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VOLUME 7 • ISSUE #24

THE BLITZ

JULY, 2018

WHO IS THE GREATEST COACH OF ALL-TIME?

By Jim Gumm Owner / Editor of THE BLITZ

After Nick Saban won his 6th National Championship this past college football season, the debate began again. Is Nick Saban the greatest head coach in college football history? Is Nick Saban the greatest football coach, regardless of classification? Is he the best football coach, period? Obviously, it's up for debate and it IS an opinion. What I believe is probably not what you believe. There is simply no way to definitively say that any one person is the greatest. Same with basketball coaches and baseball managers. Is John Wooden or Mike Krzyzewski better than Phil Jackson or Red Auerbach? Is Joe McCarthy a better manager than Casey Stengel or John McGraw?

Heck, there are some that will argue that Larry Kehres (who was the head coach at Division III Mount Union in Ohio) is the greatest football coach of all-time. His record is absolutely amazing. From 1986 until 2012 His teams won 332 games and lost just 24 in 27 season. Think of if like this, if a coach averaged 12-1 for 27 years, he would end up with a 324-27 record which means he would be 8 wins short and would lose 3 more games than Kehres did in his career. Did I mention that Mount Union played in the Division III Title Game 16 times and he came away with the National Championship 11 times? Of his 24 losses, half of those occurred in the Division III Playoffs. His record of 332-24-3 .929 is the highest winning percentage, by far, of any college football coach in history. From 1995 until he retired following the 2012 season, Larry Kehres remarkably went 248-9-0 .965. He went 179-1-0 .994 during the regular season in those final 18 seasons including 161-1 vs conference foes. He went 69-8 .896 in the Division III Playoffs winning 10 titles in those final 18 years. So Larry Kehres is the leader in the clubhouse in national championships and winning percentage.

As we all know, the NFL is the ultimate football league. The best players are in the NFL. Teams don't recruit players like they do in college. They draft them in reverse order from the previous season's won-loss records. The NFL model is for teams and franchises not have sustainable success or prolonged failure so what Bill Belichick has done in New England is the most amazing coaching job that I have witnessed. Think of this, in college football, the power programs play 7-8 home games every season and only 4 to 5 road games each season. In the NFL, every franchise plays 8 home and 8 away games each season. There is no built in advantage as far as scheduling in the NFL like there is in college. In college a school plays their conference schedule but they get to choose who they play in the non-conference portion of their schedule. In the NFL, a franchise has no say on who or where they play. The NFL would love it if every team was between 9-7 & 7-9 at the end of the regular season.

Can we even consider any coach at the college level as the greatest football coach of all-time? Some would argue that it would be like selecting the greatest Minor League Baseball manager as the best of all-time over the men who managed in the Major Leagues. He did not accomplish his record at the highest level. There are many who would never consider Larry Kehres as the greatest college football coach because Division III is a huge step down from Division I FBS. The same holds true for those who say Division I FBS is a huge step down from the NFL. Like we said earlier, this is an opinion and everyone will create their own criteria as to how they want to determine the greatest football coach of all-time.

In my opinion, you can not compare coaches from the NFL to college and you can not compare coaches from Division III to coaches at the NCAA FBS level. Heck, I'm not sure you can compare coaches from one era to coaches from another era. Is Knute Rockne greater than Tom Osborne or Steve Spurrier? Football was so different then, than it is now. What Rockne did was superb and we will not tarnish it like so many in the media love to do. Rockne coached the players that were available to him under the rules that were set-in-place at that time. Nobody will ever know how a coach from that era would have fared these days using the rules currently in place. That is simply speculation and guessing. All we can do is compare how Rockne did vs those he

coached against at that time.

That's like bashing Babe Ruth because he didn't face the relievers that baseball utilizes today or that he only competed against Caucasian players when he played. It's not Babe Ruth's fault so we wouldn't hold it against him, just like we would not hold it against Rockne if the players were smaller and they were not as athletic as they are now. Back then you could argue that the best athletes played baseball and not football.

In this issue of THE BLITZ we're going to list the all-time won-loss records of several all-time great coaches plus some of the current great head coaches. We will point out certain aspects of his won-loss record and let you decide who the greatest head coach of all-time was and is.

As for the greatest coach who did it at the highest level in college football? Bear Bryant, Nick Saban, Knute Rockne, Urban Meyer, Bobby Bowden, Joe Paterno, Woody Hayes, Tom Osborne, Bud Wilkinson and Barry Switzer seem to be the men who show up on every list of the greatest head coaches in the history of college football. Today we have a 4-team Playoff system that allows a coach whose school is ranked #3 or #4 to still win a national championship. Through out history, we'll never know how different the national champions would have been, had there been a 4-team playoff in place. Just since 1980 we'll always wonder how these schools would have fared in a 4-team playoff: 1980, Pittsburgh, 1983 Auburn, 1984 Washington, 1986 Oklahoma, 1989 Notre Dame, 1994 Penn State, 1996 Ohio State, 1998 Ohio State, 2000 Miami (FL), 2001 Oregon, 2004 Auburn, 2005 Penn State and 2008 Texas. Obviously, we'll never know but you can take it to the bank that a few of those teams would win it all in those seasons and the coaches at the time would have had their resumés changed for the better or for the worse.

Who would we rank number 1, as the greatest college football head coach? Right now most people say that Nick Saban is the greatest college football head coach of all-time. It really is difficult to argue against him. His national championships and the number of NFL players is out there for all to see. His last 10 seasons are simply amazing and probably the greatest stretch of success in the history of college football. That being said, Nick Saban has had some less than stellar seasons that also can't be shoved aside. As great that Saban was at LSU and Alabama, he was mediocre at Michigan State. In 6 seasons in East Lansing, Saban was just 34-24-1 .545. While he was the head coach of the Spartans, he was just 23-16-1 .588 in Big Ten play and he went 0-3 in bowl games at MSU and while he was the head coach of the Miami Dolphins, Saban's teams were just 15-17-0 .469 with no playoff appearances. Saban is #2 in my ranking. Number 1 is former Nebraska head coach Tom Osborne. He won 3 National Championships at Nebraska but it's what he DIDN'T do at Nebraska that lifts him to the top spot. Tom Osborne NEVER finished lower than 4th place in the Big 8. Osborne never lost more than 3 games in a season. Osborne never won less than 9 games in a season. Osborne never coached a team that failed to play in a bowl game. Tom Osborne never coached a team that was not ranked in the major polls at the end of the season. In 25 years his teams finished worse than 2nd place in the conference just three times. His teams finished first or second 22 times in 25 years in league play. He accomplished all of this by recruiting players from all over the country because the state of Nebraska just doesn't produce enough home grown players to be competitive. We rank Saban #2 and Bear Bryant #3. We value consistency more than national championships thus the reasoning for our ranking. This is not a slight at Saban or Bryant but the fact that Tom Osborne NEVER had a bad season in 25 years in Lincoln was too much to ignore. I know that I will hear from folks that disagree but remember, there is no right or wrong answer. All of this is simply an opinion and we can agree to disagree. Barry Switzer is top 5 and Urban Meyer is closing fast. If Meyer can win 1 or 2 more National Championships, he can challenge for the top spot as well.

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NICK SABAN (223-62-1 .781) & NFL (15-17-0 .469)

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF or DIVISION STANDINGS	CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1990	Toledo	9-2-0	2-1-0	7-1-0	1st	—	—	—	—
1990	Toledo	9-2-0	2-1-0	7-1-0	—	—	—	—	—
1995	Michigan State	6-5-1	2-1-0	4-3-1	5th	—	L Independence	—	—
1996	Michigan State	6-6-0	1-2-0	5-3-0	5th	—	L Sun	—	—
1997	Michigan State	7-5-0	3-0-0	4-4-0	6th	—	L Aloha	—	—
1998	Michigan State	6-6-0	2-2-0	4-4-0	6th	—	—	—	—
1999	Michigan State	9-2-0	3-0-0	6-2-0	2nd	—	—	#9	#9
1995-99	Michigan State	34-24-1	11-5-0	23-16-1	—	—	—	—	—
2000	LSU	8-4-0	2-1-0	5-3-0	3rd (Western)	—	W Peach	—	#22
2001	LSU	10-3-0	3-0-0	5-3-0	1st (Western)	W 31-20 vs Tennessee	W Sugar	#8	#7
2002	LSU	8-5-0	3-1-0	5-3-0	2nd (Western)	—	L Cotton	—	—
2003	LSU	13-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	W 34-13 vs Georgia	W Sugar	#1	#2
2004	LSU	9-3-0	3-0-0	6-2-0	2nd (Western)	—	L Capital One	#16	#16
2000-04	LSU	48-16-0	15-2-0	28-12-0	—	2-0	3-2-0	—	—
2007	Alabama	7-6-0	2-2-0	4-4-0	3rd (Western)	—	L Independence	—	—
2008	Alabama	12-2-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Western)	L 20-31 vs Florida	L Sugar	#6	#6
2009	Alabama	14-0-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Western)	W 32-13 vs Florida	W BCS NCG	#1	#1
2010	Alabama	10-3-0	4-0-0	5-3-0	4th (Western)	—	W Capital One	#11	#10
2011	Alabama	12-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	2nd (Western)	—	W BCS NCG	#1	#1
2012	Alabama	13-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	W 32-28 vs Georgia	W BCS NCG	#1	#1
2013	Alabama	11-2-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	—	L Sugar	#8	#7
2014	Alabama	12-2-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	W 42-13 vs Missouri	L Sugar	#4	#4
2015	Alabama	14-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	W 23-15 vs Florida	W Cotton	#1	#1
							W CFP NCG		
2016	Alabama	14-1-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Western)	W 54-16 vs Florida	W Peach	#2	#2
							L CFP NCG		
2017	Alabama	13-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Western)	—	W Sugar	#1	#1
							W CFP NCG		
2007-17	Alabama	132-20-0	42-2-0	75-13-0	—	5-1	10-4-0	—	—
Total		223-62-1	70-10-0	133-42-1	—	7-1	13-9-0	—	—

NFL

Team	Year	Regular Season				Postseason			
		Won	Lost	Ties	Pct	Finish	Won	Lost	Pct
MIA	2005	9	7	0	.563	2nd in AFC East	—	—	—
MIA	2006	6	10	0	.375	4th in AFC East	—	—	—
MIA	Total	15	17	0	.469	—	—	—	—

BILL BELICHICK NFL (278-129-0 .683)

Team	Year	W	L	T	Pct	Finish	W	L	Pct	Result
Cleveland	1991	6	10	0	.375	3rd in AFC Central	—	—	—	—
Cleveland	1992	7	9	0	.438	3rd in AFC Central	—	—	—	—
Cleveland	1993	7	9	0	.438	3rd in AFC Central	—	—	—	—
Cleveland	1994	11	5	0	.688	2nd in AFC Central	1	1	.500	Lost to Pittsburgh Steelers in AFC Divisional Game
Cleveland	1995	5	11	0	.313	4th in AFC Central	—	—	—	—
Cleveland Totals	1991-95	36	44	0	.450	—	1	1	.500	—
New England	2000	5	11	0	.313	5th in AFC Eastern	—	—	—	—
New England	2001	11	5	0	.688	1st in AFC Eastern	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl XXXVI Champions
New England	2002	9	7	0	.563	2nd in AFC East	—	—	—	—
New England	2003	14	2	0	.875	1st in AFC East	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl XXXVIII Champions
New England	2004	14	2	0	.875	1st in AFC East	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl XXXIX Champions
New England	2005	10	6	0	.625	1st in AFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to Denver Broncos in AFC Divisional Game
New England	2006	12	4	0	.750	1st in AFC East	2	1	.667	Lost to Indianapolis Colts in AFC Championship Game
New England	2007	16	0	0	1.000	1st in AFC East	2	1	.667	Lost to New York Giants in Super Bowl XLII
New England	2008	11	5	0	.688	2nd in AFC East	—	—	—	—
New England	2009	10	6	0	.625	1st in AFC East	0	1	.000	Lost to Baltimore Ravens in AFC Wild Card Game
New England	2010	14	2	0	.875	1st in AFC East	0	1	.000	Lost to New York Jets in AFC Divisional Game
New England	2011	13	3	0	.813	1st in AFC East	2	1	.667	Lost to New York Giants in Super Bowl XLVI
New England	2012	12	4	0	.750	1st in AFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to Baltimore Ravens in AFC Championship Game
New England	2013	12	4	0	.750	1st in AFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to Denver Broncos in AFC Championship Game
New England	2014	12	4	0	.750	1st in AFC East	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl XLIX Champions
New England	2015	12	4	0	.750	1st in AFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to Denver Broncos in AFC Championship Game
New England	2016	14	2	0	.875	1st in AFC East	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl LI Champions
New England	2017	13	3	0	.813	1st in AFC East	2	1	.667	Lost to the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LII
New England Totals	2000-17	214	74	0	.743	—	27	10	.730	—
Total		250	118	0	.679	—	28	11	.718	—

YEAR FRANCHISE	HOME W-L PCT	ROAD W-L PCT	YEAR FRANCHISE	HOME W-L PCT	ROAD W-L PCT	YEAR FRANCHISE	HOME W-L PCT	ROAD W-L PCT
1991 CLEVELAND	3-5 .375	3-5 .375	2002 NEW ENGLAND	5-3 .625	4-4 .500	2012 NEW ENGLAND	6-2 .750	6-2 .750
1992 CLEVELAND	4-4 .500	3-5 .375	2003 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	6-2 .750	2013 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	4-4 .500
1993 CLEVELAND	4-4 .500	3-5 .375	2004 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	6-2 .750	2014 NEW ENGLAND	7-1 .875	5-3 .625
1994 CLEVELAND	6-2 .750	5-3 .625	2005 NEW ENGLAND	5-3 .625	5-3 .625	2015 NEW ENGLAND	7-1 .875	5-3 .625
1995 CLEVELAND	3-5 .375	2-6 .250	2006 NEW ENGLAND	5-3 .625	7-1 .875	2016 NEW ENGLAND	6-2 .750	8-0 1.000
BROWNS TOTALS	20-20	.500	16-24	.400	—	2007 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	8-0 1.000
2000 NEW ENGLAND	3-5 .375	2-6 .250	2008 NEW ENGLAND	5-3 .625	6-2 .750	2008 NEW ENGLAND	5-3 .625	6-2 .750
2001 NEW ENGLAND	6-2 .750	5-3 .625	2009 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	2-6 .250	2009 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	2-6 .250
			2010 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	6-2 .750	2010 NEW ENGLAND	8-0 1.000	6-2 .750
			2011 NEW ENGLAND	7-1 .875	6-2 .750	2011 NEW ENGLAND	7-1 .875	6-2 .750
			PATRIOTS TOTALS	116-28	.805	98-46	.681	—
			ALL-TIME	136-48	.739	114-70	.620	—



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YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF or DIVISION STANDINGS	CONF CHAMP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1945	Maryland	6-2-1	3-0-1	3-2-0	5th	—	—	—	—
1945	Maryland	6-2-1	3-0-1	3-2-0	—	—	—	—	—
1946	Kentucky	7-3-0	5-0-0	2-3-0	8th	—	—	—	—
1947	Kentucky	8-3-0	5-0-0	2-3-0	9th	—	W Great Lakes	—	—
1948	Kentucky	5-3-2	4-0-1	1-3-1	9th	—	—	—	—
1949	Kentucky	9-3-0	5-1-0	4-1-0	2nd	—	L Orange	—	#11
1950	Kentucky	11-1-0	5-0-0	5-1-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#7	#7
1951	Kentucky	8-4-0	4-1-0	3-3-0	5th	—	W Cotton	#17	#15
1952	Kentucky	5-4-2	4-1-0	1-3-2	9th	—	—	#19	#20
1953	Kentucky	7-2-1	3-1-0	4-1-1	2nd	—	—	#15	#16
1946-53	Kentucky	60-23-5	35-4-1	22-18-4	—	—	3-1-0	—	—
1954	Texas A&M	1-9-0	1-3-0	0-6-0	7th	—	—	—	—
1955	Texas A&M	7-2-1	3-1-0	4-1-1	2nd	—	—	#14	#17
1956	Texas A&M	9-0-1	3-0-1	6-0-0	1st	—	—	#5	#5
1957	Texas A&M	8-3-0	4-0-0	4-2-0	3rd	—	L Gator	#10	#9
1954-57	Texas A&M	25-14-2	11-4-1	14-9-1	—	—	0-1-0	—	—
1958	Alabama	5-4-1	2-0-0	3-4-1	6th	—	—	—	—
1959	Alabama	7-2-2	3-0-0	4-1-2	4th	—	L Liberty	#13	#10
1960	Alabama	8-1-2	3-0-0	5-1-1	3rd	—	T Bluebonnet	#10	#9
1961	Alabama	11-0-0	3-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#1	#1
1962	Alabama	10-1-0	3-0-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	W Orange	#5	#5
1963	Alabama	9-2-0	2-1-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	W Sugar	#9	#8
1964	Alabama	10-1-0	2-0-0	8-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#1	#1
1965	Alabama	9-1-1	2-0-0	6-1-1	1st	—	W Orange	#4	#1
1966	Alabama	11-0-0	4-0-0	6-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#3	#3
1967	Alabama	8-2-1	3-0-1	5-1-0	2nd	—	L Cotton	#7	#8
1968	Alabama	8-3-0	4-0-0	4-2-0	3rd	—	L Gator	#12	#17
1969	Alabama	6-5-0	4-0-0	2-4-0	8th	—	L Liberty	—	—
1970	Alabama	6-5-1	3-1-0	3-4-0	7th	—	T Astro-Bluebonnet	—	—
1971	Alabama	11-1-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#2	#4
1972	Alabama	10-2-0	3-0-0	7-1-0	1st	—	L Cotton	#4	#7
1973	Alabama	11-1-0	3-0-0	8-0-0	1st	—	L Sugar	#1	#4
1974	Alabama	11-1-0	5-0-0	6-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#2	#5
1975	Alabama	11-1-0	4-1-0	6-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#3	#3
1976	Alabama	9-3-0	3-1-0	5-2-0	3rd	—	W Liberty	#9	#11
1977	Alabama	11-1-0	3-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#2	#2
1978	Alabama	11-1-0	4-1-0	6-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#2	#1
1979	Alabama	12-0-0	5-0-0	6-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#1	#1
1980	Alabama	*10-2-0	*3-1-0	*5-1-0	2nd	—	W Cotton	#6	#6
1981	Alabama	*9-2-1	*2-1-1	*6-0-0	1st	—	L Cotton	#6	#7
1982	Alabama	8-4-0	4-1-0	3-3-0	3rd	—	W Liberty	#17	—
1958-82	Alabama	*232-46-9	*81-9-2	*137-27-5	—	—	12-10-2	—	—
1945-82	Total	*323-85-17	*130-17-5	*176-56-10	—	—	15-12-2	—	—

Beat Ole Miss in 1980 and 1981 but those two wins did not count as conference games or non-conference game but the results are included in the overall won-loss record.

TOM OSBORNE (255-49-3 .836)

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF STANDINGS	CONF CHAMPIONSHIP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1973	Nebraska	9-2-1	4-0-0	4-2-1	2nd	—	W Cotton	#11	#7
1974	Nebraska	9-3-0	3-1-0	5-2-0	2nd	—	W Sugar	#9	#8
1975	Nebraska	10-2-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	1st	—	L Fiesta	#9	#9
1976	Nebraska	9-3-1	4-0-1	4-3-0	4th	—	W Astro-Bluebonnet	#7	#9
1977	Nebraska	9-3-0	3-1-0	5-2-0	2nd	—	W Liberty	#10	#12
1978	Nebraska	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	1st	—	L Orange	#8	#8
1979	Nebraska	10-2-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Cotton	#7	#9
1980	Nebraska	10-2-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	W Sun	#7	#7
1981	Nebraska	9-3-0	2-2-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#9	#11
1982	Nebraska	12-1-0	4-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
1983	Nebraska	12-1-0	5-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#2	#2
1984	Nebraska	10-2-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#3	#4
1985	Nebraska	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Fiesta	#10	#11
1986	Nebraska	10-2-0	4-0-0	5-2-0	3rd	—	W Sugar	#4	#5
1987	Nebraska	10-2-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Fiesta	#6	#6
1988	Nebraska	11-2-0	4-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#10	#10
1989	Nebraska	10-2-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Fiesta	#12	#11
1990	Nebraska	9-3-0	4-0-0	5-2-0	3rd	—	L Florida Citrus	#17	#24
1991	Nebraska	9-2-1	3-1-0	6-0-1	1st	—	L Orange	#16	#15
1992	Nebraska	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	1st	—	L Orange	#14	#14
1993	Nebraska	11-1-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#3	#3
1994	Nebraska	13-0-0	5-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#1	#1
1995	Nebraska	12-0-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Fiesta	#1	#1
1996	Nebraska	11-2-0	2-1-0	8-0-0	1st (North)	L 27-37 vs Texas	W Orange	#6	#6
1997	Nebraska	13-0-0	3-0-0	8-0-0	1st (North)	W 54-15 vs Texas A&M	W Orange	#1	#2
1973-97	Nebraska	255-49-3	89-13-1	153-22-2	—	—	1-1	12-13-0	—

JOE PATERNO (409-136-3 .749)

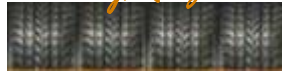
YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF or DIVISION STANDINGS	CONF CHAMP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1966	Penn State	5-5-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1967	Penn State	8-2-1	—	—	—	—	T Gator	#11	#10
1968	Penn State	11-0-0	—	—	—	—	W Orange	#3	#2
1969	Penn State	11-0-0	—	—	—	—	W Orange	#2	#2
1970	Penn State	7-3-0	—	—	—	—	—	#19	#18
1971	Penn State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	W Cotton	#11	#5
1972	Penn State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	L Sugar	#8	#10
1973	Penn State	12-0-0	—	—	—	—	W Orange	#5	#5
1974	Penn State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Cotton	#7	#7
1975	Penn State	9-3-0	—	—	—	—	L Sugar	#10	#10
1976	Penn State	7-5-0	—	—	—	—	L Gator	—	—
1977	Penn State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#4	#5
1978	Penn State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	L Sugar	#4	#4
1979	Penn State	8-4-0	—	—	—	—	W Liberty	#18	#20
1980	Penn State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#8	#8
1981	Penn State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#3	#3
1982	Penn State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	W Sugar	#1	#1
1983	Penn State	8-4-1	—	—	—	—	W Aloha	#17	—
1984	Penn State	6-5-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1985	Penn State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	L Orange	#3	#3
1986	Penn State	12-0-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#1	#1
1987	Penn State	8-4-0	—	—	—	—	L Florida Citrus	—	—
1988	Penn State	5-6-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1989	Penn State	8-3-1	—	—	—	—	W Holiday	#14	#15
1990	Penn State	9-3-0	—	—	—	—	L Blockbuster	#10	#11
1991	Penn State	11-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#3	#3
1992	Penn State	7-5-0	—	—	—	—	L Blockbuster	#24	—
1993	Penn State	10-2-0	3-0-0	6-2-0	3rd	—	W Florida Citrus	#7	#8
1994	Penn State	12-0-0	3-0-0	8-0-0	1st	—	W Rose	#2	#2
1995	Penn State	9-3-0	3-0-0	5-3-0	3rd	—	W Outback	#12	#13
1996	Penn State	11-2-0	4-0-0	6-2-0	3rd	—	W Fiesta	#7	#7
1997	Penn State	9-3-0	3-0-0	6-2-0	2nd	—	L Florida Citrus	#17	#16
1998	Penn State	9-3-0	3-0-0	5-3-0	5th	—	W Outback	#15	#17
1999	Penn State	10-3-0	4-0-0	5-3-0	4th	—	W Alamo	#11	#11
2000	Penn State	5-7-0	1-3-0	4-4-0	6th	—	—	—	—
2001	Penn State	5-6-0	1-2-0	4-4-0	4th	—	—	—	—
2002	Penn State	9-4-0	4-0-0	5-3-0	4th	—	L Capital One	#15	#16
2003	Penn State	3-9-0	2-2-0	1-7-0	8th	—	—	—	—
2004	Penn State	4-7-0	2-1-0	2-6-0	9th	—	—	—	—
2005	Penn State	11-1-0	3-0-0	7-1-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
2006	Penn State	9-4-0	3-1-0	5-3-0	4th	—	W Outback	#25	#24
2007	Penn State	9-4-0	4-0-0	4-4-0	5th	—	W Alamo	#25	—
2008	Penn State	11-2-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st	—	L Rose	#8	#8
2009	Penn State	11-2-0	4-0-0	6-2-0	2nd	—	W Capital One	#8	#9
2010	Penn State	7-6-0	3-1-0	4-4-0	4th	—	L Outback	—	—
2011	Penn State	8-1-0	3-1-0	5-0-0	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	Penn State	409-136-3	57-11-0	95-54-0	—	—	24-12-1		

BARRY SWITZER (157-29-4 .837) & NFL (45-26-0 .634)

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF STANDINGS	CONF CHAMPIONSHIP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1973	Oklahoma	10-0-1	3-0-1	7-0-0	1st	—	—	#2	#3
1974	Oklahoma	11-0-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	—	—	#1
1975	Oklahoma	11-1-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	1st	—	W Orange	#1	#1
1976	Oklahoma	9-2-1	3-0-1	5-2-0	1st	—	W Fiesta	#6	#5
1977	Oklahoma	10-2-0	3-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#6	#7
1978	Oklahoma	11-1-0	4-0-0	6-1-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
1979	Oklahoma	11-1-0	3-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
1980	Oklahoma	10-2-0	2-2-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
1981	Oklahoma	7-4-1	2-2-0	4-2-1	2nd	—	W Sun	#14	#20
1982	Oklahoma	8-4-0	2-2-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Fiesta	#16	#16
1983	Oklahoma	8-4-0	3-2-0	5-2-0	2nd	—	—	—	—
1984	Oklahoma	9-2-1	3-0-1	6-1-0	1st	—	L Orange	#6	#6
1985	Oklahoma	11-1-0	3-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#1	#1
1986	Oklahoma	11-1-0	3-1-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#3	#3
1987	Oklahoma	11-1-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#3	#3
1988	Oklahoma	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	2nd	—	L Florida Citrus	#14	#14
1973-88	Oklahoma	157-29-4	49-13-3	100-11-1	—	—	8-5-0		

NFL

Team	Year	Regular Season				Finish	Post Season			Result
		W	L	T	PCT		W	L	PCT	
Dallas Cowboys	1994	12	4	0	.750	1st in NFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to the San Francisco 49ers in NFC Championship Game.
Dallas Cowboys	1995	12	4	0	.750	1st in NFC East	3	0	1.000	Super Bowl XXX Champions.
Dallas Cowboys	1996	10	6	0	.625	1st in NFC East	1	1	.500	Lost to the Carolina Panthers in NFC Divisional Round.
Dallas Cowboys	1997	6	10	0	.375	4th in NFC East	0	0	.000	
Total		40	24	0	.625		5	2	.714	



BOBBY BOWDEN (377-129-4 .743)

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF or DIVISION STANDINGS	CONF CHAMP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
1959	Samford	9-1-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1960	Samford	8-1-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	Samford	7-2-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1962	Samford	7-2-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS... Samford:		31-6-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1970	West Virginia	8-3-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1971	West Virginia	7-4-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1972	West Virginia	8-4-0	—	—	—	—	L Peach	—	—
1973	West Virginia	6-5-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	West Virginia	4-7-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1975	West Virginia	9-3-0	—	—	—	—	W Peach	#17	20
TOTALS... West Virginia:		42-26-0	—	—	—	—	1-1-0	—	—
1976	Florida State	5-6-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1977	Florida State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Tangerine	#11	#14
1978	Florida State	8-3-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1979	Florida State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	L Orange	#8	#6
1980	Florida State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	L Orange	#5	#5
1981	Florida State	6-5-0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1982	Florida State	9-3-0	—	—	—	—	W Gator	#10	#13
1983	Florida State	8-4 (7-5)	—	—	—	—	W Peach	—	—
1984	Florida State	7-3-2	—	—	—	—	T Florida Citrus	#19	#17
1985	Florida State	9-3-0	—	—	—	—	W Gator	#13	#15
1986	Florida State	7-4-1	—	—	—	—	W All-American	#20	—
1987	Florida State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#2	#2
1988	Florida State	11-1-0	—	—	—	—	W Sugar	#3	#3
1989	Florida State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Fiesta	#2	#3
1990	Florida State	10-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Blockbuster	#4	#4
1991	Florida State	11-2-0	—	—	—	—	W Cotton	#4	#4
1992	Florida State	11-1-0	2-1-0	8-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#2	#2
1993	Florida State	12-1-0	3-1-0	8-0-0	1st	—	W Orange	#1	#1
1994	Florida State	10-1-1	1-1-1	8-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#5	#4
1995	Florida State	10-2-0	2-1-0	7-1-0	1st	—	W Orange	#5	#4
1996	Florida State	11-1-0	3-0-0	8-0-0	1st	—	L Sugar	#3	#3
1997	Florida State	11-1-0	2-1-0	8-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#3	#3
1998	Florida State	11-2-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st	—	L Fiesta	#3	#3
1999	Florida State	12-0-0	3-0-0	8-0-0	1st	—	W Sugar	#1	#1
2000	Florida State	11-2-0	3-1-0	8-0-0	1st	—	L Orange	#4	#5
2001	Florida State	8-4-0	1-2-0	6-2-0	2nd	—	W Gator	#15	#15
2002	Florida State	9-5-0	2-3-0	7-1-0	1st	—	L Sugar	#23	#21
2003	Florida State	10-3-0	3-1-0	7-1-0	1st	—	L Orange	#10	#11
2004	Florida State	9-3-0	2-1-0	6-2-0	2nd	—	W Gator	#14	#15
2005	Florida State	8-5-0	2-1-0	5-3-0	1st (Atlantic)	W 27-22 over Virginia Tech	L Orange	#23	#22
2006	Florida State	7-6-0	3-1-0	3-5-0	5th (Atlantic)	—	W Emerald	—	—
2007	Florida State	7-6-0	3-1-0	4-4-0	3rd (Atlantic)	—	L Music City	—	—
2008	Florida State	9-4-0	3-1-0	5-3-0	1st (Atlantic)	—	W Champs Sports	#23	#21
2009	Florida State	7-6-0	2-2-0	4-4-0	3rd (Atlantic)	—	W Gator	—	—
TOTALS... Florida State:		304-97-4	44-19-0	105-27-0	—	1-0	21-9-1	—	—
ALL-TIME TOTALS		377-129-4	44-19-0	105-27-0	—	1-0	22-10-1	—	—

^ The 1983 season includes a forfeit win vs. Tulane.

‡ For the 2006 and 2007 seasons 12 wins, including 6 conference wins, were vacated for use of ineligible players. 5 wins from 2006 (including 2 conference wins) and 7 wins from 2007 (including 4 conference wins) were ultimately vacated by the NCAA.

URBAN MEYER (177-31-0 .851)

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL RECORD	NON CONF RECORD	CONF RECORD	CONF or DIVISION STANDINGS	CONF CHAMP GAME	POST SEASON RESULT	COACHES POLL	AP POLL
2001	Bowling Green	8-3-0	3-0-0	5-3-0	3rd (East)	—	—	—	—
2002	Bowling Green	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-2-0	3rd (East)	—	—	—	—
2001-02... Bowling Green		17-6-0	6-1-0	11-5-0	—	—	—	—	—
2003	Utah	10-2-0	3-1-0	6-1-0	1st	—	W Liberty	#21	#21
2004	Utah	12-0-0	4-0-0	7-0-0	1st	—	W Fiesta	#5	#4
2003-04... Utah		22-2-0	7-1-0	13-1-0	—	—	2-0-0	—	—
2005	Florida	9-3-0	3-0-0	5-3-0	2nd (Eastern)	—	W Outback	#16	#12
2006	Florida	13-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Eastern)	W 38-28 vs Arkansas	W BCS NCG	#1	#1
2007	Florida	9-4-0	4-0-0	5-3-0	3rd (Eastern)	—	L Capital One	#16	#13
2008	Florida	13-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (Eastern)	W 31-20 vs Alabama	W BCS NCG	#1	#1
2009	Florida	13-1-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Eastern)	L 13-32 vs Alabama	W Sugar	#3	#3
2010	Florida	8-5-0	3-1-0	4-4-0	2nd (Eastern)	—	W Outback	—	—
2005-10... Florida		65-15-0	22-1-0	36-12-0	—	2-1	5-1-0	—	—
2012	Ohio State	12-0-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Leaders)	—	—	—	#3
2013	Ohio State	12-2-0	4-0-0	8-0-0	1st (Leaders)	L 24-34 vs Michigan State	L Orange	#10	#12
2014	Ohio State	14-1-0	3-1-0	8-0-0	1st (East)	W 59-0 vs Wisconsin	W CFP NCG	#1	#1
2015	Ohio State	12-1-0	4-0-0	7-1-0	1st (East)	—	W Fiesta	#4	#4
2016	Ohio State	11-2-0	3-0-0	8-1-0	1st (East)	—	L Fiesta	#6	#6
2017	Ohio State	12-2-0	2-1-0	8-1-0	1st (East)	W 27-21 vs Wisconsin	W Cotton	#5	#5
2012-17... Ohio State		73-8-0	20-2-0	47-3-0	—	2-1	4-2-0	—	—
2001-17... Total		177-31-0	55-5-0	107-21-0	—	4-2	11-3-0	—	—

THE 2017 COLLEGE FOOTBALL SEASON IN REVIEW

The National Football Foundation (NFF) & College Hall of Fame highlighted numerous powerful facts from the 2017 college football season that emphasize the strong popularity of college football among millions of fans across the country, including the 56 percent of U.S. adults who cited themselves in a Gallup Poll as college football fans, a two percent increase from 2011 and more than professional baseball, basketball, hockey and soccer. Additionally, excluding the combined numbers for Olympic Sports, college football ranks second in core fans behind only the NFL, and the sport's fan base grew by 1.4 million people in 2017, according to media outlets.

"College football will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2019, and our sport has certainly come a long way from several hundred spectators lining a wooden fence to watch the first game in 1869," said NFF President & CEO Steve Hatchell. "We saw a big shift this year in the metrics and how things are measured with the adaptation of total live audience numbers by several media outlets. The need for the switch highlights that fans truly are reveling in the vision of college football anytime, anywhere and on any screen.

"The networks, as well as the colleges, conferences and bowls, all deserve high praise as innovators who continue to break new ground within an ever-changing high-tech landscape. There is no doubt that college football fans everywhere are the big winners with options galore, thanks to the creativity and commitment of the leaders of our sport."

The top highlights include:

The 2018 College Football Playoff (CFP) National Championship Presented by AT&T between Georgia and Alabama on ESPN delivered the second biggest audience in cable television history, solidifying the College Football Playoff's place in history as a ratings juggernaut with the four biggest TV audiences in cable history and seven of the top 10. This year's game produced a total live audience* of 29,932,000 viewers. The inaugural CFP game on ESPN in 2015 between Ohio State and Oregon remains #1 with 33,395,000 viewers.

The seven CFP games on ESPN, covering the New Year's Six and the CFP National Championship, averaged a total live audience* of more than 17 million viewers, making it the best ever in the four years of the new system. The average marked a 10 percent increase from last year and 25 percent from the 2015 season. The seven games also averaged a 9.8 overnight, also the best ever in the four years of the new system and up 5 percent from last year.

The 355 college football telecasts on ABC, beIN Sports, CBS, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, FOX, FS1, FS2, NBC and NBCSN during the 2017 regular season averaged 1,942,000 viewers per game while reaching more than 200 million unique fans+.

The 39 postseason college bowl games on ABC, CBS, ESPN, ESPN2, FOX and FS1 at the conclusion of the 2017 season averaged 5,308,000 viewers per game (representing an 8 percent increase over last season and a 3 percent increase from two years ago) while reaching 122 million unique fans+ on television. (The figures include the Air Force Reserve Celebration Bowl, which was played at the FCS level, but not the AutoNation Cure Bowl and the Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl, both telecast on CBSN, which is not rated by Nielsen Media.)

NCAA Programs Attract More Than 47.6 Million Fans:

The 666 NCAA football programs (FBS, FCS, DII and DIII) drew 47,622,196 fans at home games, neutral-site games and postseason games in 2017. The number represents a 3.3 percent drop from the 2016 season, but it also represents a 29.2 percent increase since 1997 and a 148.9 percent increase from the 19,134,159 fans that the NCAA reported when they first started collecting attendance figures in 1948*.

The 40 FBS bowl games this past season (including the CFP National Championship, attracted 1,620,253 spectators to the stands (40,506 per contest). The Top Ten bowls all had attendance in excess of 57,000 fans, and eight bowl games saw increases of more than 4,000 fans.

Regular Season Attendance Highlights:

The overall attendance for NCAA football games across all divisions (FBS, FCS, Division II and Division III) drew 47,622,196 fans at home games, neutral-site games and postseason games in 2017. The number represents a 3.3 percent drop from the 2016 season, but it also represents a 29.2 percent increase since 1997 and a 148.9 percent increase since 1948 when the NCAA began collecting attendance reports.

The Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) drew 36,632,625 spectators for an average of 42,203 fans per game. The Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) pulled in 5,509,277 fans for an average of 8,223, followed by Division II with 2,975,145 for a 3,273 average and Division III with 2,305,716 for a 1,873 average.

The SEC led all FBS conferences in attendance for the 20th straight year, averaging 75,074 fans per game or a total of 7,357,228 in 2017, followed by the Big Ten (66,227), Big 12 (56,852), Pac-12 (49,601) and the ACC (48,442).

Michigan led all FBS schools again with an average attendance of 111,589 fans per home game in 2017. Three other schools also averaged more than 100,000 fans per game: Ohio State (107,495), Penn State (106,707) and Alabama (101,722). Rounding out the 2017 Top Ten leaders for average home team attendance were: Texas A&M (98,802); LSU (98,506); Tennessee (95,779); Texas (92,778); Georgia (92,746); and Nebraska (89,798).

Other universities with more than 80,000 fans per home game included Florida (86,715); Oklahoma (86,520); Auburn (86,446); and Clemson (80,773).

Michigan has led the nation in attendance for 41 of the past 43 seasons. (The two breaks occurred with a No. 3 ranking in 2014 and No. 2 ranking in 1997.) The Wolverines have now played before 100,000-plus fans for a record 279 straight home games, a streak that extends back to Nov. 8, 1975.

Ohio State led the nation for total fan attendance, attracting 1,254,160 spectators to all of their games in 2017, including home, away, neutral and postseason tilts. Eleven other teams eclipsed the million mark in 2017: Georgia (1,246,201), Alabama (1,228,376), Auburn (1,162,955), Penn State (1,146,641), Michigan (1,140,358), LSU (1,114,205), Texas A&M (1,093,368), Oklahoma (1,054,046), Tennessee (1,043,298), Clemson (1,016,347) and Texas (1,000,818).

Nebraska continued its streak of an NCAA record 361 consecutive home sellouts, a stretch that dates back to Nov. 3, 1962, at Memorial Stadium. The stadium has a current capacity of 85,458, and the Huskers averaged 89,798 at its home games during the 2017 season for a total attendance of 628,583 at seven games. Notre Dame holds the second longest sellout streak, which started in 1974, continuing through the 2017 season and now at 262 games.

Penn State recorded a 6.4 percent increase in home attendance for the 2017 season, including the largest crowd in Beaver Stadium history with 110,823 fans attending the Oct. 21 game against Michigan. The 2017 attendance total of 746,946 and 106,707 average per game ranked as the highest for a seven-game home schedule since 2009 and the seventh-best average in school history.

Regular Season Ratings Highlights:

Auburn's 26-14 upset of Alabama in the Iron Bowl on CBS was the most watched game of the season with 13,657,000 viewers and a 7.59 rating. CBS also carried the second most watched game of the regular season with 13,466,000 viewers watching Georgia best Auburn 28-7 in the SEC Championship.

A total live audience* of 12,604,000 watched No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 3 Florida State on ABC on Sept. 2, the first time in the sport's history that a No. 1 preseason team opened against an opponent ranked in the Top 3. The viewership set a new record across all networks as the most-watched college football kickoff weekend matchup ever.

The Top Five regular season games all attracted more than 10 million viewers and the Top 10 all eclipsed the seven million mark: Alabama-Auburn (13,657,000 on CBS); Auburn-Georgia (13,466,000 on CBS); Ohio State-Wisconsin (12,918,000 on FOX); Florida State-Alabama (12,335,000 on ABC); Ohio State-Michigan (10,507,000 on FOX); Penn State-Ohio State (9,868,000 on FOX); Army-Navy (8,419,000 on CBS); Oklahoma-Ohio State (8,086,000 on ABC); Michigan-Florida (7,650,000 on ABC); and Georgia-Auburn (7,407,000 on CBS).

ABC's Saturday Night Football remained college football's most-viewed franchise, averaging a total live audience of 5,834,000 per game during its 14-week prime-time run last year.

The SEC on CBS finished as the highest-rated individual package for the ninth year in a row. The package averaged a household rating/share of 3.0/7, according to Nielsen national ratings, topping all other networks.

ESPN's networks reached more than 171 million unique fans+ during the 2017 regular season, collectively watching more than 85 billion minutes of college football games.

FOX, which expanded its coverage through a new deal with the Big Ten finished the regular season with record-high viewership, increasing its average from 2.951 million to 3.625 million or a 23 percent increase.

Five teams played in three or more games ranked in the Top 25 for viewership: Michigan (5), Ohio State (5), Alabama (4), Auburn (3) and Penn State (3).

The Oklahoma-Ohio State game on Sept. 9 produced the best September non-opening week overnight rating on ABC in seven years with a 5.3 rating and 8,086,000 viewers.

FS1's telecast of Maryland's 51-41 victory over Texas on Sept. 2 drew 2,046,000 viewers, making it cable television's most-watched Saturday college football game of Labor Day Weekend.



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For the 16th year in a row, Birmingham, Ala., remained the strongest TV market in the nation for college football on ESPN, averaging a 6.8 rating for all games televised by the network. The top five markets included Birmingham (6.8), Columbus, Ohio (5.0), Greenville, S.C. (4.5), Oklahoma City (3.9) and Knoxville, Tenn. (3.9).

Postseason Attendance Highlights:

The Rose Bowl Game presented by Northwestern Mutual, which has led all bowls in attendance every year since 1945 (excluding title games), attracted 92,844 spectators while serving as a CFP Semifinal between Georgia and Oklahoma, again the most of any bowl game.

The Top Ten bowls for attendance all attracted more than 57,000 fans: Rose Bowl Game presented by Northwestern Mutual-CFP Semifinal (92,844); CFP National Championship (77,430); Allstate Sugar Bowl-CFP Semifinal (72,360); Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl (71,109); Academy Sports + Outdoors Texas Bowl (67,820); Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (67,510); Capital One Orange Bowl (65,032); PlayStation Fiesta Bowl (61,842); Citrus Bowl presented by Overton's (57,726); and Valero Alamo Bowl (57,653).

Eight bowl games saw increases of more than 4,000 fans over last year's games: Allstate Sugar Bowl-CFP Semifinal (18,283); Citrus Bowl presented by Overton's (11,663); Military Bowl presented by Northrop Grumman (9,265); Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (7,895); Las Vegas Bowl (7,146); AutoZone Liberty Bowl (6,179); Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl (5,324); and Walk-On's Independence Bowl (4,606).

The Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl attracted 71,109 fans to see UCF remain undefeated after defeating Auburn, its 19th sell-out in the last 21 contests. Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2017, the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl has had more than 2.95 million fans attend its games during its history.

With an official attendance of 72,360, this year's Allstate Sugar Bowl marked the 62nd time in the Sugar Bowl's 84-year history that it has featured more than 70,000 fans. The game served as a CFP Semifinal between Alabama and Clemson.

Excluding the New Year's Six games, the Academy Sports + Outdoors Texas Bowl attracted the largest crowd of any bowl game with 67,820 fans watching Texas beat Missouri, 33-16.

Postseason Ratings Highlights:

The 39 postseason college bowl games on ABC, CBS, ESPN, ESPN2, FOX and FS1 at the conclusion of the 2017 season averaged 5,308,000 viewers per game (representing an 8 percent increase over last season and a 3 percent increase from two years ago) while reaching 122 million unique fans+ on television. (The figures include the Air Force Reserve Celebration Bowl, which was played at the FCS level, but not the AutoNation Cure Bowl and the Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl, both telecast on CBSN, which is not rated by Nielsen Media.)

The 2018 College Football Playoff National Championship Presented by AT&T on Jan. 8 between Georgia and Alabama delivered the second biggest audience in cable television history, only behind the 2015 CFP National Championship between Ohio State and Oregon. This year's game, the first CFP title matchup to go into overtime, averaged 28,443,000 viewers during the MegaCast production on ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU, up 13 percent from last season's game and 9 percent from two years ago. The ESPN-only telecast averaged 27,383,000 viewers, and the total live audience* clocked in at 29,932,000. The game delivered a 16.7 overnight rating on its Nielsen-rated networks (ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU), up 9 percent from last season's game and 5 percent from two years ago.

The College Football Playoff system on ESPN has now delivered the four biggest audiences in cable history and seven of the top 10.

The three-game College Football Playoff averaged 26,266,000 viewers, up an impressive 21 percent from last year's three-game presentation, and the three games averaged a 14.9 overnight, up an impressive 18 percent from last year's three-game presentation.

This season's two CFP Semifinals (the Rose Bowl Game presented by Northwestern Mutual and the Allstate Sugar Bowl) on New Year's Day averaged a 13.9 overnight, up 26 percent from last year and 42 percent from the 2015 season. The two CFP Semifinals averaged 24,590,000 viewers, up 27 percent from last year and 44 percent from the 2015 season. Individually, both games rank as the third and fourth most-viewed and highest-rated CFP Semifinals ever, trailing only the two record-breaking CFP Semifinals from the inaugural year.

The seven CFP games, covering the New Year's Six and the CFP National Championship, averaged a total live audience* of more than 17 million, making it the best ever in the four years of the new system. The average marked a 10 percent increase from last year and 25 percent from the 2015 season. The seven games also averaged a 9.8 overnight, also the best ever in the four years of the new system and up 5 percent from last year.

All non-CFP Semifinal New Year's Six Games set new viewership records this season. The Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic, PlayStation Fiesta Bowl, Capital One Orange Bowl, and Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl all delivered their most-watched game of the New Year's Six era, except for the years their games were CFP Semifinals.

ESPN's presentation of the entire New Year's Six averaged an 8.4 overnight, the highest rated New Year's Six in the system's four-year history. This year's presentation of the six games was up 8 percent from last year, 15 percent from the 2015 season and 3 percent from year one.

ESPN's postseason, consisting of 35 bowl games plus the CFP National Championship, averaged 5,682,000 viewers, up 11 percent from last year's similar slate, and the games averaged a 3.4 overnight rating, up 10 percent from last year. The average total live audience* for the games was 6,079,000, making this year's postseason ESPN's most-watched in at least eight seasons.

Viewership for the 29 non-New Year's Six bowls games on ESPN increased 7 percent, averaging 2,945,000 viewers.

The CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl Game Presented by Northwestern Mutual on ESPN and ESPN2, which saw Georgia claim a 54-48 victory over Georgia on New Year's Day, ranks as the sixth most-watched cable telecast of all time. The game drew 26,826,000 viewers on ESPN & ESPN2; and a total live audience of 28,311,000. The game delivered an exceptional 14.8 overnight rating (ESPN + ESPN2), nearly equaling the record-breaking inaugural CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl Game, which remains the highest-rated CFP Semifinal to date with a 15.5 overnight. The numbers represent a 29 percent increase from last season's first CFP Semifinal on the same two networks and a 53 percent increase from the 2015 season's first CFP Semifinal. The rating also is just shy of the record-breaking inaugural CFP Semifinal on Jan. 1, 2015, which notched a 15.5 overnight.

The CFP Semifinal at the Allstate Sugar Bowl on ESPN and ESPN2, which saw Alabama claim a 24-6 victory over Clemson on New Year's Day, attracted 20,407,000 viewers on ESPN; 21,117,000 viewers on ESPN & ESPN2; and a total live audience* of 22,067,000. The game delivered an impressive 12.5 overnight rating (ESPN and ESPN2), up 19 percent from last season's second CFP Semifinal, also on ESPN and ESPN2, and 26 percent from the 2015's season second CFP Semifinal on the same two networks.

The Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic on ESPN, which saw Ohio State defeat Southern California, 24-7, was the most-watched non-CFP Semifinal Cotton Bowl of the New Year's Six era with 9,544,000 viewers, 10,475,000 total live audience* and a 5.34 household rating, representing a more than 70 percent increase from last season's New Year's Day Cotton Bowl. The Trojans-Buckeyes Cotton Bowl viewership also ranks as the bowl's third best viewership in 20 years, excluding the year it was a CFP Semifinal.

The Capital One Orange Bowl on ESPN, which saw Wisconsin defeat Miami (Fla.), 34-24, attracted 11,727,000 viewers and a 13,068,000 total live audience*, making it the third most-watched non-CFP Semifinal game of the New Year's Six era. The Orange Bowl viewership also represented a 2 percent increase from last year and more than 30 percent from 2014, which were the last two non-CFP Semifinal editions of the game.

The PlayStation Fiesta Bowl on ESPN, which saw Penn State beat Washington, 35-28, attracted 10,167,000 viewers and a 11,308,000 total live audience*, making it the fifth most-watched non-CFP Semifinal game of the New Year's Six era. The Fiesta Bowl viewership also represented a 4 percent increase from the 2015 season and a 37 percent increase from the 2014 game, which were the last two non-CFP Semifinal editions of the game.

The Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl on ESPN, which saw UCF remain undefeated with a 34-27 victory over Auburn, delivered 8,377,000 viewers and a 8,841,000 total live audience*, making it the second-most watched Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl of all time, and the most-watched non-CFP Semifinal Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl in the New Year's Six era. The game's viewership marked a 49 percent increase from the 2015 season and a 67 percent jump from 2014.

The Citrus Bowl Presented by Overton's, which featured LSU playing Notre Dame on ABC on New Year's Day, earned a 5.5 overnight, up 32 percent from last year's game. The game attracted 8,712,000 viewers and a 9,239,000 total live audience*, up 36 percent from last year.

ESPN notched its second most-watched 24-hour period in the history of the 38-year old network on New Year's Day, averaging 6,011,000 viewers from 6 a.m. on Jan. 1 to 6 a.m. on Jan. 2. The network attracted 96.1 million fans between Friday, Dec. 29 and Monday, Jan. 1, and they consumed more than 28.6 billion minutes of college football content.

Notable Bowl Facts and Postseason Milestones:

Alabama's 26-23 overtime victory against Georgia in the CFP National Championship Presented by AT&T gave the school its second championship of the CFP era. The school has now claimed the NFF MacArthur Bowl for an unprecedented nine times, or four more than any other school. The win also placed Alabama No. 1 in the final AP college football poll for the 11th time, three more than any other program.

Alabama's 2017 CFP victory also marked the fifth national championship for the Crimson Tide since 2009 under coach Nick Saban, who now, including his 2003 national title at LSU, has matched the number of national titles claimed by Hall of Fame Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant with six.



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Florida State played in a bowl game for the 36th consecutive year, the longest current streak in the nation, which started in 1982.

CBS aired the Hyundai Sun Bowl for the 50th consecutive season, the longest continuous relationship between a bowl game and one TV network.

The San Diego County Credit Union Holiday Bowl between Washington State and Michigan State marked the first bowl game ever televised on FS1.

The FBS postseason featured 40 games, including the CFP National Championship, with 78 teams. The SEC led all conferences with 11 appearances, and the Big Ten boasted the best record, going 7-1 for an .875 winning percentage.

Conference USA sent a record nine teams to play in bowl games.

The CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl Game Presented by Northwestern Mutual became the first CFP game to go to overtime. The CFP National Championship was the first title game of the CFP era to go into overtime.

The 104th Rose Bowl Game registered as the highest scoring edition of the game ever with Georgia beating Oklahoma, 54-48.

Wisconsin (13-1) concluded its winningest season in school history with a 34-24 victory over Miami (Fla.) in the Capital Orange Bowl. Wisconsin running back Jonathan Taylor ran for 130 yards on 26 carries, ending the year with an FBS-freshman-record 1,977 yards.

Ohio State quarterback J.T. Barrett claimed Big Ten career records for total offense with 12,697 yards and career touchdowns with 147, capping his career by leading the Buckeyes to a 24-7 win over Southern California in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic.

Penn State standout Saquon Barkley set a PlayStation Fiesta Bowl record with a 92-yard touchdown run, contributing to the Nittany Loins' 35-28 win over Washington.

Kansas State claimed a 35-17 Cactus Bowl victory over UCLA, giving Hall of Fame Coach Bill Snyder his second-straight bowl win and his ninth overall. Kansas State's win gives them a 3-1 record in four Cactus Bowl appearances. The Wildcats have also played in three Fiesta Bowl games.

Iowa beat Boston College 27-20 in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl to snap a five-game bowl losing streak. The win gave Hawkeye coach Kirk Ferentz his 143rd win at the school, tying Hall of Fame coach Hayden Fry for first on Iowa's career wins list.

Purdue's 38-35 victory over Arizona in the Foster Farms Bowl gave the Boilermakers their first winning record (7-6) since 2011; their first bowl win since 2011; and coach Jeff Brohm a postseason win during his first year at the helm after taking over a program that had won only nine games in the previous four seasons.

Michigan State's 42-17 victory over Washington State in the San Diego County Credit Union Holiday Bowl gave Mark Dantonio his 100th victory in 11 seasons as the Spartans' head coach and his sixth 10-plus win season.

Northwestern nipped Kentucky, 24-23, to claim back-to-back bowl victories in consecutive years for the first time in school history, winning the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl. The win marked the Wildcats' (10-3) second 10-win season in three years and third under coach Pat Fitzgerald. Justin Jackson ran for 157 yards and two touchdowns in the contest for the Wildcats, finishing his career ranked No. 10 all-time among FBS rushers with 5,440 yards.

North Carolina State beat Arizona State, 52-31, in the Hyundai Sun Bowl, playing in their fourth consecutive bowl game and sixth in seven years under coach Dave Doeren.

Wake Forest edged Texas A&M, 55-52, in the Belk Bowl, giving the Demon Deacons their second straight season with a bowl victory and the team's first eight-win season since 2008. The teams combined for 1,260 yards and 107 points, tied for the fourth-highest scoring game in college bowl history.

New Mexico State appeared in and won its first bowl game in 57 years, beating Utah State in overtime, 26-20, in the Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl. (Ironically, the 1960 opponent was also Utah State in the Sun Bowl.)

Iowa State edged Memphis, 21-20, in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl, giving the Cyclones their first bowl victory since 2009 and a third win over a Top 25 team during the 2017 season.

North Dakota State claimed its sixth FCS national championship in seven years with a 17-13 victory over James Madison on Jan. 6 before a sellout crowd of 19,090 at Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas. The title tied the FCS record of six national titles held by Georgia Southern.

Mount Union (Ohio) claimed the school's 13th Division III national title with a 12-0 victory over defending champion Mary Hardin-Baylor (Texas) in the NCAA Division III National Championship game Dec. 15 in Salem, Va.

2017-18 Chronological Bowl Results:

BOWL	TV	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	RATING	HOUSEHOLDS	VIEWERS
R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Troy 50 - North Texas 30.....	(24,904)	[0.87]	[1,041,000]	[1,336,000]
Las Vegas Bowl.....	ABC.....	Boise State 38 - Oregon 28.....	(36,432)	[2.32]	[2,775,000]	[3,802,000]
AutoNation Cure Bowl.....	CBSSN.....	Georgia State 27 - Western Kentucky 17.....	(19,585)	[N/A]	[N/A]	[N/A]
Gildan New Mexico Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Marshall 31 - Colorado State 28.....	(26,087)	[0.75]	[898,000]	[1,217,000]
Raycom Media Camellia Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Middle Tennessee 35 - Arkansas State 30.....	(20,612)	[0.73]	[868,000]	[1,194,000]
Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Florida Atlantic 50 - Akron 3.....	(25,912)	[0.95]	[1,139,000]	[1,405,000]
DXL Frisco Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Louisiana Tech 51 - SMU 10.....	(14,419)	[0.82]	[976,000]	[1,257,000]
Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Temple 28 - FIU 3.....	(16,363)	[1.02]	[1,219,000]	[1,607,000]
Bahamas Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Ohio 41 - UAB 6.....	(13,585)	[0.62]	[739,000]	[892,000]
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Wyoming 37 - Central Michigan 14.....	(16,512)	[0.98]	[1,178,000]	[1,508,000]
Birmingham Bowl.....	ESPN.....	South Florida 38 - Texas Tech 34.....	(28,623)	[2.15]	[2,576,000]	[3,418,000]
Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Army 42 - San Diego State 35.....	(35,986)	[2.10]	[2,515,000]	[3,498,000]
Dollar General Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Appalachian State 34 - Toledo 0.....	(28,706)	[1.02]	[1,221,000]	[1,778,000]
Hawaii Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Fresno State 33 - Houston 27.....	(20,546)	[1.14]	[1,369,000]	[2,097,000]
Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Utah 30 - West Virginia 14.....	(20,507)	[1.44]	[1,719,000]	[2,227,731]
Quick Lane Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Duke 36 - Northern Illinois 14.....	(20,211)	[1.55]	[1,856,000]	[2,542,000]
Cactus Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Kansas State 35 - UCLA 17.....	(32,859)	[2.04]	[2,444,000]	[3,284,000]
Walk-On's Independence Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Florida State 42 - Southern Mississippi 13.....	(33,601)	[1.40]	[1,679,000]	[2,244,000]
New Era Pinstripe Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Iowa 27 - Boston College 20.....	(37,667)	[2.27]	[2,719,000]	[4,008,000]
Foster Farms Bowl.....	FOX.....	Purdue 38 - Arizona 35.....	(28,436)	[1.69]	[2,018,000]	[2,826,000]
Academy Sports + Outdoors Texas Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Texas 33 - Missouri 16.....	(67,820)	[2.07]	[2,478,000]	[3,455,000]
Military Bowl Presented By Northrop Grumman.....	ESPN.....	Navy 49 - Virginia 7.....	(35,921)	[1.34]	[1,605,000]	[2,079,480]
Camping World Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Oklahoma State 30 - Virginia Tech 21.....	(39,610)	[2.62]	[3,129,000]	[4,358,000]
San Diego County Credit Union Holiday Bowl.....	FS1.....	Michigan State 42 - Washington State 17.....	(47,092)	[0.89]	[1,065,000]	[1,617,000]
Valero Alamo Bowl.....	ESPN.....	TCU 39 - Stanford 37.....	(57,653)	[2.54]	[3,041,000]	[4,368,000]
Belk Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Wake Forest 55 - Texas A&M 52.....	(32,784)	[1.93]	[2,313,000]	[2,998,000]
Hyundai Sun Bowl.....	CBS.....	NC State 52 - Arizona State 31.....	(39,897)	[1.41]	[1,690,000]	[2,207,000]
Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Northwestern 24 - Kentucky 23.....	(48,675)	[2.75]	[3,291,000]	[4,626,000]
Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic.....	ESPN.....	Ohio State 24 - USC 7.....	(67,510)	[5.34]	[6,381,000]	[9,544,000]
Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl.....	CBSSN.....	New Mexico State 26 - Utah State 20.....	(39,132)	[N/A]	[N/A]	[N/A]
TaxSlayer Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Mississippi State 31 - Louisville 27.....	(41,310)	[2.68]	[3,204,000]	[4,424,000]
AutoZone Liberty Bowl.....	ABC.....	Memphis 21 - Iowa State 20.....	(57,266)	[2.17]	[2,591,000]	[3,438,000]
PlayStation Fiesta Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Penn State 35 - Washington 28.....	(61,842)	[5.69]	[6,809,000]	[10,167,000]
Capital One Orange Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Wisconsin 34 - Miami (FL) 24.....	(65,032)	[6.34]	[7,587,000]	[11,727,000]
Outback Bowl.....	ESPN2.....	South Carolina 26 - Michigan 19.....	(45,687)	[2.83]	[3,388,000]	[5,095,000]
Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl.....	ESPN.....	UCF 34 - Auburn 27.....	(71,109)	[4.62]	[5,523,000]	[8,377,000]
Citrus Bowl Presented By Overton's.....	ABC.....	Notre Dame 21 - LSU 17.....	(57,726)	[5.13]	[6,134,000]	[8,712,000]
Rose Bowl Game Presented By Northwestern Mutual.....	ESPN.....	Georgia 54 - Oklahoma 48.....	(92,844)	[13.11]	[15,683,000]	[25,854,000]
Allstate Sugar Bowl.....	ESPN.....	Alabama 24 - Clemson 6.....	(72,360)	[10.78]	[12,890,000]	[20,407,000]
CFP National Championship Presented By AT&T.....	ESPN.....	Alabama 26 - Georgia 23.....	(77,430)	[14.95]	[17,877,000]	[27,383,000]

The NFF would like to thank the following people for providing information for this release, including NFF Correspondent Bo Carter; ACC's Kevin Best; CBS's Jennifer Sabatelle, ESPN's Derek Volner; FOX's Valerie Krebs; NBC's Chris McCloskey; NCAA's Christopher Radford; Pac-12 Network's Josh Ishoo, and Stadium's Sarah Minkoff.