan Hawaii Bowl</td>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>Aloha Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Mountain West vs. Pac 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 26 Fri.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Motor City Bowl</td>
<td>Detroit, MI</td>
<td>Ford Field</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Pac 10 vs. WAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 27 Sat.</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Meineke Car Care Bowl</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>Bank of America Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big Ten vs. MAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Champs Sports Bowl</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Florida Citrus Bowl</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>ACC vs. Big East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Emerald Bowl</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>AT&amp;T Park</td>
<td>ESPNews</td>
<td>ACC vs. Big Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>PetroSun Independence Bowl</td>
<td>Shreveport, LA</td>
<td>Independence Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>ACC vs. Pac 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Papa Johns.com Bowl</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Legion Field</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big 12 vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Valero Alamo Bowl</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>Alamo Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big East vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 30 Tue.</td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Roady's Humanitarian Bowl</td>
<td>Boise, ID</td>
<td>Bronco Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big 12 vs. Big Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Pacific Life Holiday Bowl</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>Qualcomm Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>NFL vs. Big 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Texas Bowl</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>Reliant Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big 12 vs. C-USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 31 Wed.</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>Amon G. Carter Stadium</td>
<td>CBS</td>
<td>C-USA vs. Mountain West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Brut Sun Bowl</td>
<td>El Paso, TX</td>
<td>Sun Bowl</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>ACC vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
<td>LP Field</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big 12 vs. Big Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Insight Bowl</td>
<td>Tempe, AZ</td>
<td>Sun Devil Stadium</td>
<td>NFL</td>
<td>ACC vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1 Thu.</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Chick-fil-A Bowl</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>Georgia Dome</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big Ten vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Outback Bowl</td>
<td>Tampa, FL</td>
<td>Raymond James Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>ACC vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Capital One Bowl</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Florida Citrus Bowl</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>Big Ten vs. SEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Konica Minolta Gator Bowl</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
<td>Jacksonville Municipal Stadium</td>
<td>CBS</td>
<td>ACC vs. Big 12 or Big East or Notre Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2 Fri.</td>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>FedEx Orange Bowl</td>
<td>Pasadena, CA</td>
<td>Rose Bowl</td>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>AT&amp;T Cotton Bowl</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>Rose Bowl</td>
<td>BCS</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>AutoZone Liberty Bowl</td>
<td>Memphis, TN</td>
<td>Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium</td>
<td>FOX</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Altitude Sugar Bowl</td>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>Superdome</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 3 Sat.</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>International Bowl</td>
<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
<td>Rogers Centre</td>
<td>ESPNews</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 5 Mon.</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Tostitos Fiesta Bowl</td>
<td>Glendale, AZ</td>
<td>University of Phoenix Stadium</td>
<td>FOX</td>
<td>BCS vs. BCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 6 Tue.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>GMAC Bowl</td>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
<td>Ladd-Peebles Stadium</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
<td>C-USA vs. MAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 8 Thu.</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>FedEx BCS National Championship Game</td>
<td>Miami Gardens, FL</td>
<td>Dolphin Stadium</td>
<td>FOX</td>
<td>BCS (1) vs. BCS (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All times are EST and subject to change; possible bowls for ACC teams in bold.

Orange Has No Limits.
Home of the ACC Champion.
The IPTAY Representative program is yet another unique feature of IPTAY that separates it from other fundraising organizations. This group of nearly 600 volunteers throughout South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and various regions of the country work throughout the year to grow the current IPTAY member contributions, find new members, and encourage them to support the scholarship fund. In 2008, these men and women encouraged the new membership to grow from 600 to 1,200 new donors. This group also saw their groups of donors contribute a nearly 30-percent increase in contributions from 2007 to 2008. Originally started as a group that identified and recruited student-athletes, IPTAY Representatives now identify and recruit donors both annually and those that have leadership gift potential. This connection to the IPTAY donors through these representatives is invaluable, as it provides a communication link between Clemson and its supporters. If you are interested in becoming an IPTAY Representative, contact the county chairperson in your area or visit IPTAYReps.com.

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 and Pete Hefner along with 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. Initially, Jervey 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, which is where the name IPTAY (I Pay Ten A Year) originated.

The purpose of IPTAY is "to provide annual financial scholarship support to the athletic department and to assist in every way possible to regain the high athletic prestige which rightfully belongs to Clemson." In 1934, the first year of IPTAY, over $1,600 was raised by the organization. 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 top-25 of the AP poll. Coincidentally, IPTAY reached Neely's $10,000 goal for the first time in 1939.

IPTAY has nearly 22,000 donors, which includes over 16,400 IPTAY members as well 5,500 Cubs, Collegiate Club members who continue Fike's mission of providing annual scholarships for Clemson's student-athletes, paying the operating expenses of IPTAY, and maintaining an adequate reserve fund deemed appropriate by the IPTAY Board of Directors. Our donors' contributions ensure all 19 varsity sports annually obtain the maximum amount of 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. IPTAY not only provides annual academic 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 programs in the country. It 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, including being a strong supporter of Tiger Band through payment of new uniforms, instruments, and travel expenses.

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

The IPTAY Collegiate Club, started in 1997, continues to be the model student fundraising organization in the country. The IPTAY Representative program continues to be a leadership group that grows the IPTAY organization through its role as volunteer annual fundraisers. To contact an IPTAY Representative, please visit 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 continues to receive the annual support of our donors. Some changes in recent years include the addition of the Tiger Cub 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 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 85th birthday celebration for former Tiger Head Coach Frank Howard. The first endowment honored Howard, who coached at Clemson for 39 years and established much of Tiger football's storied tradition.

The Heisman Scholarship Level, established in 2005, is the highest annual donation level. IPTAY Executive Director Bert Henderson set a goal to recreate Fike's 1934 vision of having 100 people come forward giving $10 annually. The 100-chapter-member goal for the $10,000 donation level was not only reached but surpassed thanks to the generous support of our donors. The support from donors at IPTAY's highest level exceeds 300 in 2008.

Today, the organization continues its mission, as it celebrates its 75th year of scholarship support for Clemson 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 representative program.

For more information on IPTAY or determining other ways to contribute, call the IPTAY office at (864) 656-2115 or log on to ClemsonTigers.com.
Heisman Donors

The legendary John Heisman served as the Tigers’ football head coach (1900-03) and baseball head coach (1901-03) over 100 years ago. A total of 215 donors this year have pledged $10,000 apiece towards one of IPTAY’s most prestigious donor programs.

Thomas F. Chapman .................................. Atlanta, GA
W.C. Childers Memorial ................................ Central, SC
T. Edward & Jan E. Childress ............................. Eastley, SC
Frank Cina .................................................. Orlando, FL
Mrs. Bernice Clanton ..................................... Clemson, SC
Holly Clayton .............................................. Spartanburg, SC
Joanna Claytor ............................................. Lancaster, SC
William G. Cobb ........................................ Jacksonville, FL
R.D. Cole, Jr. ............................................... Hodges, SC
Samuel B. Cole .......................................... Greenville, SC
Mr. & Mrs. C. Dean Coleman, Jr. ....................... Simpsonville, SC
Dr. William L. Coleman ................................... Pamplico, SC
Mr. Ashley C. Cone ...................................... Columbia, SC
John L. Cote, Jr. .......................................... Myrtle Beach, SC

Our Heisman donors have made a commitment to support IPTAY at our highest annual level. If you would like more information about becoming a Heisman donor, please contact the IPTAY office at (864) 666-2115.
Vehicle Donors

Bal Ballentine
Ballentine Ford-Toyota
Greenwood, SC

Al Bilton
Bilton Ford-Lincoln-Mercury
Kelly Hill, SC

Bob Mayberry
Bob Mayberry Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep
Monroe, NC

Bobby Wood
Bobby Wood Pontiac-Chevrolet
Walhalla, SC

George Davenport
D&D Motors, Inc.
Greer, SC

Bill Jackson
Dick Brooks Honda
Greer, SC

Brian Smith
Dick Smith Automotive, Inc.
Columbia, SC - Greenville, SC

April Thomas
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Easley, SC

Chris Raedels
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Greer, SC

Joe Fairey
Fairey Chevrolet-Cadillac
Orangeburg, SC

Gary McAlister
Fairway Ford, Inc.
Greenville, SC

Gregg Coleman
George Coleman Ford
Travelers Rest, SC

Katy Hemingway
Hemingway Motor Co., Inc.
Anderson, SC

Ben Herlong
Herlong Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick
Johnston, SC

James Ervin
James Ervin Ford-Lincoln-Mercury
Lugoff, SC

Denver Powell
JDH Automotive
Seneca, SC

Bobby Wood
Kia of Anderson
Anderson, SC

Steve Huffman
Lake Keowee Chrysler-Dodge
Seneca, SC

Jim Barnhart
Leader Ford
Seneca, SC
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Clemson University

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Trevor Adair
Men's Soccer Head Coach

Emily Ahrens
Learning Specialist

Sheri Alexander
Rally Cats Head Coach

Jean Armitage
Administrative Specialist, Ticket Operations

Rick Bagby
Director of Athletic Video Services

Helen Bailey-Hemmer
Learning Specialist

Roberta Balliet
Administrative Assistant & Athletic Housing Coordinator

Joey Batson
Director of Strength & Conditioning

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Assistant Supervisor of Athletic Grounds

Michelle Bensman
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Ida Benson
Human Resource Manager

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Team Orthopedic Surgeon

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Tiger Letterwinners Association Coordinator, IPTAY

Lawson Clary
Athletic Academic Advisor

Wayne Coffman
Athletic Academic Advisor

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Technical Consultant

Gay Copeland
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Bobby Couch
Executive Director of Major Gifts, IPTAY

Karen Countryman
Administrative Assistant, Vickey Hall

Bill D'Andrea
Senior Associate Athletic Director, External Affairs

Jeff Davis
Assistant Athletic Director, Major Gifts Program, IPTAY

Linda Davis
Administrative Specialist, IPTAY
**Mike Dooley**

**Graduate Assistant Coach (Offense)**

**Responsibilities:** Graduate assistant coach who works with the 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 member. Graduated of Stephens County High in Toccoa, GA.

**Coaching Experience:** Assistant coach at Greenville (SC) High from 1999-04; defensive coordinator from 2000-04 and assistant head coach in 2004. In his last three years, Greenville High had a 33-4 record, including 12-1 in 2003. Video graduate assistant (defense) at Clemson in 2005-06. Graduate assistant coach (offense) at Clemson in 2007.

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

**Personal:** Born May 1, 1975 in Toccoa, GA. Single.

---

**Jeff Scott**

**Graduate Assistant Coach (Defense)**

**Responsibilities:** Graduate assistant coach who works with the defense.

**Playing Experience:** Three-year lettermen as a wide receiver and holder at Clemson from 2000-02; played for the Tigers with his father Brad Scott on the coaching staff. Played on three bowl teams, including the 2000 squad that had a 9-3 record and top-15 national ranking.

**Coaching Experience:** Head coach at Blythewood (SC) High in 2006; that team won the state championship in his first year as a head coach. Assistant coach at Presbyterian in 2007.

**Education:** Earned a degree in secondary education from Clemson in 2003.

**Personal:** Born December 28, 1980 in Arcadia, FL. Married to the former Sara McDaniel, son of Clemson Associate Head Coach Brad Scott. His brother John played football and track at Harvard and is now in medical school at Vanderbilt.

---

**Daric Riley**

**Video Graduate Assistant (Defense)**

**Responsibilities:** Graduate assistant who works with the 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 Florida in 2000; –quartersbacks coach, defensive backs coach, special teams coach, strength & conditioning coordinator, and junior college recruiting coordinator at Pikeville in 2001-02. Defensive backs coach and special teams coach at Newberry in 2005-06. Video graduate assistant (defense) at Clemson in 2007.

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

**Personal:** Born June 29, 1977 in Sycamore, IL. Married to the former Heather Daniels.

---

**Ryan Sulkowski**

**Video Graduate Assistant (Offense)**

**Responsibilities:** Graduate assistant who works with the 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 Lenoir-Rhyne 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 Margrave Military Academy from 2004-06. Video graduate assistant (offense) at Clemson in 2007.

**Education:** Earned a degree in education from Valdosta State in 2001.

**Personal:** Born January 23, 1978 in New Brunswick, NJ. Married to the former Heather Daniels.

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**Football Support Staff**

**Donald Hymel**

**Assistant AD • High School Relations**

Donald Hymel is in his 10th season with the Clemson football program and serves as assistant athletic director for high school relations. Some of his other emphasis areas include: working with pro scouts, handling coaches clinics and summer camps, team travel, handling official and unofficial campus visits by recruits, and serving as liaison for ACC referees. Hymel (pronounced HEE-mel) came to Clemson after a three-year stint as the assistant equipment manager at Tulane. In 1998, he served as an administrative assistant in addition to his duties as assistant equipment manager.

While at Tulane, Hymel also assisted the football program in conducting such activities as the annual coaches clinic, alumni golf tournament, summer camp, and kickoff cruise. Hymel's (45) 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 performed postgraduate studies at the U.S. Sports Academy in Mobile, AL.

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**Andy Johnston**

**Assistant AD • Football Operations**

Andy Johnston is in his 12th year with the Clemson football program and currently serves as associate athletic director for football operations. His responsibilities with the team include managing the program's day-to-day operations. Although this is his 12th 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 seasons, Johnston guided his squads to five consecutive ACC titles (1983-87), 12 top-25 finishes, and six NCAA Tournaments. He was ACC Coach-of-the-Year for the fourth time and Southeast Region Coach-of-the-Year for the second time in 1992. Seven players he coached at Clemson were named to the ACC 50-Year Anniversary team in 2002.

Johnston had a 254-160 Clemson record and 263-167 career mark. He was head 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 polls. That team won all nine games of the ACC Tourney, the only tennis team in Tiger history to do that. He coached former Lady Tiger Gigi Fernandez, who was inducted into the Clemson Hall of Fame in 2005.

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

Johnston (51) is a native of Summerville, SC. He is married to the former Sophie Wootons. He has a daughter Kiera (18) and a son Noah (1). A second daughter Caylynn passed away in 2008. Andy Johnston & wife Sophie
The Clemson Tiger Sports Network supplies Clemson fans with a full day of broadcast each football Saturday. Each broadcast day has three programs, “Tiger Tailgate Show,” “Game Day Broadcast,” and “Fifth Quarter Show.”

A Clemson 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. Duane Evans, Ben Milstead, Don Munson, and Ralph Patterson host the show. It is a popular 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 WSFA-AM (7) in Spartanburg, SC, took over in September of 2003 after the passing of Jim Phillips, who had been the longtime voice of the Tigers since the 1968 season. Yanity has been a part of the broadcast team since 2001 as the host of the pregame, halftime, and postgame shows, and as the sideline reporter during games.

Yanity has been the sports director at WSFA-TV the last 18 years. He has also been a sideline analyst for 12 years on Carolina Panther preseason football games and has considerable play-by-play experience for CSS, covering various college events, including Tiger football and baseball. Yanity is also the voice of Tiger men’s basketball and 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 starting guard 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 television tape-delay broadcasts of selected 2002 games. In 2003, he became the color analyst of the game day broadcasts.

Patrick Sapp completes the broadcast team as the sideline commentator. The former Clemson quarterback and linebacker (1992-95) is in his second 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 selected in the second round of the 2002 NFL draft by the Chargers. Sapp is currently a development officer for the Clemson Alumni Association.

As has been the case in the past, Clemson’s game day broadcast begins with the Tommy Bowden Pregame Show. Bowden meets with Sports Information Director Tim Brouet to provide Clemson fans with the latest lineup and strategy information. Yanity and Merritt also provide another 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 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 contest’s highlights. Yanity serves as the host of this program that gives Tiger 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 Gahan (General Manager) at Clemson Tigers Sports Properties; P.O. Box 552, Clemson, SC 29633-0552, by phone at (864) 654-5544, or via fax at (864) 654-5509.
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Concession Stands
Concession stands are located beneath all stands inside Memorial Stadium and can be reached from any portal.

Emergencies
First Aid stations are located on the South side under Section J, North Side under Section T, North Top Deck under Section K, and South Top Deck under Section E. Trained nurses are on hand. If a doctor is needed, ask any usher. For emergencies, call 911.

Handicapped
Entrances are at Gates 1 and 5 for the handicapped.

Lost & Found
Please report any item to the Gate 1 Information booth.

Notice
Solicitation for any purpose is prohibited at an athletic contest in Memorial Stadium. Memorial Stadium is also a smoke-free facility. Smoking is prohibited inside the gates.

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

Prohibited Items
Umbrellas, folding chairs, chaise lounges, food, and beverage containers of any type.

Public Address System
The public address system is intended for spectators’ information. Do not request its use to make social contacts.

Season Ticket Holders/Other Visitors
All visitors to Memorial Stadium are requested to enter at Gates 1, 5, 9, 11, or 13. Top deck ticket holders must enter via the ramps, 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 ticket office (Gate 9),
Sometimes the best seat in the house... is on the sofa. The game you want, when you want it. Look for it on CSS.
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 by a coach off Clemson's campus. 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. The NCAA requires 16 core courses, 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 (48H), or visit the NCAA Eligibility Center'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 visit 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 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.

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.

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.

Standardized Test - A prospect must take the ACT or SAT before enrolling in college full-time. A prospect may take the ACT or SAT more than once and use the best subscore from different tests to achieve the highest score. Both Clemson and the NCAA Eligibility Center require scores to be reported directly from the testing agency. When registering for the test, list the Eligibility Center Code (9999) and Clemson (3842 (ACT), 5111 (SAT)). Clemson University admissions requires students to present either an ACT or SAT 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 during the prospect's junior year. After September 1 of a prospect's senior year, a coach can call a prospect only 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 (NLI).

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 Clemson 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 when a prospect cannot visit. NCAA rules refer to them as "dead periods," as coaches will not schedule to meet with a prospect during that time period.

Can IPTAY members help recruit? No. NCAA rules are clear...only Clemson coaches can telephone, contact, and evaluate a prospect. Only college coaches can offer unofficial and 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 a national letter of intent during his senior year (in February for football). Once the prospect signs a national letter of intent, 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 national letter of intent.

What is an official visit? A prospect is allowed to take a total of five official visits (one per institution), which are expense-paid. Before the official visit, the prospect must present his high school transcript, proof of an ACT, PACT, SAT, or PSAT test, and be registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Official visit invitations are extended by Clemson coaches only. Official visits may not be taken prior to the first day of classes during the prospect's senior year of high school.

What is the NCAA Eligibility Center? It is the agency that certifies a prospect's initial academic and amateur eligibility for both NCAA Division I and Division II. A prospect should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at the conclusion of his junior year in high school online at NCAAClearinghouse.net. Cost is $60. Remember to keep the PIN in a place for easy retrieval. A prospect should request the guidance counselor to send a transcript after his junior year and final transcript after graduation. A prospect should also request a final amateur decision beginning on April 1 of his senior year.

CUAD Mission Statement

The Department of Athletics offers nationally prominent athletic programs. Through a dedicated commitment to educational interests, a competitive athletic program, and integrity in all areas, the student-athletes, coaches, and staff strive to bring credit and recognition to Clemson University.

The mission of the Athletic Department is to sponsor a broad-based athletic program that provides educational and athletic opportunities for young men and women to grow, develop, and serve the interests of Clemson University by complementing and enhancing its diversity and quality of life.

Furthermore, the Athletic Department seeks to be a source of pride for the citizens of the State of South Carolina and to be recognized as a nationally-prominent program, through consistently high levels of performance and accomplishment in athletic competitions.

The Athletic Department strives to develop student-athletes academically and athletically with the total commitment of aiding their efforts to graduate from Clemson University and advance to careers that will enable them to be productive members of society.

The Athletic Department will act in an ethical and honest manner, dedicated to compliance with all Federal, State, NCAA, Conference, and University rules and regulations.
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Since its inception in 1991, the Student-Athlete Enrichment Programs have provided student-athletes a continued commitment to excellence. Our approach is to address the total student-athlete, and we are committed to coaching our student-athletes to success in the academic, personal growth, career, and community service arenas.

As an original member of the NCAA CHAMPS/Life Skills Program, we provide opportunities and services to address the changing needs and skills of student-athletes during college and after graduation. This program was selected for the Division I-A Athletic Director's Association “Program of Excellence” Award, a lifetime award recognizing CHAMP/Life Skills excellence.

Clemson's commitment to provide its student-athletes with the best facilities is evident in many ways. From the soaring upper decks of Memorial Stadium and the beautiful WestZone, to the “New Littlejohn Coliseum,” to the state-of-the-art strength training facility, young men and women from all of Clemson's intercollegiate varsity sports have the best in facilities for both training and competition.

The Student-Athlete Enrichment Programs are housed in Vickery Hall, located in the center of campus. The $3-million structure is as impressive aesthetically as other athletic facilities. It recently underwent $300,000 in renovations to further assist our student-athletes in the classroom. But the importance of Vickery Hall to our student-athletes is not found in the structure itself, it is found in the many programs that the building houses.

It opened in 1991 and was the first stand-alone facility in the country constructed solely to provide academic support to student-athletes. The two-story, 27,000 square-foot building is open all day and into the evening hours to accommodate extended schedules.

Our programs are dedicated to provide 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, athlete, and 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 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 Directors Award of Excellence
- Employs a staff of 16 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 an undergraduate degree or are pursuing an advanced degree

Our 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.

Our Student-Athletes...

- are able to communicate with peers and adults.
- are exposed to the very best in academic support.
- 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.

Clemson’s Top Semester GPAs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rk</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2.53</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>Tommy Bowden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Sitting (left to right): Brian Kisco, Will Shuler, Frank Eskridge, Austin McAdams. Standing: Thomas Beckenhauer, Travis McClam, Dalton Coker, Laura Hoover, Kyle Evans, D.J. Wilhoite, Drew Bradshaw, Jeff Davis, Ben Newport.
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Sitting (left to right): Kristin Wuellner, Anna Wingard, Hanna Waitt, Dallas Wise, Will Wantland, Justin Wingard.
Standing: Chris Hopkins, Russ Clark, Frankie Bennett, West Cox, Caleb Gaston, Clayton Worthy, Josh Vaughan, Matt Berenbrok, Darren Bailey.

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Sitting (left to right): Samantha Tirone, Christi King, Erin Ledford, Cory O'Tuel, Mollie McPhail, Jessica Teague.

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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 12th 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 student-athlete enters the etched-glass doors, he is greeted by nearly $700,000 worth of 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 six full-time strength coaches along with one part-time assistant, three graduate assistants, and numerous student assistant coaches who ensure a Tiger football player receives as much individual attention as possible. Training programs are position specific, as they are designed to meet the specific needs of each student-athlete.

Batson is one of the nation’s most highly-regarded strength coaches. In his 11 years, he has coached 15 strength All-Americans. He is a major reason the football program has been to a bowl game nine of his 11 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>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Jeff Davis</td>
<td>LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Jeff Bryant</td>
<td>DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Lee Nanney</td>
<td>OT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>William Perry</td>
<td>MG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Kenny Flowers</td>
<td>TB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Jim Riggs</td>
<td>TE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Ty Granger</td>
<td>OT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Donnell Woolford, DB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Vince Taylor</td>
<td>LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Levon Kirkland</td>
<td>OL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Brentson Buckner, DT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Stacy Seegers</td>
<td>OG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Nelson Welch</td>
<td>PK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Brian Dawkins</td>
<td>SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Raymond White</td>
<td>MG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Lamont Hall</td>
<td>TE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Jason Gamble</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Damontie McKenzie, DL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Terry Jolly</td>
<td>DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Woodrow Dantler</td>
<td>QB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Nick Eason</td>
<td>DT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>John Leake</td>
<td>LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Leroy Hill</td>
<td>LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Steven Jackson</td>
<td>FB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Dustin Fry</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Anthony Waters</td>
<td>LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cullen Harper</td>
<td>QB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dedication Award

1985  Kenny Flowers, TB
1986  Ty Granger, OT
1987  Mark Drag, MG
1988  Jeff Bak, C
1989  Mark Drag, MG
1990  Levon Kirkland, OL
1991  Arthur Bussie, DT
1992  Warren Smith, DT
1993  Ed Glenn, TE
1994  Ed Glenn, TE
1995  Patrick Sapp, OL
1996  Raymond White, MG
1997  Jason Gamble, C
1998  Jason Gamble, C
1999  Kyle Young, C
2000  Kyle Young, C
2001  Chad Carson, LB
2002  Nick Eason, DT
2003  Nick Eason, DT
2004  Jackie Robinson, WR
2005  Tony Elliott, WR
2006  J.J. Howard, DE
2007  Maurice Lattimore, DE
2008  Steven Jackson, FB
2009  Chip Myrick, OG
2010  Anthony Waters, LB
2011  Charis Stuckey, WR
2012  Anthony Waters, LB
2013  Tyler Glass, WR
2014  Michael Hamlin, S
Left to right: Spencer Lovelace, Rick Franzblau, Marcus Bradley, David Helms, Joey Batson, Larry Greenlee, Dennis Love, Matt Leininger, David Abernethy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clemson Team</th>
<th>Clemson Individual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Offense:</td>
<td>378 by Woodrow Dantzler vs. Florida State, 11/3/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plays:</td>
<td>263 by Raymond Priester vs. Duke, 11/11/66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yards Per Play:</td>
<td>36 by Ray Yaeger vs. Wake Forest, 10/18/69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushing Yards:</td>
<td>372 by Cullen Harper vs. Virginia Tech, 10/6/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushing Attempts:</td>
<td>38 by Cullen Harper vs. Virginia Tech, 10/6/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yard Per Rush:</td>
<td>66 by Cullen Harper vs. Virginia Tech, 10/6/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushing Touchdowns:</td>
<td>94.1 by Woodrow Dantzler vs. The Citadel, 9/2/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Yards:</td>
<td>261.1 by Cullen Harper vs. Central Michigan, 10/20/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completions:</td>
<td>5 by Cullen Harper vs. Louisiana-Monroe, 9/8/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Attempts:</td>
<td>5 by Cullen Harper vs. Central Michigan, 10/20/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Efficiency:</td>
<td>Breakups:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yards:</td>
<td>Return Yards:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Points:</td>
<td>12 by Airese Currie vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/13/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punting Average:</td>
<td>174 by Aaron Kelly vs. Virginia Tech, 10/6/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punt Yards:</td>
<td>3 by Drehr Gaskin vs. Auburn, 11/21/53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kickoff Return Yards:</td>
<td>3 by Tony Horne vs. Texas-El Paso, 10/4/97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interceptions:</td>
<td>267 by Tony Horne vs. Florida State, 9/20/97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tackles:</td>
<td>126 by Donnell Woolford vs. Georgia Tech, 9/26/87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacks:</td>
<td>160 by John Shields vs. Alabama, 10/25/69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tackles For Loss:</td>
<td>3 by Kit Jackson vs. Wake Forest, 10/30/65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fumbles:</td>
<td>3 by Brian Dawkins vs. Duke, 11/19/65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fumbles Lost:</td>
<td>3 by Alex Ardley vs. Maryland, 10/14/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacks By Defense:</td>
<td>24 by Jeff Davis vs. North Carolina, 11/9/80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - triple-overtime game; Note: Clemson first played its home games at Memorial Stadium in 1942.

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Congressional Bowl
Dec. 20 at 11:00 a.m.
Nationals Ballpark
Washington, D.C.
ESPN

Champs Sports Bowl
Dec. 27 at 4:30 p.m.
Florida Citrus Bowl
Orlando, FL
ESPN

Roady's Humanitarian Bowl
Dec. 30 at 4:30 pm
Bronco Stadium
Boise, ID
ESPN

Chick-fil-A Bowl
Dec. 31 at 7:30 p.m.
Georgia Dome
Atlanta, GA
ESPN

FedEx Orange Bowl
Jan. 1 at 8:00 p.m.
Dolphin Stadium
Miami, FL
FOX

Meineke Car Care Bowl
Dec. 27 at 1:00 p.m.
Bank of America Stadium
Charlotte, NC
ESPN

Emerald Bowl
Dec. 27 at 8:00 p.m.
AT&T Park
San Francisco, CA
ESPN

Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl
Dec. 31 at 3:30 p.m.
LP Field
Nashville, TN
ESPN

Konica Minolta Gator Bowl
Jan. 1 at 1:00 p.m.
Jax. Municipal Stadium
Jacksonville, FL
CBS

BCS National Championship Game
Jan. 8 at 8:00 p.m.
Dolphin Stadium
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FOX

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It is hard to believe that the 2008 football season is almost over. Tiger Band first met on August 13 to prepare for the opener on August 30, and it has been an interesting and fulfilling year. Early on we were asked to participate with six other prestigious college bands for a chance to win $25,000 by recording a video of the theme from "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Although we were the smallest school in the group, our faithful Tiger fans helped us to a top-three finish.

Brand new is a state-of-the-art rehearsal tower. Our old tower was dangerous to climb, as it had an exposed ladder straight to the top. The new tower has inside stairs. The lower balcony stands 16 feet and will be used to rehearse music. The upper balcony stands 32 feet, perfect for rehearsing drill formations. Thanks to Keith (77) and Risse Snelgrove, who donated funds.

Today, we honor our Tiger Band seniors for the last four, five, and in one case seven years. These ambassadors for Clemson have dedicated themselves to strive for excellence in service and performance. Their career achievements will be looked upon with envy for years to come, and we wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Tiger Band Scholarship Fund
Help Tiger Band in attracting the best musicians to Clemson by contributing to the Tiger Band Scholarship Fund. Call (864) 656-3380 or visit Virtual.Clemson.edu/Groups/CUTBA for details.

Written by Dr. Mark Speede, Director of Bands
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more Tigers with college experience. McKinney’s sidearm delivery will be an asset out of the bullpen. Thrakkill, who missed the entire 2008 season after suffering a hip injury, has the arm to become a force for Clemson. Freshman righty Kyle Dineen will also compete for innings after red-shirting in 2008.

Seven newcomers were added to the pitching staff in the offseason, including freshman right-handers Kevin Brady and Scot Weismann along with freshman lefty Chris Dwyer, who were all selected in the Major League draft this past June.

Junior righty Tomas Cruz and sophomore righty Alex Frederick are junior college transfers who will provide depth in the bullpen. Also new to the Tigers are freshman righthander David Haselden and freshman lefty Joseph Moorfield.

With the departure of Hogan, the starting catcher spot will be filled by one of three players. Sophomore John Nester showed flashes of power in limited action in 2008. Graduate Adam Ward is a well-versed former walk-on who impressed coaches with one of the team’s top batting averages in the fall. Freshman Phil Pohl, a 440-round draft pick, will also compete for the starting job after exhibiting a strong work ethic during the fall.

Clemson has seven infielders, six of whom have the ability to play any of the non-first-base positions. Graduate Stan Widmann, who has been a starter at shortstop since 2005, has played 193 games (191 starts) and is 39-42 on stolen bases, a success rate of 93 percent, in his career.

Junior Mike Freeman started 50 games at second base in 2008 and led the team with a .322 batting average along with a solid .959 fielding percentage. Like Freeman, senior Matt Sanders is a versatile infielder who was one of the team’s hottest hitters in the latter stages of 2008. Sanders made a team-high 26 starts at third base and hit .404 in his last 14 games of the season. Sophomore John Hinson played 39 games (25 starts) in 2008 and will add depth to a veteran infield.

The coaching staff is excited about freshman infielders Brad Miller and Jason Stolz. Both were selected in the draft and proved during fall practice that they will be factors for the Tigers in 2009.

The leader of the infield is junior first-base-man Ben Paulsen. He hit .310 with 18 doubles, 13 homers, and 49 RBIs in 2008. This past summer, Paulsen was a starter in the Cape Cod League All-Star game and tied for second in the league in home runs. He is rated as the #24 college prospect in the nation for 2009 by Baseball America.

Seven Tigers comprise Clemson’s experienced outfield. Sophomore Kyle Parker, a quarterback on the football team, burst on the scene in 2008 by hitting .303 with a team-high 14 homers and 50 RBIs. Parker also earned first-team freshman All-America and First-Team All-ACC honors.

Junior Wilson Boyd and sophomore Jeff Schaus were starters most of 2008. Boyd, who can play any outfield position, hit .300 with 11 homers, and 44 RBIs while being one of only two Tigers to start all 59 games. Schaus is a line-drive hitter who batted .315 with a .415 on-base percentage thanks to more walks (33) than strikeouts (28) in 2008.

Sophomore Chris Epps along with freshmen Will Lamb and Richard Mounce will also compete in the outfield. Epps had a .406 on-base percentage in 2008. Lamb is the tallest Tiger (6’4”) and Mounce showed his power potential in the fall. Mounce will also back up Paulsen at first base and projects as a dangerous hitter in the future.

After missing the entire 2008 season due to injury, sophomore Addison Johnson is healthy. As a freshman, he was one of the team’s hottest hitters late in 2007. He is a contender to be the team’s leadoff batter and “spark plug.”

The 2009 schedule will certainly challenge Clemson. Fifteen of its 26 non-conference games will be against teams that played in the 2008 NCAA Tournament, including games against South Carolina (4), Charlotte (3), UNC Wilmington (3), and Georgia (2). The top-eight teams in the ACC standings will play in the ACC Tournament at Durham (NC) Bulls Athletic Park from May 20-24.

Brian Hennessy is an Associate Sports Information Director in his eighth year at that position at Clemson. He previously worked as a student/graduate assistant at Clemson for six years.
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www.clemson.edu/solidgreen
By Amanda Wolk

The future of Clemson rowing is bright. With a new facility, new coaches, and a solid foundation to build upon, the Tigers are in a prime position to succeed. Head Coach Richard Ruggieri is in his second season at Clemson, and the program has taken great strides during his brief tenure.

Last season, the Tigers’ Varsity 8+ reached the NCAA Rowing Championships for the first time in the history of the program. Six rowers from that crew return this season, led by Jessica Leidecker, who was a second-team All-American last year. In addition, she was a first-team all-region and All-ACC selection.

Also returning are Megan Bendik and Liz Robb, who were all-region picks in 2008. Robb was named ACC Freshman-of-the-Year after an exceptional rookie season with the Varsity 8+. Hillary Cumby, Brittany Cummings, and Michelle Nance also return with plenty of experience.

The Tigers have an accomplished senior class, led by Bendik and Cumby. Carla Englund, Melanie McDaniel, Caitlin O’Neill, Nicole Rau, and Britanny Robinson also have significant race experience and will look to be big contributors this year. Stefanie Kozuszek, a transfer from Murray State, will also bring a lot of experience to the Tigers.

Eight members from last season’s ACC Championship Novice 8+ boat will move up to the varsity this year. Led by coxswain Victoria Graham, this group will bring a great deal of talent and energy to the Tigers this season.

The Tigers were busy preparing for the upcoming year during the offseason, with over 20 rowers competing throughout the world. Clemson sent five athletes to the Under-23 World Championships, more than any other school in the country. The Women’s 4+, which finished fourth in the world, was comprised of Cumby, Leidecker, Nance, and Robb and was coached by Ruggieri. In addition, 15 Tigers competed at the national level.

Ruggieri welcomed two new members to the coaching staff during the offseason in Andrew Carter and Erin Burton. Carter will serve as the assistant varsity coach and will specialize in small-boat training, biomechanical analysis, rigging, and technique screening. He most recently served as head coach at Bates College, but he also has experience with both Canada’s and New Zealand’s national teams.

“Coach Carter brings a wealth of knowledge, giving our athletes the specific tools necessary for greater success,” said Ruggieri. “This attention will move us closer to an NCAA team bid and an ACC Championship.”

Burton joined the Tiger program as a volunteer assistant coach, and she will assist with the varsity team and introduce sculling to the program. She came to Clemson after a successful stint as both a rower and novice coach at Duke.

“With an incredible work ethic and great listening skills, our rowers will get the best in nutrition, race preparation, and individual goal-setting from Coach Burton,” stated Ruggieri.

After spending last season as an assistant varsity coach, Sarah Donaldson has taken the reigns as the novice coach and recruiting coordinator this season.

“Coach Donaldson’s background as a two-time Olympian along with having a positive outlook and competitive spirit tells me that she is in the perfect position,” added Ruggieri.

Ruggieri, who was named South Region Coach-of-the-Year by CRCA last season, is optimistic about the staff that he has put in place. “We are fortunate to have the finest collection of coaches in the country. When I look at each one, I see a staff that has a shared passion for making Clemson rowing the best in the nation. I also see a staff that brings incredible individual strength. When put together, it makes a powerful statement that ultimately gives our student-athletes the very best we have to offer.”

The Tigers experienced great success during their fall season. For the first time in the history of the program, Clemson traveled outside the country to compete in the Head of the Welland at Ontario, Canada. The Tigers also competed at the Head of the Charles in Boston, MA and finished among the best in the nation. At the Head of the Hooch in Chattanooga, TN, the Tigers won all the sweep events they entered and came away with both the ACC and overall collegiate trophy.

New to the schedule this spring is a trip to the Pac-10 Challenge in Redwood Shores, CA to compete against California, Stanford, and UCLA. The Tigers will also compete in the Virginia Invitational, where they will meet Central Florida and Tennessee. Both the Pac-10 Challenge and Virginia Invitational will provide the Tigers the opportunity to compete against some of the most talented teams in the country.

Clemson will start championship racing at the ACC Championships on April 18. The Tigers will also travel to Oak Ridge, TN to compete in the ARAMARK South/Central Sprints, a regatta where they had much success last season. Selections will be made for the 2009 NCAA Rowing Championships at this regional regatta. The Tigers hope to return to the NCAA Championships, which will be held at Camden, NJ from May 28-31.

After finishing 14th in the nation and receiving a bid to the NCAA Championships last season, expectations are high, but so is the work necessary to achieve it.

“Get faster you need to race the best and grow through the specific challenges of racing,” said Ruggieri. “We will train as well as anyone, but to reach the next level, we need to let real-life racing identify our strengths and weaknesses, and in the process learn and grow as individuals and as a team.”

The Tigers are also excited about the completion of their new training facility. The 11,500-square-foot building includes a 2,000-square-foot training area, 80 individual lockers, an athletic training area, laundry facilities, a reception area, a conference and video room, coaches offices, a kitchen, and a team lounge. The improved facilities should provide a boost for the student-athletes, offering them the opportunity to train in a facility that is modeled after a national team training center.

“By the best!” exclaimed Ruggieri. “Where else can you build a training center just for rowing, a boathouse filled with the finest equipment, a beautiful lake, a six-lane buoyed course, and all on campus? The new training center is amazing.”

With a wealth of resources, the Tiger rowing program has all the tools necessary to increase the speed and depth of its 70-person squad. For Ruggieri, the most important aspect for the team is to improve both on and off the water each and every day.

“It is all about being our best,” continued Ruggieri. “We are competing in an environment where if you stay the same or move slightly backwards, you will fall short. We enjoy being in this position simply because it allows us to reach new heights, and in the process attempt to be our best as students, athletes, and coaches.”

Amanda Wolk, a second-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.
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By Jeff Kallin

Looking at the WestZone today may give a view of exposed concrete, dusty materials, and plenty of hard-hat areas. However, do not mistake these appearances for a lack of progress. When Phase II is completed in May of 2009, the Clemson football team will have access to some of the finest facilities in the nation.

Currently, the WestZone is well into Phase II, and it will provide the football coaches and administration with brand-new offices, a team meeting room, a new weightroom, an expansion of the equipment room, and individual state-of-the-art position rooms.

The coaching staff’s move to the WestZone from the McFadden Building will not only give it one of the most well-appointed working atmospheres in the country, it will also have a positive impact on every other sport at Clemson. Currently, Jervey Athletic Center houses offices for 19 sports as well as much of the athletic administration. The WestZone will help to alleviate some of the crowding and influence all sports through the idea of a “Total Sports Program.”

“When we talk about our ‘Total Sports Program,’ it will help some of our Olympic sports to move into McFadden,” said Senior Associate Athletic Director Bill D’Andrea. “Jervey was built in 1973 with nine sports. Now we have 19, and we are stepping over each other a little bit. This will provide all of the coaches with essential office space.”

In turn, there will be more specialized facilities for the sports that will continue to call Jervey their base of operations. Football will use its own weightroom, allowing other sports more access to all of the equipment. Additionally, many coaches who currently share an office with two or three other assistants will soon be able to call an office their own.

In addition to helping the other sports in their quest to compete for ACC Championships, the WestZone sends a message that is loud and clear to Tiger fans.

“The WestZone exemplifies that as a Clemson supporter, our donors are willing to invest in this program in order for us to continue to be competitive,” explained D’Andrea. “They can take pride in what has been built and the fact that it has created a phenomenal venue. We have a beautiful facility to entertain our contributors and recruits, and the donors can take a lot of pride in having one of the finest football venues in the country.”

The WestZone project will provide several upgrades to the current conveniences offered to potential student-athletes. The WestZone represents a commitment to excellence and communications that Clemson can be a serious contender for the highest-caliber student-athletes.

Clemson has long been a trend-setter for athletic facilities, beginning with the construction of Vickery Hall in 1991. The WestZone is an extension of the dedication that Clemson’s administration has for producing well-rounded student-athletes. The WestZone features a recruiting room, and upon completion, it will be a commanding setting for the coaching staff to make its pitch. Potential student-athletes will be able to see the progress of the program as it strives to meet academic and athletic goals.

“From the student-athlete’s perspective, I think it goes to our philosophy - to give our student-athletes every opportunity to succeed on and off the field,” said D’Andrea. “We do this by putting them in an environment that has good locker rooms and training areas, and are aesthetically pleasing and accommodating. If you talk to prospects, they will look at how your university invests its money. The WestZone puts us in a position to recruit, showcase Clemson, and compete for some of the nation’s best prospects.”

Current student-athletes are key recipients of the benefits of Phase II, as the football program will soon be housed under one roof. The lines of communication among coaches and student-athletes will be promoted to flourish, as the staff becomes more readily accessible. The student-athletes will benefit from a new strength & conditioning room, new position meeting rooms, as well as more accommodating coaches’ offices, all located in one area.

“In the 1980s, Clemson had the best stadium in the conference and one of the better ones in the country with 80,000 seats,” stated D’Andrea. “The West Endzone is long overdue. I believe Clemson needed to improve facilities and celebrate its history. It has demonstrated that we can show our pride though the generous donations that our contributors have made.”

College athletics have taken on a tone of having “facility wars.” However, the WestZone is far more than a bunch of seats at a football stadium. Upon completion of Phase III, it will bring three major Clemson heritages together - academic, military, and athletic - to create a One Clemson Museum, which will feature three floors of history, one dedicated to each of the aforementioned subjects. D’Andrea hopes that the museum will go a long way to tie Clemson together. “I think it embraces the whole University. At many other universities, you just see an athletic museum, but I
think this is a way for us to say that 'we are bigger than athletics, we are a university.' We anticipate that the museum will manifest into a visitor center, where people can see all of our history, so that anyone can see and take a great sense of pride in the tradition of Clemson University."

The WestZone initiative has certainly been one of the more identifiable aspects of IPTAY and the athletic department in recent years. The project has been almost entirely privately financed through donations and gifts, which certainly do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

“We are in a planning phase to recognize all of our WestZone contributors,” said D’Andrea. “Certainly, there will be some distinction based on their level of contribution, but we are going to use the WestZone to formally recognize everyone that has contributed in any form or fashion.”

In all, the WestZone has benefited from generous giving, university support, careful planning, and a desire to make the highest commitment to academic and athletic achievement. The WestZone advances all of Clemson’s programs toward these goals and will continue to symbolize its dedication and insistence on excellence.

Jeff Kalin, a second year graduate student from Medway, MA, is a graduate assistant in the Clemson Sports Information Office.

**WestZone Construction - Phase II**

WestZone Exterior

Coaches’ Offices

Team Meeting Room

Weightroom

Equipment Room

Training Room
A special thanks to our IPTAY Donors for providing the financial support for our student-athletes to compete both academically and athletically as we celebrate the IPTAY 75th Anniversary.
By Sam Blackman

Perhaps one of the biggest fallacies surrounding the Clemson vs. South Carolina football series is that the two teams played every year on Thanksgiving Day. It was called “Big Thursday,” so it must have been played on Thanksgiving Day, right? The answer to that question is “no.” The two teams have met just one time on Thanksgiving Day, and that was in 1963 when the game that was to be played on Saturday, November 23 was postponed to Thanksgiving Day the next week because of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy (which occurred on Friday, November 22).

So what is “Big Thursday?” Actually, the “Big Thursday” event could be defined as the annual meeting between Clemson and South Carolina on the gridiron at the South Carolina State Fair during fair week. The fair is still held on the outskirts of Columbia in the area where Williams-Brice Stadium is located today.

Every year, Clemson would travel to Columbia to play the Gamecocks on the third Thursday of October. Customarily in those days, football games would be played while a fair was being conducted in a large town or municipality. The reason for this was to allow droves of people the opportunity to see college football, as travel was not as easy in the early 1900s. Therefore, it would increase attendance, allowing the schools to earn a larger gate for the contests.

In many ways, the Clemson vs. South Carolina game became an official state holiday. It was common that many businesses and workplaces closed due to the approaching game on Thursday. It also meant a week of reprieve for the cadets at Clemson. In the earlier years, special trains would take the cadets to the state fair and they would camp on the state fairgrounds that week.

It also meant a fashion show for others, as the ladies in attendance would wear the latest styles. Men would wear their Sunday best, as this was the social event of the year for the state. The State newspaper would feature in the next day’s edition who wore what in the latest fashions at the game.

Another tradition surrounding this game was that elected officials, such as the governor and other dignitaries, would sit on the South Carolina side during one half and at halftime, in a non-partisan gesture, move to the Clemson side for the second half. This was a great way to be seen and drum up support for upcoming elections.

About 2,000 people attended the first Clemson vs. South Carolina game in 1896 that was held at the old Elmwood Fairgrounds in Columbia. Admission was 25 cents. For the many people witnessing their first game, The State newspaper ran the following text.

“Football is a gentlemen’s game, rough as it may appear to an outsider. Remember that rain does not stop it...only makes it more amusing.”

It was also announced that the game would begin promptly at 11:00 AM and end before 1:00 PM in order to avoid interfering with the horse races and enable people to return home before dark.

In 1896, about 200 Clemson cadets followed the team to Columbia. During the game, there were intermittent rain showers, and a heavy rain descended after the game. Incredibly, heavy rain did not appear again in this classic until 1944.

South Carolina won the first matchup by a score of 12-6 in 1896. Soon after the first contest, the football game between Clemson and South Carolina took center stage at the State Fair.

Clemson won the next four games by a combined score of 127-6. For reasons unknown, the 1901 game was not played. There was some talk about the game being played on Thanksgiving Day that year, but the plans did not materialize.

In 1902, the Gamecocks claimed a 12-6 win. After the game, there was a near riot between the two student bodies and fans. Order was restored, but the two teams did not meet again until 1909. The Tigers won the 1909 contest and compiled a 9-1-1 record in the series between 1909-19.

South Carolina won five of the next seven games before Clemson’s first All-American, O.K. Pressley, and Head Coach Josh Cody arrived in Tigertown in 1927. The Tigers then won the next four games.

In the 1928 game, Pressley made a one-man goal-line stand in the early stages that was probably never equaled in this rivalry or in any other rivalry. He threw the Gamecock ballcarriers for losses of -8, -7, -5, and -7 yards on four consecutive plays to propel Clemson to a 32-0 victory.

South Carolina won the games in 1931, 1932, and 1933, but the Tigers won the next seven games, the longest streak by one team during the “Big Thursday” era.

In 1946, there were bogus tickets sold and many people watched from the sidelines. Frank Howard said he had to ask people standing in front of him, including a lady with a big hat, what was happening on the field. Statesman and then U.S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, who had the best seat in the house, could not see from where he was seated. He was down on his hands and knees on the sidelines trying to watch the action.

In 1948, the Tigers won on a blocked punt by future Clemson President Phil Prince that helped preserve the Tigers’ undefeated season. Oscar Thompson scooped up the blocked punt and ran the ball in for a touchdown to lead Clemson to a 13-7 triumph. The Tigers would later play in the Gator Bowl on January 1, 1949.

For many years, Clemson wanted to end the “Big Thursday” tradition and play a home-and-home series with South Carolina. Clemson announced that it would enhance Memorial Stadium from 20,654 to 38,000 seats on March 15, 1957. On March 25, 1957, it was announced that Clemson and South Carolina would play in Death Valley on November 12, 1960, ending the 61-year-old state classic known as “Big Thursday.”

On October 22, 1959, the Tigers won the last “Big Thursday” game by defeating South Carolina 27-0. Harvey White led Clemson by completing 8-10 passes for 162 yards and two touchdowns. Tiger fans ripped down the steel goalposts, which were set in concrete, as they celebrated the victory. After the game, Howard went to the top of the stands and blew a big kiss to the stadium,signifying that he was kissing “Big Thursday” goodbye. Clemson “ruled the roost” during the “Big Thursday” era with a record of 33-21-3 in 57 games.

There is no doubt that moving this game has helped Clemson and the surrounding area. Improvements to Memorial Stadium were developed. Two enlargements to the stadium were built, as the West Endzone was built prior to the 1960 season, bringing the seating capacity to 43,000. And with 10,000 general admission seats that were in section GG (green grass), as Howard fondly called the Hill, the stadium could easily accommodate 53,000 fans. It also helped improve the roads around Clemson, as it was reported that one politician pushed to have Highway 123 developed so he could get to Clemson and back to Columbia quicker.

“Big Thursday” may be a day that is long gone from the state of South Carolina’s social calendar. However, it helped develop a rivalry that we still enjoy every fall. This year’s clash will be the 106th renewal of this fall classic, including the 100th consecutive year the game has been played.

Sam Blackman is Clemson’s Senior Associate Sports Information Director and is in his 12nd year at Clemson.
By Tim Bourret

If you look at the current landscape of Division I football at the Football Bowl Subdivision level (known as FBS), few schools have a 2008 senior class that includes the program’s all-time leading receiver (Aaron Kelly), #2 rusher (James Davis), #2 passer in terms of passing efficiency (Cullen Harper), and #3 interceptor (Michael Hamlin).

These four young men, combined with 24 others, have provided Tiger fans with many thrilling moments during the last four years. It started with their first game when Clemson edged #17 Texas A&M by a score of 25-24, a contest that came down to a last-second field goal by Jad Dean. Davis had a big impact in that game with 101 rushing yards in his first game in a Tiger uniform.

That year also saw the Tigers beat #16 Florida State, the eventual ACC champion, by a score of 35-14. Current Clemson seniors Rashad Jackson, Dorell Scott, and Hamlin helped hold #19 South Carolina without a touchdown on the road in a 13-9 Tiger victory. It is the only time that Clemson has beaten a top-20 Gamecock team in Columbia.

The 2005 season ended with a 19-10 victory over Colorado in the Champs Sports Bowl behind 150 rushing yards by Davis, the second-best rushing performance in a bowl game in school history.

The 2006 season saw the Tigers race to a 7-1 record and a top-10 national ranking. Davis, along with C.J. Spiller, keyed a 31-7 win over #13 Georgia Tech that was a landmark day in Clemson history. Davis rushed for 216 yards and Spiller gained 116 yards, and both scored two touchdowns as the Tigers won a battle of top-15 teams. Hamlin helped hold top NFL draft pick Calvin Johnson without a catch for the only time in his Yellow Jacket career.

But what most Clemson seniors and Tiger fans will remember about that day was the buzz on campus surrounding ESPN College Gameday’s appearance for the first time ever. It was electric from 8:00 AM until midnight. The day ended with Davis and Spiller going through the crowd in the east endzone and making their way to the ESPN stage at the top of the Hill. As I guided them through the frenzied crowd with the help of security, I remember telling Davis he would remember it for the rest of his life.

The 2007 season got off to a great start with a win on national television over #19 Florida State in what proved to be the final Bowden Bowl. Davis had another standout day and Harper made his debut as the starting quarterback, leading Clemson to victory. He became the first starting quarterback in Tiger history to beat a top-20 team in his debut.

The regular season ended with a 23-21 win at South Carolina. Nelson Faerber had the game of his life with a blocked punt and his second career touchdown, as he came off the bench for injured classmate Tyler Grisham, who will end his career in the top 11 in school history in career receptions.

Harper led the Tigers on the game-winning drive by completing four passes for 70 yards to Kelly. Current senior Mark Buchholz then nailed a 35-yard field goal with no time remaining on the clock to give Clemson the dramatic victory.

After winning at least eight games in each of the last three years, the 2008 season has not been as successful on the field by comparison. A victory this afternoon would qualify the Tigers for a bowl game and still give this group of seniors a chance for a fourth-straight eight-win season, something that has not been done by a Clemson senior class since 1991.

But in terms of character-building, it has been a rewarding season for this class. In fact, you could make a case that it is the most successful class in school history when it comes to character.

It has been a season of disruption, no doubt. For the first time since 1926, a Clemson head coach stepped down during the season. The changes were swift and significant, and Clemson’s players had to deal with many distractions.

Dabo Swinney has done an outstanding job in managing the situation, and his “All-in” theme has held the team together to the point where they have a chance to go to a bowl game with a victory today. The team’s 3-1 record in the second half of the ACC schedule could tie for the best in the ACC.

The 2008 seniors should receive just as much credit as Swinney because seniors are always the core of a team, the fiber that gives the team direction. All 28 have had a major impact in keeping the ship afloat.

It does not surprise me at all. This senior class is full of high-character guys. Today, tight end Akeem Robinson will tie the school record for games played, as this will be his 50th appearance. He already has one degree and is on track for another. If you noticed the Tiger sideline to see the celebration that took place after he made his first career catch against Duke, you would understand the level of respect he has from his teammates.

Jimmy Maners has a 3.88 career GPA and is the first Tiger griddler to be inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. Grisham spent his 2008 spring break working at a Mexican orphanage to help construct a school house for children.

Of the 28 seniors on the roster, seven already have degrees and the other 21 should graduate by next August at the latest. Most of the time in my 31 years, I have seen a direct correlation between graduation rate and character rate.

So, as this class comes to the top of the Hill and is introduced one-by-one for the last time, stand and cheer. They deserve it.

Tim Bourret is Clemson’s Sports Information Director and is in his 31st year at Clemson.
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