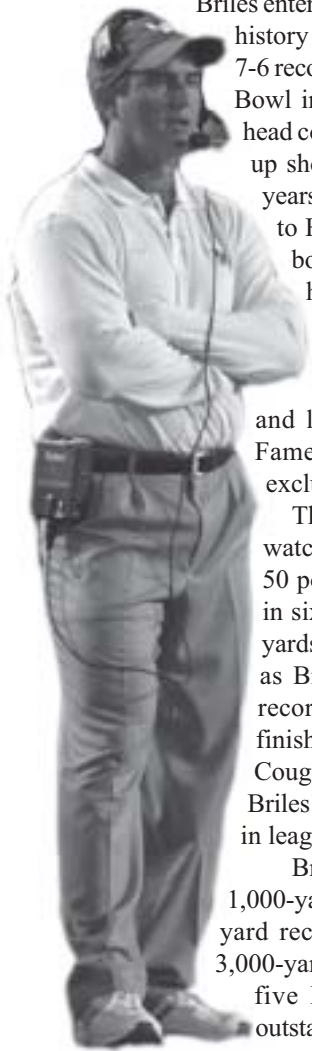




Head Coach



A “Man on a Mission.” A “Person with a Purpose.” A “Mentor with a Meaning.” These are descriptors that point to University of Houston head football coach Art Briles, a leader charged not only with turning around the fortunes of a once-proud program, but also returning respectability to Cougar football. Coaching football at Houston is not just a job for Briles: It is his passion and his dream-come-true all rolled up into one for the former Cougar standout. If his first seasons at the University of Houston are any indication of his future success, go ahead and stamp the name “Briles” in the UH record books.



Briles enters his third season this fall after making history in 2003, when he led the Cougars to a 7-6 record and a berth in the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl in just his first season as a collegiate head coach. Even though the Cougars' came up short in their first bowl game in seven years, Houston's 54-48 triple overtime loss to Hawai'i was one of the most exciting bowl games not only in 2003, but in the history of college football. Briles became the second UH head coach to lead his troops to a bowl game in his first year, joining his former coach and legendary College Football Hall of Fame head coach Bill Yeoman in this exclusive group.

The Cougars were an exciting team to watch in Briles' first campaign, topping 50 points and 500 yards of total offense in six games. His team averaged 458.3 yards and 34.5 points per game in 2003, as Briles guided the Cougars to a 4-4 record in Conference USA for its best finish since 1999. More impressive, the Cougars finished 4-3 on the road under Briles' direction, including a 3-1 road mark in league action.

Briles' innovative offense produced a 1,000-yard rusher (Anthony Evans), a 1,000-yard receiver (Brandon Middleton) and a 3,000-yard passer (Kevin Kolb)—one of only five Division I-A teams to post such outstanding performers. The Cougars also

BRILES AT A GLANCE

Born: December 3, 1955
College: Texas Tech, 1979
Graduate Degree: Abilene Christian, 1984
Wife: Jan
Children: Jancy, Kendal and Staley, all UH graduates or students
Playing Experience: An all-state quarterback in high school for his father at Rule High School, Briles played wide receiver for three years at Houston and played in the 1977 Cotton Bowl. Briles then transferred to Texas Tech to complete his bachelor's degree.

were one of a handful of Division I-A schools to score more than 40 points in at least seven games in 2003.

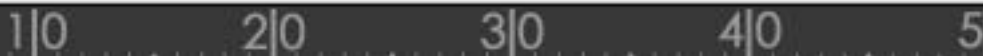
Briles also tutored Kolb to Conference USA Freshman-of-the-Year honors, as Kolb became the first true freshman to start a season opener at quarterback for the Cougars in their 58-year history. Briles also coached two First-Team, All-Conference performers in Middleton and center Rex Hadnot, as well as Second-Teamers Joe Clay (defensive end) and Matt Mattox (offensive tackle.) Both Evans and tight end Jonathan Pritchett picked up Third-Team accolades. WR Leonard Gibson, LB Wade Koehl, DT Marquay Love and CB/KR Ricky Wilson were members of the 2003 Conference USA All-Freshman squad.

Last season both Clay and wide receiver Vincent Marshall grabbed Second-Team All-C-USA accolades, while offensive tackle

BREAKING DOWN BRILES

	Overall				Conference			
	W-L	Pct.	Home	Away	W-L	Pct.	Home	Away
2003	7-6	.538	3-3	4-3	4-4	.500	1-3	3-1
2004	3-8	.272	3-2	0-6	3-5	.375	3-1	0-4
Totals	10-14	.417	6-5	4-9	7-9	.438	3-4	3-5

- 3-5 (.375) vs. non-conference teams
- 2-1 (.667) vs. non-conference teams at home
- 1-4 (.200) vs. non-conference teams on the road
- 9-10 (.474) on grass
- 1-4 (.200) on artificial turf
- 0-1 (.000) in overtime
- 0-1 (.000) in bowl games
- 0-1 (.000) vs. Atlantic Coast Conference
- 0-1 (.000) vs. Big 10 Conference
- 0-1 (.000) vs. Big XII Conference
- 7-9 (.438) vs. Conference USA
- 1-0 (1.000) vs. Southeastern Conference
- 1-0 (1.000) vs. Sun Belt Conference
- 1-2 (.333) vs. Western Athletic Conference





Head Coach

Phil Hawkins, defensive tackle Kade Lane and cornerback Stanford Routt were named to the league's Third Team. Indicative of his productive recruiting, offensive guard Byron Alfred, wide receiver Donnie Avery, offensive tackle SirVincent Rogers and strong safety Rocky Schwartz picked up All-C-USA Freshman Team honors.

Under Briles' direction in 2003, the Cougars jumped out to a 5-1 start, the best for any UH coach in 13 seasons. Along the way Houston knocked off arch-rival Rice, Mississippi State of the Southeastern Conference and Louisiana-Lafayette, as well as league foes East Carolina and Tulane. The Cougars finished the 2003 season with wins over Army and UAB to clinch their first bowl berth in seven seasons.

Briles became the first former UH player to lead the Cougar football program, when his team took on Rice in the season opener on August 30. Briles is the 10th head coach in the program's history, and the Houston job is his first Division I-A head coaching position.

Briles was elated to return to his old stomping grounds in December of 2002, and he is excited about rejuvenating the Cougar football program.

"This is definitely something I have aspired to do...be a Division I-A head football coach," said Briles at his press conference. "This is a dream come true. I have bled the blood over the years to get to this point, and I am excited about this opportunity. (The game of football) is much more about the players than the coaches, but I am eager to jump right in with both feet.

"It is a privilege for me to come back to UH and carry on the tradition of excellence laid by Coach (Bill) Yeoman. I want to bring excitement back to Cougar football, and I want to show the players how we can accomplish this. There are no shortcuts. I have to emphasize to them that they must be better tomorrow than we are today.

"We will play great defense and get after the other teams. We also will be disciplined and tough, and we'll walk off that field after every game knowing we gave it everything we could."

The Cougars certainly lived up to his beliefs in 2003.

A former wide receiver for the Cougars from 1974-77, Briles was a member of the 1976 Cougar squad that captured the Southwest Conference championship in UH's first-season in the league. He later played in the 1977 Cotton Bowl against fifth-ranked Maryland, a game won by the Cougars, 30-21.

Briles returned to the place where his collegiate career began after spending three years as the running backs coach at Texas Tech University. Under his direction, the Red Raider rushing attack



drastically improved each year. Taurean Henderson led the Red Raider rushing game during his freshman year, when Texas Tech averaged over 100 yards for the first time under head coach Mike Leach. Henderson rushed for 733 yards on 143 carries and 5.1 yards per attempt. He also broke the school's freshman record for scoring with 11 touchdowns, six on the ground and five in the air.

Briles' running game complemented the air-it-out style of Leach. The Red Raiders led the Big 12 Conference and ranked fourth nationally in total offense, and was seventh nationally in scoring at 37.1 points per game.

When Briles accepted the position at Texas Tech, he inherited one of the nation's top running backs in Ricky Williams and a corps of underclassmen. Williams finished the 2001 campaign as the nation's second-leading receiver and was a First-Team, All-Big 12 selection as an all-purpose back and a Second-Team pick as a

running back. Williams finished second in the Big 12 with 122.7 all-purpose yards per game.

Before he went to Texas Tech, Briles spent 12 seasons as a head coach and athletics director at Stephenville (Texas) High School. During his tenure, the Yellowjackets won four state championships, including back-to-back titles in 1998 and 1999. His 1998 team posted a then national record 8,650 yards of total offense

BRILES' QUARTERBACK SUCCESS

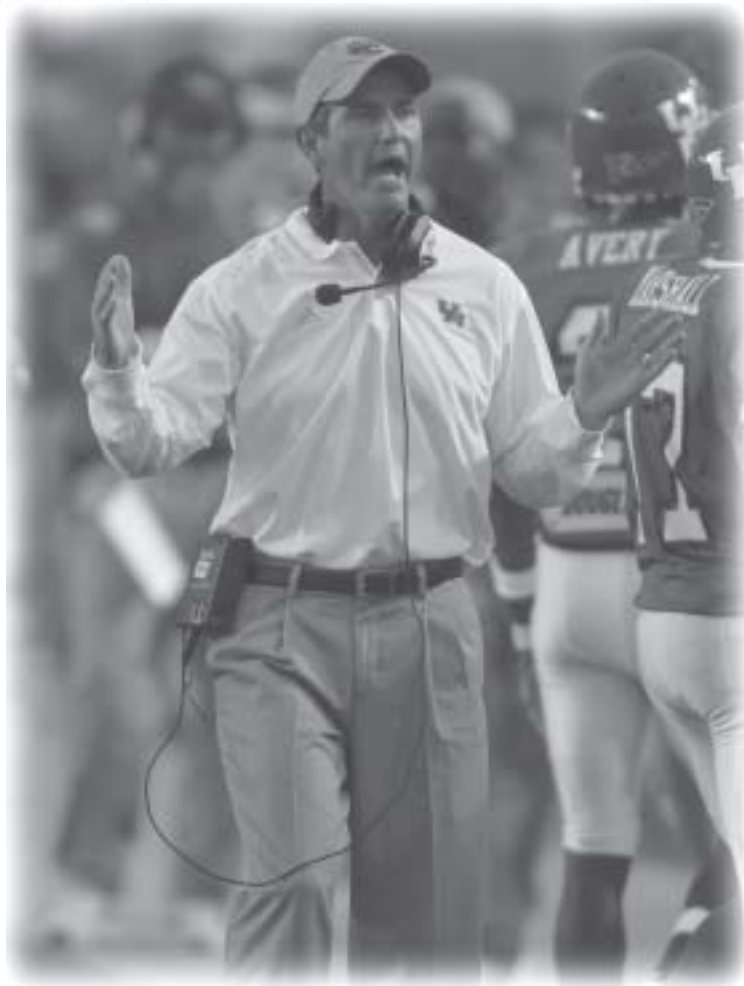
Year	Team (record)	Quarterback	Passing/Rushing yards
1985	Hamlin (14-1)	Mike Howerton	1,100 yards/1,150 yards
1990	Stephenville (13-2)	Cody Ledbetter	1,951/482
1993	Stephenville (16-0)	Brannon Stewart	2,554/1,374
1994	Stephenville (16-0)	Glenn Odell	2,740/630
1996	Stephenville (8-5-1)	Kyle Dempsey	1,543/1,243
1998	Stephenville (15-1)	Kelan Luker	4,697/489
1999	Stephenville (16-0)	Kendal Briles	3,137/1,332
2000	Texas Tech (7-6)	Kliff Kingsbury	3,418/19
2001	Texas Tech (7-5)	Kliff Kingsbury	3,502/48
2002	Texas Tech (9-5)	Kliff Kingsbury	5,017/-114
2003	Houston (7-6)	Kevin Kolb	3,131/346
2004	Houston (3-8)	Kevin Kolb	2,766/51



Head Coach



The Briles Family: Staley, Jancy, Jan and Art (son Kendal not pictured...see page 101 for his complete bio.)



and still holds the third and fourth positions on the national all-time list. During a six-year stretch, he set a record as his teams posted a 90-2-1 mark during the run. While coaching in the high school ranks, Briles developed six Division I quarterbacks and had five quarterbacks throw for over 3,000 yards in a season.

Briles has spent his entire coaching career in the state of Texas. He began at Sundown as an assistant coach in 1979 and moved on to Sweetwater for four seasons as an assistant in 1980. His first head coaching opportunity came at Hamlin in 1984-86, where he also served as athletics director.

In 1986, Briles began a two-year stint as head coach and athletics director at Georgetown, before moving on to Stephenville in 1988.

Briles received a Bachelor of Arts degree at Texas Tech in 1979 and a Master's of Education degree at Abilene Christian University. He played collegiately at the University of Houston as a wide receiver from 1974-77.

Briles was recently inducted into the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame for his West Texas exploits.

Briles and his wife, Jan, have three children, Jancy, a recent University of Houston graduate; Kendal, a quarterback and wide receiver on the Cougar squad; and Staley, a junior at UH this fall.