

2011 CLEMSON TIGER FOOTBALL



(5, BCS, 6 AP, 6 USA) Clemson at Georgia Tech

Game 9 :
Clemson at Georgia Tech
October 29, 2011
Kickoff: 8:12 PM
Grant Field , Atlanta, GA

Television: ABC
Announcers: Mike Patrick, Craig James, Jenn Brown

Clemson Radio Network
Announcers: Pete Yanity, Will Merritt, Patrick Sapp

Series History:
 Georgia Tech leads 49-25-2
at Atlanta: Georgia Tech leads 42-13-2
at Clemson: Clemson leads 12-7
At Neutral: Clemson leads 2-1
First Meeting: Clemson 23-0 at Augusta, GA 1898
Last Meeting: Clemson 27-13 in 2010
Last Georgia Tech Win: 39-34, ACC title game, 2009
Streak: Georgia Tech won 4 of 5, 6 of 8
Last Clemson Win at GT: 39-3 in 2003

CLEMSON 2011 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	/TV	Score/Time
Sept. 3	TROY		43-19
Sept. 10	WOFFORD		35-27
Sept. 17	AUBURN	ABC	38-24
Sept. 24	FLORIDA STATE	ESPN	35-30
Oct. 1	at Virginia Tech	ESPN2	23-3
Oct. 8	BOSTON COLLEGE	RSN	36-14
Oct. 15	at Maryland	ESPN	56-45
Oct. 22	NORTH CAROLINA	ESPN	59-38
Oct. 29	at Georgia Tech	ABC	8:00 PM
Nov. 12	WAKE FOREST		
Nov. 19	at NC State		
Nov. 26	at South Carolina		

CLEMSON SID CONTACTS

Assistant AD/SID for Football:
 Tim Bourret, Notre Dame 1977
Associate SID/Secondary Football Contact:
 Brian Hennessy, Clemson 1998
Sr. Associate SID: Sam Blackman, Clemson 1985
clemson.tigers.com Libby Kehn, Clemson 2002
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Clemson Tigers

Record, 2011 8-0, 5-0 ACC
Location Clemson, SC
Colors Burnt Orange and Northwest Purple
Enrollment 19,453
Athletic Director Dr. Terry Don Phillips
Head Coach **Dabo Swinney, Alabama '93**
Clemson Record/3rd full year 27-15 (.643)
Home Record 19-4 (.826)
Away Record 7-8 (.467)
Neutral Record 1-3
ACC Regular Season Record 18-7 (.720)
Record against Georgia Tech 1-3
Offensive Coordinator Chad Morris
Defensive Coordinator Kevin Steele

Georgia Tech

Record, 2011 6-2, 3-2 ACC
Location Atlanta, GA
Colors Old Gold & White
Enrollment 19,404
Head Coach **Paul Johnson**
School Record/ season 32-16, 4th year
Overall (Season) 139-55, 15th year
Record vs Clemson 3-1
Offensive Coordinator Paul Johnson
Defensive Coordinator Al Groh
Football SID Dean Buchan
Phone (404) 894-5445
E-mail dbuchan@athletics.gatech.edu
Website: www.ramblinwreck.com

MEDIA INFORMATION

Dabo Swinney Press Conference

Head Coach Dabo Swinney holds his weekly press conference each Tuesday at the West Endzone Team Room of Clemson Memorial Stadium. He will be available at 11:00 AM. The press conference will also be available over clemson.tigers.com.

Clemson players will be available after Swinney's press conference. Coach Swinney is also available each Sunday after a game at 6:00 PM. Contact Tim Bourret for the number. Swinney is also available on the ACC teleconference on Wednesday and after practice on Thursday.

ACC Teleconference

Each ACC coach is available on the ACC teleconference every Wednesday throughout the season for 10 minutes. Coach Swinney is available at 10:40 AM each Wednesday. To get the number contact the ACC office.

10:30 AM	Frank Spaziani, Boston College
10:40 AM	Dabo Swinney, Clemson
10:50 AM	Frank Beamer, Virginia Tech
11:00 AM	Jimbo Fisher, Florida State
11:10 AM	Paul Johnson, Georgia Tech
11:20 AM	Randy Edsall, Maryland
11:30 AM	Jim Grobe, Wake Forest
11:40 AM	Everitt Withers, North Carolina
11:50 AM	Tom O'Brien, NC State
Noon:	Mike London, Virginia
12:10 PM	David Cutcliffe, Duke
12:20 PM	Al Golden, Miami (FL)

For ACC Information go to: www.theacc.com
 This site will have the latest ACC release and a link to the football media guide.

Clemson Player Interviews

Contact SID Tim Bourret each Sunday before 3:00 PM at (864) 656-1926 with specific player requests for the week. We will conduct player interviews on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:30 to 2:30 PM at the second floor player lounge of the West Endzone at Memorial Stadium. Offensive coordinator Chad Morris is available on Mondays during the lunch hour and defensive coordinator Kevin Steele is available Tuesdays during the lunch hour.

ACC Satellite Feed

Broadcast media outlets will be able access ACC football highlights and press conference excerpts via the ACC Video Clip Service (AVCS) throughout the football season. This video content will only be available for download in a digital file format that can be accessed on the AVCS. To register for this service contact Scott McBurney, Assistant Commissioner/ACC Advanced Media, at smcburney@theacc.org or call 336.851.6067.

Clemson Personnel Update

***Joe Gore**--Freshman defensive end out with a knee injury.
 ***Spencer Benton (K)**--Suffered shoulder injury against Virginia Tech. Out for 6 weeks
 ***Tony Steward (LB)**--Suffered torn ACL in practice October 18 and is out for the year.
 ***Andre Ellington (RB)**--Sprained ankle suffered against North Carolina. Questionable for Georgia Tech.



2010 Final STANDINGS

Atlantic Division

Team	ACC	Home	Away	Over
Clemson	5-0	6-0	2-0	8-0
Wake Forest	4-1	3-1	2-1	5-2
Maryland	1-2	2-3	0-1	2-4
Florida State	1-2	2-1	1-2	3-3
NC State	1-2	3-1	1-2	4-3
Boston College	0-4	1-3	0-3	1-6

Coastal Division

Team	ACC	Home	Away	Over
Virginia Tech	3-1	4-1	3-0	7-1
Georgia Tech	3-2	4-0	2-2	6-2
Miami (FL)	2-2	3-1	1-2	4-3
Duke	1-2	1-4	2-0	3-4
Virginia	1-2	3-2	1-1	4-3
North Carolina	1-3	4-1	1-2	5-3

THIS WEEK'S ACC GAMES

Thursday, October 27

Virginia at Miami (FL) ESPN 7:30 pM

Saturday, October 29

Boston College at Maryland RSN 3:00 PM
 Clemson at Georgia Tech ABC 8:00 PM
 Virginia Tech at Duke ACC 12:30
 NC State at Florida State ESPNU Noon
 Wake Forest at North Carolina ESPNU 3:30 PM

NEXT WEEK'S ACC GAMES

Thursday, November 3

Florida State at Boston College ESPN 8:00 PM

Saturday, November 5

Notre Dame at Wake Forest ESPN2 7:00 PM
 Duke at Miami (FL) RSN 3 PM
 Virginia at Maryland ACC 12:30
 North Carolina at NC State ACC 12:30

Clemson Pronunciations

Dabo Swinney	DA boh SWEE knee
Jaron Brown	juh-Rahn
Quandon Christian	KWAHN-duhn
Mansa Joseph	MAN-suh
Darrell Smith	Dayr-uhl
Tajh Boyd	as in Taj Mahal
Philip Fajgenbaum	FAY-gehn-bomb
Kalen Davis	KAY-len

Dabo Swinney TV Show

Sunday

WHHI	Hilton Head, SC	10:00 AM
WFXB	Myrtle Beach, SC	11:00 AM
WCIV	Charleston, SC	11:30 AM
WOLO	Columbia, SC	Noon
WBK	Augusta, GA	12:30 PM
WMYA	Greenville, SC	1:30 PM

CSS	Regional Sports	Tue, 5:30 PM
Fox	Florida	Wed, 4:00 PM

Clemson Fifth in New BCS Standings

Highest Ranking Ever for Tigers in BCS

Clemson moved up two spots to number-five in the BCS rankings released on Sunday, October 23, 2011. It is Clemson's highest BCS ranking in history. The previous best was number-seven last week and on October 23, 2000. This is just the third week that Clemson has had a top 10 ranking in the BCS.

In breaking down the BCS rankings, Clemson is sixth in the **USA Today** Coaches poll, sixth in the Harris poll and fourth in the average of the computer rankings. Clemson trails only Oklahoma State (first), Alabama (second) and LSU (third) in the computer rankings.

LSU is first in the BCS rankings overall with a narrow lead over number-two Alabama. Those two teams meet each other on November 5. Both teams have two weeks to prepare for that game. Oklahoma State, with a 7-0 record, is ranked third in the BCS, while Boise State is fourth.

The Tigers are followed by Stanford, Oregon, Kansas State, Oklahoma and Arkansas in this week's BCS standings.

Clemson enters this weekend's game at Georgia Tech (8:00 PM on ABC TV) with an 8-0 record and a number-six ranking in Associated Press and USA Today. It is Clemson's first 8-0 start since 2000 and just the fourth time in history Clemson has started a season 8-0 (1948, 1981, 2000). In 2000, Georgia Tech ended the 8-0 start with a 31-28 victory at Clemson.

A Clemson victory on Saturday would make the Tigers 9-0 for the first time since the 1981 season when the Tigers went on to finish 12-0 and National Champions. It would give Clemson nine consecutive wins for the first time since the 1988-89 era.

Clemson's number-six ranking in the AP poll is the highest for the program since October 22, 2000, one day and 11 years ago from this past Sunday's ranking. Clemson was ranked fifth by AP and fourth by USA Today with that 8-0 mark during that 2000 season.

It is interesting to note that Clemson Athletic Director Terry Don Phillips has a direct link to coaches at three of the top five schools in the BCS rankings this week. Phillips, then the athletic director at Oklahoma State, brought current LSU Coach Les Miles into college coaching in 2001 as the head coach of the Cowboys. He also strongly suggested that Mike Gundy, be hired as Miles's offensive coordinator. Miles did that and then Gundy succeeded Miles as head coach in 2005.

Clemson's BCS Ranking History

Date	Rank
10-23-2000	7
10-30-2000	13
11-11-2000	13
11-27-2000	15
12-3-2000	15
10-15-2006	12
10-22-2006	12
10-29-2006	19
11-19-2006	24
10-28-2007	25
11-4-2007	21
11-11-2007	15
11-18-2007	22
11-25-2007	16
12-2-2007	15
11-15-2009	23
11-22-2009	18
10-16-2011	7
10-23-2011	5

The ACC's Most Competitive Series

The Clemson vs. Georgia Tech series has been among the most competitive series in the ACC over the last 16 years. Twelve of the last 16 games, have been decided by five points or less, including a six-game streak between 1996-01 in which every game was decided by exactly three points. That might be a first in college football history. We aren't talking by three points or less, but exactly three points.

Eleven of Georgia Tech's last 12 wins in the series have been decided by a touchdown or less. Clemson won last year's game 27-13.

This will be Dabo Swinney's fifth game against Georgia Tech as Clemson coach in just his 43rd career game as a head coach. Swinney is 1-3 against Georgia Tech, but all three of his losses have been close. In 2008, in his first game as a head coach (he took over the Monday before the Saturday game), Georgia Tech defeated the Tigers 21-17 in a thrilling game at Death Valley.

In 2009, Georgia Tech won in Atlanta in the regular season 30-27 and in the ACC Championship game in Tampa by a 39-34 score. That ACC championship game was a bizarre affair as neither team punted and both teams gained at least 300 yards rushing. It was the first game in Clemson history that both teams didn't punt, and the only FBS game in college football last year in which both teams had at least 300 yards rushing.

Clemson was victorious in 2006 behind the running of James Davis and C.J. Spiller. The duo combined for 332 yards rushing and four touchdowns, three rushing, in the 31-7 Clemson win at Clemson, a day in which ESPN's College Gameday was in town for the first time. Davis had a career high 216 yards rushing that day and Spiller became the first player in Clemson history with a touchdown rush and a touchdown reception of at least 50 yards in the same game.

Georgia Tech was victorious in 2005 in the lowest scoring game in the series in 15 years when Tech won 10-9 in Atlanta. That was Clemson's only loss over the last seven games of the 2005 season. Clemson cut the margin to 10-9 on Jad Dean's third field goal of the game with 5:36 left, but the Tigers were hurt by a holding penalty on their last possession.

Georgia Tech has won six of the last eight meetings and five of those six wins have been by a touchdown or less. While Tech has won six of the last eight, Clemson has outscored Georgia Tech over those eight games (171-161).

Georgia Tech has a 49-25-2 lead in the series with Clemson dating to a 23-0 Tiger win in Augusta, GA in 1898, just the 11th game in Clemson football history. In fact, Clemson won the first four games of the series, including games in 1902 and 1903 when John Heisman was at the helm. Clemson defeated Georgia Tech in Atlanta 73-0 in 1903 with Heisman as head coach. Heisman then left Clemson after that season to become Georgia Tech's head coach.

Since Georgia Tech joined the ACC in 1983 Georgia Tech has won 15 and Clemson has won 14, another example of the competitiveness of the series. Tech actually joined for the 1979-80 academic year, but did not compete for the football championships, nor play Clemson as an ACC game, until 1983.

Clemson has struggled in Atlanta over the years as Tech has a 42-13-2 advantage in the series in games there. Clemson has lost three in a row in Atlanta with the last win coming

NATIONAL RANKINGS

**Associated Press Top 25
(October 23, 2011)**

Rk	School (First Place)	W-L	Pts	LW
1.	LSU (49)	8-0	1489	1
2.	Alabama (10)	8-0	1448	2
3.	Oklahoma State	7-0	1326	6
4.	Stanford	7-0	1318	7
5.	Boise State (1)	7-0	1269	5
6.	Clemson	8-0	1225	8
7.	Oregon	6-1	1136	9
8.	Arkansas	6-1	1003	10
9.	Michigan State	6-1	964	15
10.	Kansas State	7-0	945	12
11.	Oklahoma	6-1	912	3
12.	Wisconsin	6-1	887	4
13.	Nebraska	6-1	756	13
14.	South Carolina	6-1	675	14
15.	Virginia Tech	7-1	673	16
16.	Texas A&M	5-2	614	17
17.	Michigan	6-1	508	18
18.	Houston	7-0	400	21
19.	Texas Tech	5-2	350	NR
20.	Southern California	6-1	340	NR
21.	Penn State	7-1	312	NR
22.	Georgia	5-2	290	24
23.	Arizona State	5-2	239	24
24.	Cincinnati	6-1	71	NR
25.	West Virginia	5-2	64	11

Others receiving votes: Auburn 62, Southern Miss 48, Baylor 47, Washington 32, Georgia Tech 30, Texas 26, Syracuse 24, Miami (FL) 6, TCU 4, Rutgers 3, Illinois 2, BYU 2

**USA Today/Coaches Top 25 Coaches Poll
(October 23, 2011)**

Rk.	Team (1st place)	Rec	Pts.	Prv
1.	LSU (41)	8-0	1457	2
2.	Alabama (18)	8-0	1434	3
3.	Stanford	7-0	1327	5
4.	Oklahoma State	7-0	1301	6
5.	Boise State	7-0	1213	7
6.	Clemson	6-1	1174	8
7.	Oregon	6-1	1121	8
8.	Arkansas	6-1	974	10
9.	Oklahoma	6-1	964	1
10.	Michigan State	6-1	932	13
11.	Wisconsin	6-1	867	4
12.	Kansas State	7-0	827	16
13.	Nebraska	6-1	798	11
14.	South Carolina	6-1	730	12
15.	Virginia Tech	7-1	729	14
16.	Texas A&M	5-2	520	18
17.	Michigan	6-1	519	17
18.	Houston	7-0	507	20
19.	Penn State	7-1	448	22
20.	Arizona State	5-2	253	25
21.	Georgia	5-2	208	NR
22.	Texas Tech	5-2	180	NR
23.	Cincinnati	6-1	159	NR
24.	West Virginia	5-2	155	14
25.	Southern Miss	6-1	128	NR

Others: Texas 49, Georgia Tech 39, TCU 33, Baylor 29, Illinois 22, Washington 20, Iowa 14, Syracuse 10, BYU 9, SMU 7, Wake Forest 6, Notre Dame 5, Auburn 3, Rutgers 2, Florida 1, Miami (FL) 1

Coaches in Press Box: Danny Pearman and Charlie Harbison. All other full time coaches on the field.

in 2003 by a 39-3 score. Clemson running backs coach Tony Elliott had a touchdown reception in that game.

**Last Year vs. Georgia Tech
Clemson Downs Georgia Tech, 27-13**

Andre Ellington scored three touchdowns and gained 257 all-purpose running yards, to lead Clemson to a 27-13 win over Georgia Tech last year. The victory broke a four-game winning streak in the series by the Yellow Jackets, who entered the game second in the nation in rushing with a 5-2 record. Clemson had not won in the series since a 31-7 victory in 2006 at Clemson.

Ellington scored on Clemson's first possession of the game on a 55-yard run, then scored from 42 yards out in the second period. He also scored on a 10-yard pass reception in the third period. His 257 all-purpose yards ranked ninth best in Clemson history for a single game at the time.

Clemson rushed for 236 yards overall, just six fewer than the Yellow Jackets, who came into the game averaging 328 per game. Jamie Harper added 55 yards in 11 carries and 38 more receiving for 93 yards from scrimmage. Nuke Hopkins had four receptions for 50 yards to lead the receivers. Quarterback Kyle Parker had an efficient game by hitting 17-27 for 167 yards and a score.

Clemson did not commit a turnover for the third straight game and forced one Tech miscue. Clemson's defense held Tech to just 13 points and one touchdown. Defensive end Andre Branch moved to a linebacker spot, as Brandon Maye was out most of the week due to a calf injury and could not practice. Mallicah Goodman, who started for the first time, had nine tackles and Jonathan Meeks, who also started for the first time, added nine. Da'Quan Bowers had two more tackles for loss and six tackles.

Clemson's defense held Josh Nesbitt to just two yards rushing, below his 93 yards per game on the ground coming into the game.

Clemson controlled the line of scrimmage in the fourth controlling the ball for 12:20. Clemson had a game clinching 15-play drive for 64 yards that took 7:36 off the clock. The drive led to a field goal that put Clemson up by two touchdowns.

Clemson converted 9-15 on third down for the game, its best third-down performance of the season.

Heisman Worked at Both Schools

John Heisman coached at both Clemson and Georgia Tech. He coached the Tigers program from 1900-03 and led the Tigers to a 19-3-2 record and two conference championships. Clemson won the SIAA conference title in 1900 and 1902 under Heisman and played in its first "postseason" game ever in 1903.

Clemson played Cumberland in Montgomery, AL on November 26, 1903 in what was called "the championship of the South." The contest ended in an 11-11 tie. That was his last game as Clemson coach, as he left after the season to become the first full time football coach at Georgia Tech, who paid him \$2,250 per year and 30 percent of the net receipts.

Later as Georgia Tech coach in 1916, Heisman defeated Cumberland 222-0 in the highest scoring game (by one team) in college football history. His Clemson team of 1901 defeated Guilford College 122-0 and that is the highest scoring game by the Tigers in history. So, Heisman coached the highest scoring game

in each school's history.

Heisman had a 102-29-7 record at Georgia Tech for a .779 winning percentage. His 19-3-2 record at Clemson computes to a .833 winning percentage. He is the winningest coach in Clemson history on a winning percentage basis (minimum of four seasons) and is the winningest coach in Georgia Tech history on a percentage basis.

Heisman is one of the all-time examples that coaching can make a difference. As Clemson coach he was 2-0 against Georgia Tech and outscored the Yellow Jackets, 117-5. In 13 games as Georgia Tech coach against Clemson he was 10-2-1 and won each of the last nine games. Clemson scored just 15 points in those nine games combined.

One other unusual note on Heisman from a Clemson standpoint took place on October 28, 1903. Clemson defeated NC State 24-0 in Columbia that day at the State Fairgrounds. After the game, Heisman married Evelyn Barksdale in Columbia. He is the only coach in Clemson history to win a football game and get married on the same day. We suspect that is a distinction that will never be duplicated.

Here are some other series highlights:

- Clemson won three in a row from 2001-03, including the 2003 game in Atlanta by a 39-3 score. That was Clemson's largest margin of victory in the series since a 73-0 Tiger win in Atlanta in 1903 when John Heisman was the Clemson coach.

- The Tigers have a 10-6 advantage in games at Clemson, but Georgia Tech leads 42-13-2 in games played in Atlanta. Every game between the two teams between 1907-74 era was held in Atlanta. Clemson's only wins in those 36 meetings came in 1907, 1936, 1945 and 1969. The 1969 victory was Frank Howard's final season as head coach. Howard won just twice in his career in Atlanta.

- The two teams have played on a neutral site just three times. Clemson won a 23-0 victory in 1898 in Augusta, GA and a 41-5 win in Greenville, SC in 1899. Georgia Tech won the ACC title game in Tampa in 2009, 39-34.

- The first time Georgia Tech played at Clemson Memorial stadium was 1974, a 21-17 Clemson victory. Clemson won that game on a three-yard touchdown pass from Mike O'Cain (current Virginia Tech quarterback coach) to All-America tight end Bennie Cunningham with 8:26 left.

- Woodrow Dantzler had one of the best all-around games of his career with 164 yards rushing and 254 yards passing in the Clemson victory in Atlanta in 2001. He threw for two scores and ran for two, including a 38-yard "Hail Mary Run" on the last play of the first half to cut Tech's lead to 19-14 at intermission. His 63-yard scoring pass to J.J. McKelvey with 1:58 left put Clemson ahead by three, but Tech tied the count with a 20-yard field goal with just six seconds left. Dantzler's "walk-off" 11-yard touchdown in overtime gave Clemson the win.

- Clemson has had just three games in its history in which both teams scored in the 40s. The first two took place at Georgia Tech. Tech won 45-42 in 1999 and Clemson won 47-44 in overtime in 2001 in Atlanta. The third game took place just two weeks ago, a 56-45 Clemson win at Maryland.

- One of the most unusual statistical occurrences in Clemson history took place during Clemson's 33-12 victory over Georgia Tech in 1987 at Clemson. Clemson entered the game

with a streak of 999 consecutive combined punt returns and kickoff returns without a touchdown dating to 1970. Then, on the 1000th return, Donnell Woolford raced 78 yards with a punt return for a touchdown. Then, later in the game Joe Henderson returned a kickoff return 95 yards for a touchdown. It is one of just two games in Clemson history that the Tigers have returned a punt return for a touchdown and a kickoff return for a touchdown. The other took place in 2009 when Clemson defeated Middle Tennessee State.

C.J. Spiller had arguably the best game of his Clemson career against Georgia Tech in the 2009 ACC Championship game. The unanimous All-American had a career high 233 yards rushing in 20 attempts and scored four touchdowns. He had 301 all-purpose yards and was named the MVP of the game even though Clemson lost 39-34. It is the only time a player on the losing team has been named the MVP of any conference championship game.

Clemson vs. Georgia Tech Thrillers Since 1990

Year	Result	Ending
1990	Tech 21-19	Gardocki missed 60 yard FG with 1 minute left
1991	Clem 9-7	Ronald Williams 2 yard run with 2:06 left, Sisson missed 44-yard FG with 8 seconds left tipped by Wayne Simmons
1992	Tech 20-16	Clemson never in Tech territory in last 5 minutes
1993	Clem 16-13	Tech's Jarrett misses 41-yard FG with 3:01 left
1996	Clem 28-25	Nealon Greene 1 run with 4:10 left
1997	Tech, 23-20	Chambers 20-yard FG with 1:54 left
1998	Tech, 24-21	Joe Burns 1-yard run, 1:00 left
1999	Tech, 45-42	Hamilton threw for 5 TDs and 322 yards for Tech
2000	Tech, 31-28	Godsey throws TD pass to Watkins with 7 seconds left
2001	Clem 47-44	Dantzler scores on 11 yard "walk-off run" to end game in OT
2002	Clem, 24-19	Eric Sampson intercepts pass at Clemson 16 with 1:12 left.
2004	Tech, 28-24	Calvin Johnson 11 pass from Reggie Ball with 11 seconds left
2005	Tech, 10-9	Tech stops Clemson on at Tech 36 with two minutes left
2008	Tech, 21-17	Josh Nesbitt to Demarylus Thomas, 5:22 left
2009	Tech, 30-27	Scott Blair 36-yard field goal, 57 seconds left.
2009	Tech, 39-34	Dwyer 1 run, 1:20 left

ACC Championship Game

December 5, 2009

Georgia Tech 39, Clemson 34

At Tampa, FL

Jonathan Dwyer capped an 86-yard drive with a 15-yard touchdown run with 1:20 left in the game to give #12 Georgia Tech a 39-34 win over #25 Clemson in the ACC Championship game at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, FL on December 5. It was Clemson's first ACC Championship game appearance.

The Tigers overcame a 33-20 deficit by scoring two fourth-quarter touchdowns to take a 34-33 lead with 6:11 left. But thanks to Josh Nesbitt and Dwyer, who both had over 100 rushing yards, and Scott Blair's four field goals, Georgia Tech was victorious. Nesbitt was 9-16 passing for 136 yards and a touchdown.

The Tigers averaged 9.5 yards per carry and 8.1 yards per play in the game and still lost. Georgia Tech totaled 83 offensive plays compared to 51 for Clemson in a game that featured no punts. Both teams gained at least 300 yards on the ground, the only FBS game in 2009 that took place.

C.J. Spiller was the game MVP after totaling 301 all-purpose yards, including 233 yards and four touchdowns. He averaged 11.7 yards per carry and had four rushes of 36 yards or more. It is the only time on record a player on a losing team was named MVP of a conference championship game.

Dabo Swinney's First Game as Clemson Coach

Georgia Tech 21, Clemson 17

October 18, 2008 at Clemson, SC

Josh Nesbitt's 24-yard touchdown pass to Demaryus Thomas with 5:22 left in the game catapulted Georgia Tech to a 21-17 win over Clemson at Memorial Stadium on October 18., 2008. It was Dabo Swinney's first game as Clemson's interim head coach.

The Yellow Jackets built a 14-3 halftime lead only to see the Tigers storm back to take a 17-14 advantage thanks to Aaron Kelly's two touchdown receptions in the third quarter. However, Georgia Tech drove 60 yards for the game-winning score in the fourth quarter.

Georgia Tech amassed 207 yards on 52 carries and was 5-12 passing for 91 yards. Its option offense held the ball for 34:53 and took

advantage of six Tiger turnovers.

Jonathan Dwyer rushed for a game-high 109 yards on 21 carries, while Nesbitt added 77 yards on 26 carries. Thomas had four of the five Yellow Jacket receptions for 56 yards.

Punter Scott Blair was a big reason the Yellow Jackets won the field-position battle, as five of his seven punts pinned Clemson inside its own 20. Morgan Burnett added two of Georgia Tech's four interceptions as well.

The Clemson offense was limited to 249 yards due to a stout Yellow Jacket defense. The Tigers rushed for only 51 yards on 24 carries, while three Tigers combined for 19-32 passing for 198 yards, two touchdowns, and four interceptions. **Clemson played the game without C.J. Spiller, who had been injured the previous game against Wake Forest. It was the only game Spiller missed in his Clemson career.**

Cullen Harper was 15-25 for 170 yards along with two touchdowns and two interceptions. In his first career start, Willy Korn was 4-6 for 28 yards before leaving the game with an injury that he suffered in the first quarter. Aaron Kelly added seven catches for 122 yards and two touchdowns.

Kavell Conner, now with the Indianapolis Colts, led the Tiger defense with 12 tackles, while Chris Clemons had 11 stops. Michael Hamlin added nine tackles, including his first career sack, and Ricky Sapp had a team-high 2.5 tackles for loss.

Tigers From Atlanta

Clemson has 14 players on its roster from the state of Georgia. The list includes starters Dawson Zimmerman, Corico Hawkins, Rennie Moore and Brandon Thompson. Zimmerman is the third best punter in the nation, Hawkins has 35 tackles to rank sixth on the team, Moore has 33 stops to rank just behind him on the tackle chart, and Thompson is third on the squad with 43 tackles. He has 11 quarterback pressures as well.

2011 Clemson Players From Georgia

No	Name	Pos	Yr	Hometown	High School
3	Vic Beasley	TE	#Fr.	Adairsville	Adairsville
21	Darius Robinson	DB	Fr.	College Park	Westlake
27	Martin Jenkins	DB	Fr.	Roswell	Centennial
36	Ammon Lakip	PK	FR	Johns Creak	Chattahoochee
38	Garry Peters	DB	#Fr.	Conyers	Heritage
47	Will Harrison	WR	So	Marietta	Walton
50	Grady Jarrett	DT	Fr.	Conyers	Rockdale County
68	David Beasley	OG	#Fr.	Columbus	Carver
96	Dawson Zimmerman	P	Fr.	Lawrenceville	Brookwood
45	Corico Hawkins	LB	Fr.	Milledgeville	Baldwin
93	Corey Crawford	DE	Fr.	Columbus	Carver
94	Rennie Moore	DT	So	St. Mary's	Camden County
98	Brandon Thompson	DT	So.	Thomasville	Thomasville
77	Reid Webster	OL	#Fr.	Woodstock	Etowah

Red-shirting this year

Immelman and Swinney Have Competition Going

Clemson Head Football Coach Dabo Swinney and professional golfer Trevor Immelman vacation in the same area of Florida in the summer. The calendar year 2008 was a big year for both, as Immelman won the Masters and Swinney became Clemson's head coach. Swinney has recruited Immelman to be a Clemson fan and Swinney follows Immelman's scores on the PGA Tour...at least in the spring and summer.

Each of the last two Saturdays they have had uncommon success and had similar numbers to celebrate. In Clemson's wins over Maryland and North Carolina the Tiger point totals were just a touchdown short of Immelman's golf scores on the PGA Tour.

On Saturday, October 15, Immelman shot a 62 at the McGladrey Classic in Sea Island, GA, the same day Swinney's Tigers put 56 on the board in a 56-45 win at Maryland.

The following Saturday, Clemson scored 59 in a 59-38 victory over North Carolina, while Immelman shot a third round 66 at the Children's Miracle Network Classic in Orlando. After the North Carolina game Swinney sent Immelman a text, "Wish we could have matched your 66." Immelman replied, "I would have liked your 59!"

The fall has been going well for both and even those numbers are similar. The Tigers are ranked fifth in the latest BCS poll and sixth by AP and USA Today. Immelman finished fifth at the McGladrey Classic and sixth at the Children's Miracle Network Classic to comfortably clinch his PGA Tour card for next year.

Clemson Second in Nation in Total Offense Improvement

One of the reasons for Clemson's success this year has been the play of the offense. Clemson is averaging 40.6 points and 482.5 yards

per game. Those figures are much improved over last year as the Tigers averaged just 24 points and 334 yards of total offense last year.

Clemson's improvement of 147.9 yards per game in total offense over last year represents a 44.2 percent increase. The +16.6 points per game represents a 69.2 percent increase in points per game.

Below are two charts that document the improvement:

Clemson Offense Improvement over 2010

Category	2010	2011	Impr	%Imp
Points/Game	24.0	40.6	+16.6	+69.2
Touchdowns/Game	3.0	5.0	+2.0	+66.7
Total Offense	334.6	482.5	+147.9	+44.2
Plays/Game	66.6	78.3	+11.7	+17.6
Yards/Play	5.02	6.17	+1.15	+22.9
TD Passes	1.30	3.0	+1.7	+131.0
Rushing Yards	139.0	178.9	+39.9	+28.7
Passing Yards	195.6	303.6	+108.0	+55.2
Pass Efficiency	115.3	156.6	+41.29	+35.8
First Downs/Game	18.0	23.9	+5.9	+32.7
Turnovers/Game	1.77	1.0	-0.7	-34.5

Most Improved Offenses in the Nation—Total Offense

School	2010	2011	+
South Florida	304.38	478.86	+169.48
Clemson	334.83	482.50	+147.67
Wyoming	285.50	418.33	+132.83
Ohio	326.08	455.38	+129.30
Houston	480.50	606.14	+125.64
West Virginia	372.64	489.86	+117.17
Kansas	296.42	405.29	+108.87
New Mexico State	296.50	404.86	+108.36
Washington State	330.17	433.57	+103.40
Utah State	347.33	450.00	+102.67

Five Tigers on Midseason All-America Teams

Clemson had five different players named to first or second-team midseason All-America teams in October. Tight end Dwayne Allen and defensive end Andre Branch were named to all four teams announced by major services.

Allen was named first-team midseason All-American by CB-Sportsline and ESPN.com. Branch was named second team by Phil Steele and si.com. Branch was named second team by all four. Freshman Sammy Watkins was named first-team by si.com and second-team by CBSportsline.com. Defensive tackle Brandon Thompson made second team by CBSportsline, Phil Steele and ESPN.com, while kicker Chandler Catanzaro was first-team by ESPN.com and honorable mention by Phil Steele.

Consecutive Games with 50 Points or More

Clemson has scored at least 56 points in consecutive games, the first time that has happened in school history. This is the first time Clemson has scored at least half a hundred in consecutive ACC games and the first time against anyone since 2006 when Clemson had consecutive 50 point games in wins over North Carolina and Louisiana Tech.

Dabo Swinney's Tigers beat Maryland 56-45 on October 15, then defeated North Carolina 59-38. Clemson became just the third ACC team in history with consecutive games of at least 56 points, the first to do it since 1992. Virginia accomplished the feat in 1990 and Florida State did it in 1992.

Boyd Tied for National Lead in Touchdown Passes

Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd has 24 touchdown passes so far this year, tied for the most in the nation with Kellen Moore of Boise State. Case Keenum of Houston has 23, while Keith Price of Washington, Seth Doege of Texas Tech and Robert Griffin of Baylor have 22 apiece.

Boyd, who has just three interceptions, also ranks second in the nation in point responsibility with 22 per game. That statistic is based on the points scored by the player through touchdown passes or rushing touchdowns. Boyd has 28 touchdowns rushing and passing and needs just four to break the Clemson single season mark of 31 by Woody Dantzler in 2001.

Boyd had 367 yard passing in the win over North Carolina to go with five touchdown passes. That yardage total was fourth best in Clemson history and he now has two of the top four single game passing yardage figures in school history. The record is 420 by Charlie Whitehurst against Duke in 2002. Boyd also had a 386-yard passing game against Auburn earlier this year.

Boyd Outstanding in Second Half

Tajh Boyd has had an outstanding year, but he has been especially efficient in the second half of game. So far this year in the second half he is 76-110 for 1181 yards and 13 touchdowns without an interception. That includes a .691 completion percentage, 10.74 yards per attempt and a 198.28 passing efficiency.

Tajh Boyd Passing by Half

Category	1 st	2 nd
Completions	96	76
Attempts	168	110
Yards	1198	1181
Td/Int	11/3	13/0
Comp. %	.571	.691
Yds/Att	7.13	10.74
Yds/Comp	12.48	15.54
Efficiency	135.08	198.28

Eight is Not Enough

Clemson has won its first eight games this year, just the fourth time in school history that has happened, the first time since 2000. That year Clemson's streak ended with a 31-28 loss at Clemson to Georgia Tech, Saturday's opponent.

A win at Georgia Tech would give the Tigers a 9-0 record to start the season, something that has not happened since 1981, the year Clemson won the National Championship. The only other year the Tigers have won their first nine was in 1948 when Clemson finished 11-0 under legendary head coach Frank Howard.

The last time Clemson won nine in a row at any time was from the end of the 1988 season to the start of the 1989 season. Clemson won its last five games of 1988 and the first four games of 1989 under Head Coach Danny Ford. That streak was broken by Duke and then head coach Steve Spurrier, 21-17 in a game at Durham, NC.

The Clemson record for consecutive wins is 15 set between 1947-49 under Frank Howard. Clemson won its last three games of 1947, then went 11-0 in 1948. The Tigers won the opener against Presbyterian in 1949, but h streak was snapped the next week with a loss to Rice against former Clemson Coach Jess Neely.

Overall, this is the 13th time in school history Clemson has won at least eight in a row in one season or over two or three seasons.

Clemson's Longest Winning Streaks

Date	Streak Start		Streak Ended		Opponent	GP
	Cu-Opp	Opponent	Date	CU-Opp		
11-8-1947	35-7	Furman	9-24-1949	7-33	Rice	15
10-7-1939	25-6	NC State	11-2-1940	0-13	Tulane	13
11-22-1980	27-6	So, Carolina	9-6-1982	7-13	Georgia	13
9-30-1978	31-0	Villanova	9-15-1979	0-19	Maryland	11
9-25-1982	21-10	W. Carolina	9-10-1983	16-31	Boston College	10
9-24-1983	41-14	Georgia Tech	9-22-1984	23-26	Georgia	10
11-9-1899	34-0	So, Carolina	10-19-1901	6-6	Tennessee	9
10-28-1950	13-12	Wake Forest	10-13-1951	7-21	Pacific	9
11-23/1929	13-0	Citadel	11-1-1930	0-27	Tennessee	8
10-29-1988	38-21	Wake Forest	9-30-1989	17-21	Duke	9
10-20-1990	24-17	NC State	10-5-1991	12-27	Georgia	8
9-2-2000	38-0	Citadel	10-28-2000	28-31	Georgia Tech	8
9-3-2011	43-19	Troy	???????			

Watkins Nearing Freshman ACC Records

Clemson wide receiver Sammy Watkins is on the verge of setting three ACC records and one Clemson freshman record this weekend. The freshman from Ft. Myers, FL needs just five receptions, 35 receiving yards and one receiving touchdown to establish ACC freshman records in each category.

For the season, Watkins has 54 catches for 819 yards and nine touchdowns, already Clemson marks. The ACC record for receptions in a season is 58 by Wali Lundy of Virginia in 2002 and Frank Wychek of Maryland in 1990. Those two players were actually running backs. Koren Robinson of NC State had 853 receiving yards in 1999. The ACC freshman touchdown reception mark is nine held by Watkins, Greg Carr of Florida State in 2005 and Heath Miller of Virginia in 2002.

Watkins is one of a few Clemson players with records in range entering Saturday's game at Georgia Tech.

Summary of Records in Range

Sammy Watkins

•Needs 35 receiving yards to establish ACC freshman record. Watkins has 819 and Koren Robinson of NC State had 853 in 1999.

- Needs one touchdown reception to establish ACC freshman record. Watkins, Greg Carr of Florida State (2005) and Heath Miller of Virginia (2002) had nine

- Needs five receptions to establish ACC freshman record. Watkins has 54 and Wali Lundy of Virginia (2002) and Frank Wychek of Maryland (1990) had 58.

- Needs 25 all-purpose yards to break C.J. Spiller's freshman record of 1415 in 2006.

- Needs three touchdowns to break C.J. Spiller's freshman touchdown record. Watkins has 10 and Spiller had 12 in 2006.

- Needs 60 kickoff return yards to break Ray Williams freshman kickoff return yardage record of 494 yards.

Tajh Boyd

- Needs four touchdown passes to break Clemson single season record. He has 24 and the record is 27 by Cullen Harper in 2007.

- Needs four touchdowns rushing or passing to break Woody Dantzler record for touchdown responsibility in a season. Dantzler had 31 in 2001 and Boyd has 28 so far this year.

Dwayne Allen

- Needs three touchdown receptions to set single season touchdown catch for a Clemson tight end.

Allen Nearing TD Record for Tight End

Dwayne Allen caught his fifth touchdown pass of the season against North Carolina, a nine-yard scoring pass from Tajh Boyd in the third period. Allen now has 33 receptions for 432 yards and those five scores. He is on pace to establish Clemson tight end records in all three areas.

The Clemson single season mark for receptions in a season is 43, set by Michael Palmer during the 2009 season. Palmer also established the record for pass reception yards that year with 507. Allen was Palmer's backup in 2009 as a freshman.

The Clemson touchdown reception record for a season is seven by Bennie Cunningham in 1974. Cunningham was a first-team All-American that year and was the only tight end on the ACC's 50-Year Anniversary team in 2002.

Allen was named to the John Mackey Award midseason Watch List last week. He is joined on the list by ACC players George Bryan of NC State, and Matt Furstenberg of Maryland.

Allen on Midseason Mackey Award List

Clemson tight end Dwayne Allen is one of 25 tight ends from across the country on the John Mackey Award midseason list. It is the second straight year Allen has been named to the list for the award that goes to the top tight end in college football.

Allen has had at least four catches in each of the last six games, including the win over Auburn when he had seven catches for 80 yards and a touchdown. For the year, Allen has 33 receptions for 432 yards and four touchdowns. He averages 13.1 yards per reception.

Allen was also named first-team Midseason All-American by ESPN.com and was a second-team selection by three other services.

Koutnei Brown Has Career Day

Clemson graduate student Kourtnei Brown had the game of his life in the Tigers victory over North Carolina on October 22. The native of Charlotte, NC had two defensive returns for touchdowns, the first time a Clemson player had two defensive returns for scores since 1954.

First, Brown had a 20-yard interception return for a touchdown in the second period, then had a 26-yard fumble return for another score in the third period. His first touchdown put the Tigers ahead 24-10, a big turning point in the game.

Brown was the first Tiger to have two defensive scores in the same game since 1954 when Walt Larraway scored on an interception return and a blocked punt against The Citadel. Larraway played both ways and on special teams in those days, a true 60-minute man.

Brown was named the Walter Camp Foundation National Defensive Player of the Week and the National Defensive Performer of the Week by the College Football Performance Awards for his efforts against the Tar Heels.

Brown was also just the third player in the last 12 years to have a score on a fumble return and an interception return in the same game. Paul McClendon of Texas Tech had a six-yard fumble return and a 50-yard interception return for a score against North Texas on Sept. 22, 2001, and Shawn Hackett of West Virginia had a 50-yard interception return and a 10-yard fumble return against Rutgers on Nov. 3, 2001. So no one had done it in almost 10 years.

Hopkins Has Career Day

DeAndre Hopkins had a career high 157 receiving yards in the win over North Carolina. He had a career high tying nine receptions, including a 25-yard scoring reception from Tajh Boyd. Hopkins reception yardage total was the best by a Clemson player this year, two yards better than the 155 yards Sammy Watkins had against Auburn earlier this year. Hopkins now has 37 catches for 510 yards and four scores this season. He was the top pass catcher on the Tigers last year with 52 receptions for 637 yards and four touchdowns. For his career he now has 89 receptions for 1147 yards and eight scores. Eleven more receptions and he will become the 17th Clemson player with at least 100 receptions.

Tigers Among Best in Turnover Margin

Turnover margin has been a big part of Clemson's success so far this year. Clemson is +9 in turnovers so far, as the Tigers have forced 17 and committed just eight. Clemson forced six turnovers in the win over North Carolina, the most by the Clemson defense since the 2004 NC State game. Clemson now ranks 12th in the nation in turnover margin, 18th in forcing turnovers, 16th in the nation in interceptions by the defense. The Tigers have lost the turnover margin statistic just once this year, the game at Maryland.

A 35-Point Quarter

Clemson scored 35 points in the third period of its 59-38 win over North Carolina on October 22. It was the most points in a quarter since the Tigers scored 35 against Wake Forest in an 82-24 victory in 1981. Fittingly, the 1981 Clemson team was honored at halftime of Saturday's game on the occasion of the team's 30 year anniversary of winning the National Championship.

One of the touchdowns scored in the third period came on a 12-yard scoring pass from Tajh Boyd to Brandon Ford. Ford shares the same last name as Clemson's 1981 head coach, Danny Ford. Brandon Ford's high school coach was Jeff Cruce, who played on Clemson's 1981 National Championship team. Cruce was at the game and witnessed his former player's score.

Christopher "Kit" Southwick set a Clemson Tiger mascot pushup record when he did 225 pushups during the third quarter of the Clemson-North Carolina football game. Old record was by Dan Licata of 210 against Central Michigan in 2007.

The 35 points in the third period tied the all-time record for most points in a quarter. The 1981 team scored 35 in the second period of that Wake Forest game in 1981. Those are the only 35-point quarters on record in Clemson history.

Watkins Named Paul Hornung Award Co-Player of the Week

Clemson freshman Sammy Watkins was named one of two Paul Hornung Award Players of the Week for his performance in Clemson's win at Maryland. The Hornung Award, presented by Texas Roadhouse, is awarded annually to the most versatile player in major college football.

Watkins had a Clemson record 345 all-purpose yards against Maryland. He had eight catches for 105 yards and two scores, and five kickoff returns for 207 yards. He also had a 33-yard run in his only carry. The 345 all-purpose yards broke C.J. Spiller's record of 312 set against Florida State in 2009 and rank as the fourth most for a single game in ACC history.

Watkins had three total touchdowns, the two reception scores, and an 89-yard kickoff return for a score. The three touchdowns tied a Clemson freshman record for a single game set by Ronald Williams against Appalachian State in 1990. Watkins 207 kickoff return yards were the second most in Clemson history. Justin Miller had a then NCAA record 282 kickoff return yards at Florida State in 2004.

Watkins was also just the second player in the last 12 years to have at least 200 kickoff return yards, 100 receiving yards and three touchdowns in the same game. The other was Eric Page of Toledo, who did it in 2010.

Clemson Top All-Purpose Running Games

Yds	Player	Opponent	Year	Rush	Rec	PR	KOR
345	Sammy Watkins	at Maryland	2011	33	105		207
312	C.J. Spiller	Florida State	2009	165	67	9	71
310	C.J. Spiller	at Miami (FL)	2009	81	104		125
301	C.J. Spiller	Georgia Tech	2009	233	5		63
282	Justin Miller	at Florida State	2004				282
274	Terrence Flagler	at Wake Forest	1986	209	65		
267	Tony Horne	Florida State	1997			131	27 109

Clemson top Kickoff Return Yards Games

Yds	Player	Opponent	Year
282	Justin Miller	at Florida State	2004
207	Sammy Watkins	at Maryland	2011
174	Dave Thomas	at Georgia Tech	1972
160	John Shields	Alabama	1969
159	Dennis Goss	at North Carolina	1971
158	Terrance Roulhac	South Carolina	1986

ACC's Top All-Purpose Running Games

Yds	Player (School)	Opponent	Year
411	John Leach (WF)	Maryland	1993
397	Brandon Tate (UNC)	McNeese St	2008
372	Pete Warrick (FSU)	Clemson	1997
345	Sammy Watkins (Clem)	Maryland	2011

Notes on Dabo Swinney

•Has taken Clemson to an 8-0 record to start the 2011 season. He is one of just four coaches to lead Clemson to a 8-0 or better start to a season. He joins Frank Howard (1948, 11-0), Danny Ford (1981, 12-0) and Tommy Bowden (2000, 8-0 start)

•Has a 19-4 record in Clemson Memorial Stadium for his career, a .826 winning percentage. That is the third best home winning percentage for a Clemson coach in history. Josh Cody was 13-0-1, Ken Hatfield was 22-3-1 (.865), and then Swinney.

•Swinney has an overall record of 27-15 for a .643 winning percentage. That ranks as the fourth best for a Clemson coach since 1903.

•Has coached a unanimous first-team All-American each of the last two years, C.J. Spiller in 2009 and Da'Quan Bowers in 2010.

•Listed among five coaches being followed by officials at the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Award Foundation. The Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Award is presented annually by the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Foundation of Chattanooga, TN. The others are Bret Bielema of Wisconsin, Nick Saban of Alabama, Bob Stoops of Oklahoma and Ron Zook of Illinois.

•Has coached Clemson to three wins over top 25 teams this year, tying the single season record for wins over ranked opponents.

Clemson Registers Second Best Comeback on Record

Clemson overcame an 18-point deficit on two occasions and defeated Maryland 56-45 on October 15 in College Park, MD. It was the highest scoring game for the Tigers in an ACC game since the Tigers scored 59 in a 59-31 win over Duke in 2001. The 101 combined points were the most in a Clemson game since the Tigers defeated Wake Forest 82-24 on Halloween 1981.

Clemson fell behind 28-10 in the first half as the Terps scored 14 early points off Clemson turnovers. The Tigers had allowed just 16 opponent points off turnovers in the first six games, then Maryland got 14 in the first quarter.

Clemson still trailed 35-17 in the second half and Maryland had the ball. But, freshman Bashaud Breeland had an interception return that set up a score, as Clemson went on a 25-3 run to take a 42-38 lead.

Maryland came back to take a 45-42 lead on a long drive with seven minutes left. But, Sammy Watkins returned the ensuing kickoff 89 yards for a score. It gave Clemson a 49-45 lead and the Tigers never trailed again. Andre Ellington, who rushed for a career high 212 yards, clinched the game with a 44-yard touchdown run with four minutes left.

It was the second largest deficit overcome to gain victory in school history. The only comeback that is better took place in 1992 when Clemson overcame a 28-point deficit at Virginia to win 29-28.

Earlier this year Clemson trailed Auburn by 14 points, 21-7, before winning 38-24. This is the first team in Clemson history to overcome a pair of 14 point deficits to win in the same season.

Clemson's Greatest Comebacks

Date	Opponent	Score	Def	Final
10-10-92	at Virginia	0-28	28	29-28
10-15-11	at Maryland	17-35	18	56-45
10-21-00	at North Carolina	0-17	17	38-24
9-24-66	Virginia	18-35	17	40-35
9-17-11	Auburn	7-21	14	38-24
9-26-53	at Boston College	0-14	14	14-14
11-17-62	at Maryland	0-14	14	17-14
10-11-80	at Virginia	10-24	*14	27-24
11-2-02	at Duke	10-24	*14	34-31
11-6-04	at Miami (FL)	3-17	14	24-17
10-7-06	at Wake Forest	3-17	*14	27-17

2011 games in bold, *Fourth Quarter deficit

Ellington Records Career High

Andre Ellington gained a career high 212 yards rushing at Maryland. That was his career high, far ahead of the 166 he had in a victory over Georgia Tech in 2010. It was his third 100-yard game of the season, his second in a row, and seventh of his career. This is the second time in his career he has had back to back 100-yard games. He had 140 vs. Auburn and 107 vs. Miami last year.

So far this year, Ellington has had 165 against Wofford, 117 vs. Boston College and 212 against Maryland. Ellington enters the Georgia Tech averaging 5.8 yards per attempt. He has 332 attempts for 1922 career yards and 21 touchdowns. Obviously he needs just 78 yards to reach 2000 rushing yards for his career. When he does he will become the 18th player in Clemson history with at least 2000 rushing yards.

So far this year Ellington has 745 rushing yards and he has seven touchdowns and a 5.1 average.

Tigers in the NCAA Top 25

Team

- 15th in total offense, 482.5 yards/game
- 12st in scoring offense with 40.6 points per game
- 25th in kickoff returns with 24.1 average
- 13th in passing efficiency with 156.54 points
- 5th in fewest interceptions thrown, 3
- 22nd in first downs on offense, 23.88
- 22nd in third down conversions, .486
- 16th in passes intercepted 10
- 4th in fewest penalties/game, 3.75
- 15th in fewest penalty yards/game 38.38
- 12th in turnover margin, +1.13
- 18th in forcing turnovers, 17

Individual

- Tajh Boyd, 11th in passing efficiency, 160.1 points
- Tajh Boyd, 10th in total offense, 318.0 yards per game
- Tajh Boyd, 1st in touchdown passes, 24
- Tajh Boyd, 9th in passing yards/game, 297.4
- Sammy Watkins, 7th in all-purpose yards/game 173.9
- Sammy Watkins 19th in kickoff returns with 28.9 average
- Sammy Watkins 16th in reception yard per game, 102.0
- Sammy Watkins, 20th in receptions/game with 6.75
- Sammy Watkins, 3rd in touchdown receptions with 9
- Andre Branch 9th in sacks/game with 1.0
- Andre Branch 11th in tackles for loss per game with 1.5
- Chandler Catanzaro is 16th in field goals per game with 1.62
- Chandler Catanzaro is 21st in scoring with 9.38 points per game

Watkins Breaks Spiller's Record

It took Sammy Watkins just seven games to break one of C.J. Spiller's most impressive single game records. Watkins had 345 all-purpose running yards in the 56-45 win in College Park. The native of Fort Myers, FL had five kickoff returns for 207 yards, including an 89-yarder for a touchdown and a 70-yarder that set up another score. He also had eight receptions for 105 yards, plus a 33-yard run from scrimmage.

As you can see by the list below, Watkins already owns 11 Clemson freshman records and more should be on the way.

The 345 all-purpose yards were not only a Clemson record, but the fourth highest single game total in ACC history. The record is 411 yards by John Leach of Wake Forest vs. Maryland in 1993

Watkins broke C.J. Spiller's Clemson standard of 312 all-purpose running yards against Florida State in 2009. Watkins also scored three touchdowns, two receiving and one on a kickoff return and joined Ronald Williams as the only Clemson freshmen to score three touchdowns in a game. Williams had three against Appalachian State in 1990. Watkins has been honored five times in eight games by the ACC this year. Watkins has been named ACC Rookie of the week four times this year and has been the receiver of the week twice.

He has 54 receptions for 819 yards and nine touchdowns this year in just eight games. He already has the Clemson freshman record for reception yards in a season and receptions. He established the freshman touchdown reception record in just four games. He has 10 touchdowns overall and needs just two touchdowns to tie Spiller's freshman touchdown record.

Clemson Freshman Records

Single Game

Receptions: 10 by Sammy Watkins vs. Auburn, 2011

Reception Yards: 155 by Sammy Watkins vs. Auburn, 2011

Reception TDs: 2 by **Sammy Watkins vs. Auburn, Maryland 2011**
Total TDs: 3 by Ronald Williams vs. Appalachian State, 1990
3 by Sammy Watkins vs. Maryland, 2011
Total Points: 18 by Ronald Williams vs. Appalachian State, 1990
18 by Sammy Watkins vs. Maryland, 2011
Rushing Yards: 234 by Don King vs. Fordham, 1952
All-Purpose Yards: #345 by **Sammy Watkins vs. Maryland, 2011**
Long Reception: 82 by C.J. Spiller vs. Boston College, 2006
Long Run: 88 by Bobby Gage vs. Presbyterian, 1945
Long Punt Return: 92 by Jacoby Ford vs. Florida International, 2006
Long Kickoff Return: 100 by Derrick Hamilton vs. Maryland, 2001
Most Punt Return Yards: 116 by Darnell Stephens vs. Maryland, 1991
Most Kickoff Return Yards: 207 by **Sammy Watkins (5 returns) vs. Maryland, 2011**

Season

Receptions: 54 by **Sammy Watkins, 2011**
Reception Yards: 819 by **Sammy Watkins, 2011**
100-yard Receiving Games: 3 DeAndre Hopkins, 2010
3, Sammy Watkins, 2011
150-Yard Receiving Games: 2, **Sammy Watkins, 2011**
Yds/Reception: 18.0 by Ray Williams, 1983
All-Purpose Yards: 1415, C.J. Spiller, 2006
Total Points: 88 by Nelson Welch, 1991
Total Touchdowns: 12 by C.J. Spiller, 2006
Reception TDs: 9 by **Sammy Watkins, 2011**
Punt Return Yards: 362 by Darnell Stephens, 1991
Kickoff Return Yards: 494 by Ray Williams
Consecutive Games with a TD: 5 by C.J. Spiller, 2006
 #all-time Clemson record regardless of class

Watkins sweeps Awards from Rivals.com

Clemson wide receiver Sammy Watkins was named National Player of the Week, National Freshman of the Week and ACC Player of the Week by Rivals.com for his performance against Maryland on Saturday. It is the third time he has been named the National Freshman of the Week within the first seven weeks of the season by Rivals.com.

Watkins had 345 all-purpose yards in Clemson's 56-45 victory over Maryland in College Park, a victory that gave the Tigers a 7-0 record overall, 4-0 in the ACC. Watkins had eight receptions for 105 yards and two touchdowns, a 33-yard rush and five kickoff returns for 207 yards, including an 89-yard return for a touchdown.

Watkins broke C.J. Spiller's Clemson single game all-purpose running record. Spiller had 312 all-purpose yards against Florida State in 2009. Watkins now has 46 receptions for 728 yards and eight touchdowns, marks that are already Clemson freshman records.

The native of Fort Myers, FL is 10th in the nation in all-purpose running yards per game (172.1), and 18th in reception yards per game (104.0). He is third in the nation in touchdown receptions with eight. He leads all freshmen nationally in reception yards per game, all-purpose running yards per game and touchdown receptions.

Boyd Sets Victories Record, Challenging Others

Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd completed 26 of 38 passes for 270 yards and four touchdowns in the win at Maryland. He led Clemson to a seventh straight victory and established a record in the process. Boyd is the first Clemson quarterback to win his first seven games as a starter. The previous record was six by Mike Eppley over the 1982 and 1983 seasons. He has now won eight in a row.

Boyd needs just four touchdown passes to break Cullen Harper's record of 27 in 2007. He has thrown at least one TD pass in each of his last nine games, already a school record.

His 297 passing yards per game and 318 total offense per game lead the ACC and are on a Clemson record pace. Charlie Whitehurst has the record for passing yards per game with 274 yards per game in 2003 and Woody Dantzler has the total offense record with 303.3 yards per game in 2001. The touchdown pass record is 27 by Cullen Harper in 2007. Boyd already has four games with at least three touchdown passes and has thrown at least one scoring pass in every game.

Clemson 21-7 in Redemption Home Games Since 1999

Clemson's 4-0 this year against teams that defeated the Tigers on the road in 2010. North Carolina was the fourth victim for the Tigers in this situation. In 2010, Auburn defeated Clemson in Auburn 27-24 in overtime, then the Tigers won 38-24 at Clemson on September 17. The following week, Clemson defeated Florida State, 35-30. The Seminoles defeated Clemson last year 16-13 in Tallahassee.

Boston College came to town after downing the Tigers 16-10 last

year and left with a 36-14 loss. North Carolina came to Clemson after defeating the Tigers last year in Chapel Hill, 21-16. The Tigers responded with a 59-38 victory.

Clemson has been successful in games in this situation in recent years. Since 1999, Clemson is 21-7 at home against teams that defeated the Tigers on the road the previous year. Clemson won nine straight games in this situation between the 2003 Virginia game and the 2006 Georgia Tech game. Virginia Tech broke the streak in 2007 with a 41-23 win at Clemson.

Goodman Has Best Day vs. Boston College

Junior defensive end Mallicah Goodman had his best game of the season in the win over Boston College. The native of Florence, SC had six tackles, but three of them were for a loss, including a sack. He had all three tackles for loss in the first quarter and was a big reason Boston College had just 14 points and 258 yards of total offense.

Goodman has 31 tackles for the year and 10 quarterback pressures. He is second on the Clemson team in quarterback pressures. This is Goodman's first year as a starter. He played behind 2010 Bronko Nagurski Award winner Da'Quan Bowers last year.

Six Players with a Play of 50 Yards or More

An indication of the amount of weapons on the Clemson offense is the number of players with a play of 50 yards or more so far this year. Through seven games Clemson has six different players who have been involved in 10 scrimmage plays of 50 yards or more. The record for a season is seven different players, established in 2001.

So far this year, Sammy Watkins has had three different pass plays of at least 60 yards, two 62-yard receptions and a 65 yard catch. Mike Bellamy has a 75-yard run, Andre Ellington had a 74-yard run, Dwayne Allen has a 54-yard reception, DeAndre Hopkins has a 50-yard catch and Martavis Bryant has a 54 yard catch.

Clemson one of 8 Undefeated Teams

Clemson is one of 8 undefeated teams in college football, including one of just three who are 8-0.

Schedule of Undefeated Teams this Week

Team	W-L	Opponent this week
Alabama	8-0	Open
LSU	8-0	Open
Boise State	7-0	Open
Kansas State	7-0	vs. Oklahoma
Stanford	7-0	vs. Southern Cal
Clemson	7-0	vs. Georgia Tech
Houston	7-0	vs. Rice (Thursday)
Oklahoma State	7-0	vs. Baylor

Tigers Bowl Eligible on October 8

When Clemson defeated Boston College on October 8 the Tigers became bowl eligible with six victories. That is the earliest Clemson has been bowl eligible in its history.

Clemson won its sixth game of the 2000 season on October 7, but one of the victories to open that season was against Division I-AA Citadel. In those days you could not count a win over a Division I-AA team towards your six wins to become bowl eligible.

Stoudt Performs Well off the Bench

Clemson true freshman Cole Stoudt came off the bench to guide the Clemson offense to victory over Boston College on October 8. Stoudt replaced starter Tajh Boyd after Boyd suffered a hip injury on Clemson's first drive of the second half. Boyd played the first 52 snaps at quarterback for Clemson and Stoudt was at the helm for the last 28.

Stoudt completed 6-10 passes for 37 yards during his time at quarterback. He entered with the score 23-7 in favor of the Tigers so he helped the Tigers to 13 points. It was a solid performance because he had not played since the opening game of the year and he had taken just seven snaps prior to entering the Boston College game. Stoudt is the son of former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Cliff Stoudt.

Watkins Approaching a Career Record

One of the most telling statistics on the impact of Clemson freshman Sammy Watkins has been his ability to have high receiving yardage games. In just eight games, Watkins already has three games of at least 140 receiving yards. That ranks second in Clemson history.

Let me repeat that, Sammy Watkins is second in Clemson history in career receiving yard games of 140 yards or more. Perry Tuttle had four in his 46 games at Clemson from 1978-81 and Watkins needs just one

more to tie him for the career record. You just don't run into a lot of freshmen setting career records.

Watkins had 10 catches for 155 yards in the victory over Auburn. He followed that with seven for 142 in the win over Florida State. Then, in the win over Boston College, he had seven catches for 152 yards.

Watkins has six of the top 12 single game freshman reception bests in Clemson history, including his freshman record 10 catches against Auburn in his third career game.

Clemson Career Leaders in Receiving Games of 140 Yards or More

Rk	Player	Years	GP	140 Games
1.	Perry Tuttle	1978-81	46	4
2.	Sammy Watkins	2011	7	3
3.	Rod Gardner	1997-00	47	2
4.	Aaron Kelly	2005-08	51	2
5.	Brian Wofford	1996-99	47	2

Clemson Freshman Top Reception Games

Player	Opponent	Year	Rec-Yds
Sammy Watkins	Auburn	2011	10-155
Terry Smith	Maryland	1990	9-84
Derrick Hamilton	Virginia	2001	9-90
Derrick Hamilton	NC State	2001	8-106
Sammy Watkins	Maryland	2011	8-105
Kenya Crooks	Georgia	1994	8-66
Sammy Watkins	North Carolina	2011	8-91
Sammy Watkins	Boston College	2011	7-152
Sammy Watkins	Florida State	2011	7-142
Sammy Watkins	Troy	2011	7-81
Aaron Kelly	Tempe	2005	7-155
DeAndre Hopkins	North Carolina	2010	7-46
Derrick Hamilton	Florida State	2001	7-88
Derrick Hamilton	Georgia Tech	2001	7-75

It Hasn't Taken Sammy Watkins Long to...

- Set the Clemson freshman record for touchdown receptions. He has nine and the record was four set by many players, including current teammate DeAndre Hopkins. Watkins set the record in just four games.

- Join Rod Gardner as the only receivers in Clemson history to have consecutive games with at least 140 receiving yards. He had 155 on 10 catches in the win over Auburn and 7-141 in the win over Florida State.

- Lead the team in all-purpose running yards (1391), receptions (54), and receiving yards (819).

- Be named National Freshman of the Week three times within the first seven weeks of the season. He was named by Rivals.com for the Auburn, Florida State and Maryland games. He was named the National Player of the Week for the Maryland game as well.

- Become the first Clemson freshman to score a touchdown in each of his first four games. He is the last Clemson player of any class to score a TD in each of the first four games of the season since C.J. Spiller scored a TD in every game of the 2009 season (14 games).

- Become the first freshman in ACC history to score six receiving touchdowns within the first four games of his career. Previous best was just five. The ACC freshman reception touchdown record is nine by Greg Carr of Florida State in 2005 and Heath Miller of Virginia in 2002.

- Become just the third FBS freshman to get at least six touchdown receptions in the first four games of his freshman year since 2000. The only other FBS freshmen to do it since 2000 are Michael Crabtree of Texas Tech, who had 11 in his first four games of 2007, and Todd Blythe of Iowa State, who had six in his first four games as a freshman in 2004.

- Record three receiving games of at least 140 yards, second on the Clemson career list behind Perry Tuttle who had four.

- Win ACC Rookie of the Week honors four times in the first seven games and be named receiver of the week twice.

Clemson Scored in a record 22 Straight Quarters

Clemson set a school record for consecutive quarters scoring in the North Carolina game. That streak also came to an end in the 59-38 Clemson win. Clemson scored in 22 straight, breaking the record of 20 set in 1983.

It is interesting to note that four of the top five streaks in school history have been stopped by North Carolina. Clemson has scored in every quarter this year but three, the second period of the Troy game, the first period of the Auburn game and the fourth period of the North Carolina game.

Most Consecutive Quarters Scoring, Clemson History

Year	Started	Ended	Qtrs
2011	9/17/11	10/22/11 vs. UNC (4th)	22
1983	9/24/83	11/5/83 vs. UNC (1 st)	20
2001	9/8/11	10/20/11 vs. UNC (2 nd)	17
2003	11/1/03	1/2/04 vs. Tennessee (3 rd)	15
1978	10/14/78	11/11/78 vs. UNC (2 nd)	15

Zimmerman Ranks among Clemson's Best

Clemson punter Dawson Zimmerman is having another outstanding year. He ranks third in the ACC in punting (min of 3.6 attempts) with a 42.7 average. With the success of the Clemson offense, he has just 35 punts in eight games. He has 12 punts inside the 20 and just five touchbacks.

Zimmerman is now sixth in Clemson history in punting average with a 41.0 average. He has 52 punts inside the 20 against just 16 touchbacks, so he has an ability to pin teams inside their own redzone.

Zimmerman has a 3.93 grade point average and is one of 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior Class Award.

Catanzaro Has Best Day

Clemson kicker Chandler Catanzaro was a perfect 5-5 on field goals in the win over Boston College. He connected on kicks of 18, 20, 38, 42 and 47 yards on a windy day in Death Valley.

Catanzaro is now 13-16 on field goals for the year, including 5-7 on attempts of 40 yards or more. For his career he is 11-16 on field goal attempts from that distance, 68.8 percent, nearly better than his percentage inside 40 yards (14-20 for .700).

For his performance against Boston College, Catanzaro won the Leather Helmet Award, an honor presented by the Boston College touchdown Club to the MVP of the Clemson vs. Boston College game. He also was named the National Kicker of the Week by the College Football Performance Awards, and was one of three kickers named as the Lou Groza Award Performer of the Week.

ESPN.com named Catanzaro the mid-season first-team All-America kicker. He has made eight straight field goals entering the North Carolina game.

Clemson Had Three Straight Wins over Top 20 Teams

With its October 1 win over 10th ranked (USA Today) and 11th ranked AP Virginia Tech, **Clemson became the first ACC team to win three consecutive games over teams ranked in the top 25 of both major polls.** Clemson defeated Auburn and Florida State the two weeks before that and both were ranked in the top 25 of both polls.

Clemson had won back-to-back games over ranked teams four times previously, in 1982, 1983, 1988 and 2005. Georgia Tech (1959) and Virginia Tech (2002) had done three victories in three weeks over ranked team, but they were not in the ACC at the time of the accomplishment. Maryland beat three straight top 20 teams in 1984, but two of the teams in the streak were only ranked in one poll.

The win at Virginia Tech was Clemson's 20th road win over a ranked team in its history, but its first by 20 points. Clemson's previous largest margin of victory over a ranked team on the road was 11 points, a 28-17 win at 19th ranked North Carolina in 1994, and a 34-23 win at 16th ranked Florida State in 1989.

Clemson's defense was outstanding in the 23-3 victory. Clemson held Virginia Tech without a touchdown in a home game for the first time since 1995.

Clemson Moves to Sixth in Both Polls

Clemson moved from unranked in both polls, to sixth in both rankings with its three straight wins over top 20 teams. This was the highest ranking for the Tigers since October 22, 2000 when the Tigers were fifth in AP and fourth in USA Today after an 8-0 start to the year. Clemson was ranked in the top 10 for six straight weeks that year.

This is Clemson's fourth straight week ranked eighth in both polls. The Tigers are also sixth in the Harris Interactive poll.

The last time Clemson was ranked in the top 10 was for the pre-season poll of 2008 when the Tigers were ninth in both polls. The last time Clemson was ranked in the top 10 during the regular season was in 2006. Clemson was 10th after a 7-1 start to that year. Clemson then dropped out of the top 10 with a 24-7 loss at Virginia Tech. Ironically, Clemson now enters the top 10 for the first time since that loss at Virginia Tech with a victory over the Hokies in Blacksburg.

Stopping Streaks and Landmark Wins

On September 17 Clemson ended Auburn's 17-game winning streak, the longest streak in Auburn history, the longest active streak in the

nation and the longest streak Clemson has ended in its history. Clemson also ended its 14-game losing streak to Auburn. The Tigers had not beaten the Auburn Tigers since 1951.

At Virginia Tech, Clemson ended the Hokies, 12-game ACC winning streak, its 14-game regular season winning streak, and its five game winning streak against Clemson. The Tigers had not beaten Virginia Tech since 1989.

Tigers Start 8-0

Clemson is 8-0 for the first time since 2000 when the Tigers started 8-0. It is just the fourth start of at least 8-0 in the history of Clemson football, just the second since Clemson won the National Championship with a 12-0 mark in 1981.

Clemson is now 5-0 in the ACC to start the season for the first time since 2000 when the Tigers defeated started 5-0 in the ACC.

Clemson won five straight games to open the season against five teams who won some type of a championship last year. Clemson defeated Troy (Sun Belt Champion), Wofford (Southern Conference), Auburn (SEC and National Champion), Florida State (Atlantic Division of ACC) and Virginia Tech (ACC), to open the season. Virginia Tech and Auburn are still ranked in the AP and USA Today polls and Wofford is ranked in the top 10 in the FCS poll.

A victory would give Clemson its first 9-0 start since 1981 when Clemson won the National Championship.

Clemson's Starts of 8-0 or Better

Year	W-L	CU Rank	Ended by
1948	11-0		No one
1981	12-0		no one
2000	8-0	5th	Georgia Tech, 28-31
2011	8-0	6th	

Branch Has Best Game of Career

Andre Branch, a native of Richmond, VA, had a career high tying 11 tackles (11 vs. Wofford this year), and a record tying four sacks and six tackles for loss in the win at Virginia Tech.

His tackle for loss and sack totals tied for the best in Clemson history for a single game. Keith Adams had four sacks and six tackles for loss against Duke in a game at Clemson in 1999. Branch's performance is the best ever by a Clemson defensive lineman and best by a Clemson player in a road game.

For his efforts, Branch was named the National Defensive Player of the Week and the National Defensive Lineman of the Week by the College Football Performance Awards. Branch has jumped to 9th in the nation in sacks per game and is 11th in tackles for loss. He was the first ACC player with four sacks in a game this year. He now leads the ACC in sacks with eight.

Additionally, Branch was named ACC Defensive lineman of the Week, the National Defensive Player of the Week by College Sports madness and the College Football Performance Awards.

Branch's selection as ACC Player of the Week by Rivals.com gave Clemson the overall ACC Player of the Week by the site for the third straight week. Tajh Boyd won the honor for the Auburn and Florida State games. Sammy Watkins won the award for the Maryland game.

Branch Trying to Join the Fridge

Andre Branch is Clemson's leading tackler with 51. It is certainly unusual to see a defensive lineman leading the Tigers in tackles. In fact, no defensive lineman has led Clemson in tackles over a season since 1984 when middle guard William "The Refrigerator" Perry led the Tigers with 100. Perry was a first-team All-American that season.

So far Branch has 51 tackles, 12 tackles for loss, eight of which are sacks. He had four sacks and six total tackles for loss in the win at Virginia Tech to tie the school single game record. Keith Adams had four sacks and six tackles for loss against Duke in 1999. Adams was a linebacker, so Branch's accomplishment was a record for a Clemson defensive lineman.

Willard Coming on Strong

Clemson linebacker Jonathan "Tig" Willard had arguably his best game with the program in the Tigers victory over Virginia Tech on October 1. He had nine tackles from his linebacker position, the high total of his career. Seven of the nine tackles were first hits and he had a lot to do with Virginia Tech's failure to score a touchdown in a home game for the third time since 1995.

For his performance, Willard was named ACC Linebacker of the Week. That was a first for his career and in fact the first Clemson linebacker to earn ACC Player of the Week honor since September 8, 2009

when Brandon Maye was named ACC Player of the Week in a victory over Middle Tennessee.

Willard is is now second on the team in tackles with 49, 34 first hits and 15 assists.

Branch, Steele Honored by Rivals.com

Second Time a Clemson Coordinator Has Been Honored

Clemson defensive end Andre Branch and defensive coordinator Kevin Steele were honored by Rivals.com on October 2. Branch was named the ACC Player of the Week by the national website and Steele was named the National Coordinator of the Week. It is the second time this year a Clemson coordinator was honored. Offensive coordinator Chad Morris won the honor when Clemson defeated Auburn earlier this year.

Steele's defense held Virginia Tech to three points, the first time since 1995 the Hokies did not score a touchdown at home. Virginia Tech also had just 4.6 yards per pass attempt, 258 yards of total offense and converted just 4-16 on third downs. The Clemson defense did a good job of not giving up big plays as the Hokies longest play was just 19 yards.

Clemson's defense had four sacks for 31 yards in the game and all four sacks were credited to Branch, who finished with 11 total tackles, tying his career high. He also was credited with six total tackles for loss, tying a Clemson record. The four sacks also tied a Clemson single game record.

Walker Makes 43rd Start

Clemson offensive tackle Landon Walker made his eighth start of the 2011 season and his 43rd career start against North Carolina last week. The native of North Wilkesboro, NC who is the son of a former Clemson football player (Gary Walker), has started 33 games in a row over three years.

Walker has started all five games in 2011, all 13 in 2010, 12 of 14 in 2009 and 10 of 12 in 2008 as a freshman. He went over the 100 knockdown block mark in the win over Florida State. He has done that against outstanding competition over his career as he has had to face Derrick Morgan of Georgia Tech, Ndamukong Suh of Nebraska, Jerry Hughes of TCU, and former Clemson teammate Da'Quan Bowers in practice.

Walker was named ACC Offensive Lineman of the Week last week in the win over North Carolina, as he graded 93 percent with five knockdown blocks.

Clemson Named National Team of the Week by Football Writers Association

Clemson was named the National Team of the Week of College Football for its 35-30 win over 11th ranked Florida State on September 24. It is just the second time Clemson has been the recipient of the award from the Football Writers Association of America that dates to 2002.

Clemson downed the Seminoles to give the Tigers a second win over a top 20 team in eight days, just the fourth time the program had wins over ranked teams in consecutive weeks. On September 17 Clemson defeated 19th ranked and defending National Champion Auburn.

Clemson gained 443 yards and scored 35 points against Florida State, who entered the game fifth in the nation in total defense, allowing just 195 yards per game. The Seminoles had also allowed just 11 points per game entering the contest.

Tajh Boyd completed 22-35 passes for 344 yards and added 19 rushing for 363 yards of total offense. His favorite target was freshman receiver Sammy Watkins, who had seven catches for 141 yards and two scores. Defensive tackle Rennie Moore had a sack on Florida State's final offensive play to preserve the victory, Clemson's fifth in a row over the Seminoles in Death Valley. Clemson held Florida State to just 29 yards rushing.

Clemson last won the award from the FWAA in 2003 after a 26-10 victory over a third-ranked Florida State team. That is still the highest ranked team Clemson has defeated in its history.

Ranked Wins on the Road

Clemson has 63 wins over Associated Press top 25 teams over the years and 20 of them have taken place on an opponent's home field. The 20th took place on October 1 when the Tigers defeated Virginia Tech 23-3. The 20-point margin was the largest margin of victory for the Tigers in a row game over a ranked opponent. The previous record was a 11-point win at North Carolina in 1994 and an 11-point win at Florida State in 1989.

The three points allowed in the win over Virginia Tech tied for the fewest allowed in a Clemson win over a top 20 team on the road. Clemson also allowed just three in a 16-3 win at North Carolina in 1983.

Clemson Ranked road wins (20)

Date	Score	Opp	Rk	Opponent
11-13-48	21-14		19	Wake Forest
10-28-50	13-12		17	Wake Forest
1-1-51	15-14		15	Miami (FL)
9-19-59	20-18		12	North Carolina
9-17-77	7-6		17	Georgia
11-18-78	28-24		11	Maryland
11-8-81	10-8		8	North Carolina
11-13-82	24-22		18	Maryland
11-5-83	16-3		10	North Carolina
9-20-86	31-28		14	Georgia
9-9-89	34-23		16	Florida State
10-10-92	29-28		10	Virginia
11-5-94	28-17		19	North Carolina
11-8-96	24-16		15	Virginia
9-13-97	19-17		25	NC State
9-29-01	47-44		9	Georgia Tech
11-19-05	13-9		19	South Carolina
9-16-06	27-20		9	Florida State
10-24-09	40-37 (OT)		8	Miami (FL)
10-1-11	23-3		10	Virginia Tech

Note games on opponent home field, neutral site games not included.

Boyd Joins Whitehurst with Consecutive 300-yard Passing Games

Tajh Boyd threw for 386 yards in the victory over 19th ranked Auburn on September 17, then threw for 344 in the victory over 11th ranked Florida State the very next week. He joined Charlie Whitehurst (now of the Seattle Seahawks) as the only quarterbacks in Clemson history to throw for at least 300 yards in consecutive games. Whitehurst did it in the final two regular season games of 2003, at home against Duke and at South Carolina.

A look to the list below shows that Boyd did more than just break the 300-yard mark, he has had two of the top four yardage games in Clemson history. Not bad for your third and fourth career starts.

Boyd has already set four records this year. He threw for at least three touchdowns in each of his four starts, the record for consecutive games throwing at least three TD passes, and he established the school record for passing yards over a two-game (730), three-game (995) and four-game (1255) stretch. He has 24 touchdown passes for the year, an average of 3.0 per ame.

Most Passing yards in a Single Game

Year	Player	Opponent	Com-Att	Yards
2002	Charlie Whitehurst	at Duke	34-52	420
2011	Tajh Boyd	Auburn	30-42	386
2007	Cullen Harper	Virginia Tech	38-66	372
2011	Tajh Boyd	North Carolina	27-46	367
2011	Tajh Boyd	Florida State	22-35	344
1999	Brandon Streeter	Virginia	24-32	343
2006	Will Proctor	at Boston College	25-40	343
2001	Woody Dantzler	at NC State	23-27	333
2003	Charlie Whitehurst	Duke	27-40	331
1998	Brandon Streeter	NC State	27-38	329

Watkins, Morris and Boyd honored by Rivals.com

Second Straight Week for Watkins and Boyd

Clemson wide receiver Sammy Watkins and offensive coordinator Chad Morris were honored by Rivals.com as National Freshman and offensive coordinators of the week, respectively for the Auburn game. Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd was honored as the website's ACC Player of the Week. It is the second consecutive week Watkins was named the national Freshman of the Week and the second straight week Boyd was named the overall ACC Player of the Week.

Watkins had seven receptions for 141 yards and two touchdowns in the win over 11th ranked Florida State. It gave him 17 receptions for 296 yards over the last two weeks against ranked opponents. He had 175 all-purpose running yards against Florida State.

Morris coached Clemson to 35 points and 443 yards against the nation's fifth-ranked defense in Florida State. The Seminoles came into the game allowing just 195 yards per game. The Tigers converted 9-17 on third down as well and scored five touchdowns. He has the Tigers ranked 13th in the nation in total offense, 16th in passing and 23rd in scoring.

Boyd completed 22 of 35 passes for 344 yards and three scores in the win over Florida State. He threw for three scores and ran for one as he led the Tigers to at least 35 points for the fourth straight game. Boyd is now 12th in the nation in passing efficiency and 10th in total offense.

Allen, Boyd and Watkins Gain National Acclaim in Win over Auburn

Dwayne Allen, Tajh Boyd and Sammy Watkins all gained national acclaim for Clemson's victory over Auburn on September 17. Clemson defeated the defending national champions 38-24 at Death Valley to end the nation's longest winning streak at 17 games.

Allen was named the John Mackey Award Tight End of the Week for his performance in the victory as he had seven receptions for a career high 80 yards and a touchdown. Boyd won the Manning Award Quarterback of the Week after he completed 30-42 passes for 386 yards and four scores. The yardage total was the second most in Clemson history. He also had 30 yards rushing, giving him 416 yards of total offense.

Watkins was named National Freshman of the Week by Rivals.com for his performance as he had 10 receptions for 155 yards and two scores, including a 65-yarder early in the third period that gave Clemson the lead.

80 Snaps is the Goal for Morris Offense

Eighty snaps is the goal for the Clemson offense under offensive coordinator Chad Morris. He achieved that goal in Clemson wins over Auburn and Florida State in consecutive weeks.

The Tigers ran 92 plays to Auburn's 63 in Clemson's 38-24 victory, then ran 85 to Florida State's 53 in Clemson 35-30 win on September 24. That is 177 plays over consecutive games, an average of 88.5 plays per game in back to back weeks. That is the most plays run by the Clemson offense in back to back weeks since 2007 when Clemson had 90 snaps against Virginia Tech and 88 against Central Michigan in consecutive games for 178 total.

Clemson has averaged 78.6 plays per game so far this year. That is close to a record pace for the program. The record is 78.8 by the 1978 team that finished the season sixth in the final AP poll with an 11-1 record. Clemson has run 626 plays this year, more than any other team.

Watkins Honored by ACC Three Weeks in a Row

Clemson receiver Sammy Watkins was honored by the ACC three of the first four weeks of the season. The native of Fort Myers, FL was named ACC Rookie of the Week for his performance against Wofford and Auburn, and ACC Receiver of the Week for his performances against Auburn and Florida State. Obviously he was honored twice for his 199 yards from scrimmage against Auburn as he won both the Receiver of the Week and Rookie of the Week awards.

He won both awards again when Clemson defeated Maryland when he had a Clemson record 345 all-purpose yards.

Quarterback Tajh Boyd was named ACC Back of the Week for the second straight week, in wins over Auburn and Florida State, a pair of ranked opponents.. **Boyd joins former All-American C.J. Spiller (2009) and former quarterback Woody Dantzler (2001) as the only Clemson players to win ACC offensive back of the week honors for performances in consecutive games.**

Clemson ACC Players of the Week

Wofford: Sammy Watkins (Rookie)

Auburn: Tajh Boyd (Back), Sammy Watkins (Receiver, Rookie)

Florida State: Tajh Boyd (Back), Sammy Watkins (Receiver)

Virginia Tech: Andre Branch (Defensive Line), Tig Willard (LB)

Boston College: Watkins (Rookie), Chandler Catanzaro (Specialist)

Maryland: Watkins (Receiver and Rookie), Andre Ellington (Back)

North Carolina: Walker (ACC Offensive lineman of the week), Kourtnei Brown (Def Lineman of the Week), Boyd (Back)

Other Honors

Auburn

- Dwayne Allen, John Mackey Award, National Tight end of the Week
- Sammy Watkins, Rivals National Freshman of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, Manning National Quarterback of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, Rivals ACC Player of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, HM Quarterback of the Week by Davey O'Brien Award

Florida State

- Sammy Watkins, Rivals National Freshman of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, HM Quarterback of the Week by Davey O'Brien Award
- Tajh Boyd, Rivals ACC Player of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, Manning National Quarterback of the Week
- Team—National Team of the Week by FWAA

Virginia Tech

- Andre Branch, Rivals National Defense Player of the Week
- Kevin Steele, Rivals National Defensive Coordinator of the Week

- Andre Branch, Rivals ACC Player of the Week
- Andre Branch, ACC Defensive Lineman of the Week
- Tig Willard, ACC Linebacker of the Week
- Dwayne Allen, Tight end of the Week by College Performance Awards

Boston College

- Chandler Catanzaro, National Kicker of the Week by College Performance Awards.
- *Chandler Catanzaro, Lou Groza Award Kicker of the Week
- Sammy Watkins, ACC Rookie of the Week
- Chandler Catanzaro, ACC Special Teams Player of the Week

Maryland

- Sammy Watkins, Rivals National Player of the Week, ACC Player of the Week, National Freshman of the Week
- Tajh Boyd, HM Quarterback of the Week by Davey O'Brien Award

North Carolina

- Boyd, One of eight nominees for Manning weekly award
- Kournei Brown, National Defensive Player of the Week by Walter Camp Foundation.

Clemson Offense on Record Pace

Clemson's offense is on a record pace in a number of areas so far this year. In three of the eight games this year the Tigers have had at least 200 yards rushing and 200 yards passing, including the win over Maryland when the Tigers had 306 yards rushing and 270 passing.

That is a good sign when Clemson does that because the Tigers are 56-0-1 when getting at least 200 yards or each in the same game in history. Clemson has had three 500-yard games and is 56-0-1 when gaining 500 yards or more in school history. **Yes, the same record.**

Against Auburn, Clemson had its second highest passing yardage total in a single game (386), its third largest total offense figure (624), and its fourth most first downs (32). Additionally, Clemson converted 14-18 third-down situations, including 10 in a row at one point. It was the most third down conversions in a game for the Clemson offense since 1986. It was the most total offense Clemson has had against an SEC in its history by 100 yards.

Through eight games the Tigers are at a record rate or close to a record rate in a number of offensive categories:

Clemson Offense in 2011

Category	2011	School Record
Points/Game	40.6	34.7 (2000)
Touchdowns/Game	5.00	4.8 (1950)
Yards/Play	6.2	6.50 (2006)
Yards/Game	482.6	436.8 (2000)
Passing Yards/Game	303.6	283.6 (2003)
Completion %	.616	.658 (2005)
Pass Efficiency	156.6	148.0 (1950)
Touchdown Passes/G	3.0	2.31 (2007)
Third Down Conversion %	.485	.516 (1978)

Converting on Third Down

Clemson converted on third down 14 of 18 times in the win over Auburn. That tied for the second most third-down conversions on record in Clemson history and the .778 percentage is second best for a complete game. From the last third-down attempt of the first period to the last attempt of the third period, Clemson was 10-10 on third down. That was the second longest streak in a game in Clemson history. The Tigers were 12-12 on third down for the entire game against Wake Forest in 1981.

The record for most third down conversions in a game in school history is 15. Clemson was 15-22 on third down against Western Carolina in 1983. Clemson converted 9-17 in the win over Florida State and is now at 49 percent for the year.

Most Third Down Conversions in a Game

Year	Opponent	3Down
1983	Western Carolina	15-22
2011	Auburn	14-18
1978	Virginia Tech	14-20
1978	Wake Forest	14-20
1980	at Georgia	14-26
1986	Georgia Tech	14-21

Best Third Down Conversion Percentage

Year	Opponent	3-Down	Pct
1981	Wake Forest	12-12	1.000
2011	Auburn	14-18	.778
1984	at Georgia Tech	10-14	.714
1978	Virginia Tech	14-20	.700
1978	Wake Forest	14-20	.700
2001	Wofford	9-13	.692
1983	Western Carolina	15-22	.682

Note: Minimum of 10 attempts

Three Wins Without Leading at Half

Clemson won each of its first three games this season without leading at the half. Clemson trailed against Troy in the season opener at intermission, 16-13, before winning 43-19. Clemson and Wofford were tied at the half at 21-21 before Clemson won 35-27. Then, against Auburn, the Tigers were tied 21-21 at intermission before winning 38-24.

This was the first time Clemson has won three straight games without leading at the half since 2004. That year at midseason, Clemson trailed Maryland 7-3 at intermission before winning 10-7. Clemson and NC State were tied at 10 at intermission before the Tigers won 26-20. The following week Clemson trailed Miami in the Orange Bowl 17-3 before winning in overtime 24-17.

Clemson overcame a 14-point deficit to beat Auburn. It tied for the fourth best comeback in Clemson history. Then Clemson overcame a 18 point deficit in the second half to beat Maryland in College Park on October 15, the second best comeback in Clemson history.

Summary of Clemson's Offensive Numbers vs. Auburn

*Gained 624 yards of total offense, third most in Clemson history. It was the most yards by a Clemson team against an SEC team in history. The previous record was 524 by the Tigers against Auburn in 1951. That was the last time Clemson had beaten Auburn prior to last Saturday.

- Had 32 first downs, fourth most in Clemson history.
- Had 238 yards rushing and 386 passing, just the sixth game in Clemson history the Tigers have had at least 300 yards passing and 200 yards rushing in the same game.
- Clemson improved to 55-0-1 when gaining at least 200 yards rushing and 200 yards passing in the same game.
- Converted 14-18 third down situations, tied for the second most third down conversions in a game in Clemson history and the second best percentage (.778) in school history. Clemson converted 10 straight third downs at one point in the game.
- Clemson ran 92 plays, tied for the fifth most plays in Clemson history.
- Clemson finished the game with an 18-play drive that took 9:34 off the clock. It tied for the third longest drive in Clemson history in terms of clock time and tied for the sixth longest in terms of plays.

Brandon Thomas and Brandon Thompson

If you are covering the Tigers for the first time this year, don't get your Brandon's confused. There is Clemson defensive tackle Brandon Thompson and there is Clemson offensive guard Brandon Thomas. Both played a big role in Clemson's win over Auburn.

Thompson, in his third year as a starter, had six tackles, including a tackle for loss in 60 plays against Auburn. Thomas, did not start last week, but played 89 of the 94 offensive snaps as a guard. The final 89 of the game in fact. Thompson is third on the Clemson team in tackles this year with 43

Thomas replaced Mason Cloy who was injured in the Auburn game. Cloy was replacing David Smith, who had shoulder surgery the Tuesday prior to the game. Thomas played 136 plays all of last year as a freshman, then played 89 against the defending National Champion. He has started every game since. He had six knockdowns in the win at Maryland, the most by a Clemson offensive lineman this year.

Clemson Downs Defending National Champion...again

Clemson is now 3-0 against the defending National Champion in Memorial Stadium. The Tigers first defeated the defending champion in 1981 when the Tigers downed Georgia and Herschel Walker 13-3. They had won the title the previous year. Clemson defeated Georgia Tech in 1991, 9-7 at Death Valley, one year after the Yellow Jackets had won the UPI National Championship. And, on September 17, Clemson defeated Auburn by a 38-24 score, just three games removed from Auburn's 2010 National Championship.

In all three cases, Clemson gained the victory in the third game of the season against a team that had beaten the Tigers in a close game

the year before.

Stopping Streaks

Clemson ended Auburn's 17-game winning streak on September 17 with a 38-24 victory. Clemson overcame a 14-point deficit in the first half, the first time Clemson had done that to gain victory since the 2006 Wake Forest game. That was the longest streak Clemson has snapped in school history. The previous record was a 15-game winning streak by Georgia in 1981.

Longest Winning Streaks Stopped by Clemson

Year	Opponent	Site	Cu-Opp	Streak
2011	Auburn	H	38-24	17
1981	Georgia	H	13-3	15
1950	#Miami (FL)	N1	15-14	10
1981	Nebraska	N1	22-15	8
1923	Furman	A	7-6	8
1939	Boston College	N2	6-3	7
1959	TCU	N3	23-7	7
2003	Tennessee	N4	27-14	6
1989	NC State	H	30-10	6
1991	NC State	H	29-19	6

#Unbeaten Streak

N1—Orange Bowl, Miami, FL; N2—Cotton Bowl, Dallas, TX; N3 Blue-bonnet Bowl, Houston, TX; N4—Chick-fil-A Bowl, Atlanta, GA

Clemson Offensive Stats Similar to Tulsa So Far

Chad Morris came to Clemson with lofty numbers recorded at Tulsa last year. Tulsa was the only team in the nation to rank in the top 15 in rushing offense and passing offense in 2010 and averaged 505 yards and 41 points per game.

We are only eight games in, but Clemson has recorded similar numbers this year. Clemson is averaging 178 rushing yards and 303 passing yards per game. Clemson's team passing efficiency is 156.6 and the Tigers have averaged 6.2 yards per play, near the 6.53 recorded by Tulsa last year and near the Clemson record for the course of a season (6.50 in 2006). Clemson had 624 yards of total offense against Auburn third most in school history.

Comparison of Offensive Production

Category	Clemson	Tulsa
Year	2011	2010
Rushing/Game	178.9	216.9
Passing/Game	303.6	288.7
Total Offense/G	482.5	505.6
Plays/Game	78.6	77.4
Points Per Game	40.6	41.4
Pass Efficiency	156.6	144.7
Yards/Play	6.2	6.53
Touchdowns/Game	5.0	4.9
Yds/Rush	4.3	5.25
Yds/Pass	8.32	8.00

Freshmen Had impact on win over Troy

Clemson got a lot of production from its freshman class in the season opening victory against Troy. Here are some notes on the freshmen from the opener.

•Clemson played 70 players against Troy and 24 of them were freshmen, 12 true freshmen and 12 red-shirt freshmen. The 12 true freshmen were the most in one game in school history. (Clemson has since played another for 13 on the season).

•The 12 true freshmen that played were Martavis Bryant, Sammy Watkins, Mike Bellamy, Tony Steward, Cole Stoudt, Stephone Anthony, Charone Peake, Robert Smith, Grady Jarrett, Corey Crawford, DeShawn Williams and Adam Humphries.

•The impact of the freshmen began on the first drive when Sammy Watkins caught a 33-yard touchdown pass from Tajh Boyd on Clemson's second play of the game. Watkins scored with 14:34 left in the first quarter, meaning he had scored just 26 seconds into his career. That is the earliest a freshman has scored into his career in school history. The previous record took place when Terry Allen scored at the 8:53 mark (6:07 into the game) of the first period against Western Carolina in 1987.

•Watkins went on to catch seven passes for 81 yards, the most receptions and most reception yards for a Clemson player in his first game in school history. Terrance Roulhac (1983) and Roscoe Crosby (2001), both had 64 receiving yards in their first game, respectively. Aaron Kelly had four catches in his first game in 2005 for the reception mark.

•In the second half freshman Mike Bellamy raced 75 yards

for a touchdown on his first career rush. That was the longest run by a Clemson player in his first run from scrimmage. The previous record was a 72-yard run by Craig Crawford against Wake Forest in 1981.

•Martavis Bryant had a 54-yard reception on his first career reception in the fourth period as well. Clemson true freshmen had 291 all-purpose running yards for the day.

•On defense, true freshman Stephone Anthony had a sack and a pass deflection, while Robert Smith had an interception.

•Freshman Sammy Watkins had 81 yards receiving and classmate Mike Bellamy had 81 yards rushing against Troy in each player's first career game. That is a good number for a school that won the national championship in 1981.

•Freshmen scored three touchdowns in the game, as Watkins scored on a 33-yard reception, Bellamy on a 75-yard run and D.J. Howard on a one-yard run. It was the first time freshmen scored three times in the same game since the 2006 South Carolina game when C.J. Spiller scored on an 80-yard run and a 31-yard run and Jacoby Ford scored on a 76-yard touchdown pass. The record is four touchdowns by freshmen against Appalachian State in 1990. That day Ronald Williams (father of Clemson defensive tackle DeShawn Williams) scored three and Derrick Wither- spoon scored one.

•Bellamy's 139 all-purpose yards were the most by a Clemson true freshman in his first game since 2006 when Ford had 148 against Florida Atlantic.

•Clemson has now played 29 freshmen this year, 13 first-year and 16 red-shirt. That means 29 of the 79 players who have appeared in a game this year are freshmen. That is 36.7 percent.

Tigers on NFL Rosters

Clemson had 24 former players on NFL rosters as of Labor Day (Sept. 10). The list includes seven members of the 2010 Clemson team who are rookies this year.

The first-year NFL players from Clemson include Da'Quan Bowers with Tampa Bay, Marcus Gilchrist with San Diego, Chris Hairston with Buffalo, Jamie Harper with Tennessee, Byron Maxwell with Seattle and Jarvis Jenkins with Washington. Jenkins suffered a torn ACL in a preseason game and is out for the year.

The veteran of the group is Brian Dawkins, a senior at Clemson in 1995 who is playing in his 17th year. Trevor Pryce, who has been in the NFL since 1997, is a free agent and has not signed with a team yet.

A total of 11 players from the 2009 Clemson team that won the Atlantic Division of the ACC are on NFL rosters.

Clemson Players in the NFL

(As of October 16, 2011)

No	Name	Pos	Team
67	Thomas Austin	OG	Houston Texans
91	Da'Quan Bowers	DE	Tampa Bay Bucs
22	Crezdon Butler	CB	Arizona Cardinals
	&Miguel Chavis	FB	Oakland Raiders
30	Chris Clemons	S	Miami Dolphins
53	Kavell Connor	LB	Indianapolis Colts
73	#Jamie Cumbie	DT	Oakland Raiders
	#James Davis	RB	Houston Texans
20	Brian Dawkins	S	Denver Broncos
98	Nick Easton	DT	Arizona Cardinals
12	Jacoby Ford	WR	Oakland Raiders
38	Marcus Gilchrist	CB	San Diego Chargers
19	#Tyler Grisham	WR	Pittsburgh Steelers
75	Chris Hairston	OT	Buffalo Bills
23	Jamie Harper	RB	Tennessee Titans
56	LeRoy Hill	LB	Seattle Seahawks
99	&Jarvis Jenkins	DT	Washington Redskins
41	Byron Maxwell	DB	Seattle Seahawks
97	Philip Merling	DE	Miami Dolphins
81	Michael Palmer	TE	Atlanta Falcons
67	Barry Richardson	OT	Kansas City Chiefs
97	Dorell Scott	DT	St. Louis Rams
28	C.J. Spiller	RB	Buffalo Bills
17	Chansi Stuckey	WR	Arizona Cardinals
6	Charlie Whitehurst	QB	Seattle Seahawks

#Practice Squad, &Injured reserve

Humphries makes Start as True Freshman

True freshman Adam Humphries started at wide receiver against Troy, just the 14th first-year freshman to start the first game of the season. Sammy Watkins, also a first-year freshman was suppose to start, but Watkins was on the field for the opening kickoff and he came on the

field for the second play. Watkins then caught a 33-yard scoring pass.

Below is a list of first-year freshmen to start the season opener since freshman became eligible in 1972.

First-Year Freshman to Start Season Opener

Year	Player	Position
1973	Ken Callicutt	RB
	Nelson Wallace	DT
1974	Jeff Mills	DT
1980	Jeff Wells	TE
	James Farr	C
1987	John Johnson	DE
1988	Chris Gardocki	PK
1994	Anthony Downs	RB
1995	Anthony Simmons	LB
2001	Roscoe Crosby	WR
2005	James Davis	RB
2006	C.J. Spiller	RB
2008	Jamie Harper	RB
2011	Adam Humphries	WR

Odd but True

It is an odd numbered season so all Clemson fans should be excited. Since 1977 odd numbered seasons have been seasons of success, if not landmark years at Clemson.

That 1977 season saw Clemson go to a bowl game for the first time in 18 years under first-year head coach Charley Pell. The Tigers finished with a number-19 ranking, also the first top 20 ranking for the program since 1959.

Of course 1981 was the ultimate in football accomplishment for the Clemson program, a 12-0 record and the National Championship under third year (another odd number) head coach Danny Ford who was 33-years-old (there it is again) at the time. The Tigers beat Nebraska in the National Championship and Clemson will celebrate the 30th anniversary of that season later this year.

The 1991 season ended in an ACC title for the Tigers thanks to a 6-0-1 mark in the league and a 9-2-1 overall record. The team finished 17th in the nation. This year is the 20-year anniversary of that accomplishment.

Seven times since 1977 Clemson has been unranked in the preseason poll in an odd numbered year, but finished the year in the top 25. But just once since 1977 (the 1986 season) has Clemson been unranked in the preseason poll of an even numbered year, then finished in the top 25.

The trend of odd seasons of success has continued in this decade. In fact it has been a remarkable pattern. Since 2002, each of the odd numbered years Clemson has finished the season ranked in the top 25 of all polls even though it has not been ranked in the preseason. In the even numbered seasons since 2002, Clemson has failed to obtain a top 25 ranking at season's end even though it has been ranked in the preseason three times.

In each of the last four odd numbered seasons (2003, 2005, 2007, 2009) Clemson has won at least .643 of its games. In each of the even numbered seasons since 2002, Clemson has won at least 60 percent of the time just once, and that was in 2006 when the Tigers finished with an 8-5 record after a 7-1 start.

Lets look at the last four odd numbered seasons. The 2003 Tigers behind sophomore quarterback Charlie Whitehurst ran off a 9-4 record and finished with a number-22 national ranking after a 4-0 run to end the season that included a 63-17 victory over South Carolina, and wins over third ranked Florida State (the highest ranked team Clemson has defeated in its history) and sixth ranked Tennessee (the highest ranked team Clemson has beaten in a bowl game over the last 29 years).

The 2005 season included a 21-point victory over eventual ACC Champion Florida State, a fourth straight win over South Carolina under Whitehurst's direction and a bowl victory over Colorado. The 2007 season saw the Tigers record a 9-3 regular season record, including a 24-18 Labor Day night victory over 19th-ranked Florida State, the program's fifth straight win over a top 25 team under Tommy Bowden's direction.

And of course the 2009 season was the season of C.J. Spiller when the Tigers won the Atlantic Division of the ACC under Head Coach Dabo Swinney. Spiller was unanimous All-American and finished sixth in the voting for the Heisman Trophy, tied for the highest finish by a Clemson player. The Tigers defeated Florida State and Miami (FL) in the same season for the first time, and defeated Kentucky in the Music City Bowl.

A look to the chart below shows that Clemson has won 70.3 percent of its games in odd numbered years since 1977, but just 61.9 percent in even numbered years. Clemson has been to a bowl game 16 of the last

17 odd numbered years, but just nine bowl games in the last 17 even numbered years. Clemson has just four losing seasons in the last 34 years and all four have come in even numbered years. And the Tigers have had 11 top 25 seasons in the last 17 odd numbered years, but just six in even numbered years since 1977. Clemson has had just one top 25 final ranking (2000) in an even numbered year since 1992.

Additionally, Clemson has won at least nine games in three of the last four odd numbered years, but has just one season with at least nine wins in an even numbered year since 1990.

Clemson Football Since 1977

Categories	Odd	Even
Years	17	17
Record	144-60-3	121-74-3
Pct.	.703	.619
ACC Record	85-37-2	76-49-1
Pct	.694	.607
Bowls	16	9
Top 25 Seasons	11	6
Winning Seasons	15	13
Losing Seasons	0	4
Nine-Win Seasons	9	5
Top 3 in ACC	14	9

Note: 2011 season not included in above chart

Four Sons of Former Tigers on 2011 Team

Four sons of former Clemson football players are on the 2011 Tigers team. Starting offensive tackle Landon Walker is the son of Gary Walker, who was a letterman on Clemson's 1981 National Championship team. The same goes for freshman Shaq Anthony, a first-year freshman whose dad, Vernie Anthony also lettered on the National Championship team.

Freshman defensive lineman DeShawn Williams is the son of running back Ronald Williams, who was the leading rusher on Clemson's 1990 team as a first year freshman with 941 yards, still the Clemson record for a first-year freshman. Williams played for the Tigers from 1990-92.

Walk-on Taylor Watson is the son of Ronald Watson, who was a freshman on that Clemson 1981 team.

Six Tigers on Preseason Awards Lists

Clemson has six current players on a combined 11 preseason Watch Lists for the 2011 season. The list includes two players, Dalton Freeman and Andre Ellington, who are on three lists apiece.

Freeman is a candidate for the Rimington Award, which goes to the top center in college football, the Outland Trophy, which goes to the top interior lineman, and the Lombardi Award, which goes to the top lineman. Freeman has been a starter at center each of the last two years, including 2009 when he became the first Clemson freshman since 1943 to start over the course of the season.

Ellington is a candidate for the Maxwell National Player of the Year Award, the Doak Walker Award, which goes to the top running back, and the Paul Hornung Award, which goes to the top all-purpose player. Ellington scored 12 touchdowns in the first seven games of the 2010 season before he suffered a toe injury. He was 10th in the nation in scoring and 30th in rushing at the time of the injury. His 6.33 yards per rush average for his career is best in Clemson history.

Dawson Zimmerman was a semifinalist for the Ray Guy Award as the nation's top punter last year, the only ACC player on that list, and he is again a candidate for that award this year. He is also among 30 players who are candidates for the Lowe's Senior Class award, which goes to the top senior student-athlete football player in the nation. He has made the Dean's list multiple times in his Clemson career.

Andre Branch, who is Clemson's leading returnee in terms of quarterback sacks, is a candidate for the Hendricks Award as the nation's top defensive end, while Dwayne Allen is up for the Mackey Award as the nation's top tight end. He was a second-team All-ACC selection last year. Finally, DeAndre Hopkins is a candidate for the Fred Biletnikoff Award as the nation's top wide receiver. He had 52 catches to lead the Tigers last year and had three receiving games of at least 100 yards in the last four contests last year.

Sammy Watkins was added to the Biletnikoff Watch List three games into this season after catching 10 passes for 155 yards against Auburn. Boyd was added to the Davey O'Brien list on October 24

Clemson Players on 2011 Preseason Watch Lists

Name	Award	Name of Award
Dwayne Allen	Tight End	Mackey Award
Tajh Boyd	Quarterback	O'Brien Award
Andre Branch	Defensive End	Hendricks Award
Dalton Freeman	Center	Rimington Award
	Top Interior Lineman	Outland Trophy
	Top Lineman	Lombardi Award
DeAndre Hopkins	Wide Receiver	Biletnikoff Award
Andre Ellington	Player of the Year	Maxwell Trophy
	Running Back	Walker Award
	All-purpose player	Hornung Award
Sammy Watkins	Wide Receiver	Biletnikoff Award
Dawson Zimmerman	Punter	Guy Award
	Academic/Athletic	Lowe's Senior Class

Clemson Has Young Team

Clemson has a young squad this year with 42 freshmen (red-shirt or first year) among the 85 players on scholarship. The record for most freshmen lettermen in a season is 23, set in 1985 when Danny Ford lettered 10 first-year freshmen and 13 red-shirt freshmen. The second most is 21 in 2006. That was C.J. Spiller's freshman year.

Clemson's first-year freshman class has 27 players this year, four who entered in January and 23 who entered this summer. The record for first-year freshmen to letter in a season is 10 by the 1985 freshmen and by the 1994 freshmen.

Clemson played 24 freshmen in the win over Troy to open the season, 12 true freshmen and 12 red-shirt. Now the number is up to 29, 13 true freshmen and 16 red-shirt freshmen.

Most Freshmen Lettermen in a Season

(Since 1972 when Freshmen Eligibility re-established)

Year	W-L	FY	RS	TOT
1985	6-6	10	13	23
2006	8-5	8	13	21
2008	7-6	8	12	20
2000	9-3	3	17	20
2003	9-4	5	14	19
1994	5-6	10	8	18
1992	5-6	9	9	18

First-Year Freshman Participants Since 1999

1999 (5) David Ellis (LB), Rodney Feaster (LB), Brian Mance (CB), Bernard Rambert (TB), Rodney Thomas (LB)

2000 (4) Aaron Hunt (PK), Yusef Kelly (RB), John Leake (LB), Ronnie Thomas (WR)

2001 (9) Eric Coleman (DT), Roscoe Crosby (WR), Airese Currie (WR), Maurice Fountain (DE), Ben Hall (TE), Leroy Hill (LB), Tavaghn Monts (DB), Travis Pugh (FS), Eric Sampson (LB)

2002 (1) Justin Miller (CB)

2003 (5) Tramaine Billie (LB), Jad Dean (PK), Marion Dukes (OT), Sergio Gilliam (CB), Brandon Pilgrim (OG)

2004 (2) La'Donte Harris (WR), Barry Richardson (OT)

2005 (8) Antonio Clay (LB), James Davis (RB), Tyler Grisham (WR), Haydrian Lewis (CB), Jock McKissic (DT), Phillip Merling (DE), Josh Miller (LB), Rendrick Taylor (WR)

2006 (8) Kevin Alexander (LB), Crezdon Butler (CB), Jeremy Campbell (LB), Jamie Cumbie (DE), Jacoby Ford (WR), Michael Palmer (TE), Ricky Sapp (DE), C.J. Spiller (RB)

2007 (11) Kourtnei Brown (DE), Miguel Chavis (DT), Scotty Cooper (LB), Chad Diehl (FB), Xavier Dye (WR), Marcus Gilchrist (CB), Jarvis Jenkins (DT), *Willy Korn (QB), Brian Linthicum (TE), DeAndre McDaniel (S), Rennie Moore (DE)

2008 (8) Daniel Andrews (LB), Da'Quan Bowers (DE), Jamie Harper (RB), Stanley Hunter (LB), Marquan Jones (WR), Antoine McClain (OL), Brandon Thompson (DT), Dawson Zimmerman (P)

2009 (3) Jonathan Meeks (DB), Mallicah Goodman (DE), Corico Hawkins (LB)

2010 (4) DeAndre Hopkins (WR), Justin Parker (LB), Martin Jenkins (DB), Darius Robinson (DB)

2011 (13) Martavis Bryant, Sammy Watkins, Mike Bellamy, Tony Steward, Cole Stoudt, Stephone Anthony, Charone Peake, Robert Smith, Grady Jarrett, Corey Crawford, DeShawn Williams, Adam Humphries, Lateek Townsend
*Did not letter

Zimmerman Candidate for Lowe's Senior Class Award

Clemson senior punter Dawson Zimmerman is one of 30 pre-season candidates for the Lowe's Senior Class Award. An acronym for

Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School, the Lowe's Senior Class Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: community, classroom, character and competition.

The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards a senior season can bring. The award is sponsored by Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, and is managed by Premier Sports Management.

The 30 candidates will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans who will select one finalist who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of community, classroom, character and competition.

Zimmerman has been outstanding in the classroom and one the field. A two-time Academic All-ACC performer, Zimmerman was a semifinalist for the Ray Guy Award last year when he averaged 40.6 yards per punt on a net punting basis, third best in Clemson history. His gross average of 40.8 yards per punt for a career is seventh best in school history.

The English major from Lawrenceville, GA had two punts over 75 yards last year, the first Clemson punt to have two punts over 75 yards in a career, never mind a season.

Zimmerman is one of just three ACC players on the list. The others are Chase Minnifield, a cornerback from Virginia and Will Snyderwine, a placekicker from Duke. Zimmerman and Drew Butler of Georgia are the only punters on the list.

Clemson Football Schedule, 2011

Clemson will play one of its most difficult schedules in history in 2011, as 10 of Clemson's 11 FBS opponents went to bowl games in 2010, including six who won at least nine games. Additionally, Wofford, Clemson's FBS opponent, was 10-3 and reached the second round of the NCAA FCS playoffs. The Terriers were ranked eighth in the preseason FCS poll.

Clemson's three FBS non-conference opponents had a combined 31-10 record last year, a .756 winning percentage and all won at least eight games last year. That list includes defending National Champion Auburn, who comes to Clemson on September 17. Troy (8-5) and South Carolina (9-5) also had outstanding seasons in 2010.

Overall, Clemson's 12 opponents in 2011 had a 104-55 record last year, a .658 winning percentage. **That is the highest winning percentage in the nation when considering 2010 winning percentage by 2011 opponents.** Each of Clemson's first five opponents won at least eight games, including four in a row who won at least 10 games. Seven of the eight ACC opponents went to bowl games last year and 10 of the 11 FBS teams went to bowls. Wofford went to the FCS playoffs.

Clemson has a 2011 schedule that is front-loaded with home games. The Tigers first four games will be at home, the first time that has happened since 1979 and just the third time in school history. The 1920 Tigers played their first five games at home.

Clemson plays six of its first eight games at home and, for the first time since 1989, Clemson will play just one home game after October 22.

Most Difficult 2011 Schedules

(Based on 2010 Opponent Winning Percentage)

Rk	School	W-L	Pct
1.	Clemson	104-54	.658
2.	Baylor	96-56	.632
3.	Kansas	97-57	.630
4.	Washington	96-57	.627
5.	LSU	95-58	.621
6.	Notre Dame	95-59	.617
	Iowa State	95-59	.617
8.	Miami (FL)	95-60	.613
9.	Mississippi	93-60	.608
10.	UNLV	92-60	.605

Swinney First Among Active Coaches in Career APR

Clemson Head Coach Dabo Swinney is first among active coaches in terms of career APR with a 988 figure. Swinney has been the head coach of the Tigers for three full seasons and for half of the 2008 season.

The Clemson football program's APR score for the 2009-10 cohort (four year period 2006-07 through 2009-10) ranks third best among the top 25 public institutions that play FBS college football. Only Rutgers and Ohio State are higher among **US News & World Report's** Top 25 public institutions that play FBS level football.

Rutgers has the top figure among public institutions with a 988

figure, followed by Ohio State at 985. Clemson is third at 977, and is followed by SEC rivals Georgia and Florida at 976. Joe Paterno's Penn State program is sixth among public institutions.

As far as all schools that play FBS Division I football, Clemson is in a tie for 1st best in the nation with private schools Stanford and Vanderbilt (also at 977).

Northwestern University's football program has the top APR for its football program with a 993 figure for the time period examined. Rutgers is second at 988 and Northern Illinois is third at 987.

Top Career APR Scores, Active Coaches

Rk	Coach	School	APR
1.	Dabo Swinney	Clemson	988
2.	Pat Fitzgerald	Northwestern	986
3.	Ken Niumatalolo	Navy	981
4.	Paul Johnson	Georgia Tech	980
	Greg Schiano	Rutgers	980
6.	Tony Calhoun	Air Force	979
7.	Frank Spaziani	Boston College	978
8.	David Cutcliffe	Duke	976
9.	Chris Petersen	Boise State	975
10.	Rick Stockstill	Middle Tennessee	973

US News & World Report Top 25 Public Institutions that Play FBS Football

(Ranked by Football APR Scores)

Rk	School	APR
1.	Rutgers	988
2.	Ohio State	985
3.	Clemson	977
4.	Georgia	976
	Florida	976
6.	Penn State	972
7.	Wisconsin	967
8.	Indiana	966
	Georgia Tech	966
10.	UCLA	956
11.	North Carolina	955
	Virginia Tech	955
13.	UCONN	953
14.	Pittsburgh	949
	Illinois	949
	California	949
17.	Virginia	947
	Iowa	947
19.	Washington	946
20.	Texas	941

Clemson 2011 Recruiting Class Notes

•Clemson signed four players who were either first or second-team **USA Today** All-Americans, the most in one year in school recruiting history (USA Today teams date to 1982). Stephone Anthony and Tony Steward were two of the three first-team USA Today All-Americans at linebacker, while Mike Bellamy and Charone Peake were second team selections. The previous high for USA Today first or second-team All-Americans by a Clemson class was three set in 1987, 1988, 1989 and 2006.

•Three Clemson signees were **Parade** All-Americans. Mike Bellamy and Stephone Anthony were first team and Lateek Townsend was second team.

•Clemson signed four players who played in the US Army All-American game in San Antonio (Charone Peake, Sammy Watkins, Lateek Townsend and Tony Steward). Three signees played in the Under Armour All-America game in Orlando (Mike Bellamy, Stephone Anthony and Spencer Region.)

•Clemson signed four five-star players according to Rivals.com. All four, Tony Steward (13), Sammy Watkins (15), Stephone Anthony (24), and Mike Bellamy (25) are ranked among the top 25 players in the nation. Clemson signed six top 100 players according to Rivals.com this year and a seventh, Martavis Bryant, was a top 100 player according to Rivals last year before he went to prep school.

•ESPN.com named only 14 players as five-star athletes and two of the 14 (Peake and Steward) signed with Clemson.

•Clemson has two of the top four receivers in the nation according to ESPN.com. Charone Peake is ranked second and Sammy Watkins fourth.

•Clemson signed three of the top 10 linebackers in the nation according to Rivals.com. Tony Steward (1), Stephone Anthony (3) and Lateek Townsend (10). According to ESPN.com, Anthony is the #1 ranked outside linebacker and Steward is the #1 inside linebacker. Anthony is ranked as the top outside linebacker in the nation and Steward is ranked

#2 at that position by 247sports.

•Clemson signed seven players who were on the 2011 ESPN.com top 150 list, the second most according to ESPN behind the Clemson 2008 class that had 10 top 150 players. ESPN ranked Clemson's 2008 class second best in the nation. Tony Steward is the highest ranked Clemson player according to ESPN.com with a #9 overall ranking.

*Anthony has the highest overall ranking with a #4 overall rating by Tom Lemming. He is Clemson's highest rated player by Scout.com (38) and Sporting News (6) as well. Steward is Clemson's highest rated player according to ESPN.com (9) and Rivals.com (13). Sammy Watkins is Clemson's highest rated player by 247sports (9).

•Clemson signed six of the top 50 players in the nation according to Tom Lemming: Stephone Anthony (4), Tony Steward (6), Cortez Davis (43), Mike Bellamy (46), Charone Peake (47), and Sammy Watkins (48). All six are rated as five-star recruits by Lemming.

•Clemson signed three of the top 12 players in the nation according to 247sports: Watkins (9), Anthony (10) and Steward (12).

•Three ESPN.com 150 players did not decide to pick Clemson until Wednesday: Tony Steward (9), Stephone Anthony (32) and Spencer Region (149).

•Clemson signed two of the top three prep school prospects according to 247sports. Corey Crawford is ranked first and Martavis Bryant was third.

Clemson Top 100/150 Players in 2011 Class

Player	ESPN	Rivals	Scout	SN	Lem	247
Mike Bellamy	72	25	60	37	46	73
*Martavis Bryant	43	84			61	
Cortez Davis					43	
Eric Mac Lain		59				
Charone Peake	14	83	73	66	47	50
Spencer Region	149					
Lateek Townsend	113			81		
Sammy Watkins	39	15	41	41	48	9
Stephone Anthony	32	24	38	6	4	10
Tony Steward	9	13	54	27	6	12

*2010 rating

SN—Sporting News; Lem—Tom Lemming of CBS College Sports, 247—247 Sports

Clemson Tied for Second in Wins over Top 25 Teams

Clemson has three top 25 wins in the back this year, wins over Auburn, Florida State and Virginia Tech in consecutive weeks September 17 through October 1. Clemson became the first ACC school to defeat three teams in a row who were ranked in the top 25 of both polls as the time of the game.

No Clemson team has won more than three games against top 25 teams in the same season, so Clemson has tied the record just five games into the season. The previous years Clemson defeated three top 25 teams were 1981, 1988, 1989, 2003 and 2005. Of course none of those teams accomplished the feat within the first half of the season like this Clemson team has done. It appears Clemson will have more chances to get a win over a ranked opponent as Georgia Tech and South Carolina are still on the schedule and are ranked in the top 20 of both polls this week.

With the three ranked wins Clemson is currently tied for second in the nation in that category. LSU leads with four, while Clemson and Alabama have three apiece.