For years outsiders viewed the LSU football program as an unpolished gem, a potential giant in the college football world waiting to be reborn. With the wealth of resources at LSU, its tradition and the available talent within the state of Louisiana, all the program needed was the right leader to guide it.

Entering his fourth year, Nick Saban, is that leader.

A man of vision and a leader for the future, Saban has restored LSU’s proud tradition and brought the Tigers back to elite of college football in his three years. During his tenure, Saban has guide the Tigers to 26 victories, including Peach and Sugar Bowl wins and the SEC Championship.

With his ability to identify and develop talent, relate to his players and staff while managing an elite program, it is safe to say that Nick Saban has made this a great time to be a part of LSU football.

“LSU has a great product. In any successful organization, you have to have a great product, you have to know what the competition is and you have to have togetherness,” says Saban. “Everybody has to have a common goal and we all have to work towards that common goal. That’s the way I’ve been successful in other endeavors.”

Saban came to LSU from Michigan State where he rebuilt the Spartans into a top-10 power. Prior to his days at Michigan State, Saban spent four seasons as defensive coordinator of the Cleveland Browns. He turned the Browns’ defense from the worst in the NFL in points allowed the year before his arrival into a defense that allowed the fewest points in the league in his final year in 1994.

With the nation’s best recruiting class added to the already highly successful Tigers, Saban will continue to build upon his success and continue to design his program around the fundamentals that have made him a success at every level of the sport.
THE TOTAL PROGRAM

Saban built his reputation on defense as an assistant coach. As a head coach he has shown the ability to put together a total program. Being competitive on the field and stressing discipline and responsibility off the field, Saban’s teams have proven to be consistent winners, while graduating student-athletes at the same time.

EDUCATION FIRST

Saban is a communicator who gets the best out of his players, a coach who can guarantee that a player willing to dedicate himself to the program will maximize his talents.

“I’m a player’s coach. I have a tremendous amount of respect for the players in college football and the game. We care about the players first of all as people and I want them to be better people for having been a part of this program. They’re here to get an education first. I want every player to work to reach his full potential as a player and as a competitor. I expect our players to commit to a standard of excellence that is very high.”

TEAM OWNERSHIP

The keys to Saban’s success are founded on aggressive and disciplined leadership and a philosophy of personal responsibility both on the football field and in the classroom.

“One thing that I expect our players to do is to take ownership of their team. This is the players’ team. I’m the coach. I want the players to take some responsibility and ownership for all the areas that are important in building this program.”

THE SABAN MISSION

1. To help make you a better person for having been a part of the LSU football program.
2. To help you become a successful student-athlete and earn your degree.
3. To help you reach your full athletic potential and to have the opportunity to win a championship.
4. To help launch your career so that when you leave LSU you can have the best opportunities in life.
Critical to the development of an athlete as a student is an adequate academic facility and capable staff to further the athlete’s progress. The Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes is responsible for overseeing the educational development and progress toward graduation for all student-athletes. The staff acts as a liaison between the student-athlete and the academic communities and insures that student-athletes comply with academic rules established by the University, NCAA and Southeastern Conference. The staff also coordinates academic programs designed to assist student-athletes in acquiring a quality education.

**Academic Staff**

Dr. Roger Grooters  
Executive Director

Jim Rost  
Associate Director

Tommy Powell  
Tutorial Coordinator

Gwendolyn Clark  
Learning Specialist

Ted White  
Sr. Associate Director

**The Goal**
For each student-athlete to reach and receive the highest-quality education and degree.

**The Responsibility**
To oversee the educational development and progress toward graduation for all student-athletes.

- Tutoring
- Career Counseling and Development
- Time Management
- Study Skills
- Insure that student-athletes comply with academic rules established by the University, NCAA and SEC
2002 SEC Academic Honor Roll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Major</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Burnham (RB)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ross Cockrell (P)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Courtenay (C)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trev Faulk (LB)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randall Gay (DB)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Hunt (S)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Hurley (FB)</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Undeclared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donnie Jones (P)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kris Kessler (PK)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Zoology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Kipps (DE)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Lewis (PK)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Mauck (DB)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Miles (P)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>ISDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudy Niswanger (OL)</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Undeclared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan O’Neal (FB)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodney Reed (OL)</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Shealy (CB)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendell York (SNP)</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LSU graduates under Saban

Kareem Mitchell, Louis Williams, Muskingum Barnes, John Compton, Joe Domingeaux, Jason Green, Kyle Kipps, Michael Lillie, Robert Royal, Oliver Smith, Charles Thomas, Roger Williams, Trev Faulk, Jarvis Green, Kris Kessler, Ryan Miles, Walter Moreham, Tony Vastola, Wendell York, John Young, Bob Wynne, Jerel Myers, Chad Lewis, Solomon Lee, Tammy Banks, Jeremy Shealy, Willie Harvey, Joe Wesley, Rodney Reed, Bradie James, Elice Parker, Jimmy Courtenay, Marcus Whitty, Alonzo Diodene.
Paramount to the success of the “student” half of the term student-athlete is providing LSU athletes with the best possible resources to excel in the classroom. For more than 20 years, the LSU Academic Center for Student-Athletes has helped to build well-rounded student-athletes. But as times change and technology advances, the need for further improvements still exists. As a result, the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes opened its doors in November of 2002. A $15 million renovation to the Gym Armory not only made it among the nation’s premier centers, but put it at the forefront. Improvements to the existing center give LSU student-athletes the best opportunity for success by providing access to the latest technology, as well as an array of expanded services.

The Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes

- includes 54,000 square feet of working space
- includes 75 computer stations
- includes 14 private computer rooms in a state-of-the-art computer lab
- includes additional study rooms and classrooms for private or group study
- includes additional study areas for specialized learning
- includes a 1,000-seat auditorium

The improvements to the Gym Armory not only benefit the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes, but the entire University as well. The old gymnasium was transformed into a 1,000-seat auditorium the University will use for daily classes, presentations, lectures by distinguished University guests and other special academic events.

The 1,000-seat auditorium is used through the year as a classroom and lecture hall. Each seat in the auditorium has space for a laptop and a modem hookup, providing each student unlimited learning opportunities. The auditorium also contains a movie theatre size screen to aid professors with lectures and classroom activities.

The library provides a perfect setting for individual study, or with a tutor as group.

Included in the 54,000 square feet of the Academic Center are individual study areas as well as 14 private computer rooms for student-athletes to work one-on-one with tutors or by themselves.

Throughout the Academic Center are 75 computer stations, providing student-athletes with a quiet working environment for research, writing and studying.
The biggest thing that Dr. Karam did for me in helping me prepare for the combine and the NFL draft was the type of training environment he put me in. All of the things that Dr. Karam worked with me on and talked to me about were part of the combine and the draft process. When I showed up for the combine and went through the interview process with team owners and coaches, it was like I had already done this before. His preparation put me at ease in what could have been a very difficult and stressful situation. I’m very thankful for all that he did for me.

—Jarvis Green, current member of the New England Patriots

Along with the success of the LSU Football team, comes a great deal of media attention and Dr. Tommy Karam, the Director of the Communications Lab, uses his lab, located on the fourth floor of the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student Athletes, to work with LSU student-athletes on their interactions with the media and interview skills. Karam’s lab is a mock press conference setting to get the student-athletes used to handling themselves in front of both print and electronic media. He video tapes the mock interview session and reviews it with the student-athlete to help them become more comfortable in an interview setting. Karam also helps the LSU Football players get prepared for the NFL Combine by working closely with those players on the interview process.
Louisiana State University
founded 1860

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College has, throughout its 143-year history, served the people of Louisiana, the region, the nation, and the world through extensive multipurpose programs encompassing instruction, research and public service. The University continuously develops programs of breadth and quality that make it one of the nation’s outstanding educational institutions.

The University influences the educational, economic, social and cultural lives of its citizens throughout the state – indeed, in some way, it touches the life of every person in Louisiana.

Because of its designation as a Research I University – the top category of the Carnegie Foundation’s ranking of research institutions – LSU ranks in the top 2 percent of the nation’s colleges and universities. The Research I designation is shared by only 59 public and 29 private universities across the nation. One of only 25 universities nationwide designated as both a land-grant and sea-grant college, LSU is also actively pursuing space-grant status.

History and tradition began with LSU’s founding in 1853 by the General Assembly of Louisiana as the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy near Pineville, Louisiana. The institution opened January 2, 1860. When the Civil War began, the school’s first superintendent, William Tecumseh Sherman, resigned to assume a command in the Union Army. Fire demolished the Seminary in 1869 and the school moved to Baton Rouge.

In 1870, the Seminary was renamed Louisiana State University. In 1874, under the United States Morrill Act, the Louisiana State Agricultural & Mechanical College was established in New Orleans. The two institutions were merged by the Legislature in 1877 to become Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College.

Construction on the present campus began in 1922 and the first classes were held in 1926. LSU experienced major growth in the 1930s and 1940s, expanding its student body, curricula and services. During the 1960s, the University began to place...
increasing emphasis on research.

Recognizing the importance and extent of statewide agricultural activities of units in the LSU System, the LSU Board of Supervisors in 1972 established the Center for Agricultural Sciences & Rural Development. This unit was renamed the LSU Agricultural Center in 1982.

Components of the LSU Agricultural Center include the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, International Programs and Administrative Services.

The primary mission of the LSU Agricultural Center is to conduct research in agricultural and natural resource development and to provide off-campus extension education that disseminates technological, economic, and management information to Louisiana residents.

In 1977, the Paul M. Hebert Law Center, established as the LSU Law School in 1906, was made an autonomous division of the LSU System. The Law Center provides legal education characterized by an unyielding demand for academic excellence. Its unique curriculum, based on civil law as well as substantial elements of common law, provides law graduates with qualifications and training for not one, but two legal systems.

LSU, located on more than 2,000 acres in the southern part of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River. The University’s more than 250 principal buildings are grouped on a 650-acre plateau that constitutes the main part of the campus.

LSU and A&M College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Hebert Law Center holds membership in the Association of Law Schools and is on the approved list of the American Bar Association.

| LOCATION: Baton Rouge, La. |
| FOUNDED: January 2, 1860 |
| ENROLLMENT: 31,582 |
| PRESIDENT: Dr. William Jenkins |
| CHANCELLOR: Dr. Mark Emmert |
| MAJOR FIELDS OF BACHELOR’S DEGREES: 73 |
| MAJOR FIELDS OF MASTER’S DEGREES: 75 |
| MAJOR FIELDS OF DOCTORAL DEGREES: 55 |
**THE TIGERS’ HOME AWAY FROM HOME**

LSU has 18 residence halls with architectural styles ranging from a Renaissance style typical of the older core of the campus to modern high-rise buildings. Below is the newest addition, the highly popular East Campus and West Campus apartments, a co-ed dormitory that includes furnished rooms with connecting suites and e-mail workstations in the lobby, all within a short walk from the dining hall.

- **Dining Halls**
- **Weekly Housekeeping**
- **Cable Television**
- **High-Speed Internet**
- **Mail Service**
- **Card Access**
- **Facility Repairs**
- **Security**
- **Telephone Services**
- **Furnished**
- **Washer/Dryer**
- **Microwave**

“It was really quite an honor to be able to play for LSU. Being from Lockport, everybody down there is a big LSU fan. Once I graduated from high school and had to make the decision where I was going to play, LSU was the obvious choice because I had grown up an LSU fan and it was a place where my family could watch me play. LSU really helped me grow both as a player and a person. I have nothing but fond memories of the place.”

- **Tommy Hodson**, Former All-SEC Quarterback (1986-89)
Campus Life

The African-American Cultural Center

The African-American Cultural Center provides a multifaceted approach to working with all students at LSU. It offers opportunities for people to learn about the contributions of African-American men and women in the areas of literature, science and the humanities. In addition, opportunities for the University community to have greater exposure to art exhibits, dance troupes, theatre, poetry readings and educational programs are provided.

PROGRAM GOALS

Educational programs for the African-American Cultural Center are the heart of the center. The scope of these programs fall into the following four categories:

- historical/political
- artistic
- informal student advising
- community outreach

BENEFITS

By creating and funding the African-American Cultural Center, the University community benefits in the following areas:

- retention of African-American LSU students
- attract qualified African-American student applicants to LSU
- educate the student body and the community about African-American culture
- increase racial and cultural awareness of students, faculty and staff
- assist with the recruitment and retention of African-American faculty and staff

Fall Fest, is the university’s official “Welcome” for new students, staff, and faculty. More than 25,000 students, faculty, and staff come together in the LSU Quadrangle making it one of the newest and most anticipated traditions.

“As far back as I can remember (riding bicycles, playing little league baseball), I have literally bled purple & gold. It never crossed my mind that there was anywhere else to go other than LSU. The experiences and relationships that I developed at LSU have been an integral part of my life. No other colleges existed in my mind. I am fortunate to have attended a place that I considered a dream and look forward to my association with the university until the day I die.”

- David Toms, 2001 PGA Champion and LSU graduate

“It was about family for me. My dad, my brother and I all played for LSU. It was a family tradition. Playing in a community where its basically all LSU was probably the most rewarding experience to me. The fact that I was from the area, went to school in the area and now live in the area, it allows me to attend all the events and keep in touch with so many friends.

- Todd Kinchen, Former LSU Wide Receiver (1989-91)

“It was a tremendous experience. Even though I was there during a tough period it made me a better person. When you go through adversity you develop great friendships that last forever. Recently I got together with some former teammates to watch videos from when we played. He took a few videos of some road trips we had and it was really great to bring back so many memories. There is a real fellowship that makes this program so special.”

- David Walkup, Linebacker (1989-92)
Giving Back

What is CHAMPS?
The CHAMPS/Life Skills program was developed by the NCAA to help prepare student-athletes for the challenges of life beyond the playing field. Through workshops, service projects, and social events, CHAMPS, an acronym for Challenging Athletes Minds for Personal Success, brings LSU student-athletes information that will prepare them for the biggest game of all - the game of life!

How can CHAMPS help?
By focusing on "real life" skills and personal development, the CHAMPS Program not only assists the student-athletes with meeting daily challenges, but also enhances student-athlete’s growth in their college years and beyond.

CHAMPS at LSU
The CHAMPS/Life Skills program at LSU is operated out of the Academic Center for Athletes, and the focus of the program is on five commitments viewed as critical to personal growth:

I. Academic Excellence
II. Athletic Excellence
III. Career Development
IV. Personal Development
V. Community Service
Being a part of the LSU football program involves more than simply playing in front of more than 90,000 crazed Tiger fans of Saturdays in the fall. LSU football provides an opportunity to achieve athletic success while also getting a head start on the most important game of all - the game of life.

The LSU football program has a long-standing internal summer jobs program that aggressively seeks opportunities to help place its players in career-developing positions within the community. Every LSU football player that wants to get a leg up on their future has the opportunity to work during the summer with the goal to help players earn valuable experience.

LSU football players are expected to be extremely active in utilizing the career development resources readily available to them.

Jarvis Green, a fourth round pick by the New England Patriots in 2002, majored in construction management. He spent the summer before his senior season gaining valuable experience working for Shaw Construction in Baton Rouge.
The City of Baton Rouge

BATON ROUGE FACTS
Population:
BATON ROUGE ........................................... 227,818
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH ............ 421,852

Average Temperatures:
HIGH .......................................................... 81.3
LOW ............................................................. 52.5
AVERAGE .................................................... 67.5

Time Zone: ................................................. Central
Hospitality and comfort are a Southern tradition practiced to perfection around Baton Rouge. Minutes from the city, ancient moss-draped oaks, fragrant honeysuckle, formal gardens and the finest examples of Southern architecture await. Combine this with the excitement of the mighty Mississippi River, cajun music and a gourmet meal that is topped with freshly brewed cafe-au-lait at one of Baton Rouge’s fine restaurants. Mix in an autumn Saturday evening at Tiger Stadium, and Baton Rouge becomes one of the most attractive cities for living, entertainment and education in the South.

- The State Capitol building, located in downtown Baton Rouge, is the tallest state capitol in the nation at 34 stories tall.

- Baton Rouge, the capital city of Louisiana, sits on the banks of the Mississippi River.

- The average annual temperature in Baton Rouge is 68 degrees and the city features a semi-tropical climate highlighted by mild winter months.

- Baton Rouge is just an hour away from the French Quarter in New Orleans and even closer to the million-acre Atchafalaya Swamp, which is called one of the biggest fishing ponds in the country.

The state capitol building of Louisiana, located in Baton Rouge, is the tallest capitol building in the nation at 34 stories.

DISTANCE CHART FROM BATON ROUGE (BASED ON 70 MPH SPEED):

- Atlanta, Ga. ........................................... 7 hours
- Biloxi, Miss. ........................................... 2 hours
- Birmingham, Ala. .................................... 6 hours
- Dallas, Texas ........................................... 6 1/2 hours
- Houston, Texas ........................................ 4 hours
- Jackson, Miss. ......................................... 2 2/5 hours
- Jacksonville, Fla. ..................................... 8 2/5 hours
- Little Rock, Ark. ....................................... 5 hours
- Mobile, Ala. ............................................ 3 hours
- Monroe, La. ............................................ 2 2/5 hours
- New Orleans, La. .................................... 1 hour
- Orlando, Fla. .......................................... 10 hours
- Pensacola, Fla. ........................................ 4 hours
- Shreveport, La. ........................................ 4 hours
Louisiana, one of America’s most culturally and geographically diverse states, is located in the heart of the Deep South. Adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico and dotted with hundreds of lakes and bayous, Louisiana is home to all types of terrain from swamps and marshes to lush forests and gentle hills. The state is known for its charm and friendly people, and still maintains the stately antebellum plantations and majestic oaks of its early days. The atmosphere is elegant, yet relaxed and casual. Dubbed the “Sportsman’s Paradise,” Louisiana offers some of the finest hunting, fishing and boating opportunities in the country.

- Oak Alley Plantation, built in 1839, is situated between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. The site of many movies, the quarter-mile canopy of giant live oak trees, believed to be 300 years old, is a spectacular site.

- Foods like boiled crawfish, jambalaya, shrimp etouffee, and gumbo make the cajun and creole cuisine of Louisiana the envy of the nation.

- Last year, an estimated 23.5 million U.S. resident visitors came to Louisiana.

- Louisiana is home to Mardi Gras, New Orleans Jazz, Creole culture, stately riverboats and some of the finest cuisine in the world.

The State of Louisiana

LOUISIANA FACTS

NICKNAME: The Pelican State
ADMITTED TO UNION: April 30, 1812
STATE COLORS: Gold, white and blue
STATE BIRD: Brown Pelican
STATE DOG: Catahoula Leopard Dog
STATE TREE: Bald Cypress
STATE FLOWER: Magnolia
CLIMATE: Subtropical

The East Brown Pelican is Louisiana’s State Bird.
The State of Louisiana

Situated on the banks of the mighty Mississippi River, the New Orleans skyline is one of the most recognizable in America. The city is a thriving metropolitan area that still maintains the traditional charm of a time long gone.

LOUISIANA LAGNIAPPE

ATCHAFALAYA: \a-chaff-a-LIE-a\ n. Louisiana’s famed undeveloped wetland.

BEIGNET: \ben-YAY\ n. A tasty French doughnut without the hole.

BOUDIN: \BOO-dan\ n. Hot, spicy pork mixed with onions, cooked rice and herbs and stuffed in sausage casing.

ETOUFFE: \ay-too-FAY\ n. Crawfish or shrimp in a delightfully spicy red sauce.

GUMBO: \GUM-boe\ n. A delicacy of South Louisiana. A thick, robust soup with thousands of variations, only a few of which are Shrimp Gumbo, Chicken Gumbo, and File’ Gumbo.

KREWE: \crew\ n. An organization that puts on Mardi Gras balls and parades.

LAGNIAPPE: \LAHN-yap\ n. A little something extra.

PO-BOY: - n. A sandwich extravaganza of either shrimp, oyster, roast beef, etc., that’s served on a crispy-crusted loaf bread called French Bread.

VIEUX CARRE’: \vyuh-kah-RAY\ n. The French name for the French Quarter meaning “Old Square.”