

# LSU FOOTBALL POSTGAME NOTES

#1 LSU vs. #3 Arkansas

Nov. 25, 2011 – Tiger Stadium (Baton Rouge, La.)

## Team Notes

1. LSU's game captains were 9 **Jordan Jefferson**, 13 **Ron Brooks**, 18 **Brandon Taylor**, 50 **Joey Crappell**, 60 **Will Blackwell**.
2. #7 **Tyrann Mathieu** made his first career start at free safety in place of #1 **Eric Reid**.
3. With Arkansas' touchdown pass to start the second quarter, LSU trailed at home for the first time all season. The Tigers had gone 21 consecutive quarters without trailing in Tiger Stadium this season, including the first quarter of today's game.
4. Today's attendance of 93,108 is the second largest crowd in the history of Tiger Stadium and the largest crowd ever for a day game. The 93,108 is just 21 shy of the school-record crowd of 93,129 set on Oct. 10, 2009 against No. 1 Florida (played a 7 p.m. on CBS).
5. Arkansas won the toss and elected to receive. LSU received the kickoff in the second half.
6. The fumble return for a touchdown by Arkansas in the second quarter was the first returned for a TD by an opponent since Zeonte Sherman did at Arizona on Sept. 6, 2003 (1-yard).
7. LSU scored 21 unanswered points during a span of 4:16 in the second quarter, converting its biggest deficit of the year (14-0) into a 21-14 lead heading into halftime.
8. LSU improved to 12-0 overall and 8-0 in the SEC for the first time in school history.
9. LSU is now 22-3 in games played as the No. 1-ranked team.
10. LSU is extended the nation's longest winning streak to 13 overall, and the Tigers have won 17 straight games in Tiger Stadium.
11. LSU is 10-6 against Arkansas when playing for "The Boot." Wins came in 1996, '97, '99, 2001, '03, '04, '05, '06, '09 and 2011.
12. LSU's 24-point victory over No. 3 Arkansas is the largest margin of victory over an opponent ranked in the Associated Press Top 5 in school history. The previous best was a 21-point victory over No. 5 Georgia in the SEC Championship Game on Dec. 6, 2003 in which the Tigers defeated the Bulldogs 34-13.
13. LSU's 24-point margin of victory is the largest against Arkansas since a 29-point win (43-14) in Little Rock in 2004.
14. LSU rallied from a 14-point deficit to defeat Arkansas. The last time LSU trailed by 14 and came back to win was Nov. 15, 2008 when the Tigers overcame a 31-3 deficit to defeat Troy 40-31.
15. LSU has won 19 straight games when winning the turnover battle and is 35-5 under **Les Miles** after winning the TO battle against Arkansas.

## Individual Notes

16. QB **Jordan Jefferson** fired a 22-yard touchdown pass to Russell Shepard with 5:11 left in the first quarter. It is Jefferson's fourth TD pass of the season and 33rd of his career. The 208 passing yards are a season high, surpassing the 168 he had against Western Kentucky.
  - a. **Jefferson** is 23-7 as a starter.
  - b. **Jefferson** ran for a 48-yard touchdown with 10:09 left in the game. It is his third rushing TD of the year and 12th of his career.
  - c. **Jefferson** has 33 career TD passes, moving him past Jarrett Lee for sole possession of sixth place in school history.
17. DB/RS **Tyrann Mathieu** fielded a punt at his own 8 and returned it 92 yards for a touchdown with 3:24 to go in the second quarter.
  - a. It was his first career punt return for a touchdown and he has now scored two different ways in his career with the other being fumble returns (2 TDs).
  - b. The 92-yard punt return tied for the third-longest in LSU history (Kenny Konz, 92 yards vs. Tulane in 1949). It was the longest punt return overall since Chad Jones recorded one of 93 yards at Mississippi State in 2009.
  - c. It was the first punt return for a TD by an LSU player this season and the first since Patrick Peterson went 60 yards against West Virginia on Sept. 25, 2010.
  - d. **Mathieu**, the LSU career record holder in forced fumbles, recorded forced fumbles each in the second and fourth quarters. The two forced fumbles give him six for the season, breaking the record of five held by Mathieu (2010) and Mark Roman (1998). Mathieu has recorded back-to-back seasons of at least five forced fumbles – both school records.
  - e. For his career, **Mathieu** has now forced a total of 13 turnovers.
18. DB **Ron Brooks** recovered the fumble caused by Tyrann Mathieu in the second quarter. It was his team-leading fourth fumble recovery of the season and the sixth of his career. He also set a career high with six tackles against Arkansas.
  - a. **Brooks** is tied for third in LSU single-season fumble recoveries and it represents the most since Trev Faulk scooped up four fumbles in 2000.
  - b. **Brooks** is also tied for fifth in LSU career fumble recoveries, joining Al Richardson, Ramsey Dardar, John Adams and Rand Dennis. It's the most career fumble recoveries since Ron Sancho tallied seven from 1985-88.
19. RB **Kenny Hilliard** finished with 102 yards on 19 carries with one score. The carries and rushing yards are both career highs. His 6-yard run with 5:15 to go in the second quarter was his sixth rushing touchdown of the season. It is Hilliard's first career 100-yard rushing game. He is the third LSU running back to rush for 100 or more yards in a game this season joining Spencer Ware and Alfred Blue.
20. WR **Russell Shepard** had a 6-yard catch-and run touchdown off a slip screen with 59 seconds remaining in the second quarter.
  - a. It was his fourth receiving touchdown of the season and fifth of his career. Shepard has recorded a touchdown catch in back-to-back games for the second time in his career.
21. WR **Rueben Randle** caught nine passes for 134 yards, both career highs. It was his fifth career 100-yard receiving game and fourth of the season. Randle tied six different Tigers with four 100-yard games in a season, and Michael Clayton was the last to do it in 2003. His five career 100-yard receiving games ties him for eighth in school history, equaling Tommy Morel (1966-68), Abram Booty (1997-99) and Terrence Toliver (2007-10).

22. DE **Sam Montgomery** entered the LSU single-season top 10 in sacks. With his one today, he is now tied for ninth place with eight. Seven other Tigers also had eight in a season with the most recent being Kirston Pittman in 2007. He has 10 sacks for his career.
23. PK **Drew Alleman** booted a 21-yard field goal with 2:14 left in the third quarter, and he added a 37-yard FG with 5:08 left in the game. Has made 10 consecutive field goals dating back to the Florida game. He is now 16-of-18 on FGs this season as he leads the SEC in field goal percentage at 88.8 percent.
24. RB **Spencer Ware** rushed for a seven-yard touchdown with 11:04 left in the game. It is Ware's eighth rushing TD of the season and ninth of his career.
25. CB **Mo Claiborne** picked off a Tyler Wilson pass with 10:57 left in the game. It marked Claiborne's fifth interception of the season and 10th of his career. His 10 career interceptions ties for ninth place in school history. He ties Mark Roman, Chris Carrier, Kevin Guidry, Norman Jefferson, Liffort Hobley and Willie Teal.