

#25 Matt Forté

Running Back

6-2, 223, Four Letters Earned

Slidell, La./Slidell HS

Career Notes: A four-year letterman and three-year starter who played in 43 career games with 30 starts...completed his career as Tulane's leader in rushing yards per game (99.186), rushing touchdowns (39) and total touchdowns (44) while ranking second in all-purpose yards (5,261), rushing yards (4,265), rushing attempts (833) and 100-yard rushing games (16), third in total points (266), and fourth in yards per carry (5.12)...points total is the most by a non-kicker...career receiving totals include 103 receptions for 985 yards and five touchdowns...saved best season for his senior year when he rushed for 2,127 yards and 23 touchdowns...became just the 11th player in NCAA Division I-Bowl Subdivision history to run for 2,000 yards in a season and the first since Cal's J.J.Arrington accomplished the feat in 2004...2007 rushing total ranks seventh in NCAA single-season history while his 177.2 rushing-yards-per-game average is 17th...named MVP of the 2008 Under Armour Senior Bowl after rushing for a game-high 59 yards on eight carries (7.4 ypc), snaring a game-best four passes for another 38 yards and posting a tackle on special teams.

2007: Started all 12 games as a senior, 11 at running back and one at quarterback when he took a direct snap on the game's opening play...named second-team All-American by Sports Illustrated (SI.com) and third-team All-American by the Associated Press and Phil Steele Publications...claimed first-team All-Conference USA by league coaches and media, Rivals.com and CollegeFootballNews.com...also named a semifinalist for the Doak Walker and Maxwell Awards, and earned a spot on the Walter Camp Football Foundation's "15 Players to Watch" for the National Player of the Year Award...led team while ranking second in Conference USA and the NCAA in rushing yards (2,127), rushing yards per game (177.2), scoring (11.7 ppg) and rushing touchdowns (23)...also ranked third in C-USA and fifth in NCAA in all-purpose yards (2,420) and all-purpose yards per game (201.7)...was one of two non-quarterbacks to rank nationally in total offense, finishing 87th in the NCAA with 177.58 yards per game...became just the fourth non-quarterback in Tulane history, and the first since fullback Ronny Quillian in 1955, to lead the team in total offense with 2,126 yards (2,127 rushing, four passing)...posted school single-season records in rushing attempts (361), rushing yards, rushing yards per game, rushing and total touchdowns (23), all-purpose yards, total points (140) and 100-yard rushing games (nine)...set school record with eight consecutive 100-yard rushing games to close out the year, including a school and C-USA record 342 yards on 38 carries vs. SMU (10/20)...also had 303 yards on 40 carries vs. Southeastern Louisiana (9/22), 278 yards on a school-record 44 carries vs. Memphis (10/27), 209 yards on 32 carries at UAB (10/13) and 202 yards on 32 carries at Army (10/6)...set Tulane and tied C-USA single-game record with five touchdowns vs. Southeastern Louisiana and Rice...named Walter Camp Football Foundation National Offensive Player of the Week and C-USA Offensive Player of the Week for his performances against Southeastern Louisiana and SMU...set career-high with a 77-yard touchdown run in part of a four-score day at SMU...had three of the top eight single-game rushing performances among NCAA Division I-Bowl Subdivision backs with a nation-best 342 yards at SMU, 303 vs. Southeastern Louisiana (fourth) and 278 vs. Memphis (tied for eighth)...during the course of the season, set three of the top four single-game all-purpose yard performances and seven of the top nine single-game rushing performances in school history...finished second on the team in receptions (32) and third in receiving yards (282)...also completed one pass for four yards and had an 11-yard kickoff return...voted one of two permanent team captains for the season.

2006: Started nine straight games before suffering a season-ending injury at Marshall...earned second-team All-Louisiana honors and claimed third-team All-Conference USA recognition...named the C-USA and LSWA Offensive Player of the Week on Sept. 18...produced 1,219 all-purpose yards and led the team in rushing yards (859), carries (163), yards per carry (5.3) and touchdowns (eight), and was fourth in receptions (28) and receiving yards (360)...averaged 12.9 yards per reception and hauled in two receiving touchdowns...ranked third among C-USA players in all-purpose yards and was fourth in rushing and ninth in scoring...rushed for 100-plus yards in four straight games...finished with 124 yards on 24 carries and two scores vs. Army (10/28)...turned in a 117-yard performance at No. 8 Auburn (10/21)...finished with 147 yards on 17 carries and a score at UTEP (10/14)...rushed for a season high 178 yards on 19 carries and one touchdown, and caught four passes for 57 yards and a score vs. Rice(10/7)...rushed for 170 yards and one touchdown against Mississippi State (9/16)...longest run from scrimmage was a 64-yard scamper vs. Rice, while his longest reception was a 49-yard touchdown pass from Lester Ricard at Houston (9/9) in the season opener.

2005: Led the team in rushing with 655 yards for an average of 59.5 yards per game... registered his 1,000th career rushing yard in the Navy game (11/5)... piled up a season-high 137 yards on 27 carries in the season finale against Southern Miss (11/26)... had 15 carries for 59 yards and added two catches for 37 yards, including his only TD grab of the year on an 18-yard Scott Elliott pass against Rice (11/12)... logged 20 carries for 87 yards and a pair of touchdowns in the win over SMU (9/24)... added 79 yards on 21 rushes against Houston (10/8)... also tied for fourth on the team with 23 receptions for 163 yards and led Tulane in all-purpose yards with 818... his five TDs ranked fourth on the team in scoring... caught passes in nine games... snagged a career-high six passes for 41 yards, including a 24-yarder against UCF (10/21).

2004: A Conference USA All-Freshman team selection... concluded the year with 140 carries for 624 yards and four touchdowns while catching 20 passes for 180 yards... provided a solid second option in the backfield with Jovon Jackson early in the season, but after a Jackson injury, exploded onto the scene with a 34-carry, 216-yard, four-touchdown performance against Army (11/13)... his 216 yards is the fourth-best single-game effort at Tulane while the 34 carries rank second on the Green Wave lists... in the Army game, rushed for three touchdowns... finished with 48 receiving yards while catching a 47-yard scoring pass from Lester Ricard... his 283 all-purpose yards against Army ranks third all-time at Tulane... his first career TD run came on a six-yard carry in the fourth quarter against UAB (10/23) and gave the Wave a 45-41 lead... posted his first career TD reception against Navy (11/6) on an 18-yard catch... registered 97 rushing yards on 28 carries in the win over TCU (11/27) while catching a season-best four passes for 38 yards... closed the year with a 70-yard rushing effort against Louisville (12/4).

High School: The St. Tammany Parish Player of the Year and District 5-5A Offensive MVP as a senior who was also an All-Metro selection... second team all-state choice in 2003... two-time all-district and all-parish honoree... team captain and MVP his senior season... totaled 2,432 rushing yards and 31 touchdowns in his career while also catching 48 passes for 618 yards and five scores... gained 1,375 rushing yards as a senior while averaging 6.7 yards per carry... scored 23 rushing TDs and caught 18 passes for 253 yards and a pair of scores... gained 1,057 rushing yards as a junior with eight touchdowns... caught 30 passes for 365 yards and three scores... also lettered in track and was an honor roll student.

Personal: Born Matthew Garrett Forté on December 10, 1985, in Lake Charles, La...son of Gene and Gilda Forté...father played football for the Green Wave from 1975-77, captaining the team in 1977...older brother, Bryan, played football at McNeese State... named the Tulane Male Student-Athlete of the Year in 2007...majoring in finance.

Forté's Career Stats

Rushing

Year	GP/GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	YPG	TD	Long/Opp
2004	11/3	140	624	4.5	56.7	4	48/Army
2005	11/6	169	655	3.9	59.5	4	26/Southern Miss
2006	9/9	163	859	5.3	95.4	8	64/Rice
2007	12/12	361	2127	5.9	177.2	23	77/SMU
Career	43/30	833	4265	5.1	99.2	39	77/SMU

Receiving

Year	GP/GS	No.	Yds	Avg.	YPG	TD	Long/Opp
2004	11/3	20	180	9.0	16.4	2	47/Army
2005	11/6	23	163	7.1	14.8	1	24/UCF
2006	9/9	28	360	12.9	40.0	2	49/Houston
2007	12/12	32	282	8.8	23.5	0	28/Miss. State
Career	43/30	103	985	9.6	22.9	5	40/Houston

All-Purpose Yards

Year	Games	Rush	Rec	Return	Total	Avg/G
2004	11	624	180	0	804	73.1
2005	11	655	163	0	818	74.4
2006	9	859	360	0	1219	135.4
2007	12	2127	282	11	2420	201.7
Career	43	4265	985	11	5261	122.3

Scoring

Year	Games	TD	Rush	Rec	2PAT	Total
2004	11	6	4	2	0	36
2005	11	5	4	1	0	30
2006	9	10	8	2	0	60
2007	12	23	23	0	1	140
Career	43	44	39	5	1	266