

LSU FOOTBALL POSTGAME NOTES

LSU vs. #10/11 Auburn

Oct. 14, 2017—Tiger Stadium (Baton Rouge, La.)

1. The LSU Captains were C/OG **Will Clapp**, WR **Russell Gage**, DE **Christian LaCouture** and DE **Rashard Lawrence**.
2. LSU won the coin toss and deferred to the second half. LSU kicked off and defended the north end zone.
3. The temperature was 90 degrees at kickoff, marking the first October game in Tiger Stadium with a kickoff temperature in the 90s. This dates back to 1965 when weather records were first kept in the box score.
 - a. It is the second October game involving LSU since the 1965 season to kick off with the temperature in the 90s. The first was on Oct. 2, 1965 at Florida.
 - b. This is the 11th game in Tiger Stadium with a kickoff temperature in the 90s. LSU is now 9-2 in such contests.
4. LSU's official attendance for today's contest was 101,601, which is now No. 15 in Tiger Stadium attendances. It surpassed the Kentucky contest on Oct. 18, 2014, which had an attendance of 101,581.
5. In 53 contests against Auburn, LSU now holds a 29-22-1 lead in the series.
6. LSU head coach Ed Orgeron improved to 11-4 at the helm.
 - a. With the win, Head Coach Ed Orgeron improves to 1-3 versus Auburn.
7. **The 20-point comeback is LSU's comeback versus a SEC opponent in Tiger Stadium history.** Today, LSU trailed Auburn, 20-0, with 12:50 left in the second quarter.
 - a. The previous high was 16 points on Oct. 20, 1979, against Kentucky. LSU trailed the Wildcats, 19-3, with 6:39 left in the third quarter.
 - b. It was the second-largest comeback against all SEC opponents. The largest was a 21-0 deficit against Ole Miss in Jackson on Nov. 29, 1977. LSU won that game 28-21.
8. The home team in the LSU-Auburn series has now won 16 of the last 18 meetings dating back to 2000 when Auburn beat LSU 34-17 in Jordan-Hare Stadium.
9. This marks the ninth-straight contest that LSU has defeated Auburn in Tiger Stadium, dating back to 1999.
10. The Tigers are now 35-26-3 in day games in Tiger Stadium and are 1-0 in the 2017 season.
11. For the second time since 2013, LSU is 2-0 when appearing on CBS in back-to-back weeks. The Tigers defeated Florida and Auburn in the 2:30 p.m. CT slot so far in 2017.
 - a. In 2013, LSU defeated Texas A&M and Arkansas in consecutive contests.
12. The Tigers have won 11 consecutive games during the month of October, a streak that dates back to the 2014 season. Eight of the 11 have come against SEC opponents.
13. LSU has now won 20-straight games in Tiger Stadium played during the month of October. LSU last lost a home October game on Oct. 10, 2009, against No. 1 ranked Florida, 13-3.
14. Dating back to the start of last year's Alabama game, LSU's defense, under the direction of **Dave Aranda**, has limited opponents to only seven touchdowns in the first half of the final five games of the season through week seven of 2017.
 - a. Arkansas, Texas A&M, Mississippi State, Troy and Auburn are the only teams to score first half touchdowns against LSU.
15. The Tigers had two players make their first start in S **Eric Monroe** and OL **Adrian Magee**. LSU has had 21 first-time starters in 2017.
16. Three Tigers recorded either his first career defensive snap, rushing touchdown or pass attempt.
 - a. Defensive snap: S **JaCoby Stevens**
 - b. Rushing touchdown: WR **Stephan Sullivan**
 - c. Pass attempt: WR **Russell Gage**
 - i. Gage's pass was the first by a non-quarterback since holder Josh Growden's incomplete pass on a fake field goal against Florida on Nov. 19, 2016.

Individual

Offense

1. QB **Danny Etling** finished the afternoon 13-of-24 with 206 yards and one touchdown.
 - a. Etling had four passes for more than 25 yards—all to WR **DJ Chark**. He made passes of 29, 37, 31 and 29 yards.
 - b. LSU improves to 12-5 with Etling as the starting quarterback. He is just 576 yards from entering LSU's top-10 career passing yards list.
2. WR **Russell Gage** was one of the Tigers' leading rushers as he recorded 71 yards on two attempts with a long rush of 70 yards.
 - a. With 11:30 left in the first half on 1st-and-10 from the LSU 23-yard line, Gage unleashed a career-long 70-yard rush to put LSU at 1st-and-Goal on the Auburn seven-yard line, setting up an LSU touchdown four plays later.

- b. The senior scored his second touchdown of the day and second receiving touchdown of his career after connecting with QB **Danny Etling** for a 14-yard grab with 0:32 left in the first half, cutting the Auburn lead to 23-14.
- 3. WR **DJ Chark** set career highs with five catches and 150 receiving yards. He previously had 105 receiving yards against Troy and had four catches against Troy and BYU.
 - a. For the second time this season, Chark returned a punt for a touchdown. This time, he carried it for a career-long 75 yards into the end zone to make it 23-21 with 14:33 left in the fourth quarter.
 - i. He is the first player to record two punt returns for a touchdown since Odell Beckham Jr. in 2012.
 - ii. The senior set a career high in punt return yards with 83 yards, breaking his career-high yards against Chattanooga, where he recorded his first punt return for a touchdown.
 - b. Chark had 233 all-purpose yards, marking the most all-purpose yards by a Tiger this season.
 - i. He broke his own LSU superlative, which was 176 yards versus Chattanooga.
- 4. WR **Stephan Sullivan** had one carry for 1-yard and a touchdown.
 - a. The sophomore recorded his first rushing touchdown of his career with 9:19 left in the second quarter with a one-yard run, cutting the LSU deficit to 20-7 after the extra point by PK **Connor Culp**.
- 5. RB **Derrius Guice** finished the evening with 71 yards on 20 attempts.
 - a. He entered the top-10 career rushers list and now sits at No. 9 with 2,258 yards in 30 games, surpassing Rondell Mealey (2,238) and Garry James (2,217).

Defense

- 1. For the fifth-straight game, LB **Devin White** has recorded double-digit tackles. He finished the game with a career-high 15 tackles, one sack, two tackles for loss and one quarterback hit. He has been the Tigers' leading tackler in six games.
 - a. White's previous best was 13 tackles, which he recorded against Syracuse and at Florida.
 - b. With 15:00 left in the third quarter on the Auburn 36, White sacked Jarrett Stidham for a loss of one yard.
- 2. LB **Arden Key** sacked Auburn quarterback Jarrett Stidham for a loss of two yards for his first sack of the year and to secure the LSU win.
 - a. It was his first sack of the season, and he now owns 18.5 career sacks and is now tied with Tyson Jackson for No. 9 on LSU's all-time career sacks rankings.
- 3. S **Grant Delpit** notched eight tackles—six solo—1.5 tackles for loss and two pass breakups.
 - a. The eight tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss were both career-highs.
- 4. NT **Greg Gilmore** and DE **Christian LaCouture** each finished the day with seven tackles.
 - a. Gilmore also had 1.5 tackles for loss and one sack. He sacked Stidham for a loss on one yard on 2nd-and-12 to the AU44 in the first quarter.
- 5. DE **Frank Herron** saw his first action of the season on the third defensive series of the game.

Special Teams

- 1. PK **Connor Culp** was 2-of-2 on field goal attempts and 3-for-3 on extra points.
 - a. The redshirt freshman connected on a 42-yard field goal with 2:36 left in the game to give LSU the 24-23 edge.
 - b. With 0:38 left in the game, Culp made his second field goal of the game, a 36-yarder, as LSU grabbed the 27-23 lead.
- 2. P **Zach Von Rosenberg** had five punts for a career high 215 yards and a long of 49 yards. He averaged 43.0 yards per punt and had one punt inside of the 20-yard line.
- 3. P **Josh Growden** punted twice for 63 yards, averaging 31.5 yards per punt. He had a long punt of 33 yards and pinned Auburn inside of their 20-yard line twice.