

# LSU FOOTBALL POSTGAME NOTES

## 2011 SEC Championship Game - #1 LSU vs. #12/14 Georgia

### Dec. 3, 2011 - Georgia Dome (Atlanta, Ga.)

#### Team Notes

1. LSU's game captains were 17 **Morris Claiborne**, 9 **Jordan Jefferson**, 30 **Drew Alleman**, 7 **Tyrann Mathieu**, 2 **Rueben Randle**, 49 **Barkevious Mingo**.
2. Georgia won the toss and deferred to the second half. LSU received the opening kickoff.
3. The made field goal by Georgia with 11:45 left in the first quarter marked the first time this season an opponent had scored on LSU in its first drive. LSU's first eight opponents punted on their first drives. Alabama missed a field goal on its opening drive and the Tigers forced an interception at Ole Miss and punts against Western Kentucky and Arkansas.
4. The onside kick recovered by Georgia with 11:44 to go in the first quarter was the first on-side kick recovered by an opponent since North Carolina did so in the Chick-fil-A Kickoff in this building on Sept. 4, 2010.
5. For the second straight week, LSU faced a double-digit deficit in the first half and overcame it to win. In 2001, the Tigers overcame a 10-point deficit (17-7) to Tennessee in the SEC Championship Game to win by a score of 31-20.
6. LSU is now 23-3 in games played as the No. 1-ranked team.
7. LSU extended the nation's longest winning streak to 14 overall, and the Tigers have reached 13 wins for the second time in school history, joining the 2003 squad that went 13-1 and won the BCS National Championship.
8. **Tyrann Mathieu** was named the SEC Championship game Most Valuable Player. He is the fourth MVP of the game for LSU, joining Matt Mauck in 2001, Justin Vincent in 2003 and Ryan Perrilloux in 2007. Mathieu is only the third defensive player to be named the SEC Championship Game MVP and the first since Ellis Johnson from Florida in 1994.
9. LSU has won 20 straight games when winning the turnover battle and is 36-5 under **Les Miles** after winning the TO battle.
10. The 21 points scored by LSU in the third quarter is a record for points scored in the third quarter of the SEC Championship game.
11. LSU won its 11th SEC Championship title and improved to 4-1 in the SEC Championship game. The four SEC Championship game victories vault LSU into second, surpassing Alabama who has three. Florida leads the way with seven SEC Championship game wins.
12. LSU improved to 9-1 all-time in games played in the Georgia Dome. It's their fifth straight win in the Georgia Dome. The Tigers' only loss was to Georgia in the 2005 SEC Championship game.
13. LSU now leads the series 16-12-1 against Georgia, and **Les Miles** is now 2-2 versus the Bulldogs.
14. For the first time since 1997 LSU has three running backs with 500 or more rushing yards in one season. **Alfred Blue** became the third when he rushed for 94 yards against Georgia. **Michael Ford** leads the team with 755 yards, **Spencer Ware** is second at 700 and Blue is third at 539. In 1997, Kevin Faulk had 1,144 yards, Rondell Mealey had 664 and Cecil Collins had 596.

#### Individual Notes

15. RB **Michael Ford** made his second start of the season and first since the Northwestern State game in Week 2.
16. RB **Alfred Blue** led all rushers with 94 yards on eight carries and one touchdown. He scored on a 48-yard run with 6:17 left in the game. It is the fourth time this season he has led the team in rushing (72 yards vs. Kentucky, 119 vs. WKU, 74 at Ole Miss).
17. **Brad Wing** shattered the SEC Championship game record for longest punt with a 67-yarder in the second quarter, surpassing the mark of 65 yards set by Florida's Alan Rhine in 2000. Wing had a 64-yarder in the first quarter which is the third longest in SEC Championship game history.
  - a. The 67-yard punt also tied for seventh longest punt in school history. **Wing** has produced four punts over 60 yards this season - the two today, a season-long of 73 at Alabama and a 60-yarder at West Virginia.
18. For the second straight week, **Tyrann Mathieu** returned a punt for a touchdown, going 62 yards and scoring with 5:48 on the clock in the second quarter.
  - a. It was the first punt return for a touchdown by LSU in an SEC Championship game in its history and just the second overall in the game's history. Mississippi State's Kevin Prentiss is the other with an 83-yarder vs. Tennessee in 1998.
  - b. It was also the second straight game in the Georgia Dome that LSU had a player return a punt for a touchdown. Patrick Peterson did it in LSU's last game here - last year's season-opener against North Carolina.
  - c. **Mathieu** added a fumble recovery early in the third quarter. It was fifth fumble recovery of the season and eighth of his career. The five fumble recoveries put him in a tie with Greg Dubroc (1981) for second in LSU single-season fumble recoveries. He's the first player since that 1981 season to record at least five fumble recoveries in a season.
  - d. **Mathieu's** eight career fumble recoveries are now tied for third in LSU career annals. He is now tied with Lyman White (1977-80) and Alex Knight (1974-76).
  - e. **Mathieu** already owns the LSU single-season and career record for forced fumbles with six and 11, respectively.
19. DE **Barkevious Mingo** forced a fumble early in the third quarter. It was his second forced fumble this season (other at Mississippi State) and fourth of his career.
20. RB **Kenny Hilliard** scored three touchdowns today - a 15-yard run with 12:51 left in the third quarter, a 4-yard run with 10:37 left in the third quarter and an 8-yard catch from Jordan Jefferson with 3:45 to go in the third quarter.
  - a. **Hilliard** is now tied for the team lead in rushing touchdowns with eight this season.
  - b. **Hilliard's** three touchdowns today tie an SEC Championship Game record.
21. QB **Jordan Jefferson** tossed his sixth touchdown of the season and 34th of his career on an 8-yard toss to Kenny Hilliard with 3:45 left in the third quarter.
  - a. **Jefferson** is now tied for fifth in LSU career touchdown passes with Jamie Howard (1992-95).
20. CB **Morris Claiborne** intercepted an Aaron Murray pass and returned it 45 yards for a touchdown. It is Claiborne's fifth INT of the season and 10th of his career. It is the first INT he has returned for a TD and the second TD of his career (99-yard KO return at WVU).