

2011 Discover Orange Bowl



Clemson vs. West Virginia

Game 14 :

Clemson vs West Virginia

January 4, 2012
Kickoff: 8:00 PM

Sun Life Stadium (72,230)
Miami Gardens, FL
Television/National Radio: ESPN

Clemson Radio Network

Announcers: Pete Yanity, Will Merritt, Patrick Sapp

Series History:

Clemson leads 1-0
at Clemson : 0-0

at West Virginia: 0-0

at Neutral: Clemson Leads 1-0

Only Meeting: Clemson 27-7 at 1989 Gator Bowl

Team Rankings:

Clemson: 15 BCS, 14 AP, 14 USA today
West Virginia: 23 BCS, 23 AP, 22 USA Today

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 | ESPNU | 56-45 |
| Oct. 22 | NORTH CAROLINA | ESPN | 59-38 |
| Oct. 29 | at Georgia Tech | ABC | 17-31 |
| Nov. 12 | WAKE FOREST | ESPNU | 31-28 |
| Nov. 19 | at NC State | ABC | 13-37 |
| Nov. 26 | at South Carolina | ESPN | 13-34 |
| Dec. 3 | Virginia Tech | ESPN | 38-10 |
| Jan. 4 | West Virginia | ESPN | 8 PM |

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

Associate SID: Philip Sikes, Clemson 2002

Assistant SID: Jeff Kallin, Clemson '2007

SID Office Phone: (864) 656-2114

SID Fax Machine: (864) 656-0299

Bourret E-Mail: btimoth@clemson.edu

Press Box: (864) 654-3326

SID Address: P.O. Box 31, Clemson, SC 29633

Overnight Mailing Address: 100 Perimeter Road, Clemson, SC 29634

Ticket Office: 1-800-CLEMSON

Clemson Tigers

Record, 2011 10-3, 6-2 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)..... 29-18 (.622)
Home Record 20-4 (.833)
Away Record 7-11 (.412)
Neutral Record 2-3
ACC Regular Season Record..... 19-10 (.655)
Record against West Virginia 0-0
Bowl Games 1-2
Offensive Coordinator..... Chad Morris
Defensive Coordinator..... Kevin Steele

West Virginia Mountaineers

Record, 2011 9-3, 5-2 ACC
Location Morgantown, West Virginia
Colors Old Gold and Blue
Enrollment 29,306
Head Coach..... Dana Holgorsen
School Record/ 1st season..... 9-3
Overall (1st Season)..... 9-3
Record vs Clemson 0-0
Offensive Coordinator..... Dana Holgorsen
Defensive Coordinator..... Jeff Casteel
Football SID..... Mike Montoro
Phone (304) 293-2821
E-mail mike.montoro@mail.wvu.edu
Website:..... www.msnsportsnet.com

CLEMSON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clemson Accomplishments in 2011

- Atlantic Coast Conference Champions for the first time in 20 years
- Earned first appearance in BCS level bowl since 1981.
- Atlantic Division Champions of the ACC for second time in three years.
- Won 10 games, most for the program since 1990
- Gained seven wins over ACC teams for the first time since 1983.
- Defeated four top 25 teams, tied for second in the nation, and most in Clemson history for one season. Just third ACC school to have four top 25 wins in same year since 2000.
- Became first ACC school to defeat AP ranked teams in three consecutive games.
- Achieved number-five BCS ranking on October 23, highest ranking in that poll in Clemson history.
- Finished 15th in BCS Ranking on December 4, tied for best final BCS ranking in school history. Clemson was ranked in BCS standing eight straight weeks to finish regular season.
- Ranked in AP poll 12 straight weeks, longest streak for Clemson program in 11 years.
- Overcame a deficit of 14 points or more to win three games, most in one season in school history. Clemson had done it just nine times in 114 years previously. Overcame 18-point deficit at Maryland to tie for second greatest comeback in Clemson history.
- Won first eight games of the season, just the fourth time in Clemson history to do that, the first in 11 years.
- Clemson was named National Team of the Week by the Football Writers Association for its 35-30 win over 11th ranked Florida State in the fourth game of the season. Second time Clemson was named National Team of the Week (FSU 2003).
- In defeating Auburn for the first time since 1951, the Tigers ended nation's longest winning streak, as Auburn had won 17 straight games. It was the longest winning streak ended by Clem-

son in school history.

- Defeated a top 10 Virginia Tech team twice in 2011 by a combined 48 points.
- Defeated 10th ranked Virginia Tech 23-3 on October 1 and the 20-point margin was the largest in Clemson history in a road win over a top 25 team.
- Posted perfect 7-0 record at home, first 7-0 home mark in school history.
- Became bowl eligible on October 7, the earliest bowl eligibility on the calendar in Clemson history.
- Set school record for consecutive quarters scoring with 22 in a row between September 17 and October 22.
- Already set a Clemson season record for passing yards, total offense and points scored.
- Achieved all this with a roster that played 29 freshmen (true or red-shirt), tied for the most in the nation with Indiana.
- Clemson gained 624 yards of total offense in the win over Auburn, the most in school history against an SEC team.
- Scored at least 50 points in consecutive games against ACC teams, a first in Clemson history.

Still Left on the Table

- Win 11 games for first time since 1981 and for just the fourth time in school history.
- Win a BCS level Bowl for the first time since 1981.
- Finish season in top 10 of AP or USA Today polls. Clemson has not been in top 10 since 1990.
- Beat five top 25 teams in the same year for the first time. Would become first ACC school to do that since 1999 (Florida State).
- Gain three wins away from home against top 25 teams for the first time since 1950.
- Be the highest ranked ACC team in final AP poll, which Clemson has not done since 1991.



2011 STANDINGS

Atlantic Division

| Team | ACC | Home | Away | Over |
|----------------|-----|------|------|------|
| Clemson | 6-2 | 7-0 | 2-3 | 10-3 |
| Wake Forest | 5-3 | 4-3 | 2-3 | 6-6 |
| Florida State | 5-3 | 5-2 | 3-2 | 8-4 |
| NC State | 4-4 | 6-1 | 1-4 | 7-5 |
| Boston College | 3-5 | 2-4 | 2-4 | 4-8 |
| Maryland | 1-7 | 2-5 | 0-4 | 2-10 |

Coastal Division

| Team | ACC | Home | Away | Over |
|----------------|-----|------|------|------|
| Virginia Tech | 7-1 | 5-1 | 6-0 | 11-2 |
| Virginia | 5-3 | 4-3 | 4-1 | 8-4 |
| Georgia Tech | 5-3 | 5-2 | 3-2 | 8-4 |
| Miami (FL) | 3-5 | 4-3 | 2-3 | 6-6 |
| North Carolina | 3-5 | 6-1 | 1-4 | 7-5 |
| Duke | 1-7 | 1-6 | 2-3 | 3-9 |

UPCOMING GAME

January 4, 2012

Discover Orange Bowl
Clemson vs. West Virginia
Sun Life Stadium, Miami Gardens, FL

CHAMPIONSHIP SEASONS

Clemson's ACC Championship Seasons

| Year | Overall | ACC | Coach |
|------|---------|-------|--------------|
| 1956 | 7-2-2 | 4-0-1 | Frank Howard |
| 1958 | 8-3-0 | 5-1 | Frank Howard |
| 1959 | 9-2 | 6-1 | Frank Howard |
| 1965 | 6-4 | #5-2 | Frank Howard |
| 1966 | 6-4 | 6-1 | Frank Howard |
| 1967 | 6-4 | 6-0 | Frank Howard |
| 1978 | 11-1 | 6-0 | Charley Pell |
| 1981 | 12-0 | 6-0 | Danny Ford |
| 1982 | 9-1-1 | 6-0 | Danny Ford |
| 1986 | 8-2-2 | 5-1-1 | Danny Ford |
| 1987 | 10-2 | 6-1 | Danny Ford |
| 1988 | 10-2 | 6-1 | Danny Ford |
| 1991 | 9-2-1 | 6-0-1 | Ken Hatfield |
| 2011 | 10-3 | 6-2 | Dabo Swinney |

#Co-championship

Most ACC Football Championships

| School | Co | Outright | Total |
|----------------|----|----------|-------|
| Clemson | 1 | 13 | 14 |
| Florida State | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| Maryland | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| NC State | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Duke | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| North Carolina | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Virginia Tech | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Virginia | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Georgia Tech | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Wake Forest | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| South Carolina | 0 | 1 | 1 |

Clemson Pronunciations

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dabo Swinney | as in Dab your finger 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 |

Clemson to Face West Virginia in Discover Orange Bowl

Clemson (10-3) will face West Virginia (9-3) in the Discover Orange Bowl on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at Sun Life Stadium in Miami Gardens, FL. It will be Clemson's first trip to the Discover Orange Bowl since the 1981 season when the Tigers defeated Nebraska, 22-15, to win the National Championship.

The game will be televised by ESPN and start at 8 PM.

"We are very excited to represent the ACC in the Discover Orange Bowl," said Clemson Head Coach Dabo Swinney. "We are especially happy to be in the Discover Orange Bowl because it is the site of our greatest accomplishment in the history of the program 30 years ago this season.

"I want to congratulate the West Virginia program on getting to this game in Coach (Dana) Holgorsen's first year as head coach. Getting to a BCS bowl in your first year is very rare. They have an outstanding team, one that is similar to ours when it comes to offensive production."

Clemson enters the Discover Orange Bowl as the ACC Champion, while West Virginia was co-champion of the Big East. West Virginia was ranked 23rd in the final BCS ranking, the highest among the Big East Champions and thereby earned the bid.

Overall, this will be Clemson's fourth trip to the Discover Orange Bowl. Clemson is 2-1 in previous appearances. The Tigers defeated Miami (FL) 15-14 in the Orange Bowl at the end of the 1950 season, then lost to Colorado, 27-21 in the Orange bowl at the end of the 1956 season. This will be West Virginia's first appearance in the Discover Orange Bowl.

This will be the second meeting between Clemson and West Virginia on the gridiron. Clemson won the previous meeting, 27-7, in the 1989 Gator Bowl. Clemson was ranked 14th and West Virginia was ranked 17th entering that game. Clemson will enter this game ranked 14th in both polls again, while West Virginia is 23rd in AP and 22nd in USA Today.

In the previous meeting Clemson clinched the game in the fourth quarter when then freshman Chester McGlockton sacked West Virginia quarterback Major Harris and jarred the ball loose. McGlockton, who died last week in California, then recovered the ball in the endzone for a touchdown. Clemson wore McGlockton's #91 on their helmets during the ACC Championship game.

This will be Clemson's 34th appearance in a bowl game, the seventh consecutive year the Tigers have been selected. Clemson has 16 career bowl victories, tied for 18th best in college football history.

Clemson will enter the Discover Orange Bowl coming off a 38-10 victory over Virginia Tech in the ACC Championship game. That victory elevated Clemson to a 10-3 record overall and a number-15 final ranking in the BCS. It ties for Clemson's highest final ranking in the BCS. The Tigers were also ranked 15th in the final 2007 BCS ranking.

The game will feature two of the top offenses in the nation. Clemson is 21st in the nation in passing yards per game with 285, while West Virginia is seventh with 342 yards per game. Both team average at least 33 points per game and over 440 yards per game.

Both quarterbacks are among the best in the nation in terms of passing efficiency and total offense. Clemson's Tajh Boyd is 18th in total

offense yards per game with a school record total, while West Virginia's Geno Smith is ninth in the nation in total offense.

Two of the top four all-purpose players in the nation also will be on display. Tavon Austin of West Virginia averages 191.2 yards per game to rank second in the nation in all-purpose yards, while Clemson's Sammy Watkins is fourth with 173 yards per game. Both players are also in the top 25 in the nation in receptions per game and kickoff returns.

Clemson and West Virginia Ties

•Former Clemson head coach Tommy Bowden is a 1977 West Virginia graduate. He played on the West Virginia football team when his father, Bobby Bowden was the head coach.

•Rich Rodriguez went to West Virginia to become head coach in 2001 after serving two years as offensive coordinator under Tommy Bowden (1999-2000). Rodriguez is the only West Virginia graduate (1986) to coach for Clemson as an assistant coach. Tommy Bowden is the only West Virginia graduate to coach for Clemson as a head coach.

•The 1975 West Virginia football team practiced at Clemson for a week prior to its Peach Bowl game against NC State. That was a matchup of Bobby Bowden (West Virginia) against Lou Holtz (NC State). Tommy Bowden was on the West Virginia team and got his first chance to spend time at Clemson. Little did he know that 25 years later he would be the Tigers head coach.

•Clemson played West Virginia in the Tigers final basketball game of 2011 and now the two schools will meet in Clemson's final football game. West Virginia ended Clemson's basketball season last year in the NCAA Tournament with an 84-76 victory in Tampa. The winning coach in that game, West Virginia's Bob Huggins, was a classmate of Tommy Bowden at West Virginia.

•West Virginia equipment manager Dan Nehlen is the son of Don Nehlen, the Hall of Fame West Virginia coach who coached against Clemson in the 1989 Gator Bowl.

•Frank Gillespie, one of the great all-around athletes in Clemson history, was a native of Beckley, West Virginia. A member of the Clemson Athletic Hall of Fame, Gillespie was voted the Southern Conference's top all-around athlete for the 1947-48 academic year. He started in football, basketball and baseball that year for the Tigers. He was President of the Clemson Senior Class and had a double major in engineering.

Clemson 1-0 at Sun Life Stadium

Clemson is 1-0 at Sun Life Stadium and it was one of the most exciting games in the history of Clemson football. Two season ago on October 24, 2009, Clemson defeated Miami (FL) in an Atlantic Coast Conference game by a 40-37 score in overtime. Clemson scored the winning touchdown on its possession in overtime on a 26-yard scoring pass from Kyle Parker to Jacoby Ford.

C.J. Spiller had led Clemson in the contest with 310 all-purpose yards, then a school record. He had a 95-yard kickoff return for a score to highlight his afternoon's work.

Twenty-four players still on the Clemson team played in that game against Miami two years ago.

Clemson actually has won three straight games in the city of Miami. Clemson won the 1981 National Championship with a 22-15 win over Nebraska in the 1982 Orange

NATIONAL RANKINGS

**Associated Press Top 25
(December 4, 2011)**

| Rk | School (First Place) | W-L | Pts | LW |
|-----|----------------------|------|------|----|
| 1. | LSU (60) | 13-0 | 1500 | 1 |
| 2. | Alabama | 11-1 | 1418 | 2 |
| 3. | Oklahoma State | 11-1 | 1400 | 3 |
| 4. | Stanford | 11-1 | 1283 | 4 |
| 5. | Southern California | 10-2 | 1179 | 9 |
| 6. | Oregon | 11-0 | 1170 | 8 |
| 7. | Arkansas | 10-2 | 1148 | 6 |
| 8. | Boise State | 11-1 | 1107 | 9 |
| 9. | Wisconsin | 11-2 | 1038 | 15 |
| 10. | South Carolina | 10-2 | 946 | 14 |
| 11. | Kansas State | 10-2 | 829 | 16 |
| 12. | Michigan State | 10-3 | 733 | 11 |
| 13. | Michigan | 10-2 | 707 | 17 |
| 14. | Clemson | 10-3 | 663 | 21 |
| 15. | Baylor | 9-3 | 656 | 19 |
| 16. | TCU | 10-2 | 632 | 18 |
| 17. | Virginia Tech | 11-2 | 591 | 5 |
| 18. | Georgia | 10-3 | 583 | 12 |
| 19. | Oklahoma | 9-3 | 386 | 13 |
| 20. | Houston | 12-1 | 370 | 7 |
| 21. | Nebraska | 9-3 | 363 | 20 |
| 22. | Southern Miss. | 11-2 | 336 | 24 |
| 23. | West Virginia | 9-3 | 199 | 22 |
| 24. | Penn State | 9-3 | 129 | 23 |
| 25. | Florida State | 8-4 | 49 | 25 |

Others receiving votes: Notre Dame 23, Cincinnati 22, Arkansas State 18, Georgia Tech 7, Northern Illinois 7, Virginia 5, Missouri 5, Tulsa 2, Louisville 1

**USA Today/Coaches Top 25 Coaches Poll
(December 4, 2011)**

| Rk. | Team (1st place) | Rec | Pts. | Prv |
|-----|------------------|------|------|-----|
| 1. | LSU (59) | 13-0 | 1475 | 1 |
| 2. | Alabama | 11-1 | 1399 | 2 |
| 3. | Oklahoma State | 11-1 | 1367 | 5 |
| 4. | Stanford | 11-1 | 1286 | 4 |
| 5. | Oregon | 11-2 | 1232 | 7 |
| 6. | Boise State | 11-1 | 1128 | 8 |
| 7. | Arkansas | 10-2 | 1112 | 10 |
| 8. | Wisconsin | 11-2 | 1085 | 12 |
| 9. | South Carolina | 10-2 | 971 | 13 |
| 10. | Kansas State | 10-2 | 878 | 15 |
| 11. | Virginia Tech | 11-2 | 835 | 3 |
| 12. | Michigan | 10-2 | 789 | 16 |
| 13. | Michigan State | 10-3 | 735 | 9 |
| 14. | Clemson | 10-3 | 657 | 21 |
| 15. | TCU | 10-2 | 631 | 17 |
| 16. | Baylor | 9-3 | 599 | 18 |
| 17. | Houston | 12-1 | 542 | 6 |
| 18. | Georgia | 10-3 | 538 | 14 |
| 19. | Oklahoma | 9-3 | 437 | 11 |
| 20. | Nebraska | 9-3 | 402 | 19 |
| 21. | Southern Miss | 11-2 | 366 | 23 |
| 22. | West Virginia | 9-3 | 278 | 20 |
| 23. | Penn State | 9-3 | 189 | 22 |
| 24. | Cincinnati | 9-3 | 94 | 25 |
| 25. | Florida State | 8-4 | 68 | 24 |

Others: Northern Illinois 14, Missouri 11, Georgia Tech 10, Arkansas State 9, Notre Dame 9, Virginia 5, Louisiana Tech 2, Rutgers 1

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

Bowl. In 2004, Clemson also won at Miami (FL) in overtime by a 24-17 score. Both of those games were played at the Orange Bowl.

Clemson vs. Big East Conference

The Discover Orange Bowl will be Clemson's fifth game against a team currently in the Big East Conference. All four of the previous meetings have been in bowl games. Clemson has a 1-3 record against Big East Conference foes.

The first meeting against a team currently in the Big East Conference took place against Pittsburgh in the 1977 Gator Bowl. The Panthers won that game by a score of 34-3. Clemson earned its first win over a Big East Conference team in the 1989 Gator Bowl when Clemson defeated West Virginia by a score of 27-7. The Tigers then played Syracuse in the 1995 Gator Bowl, as the Orange came away with a 41-0 victory.

Last year, Clemson was defeated by South Florida in the Meineke Car Care Bowl in Charlotte by a 31-26 score.

Clemson has played four other games against teams that are in the Big East Conference for other sports, but not football. Clemson split a pair of games with Notre Dame, losing 21-17 at Clemson in 1977 and winning in South Bend by a score of 16-10 in 1979. Notre Dame is in the Big East Conference for all sports except for football. The Tigers have split two games with Villanova, who is at the FCS level in football. Villanova defeated Clemson on the gridiron in 1952 by a score of 14-7, and Clemson won in 1978 by a score of 31-0. Both of those games were at Clemson.

Five Clemson Players First-team All-ACC

Five Clemson players were named first-team All-ACC in 2011, including four on the offensive side of the ball according to the all-conference team released by the Atlantic Coast Conference on November 30. Clemson had five first-team players, more than any other school, and nine selections over the two teams, also more than any other school.

The Clemson first-team selections on offense were quarterback Tajh Boyd, wide receiver Sammy Watkins, center Dalton Freeman and tight end Dwayne Allen. It marked the first time since 2006 that Clemson had five first-team selections. Andre Branch made first-team on defense as an end.

Second-team selections were Andre Ellington (RB), Chandler Catanzaro (PK), Brandon Thompson (DT) and Sammy Watkins (KR). Clemson had three honorable mention selections in Dawson Zimmerman (P), Landon Walker (OT) and Phillip Price (OT).

Clemson had four of the 11 players named first-team All-ACC on offense, the most for the program since 2007, but it was the first time in Clemson history the Tigers had four underclassmen make first-team on offense.

Tajh Boyd became the first Clemson quarterback to make first-team All-ACC since Woodrow Dantzler was named first-team as a senior in 2001. Boyd is the first Clemson underclassman to make first-team All-ACC since Homer Jordan made first team in 1981 as a junior. Boyd is the first Clemson sophomore to make first-team All-ACC at quarterback since Harvey White in 1957.

Sammy Watkins was named first-team All-ACC at wide receiver. He is the first Clemson true freshman to be named first-team All-ACC since Anthony Simmons was named as a linebacker in 1995. Watkins is the first true freshman named first-team All-ACC as an offensive player since Ronald Williams in 1990 did

so as a running back. Williams son, DeShawn Williams, is a classmate and teammate of Watkins on the current Clemson team. He is the first Clemson freshman to make first-team All-ACC.

Dwayne Allen was named first-team All-ACC this year after being named second team tight end last year as a sophomore. Allen has established Clemson records for receptions (48) and reception yards (577) for a tight end this year. He also has eight touchdown receptions, most in Clemson history by a tight end. Allen is a finalist for the John Mackey Award which is given each year to the top tight end in the nation.

Dalton Freeman is the first-team All-ACC center this year. Freeman has started every game this year and is a big reason the Tigers rank in the top 30 in the nation in total offense. He is finalist for the Rimington Award as well. Freeman is the first Clemson center to make first-team All-ACC since 2000 when Kyle Young was named as a junior.

Andre Branch was a first-team All-ACC selection at defensive end. The native of Richmond, VA leads the ACC in sacks and tackles for loss. He has 10.5 sacks for the year, fourth best single season total in school history.

Leading the second team selections was defensive tackle Brandon Thompson. The senior has 73 tackles this year, third on the team, and has a team best 18 quarterback pressures.

Andre Ellington was named second team as a running back. Ellington has 1062 yards in 12 games. He has scored 10 touchdowns and is second on the team in all-purpose yardage with 1302. He is fourth in the ACC in rushing yards.

Catanzaro is second in the ACC in field goals and has made 20-25 so far this year. That includes 7-10 on field goals of at least 40 yards and his 109 points scored rank second in the ACC.

Watkins is the first Clemson player to make All-ACC at two positions since 2009 when CJ Spiller was named first-team as a kick returner and second team as a running back. Watkins ranks second in the ACC in kickoff return average with a 26.2 figure. Watkins has 2077 all-purpose yards, second best in Clemson history.

**Clemson All-ACC Players for 2011
First-team**

Sammy Watkins, WR, Fr.
Tajh Boyd, QB, So
Dalton Freeman, C, Jr.
Dwayne Allen, TE, Jr.
Andre Branch, DE, Sr.

Second Team

Brandon Thompson, DT, Sr.
Andre Ellington, RB, Jr.
Chandler Catanzaro, PK, So
Sammy Watkins, KR, Fr.

Honorable Mention

Phillip Price, OT, Sr.
Landon Walker, OT, Sr.
Dawson Zimmerman, P, Sr.

Clemson Freshmen Who Have Made First-Team All-ACC

*Terry Allen, 1987, RB
Robert O'Neal, 1989, DB
Ronald Williams, 1990, RB
*Nelson Welch, 1991, PK
Anthony Simmons, 1995, LB
Sammy Watkins, 2011, WR
*Red-shirt

Two of Top Four All-Purpose Players on Display

For the second straight game, Clemson will be involved in a matchup of two of the top five all-purpose runners in college football. In the ACC Championship game it was Clemson's Sammy Watkins and Virginia Tech's David Wilson. Watkins won that battle with 157 yards compared to 46.

Entering the bowl season, Watkins is fourth in the nation with 173.1 yards per game, second best in Clemson history, while Tavon Austin of West Virginia is second with 191.2 yards per game. A look to their statistics shows the players are similar in most areas with the exception of punt returns. Watkins has just 12 punt return yards this year and Austin has 268. Watkins has the lead in touchdowns with 12 compared to seven for Austin. Watkins also has the lead in terms of yards per touch, but just by a narrow margin as you can see by the chart below.

All-Purpose Comparison

| Category | Austin | Watkins |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| All Purpose Rank | 2 nd | 4 th |
| Position | WR | WR |
| Class | Jr. | Fr. |
| Games | 12 | 12 |
| Rushing Yards | 142 | 229 |
| Receiving yards | 1063 | 1153 |
| Punt Return Yards | 268 | 12 |
| Kickoff Return Yards | 821 | 683 |
| Total | 2294 | 2077 |
| Yards/Game | 191.2 | 173.1 |
| Touches/Game | 12.7 | 11.3 |
| Yards/Touch | 15.1 | 15.3 |
| Touchdowns | 7 | 12 |

Similar Offensive Statistics

The Clemson vs. West Virginia game figures to be an offensive battle. Both teams average at least 33 points a game and 440 yards a game in terms of total offense. Clemson is a better rushing team, but West Virginia has the better passing numbers. Both have outstanding quarterbacks as well. Clemson's Tajh Boyd is 18th in the nation in total offense with 289.5 yards a game, while West Virginia's Geno Smith is ninth in the nation with 326.6 yards per game.

Both teams have a top 20 receiver as well. West Virginia's Tavon Austin has 7.42 catches per game to rank 12th in the nation, while Clemson's Sammy Watkins has 6.42 catches per game, good enough to 27th best in the nation. Watkins is 16th in reception yards per game at 96.1, while Stedman Bailey of West Virginia is 13th at 99.75 yards a game.

Comparison of Offenses

| Category (rk) | Clemson | West VA |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Rushing | 155.9 (61) | 117.8 (100) |
| Passing | 284.8 (21) | 341.8 (7) |
| Total Offense | 440.6 (29) | 459.6 (17) |
| Scoring | 33.62 (27) | 34.9 (19) |
| Passing Efficiency | 142.3 (35) | 148.2 (26) |

Previous Meeting

Clemson vs. West Virginia

December 30, 1989

At Jacksonville, FL

1989 Mazda Gator Bowl

The Tigers closed out the 1989 season with a 20-point victory over West Virginia and Heisman Trophy finalist Major Harris, as a dominant Clemson defense held the high-powered Mountaineer offense to only 237 yards in total offense. The win gave Clemson's senior class the ACC record for victories as they became the first class in conference history to record 38 wins and the first Clemson team ever to win four straight bowl games. (The 1990 seniors would break that record with 40 wins).

West Virginia quarterback Major Harris came into the game ranked eighth nationally in total offense and ninth in passing efficiency, but the Clemson defense, led by outside linebacker Levon Kirkland, enabled the shifty Harris to gain only 17 yards on the ground and 119 yards in the air on an 11-21 passing effort. Kirkland was named MVP for his efforts, as he had nine tackles, a five-yard sack, caused a key fumble, broke up a Mountaineer pass, and recorded three quarterback pressures.

The fourth quarter was all Clemson, as the Tigers moved the ball 47 yards on the ground to set up a four-yard Joe Henderson touchdown. Vince Taylor recovered a second Harris fumble and after a Clemson punt, freshman defensive tackle Chester McGlockton, the ACC sack leader, knocked the ball loose from Harris once again and fell on it in the endzone for a Tiger touchdown, upping the score to 24-7 in favor of Clemson.

As the final seconds ticked off the clock, DeChane Cameron came in at quarterback for the Tigers and hit Rodney Fletcher over the middle for a 34-yard gain to set up a 24-yard Chris Gardocki field goal, putting the final score at 27-7.

Senior tailback Joe Henderson led the Tigers in rushing with 92 yards on 22 carries and one touchdown, while Chris Morocco, who was sustained a concussion late in the game, gained 65 yards on the ground on 11 carries. Rodney Fletcher was the leading receiver as he pulled down three catches for 66 yards.

Chris Gardocki kept the Tigers in good field position, as he had a 46-yard average on four punts, including a long kick of 63.

Defensively, linebacker Doug Brewster led the team in tackles with 10, followed by Kirkland's nine and strong safety Arlington Nunn and inside linebacker Ed McDaniel, who had seven stops each.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|----|---|----|----|
| Clemson | 0 | 10 | 0 | 17 | 27 |
| West Virginia | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

WVU Jett 12 pass from Harris (Carroll kick), 1st, 6:12

CU Gardocki 27 FG, 2nd, 13:42

CU McFadden 1 run (Gardocki kick), 2nd, 2:54

CU Henderson 4 run (Gardocki kick), 4th, 11:43

CU McGlockton recovered fumble (Gardocki kick), 4th, 8:08

CU Gardocki 24 FG, 4th, 3:16

Attendance - 82,911

Rushing (Car-Yds-TD)

CU Henderson 22-92-1, Morocco 11-65, Kennedy 9-57, Lawrence 5-16, McFadden 8-12-1, Cameron 2-8, Bolin 1-6, Hall 1-3, Carr 1-3, Cooper 1-(-5)

WVU Ford 8-45, Napoleon 6-24, Tyler 4-18, Harris 11-17, Hayes 1-10, Evans 1-4

Passing (Comp-Att-I-Yds-TD)

CU Morocco 5-9-0-57-0, Cameron 1-1-0-34-0, Davis 0-1-1-0-0

WVU Harris 11-21-1-119-1, Jones 0-4-0-0-0

Receiving (Catches-Yds-TD)

CU Fletcher 3-66, Cooper 2-15, Fields 1-10

WVU Rembert 4-57, Tyler 4-23, Dykes 2-27, Jett 1-12-1

Chad Morris Agrees to New Contract

Chad Morris has agreed to a new contract to remain at Clemson as the football program's offensive coordinator. The terms of the agreement will be released at a later date by Athletic Director Terry Don Phillips.

Morris took the Tigers to school records in terms of passing yardage, total yardage and scoring offense in his first year with program, helping the Tigers to a 10-3 record and ACC Championship. Clemson has improved its total offense by over 100 yards per game over last year and has improved from 88th in the nation to 29th. Clemson has also improved from 78th to 21st in passing offense.

The Tigers have a 1000-yard rusher (Andre Ellington) and a 1000-yard receiver (Sammy Watkins) for just the third time in school history, and quarterback Tajh Boyd has established school marks for passing yardage, touchdown passes, touchdown responsibility and total offense in a season.

He accomplished these statistics against a schedule that has included games against five top 25 teams, including two victories over Virginia Tech, who was ranked third by the **USA Today** entering the ACC Championship. That tied or the highest ranked team Clemson has beaten in its history.

"We have reached an agreement to stay at Clemson," said Morris. "My wife Paula and our children, MacKenzie and Chandler, are very happy here. This is where we want to be. This is a place where people are passionate about football.

"I am excited about the future of this program. We have outstanding young players on this offense this year and I know we have some outstanding student-athletes who will be joining the program next year. We have a bright future and we feel we will continue to be one of the most explosive offenses in the nation."

Dabo Swinney Finalist for Two Coach of the Year Awards

Award Presented by Football Writers Association

Clemson Head Coach Dabo Swinney has been named a finalist for the Eddie Robinson National Coach of the Year Award. The honor is presented each year by the Football Writers Association of American. The other finalists are Les Miles of LSU, Mike Gundy of Oklahoma State, Brady Hoke of Michigan and Bill Snyder of Kansas State.

He is also a finalist for the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year and is one of five Regional Coach of the Year selections by the American Football Coaches Association.

Swinney led Clemson to its first ACC Championship this past Saturday with a 38-10 victory over third-ranked (USA Today) Virginia Tech. It was Clemson's first ACC Championship since 1991.

Clemson, who was unranked in the preseason, ranks 14th in the AP and USA Today polls entering the bowl season and was 15th in the final BCS poll, tied for Clemson's highest finish in the BCS.

The third-year Clemson coach has taken the Tigers to a 10-3 record overall, including four wins over top 25 teams, tied for the second most in the nation and the most in one season in school history. The Tigers own two wins over a Virginia Tech team that was ranked in the top 10 in the nation, including third ranked prior to the ACC Championship game. That tied for the highest ranked team Clemson has defeated in its history.

Earlier in the year Clemson defeated top 25 teams from Auburn, Florida State and Virginia Tech on consecutive weeks, the first ACC team to defeated teams ranked in both polls in three straight games. The 10 wins are the most for the Clemson program since the 1990 season.

Freeman Named Finalist for Rimington Award

First Clemson Center Named Finalist Since 2001

Clemson center Dalton Freeman has been named one of six finalists for the Dave Rimington Award. The honor goes to the top center in college football. Freeman, a junior, is the first Clemson center to be named a finalist since 2001 when Kyle Young was named. Young was also a finalist in 2000.

The six finalists are Freeman, Grant Garner of Oklahoma State, Ben Jones of Georgia, Peter Konz of Wisconsin, David Molk of Michigan and William Vlachos of Alabama. Konz and Freeman are the only juniors and the rest are seniors.

Freeman was named first-team All-ACC center for this season, the first Clemson center named first-team All-ACC since Young was named in 2000. Freeman has started all 13 games this year and 35 of 39 games played over his three-year career. He has played 975 snaps this year, more than any player on the Clemson team.

A starter on two Clemson Atlantic Division championship teams, Freeman is a big reason Clemson ranks in the top 30 in the nation in passing offense, total offense and scoring offense. With one game left, Clemson has already established a school record for total offense (5728), passing yards (3702), and total points (437), and has the second most touchdowns in school history with 54.

Clemson won its first ACC title since 1991 with a 38-10 victory over Virginia Tech on Saturday night.

Freeman is the third Clemson player named as a finalist for a position award. Tight end Dwayne Allen is a finalist for the John Mackey Award and defensive end Andre Branch is a finalist for the Ted Hendricks Award. Earlier on Monday, Head Coach Dabo Swinney was named a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award.

Branch Finalist for Hendricks Award

Bowers Won Award Last Year

Clemson defensive end Andre Branch has been named a finalist for the Ted Hendricks Award, the honor that goes to the top defensive end in college football. This is the second straight year Clemson has had a finalist for the Hendricks Award, as last year Da'Quan Bowers was the winner.

The award is named after former University of Miami All-American Ted Hendricks, who went on to a prominent NFL career.

Branch leads the ACC in sacks with 10.5 and also paces the conference in tackles for loss with 16. He has 78 tackles, second on the Clemson team, and is trying to become the first lineman to lead the Tigers in tackles since 1984 when William Perry paced the team with 100 tackles.

Branch was named first-team All-ACC this year. The native of Richmond, VA had four sacks and six tackles for loss against Virginia Tech on October 1, leading the Tigers to a 23-3 victory over the 10th ranked Hokies. He then recovered a fumble on the opening defensive play of the ACC Championship game that got Clemson on the right track in its 38-10 victory on December 3.

Boyd Has Been among Best in ACC History

Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd has established Clemson records for passing yards (3578), total offense (3764), touchdown passes (31) and touchdown responsibility (36) this year. In fact his 36 touchdowns total are just one off the ACC record of 37 set by Philip Rivers of NC State in 2003 and Russell Wilson of NC State in 2010.

Boyd's 2011 season actually ranks in the top six in ACC history in all four areas. He is sixth in total offense, fifth in passing offense, third

in touchdown responsibility and tied for fourth in touchdown passes. He needs just three touchdown passes to tie the ACC single season record of 34 set by Rivers in 2003, the current San Diego Chargers star's senior year. Boyd is a sophomore.

ACC Single Season Bests

Total Offense

| Rk | Quarterback, School | Year | GP | Yards |
|----|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. | Philip Rivers, NC State | 2003 | 13 | 4600 |
| 2. | Matt Ryan, Boston College | 2007 | 14 | 4509 |
| 3. | Chris Weinke, FSU | 2000 | 12 | 4070 |
| 4. | Russell Wilson, NC State | 2010 | 13 | 3998 |
| 5. | Joe Hamilton, Georgia Tech | 1999 | 11 | 3794 |
| 6. | Tajh Boyd, Clemson | 2011 | 13 | 3764 |

Passing Offense

| Rk | Quarterback, School | Year | GP | Yards |
|----|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. | Matt Ryan, Boston College | 2007 | 14 | 4507 |
| 2. | Philip Rivers, NC State | 2003 | 13 | 4491 |
| 3. | Chris Weinke, Florida St. | 2000 | 12 | 4167 |
| 4. | Anthony Dilweg, Duke | 1988 | 11 | 3824 |
| 5. | Tajh Boyd, Clemson | 2011 | 13 | 3578 |

Touchdown Passes

| Rk | Quarterback | Year | GP | TDs |
|----|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | Philip Rivers, NC State | 2003 | 13 | 34 |
| 2. | Chris Weinke, FSU | 2000 | 12 | 33 |
| 3. | Danny Kannel, FSU | 1995 | 11 | 32 |
| 4. | Matt Ryan, Boston College | 2007 | 14 | 31 |
| | Russell Wilson, NC State | 2009 | 12 | 31 |
| | Tajh Boyd, Clemson | 2011 | 13 | 31 |

Touchdown Responsibility

| Rk | Quarterback | Year | GP | TDs |
|----|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | Philip Rivers, NC State | 2003 | 13 | 37 |
| | Russell Wilson, NC State | 2010 | 13 | 37 |
| 3. | Tajh Boyd, Clemson | 2011 | 13 | 36 |
| 4. | Joe Hamilton, Georgia Tech | 1999 | 11 | 35 |
| 5. | Russell Wilson, NC State | 2009 | 12 | 35 |
| 6. | Chris Weinke, FSU | 2000 | 12 | 34 |

Hopkins 2nd ACC Receiver with At Least 50 Catches First Two Years

Clemson's top receiver in the win over Virginia Tech was sophomore DeAndre (Nuke) Hopkins. The native of Clemson had seven receptions for 92 yards to help Clemson to 240 yards passing on the night.

Hopkins has been Clemson's second leading receiver this year with 62 catches for 871 yards and four scores. He had 159 receiving yards against Georgia Tech, the high figure by a Clemson player this year.

Hopkins had 52 receptions last year as a true freshman, the second most receptions by a freshman in Clemson history. Hopkins already has 10 more catches than he had last year. He now has 114 receptions in his first two years, the most catches in Clemson history for a player at the end of his sophomore year.

Hopkins joins Derrick Hamilton as the only players in **ACC history** with at least 50 receptions in each of his first two years. Hamilton played at Clemson from 2001-03.

Clemson Will Face Sixth Top 25 Team in 2011

Clemson will take on a 23rd ranked West Virginia team at the Discover Orange Bowl and it will be the sixth top 25 team Clemson has faced this year. Clemson is 4-1 against ranked teams so far this year, wins over Auburn, Florida State and Virginia Tech in consecutive games, and the win over a third ranked Virginia Tech team in the ACC Championship game. Clemson's only loss to a ranked team is at 10th ranked South Carolina.

Clemson also faced five top 25 teams in 1988 (3-2), 1999 (1-4), and 2005 (3-2). So Clemson will set a school record for top 25 opponents played in a year when it plays in the Discover Orange Bowl.

T Sammy Watkins Named ACC Rookie of the Year

Received 43 of the 45 Votes

Clemson wide receiver Sammy Watkins has been named the ACC Rookie of the Year by the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association. Watkins had 43 of the 45 votes in becoming Clemson's first ACC Rookie of the Year since James Davis in 2005.

Watkins has 77 receptions for 1153 yards and 11 receiving touchdowns this year. He has set the school record for reception yards in a season and has tied the mark for touchdown catches. His 77 catches

are third best. He leads all freshmen receivers nationally in receptions, yards and touchdowns and his figures are also all-time ACC records for freshmen. Additionally, Watkins has 173 yards per game, ranks fourth nationally, first among all freshmen and best in ACC history among frosh.

Watkins has three games of at least 150 pass receiving yards, already a Clemson career record, and he has five games of at least 100 receiving yards. He has accomplished this in 11.5 games, as he suffered a shoulder injury early in the third period against Wake Forest, then missed the NC State game.

Watkins was honored seven times by the ACC this year, four times ACC Rookie of the Week and three times as ACC Receiver of the Week. He was also named the National Freshman of the Week three times by Rivals.com.

The native of Fort Myers, FL had a 345-yard all-purpose yardage game at Maryland, the fourth most all-purpose yards in ACC history and the most in Clemson history. He also had a 284-yard game against Georgia Tech. He has scored 11 touchdowns overall and needs just two to break C.J. Spiller's Clemson freshman record of 12 set in 2006.

He was named first-team All-ACC, the first Clemson true freshman to earn first-team All-ACC honors since Anthony Simmons was named as a linebacker in 1995.

Watkins is the sixth Rookie of the Year from Clemson and the first since running back James Davis in 2005. He is the fifth wide receiver to earn the distinction and the first since Georgia Tech's Calvin Johnson in 2004.

Clemson ACC Rookie of the Year Honorees

| Year | Player | Pos |
|------|-----------------|-----|
| 1979 | Chuck McSwain | RB |
| 1987 | Terry Allen | RB |
| 1990 | Ronald Williams | RB |
| 1995 | Anthony Simmons | LB |
| 2005 | James Davis | RB |
| 2011 | Sammy Watkins | WR |

Turnovers the Key Statistic

Turnovers have been the key statistic when evaluating wins and losses for Clemson this year. In the 10 games Clemson has won, the Tigers have committed just 11 turnovers and forced 20 for a +9 turnover margin. In the three games Clemson has lost, the Tigers have committed nine and forced just two for a -7 turnover margin. Clemson is 8-0 this year when they at least tie the turnover margin statistic and 2-3 when they lose the turnover margin.

Clemson Improvement on Offense in 2011

Clemson has made significant improvement in terms of national rankings in the major statistical areas. That includes total offense, where Clemson has gone from 88th in the nation to 29th and in scoring offense where Clemson has improved from 86th to 27th. Clemson was 10th in the ACC in scoring last year and is second this year.

Clemson Offensive Improvement

| Category | 2011 | | | 2010 | | |
|-----------|--------|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|
| | Figure | Nat | ACC | Figure | Nat | ACC |
| Rushing | 155.9 | 61 | 5 | 139.0 | 79 | 7 |
| Passing | 284.8 | 21 | 1 | 195.0 | 78 | 9 |
| Total | 440.6 | 29 | 2 | 334.0 | 88 | 10 |
| Scoring | 33.6 | 27 | 2 | 24.0 | 86 | 10 |
| Pass Eff. | 142.3 | 35 | 5 | 115.3 | 100 | 9 |

Nat-Denotes National Ranking; ACC denotes ACC ranking

Clemson Bowl History

Clemson has a rich bowl tradition and one of the reasons has been Clemson's historical success against schools with legendary football traditions. The list of schools Clemson has beaten in bowl games includes five of the top 10 winningest programs in the history of FBS Division football: Nebraska (4th), Ohio State (5th), Penn State (6th), Oklahoma (8th) and Tennessee (9th).

The program has 16 bowl victories, the 18th highest total in FBS history. Nine of the 16 bowl victories have come against coaches who are in the College Football Hall of Fame.

Of course, Clemson's greatest bowl experience was the National Championship clinching victory over Nebraska in the 1982 Orange Bowl. The Tigers were ranked number-one in the nation entering that contest and faced a fourth-ranked Nebraska team and Coach Osborne. Danny Ford led the Tigers to a 22-15 victory to give the Tigers the national title and made him the youngest (33) coach of a national championship team in college football history. He still holds that distinction.

Clemson's first bowl game was in the 1940 Cotton Bowl when the Tigers defeated Frank Leahy and Boston College, 6-3.

Clemson won its first three bowl games, victories over Boston College, Missouri, and Miami (FL). The three coaches Clemson defeated in those games were Frank Leahy, Don Faurot, and Andy Gustafson, and all three are in the College Football Hall of Fame.

Clemson has a football program that has been steady over the years in bowl games, no matter who has led the program as head coach. No less than seven different head coaches (Jess Neely, Frank Howard, Danny Ford, Ken Hatfield, Tommy West, Tommy Bowden and Dabo Swinney) have won bowl games for the Tigers.

Overall, nine of Clemson's 16 bowl victories have come against coaches who are in the College Football Hall of Fame. That includes Joe Paterno, who suffered his worst margin of defeat in a bowl game to Clemson in 1987. Clemson has four bowl victories over coaches who are in the 200-victory club. Woody Hayes of Ohio State, Tom Osborne of Nebraska, Joe Paterno and Don Nehlen of West Virginia are all coaches with at least 200 wins who lost bowl games to Clemson.

Clemson's Bowl History (16-17)

| Year | Bowl | Site | Opponent (Rk) | W/L | Score |
|------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|-----|--------|
| 1939 | Cotton | Dallas, TX | Boston College (11) | W | 6-3 |
| 1948 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Missouri | W | 24-23 |
| 1950 | Orange | Miami, FL | Miami (FL) (15) | W | 15-14 |
| 1951 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Miami (FL) (15) | L | 0-14 |
| 1956 | Orange | Miami, FL | Colorado (20) | L | 21-27 |
| 1958 | Sugar | New Orleans, LA | LSU (1) | L | 0-7 |
| 1959 | Bluebonnet | Houston, TX | TCU (7) | W | 23-7 |
| 1977 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Pittsburgh (10) | L | 3-34 |
| 1978 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Ohio State (20) | W | 17-15 |
| 1979 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Baylor (20) | L | 18-24 |
| 1982 | Orange | Miami, FL | Nebraska (4) | W | 22-15 |
| 1985 | Independ. | Schreveport, LA | Minnesota | L | 13-20 |
| 1986 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Stanford (20) | W | 27-21 |
| 1987 | Citrus | Orlando, FL | Penn State (20) | W | 35-10 |
| 1988 | Citrus | Orlando, FL | Oklahoma (10) | W | 13-6 |
| 1989 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | West Virginia (17) | W | 27-7 |
| 1990 | Hall /Fame | Tampa, FL | Illinois (18) | W | 30-0 |
| 1991 | Citrus | Orlando, FL | California (14) | L | 13-37 |
| 1993 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Kentucky | W | 14-13 |
| 1995 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Syracuse | L | 0-41 |
| 1996 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | LSU (17) | L | 7-10 |
| 1997 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Auburn (13) | L | 17-21 |
| 1999 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Mississippi St. (15) | L | 7-17 |
| 2000 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Virginia Tech (6) | L | 20-41 |
| 2001 | Humanitarian | Boise, ID | Louisiana Tech | W | 49-24 |
| 2002 | Tangerine | Orlando, FL | Texas Tech | L | 15-55 |
| 2003 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Tennessee (6) | W | 27-14 |
| 2005 | Champs | Orlando, FL | Colorado | W | 19-10 |
| 2006 | Music City | Nashville, TN | Kentucky | L | 20-28 |
| 2007 | Peach | Atlanta, GA | Auburn | L | #20-23 |
| 2008 | Gator | Jacksonville, FL | Nebraska | L | 21-26 |
| 2009 | Music City | Nashville, TN | Kentucky | W | 21-13 |
| 2010 | Meineke | Charlotte, NC | South Florida | L | 26-31 |
| | | | #Overtime | | |

Clemson's ACC Championships

Clemson won the 2011 ACC Championship with a 38-10 win over Virginia Tech on December 3. It was Clemson's first ACC title since 1991. Clemson has been the ACC champion 14 times (13 outright and one tied), two more than Florida State. Maryland is third with nine titles, while NC State and Duke have seven apiece.

Clemson has 18 conference championships overall. The Tigers won the 1900 and 1902 SIAA Conference championship under John Heisman, and won the 1940 and 1948 Southern Conference titles under Frank Howard.

Catanzaro Accurate from Long Range

Clemson freshman kicker Chandler Catanzaro is 20-25 on field goals this year, a .800 figure. That total includes 7-10 on field goals of at least 40 yards, a strong .700 that is seventh best in Clemson history given a minimum of five attempts. That .700 mark is the best by a Clemson kicker since 2001 when Aaron Hunt was 5-5.

Catanzaro was 6-9 on field goals of 40 yards or more last year and is just 13-19 in his career, a .684 figure, best in Clemson history for a career. Donald Igwebuikwe is second in school history with a .609 figure off 14-23 for his career.

Overall, Catanzaro is 34-47 for his career, .723. One of those field

goals was a 42-yarder on the final play of the game against Wake Forest, a kick that gave Clemson a 31-28 victory to clinch the Atlantic Division championship.

| Clemson's Top Field Goal % 40 Yards or More | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Player | Year | FG-A | Pct | |
| Donald Igwebuike | 1984 | 8-8 | 1.000 | |
| Aaron Hunt | 2001 | 5-5 | 1.000 | |
| Bob Paulling | 1983 | 5-6 | .833 | |
| Nelson Welch | 1992 | 9-11 | .818 | |
| Bob Paulling | 1982 | 6-8 | .750 | |
| Chris Gardocki | 1989 | 10-14 | .714 | |
| Chandler Catanzaro | 2011 | 7-10 | .700 | |
| Chandler Catanzaro | 2010 | 6-9 | .667 | |
| Chris Gardocki | 1990 | 7-11 | .636 | |
| Nelson Welch | 1994 | 5-8 | .625 | |
| Min five attempts. | | | | |

Clemson's Highest Ranked Victories

Clemson tied the school record for the highest ranked team the Tigers have beaten when Dabo Swinney's team came away with a 38-10 win over Virginia Tech in the ACC Championship game. The Hokies were third in USA Today and fifth in AP going into the contest.

The other third ranked team Clemson has beaten in its history came in November of 2003 when the Tigers defeated third-ranked Florida State and Hall of Fame Head Coach Bobby Bowden, 26-10. Clemson was coming off a 45-17 loss at Wake Forest, a game Clemson trailed 45-0 entering the fourth quarter. Clemson was coming off a 21-point loss at South Carolina prior to this game.

Clemson's other two top five wins came in 1981, a 13-3 victory over fourth ranked Georgia and future Heisman Award winner Herschel Walker, and a 22-15 victory over fourth ranked Nebraska and future Heisman Award winner Mike Rosier. Clemson beat two Hall of Fame coaches in those games as well, Vince Dooley at Georgia and Tom Osborne of Nebraska.

Clemson now owns three victories over top 11 teams this year and four top 25 wins overall. When Clemson downed Virginia Tech earlier this year in Blacksburg, 23-3, the Hokies were 10th in USA Today and 11th by AP entering the game. Clemson also owns a win over an 11th ranked (AP) Florida State team back in September by a 35-30 score. Those are two of now 19 Clemson wins over top 12 teams in history.

| Clemson's Highest Ranked Wins | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Year | Opponent | Site | AP-Coach | CU-Opp |
| 2003 | Florida State | H | 3-3 | 26-10 |
| 2011 | Virginia Tech | N1 | 5-3 | 38-10 |
| 1981 | Georgia | H | 4-4 | 13-3 |
| 1981 | Nebraska | N2 | 4-4 | 22-15 |
| 2003 | Tennessee | N3 | 6-7 | 27-14 |
| 1959 | TCU | N4 | 7-8 | 23-7 |
| 1981 | North Carolina | A | 8-9 | 10-8 |
| 2009 | Miami (FL) | A | 8-9 | 40-37 |

N1 at Charlotte, NC, N2 at Miami, FL, N3 at Atlanta, GA, N4 at Houston,

Clemson Road Warriors for the Remainder of the Season

Clemson has a 10-3 record entering the Discover Orange Bowl. The Tigers have had a difficult schedule the last four games of the year as all have been on the road. Clemson was a perfect 7-0 at home this year, Clemson's first 7-0 record at home, and the first perfect home record since the 1990 season when Clemson was 6-0 at home. It is just the second time Clemson has won seven home games in a year. The only other year was 1987 when Clemson was 7-1 at home. Danny Pearman, now on Clemson's staff, was a member of that Clemson team.

Clemson's last four games are away from home, two on opponent's home field and two at neutral sites. The Tigers lost at NC State on November 19, then lost at South Carolina on November 26. The ACC Championship game was a victory over Virginia Tech in Charlotte, and now the Tigers face West Virginia on a neutral field in Miami.

This will be the first time since 1979 that Clemson has played each of its last four games away from home. In 1979, Clemson finished the regular season with road games at North Carolina, Notre Dame and South Carolina, then played Baylor in the Peach Bowl in Atlanta. Clemson was 2-2 in those games.

Clemson's first game next year will be in Atlanta against Auburn. That will make five straight games away from home. The last time Clemson played five straight games away from home was in the 1964 season when Clemson played at NC State, at Georgia Tech, at Georgia, at Wake Forest and at TCU on consecutive Saturdays between September 26 and

Tigers Have 1000-yard Rusher and Receiver

Junior running back Andre Ellington went over the 1000 yard mark in the win over Virginia Tech in the ACC Championship game, giving the Tigers their 12th different 1000 yard rusher in history. There have been 15 1000-yard seasons so far, as Raymond Priester, Woody Dantzler and James Davis had two 1000-yard seasons over their careers.

Clemson had not had a 1000-yard rusher since the 2009 season when C.J. Spiller ran for 1212 yards. The school record is 1,345 rushing yards by Raymond Priester in 1996. He also had the second most in a season with 1,322 in 1995.

When Ellington reached 1000 rushing yards this 2011 team became just the third in Clemson history with a 1000-yard rusher and a 1000-yard receiver. Sammy Watkins already had 1000 yards receiving. (now 1153). The only other Clemson teams to do it are the 2000 and 2007 Clemson teams.

This Clemson team is the first with a 1000-yard rusher, 1000-yard receiver and a 3000-yard passer. Tajh Boyd already is over the 3000-yard passing mark with 3,578.

Clemson Teams with 1000-Yard Rusher and 1000-yard Receiver

| Year | Rusher | Receiver |
|------|--|----------------------|
| 2000 | Woody Dantzler (1028) Travis Zachery (1027) | Rod Gardner (1050) |
| 2007 | James Davis (1064) | Aaron Kelly (1081) |
| 2011 | Andre Ellington (1062) | Sammy Watkins (1153) |

Clemson has Strong Punting, Kicking Combination

Clemson has an outstanding kicking combination this year in punter Dawson Zimmerman and placekicker Chandler Catanzaro. Zimmerman is averaging 42.0 yards a punt on 59 boots and has 18 punts inside the 20 and nine of 50 yards or more. Catanzaro has made 20-25 field goals, a .800 percentage, including 7-10 on field goals of 40 yards or more.

If the season ended today, this would be the first season since 1997 that Clemson has a punter averaging 42 yards a boot and a placekicker who has made at least 75 percent of the field goals attempts in the same year. The last time it happened was in 1997 when Kevin Laird averaged 42.8 yards a punt and David Richardson made 13-15 field goal attempts.

Overall, it has happened just six times in Clemson history, all between 1983 and 1997.

| 42 Yards a Punt, 75 Percent on Field Goals | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|-------|------|
| Year | Punter (Avg) | Kicker | FG-A | Pct |
| 1983 | Dale Hatcher (43.6) | Bob Pauling | 18-20 | .900 |
| 1984 | Dale Hatcher (43.7) | Donald Igwebuike | 16-17 | .941 |
| 1989 | Chris Gardocki (42.9) | Chris Gardocki | 22-29 | .759 |
| 1990 | Chris Gardockii (44.5) | Chris Gardocki | 22-28 | .786 |
| 1995 | Chris McNally (42.7) | Jeff Sauve | 15-20 | .750 |
| 1997 | Kevin Laird (42.8) | David Richardson | 13-15 | .867 |
| 2011 | Dawson Zimmerman (42.0) | Chandler Catanzaro | 20-25 | .800 |

Clemson Wins ACC Championship Game with Young Team

Forty-two of the eighty-five players on scholarship are freshmen this year (red-shirt or true) and 29 of those players have gotten into games this year. Clemson is tied with Indiana for the most freshmen played this year with 29 apiece. Auburn, Florida State, and Texas are tied for third with 26 apiece.

Virginia Tech, Clemson's opponent in the ACC Championship, is also on the list with 25, tied for sixth most in the nation.

The best of the freshmen for Clemson is wide receiver Sammy Watkins, who leads the ACC in all-purpose running and ranks second in kickoff return, receptions per game and reception yardage. Eleven different freshmen have played at least 100 plays, including seven with over 200. Seven different freshmen have started at some time this year.

Most Freshmen Played in 2011

| (True or red-shirt) | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Rk | School | Freshmen |
| 1. | Clemson | 29 |
| | Indiana | 29 |
| 3. | Auburn | 26 |
| | Florida State | 26 |
| | Texas | 26 |
| 6. | Colorado | 25 |
| | Georgia | 25 |
| | South Carolina | 25 |
| | Central Florida | 25 |

Mississippi State 25
Virginia Tech 25

Source, University of Tennessee Sports Information

Watkins All-Purpose Total in Top 10 in ACC History

Clemson was without the services of freshman wide receiver Sammy Watkins at NC State. He returned to the lineup at South Carolina. Watkins has 2077 all-purpose yards this year, fourth in ACC history and best among league freshmen. David Wilson of Virginia Tech has 2129, and will play in the Sugar Bowl.

Watkins has already broken the ACC record for all-purpose running yards by a freshman in a season. Ryan Williams of Virginia Tech had 1835 yards in 14 games in 2009. Watkins had 345 all-purpose running yards at Maryland and that was fourth best in ACC history, and best in Clemson history. Spiller had that record previously with 312 against Florida State in 2009.

Total All-Purpose Running Yards, ACC History

| Rk | Player | School | Year | GP | Avg | Yards |
|----|----------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. | C.J. Spiller | Clemson | 2009 | 14 | 191.4 | 2680 |
| 2. | Torrey Smith | Maryland | 2009 | 12 | 182.7 | 2192 |
| 3. | David Wilson | Virginia Tech | 2011 | 13 | 163.8 | 2129 |
| 4. | Sammy Watkins | Clemson | 2011 | 12 | 173.1 | 2077 |
| 5. | Thomas Jones | Virginia | 1999 | 11 | 186.7 | 2054 |
| 6. | Don McCauley | North Carolina | 1970 | 11 | 183.7 | 2021 |
| 7. | Torry Holt | NC State | 1998 | 11 | 179.9 | 1979 |

Tigers Looking for 11th Victory

Clemson will be looking to reach the 11-victory mark in the Discover Orange Bowl. Clemson has not won at least 11 games in a season since 1981 when Clemson was a perfect 12-0 and won the National title.

Clemson has now had eight seasons with at least 10 wins, the first in 1948 when Frank Howard's team was 11-0. Clemson went 11-1 in 1978 under Charley Pell (10-1 in regular season, then Danny Ford coached Gator Bowl victory). Ford took Clemson to four seasons with double digit wins. Clemson has won a bowl game every year it has won at least 10 games.

Clemson's 10-Win Season

| Year | Coach | W-L | Pct | Bowl |
|------|--------------|------|-------|---------------------------|
| 1948 | Frank Howard | 11-0 | 1.000 | Gator, W, Missouri |
| 1978 | Pell/Ford | 11-1 | .917 | Gator, W, Ohio State |
| 1981 | Danny Ford | 12-0 | 1.000 | Orange, W, Nebraska |
| 1987 | Danny Ford | 10-2 | .833 | Citrus, W, Penn State |
| 1988 | Danny Ford | 10-2 | .833 | Citrus, W, Oklahoma |
| 1989 | Danny Ford | 10-2 | .833 | Gator, W, West Virginia |
| 1990 | Ken Hatfield | 10-2 | .833 | Hall of Fame, W, Illinois |
| 2011 | Dabo Swinney | 10-3 | .769 | Orange Bowl |

Zimmerman Finalist for Two Major Awards

Clemson punter Dawson Zimmerman was a finalist for two major awards. He was one of 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior Class Award, an honor that takes into account community service, classroom accomplishment, character and excellence in competition. It is presented by the NCAA and sponsored by Lowe's.

The Wuerffel Trophy is presented by the All-Sports Association of Florida and is named after former Florida quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner Danny Wuerffel. It is an award that combines exemplary community service, outstanding academic achievement and athletic achievement. Zimmerman was one of 13 finalists for that honor.

Zimmerman was one of four student-athletes in the top 10 for both awards.

So far this year Zimmerman has averaged 42.0 yards per punt and has averaged at least 40 yards a boot in nine of the 13 games, including the NC State game when he averaged 46 yards a boot. He has 18 punts inside the 20 and has nine of 50 yards or more. Zimmerman is second in Clemson history in individual net punting average and sixth in gross punting average. He has a 3.93 career GPA in English and is very active in community service activities with the Clemson football team and on his own.

Catanzaro Hits the Game Winner to Put Tigers in Championship

Clemson sophomore Chandler Catanzaro became the first kicker in Clemson history to kick a "walk-off" game-winning field goal at Death Valley when he booted a 43-yard field goal on the last play of the game to give Clemson a 31-28 victory over Wake Forest on November 12, 2011. The victory culminated a comeback from a 14-point deficit and clinched the Atlantic Division title of the ACC Championship.

The last time Clemson won a game on a field goal in walk-off

fashion took place at South Carolina in 2007 when Mark Buchholz kicked a 35-yarder to beat South Carolina, 23-21.

Catanzaro had missed a 30-yard field goal earlier in the quarter that would have given the Tigers a three-point lead against the Demon Deacons. But, the Clemson defense got the ball back and gave Catanzaro another opportunity. And, even after a Wake Forest timeout to ice him, Catanzaro made the game winner.

There were a couple of other interesting notes about Catanzaro's game winning field goal. First, it came on the 34-year anniversary of Notre Dame's only appearance at Clemson Memorial Stadium. "Catman" is the son of a Notre Dame graduate. And, he kicked the game winner against Wake Forest, the alma mater of PGA golfer Bill Haas, who happens to be the father of Catanzaro's long time girl friend, Georgia Haas.

Watkins Semifinalist for Biletnikoff Award and Walter Camp Award

Clemson freshman receiver Sammy Watkins was one of 10 semifinalists for the Fred Biletnikoff Award. The award is presented each year to the top wide receiver in college football.

The other semifinalists for the award are Keenan Allen of California, Justin Blackmon of Oklahoma State, Ryan Broyles of Oklahoma, Patrick Edwards of Houston, Michael Floyd of Notre Dame, A.J. Jenkins of Illinois, Jordan White of Western Michigan, Robert Woods of Southern California and Kendall Wright of Baylor.

He is the first ACC player to catch 10 touchdown passes in a season since Calvin Johnson of Georgia Tech did it with 15 in 2006.

Watkins has been honored by the ACC seven times this year, four times as ACC Rookie of the Week and three times as the ACC Receiver of the Week. That is a record for ACC honors in one season for a Clemson player.

Cloy Pops the Question

Clemson graduate offensive lineman Mason Cloy made his final appearance in Memorial Stadium special. After running down the hill prior to the game for the final time. He met his girlfriend, Shannon Headley on the Clemson sideline, and proposed marriage. He actually carried the engagement ring with him down the hill. She had been brought to the sideline to pose for a picture with Cloy and his parents, a normal occurrence on Senior Day.

Shannon said yes and the moment was captured on ESPN prior to the game and shown on ESPN Sports Center that night. It was a fitting weekend for Cloy to do it because he is planning a career in the military and the proposal was made on Veteran's Day weekend.

It was the first on-the-field pregame proposal at Memorial Stadium since November 15, 1997 when Jane Robelot, then CBS This Morning Anchor, accepted a proposal from her now husband Mario after she "dotted the I" in Tigers during the pregame performance by the Tiger Band. Robelot was at the Wake Forest game this past Saturday as well.

Boyd Can Set Wins Record for First-Year Starter

Tajh Boyd has led Clemson to 10 victories so far this year, his first year as a starter. With one more win, Boyd will set the Clemson record for victories for a starting quarterback in his first year as a starter. The record is 10, set by Boyd, Chris Morocco in 1989 and DeChane Cameron in 1990. Morocco was a senior, but in his first year as starter in 1989 and Cameron was a junior in 1990 when he was in his first year as starter. Kyle Parker had nine wins in 2009 in his first year.

Boyd is a sophomore, but does not have the sophomore record for wins...yet. That is held by Rodney Williams who won 10 as a sophomore in 1986, but that was not Williams first year as starter. Williams started as a freshman in 1985.

Watkins Over 1000 Receiving, Approaching 2000 All-Purpose

Sammy Watkins had five catches for 62 yards while playing just two and a half quarters in the win over Wake Forest on November 12. In the process he became just the fourth receiver in Clemson history to go over 1000 receiving yards in a season. He now has 1153 on 77 receptions. The 1153yards rank first best in Clemson history

Watkins had 197 all-purpose running yards against Wake Forest and now has 2077 all-purpose yards for the year, an average of 173 yards per game. His yardage total is already second best in Clemson history and he is just the second Clemson player with at least 2000 yards in a season. All-time great C.J. Spiller has the record with 2680 just two seasons back.

Clemson 1000-yard Receivers

| Rk | Player | Year | G | Rec | Avg | Yds |
|----|------------------|------|----|-----|------|------|
| 1. | Sammy Watkins | 2011 | 12 | 77 | 15.0 | 1153 |
| 2. | Rod Gardner | 1999 | 12 | 80 | 13.6 | 1084 |
| 3. | Aaron Kelly | 2007 | 13 | 88 | 12.3 | 1081 |
| 4. | Rod Gardner | 2000 | 12 | 58 | 18.1 | 1050 |
| 5. | Derrick Hamilton | 2003 | 13 | 62 | 16.5 | 1026 |

Clemson Ranked 15th in Final BCS Ranking

Clemson is ranked 15th in the final BCS rankings. This is Clemson's eighth straight week in the top 20 of the BCS standings. The most weeks Clemson has appeared in the BCS rankings in one season was six, set in 2007. That year Clemson finished 15th in the BCS, so this season tied for Clemson's best final ranking in the BCS.

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 |
| 10-30-2011 | 11 |
| 11-6-2011 | 9 |
| 11-13-2011 | 7 |
| 11-20-2011 | 17 |
| 11-27-2011 | 20 |
| 12-4-2011 | 15 |

Accomplishments of 2011 Seniors so Far

- Been to four bowl games, Gator in 2008, Music City in 2009, and Meineke Car Care Bowl in 2010 and now the Discover Orange Bowl.
- Won Atlantic Division of the ACC in 2009 and in 2011.
- Won 32 games so far and had four straight seasons of break even or better in ACC play.
- Won Clemson's first ACC Championship in 20 years.
- Posted a 23-5 home record, including perfect home season this year.
- Been ranked in the AP poll 21 different weeks in three different years, including 12 weeks so far this year.
- Reached a national ranking of number-six this year, highest for the program since 2000.
- Set a Clemson record for wins over ranked teams this year with four, victories over Auburn, Florida State and Virginia Tech on consecutive Saturdays, a first in ACC history.
- Defeated a third ranked Virginia Tech team in ACC Championship game, tied for the highest ranked team Clemson has defeated in its history.
- Defeated three top 10 teams away from home, at eighth ranked Miami in 2009, at 10th ranked Virginia Tech in October and 3rd ranked Virginia Tech in ACC Championship game.
- The win over Auburn ended the nation's longest winning streak at 17 games and was the first win for Clemson over Auburn since 1951.

Clemson Seniors, 2011

| # | Player | Pos. | Hometown |
|----|------------------|------|--------------------|
| 41 | Daniel Andrews | LB | Jacksonville, FL |
| 40 | * Andre Branch | DE | Richmond, VA |
| 37 | * Kantrell Brown | S | Saint Matthews, SC |
| 90 | * Kourtnei Brown | DE | Charlotte, NC |
| 62 | * Mason Cloy | OL | Columbia, SC |
| 39 | Steven Demaras | LB | Westford, MA |
| 30 | * Chad Diehl | FB | Lyman, SC |
| 47 | Will Harrison | WR | Marietta, GA |

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|----------------------|
| 26 | Marquan Jones | WR | Columbia, SC |
| 35 | * Mansa Joseph | RB | Salters, SC |
| 74 | Antoine McClain | OG | Anniston, AL |
| 94 | * Rennie Moore | DT | Saint Marys, GA |
| 79 | * Phillip Price | OT | Dillon, SC |
| 15 | * Coty Sensabaugh | CB | Kingsport, TN |
| 73 | * David Smith | OG | Greenville, SC |
| 98 | Brandon Thompson | DT | Thomasville, GA |
| 82 | * Drew Traylor | TE | Birmingham, AL |
| 72 | * Landon Walker | OT | North Wilkesboro, NC |
| 96 | Dawson Zimmerman | P | Lawrenceville, GA |

* - fifth-year senior

Walker Sets Games Started Record

Clemson senior offensive tackle Landon Walker has played more snaps as an offensive tackle than any other player in school history and has set the record for games started by any Clemson player in history. When he started against Virginia Tech in the ACC Championship game he set the school record with a 48th start.

The native of North Carolina who is the son of a member of Clemson's 1981 National Championship team has played 3066 plays on offense in his career. He went ahead of current Kansas City Chiefs starting tackle Barry Richardson in the Georgia Tech game. Richardson played 2778 snaps in his career between 2004-07.

Walker is now second in Clemson history in career snaps with 3066. Walker has 48 career starts, more than any other active player.

Clemson Career Leaders in Scrimmage plays

| Rk | Player | Pos | Years | *Snaps |
|-----|--------------------|-----|---------|--------|
| 1. | Kyle Young | C | 1998-01 | 3097 |
| 2. | Landon Walker | OT | 2008-11 | 3066 |
| 3. | Glenn Rountree | OG | 1994-97 | 3048 |
| 4. | Charlie Whitehurst | QB | 2002-05 | 2875 |
| 5. | Eric Harmon | OG | 1987-90 | 2870 |
| 6. | Barry Richardson | OG | 2004-07 | 2778 |
| 7. | Jim Bundren | OT | 1994-97 | 2772 |
| 8. | Robert Carswell | FS | 1997-00 | 2760 |
| 9. | DeAndre McDaniel | FS | 2007-10 | 2750 |
| 10. | Michael Hamlin | S | 2005-08 | 2683 |

*Does not count special teams Plays

Diehl Sets Clemson Games Played Record

Senior fullback Chad Diehl set the Clemson record for games played at NC State. He has now appeared in 56 games, 19 as a starter over his career that dates to the 2007 season. Diehl played in three games as a true freshman in 2007 before suffering an injury against Fordham that ended his season.

Diehl has played in all 52 games for the Tigers since the beginning of the 2008 season, including 13 this year. He should finish with 57 after the West Virginia game which will be a tough record to break.

Clemson Ranked for 11th Straight Week

Clemson is ranked 14th by USA Today and 14th by AP entering the bowl season. This is the 12th consecutive week Clemson has been ranked in the top 25, the longest streak for the program since the 2000-01 seasons. Clemson was ranked in all 17 polls in 2000, then was ranked in the first 11 polls of 2001 for 28 consecutive rankings in the AP or USA Today polls

Clemson entered both polls after defeating Auburn on September 17. Clemson was ranked 21st in AP and 22nd in USA Today after that victory, then moved up to 13 in AP and 15 in USA Today after the 35-30 win over Florida State. The Tigers then entered the top 10 at eighth place after a 23-3 win over 10th ranked Virginia Tech on the road on October 1.

Clemson reached a high of sixth in the nation in both polls after and eighth straight win to start the season over North Carolina. Clemson was seventh in the AP poll before losing at NC State. Clemson dropped 11 spots in the AP poll after that 37-13 loss.

Watkins and Boyd Dominating ACC Player of the Week Selections

Clemson freshman wide receiver Sammy Watkins was honored seven times by the ACC this year, four times as the ACC Rookie of the Week and three times as ACC Receiver of the Week. Watkins broke the Clemson record for being honored by the league in one season. Anthony Simmons, freshman linebacker in 1995 who was named National Rookie of the year by UPI, was named ACC Rookie of the Week four times and defensive lineman of the Week twice for six total honors.

Watkins has already been named ACC Rookie of the Week in Clemson wins over Wofford, Auburn, Boston College and Maryland, and he was

named ACC Receiver of the Week for his performances against Auburn, Florida State and Maryland. As you can see he was honored twice for the Maryland and Auburn games.

As stated above, Watkins has been named ACC Receiver of the Week three times this year. He has ready been named ACC Player of the Week more than any other receiver in Clemson history in one season and tied the career record. Perry Tuttle also was named ACC Player of the Week three times as a receiver between 1979-81. (It should be noted that the ACC now picks a Receiver of the Week, something it only started doing. Tuttle and others had to compete against quarterbacks and running backs).

Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd has been named ACC Back of the Week three times this year, Clemson wins over Auburn, Florida State and North Carolina. Boyd has tied the Clemson record for ACC Player of the Week selections by a quarterback, as Woody Dantzler was named three times in 2001. Dantzler was named ACC Player of the Week six times in his career between 1998-2001, second most in school history. Keith Adams holds the record with seven selections in a career and five times in a season (1999).

Overall, Clemson has had 10 different players named ACC Player of the Week a combined 14 times so far this year.

Most ACC Player of the Week Selections in One Season

| Player | Pos | Year | POTW |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Keith Adams | LB | 1999 | 5 |
| James Robinson | DE | 1983 | 4 |
| Tajh Boyd | QB | 2011 | 3 |
| Sammy Watkins | WR | 2011 | 3 |
| Jeff Bryant | DL | 1981 | 3 |
| Jeff Davis | LB | 1981 | 3 |
| Stacy Long | OT | 1989 | 3 |
| David Richardson | PK | 1997 | 3 |
| Anthony Simmons | LB | 1997 | 3 |
| Woody Dantzler | QB | 2001 | 3 |
| Philip Merling | DE | 2007 | 3 |
| Thomas Austin | C | 2007 | 3 |
| C.J. Spiller | RB | 2009 | 3 |

Thomas Scores TD and Caught Pass

Clemson starting offensive lineman Brandon Thomas scored a touchdown at Georgia Tech when he recovered a Tajh Boyd fumble in the endzone. He was credited with a rushing touchdown on the play, but gets no rushing yards since he recovered the ball in the endzone.

Thomas became the first Clemson offensive lineman to score a touchdown since 1966 when All-American guard Harry Olszewski scored when he recovered a fumble in mid-air and raced 12 yards for a score against South Carolina. Clemson won that game 35-10, giving the Tigers the ACC Championship.

Thomas also has a reception this year on a tipped pass and is the only Clemson offensive lineman in history with a rushing touchdown and a pass reception in the same 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.

Immelman attended the Clemson vs. Wake Forest game on November 12 along with fellow professional and Clemson graduate Lucas Glover.

Earlier this year on consecutive Saturdays they 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 were ranked fifth in the October 23 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 the

clinch his PGA Tour card for next year.

Consecutive Games with 50 Points or More

Clemson scored at least 56 points in consecutive games in October, 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 on October 22. 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.

Tigers Won First Eight Games

Clemson 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.

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 was 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

| Streak Start | | Streak Ended | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------------|------------|--------|----------------|----|
| Date | Cu-Opp | Opponent | Date | CU-Opp | Opponent | GP |
| 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 |
| 10-29-1988 | 38-21 | Wake Forest | 9-30-1989 | 17-21 | Duke | 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 |
| 10-20-1990 | 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 | 10-29-2011 | 17-31 | Georgia Tech | 8 |

Kourtnei Brown Has Career Day

Clemson graduate student Kourtnei Brown, a native of Charlotte, NC, 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.

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 ranks as the fourth most for a single game in ACC history.

Watkins had three total touchdowns at Maryland, 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 |
| 284 | Sammy Watkins | at Geo Tech | 2011 | 7 | 153 | | 124 |
| 282 | Justin Miller | at Florida State | 2004 | | | | 282 |
| 274 | Terrence Flagler | at Wake Forest | 1986 | 209 | 65 | | |

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 |

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. Clemson was also 14 down against Wake Forest (28-14) and came back to win on a field goal on the last play of the game, 31-28.

Clemson had overcome a 14-point deficit or more nine times in 114 years prior to this year. This 2011 Clemson team has now done it three times. Tajh Boyd is now Clemson's career leader in overcoming deficits of 14 points or more from the quarterback position.

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 |
| 11-12-11 | Wake Forest | 14-28 | 14 | 31-28 |
| 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

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 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. 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.

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 14 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.

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: @77 by Sammy Watkins, 2011
Reception Yards: @1153 by Sammy Watkins, 2011
100-yard Receiving Games: 5, Sammy Watkins, 2011
150-Yard Receiving Games: 3, Sammy Watkins, 2011
Yds/Reception: 18.0 by Ray Williams, 1983
All-Purpose Yards: @2077 Sammy Watkins, 2011
Total Points: 88 by Nelson Welch, 1991
Total Touchdowns: 12 by C.J. Spiller, 2006, Sammy Watkins, 2011
Reception TDs: @11 by Sammy Watkins, 2011
Punt Return Yards: 362 by Darnell Stephens, 1991
Kickoff Return Yards: 683, Sammy Watkins, 2011
Consecutive Games with a TD: 5 by C.J. Spiller, 2006
 #all-time Clemson record regardless of class
 @also ACC freshman record

Seven 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 11 games Clemson has seven different players who have been involved in 11 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. Tight end Brandon Ford had a 50-yard reception at NC State to give Clemson seven different players with a 50-yard play from scrimmage.

Watkins Sets 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 10 games, Watkins already has three games of at least 150 receiving yards, first in Clemson history.

Let me repeat that, Sammy Watkins is first in Clemson history in career receiving yard games of 150 yards or more. Perry Tuttle and Aaron Kelly had the previous record with two.

Watkins had 10 catches for 155 yards in the victory over Auburn. In the win over Boston College, he had seven catches for 152 yards. He then had nine catches for 153 yards at Georgia Tech.

Watkins has seven of the top 15 single game freshman reception bests in Clemson history, including his freshman record 10 catches against Auburn in his third career game.

Clemson Freshman Top Reception Games

| Player | Opponent | Year | Rec-Yds |
|------------------|----------------|------|---------|
| Sammy Watkins | Auburn | 2011 | 10-155 |
| Sammy Watkins | Georgia Tech | 2011 | 9-153 |
| 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 |

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 |

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 20-25 on field goals for the year, including 7-10 on attempts of 40 yards or more. For his career he is 13-19 on field goal attempts from that distance, 66 percent, the best in Clemson history.

For his performance against Boston College, Catanzaro won the Leather Helmet Award, an honor presented by the Boston College touch-down 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.

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 Started 8-0

Clemson started 8-0 for the first time since 2000 when the Tigers started 8-0. It was 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 also started 5-0 in the ACC for the first time since 2000.

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.

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 | Georgia Tech, 17-31 |

Branch, Steele Honored by Rivals.com

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.

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.

Ranked Wins on the Road

Clemson has 64 wins over Associated Press top 25 teams over the years and 21 of them have taken place on an opponent's home field. The 21st 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 (21)

| Date | Score | Opp Rk | Opponent |
|----------|------------|--------|----------------|
| 11-13-48 | 21-14 | 19 | Wake Forest |
| 9-17-50 | 34-0 | 17 | Missouri |
| 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.

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.

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 the 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.

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 |
| 2011 | Tajh Boyd | Wake Forest | 27-43 | 343 |
| 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 |

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.

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 fourth on the Clemson team in tackles this year with 73

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

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.

Tigers on NFL Rosters

Clemson has had 25 former players on NFL rosters this year. The list includes seven players off of last year's team.

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. 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 December 1, 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 |
| | #Ricky Sapp | DE | New York Jets |
| 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

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. Clemson is tied for first in the nation in total freshmen played this year.

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

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 |

PLAYER HONORS & AWARDS

#83 Dwayne Allen, TE

- John Mackey Award National Tight End of the Week vs. Auburn
- One of 3 Finalists for John Mackey Award
- First-team Midseason All-American by CBSsportsline.com and ESPN.com
- Second-team Midseason All-American by Phil Steele and si.com
- First-team All-ACC

#10 Tajh Boyd, QB

- ACC Back of the Week vs. Auburn, Florida State and North Carolina
- Manning Award National Quarterback of the Week vs. Auburn, Florida State, Maryland and North Carolina
- Semifinalist (one of 16) for Davey O'Brien Award
- Semifinalist (one of 16) for Maxwell Award
- Named to Manning Award Watch List at midseason
- ACC Player of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Florida State
- First team All-ACC
- MVP of ACC Championship Game

#40 Andre Branch, DE

- ACC Defensive Lineman of the Week vs. Virginia Tech
- National second team Midseason All-America by ESPN.com, CBSsportsline.com, Phil Steele and si.com
- Overall ACC Player of the Week vs. Virginia Tech
- One of six Finalists for Ted Hendricks Award
- First-team All-ACC

#90 Kourtnei Brown, DE

- ACC Defensive Lineman of the Week vs. North Carolina
- Football Writers Association National Defensive Player of the Week vs. North Carolina
- Walter Camp Foundation National Defensive Player of the Week vs. North Carolina
- National Defensive Performer of the Week by College Football Performance Awards vs. North Carolina
- National Defensive Lineman of the Week by College Football Performance Awards

#39 Chandler Catanzaro, PK

- Midseason first-team All-American by ESPN.com
- ACC Specialist of the Week vs. Boston College
- Lou Groza National Kicker of the Week vs. Boston College
- Semifinalist for the Lou Groza Award
- Second-team All-ACC

#23 Andre Ellington, RB

- ACC Back of the Week vs. Maryland
- Second-team All-ACC

#55 Dalton Freeman, C

- One of Six Finalists for Rimington Award
- ACC Offensive Lineman of the Week vs. Wake Forest

- First-team All-ACC

#98 Brandon Thompson, DT

- Second-team Midseason All-American by CBSsportsline.com, Phil Steele and ESPN.com
- Second-team All-ACC

#79 Phillip Price, OT

- HM All-ACC

#72 Landon Walker, OT

- ACC Offensive Lineman of the Week vs. North Carolina
- HM All-ACC

#2 Sammy Watkins, WR

- ACC Rookie of the Week vs. Wofford, Auburn, Boston College and Maryland
- ACC Receiver of the Week vs. Auburn, Florida State and Maryland
- National Freshman of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Auburn, Florida State and Maryland
- National Player of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Maryland
- ACC Player of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Maryland
- Paul Hornung Co-Player of the Week vs. Maryland, Georgia Tech
- Midseason addition to Maxwell Award Watch List
- One of 10 semifinalists for Biletnikoff Award
- One of 15 semifinalists for Walter Camp Player of the Year
- First-team All-ACC wide receiver
- Second-team All-ACC kick returner
- ACC Rookie of the Year

#46 Tig Willard, LB

- ACC Linebacker of the Week vs. Boston College

#96 Dawson Zimmerman, P

- One of 10 Finalists for Lowe's Senior Class Award
- One of 13 Finalists for the Wuerffel Award
- Preseason Watch List for Ray Guy Award
- HM All-ACC

COACHING HONORS & AWARDS

Head Coach Dabo Swinney

- One of 16 semifinalists for Bear Bryant National Coach of the Year Award
- On Watch List at midseason for Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Award
- One of Five Finalists for Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year
- One of 10 Finalists for Liberty Mutual National Coach of the Year
- One of five Regional AFCA Coach of the Year

Offensive Coordinator Chad Morris

- National Offensive Coordinator of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Auburn

Defensive Coordinator Kevin Steele

- National Defensive Coordinator of the Week by Rivals.com vs. Virginia Tech

TEAM HONORS & AWARDS

- National Team of the Week by Football Writers Association vs. Florida State
- Ranked fifth in BCS rankings on October 23, highest ranking in school history
- Became Bowl eligible on October 7, earliest date on the calendar to become bowl eligible
- Ended Defending National Champion Auburn's 17-game winning streak, the longest winning streak in the nation at the time
- Atlantic Division ACC Champions
- ACC Champions
- Selected for Discover Orange Bowl