GAME 1: MIDDLE TENNESSEE BLUE RAIDERS AT ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE
September 3, 2005 Bryant-Denny Stadium Tuscaloosa, Alabama
6:07 p.m. (CT) PPV -- Crimson Tide Opens 111th Football Season

Alabama Football

2005 SEASON OPENER

The **University of Alabama football team opens the 111th season** of this storied football program as the Crimson Tide hosts the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2005. The game will be televised in Alabama and Tennessee on a pay-per-view basis with kickoff set for 6:07 p.m. (CT). The game will also be available on DirecTV. Alabama is coming off a 6-6 season last year which included a berth in the 2004 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl presented by Bridegstone. The Crimson Tide's berth in the Nashville-based bowl came despite losing its entire starting backfield during the course of the season. The Middle Tennessee game is just the sixth season opener here at historic Bryant-Denny Stadium since the 1941 season. Alabama is **85-21-3 (.788) all-time in season openers** and enters the 2005 season on a three-game winning streak on opening day. Handling the announcing duties for the Crimson Tide Sports Network's pay-per-view telecast are **David Crane** (play-by-play), **Tyler Watts** (color) and **Chris Stewart** (sidelines). The game will also be aired on the 80-plus station Crimson Tide Sports Network with **Eli Gold** (play-by-play), **Kenny Stabler** (analyst) and **Tom Roberts** (sidelines) describing the action.

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THE HEAD COACHES

Alabama head football coach **Mike Shula (10-15, .400)** begins his third season as head coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide. Shula guided the Crimson Tide to a 6-6 record last season and a berth in the 2004 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl presented by Bridgestone, despite losing his entire starting backfield. Shula led Alabama to a 4-9 record in his rookie season in 2003, despite taking the job just 114 days before the start of the season and without a spring practice session. He previously served as an assistant coach in the NFL with Tampa Bay, Chicago and Miami. A three-year letterman at Alabama (1984-86), Shula was a two-time All-SEC selection and threw for over 2,000 yards as a junior (1985), leading the Crimson Tide to dramatic come-from-behind wins over Georgia and Auburn. Middle Tennessee head coach **Andy McCollum (30-38, .441)** opens his seventh season in Murfreesboro as head coach of the Blue Raiders. He took over the program in 1999, his first head coaching stint. In just six years at Middle Tennessee, McCollum has won a league championship (2001 Sun Belt), produced the conference player of the year and offensive player of the year, had a freshman All-American, developed the highest NFL draft pick in school history, and placed 11 athletes on the all-conference squad.

JIM BUNCH DELIVERS GAME BALL

Jim Bunch (1976-79), a native of Mechanicsville, Vir., will run out the game ball prior to the Middle Tennessee game. He was a four-year starter for coach Paul "Bear" Bryant during one of the greatest eras of Crimson Tide football. Bunch played on three SEC Championship teams and was a member of back-to-back national championship squads in 1978-79.

UP NEXT

Alabama hosts Southern Miss on Saturday, Sept. 10 here at Bryant-Denny Stadium. The game will be televised by espn2 with a 6:45 p.m. (CT) kickoff.

Quick Facts

Alabama in the latest polls:	
Associated Press	RV
USA Today/Coaches	24th

ALABAMA QUICK NOTES: The 2005 season marks the 111th season of Crimson Tide football ... Bama has compiled a 764-299-43 (.710) record in 1,106 all-time games ... Alabama opens the 2005 season ranked 24th in the preseason USA Today Coaches poll released last week ... Alabama has 14 players on various preseason All-America and All-SEC squads ... An additional six players are on preseason watch lists for various national awards ... Bama returns 16 starters off last year's team, including seven on offense and nine on defense ... The Alabama starting secondary has combined for 99 career starts and 199 career tackles at Alabama ... Senior safety Charlie Peprah has the most starts of any player on the UA team with 33 ... Senior linebacker Freddie Roach is second on the team with 28 career starts ... Senior cornerback Anthony Madison is next with 27 starts ... Senior center JB Closner leads all offensive players with 24 career starts ... Alabama is 85-21-3 (.788) in season openers and has won three straight, dating back to to the 2002 season ...

Alabama (0-0, 0-0 SEC)

Date	Opponent	TV	Time/Score
9- 3	**Middle Tennessee**	**PPV**	**6:07 PM**
9-10	Southern Miss	espn2	6:45 PM
9-17	at South Carolina	CBS	2:30 PM
9-24	Arkansas		TBA
10-1	Florida		TBA
10-8	OPEN DATE		
10-15	at Ole Miss		TBA
10-22	Tennessee		TBA
10-29	Utah State (HC)		2 PM
11- 5	at Mississippi State		TBA
11-12	LSU		TBA
11-19	at Auburn		TBA

Middle Tenneesse (0-0, 0-0 SBC)

Date	Opponent	TV	Time/Score
9- 3	**at ALABAMA**	**PPV**	**6:07 PM**
9-10	North Texas		6 PM
9-17	Akron		4 PM
9-24	OPEN DATE		
10- 1	at Vanderbilt		6 PM
10- 8	OPEN DATE		
10-15	at Florida Atlantic		TBA
10-22	UL Lafayette		TBA
10-29	at Florida International		5 PM
11- 5	Arkansas State		TBA
11-12	UL Monroe		TBA
11-19	at North Carolina State		TBA
11-26	at Troy		TBA

MEDIA SERVICES - MIDDLE TENNESSEE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Practice 4-6 PM Coach Shula and players available after practice.	**OFF DAY**	**MEDIA DAY** Coordinators avaailable at Noon. Coach Shula 12:30 p.m. Players 1 p.m Practice 4-6 p.m	Practice 4:30-6 PM Coach Shula and players available after practice.	Practice 4:20-5:30 PM Coach Shula available after practice.	Closed walk through **No Interviews**	2005 Season Opener **ALABAMA vs. Middle Tennessee** 6:07 PM (PPV)

Crimson Tide Sports Network Affiliates

Your Guide to Alabama on the airwaves
with Eli Gold, Ken Stabler and Tom Roberts

Anniston	WASZ-FM 95.5
Alexander City	WKGA-FM 100.3
Appalachicola, FL	WFCT-FM 105.5
Arab	WAFN-FM 92.7
Birmingham	WZRR-FM 99.5
Birmingham	WJOX-AM 690
Brewton	WKNU-FM 106.3
Butler	WPRN-FM 107.7
Centre	WRHY-FM 105.9
Clanton	WKLF-AM 980
Clanton	WEZZ-FM 97.7
Corinth, MS	WADI-FM 95.3
Cullman	WFMH-AM 1340
Cullman	WFMH-FM 95.5
Decatur	WWTM-AM 1400
Dothan	WAGF-AM 1320
Dothan	WAGF-FM 101.3
Eufaula	WRVX-FM 97.9
Fayette	WLDX-AM 990
Florence	WYTK-FM 93.9
Fort Payne	WFPA-AM 1400
Gadsden	WGAD-AM 1350
Georgiana	WFXX-FM 107.7
Haleyville	WJBB-AM 1230
Haleyville	WJBB-FM 92.7
Huntsville	WUMP-AM 730
Huntsville	WZYP-FM 104.3
Jackson, AL	WRJX-AM 1230
Jackson, AL	WBMH-FM 106.1
Jackson, MS	WPBQ-AM 1240
Jacksonville, FL	WIOJ-AM 1010
Jasper	WARF-AM 1240
Linden	WINL-FM 98.5
Meridian, MS	WZKR-FM 103.3
Mobile	WNSP-FM 105.5
Mobile	WZEW-FM 92.1
Monroeville	WMFC-AM 1360
Monroeville	WMFC-FM 99.3
Montgomery	WXFX-FM 95.1
Oneonta	WCRL-AM 1570
Oneonta	WKLD-FM 97.7
Opp	WAMI-AM 860
Opp	WAMI-FM 102.3
Pell City	WFHK-AM 1430
Russellville	WGOL-AM 920
Scottsboro	WKEA-FM 98.3
Selma	WHBB-AM 1490
Selma	WDXX-FM 100.1
Spartanburg, SC	WASC-AM 1530
Sylacauga	WFEB-AM 1340
Tuscaloosa	WZBQ-FM 94.1
Tuscaloosa	WRTR-FM 105.5
Tuscaloosa	WACT-AM 1420
Union Springs	WACQ-AM 1130
Union Springs	WQSI-FM 93.9
West Point, GA	WCJM-FM 100.9
Winfield	WKXM-AM 1300
Winfield	WKXM-FM 105.9

*** -- All games are also available on SIRIUS Satellite Radio.**

Coach Shula TV Show Affiliates

The weekly look at Crimson Tide Football is hosted by NBC 13 news anchor Jim Dunaway.

Dothan	WTVY (Sunday, 10:30 pm)
Birmingham	NBC 13 (Sunday, 10:30 pm)
Birmingham	WOTM 19 (Monday, 7 pm)
Huntsville	WZDX (Sunday, 10:30 pm)
Mobile	WJTC (Sunday, 10 pm)
Montgomery	WCOV (Sunday, 10:30 pm)
Tuscaloosa	WVUA (Monday 6:30 pm)
Comcast	CSS (Thursday, 6:30 pm)
FOX Sports Net	FSNS (Monday, 11 am)

Alabama Football on TV

Live: Crimson Tide PPV (6:07 p.m.)
(David Crane, Tyler Watts and Chris Stewart)

Delay: Sunday (3 p.m., CT) (CSS)

Satellite Radio: SIRIUS (Channel 122) (LIVE)

"Hey, Coach!"

Bama fans again will have an opportunity to talk with Crimson Tide coach Mike Shula each week on the network's "Hey, Coach!" show. The show airs from 6-7:30 pm on most CTSM affiliates. Tom Roberts hosts the 90-minute coaches' call-in show on Thursday night during the 2005 football season. Coach Shula makes comments and interviews fans in attendance. The show is broadcast live from Wings Sports Grille in Tuscaloosa. In December, "Hey, Coach!" will return to Monday night with other Bama head coaches. Fans can join the program by calling toll-free 877-202-BAMA.

"Crimson Tide Post-Game Party"

Chris Stewart hosts the "Crimson Tide Post-Game Party" one hour after each Alabama game at Wings Sports Grille. The "Crimson Tide Post-Game Party" is carried live on Crimson Tide Sports Network stations.

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Mike Shula

MIKE SHULA YEAR-BY-YEAR LEDGER

Alabama Player, Starting QB (32-15-1, .678)

Year	All	Conf	Bowl
*1983	8-4	4-2	Sun Bowl
1984	5-6	2-4	None
1985	9-2-1	4-1-1	Aloha Bowl
1986	10-3	4-2	Sun Bowl

* -- Played only one game as a true freshman in 1983.

Tampa Bay Offensive Asst/QB Coach (20-43, .317)

Year	All	Finish	Playoffs
1987	4-11	5th Central	None
1988	5-11	5th Central	None
1989	5-11	5th Central	None
1990	6-10	5th Central	None

Miami Dolphins, Offensive Asst. (19-14, .576)

Year	All	Finish	Playoffs
1991	8-8	T2nd East	None
1992	11-5	1st East	1-1 (AFC Semis)

Chicago Bears Tight Ends Coach (23-23, .500)

Year	All	Finish	Playoffs
1993	7-9	4th Central	None
1994	9-7	T2nd Central	1-1 (2nd Round)
1995	9-7	2nd Central	None

Tampa Bay Offensive Coordinator (35-29, .547)

Year	All	Finish	Playoffs
1996	6-10		None
1997	10-6	1st Central	1-1 (NFC Semis)
1998	8-8		None
1999	11-5	1st Central	1-1 (NFC Champ)

Miami Dolphins, QBs Coach (33-15, .688)

Year	All	Finish	Playoffs
2000	11-5	1st East	1-1 (AFC Semis)
2001	11-5	2nd East	0-1 (AFC Wild Card)
2002	11-5	t1st East	None

Alabama, Head Coach (10-15, .400)

Year	All	SEC	Bowl
2003	4-9	2-6	NA
2004	6-6	3-5	Music City

Composite Record as Player and Coach
172-153-1 (.529) - 326 Games
Five NFL Divisional Championships
Six NFL Playoff Appearances
Three Bowl Appearances at Alabama
Two-Time All-SEC Selection
1986 Alabama Team Captain

MIKE SHULA NOTEBOOK

*Former All-SEC quarterback **Mike Shula** made his head coaching debut as the Crimson Tide defeated the South Florida Bulls, 40-17, Aug. 30, 2003 at Legion Field.

*Since his debut with the Alabama Crimson Tide as a true freshman in 1983, the 2003 season will mark **Shula's 22nd season** in the collegiate or professional ranks.

*Shula made his Alabama **playing debut on Sept. 17, 1983 in a 40-0 win over the Ole Miss Rebels** at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

*Shula was a three-year letterman and starter for coach Ray Perkins from 1984-86, leading the Tide to a **32-15-1 (.678)** record.

1984 (Sophomore) -- Shula played in eight games and made six starts for the Crimson Tide... His first career start for the Crimson Tide came in a 38-31 loss to Boston College and 1984 Heisman Trophy winner Doug Flutie on Sept. 8, 1984 at Legion Field...Completed a 67-yard pass to Greg Richardson with 7:57 left in the game to give UA a 24-20 win over Miss. State in Jackson.

1985 (Junior) -- An All-SEC selection after becoming the second QB in Alabama history to throw for more than 2,000 yards in a single-season (138-for-229, 2,009 yards, 16 TDs), Shula also ranked third in the SEC and fifth nationally with a 150.02 rating ... Set UA records for single-game (4) and single-season TD passes (16) and completion percentage (60.3%) ... Twice named SEC Player of the Week for his performances against Cincinnati and Memphis State, where he threw a UA record four TD passes ... Led Alabama to exciting comeback wins over Georgia and Auburn ... Against Georgia, he fired a 17-yard TD pass to Al Bell with 15 seconds to play for the 20-16 game-winning TD ... Against Auburn, Shula directed a six-play, 45-yard drive that led to Van Tiffin's 52-yard game-winning FG (UA 25, AU 23)... Shula completed passes to Gene Jelks (16 yds) and Greg Richardson (19 yards) on the drive and threw a key block on Bell's 20-yard reverse on fourth and four ... Caught game-tying TD pass at LSU from Jelks.

1986 (Senior) -- Finished his career with a school record 35 career TD passes ... Led the Crimson Tide to its only ever win over Notre Dame (28-10) in Oct. 4, 1986 ... Shula completed 15 of 23 passes for 191 yards and three TDs in the win over the Irish ... Elected a permanent team captain along with future NFL All-Pro Cornelius Bennett.

Mike Shula's Key Games as UA Quarterback

Opponent (Year)	Stats
Ole Miss (1983)	1-for-4, 6 yds, 1 INT
Made his Alabama debut as back up to Walter Lewis	
Boston College (1984)	11-for-19, 67 yards, 1 TD
First career start at Alabama opposite 1984 Heisman winner Doug Flutie	
Georgia (1985)	9-for-13, 136 yds, 2 TDs
Game Winning TD pass to Al Bell with 15 seconds to play	
Penn State (1985)	16-for-27, 211 yds, 2 TDs
Tennessee (1985)	16-for-29, 216 yds, TD
Memphis State (1985)	24-for-34, 367 yds, 4 TDs
Tossed an Alabama record four TD passes and named SEC Offensive Player of the Week	
Miss. State (1985)	8-for-17, 200 yds, 2 TDs
LSU (1985)	14-for-23-153 yards
Caught-game tying TD pass from Gene Jelks	
Auburn (1985)	14-for-28, 195 yds
Led UA to game-winning drive in final 50 seconds	
USC (Aloha Bowl)	8-for-15, 112 yds, TD
Ohio State (1986)	11-for-19, 183 yds, TD
Southern Miss (1986)	17-for-28, 199 yds, 2 TDs
Notre Dame (1986)	15-for-23, 191 yds, 3 TDs
Alabama's only win over the Fighting Irish	
Memphis State (1986)	13-for-24, 176 yds, 1 TD
Tennessee (1986)	3-for-6, 78 yds, 2 TD
Washington (1986)	15-for-26, 176 yds, 2 TDs
Final game as Alabama quarterback in Sun Bowl	

FORMER QB LEADS THE TIDE

Of the previous seven former UA players to be named head coach at Alabama, **Coach Shula** is the only former quarterback among the group.

*Shula is **one of seven Alabama head coaches** to have also played for the Crimson Tide. The list also includes Allen McCants, Eli Abbott, J.B. Whitworth, Paul Bryant, Ray Perkins and Mike DuBose.

Alabama Players Who Became Head Coach

Name	Playing Years	Coaching Years
Eli Abbott	1892-94	1893-95; 1902
Allen McCants	1892-94	1897
J.B. Whitworth	1930-31	1955-57
Paul Bryant	1933-35	1958-82
Ray Perkins	1964-66	1983-86
Mike DuBose	1972-74	1997-2000
Mike Shula	1983-86	Present

***Eli Abbott,** a Tuscaloosa native, was a tackle (1892-94) while also serving as the player-coach in his tenure at Alabama. Abbott is listed as the head coach from 1893-95 and then coached again in 1902.

*Abbott is the only player-coach in school history and the only coach to serve two tenures at Alabama.

***Allen McCants** was a right halfback from 1892-94 for coach Eli Abbott. McCants was a native of Meridian, Miss.

***J.B. Whitworth** lettered as a tackle under coach Wallace Wade (1930) and Frank Thomas (1931).

***Paul Bryant** was an end for coach Frank Thomas and was a teammate of NFL Hall of Famer and Green Bay Packers legend Don Hutson.

***Ray Perkins** was a standout receiver at Alabama, catching passes from NFL legends Joe Namath and Kenny Stabler from 1964-66 and helping Bama to a pair of national championships (1964-65) and an 11-0 season as a senior in 1966.

***Mike DuBose** was a standout defensive lineman under Coach Bryant (1972-73) and was a member of two SEC Championship teams while a Bama player.

***Shula** was a three-year starter at quarterback under Ray Perkins and is the school's sixth all-time winningest signal-caller.

Alabama's All-Time Winningest Starting QBs

Player	Record	Years
Jay Barker	35-1-1	1991-94
*Harry Gilmer	30-9-2	1944-47
Pat Trammell	26-2-4	1959-61
Jeff Rutledge	24-4	1976-78
"Dixie" Howell	22-2-1	1934-37
Mike Shula	**22-8-1**	**1984-86**
Joe Namath	21-3	1962-64
Terry Davis	21-3	1971-72

* --Gilmer and Howell both played in single wing formations in which they did not lineup as quarterback, but were their team's pass thrower.

FOR THE RECORD

Here is a look at the coaching records for the Crimson Tide's previous 25 head coaches since 1892.

*Legendary coach **Paul W. "Bear" Bryant** (1958-82) remains the winningest coach in school history with his 232-46-9 (.824) record in 287 career games. He led the Crimson Tide to six national titles (1961, '64, '65, '73, '78 and '79) in his tenure at the Capstone.

ALABAMA FOOTBALL COACHES RECORDS

Coach	Years	Record
E.B. Beaumont	1892	2-2 (.500)
Eli Abbott	1893-95, 1902	7-13 (.350)
Otto Waggonhurst	1896	2-1 (.667)
Allen McCants	1897	1-0 (1.000)
W.A. Martin	1899	4-3-1 (.750)
M. Griffin	1900	2-3 (.400)
M.H. Harvey	1901	2-1-2 (.600)
W.B. Blount	1903-04	10-7 (.598)
Jack Leavenworth	1905	6-4 (.600)
J.W.H. Pollard	1906-09	21-4-5 (.783)
Guy Lowman	1910	4-4 (.500)
D.V. Graves	1911-14	21-12-3 (.625)
Thomas Kelley	1915-17	17-7-1 (.700)
Xen Scott	1919-22	29-9-3 (.744)
Wallace Wade	1923-30	61-13-3 (.812)
Frank Thomas	1931-46	115-24-7 (.812)
Harold "Red" Drew	1947-54	54-28-7 (.643)
J.B. Whitworth	1955-57	4-24-2 (.167)
Paul Bryant	1958-82	232-46-9 (.824)
Ray Perkins	1983-86	32-15-1 (.677)
Bill Curry	1987-89	26-10 (.722)
Gene Stallings	1990-96	62-25 (.713)
Mike DuBose	1997-2000	24-23 (.511)
Dennis Franchione	2001-02	17-8 (.680)
Mike Shula	2003-Present	10-15 (.400)

THE TOP FIVE

Here is a listing of Alabama's top five head coaches in terms of games, wins and winning percentage since 1892.

Top Five Games Coached

Coach	Years	Games
Paul Bryant	1958-82	287
Frank Thomas	1931-46	146
Harold "Red" Drew	1947-54	89
Gene Stallings	1990-96	87
Wallace Wade	1923-30	77

Top Five All-Time Wins

Coach	Years	Wins
Paul Bryant	1958-82	232
Frank Thomas	1931-46	115
Gene Stallings	1990-96	62
Wallace Wade	1923-30	61
Harold "Red" Drew	1947-54	54

Top Five All-Time Winning Percentage (Min. 3 Yrs)

Coach	Years	Pct.
Paul Bryant	1958-82	.854
Frank Thomas	1931-46	.812
Wallace Wade	1923-30	.812
J.W.H. Pollard	1906-09	.783
Xen Scott	1919-22	.744

BAMA CAREER STARTS

Player	2004	Career
Mark Anderson, RDE	12	18
Carlos Andrews, SS		8
Keith Brown, SE	2	2
Matt Caddell, WR	8	8
Tim Castille, FB	8	18
Jeremy Clark, RDT	11	18
JB Closner, C	12	24
Brodie Croyle, QB	3	16
Kenneth Darby, TB	5	5
Trent Davidson, TE	2	2
Rudy Griffin, LDT	11	11
Marc Guillon, QB	2	2
DJ Hall, FL	11	11
Roman Harper, FS	12	26
Ray Hudson, TB	5	5
Juke King, SLB	1	1
Anthony Madison, LCB	12	27
Le'Ron McClain, FB	4	5
Greg McLain, FB		6
Charlie Peprah, SS/LCB	12	33
Tyrone Prothro, SE	1	1
Freddie Roach, MLB	6	28
Ramzee Robinson, RCB	12	13
DeMeco Ryans, SLB	11	26
Juwan Simpson, SLB	5	8
Kyle Tatum, RT	12	14
Demarcus Waldrop, WLB	1	1

BAMA - NCAA/SEC STATS

2004 NCAA TEAM STATS

Scoring Offense	64th (24.6)
Scoring Defense	7th (15.8)
Rushing Offense	26th (185.1)
Rushing Defense	37th (132.4)
Passing Offense	112th (141.6)
Passing Defense	**1st (113.1)**
Pass Efficiency Offense	75th (116.1)
Pass Efficiency Defense	2nd (92.8)
Total Offense	94th (326.7)
Total Defense	2nd (245.5)
Kickoff Returns	9th (24.4)
Punt Returns	76th (8.2)
Net Punting	20th (37.9)
Turnover Margin	25th (+5)

2004 SEC TEAM STATS

Scoring Offense	7th (24.6)
Scoring Defense	2nd (15.8)
Rushing Offense	4th (185.1)
Rushing Defense	5th (132.4)
Passing Offense	12th (141.6)
Passing Defense	**1st (113.1)**
Pass Efficiency Offense	9th (116.1)
Pass Efficiency Defense	**1st (92.8)**
Total Offense	10th (326.7)
Total Defense	**1st (245.5)**
Kickoff Returns	**1st (24.4)**
Punt Returns	5th (8.2)
Net Punting	3rd (37.9)
Turnover Margin	**1st (+5)**
Sacks By	5th (25-166)
Sacks Against	**2nd (16-119)**
Time of Possession	**2nd (31:58)**

2004 SEC INDIVIDUAL STATS

Rushing:	Kenneth Darby, 4th (88.5)
All-Purpose Yards	Kenneth Darby, 9th (94.7)
Punt Returns	Brandon Brooks, 9th (5.1)
Interceptions	Anthony Madison, T2nd (4)

2004 NCAA INDIVIDUAL STATS

Rushing:	Kenneth Darby, 42nd (88.5)
Punt Returns	Brandon Brooks, 91st (5.1)

SEC and NCAA leaders in boldface.

UPDATED POLLS

AP TOP 25

Rk	Team	Record	Pts	PVS
1.	Southern Cal (60)	0-0	1,619	--
2.	Texas (4)	0-0	1,500	--
3.	**Tennessee (13)**	**0-0**	**1,376**	**--**
4.	Michigan	0-0	1,329	--
5.	**LSU**	**0-0**	**1,291**	**--**
6.	Ohio State	0-0	1,205	--
7.	Oklahoma	0-0	1,204	--
8.	Virginia Tech	0-0	1,184	--
9.	Miami, Fla.	0-0	1,142	--
10.	**Florida**	**0-0**	**1,080**	**--**
11.	Iowa	0-0	1,011	--
12.	Louisville	0-0	892	--
13.	Georgia	0-0	869	--
14.	Florida State	0-0	764	--
15.	Purdue	0-0	711	--
16.	**Auburn**	**0-0**	**650**	**--**
17.	Texas A&M	0-0	576	--
18.	Boise State	0-0	375	--
19.	California	0-0	358	--
20.	Arizona State	0-0	313	--
21.	Texas Tech	0-0	256	--
22.	Boston College	0-0	232	--
23.	Pittsburgh	0-0	211	--
24.	Fresno State	0-0	196	--
25.	Virginia	0-0	153	--

2005 Alabama 0pponents in boldface.

ESPN/COACHES TOP 25

Rk	Team	Record	Pts	PVS
1.	Southern Cal (60)	0-0	1,547	--
2.	Texas (2)	0-0	1,405	--
3.	**Tennessee**	**0-0**	**1,259**	**--**
4.	Michigan	0-0	1,242	--
5.	Oklahoma	0-0	1,223	--
6.	**LSU**	**0-0**	**1,109**	**--**
7.	Virginia Tech	0-0	1,090	--
8.	Miami, Fla.	0-0	1,080	--
9.	Ohio State	0-0	1,033	--
10.	Iowa	0-0	1,014	--
11.	**Florida**	**0-0**	**910**	**--**
12.	Florida State	0-0	879	--
13.	Georgia	0-0	838	--
14.	Louisville	0-0	758	--
15.	**Auburn**	**0-0**	**723**	**--**
16.	Purdue	0-0	616	--
17.	Texas A&M	0-0	366	--
18.	Arizona State	0-0	304	--
19.	Boise State	0-0	303	--
20.	California	0-0	293	--
21.	Texas Tech	0-0	247	--
22.	Boston College	0-0	237	--
23.	Virginia	0-0	210	--
24.	**ALABAMA**	**0-0**	**194**	**--**
25.	Pittsburgh	0-0	193	--

2005 Alabama opponents in boldface.

HISTORY OF ALABAMA FOOTBALL

*The University of Alabama is in its 110th football season and has compiled a **764-299-43 (.710)** all-time record in **1,106** games.

*The Crimson Tide played its first football game on Nov. 11, 1892 with a 56-0 win over Birmingham High School in Birmingham.

*Alabama is **fifth on the all-time victory list** for Division I.

*The Crimson Tide football legacy includes **12 national championships** and 21 SEC championships.

*UA also ranks among the best in post-season play, holding the **NCAA record** for most bowl games (52) and wins (29).

*UA has also logged **27, 10-win seasons,** the most by any Division I school.

NCAA All-Time Leaders

School	10-Win Seasons
Alabama	**27**
Oklahoma	25
Michigan	25
Nebraska	23
Southern California	21
Penn State	18
Tennessee	18
Florida State	18
Texas	15
Notre Dame	14
Ohio State	14
Georgia	14
Miami, Fla.	14

*In terms of SEC play, Alabama holds an overwhelming lead over second-place Tennessee (18) and third-place Georgia (14).

*Alabama also has more 10-win seasons than LSU (6), Ole Miss (6), Kentucky (2), Miss. State (2), South Carolina (1) and Vanderbilt (0) combined.

ALL-TIME 10-WIN SEASONS (SEC SCHOOLS)

School	10-Win Seasons
Alabama	**27**
Tennessee	18
Georgia	14
Auburn	10
Arkansas	9
Florida	9
LSU	6
Ole Miss	6
Miss. State	2
Kentucky	2
South Carolina	1
Vanderbilt	0

ALABAMA'S 10-WIN FOOTBALL SEASONS

Year	Record	Year	Record	Year	Record
1920	10-1	1966	11-0	1980	10-2
1925	10-0	1971	11-1	1986	10-3
1930	10-0	1972	10-2	1989	10-2
1934	10-0	1973	11-1	1991	11-1
1945	10-0	1974	11-1	1992	13-0
1952	10-2	1975	11-1	1994	12-1
1961	11-0	1977	11-1	1996	10-3
1962	10-2	1978	11-1	1999	10-3
1964	10-1	1979	12-0	2002	10-3

ALABAMA'S MILESTONE VICTORIES

Win	Result of Game (Date and Site)
1	Alabama 56, Birmingham HS 0
	(Nov. 11, 1892) (Bham)
100	Alabama 49, Ole Miss 0
	(Oct. 11, 1919) (Tuscaloosa)
150	Alabama 34, Florida 0
	(Nov. 14, 1925 (Montgomery)
200	Alabama 28, George Washington 6
	(Oct. 8, 1932 (Washington DC)
250	Alabama 26, Kentucky 6
	(Oct 29, 1938) (Lexington)
300	Alabama 54, SW Louisiana 0
	(Oct. 12, 1946 (Tuscaloosa)
350	Alabama 33, Georgia 12
	(Oct. 31, 1953) (Athens)
400	Alabama 36, Miami, Fla., 3
	(Nov. 10, 1962) (Tuscaloosa)
450	Alabama 17, Southern Miss 14
	(Sept. 28, 1968) (Mobile)
500	Alabama 21, LSU 7
	(Nov. 22, 1973) (Baton Rouge)
550	Alabama 35, Virginia Tech 0
	(Oct. 28, 1978) (Tuscaloosa)
600	Alabama 28, Southern Miss 16
	(Nov. 12, 1983) (Bham)
650	Alabama 32, LSU 16
	(Nov. 11, 1989) (Baton Rouge)
700	Alabama 23, Ole Miss 9
	(Oct. 21, 1995) (Oxford)
750	**Alabama 34, Tennessee 14**
	(Oct. 26, 2002) (Knoxville)

ALABAMA'S SEC TRADITION

*Alabama has compiled a **329-147-20 (.683)** all-time record in 496 SEC games since 1933.

*Alabama has played in more games (496), has more wins (329) and championships (21) than any team in SEC history.

*Alabama has **more SEC wins** than Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Arkansas and South Carolina combined.

*Alabama is the **only SEC school to win a championship** in every decade since the 1930s. The Crimson Tide's last SEC Championship came in 1999.

Alabama's SEC Titles By Decades

Decade	Titles	Years
1930s	3	1933, 34, 37
1940s	1	1945
1950s	1	1953
1960s	4	1961, 64, 65, 66
1970s	**8**	**1972, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79**
1980s	2	1981, 89
1990s	2	1992, 99

*Every Alabama head coach since 1933, with the exception of **J.B. "Ears" Whitworth, Ray Perkins** and **Dennis Franchione** won at least one SEC Championship.

Alabama's SEC Titles By Coach

Coach	Years
Frank Thomas (4)	1933, 34, 37, 45
Red Drew (1)	1953
Paul Bryant (13)	1961, 64, 65, 66, 71, 72 73, 74, 77, 78, 79, 81
Bill Curry (1)	1989
Gene Stallings (1)	1992
Mike DuBose (1)	1999

THE COACHING STAFF

*Shula's nine on-the-field assistant coaches have combined for **184 years of experience** in the high school, college and pro ranks.

*Three of the Crimson Tide's assistant coaches have previously served as Division I head coaches, including defensive coordinator **Joe Kines** (Arkansas, 1992), offensive coordinator **Dave Rader** (Tulsa, 1988-99) and **Sparky Woods** (South Carolina, 1989-93).

*In addition, another three coaches are serving their second stint on the UA staff, including **Kines** (Defensive Coordinator, 1985-86), **Rader** (Quarterbacks/Receivers Coach, 1983-85) and **Charlie Harbison** (Secondary, 1998-2000).

*Kines and Rader were on Ray Perkins' coaching staff in the mid 1980s when current head coach **Mike Shula** was the starting quarterback. Shula's position coach was Rader and he worked against Kines' defensive unit each day in practice.

2005 Alabama Coaching Staff

Coach	Responsibilities
Joe Kines	Asst. Head Coach
	Defensive Coordinator
Dave Rader	Offensive Coordinator
	Quarterbacks Coach
Chris Ball	Secondary Coach
Bob Connelly	Offensive Line Coach
Charlie Harbison	Receivers Coach
Paul Randolph	Defensive Ends Coach
Dave Ungerer	Tight Ends Coach
	Special Teams Coach
Sparky Woods	Running Backs Coach
Buddy Wyatt	Defensive Tackles Coach

2005 ROSTER BREAKDOWN

*Here is a breakdown by class of the Crimson Tide's August 105-man reporting roster for the 2005 football season.

UA Roster By Class

Class	Number of Players
5th Year Senior	19
Senior	2
Junior	20
Sophomore	22
Redshirt Freshmen	12
Freshmen	30

2005 CRIMSON TIDE OUTLOOK

*The Crimson Tide returns 16 starters, including nine on defense and seven on offense, off last year's club that posted a 6-6 record and earned a berth in the Music City Bowl.

*The Crimson Tide returns nine starters off a defense that led the SEC in three statistical categories last season, including pass defense (113.1), pass efficiency (92.8) and total defense (245.5).

*Alabama led the nation in pass defense and ranked second in the country in pass efficiency and total defense.

*The defensive line returns nearly intact, with the only loss in defensive end Todd Bates.

*The projected starters up front include left end **Wallace Gilberry (Fairhope)**, left tackle **Justin Britt (Cullman)**, right tackle **Rudy Griffin (Hepzibah, Ga.)** and right end **Mark Anderson (Tulsa, Okla.)**.

*Junior **Chris Harris (Tuscaloosa)** and sophomore **Keith Saunders (Willingboro, NJ)** will serve as backups at the end positions, while juniors **Jeremy Clark (Daphne)** and **Dominic Lee (Birmingham)** will be the backup tackles on the defensive front.

*Despite the loss of Cornelius Wortham (251 tackles), the eighth-leading tackler in Bama annals, the linebackers are solid and loaded with experience.

*Middle linebacker **Freddie Roach (Killen)** returns for his fourth season, along with strong linebacker **DeMeco Ryans (Bessemer)**.

*The duo has combined for 437 career tackles and 107 stops behind the line of scrimmage.

*Junior **Juwan Simpson (Decatur)** is the starter at the weak linebacker position.

*Junior **Terrence Jones (Tuscaloosa)** and sophomores **DeMarcus Waldrop (Pinson)**, **Marcel Stamps (Brantley)** and **Matt Collins (Pinson)** are solid backups at linebacker.

*The Alabama secondary returns all four starters and has developed quality backups at all four positions.

*The starters have 15 years of combined experience, 199 career tackles and 18 interceptions.

*Senior **Anthony Madison (Thomasville)** and junior **Ramzee Robinson (Huntsville)** return at the corners.

*Seniors **Charlie Peprah (Plano, Texas)** and **Roman Harper (Prattville)** are the starting safeties.

*The backups are **Simeon Castille (Birmingham)**, **Eric Gray (Trinity)**, **Lionel Mitchell (Stone Mountain, Ga.)**, **Jeffrey Dukes (Oxford, Miss.)** and **Marcus Carter (Ft. Payne).**

*There is plenty of excitement about the Alabama offense this season, and with good reason.

*The Crimson Tide returns seven starters, including all three players that missed most of the 2004 season with injuries.

*Senior quarterback **Brodie Croyle (Rainbow City)** is back and has had an excellent camp running the Crimson Tide offense.

*The fifth-year senior is the key to the Bama offense in 2005. He led the Tide to a 3-0 record last season and was ranked second in the nation in passing offense before he tore his right ACL and missed the final nine games.

*Despite an injury-plagued career, Croyle has put up some mind-boggling numbers under center. He has completed 286 of 530 passes for 3833 yards and 25 TDs in his 25 games with the Tide.

*Croyle ranks seventh all-time in pass attempts (530), ninth in completions (286), seventh in passing yards (3,883) and seventh in TD (25) passes at Alabama.

*True freshman **John Parker Wilson (Hoover)** and junior **Marc Guillon (Chico, Calif.)** are the backups to Croyle.

*Wilson enrolled at Alabama in January and participated in spring drills, where he got nearly 100 percent of the reps due to Croyle's and Guillon's injuries.

*Guillon started two games last season after Croyle was sidelined with the season-ending injury. Guillon then suffered a back injury and did not play in the final seven games.

*Croyle has a number of weapons to turn to on offense, including the return of workhorse running back **Kenneth Darby (Huntsville)**, who missed the final two games of the 2004 season with an injury, which required surgery and extensive rehab through the summer.

ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE FOOTBALL PRESEASON HONORS

Mark Anderson, DE
*Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

JB Closer, C
*Outland Trophy Watch List
*Remmington Award Watch List
*Third-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
*First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*Second-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)

Brodie Croyle, QB
*Maxwell Awrd Watch List
*Davey O'Brein Award Watch List
*Johnny Unitas Award Watch List
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*Third-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)

Matt Caddell, WR
*Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

Kenneth Darby, RB
*First-Team All-SEC (Sporting News)
*First-Team All-SEC (Lindy's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Blue Ribbon)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)
*Second-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)

Wallace Gilberry, DE
*Ted Hendricks Award Watch List
*Second-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)
*Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

Roman Harper, FS
*Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List
*Jim Thorpe Award Watch List
*Bronco Nagurski Award Watch List
*Second-Team All-American (Street and Smith's)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)
*First-Team All-SEC (Athlon's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Street and Smith's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Lindy's)
*Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

Anthony Madison, CB
*Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*Third-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)

Charlie Peprah, SS
*Jim Thorpe Award Watch List
*Third-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
*First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*Second-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)

Tyrone Prothro, KR
*First-Team All-SEC (Athlon's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*First-Team All-SEC (Blue Ribbon)
*First-Team All-SEC (CBS Sportsline)
*First-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Sporting News)
*Second-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*Third-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)

Freddie Roach, LB
*Dick Butkus Award Watch List
*Fourth-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
*First-Team All-SEC (Lindy's)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Athlon's)
*Second-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)
*Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

DeMeco Ryans, LB
*Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List
*Dick Butkus Award Watch List
*Ronnie Lott Trophy Watch List
*Bronco Nagurski Award Watch List
*Second-Team All-American (Lindy's)
*Third-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
*SEC Defensive Player of the Year (Lindy's)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Coaches)
*First-Team All-SEC (SEC Media Days)
*First-Team All-SEC (Athlon's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Lindy's)
*First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
*First-Team All-SEC (Blue Ribbon)
*First-Team All-SEC (Rivals.com)

*Darby was fourth in the league last year with 88.5 yards per game on the ground. He ran for 1,061 yards to become just the 11th back in Bama history to crack the 1,000-yard mark for a season.

*Darby is the lone experienced tailback on the UA depth chart, but there are some talented runners behind the returning starter.

*True freshmen **Glen Coffee (Ft. Walton Beach)**, **Roy Upchurch (Tallahassee, Fla.)** and **Jimmy Johns (Brookhaven, Miss.)**, who was moved from quarterback to running back on Aug. 14 will all see playing time behind Darby.

*The offense will be aided by two outstanding fullbacks in juniors **LeRon McClain (Northport)** and **Tim Castille (Birmingham).**

*McClain may have had the best off-season of any Tide player. At 6-1, 256, he is bruising force in the backfield as a blocker, runner or pass catcher.

*Castille suffered a season-ending injury against Tennessee last season (MCL and ACL) and after extensive rehab has returned this fall in very good shape.

*The do-it-all fullback had 62 carries for 247 yards and six TDs last season. He also had 14 catches for 104 yards.

*The receiving corps is deep and talented, too.

*Alabama returns junior playmaker **Tyrone Prothro (Heflin)**, as the most experienced receiver for the second consecutive year. He caught 25 passes for 347 yards and one TD as a sophomore.

*In 21 career games, Prothro has 41 catches for 538 yards and two TDs. His speed and talents makes him one of the Tide's top playmakers.

*A quartet of sophomores gives Alabama a number of options through the air.

*Sophomores **Keith Brown (Ft. Walton Beach)** and **D.J. Hall (Ft. Walton Beach)** have size and speed.

*Brown caught 17 balls for 295 yards and one TD last year, while Hall added 17 catches for 186 yards and one TD.

*Sophomore **Matt Caddell (McCalla)** is also a speedy target. He also had 17 catches for 331 yards and one TD last season. His 331 yards ranked second on the team behind Prothro.

*Another sophomore **Ezekial Knight (Wedowee)** gives the Tide another "big" receiver. He had 10 catches for 98 yards last season as a rookie.

*Seniors **Brandon Brooks (Birmingham)** and **Matt Miller (Rainbow City)** and redshirt freshman **Will Oakley (Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.)** will also see action in the rotation at wide receiver.

*Another weapon the Tide hopes to utilize this season is the tight end, which for the second year in a row has been hit by injuries.

*Senior **Greg McLain (Heflin)** and sophomore **Trent Davidson (Brewton)** will miss the first three games with injuries. McClain suffered a separated shoulder in the Aug. 20 scrimmage, while Davidson had foot surgery to repair a broken bone in his right foot on Aug. 5.

*The Crimson Tide will open the season with three capable, but inexperienced tight ends. The projected starter is redshirt freshman **Nick Walker (Brundidge)**, while true freshmen **Travis McCall (Prattville)** and **Charles Hoke (Birmingham)** will serve as backups.

*One of the real concerns when camp opened was the offensive line, but despite a number of injuries during the first 22 practices, the group has shown improvement as some of the ailing guys have returned to the practice.

*The Tide must replace two of its most heralded lineman in Wesley Britt and Evan Mathis, both four-year starters now playing in the NFL.

*Bama must also replace Danny Martz, who started all 12 games last season as a fifth-year senior.

*Despite the losses, Alabama has two veteran starters to build its line around this season.

*The anchor is senior center **JB Closner (San Antonio, Texas)**, who will be starting for the third straight year.

*Closner has started 25 games over the past two seasons and is on the Remington Watch List this season.

*Closner's backup is slated to be fifth-year senior **Taylor Britt (Cullman)**, who has played just five games and 27 total snaps on the o-line.

2005 ALABAMA FOOTBALL PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Player	Pronunciation
Simeon **CASTILLE**	Cass-Teel
Tyrone **PROTHRO**	Pro-Throw
Matt **CADDELL**	Cuh-Dell
Jeffrey **AUL**	ALL
Marc **GUILLON**	Gill-UN
Tim **CASTILLE**	Cass-Teel
Jeremy **SCHATZ**	Shots
DEMECO Ryans	Duh-me-co
Kyle **TATUM**	Tate-um
JB **CLOSNER**	Claws-ner

Hometown	Pronunciation
Andalusia, AL	And-uh-luge-uh
Boaz, AL	Bow-Az
Daphne, AL	Daf-nee
Eutaw, AL	UTAH
Gautier, MS	Go-Shay
Guntersville, AL	Gunnersville
Houma, LA	Home-uh
Ponte Vedra, FL	Pawn-tuh Vee-druh
Wedowee, AL	We-dow-ee

*Junior right tackle **Kyle Tatum (Prattville),** who played on defense in 2003, is back for his second year on the offensive line. Tatum started all 12 games last year and has 21 games under his belt on the o-line.

*Tatum's backup is true freshman **Drew Davis (Evergreen)**, who enrolled at UA in January and gained valuable experience by going through spring drills.

*Fifth-year senior **Mark Sanders (Asheville)** is expected to line up next to Tatum at right guard on opening day. He has played just five game in his UA career.

*Sanders' back up was expected to be true freshman **B.J. Stabler (Grove Hill, Ala.)**, but Stabler had his knee scoped during fall camp and is expected to miss the first two games.

*Another true freshman **Marlon Davis (Columbus, Ga.)** has seen extensive action this fall on the o-line and will be the back up at right guard in the opener.

*The left side of the line has the least experience up front. They have combined for just 10 games and 125 snaps for the Tide.

*Sophomore **Chris Capps (Jonesboro, Ga.)** is expected to start at left tackle, while redshirt freshman **Antoine Caldwell (Montgomery)** is the starter at left guard.

*Capps played in five games as a redshirt freshman last year and played 77 total snaps.

*Caldwell missed some time in fall camp with an injury, but returned on Aug. 24 and he should be ready to go of the opener.

*Redshirt freshman **Cody Davis (Tuscaloosa)** is expected to backup Capps at left tackle, while sophomore **Justin Moon (Guntersville)** is the backup to Caldwell.

*Moon played in five games last season and was in on 48 total snaps.

*The Crimson Tide must replace its place kicker, punter and holder on special teams as all three were lost to graduation.

*Sophomore **Jamie Christensen (Norcross, Ga.)** is expected to take over for Brian Bostick, who made all 35 extra points and led the SEC last season with 82.4 percent (16-for-19) field goal percentage.

*Christensen, who also handles all of Bama's kickoffs, has battled junior **Ryan Saxby (Jonesboro, Ga.)** this fall for the place kicking chores. Neither have attempted an extra point of field goal at UA.

*Senior **Jeremy Schatz (Homewood)** and junior **Jeffrey Aul (Daleville)**have battled all fall to be the one to replace Bo Freelend as the Tide's punter.

MISSING PLAYER BIOS

Here are several bios that are not found in the 2005 Alabama Football Media Guide that might be helpful in your coverage of the Crimson Tide this season.

ERYK ANDERS, LB
6-2 * 215 * San Antonio, Texas
Smithson Valley HS

PREP: A standout defensive lineman/linebacker at Smithson Valley (Texas) High School, where he was named to the Class 5A Texas all-state team by the Associated Press ... As a senior, he had 118 tackles, 43 TFLs and 16 sacks, with four forced fumbles, four pass breakups and two blocked kicks that included a touchdown ... He helped the Rangers reached the Class 5A state championship game ... The Rangers were 13-3 last season.

*Schatz punted three times last year in a backup role, while Aul has never punted in a game.

*Senior **Matt Miller (Rainbow City)** will raplce the reliable Alex Fox as the holder.

*Senior **Drew Lane (Braxton, Miss.)** is back for his second year as the snapper.

ALABAMA DEBUTS

*There are **52 players on Alabama's 105-man reporting roster that have never played a game** for the Crimson Tide.

*There are 30 necomers on the Crimson Tide rosters, including 25 signees and five invited walkons.

*Another 22 players were on the team in previous seasons, but have not played in a game.

*Alabama head coach Mike Shula said he expects a number of freshman to play for the Crimson Tide season. At this time, the number is in a 10-12 range for the 2005 season.

*The Crimson Tide played 78 different players last season, including 35 first-time players and 11 true freshmen.

*Last year at this time, 57 of the 101 players to dress for the 2004 season opener against Utah State had never seen action for the Crimson Tide.

START ME UP

*A quick glance at Alabama's two-deep shows that five players are expected to make their first career start in the 2005 season opener with Middle Tennessee.

*The Crimson Tide is expected to have four, first-time starters on offense and one, first-time starter on defense.

*The offensive list includes left tackle Chris Capps, left guard Antoine Caldwell, right guard Mark Sanders and tight end Nick Walker.

*The lone defensive player without a career start to his credit is sophomore left defensive end Wallace Gilberry.

BAMA'S CONSECUTIVE STARTS (Current)

Players	Streak
Roman Harper	26
Charlie Peprah	26
Anthony Madison	25
Mark Anderson	17
Jeremy Clark	17
JB Closner	16

CONSECUTIVE GAMES PLAYED (Current)

Players	Streak
Mark Anderson	38
Carlos Andrews	38
Anthony Madison	38
Charlie Peprah	38
DeMeco Ryans	37
Roman Harper	33
JB Closner	25
Terrence Jones	25
Freddie Roach	25
Ramzee Robinson	25

FRESHMEN ON BAMA'S TWO-DEEP

*There are six true and redshirt freshmen on the Crimson Tide's offensive two-deep heading into the season opener with Middle Tennessee.

*The lone starter on offense is expected to be redshirt freshman Nick Walker at tight end.

*The backups are left tackle Cody Davis, left guards Antoine Caldwell and Marlon Davis, right tackle Drew Davis and tailback Nick Coffee.

TRUE FRESHMEN TO START AT UA

Player, Pos.	Year
Ozzie Newsome, SE	1974
Jim Bunch, OT	1976
Bill Condon, G	1984
Larry Rose, OT	1985
Matt Hammond, LT	1990
Jon Stevenson, RT	1991
Terry Jones, Jr., TE	1998
Dante Ellington, RT	1999
Saleem Rasheed, LB	1999
Kenny King, DE	1999
Tim Castille, FB	2003
Le'Ron McClain, FB	2003
Keith Brown, WR	2004
DJ Hall, WR	2004

FRESHMEN MAKE HISTORIC DEBUT

*A total of eight true freshmen have started the season opener since freshman eligibility was reinstated in 1973.

*The most recent addition to join that list was fullback **Tim Castille**, who started his first game for the Crimson Tide during the 2003 season against South Florida at Legion Field.

TRUE FROSH START SEASON OPENER

Player, Pos.	Year
Jim Bunch, OT	1976
Larry Rose, OT	1985
Matt Hammond, LT	1990
Jon Stevenson, RT	1991
Terry Jones, Jr., TE	1998
Dante Ellington, RT	1999
Saleem Rasheed, LB	1999
Tim Castille, FB	2003

2004 RECAP

*Here is a brief recap of the 2004 season.

*Alabama posted a **6-6 record** last season, just the fourth .500 season in Crimson Tide football lore.

*Alabama also finished .500 in 1892 (2-2), 1902 (4-4) and 1910 (4-4).

*With its 6-6 record, Alabama has had back-to-back non-winning seasons the last two years. The Crimson Tide was 4-9 during the 2003 season. The last time Alabama had **consecutive non-winning seasons was 1954-57,** when UA posted four consecutive losing seasons under coaches Red Drew (1954) and J.B. Whitworth (1955-57).

*The Crimson Tide went 6-5 during the regular season and earned a berth in the 2004 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl, its first postseason appearance since the 2001 Independence Bowl.

*The 2004 season was an injury-plagued year for the Crimson Tide as the team lost its entire starting backfield and as many as eight starters combined to miss more than 30 games last year.

*Quarterback Brodie Croyle suffered a torn ACL and missed the final nine games of the season.

*At the time of his injury, Croyle was the second-leading passer in the nation and was on his way to record breaking season at Alabama.

*Running back Ray Hudson, who was well on his way to 1,000-yard season on the ground, was lost for the season in October and missed the Crimson Tide's final six games.

*Do-it-all fullback Tim Castille suffered a knee injury against Tennessee and missed the last four games of the year.

*Running back Kenneth Darby was injured in the LSU game and played sparingly against Auburn before missing the Music City Bowl.

*The Crimson Tide also lost both tight ends and played the last two games of the season with a true freshman at tight end.

*Alabama showed marked improvement last season on **defense and led the nation** in pass defense (113.1 yards per game) and ranked second in total defense (245.5 yards per game) and seventh in scoring defense (15.8 points per game).

*The scoring defense was the most improved as the Crimson Tide allowed only 190 points in 12 games, compared to a school-record 333 points in 13 games in 2003.

*Alabama was also among the SEC leaders last year in pass defense (1st), pass efficiency defense (1st), total defense (1st) and scoring defense (2nd).

*Cornerback Anthony Madison was second in the SEC last season with four interceptions.

*The Crimson Tide had the fourth-best rushing offense (185.1 yards per game) in the league last season.

*Alabama led the SEC in kickoff return (24.4) yards last season.

*Bama also led the league with a plus five turnover margin for the season.

ALABAMA SEASON OPENERS

The Crimson Tide has posted an **85-21-3 (.794)** record in season openers, including a modest three-game winning streak.

*Alabama has **won 12 of its last 14 season openers,** dating back to 1991.

*Since 1977, Alabama has posted a **24-4 (.857)** record on opening day.

*Alabama is playing its **sixth consecutive season opener against a non SEC team.**

***The last time UA opened the season with six straight non-conference games was 1986-91.

All-Time Season Openers (Since 1892)

Date	Result of Game	Site
Nov. 11, 1892	Alabama 56, Bham HS 0	Bham
Oct. 14, 1893	Bham AC 4, Alabama 0	Bham
Oct. 27, 1894	Ole Miss 6, Alabama 0	Jackson
Nov. 2, 1895	Georgia 30, Alabama 6	Columbus
Oct. 24, 1896	Alabama 30, Bham AC 0	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 13, 1897	Alabama 6, Tusc. AC 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 21, 1899	Alabama 16, Tusc. AC 5	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 21, 1900	Alabama 35, Taylor School 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 19, 1901	Alabama 41, Ole Miss 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 10, 1902	Alabama 57, Bham HS 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 10, 1903	Vanderbilt 30, Alabama 0	Nashville
Oct. 3, 1904	Alabama 29, Florida 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 3, 1905	Alabama 17, Maryville 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 6, 1906	Alabama 6, Maryville 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 5, 1907	Alabama 17, Maryville 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 3, 1908	Alabama 27, Wetumpka 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 2, 1909	Alabama 16, Union 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 1, 1910	Alabama 25, Bham Sou. 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 30, 1911	Alabama 24, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 28, 1912	Alabama 52, Marion 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 27, 1913	Alabama 27, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 3, 1914	Alabama 13, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 2, 1915	Alabama 44, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 30, 1916	Alabama 13, Bham Sou. 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 3, 1917	Alabama 7, Ohio AC 0	Montgomery
Oct. 4, 1919	Alabama 27, Bham Sou. 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 25, 1920	Alabama 59, Southern 0	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 24, 1921	Alabama 34, Howard 14	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 30, 1922	Alabama 110, Marion 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 29, 1923	Alabama 12, Union 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 27, 1924	Alabama 55, Union 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 26, 1925	Alabama 53, Union 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 24, 1926	Alabama 54, Millsaps 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 24, 1927	Alabama 46, Millsaps 0	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 6, 1928	Alabama 27, Ole Miss 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 28, 1929	Alabama 55, Miss. College 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 27, 1930	Alabama 43, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 26, 1931	Alabama 42, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 24, 1932	Alabama 45, Southwestern 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 30, 1933	Alabama 34, Oglethorpe 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 29, 1934	Alabama 24, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 28, 1935	Alabama 7, Howard 7	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 26, 1936	Alabama 34, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 25, 1937	Alabama 41, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 24, 1938	Alabama 19, Southern Cal 7	Los Angeles
Spt. 30, 1939	Alabama 21, Howard 0	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 27, 1940	Alabama 26, Spring Hill 0	Mobile
Spt. 27, 1941	Alabama 47, SW La. 6	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 25, 1942	Alabama 54, SW La. 0	Montgomery
Spt. 30, 1944	Alabama 27, LSU 27	Baton Rouge
Spt. 29, 1945	Alabama 21, Kessler AFB 0	Biloxi, Miss.
Spt. 20, 1946	Alabama 26, Furman 3	Bham
Spt. 20, 1947	Alabama 34, Southern Miss 7	Bham
Spt. 25, 1948	Tulane 21, Alabama 14	New Orleans
Spt. 24, 1949	Tulane 28, Alabama 14	Mobile

Date	Result of Game	Site
Spt. 23, 1950	Alabama 27, Chattanooga 0	Bham
Spt. 21, 1951	Alabama 89, Delta St. 0	Montgomery
Spt. 19, 1952	Alabama 20, S. Miss 6	Montgomery
Spt. 18, 1953	S. Miss 25, Alabama 19	Montgomery
Spt. 17, 1954	S. Miss 7, Alabama 2	Montgomery
Spt. 24. 1955	Rice 20, Alabama 0	Houston
Spt. 22, 1956	Rice 20, Alabama 13	Houston
Spt. 28, 1957	LSU 28, Alabama 0	Baton Rouge
Spt. 27, 1958	LSU 13, Alabama 3	Mobile
Spt. 19, 1959	Georgia 17, Alabama 3	Athens
Spt. 17, 1960	Alabama 21, Georgia 6	Bham
Spt. 23, 1961	Alabama 32, Georgia 6	Athens
Spt. 22, 1962	Alabama 35, Georgia 0	Bham
Spt. 21, 1963	Alabama 32, Georgia 7	Athens
Spt. 19, 1964	Alabama 31, Georgia 3	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 18, 1965	Georgia 18, Alabama 17	Athens
Spt. 24, 1966	Alabama 34, La. Tech 0	Bham
Spt. 23, 1967	Alabama 37, Florida State 37	Bham
Spt. 21, 1968	Alabama 14, Va. Tech 7	Bham
Spt. 20, 1969	Alabama 17, Va. Tech 13	Blacksburg
Spt. 12, 1970	Southern Cal 42, Alabama 21	Bham
Spt. 10, 1971	Alabama 17, USC 10	Los Angeles
Spt. 9, 1972	Alabama 35, Duke 0	Bham
Spt. 15, 1973	Alabama 66, Cal 0	Bham
Spt. 14, 1974	Alabama 21, Maryland 16	College Park
Spt. 8, 1975	Missouri 20, Alabama 7	Bham
Spt. 11, 1976	Ole Miss 10, Alabama 7	Jackson
Spt. 10, 1977	Alabama 34, Ole Miss 14	Bham
Spt. 2, 1978	Alabama 20, Nebraska 3	Bham
Spt. 8, 1979	Alabama 30, Georgia Tech 6	Atlanta
Spt. 6, 1980	Alabama 26, Georgia Tech 3	Bham
Spt. 5, 1980	Alabama 24, LSU 7	Baton Rouge
Spt. 11, 1982	Alabama 45, Georgia Tech 0	Atlanta
Spt. 10, 1983	Alabama 20, Georgia Tech 7	Bham
Spt. 8, 1994	Boston College 38, Alabama 31	Bham
Spt. 2, 1985	Alabama 20, Georgia 16	Athens
Aug. 27, 1986	Alabama 16, Ohio St. 10	Meadowlands
Spt. 5, 1987	Alabama 38, Southern Miss 7	Bham
Spt. 10, 1988	Alabama 37, Temple 0	Philadelphia
Spt. 16, 1989	Alabama 35, Memphis St. 7	Bham
Spt. 8, 1990	Southern Miss 27, Alabama 24	Bham
Spt. 7, 1991	Alabama 41, Temple 3	Bham
Spt. 5, 1992	Alabama 25, Vanderbilt 8	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 4, 1993	Alabama 31, Tulane 17	Bham
Spt. 3, 1994	Alabama 42, Chattanooga 7	Bham
Spt. 2, 1995	Alabama 33, Vanderbilt 25	Bham
Aug. 31, 1996	Alabama 21, Bowling Green 7	Bham
Aug. 30, 1997	Alabama 42, Houston 17	Bham
Spt. 5, 1998	Alabama 38, BYU 31	Tuscaloosa
Spt. 4, 1999	Alabama 28, Vanderbilt 17	Nashville
Spt. 2, 2000	UCLA 35, Alabama 24	Los Angeles
Spt. 1, 2001	UCLA 20, Alabama 17	Tuscaloosa
Aug. 31, 2002	Alabama 39, MTSU 34	Bham
Aug. 30, 2003	Alabama 40, South Florida 17	Bham
Sept. 11, 2004	Alabama 48, Utah State 17	Tuscaloosa

*Alabama has posted **49 opening day shutouts** in its football history, including **16 consecutive opening day shutouts** from 1904-20.

*From 1904-34, **Alabama posted 29 opening day shutouts in a 30-year period.** The lone exception was a 34-14 win over Howard (now Samford) in 1921.

*On the flip side, **Alabama has been shutout on opening day just five times,** with the last coming in 1957.

*Alabama's longest opening day winning streak came from 1904-34, where the **Crimson Tide posted 30 consecutive wins in season openers**.

*From 1904-47, **Alabama was an incredible 40-0-2 in season openers,** which included a pair of ties with Howard (7-7, 1925) and LSU (27-27, 1944).

*Alabama's **42-game unbeaten streak in season openers ended** with a 21-14 loss at Tulane on Sept. 25, 1948.

*The Crimson Tide had a **seven-game losing streak in season openers from 1953-59**, the longest in school history.

*The Crimson Tide suffered **back-to-back opening day losses** in 1975 (Missouri, 20-7) and 1976 (Ole Miss, 10-7), and 2000 (UCLA, 35-24) and 2001 (UCLA, 20-17).

*Prior to the loss to UCLA in 2000, **Alabama had reeled off nine straight opening day wins,** the longest winning streak in the modern era of UA football.

SEASON OPENERS BY SITE

*The Alabama Crimson Tide has played its season opener in **18 different cities** in its 111-year history.

*The most common venue for an Alabama season opener is Tuscaloosa. **The Crimson Tide has played its season opener on campus 47 times,** including 16 season openers in Bryant-Denny Stadium (circa 1929).

*Alabama is **44-2-1 (.946)** in season openers here in Tuscaloosa.

*The Crimson Tide is **14-1-1 (.906)** in season openers at Bryant-Denny Stadium (circa 1929).

*The Middle Tennessee game marks just the **sixth season opener in Tuscaloosa since the 1941 season.** Alabama is 4-1 (.800) in those five previous openers, losing to UCLA (20-17) in 2001.

*Following Tuscaloosa, the city of Birmingham is next on the list, having played host to 29 season openers.

Bama Season Openers by Site

Site	Games	Record
Tuscaloosa	47	44-2-1
Birmingham	29	24-4-1
Montgomery	6	4-2
Athens, Ga.	5	3-2
Los Angeles, Cal.	3	2-1
Nashville, Tenn.	3	2-1
Baton Rouge	3	1-2
Mobile	3	1-2
Atlanta, Ga.	2	2-0
Houston, Texas	2	0-2
Jackson, Miss.	2	0-2
Blacksburg, Vir.	1	1-0
College Park, Md.	1	1-0
East Rutherford, NJ	1	1-0
Philadelphia, Penn.	1	1-0
Biloxi, Miss.	1	0-1
Columbus, Ga.	1	0-1
New Orleans, La.	1	0-1

Tuscaloosa Season Openers

Date	Result of Game	Site
Oct. 14, 1893	Bham AC 4, Alabama 0	Quad
Oct. 24, 1896	Alabama 30, Bham AC 0	Quad
Nov. 13, 1897	Alabama 6, Tuscaloosa AC 0	Quad
Oct. 21, 1899	Alabama 16, Tuscaloosa AC 5	Quad
Oct. 21, 1900	Alabama 35, Taylor School 0	Quad
Oct. 19, 1901	Alabama 41, Ole Miss	Quad
Oct. 10, 1902	Alabama 57, Bham HS 0	Quad
Oct. 3, 1904	Alabama 29, Florida 0	Quad
Oct. 3, 1905	Alabama 17, Maryville 0	Quad
Oct. 6, 1906	Alabama 6, Maryville 0	Quad
Oct. 5, 1907	Alabama 17, Maryville 0	Quad
Oct. 3, 1908	Alabama 27, Wetumpka 0	Quad
Oct. 2, 1909	Alabama 16, Union 0	Quad
Oct. 1,1910	Alabama 25, Bham Southern 0	Quad
Sept. 30, 1911	Alabama 24, Howard 0	Quad
Sept. 28, 1912	Alabama 52, Marion 0	Quad
Sept. 27, 1913	Alabama 27, Howard 0	Quad
Oct. 3, 1914	Alabama 13, Howard 0	Qaud
Oct. 2, 1915	Alabama 44, Howard 0	Denny Field
Sept. 30, 1916	Alabama 13, Bham Sou 0	Denny Field
Oct. 3, 1917	Alabama 7, Ohio Am Corp 0	Denny Field
Oct. 4, 1919	Alabama 27, Bham Sou 0	Denny Field
Sept. 25, 1920	Alabama 59, S. Military 0	Denny Field
Sept. 24, 1921	Alabama 34, Howard 14	Denny Field
Sept. 30, 1922	Alabama 110, Marion 0	Denny Field
Sept. 29, 1923	Alabama 12, Union 0	Denny Field
Sept. 27, 1924	Alabama 55, Union 0	Denny Field
Sept. 26, 1925	Alabama 53, Union 0	Denny Field
Sept. 24, 1926	Alabama 54, Millsaps 0	Denny Field
Sept. 24, 1927	Alabama 46, Millsaps 0	Denny Field
Oct. 6, 1928	Alabama 27, Mississippi 0	Denny Field
Sept. 28, 1929	Alabama 55, Miss. College 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 27, 1930	Alabama 43, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 26, 1931	Alabama 42, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 24, 1932	Alabama 45, Southwestern 6	Denny Stad
Sept. 30, 1933	Alabama 34, Oglethorpe 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 29, 1934	Alabama 24, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 28, 1935	Alabama 7, Howard 7	Denny Stad
Sept. 26, 1936	Alabama 34, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 25, 1937	Alabama 41, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 30, 1939	Alabama 21, Howard 0	Denny Stad
Sept. 27, 1941	Alabama 47, SW Louisiana 6	Denny Stad
Sept. 19, 1964	Alabama 31, Georgia 3	Denny Stad
Sept. 5, 1992	Alabama 25, Vanderbilt 8	Bryant-Denny
Sept. 5, 1998	Alabama 38, BYU 31	Bryant-Denny
Sept. 1, 2001	UCLA 20, Alabama 17	Bryant-Denny
Sept. 4, 2004	Alabama 48, Utah St. 17	Bryant-Denny

Legion Field Season Openers

Date	Result of Game	Site
Spt. 20, 1946	Alabama 26, Furman 3	Bham
Spt. 20, 1947	Alabama 34, Southern Miss 7	Bham
Spt. 23, 1950	Alabama 27, Chattanooga 0	Bham
Spt. 17, 1960	Alabama 21, Georgia 6	Bham
Spt. 22, 1962	Alabama 35, Georgia 0	Bham
Spt. 24, 1966	Alabama 34, La. Tech 0	Bham
Spt. 23, 1967	Alabama 37, Florida State 37	Bham
Spt. 21, 1968	Alabama 14, Va. Tech 7	Bham
Spt. 12, 1970	Southern Cal 42, Alabama 21	Bham
Spt. 9, 1972	Alabama 35, Duke 0	Bham
Spt. 15, 1973	Alabama 66, Cal 0	Bham
Spt. 8, 1975	Missouri 20, Alabama 7	Bham
Spt. 10, 1977	Alabama 34, Ole Miss 14	Bham
Spt. 2, 1978	Alabama 20, Nebraska 3	Bham
Spt. 6, 1980	Alabama 26, Georgia Tech 3	Bham
Spt. 10, 1983	Alabama 20, Georgia Tech 7	Bham
Spt. 8, 1994	Boston College 38, Alabama 31	Bham
Spt. 5, 1987	Alabama 38, Southern Miss 7	Bham
Spt. 16, 1989	Alabama 35, Memphis St. 7	Bham
Spt. 8, 1990	Southern Miss 27, Alabama 24	Bham
Spt. 7, 1991	Alabama 41, Temple 3	Bham
Spt. 4, 1993	Alabama 31, Tulane 17	Bham
Spt. 3, 1994	Alabama 42, Chattanooga 7	Bham
Aug. 31, 1996	Alabama 21, Bowling Green 7	Bham
Aug. 30, 1997	Alabama 42, Houston 17	Bham
Aug. 31, 2002	Alabama 39, MTSU 34	Bham
Aug. 30, 2003	Alabama 40, S. Florida 17	Bham

SEASON OPENERS BY OPPONENTS

*The 2005 season will mark the second time Alabama has played Middle Tennessee on opening day.

*The Crimson Tide and Blue Raiders last met on opening day on Aug. 31, 2002 at Legion Field. Alabama won that opening-day shootout, 39-34.

*Alabama has had 51 different opening day opponents.

*The Crimson Tide's **most common opening day opponent is Howard** (now Samford).

*Alabama posted a **11-0-1 record in its school-record 12 opening day meetings** with Howard.

*Alabama has also played five current SEC teams on opening day, compiling a **14-8-1 (.630)** record against Ole Miss, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Florida and LSU on opening day.

Bama Season Openers by Opponent

Opponent	Games	Record
Howard	12	11-0-1
Georgia	9	6-3
Southern Miss	6	3-3
Ole Miss	5	3-2
Georgia Tech	4	4-0
Union	4	4-0
Vanderbilt	4	3-1
LSU	4	1-2-1
Bham Southern	3	3-0
Maryville	3	3-0
Southern Cal	3	2-1
Tulane	3	1-2
Birmingham AC	2	2-0
Birmingham HS	2	2-0
Chattanooga	2	2-0
Marion Military	2	2-0
Millsaps	2	2-0
Temple	2	2-0
Tuscaloosa AC	2	2-0
USL	2	2-0
Virginia Tech	2	2-0
Rice	2	0-2
UCLA	2	0-2
Bowling Green	1	1-0
BYU	1	1-0
Cal	1	1-0
Delta State	1	1-0
Duke	1	1-0
Florida	1	1-0
Furman	1	1-0
Houston	1	1-0
Kessler AFB	1	1-0
Louisiana Tech	1	1-0
Maryland	1	1-0
Memphis	1	1-0
Middle Tennessee	1	1-0
Mississippi College	1	1-0
Nebraska	1	1-0
Oglethorpe	1	1-0
Ohio Am Corp	1	1-0
Ohio State	1	1-0
South Florida	1	1-0
Southern Military Inst.	1	1-0
Southwestern	1	1-0
Spring Hill College	1	1-0
Taylor School	1	1-0
Utah State	1	1-0
Wetumpka	1	1-0
Boston College	1	0-1
Missouri	1	0-1
Florida State	1	0-0-1

SEASON OPENERS BY UA HEAD COACH

*Several Alabama head coaches have enjoyed successful careers while at the helm of the Crimson Tide football program. Those same coaches have also had much success on opening day with the Crimson Tide.

*Coach **Frank Thomas (1931-46)** is the school's most successful coach on opening day, compiling **a perfect 13-0-2 record in his 15 season openers** with the Crimson Tide.

*Legendary coach **Paul W. "Bear" Bryant** (1958-82) is the school's winningest coach, logging 18 opening day wins in his 25-year career. **Bryant's record in Alabama season openers is 18-6-1 (.740)**, including a six-game winning streak to close out his successful career.

*Coach Mike Shula is 2-0 in season openers with wins over South Florida (2003) and Utah State (2004).

Bama Season Openers by Coach

Coach (Yrs)	Gms	Record
EB Beaumont (1892)	1	1-0
Eli Abbott (1893-95, 02)	4	1-3
Otto Waggonhurst (1896)	1	1-0
Allen McCants (1897)	1	1-0
WA Martin (1899)	1	1-0
M. Griffin (1900)	1	1-0
MH Harvey (1901)	1	1-0
WB Blount (1903-04)	2	1-1
Jack Leavenworth (1905)	1	1-0
JWH Pollard (1906-09)	4	4-0
Guy Lowman (1910)	1	1-0
D.V. Graves (1911-14)	4	4-0
Thomas Kelley (1915-17)	3	3-0
Xen Scott (1918-22)	4	4-0
Wallace Wade (1923-30)	8	8-0
Frank Thomas (1931-46)	15	13-0-2
Red Drew (1947-54)	8	4-4
JB Whitworth (1955-57)	3	0-3
Paul Bryant (1958-82)	25	18-6-1
Ray Perkins (1983-86)	4	3-1
Bill Curry (1987-89)	3	3-0
Gene Stallings (1990-96)	7	6-1
Mike DuBose (1997-2000)	4	3-1
D. Franchione (2001-02)	2	1-1
Mike Shula (2003-Present)	2	2-0

MEMORABLE SEASON OPENERS

Here is a look at some of the more memorable and significant season openers for the Crimson Tide since World War II.

1951 -- Alabama 89, Delta State 0
(Sept. 21, Montgomery, Ala.)
The Crimson Tide set school records for most points (89), most touchdowns (13), most extra points (11) in this blowout win over Delta State. All-American Bobby Marlow added 103 yards on the ground.

1958 -- LSU 13, Alabama 3 (Sept. 27, Mobile, Ala.)
The Alabama head coaching debut of Paul "Bear " Bryant took place at Ladd Stadium in Mobile. Bryant inherited a team that posted a 2-7-1 record in 1957 and took that team to a 5-4-1 mark in his first season. Over the next 25 years, Alabama would once again become one of the powerhouses in college football. Bryant compiled a 232-46-9 (.824) at Alabama, leading the Tide to national championships in 1961, 1964, 1965, 1973, 1978 and 1979.

1960 -- Alabama 21, Georgia 6
(Sept. 17, 1960, Birmingham)
Alabama defeated Georgia 21-6 in the first-ever college football game televised by ABC Sports.

1965 -- Georgia 18, Alabama 17
(Sept. 18, 1965, Athens)
After winning the national championship in 1964, Alabama was set to defend its title between the hedges in Athens, Ga. It was a spectacular pass-and-lateral play in the final two minutes that gave Georgia the 18-17 upset win. Although television replays later revealed the Georgia player had one knee touching the ground before the lateral.

1967 -- Alabama 37, Florida State 37
(Sept. 23, Birmingham)
Alabama allowed only 37 points en route to its undefeated 1966 season. In the 1967 season opener, Florida State equaled that total with a 37-point outburst as the two teams battled to tie at Legion Field.

1970 -- Southern Cal 42, Alabama 21
(Sept. 12, Birmingham)
Sam Cunningham's dominating ground game handed the Crimson Tide its worst loss of the 1970 season. USC ran for 485 yards against Alabama and had 559 yards of total offense. Cunningham scored two first quarter touchdowns on runs of 22 and four yards.

Highest Scoring Season Openers

*Here is a look at the highest scoring season openers in Alabama football history. The Crimson Tide's 110-0 win over Marion in 1922 is still the highest scoring season opener in Bama annals.

*Alabama and Middle Tennessee played the fourth-highest scoring season opener in Bama history on Aug. 31, 2002 at Legion Field.

*The complete list is as follows:

1. 110 Alabama 110, Marion Institute 0 (9-30-22)
2. 89 Alabama 89, Delta State 0 (9-21-51)
3. 74 Alabama 37, Florida State 37 (9-23-67)
4. **73 Alabama 39, Middle Tennessee 34 (8-31-02)**
5. 69 Alabama 38, BYU 31 (Sept. 5, 1998)
   69 Boston College 38, Alabama 31 (9-8-84)
7. 66 Alabama 66, California 0 (Sept. 15, 1973)
8. 65 Alabama 48, Utah State 17 (Sept. 4, 2004)
9. 63 USC 42, Alabama 21 (Sept. 12, 1970)
10. 59 UCLA 35, Alabama 24 (Sept. 4, 2000)
    59 Alabama 42, Houston 17 (Aug. 30, 1997)
    59 Alabama 59, S. Military Acad. 0 (9-25-20)

1971 -- Alabama 17, USC 10
(Sept. 10, Los Angeles)
Perhaps the most significant season opener in Alabama football annals was the Tide's win at USC. The Crimson Tide had installed the wishbone offense and kept it a secret throughout the summer and fall camp. The Tide unleashed its attack against the Trojans and built a 17-0 lead. All-America tailback Johnny Musso had the honor of scoring the first rushing touchdown in the wishbone era of Alabama football. The Crimson Tide would dominate the decade of the 1970s, winning 103 games. In addition, Alabama either won or played for the national championship six times in that 10-year period.

1973 -- Alabama 66, California 0
(Sept. 15, Birmingham)
Richard Todd ran for 106 yards in his Alabama debut as the Crimson Tide posted a 66-0 blowout win over Cal. The Bears were stocked with NFL talent, including Vince Ferragamo, Steve Bartkowski and Chuck Muncie, but managed little offense against the stingy Tide defense.

1978 -- Alabama 20, Nebraska 3
(Sept. 2, Birmingham)
No. 1 ranked Alabama dominated No. 10 Nebraska before a capacity crowd at Birmingham's Legion Field. The Crimson Tide avenged a 31-24 loss to the Cornhuskers a year earlier. Alabama dominated the game on offense as evidenced by a 16-play, 99-yard touchdown drive engineered by quarterback Jeff Rutledge. The 1978 season opener marked the only time in school history Alabama has been ranked No. 1 in the preseason polls. The Tide fell to No. 7 after a 24-14 loss to USC, but worked its way back to the top and secured the national championship with a 14-7 win over Penn State in the Sugar Bowl.

1983 -- Alabama 20, Georgia Tech 7
(Sept. 10, Birmingham)
Playing its first game without college football's all-time winningest coach, Alabama gave coach Ray Perkins a successful debut with a 20-7 win over Georgia Tech at Legion Field.

1984 -- Boston College 38, Alabama 31
(Sept. 8, Birmingham)
Kerry Goode electrified the Legion Field crowd and a national television audience with a 99-yard kickoff return to open the second half. The Alabama halfback accounted for 297 all-purpose yards before a season-ending knee injury occurred in the third quarter. Goode set the SEC single-game record with 197 yards in kickoff returns. Heisman Trophy candidate Doug Flutie rallied the Eagles to a 38-31 win in the season opener. **The game also marked the first career start for Alabama quarterback Mike Shula.**

1986 -- Alabama 16, Ohio State 10
(Aug. 27, Meadowlands)
Fifth-ranked Alabama defeated No. 9 Ohio State in the Kickoff Classic at East Rutherford, NJ. The game marked the last time Alabama opened the season against a team ranked in the Top 25 until 2001 when meeting UCLA in Tuscaloosa.

1985 -- Alabama 20, Georgia 16
(Sept. 2, Athens)
Junior quarterback **Mike Shula** fired a 17-yard TD pass to Al Bell with 15 seconds remaining to cap a thrilling game-winning drive in the final minute to beat Georgia between the hedges. A Labor Day night crowd burst into excitement as Georgia blocked an Alabama punt and covered it in the end zone for the go-ahead touchdown in the final minute of play. The calm and confident Shula directed the Crimson Tide down the field for the game-winner giving ABC Sports a thrilling season opener in 1985.

1998 -- Alabama 38, BYU 31
(Sept. 5, Tuscaloosa)
Shaun Alexander rushed for an Alabama single-game record five touchdowns, leading the Crimson Tide to a 38-31 win over BYU in the newly expanded Bryant-Denny Stadium. A record crowd of 83,318 fans watched as Alexander scored on runs of 5, 37, 1, 28 and 2 yards to lead the Crimson Tide to victory.

2001 -- UCLA 20, Alabama 17
(Sept. 1, Tuscaloosa)
Excitement surrounded the Alabama campus as coach Dennis Franchione prepared to make his Alabama coaching debut against the UCLA Bruins. ESPN cameras aired the game to a national audience and ESPN College Gameday made its first-ever trip to Tuscaloosa. UCLA won 20-17.

2003 -- Alabama 40, South Florida 17
(Aug. 30, Birmingham)
After spotting South Florida a 10-point lead in the final two minutes of the second quarter, Alabama rallied to score the games finale 33 points en route to a 40-17 win in coach Mike Shula's debut as head coach. The Crimson Tide rallied from a 10-point deficit in the second quarter by scoring 10 points in the final 26 seconds of the quarter to tie the game at intermission. Alabama erupted for 16 points in the third quarter, including a 73-yard punt return by Shaud Williams to put the game out of reach.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE SERIES

*Alabama leads the all-time series with Middle Tennessee, 1-0.

*The two teams met on Aug. 31, 2002 with Alabama claiming a 39-34 win at Legion Field. The 73 combined points makes for the fourth-highest scoring season opener in Bama annals.

*Alabama linebacker Freddie Roach, playing in his first game with the Crimson Tide, sealed the win with a 41-yard interception return for a touchdown with 2:56 left in the game as Bama took a 39-27 lead.

*The Crimson Tide jumped out to a 22-0 first quarter lead, including a pair of TD passes from Tyler Watts.

ALABAMA VS. SUN BELT CONFERENCE

*Alabama has compiled **12-0 (1.000)** record against the current members of the Sun Belt Conference.

ALABAMA VS. SUN BELT CONFERENCE

Team	Series Record
Arkansas State	UA leads, 1-0
UL Lafayette	UA leads, 8-0
Middle Tennessee	UA leads, 1-0
North Texas	UA leads, 2-0

MIDDLE TENNESSEE VS. SEC

*Middle Tennessee is **2-23 (.080)** all-time against teams currently in the SEC.

*The Blue Raiders are 2-12 (.000) all-time against Vanderbilt, a series that dates back to 1915.

*The other 13 meetings with SEC teams have all taken place since 1999.

*Middle Tennessee has played at least one game against every SEC team with the exception of Auburn and South Carolina.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE VS. SEC

Team	MT Record
Alabama	0-1
Arkansas	0-1
Florida	0-2
Georgia	0-1
Kentucky	0-1
LSU	0-1
Ole Miss	0-1
Miss. State	0-2
Tennessee	0-1
Vanderbilt	2-12

THE STATS

Here is the 2004 statistical comparison between Alabama and Middle Tennessee entering the 2005 season opener.

ALABAMA-MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATS

Category	UA	MT
Points Scored	295	269
Average	24.6	24.5
Points Allowed	189	293
Average	15.8	26.6
Rushing Yards	185.1	106.5
Passing Yards	141.6	267.7
Total Offense	326.7	374.2
Rushing Defense	132.4	138.4
Passing Defense	113.1	273.5
Total Defense	245.5	411.9
Turnovers	20	26
Fumbles	9	10
Interceptions	11	16
Penalties Per Game	5.8	7.8
Average Yards	51.2	69.2
Punting (No-Yds)	65-2611	55-2197
Punting Avg	40.2	39.9
Net Punting	37.9	34.7
Time of Possession	31:59	30:07
Third Down Conv.	61/161	70/165
Percentage	.379	.424
Fourth Down Conv.	4/12	7/11
Percentage	.333	.636
Sacks By	25 (-166)	28 (-172)

RUSHING LEADERS	Att-Yds-TD
Kenneth Darby (UA)	219-1,062-8
Tim Castille (UA)	62-247-6
Eugene Gross (MT)	103-412-7
Clint Marks (MT)	73-113-1
DeMarco McNair (MT)	21-112-0

PASSING LEADERS	Comp-Att-Int-Yds-TD
Brodie Croyle (UA)	44-66-0-974-4
Marc Guillon (UA)	20-43-3-191-1
Clint Marks (MT)	259-368-142,749-14
Josh Harris (MT)	22-32-2-187-1

RECEIVING LEADERS	Rec-Yds-TD
Tyrone Prothro (UA)	25-347-1
Matt Caddell (UA)	17-331-1
Keith Brown (UA)	17-295-1
DJ Hall (UA)	17-186-1
Chris Henry (MT)	60-586-0
Cleannord Saintil (MT)	40-376-1
Eugene Gross (MT)	24-233-0

PUNTING	No-Yds-Avg-Blk
Jeremy Schatz (UA)	3-
Colby Smith (MT)	55-2,197-39.9-0

PUNT RETURNS	No.-Yds-Avg-TD
Brandon Brooks (UA)	25-128-5.1-0
Chris Henry (MT)	1-3-3.0-0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.-Yds-Avg-TD
Tyrone Prothro (UA)	17-452-26.6-1
Brandon Brooks (UA)	10-244-24.4-0
Cleannord Saintil (MT)	11-220-20.0-0

LEADING TACKLERS	Solo-Ast-Total
DeMeco Ryans (LB)	46-32-78
Roman Harper (FS)	45-32-77
Freddie Roach (LB)	28-29-57
Charlie Peprah (SS)	34-17-51
Ramzee Robinson (LCB)	27-18-45
Marcel Horne (WLB)	54-12-66
Dennis Burke (SLB)	29-27-56
Bradley Robinson (LCB)	37-9-46
Sean Mosley (RDE)	25-11-36
Erik Walden (LDE)	19-6-25

TFL LEADERS	Tkls-Yds Lost
Wallace Gilberry (DE)	13 (-50)
Mark Anderson (DE)	11 (-40)
Erik Walden (LDE)	8.5 (-36)
Sean Mosley (RDE)	4 (-17)

SACKS LEADERS	Sacks-Yds Lost
Wallace Gilberry (DE)	6.5 (-44)
Erik Walden (LDE)	6 (-26)

RETURNS, RETURNS, RETURNS!

*Alabama has had **10 returns for touchdowns in 25 games** during the Shula era.

*The Crimson Tide had **three touchdown returns** in 12 games last season.

*In the 2005 season opener, true freshman **Simeon Castille posted a 31-yard interception return** in the third quarter of the season opener with Utah State.

*Another true freshman **Marcel Stamps blocked a punt** and was credited with a 29-yard punt return for a touchdown in the win over Western Carolina.

*Sophomore **Tyrone Prothro tied the Alabama record** with a 100-yard kickoff return at Kentucky on Oct. 9. It was the seventh 100-yard kickoff return in school history and first since 1988.

*Alabama **scored on five different returns last season,** accounting for seven total touchdown returns.

*The 2003 season is believed to be the first time in school history that Alabama has had an interception return, fumble return, punt return, kickoff return and blocked field goal return for touchdowns in the same season.

*In 1990 and 1999, Alabama scored on a punt return, kickoff return and interception return, but did not have the fumble return for a touchdown.

ALABAMA'S TD RETURNS (2003-05)

Player, Return (Opponent)
Charlie Peprah 59-yard interception return (USF)
Shaud Williams 73-yard punt return (USF)
Charles Jones 33-yard punt return (Georgia)
Juwan Garth 10-yard fumble return (Georgia)
Chris James 44-yard punt return (Ole Miss)
Brandon Brooks 96-yard kickoff return (Auburn)
Roman Harper 73-yard blocked FG return (Hawai'i)
Simeon Castille 31-yard interception return (Utah St.)
Marcel Stamps 14-yard blocked punt return (WCU)
Tyrone Prothro 100-yard kickoff return (Kentucky)

BRYANT-DENNY STADIUM

*Alabama's on campus home since 1929, Bryant-Denny Stadium is one of college football's most scenic venues.

*The 2004 season marks the **75th anniversary of Bryant-Denny Stadium and Denny Chimes,** two of the campus' more famous landmarks.

*The Crimson Tide has compiled an all-time record of **193-40-3 (.824)** in 236 games at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

*The stadium was originally named for former University of Alabama President **Dr. George H. Denny.** Denny, who was named UA President on Jan. 1, 1912, began an extraordinary career that spanned almost a quarter of a century.

*Bryant-Denny Stadium and Denny Chimes (located on the UA quadrangle) stand as reminders to Denny's legacy to the Capstone.

*In 1976, the State of Alabama Legislature and the UA Board of Trustees added coach **Paul "Bear" Bryant's** name to the stadium, thus calling Alabama's football home Bryant-Denny Stadium.

Largest Crowds at Bryant-Denny Stadium

1.	86,869 vs. Tennessee	Oct. 23, 1999
2.	84,818 vs. Auburn	Nov. 23, 2002
3.	83,818 (63x; last vs. AU)	Nov. 20, 2004

ALL-TIME TUSCALOOSA RECORD

In addition to its impressive record at Bryant-Denny Stadium (1929-present), Alabama has made Tuscaloosa a very difficult place to play for opposing football teams.

*Alabama has compiled a **278-53-3 (.837)** record in 334 all-time games in Tuscaloosa.

*Alabama was **5-2 (.714) at home this season,** compared to last year's 2-5 (.286) record in Tuscaloosa.

*In 2002-03, Alabama was just **6-7 (.462) at home.**

*Since 1997, Alabama is just **21-20 (.512)** here at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

UA Football All-Time Tuscaloosa Record

Site	Record	Pct.
Quad	42-11	.794
Denny Field	43-2	.956
Bryant-Denny	193-40-3	.821
Total	**278-54-3**	**.837**

*Alabama's **first game on campus** was a 4-0 loss to Birmingham Athletic Club on Oct. 14, 1893.

*From 1911-28, Alabama posted a **55-2 (.965)** record in Tuscaloosa. The 1929 season marked the opening of what is now known as Bryant-Denny Stadium.

*Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant posted a remarkable **72-2 (.973)** record in Tuscaloosa, losing only to Florida (1963) and Southern Miss (1982). The USM game was the last game he ever coached at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

*From 1963-82, Alabama posted an **NCAA record 57-game** home winning streak.

*Miami has since broken that record with a 58-game home winning streak, but the Hurricanes record also includes three wins in the post-season Orange Bowl game. All of UA's 57 wins were in the regular-season.

*The **57-game winning streak** is one of seven winning streaks longer than 15 games for the Crimson Tide in Tuscaloosa.

All-Time Tuscaloosa Winning Streaks

Strk	Dates of Streak
57	Oct. 26, 1963-Nov. 13, 1982
37	Nov. 18, 1911-Oct. 15, 1921
20	Nov. 1, 1941-Nov. 11, 1950
18*	Sept. 28, 1928-Sept. 28, 1935
18	Sept. 30, 1922-Oct. 6, 1928
16	Nov. 23, 1957-Oct. 12, 1963
15	Nov. 9, 1935-Oct. 12, 1940

***Alabama posted a 19-game unbeaten streak in Tuscaloosa from 1928-35.**

*Here is a look at the all-time coaching records here at Bryant-Denny Stadium since 1929.

UA Coaches Record at Bryant-Denny Stadium

Coach (Years)	Record	Pct.
Wade (1929-30)	6-0	1.000
Thomas (1931-46)	37-3-1	.915
Drew (1947-54)	18-3-1	.841
Whitworth (1955-57)	2-4-1	.357
Bryant (1958-82)	72-2	.973
Perkins (1983-86)	11-2	.846
Curry (1987-89)	4-2	.667
Stallings (1990-96)	22-4	.846
DuBose (1997-2000)	9-8	.529
Franchione (2001-02)	6-5	.556
Shula (2003)	**7-7**	**.500**

ALABAMA'S ROAD RECORD

Alabama has compiled a **226-119-12 (.650)** all-time road record in 357 games.

*The above record does not include neutral site games, bowl games or the Alabama-Auburn game played at Legion Field from 1948-88.

*Alabama is **2-7 (.222) on the road** in the Shula era, including a 1-3 (.250) during the 2004 season.

*Alabama is **9-10 (.473)** in its last 19 road games, including a **7-7 (.500)** mark in its last 14 SEC road games.

*Historically Alabama has been a strong road team.

*From 1970-75, Alabama **won a school record 21 consecutive road games**.

*From 1970-82, Alabama was **35-6 (.854)** in 41 road games.

*Since 1982, Alabama is **61-32-1 (.654)** on the road.

Road Records of UA Coaches

Coach (Years)	Record
Wallace Wade (1923-30)	12-5-1 (.694)
Frank Thomas (1931-46)	37-13-3 (.726)
Red Drew (1947-54)	18-13-1 (.578)
J.B. Whitworth (1955-57)	2-9 (.222)
Paul Bryant (1958-82)	73-18-2 (.796)
Ray Perkins (1983-86)	9-5-1 (.594)
Bill Curry (1987-89)	12-3 (.800)
Gene Stallings (1990-96)	24-6 (.800)
Mike DuBose (1997-2000)	7-10 (.412)
Dennis Franchione (2001-02)	7-3 (.700)
Mike Shula (2003)	**2-7 (.222)**

SEC ROAD RECORDS SINCE 1992

*The Crimson Tide has posted a **31-21 road record (.596)** since the 1992 season, the third-best total in the SEC.

*Here is a look at the SEC road records since the league expanded to 12 teams in 1992.

SEC ROAD RECORDS (Since 1992)

Rank	School	Record (Pct.)
1.	Florida	45-10 (.818)
2.	Tennessee	40-11 (.784)
3.	**ALABAMA**	**31-21 (.592)**
4.	Georgia	32-22-1 (.591)
5.	Auburn	29-21 (.580)
6.	LSU	24-27-1 (.471)
7.	Arkansas	19-31-2 (.392)
8.	Ole Miss	19-32 (.372)
9.	South Carolina	17-34 (.333)
10.	Miss. State	13-39-1 (.255)
11.	Kentucky	11-39 (.220)
12.	Vanderbilt	6-44 (.120)

ALABAMA ON THE TUBE

*Alabama has compiled a **152-97-5 (.608) all-time record on television** since its first televised game in 1951.

*The South Carolina game was Alabama's **250th all-time television appearance** since 1951.

*The Minnesota game will be Alabama's **ninth television appearance** and eighth in the last nine game.

*Last year's Ole Miss game (Oct. 18, 2003) marked Alabama's **200th televised regular-season game.**

*Alabama is **22-15-2 (.590)** in televised bowl games. The 2004 Music City Bowl will be the Crimson Tide's 40th all-time televised bowl game.

*The Crimson Tide has compiled a **127-80-3 (.611)** record in 209 regular-season TV games.

EAST AND WEST

*Since the SEC split into two divisions prior to the 1992 season, Alabama has compiled a **63-39-1 (.617)** record in regular-season conference games.

*Factor in the Tide's five appearances in the SEC Championship game and UA's record is **65-42-1 (.607)** against SEC teams.

*Alabama has compiled a **40-25 (.615)** regular season record against SEC Western Division teams since 1992.

SEC WESTERN DIVISION RECORD (Since 1992)

Opponent	Record
vs. Auburn	6-7
vs. Arkansas	7-5
vs. LSU	7-6
vs. Ole Miss	11-2
vs. Mississippi State	9-4

*Alabama has compiled a **23-14-1 (.618)** regular season record against SEC Eastern Division teams since 1992.

SEC EASTERN DIVISION RECORD (Since 1992)

Opponent	Record
vs. Florida	1-1
vs. Georgia	2-2
vs. Kentucky	3-1
vs. South Carolina	3-2
vs. Tennessee	3-9-1
vs. Vanderbilt	11-0

SEPTEMBER RECORD

*Alabama has compiled a **152-38-5 (.792)** in 195 all-time games in the month of September.

*The Crimson Tide **won its 150th all-time September game** with a 48-17 win over Utah State in the 2004 season opener.

*Dating back to 1997, Alabama is just **17-13 (.567) in its last 30 September games.**

*In its **first-ever game** in the month of September, Alabama posted a 24-0 win over Howard on Sept. 30, 1911.

*Alabama was **3-1 (.750) last season** in the month of September.

*Alabama posted a **30-0-2 (.968)** record in its first 32 September games before finally losing at Tulane (21-20) on Sept. 27, 1945.

*The school's longest winning streak in the month of September is 19 games from Sept. 30, 1911 through Sept. 29, 1934.

ALABAMA'S SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Result	Notes
Sept. 30, 1922	UA 110, Marion 0	Largest margin of victory in school history
Sept. 29, 1929	UA 55, Miss. College 0	1st game at Denny Field
Sept. 27, 1940	UA 26, Springhill 0	1st night game in Alabama history
Sept. 27, 1947	Tulane 21, UA 20	1st loss in month of September
Sept. 21, 1951	UA 89, Delta State 0	2nd biggest win in school history
Sept. 27, 1958	LSU 13, UA 3	Paul Bryant's 1st game as head coach
Sept. 23, 1967	UA 37, Fla. State 37	Infamous tie at Legion Field
Sept. 10, 1971	UA 17, USC 10	Bama opens "wishbone" era
Sept. 8, 1984	Boston College 38, UA 31	Mike Shula's 1st career start at UA
Sept. 5, 1998	UA 38, BYU 31	Shaun Alexander 5 rushing TDs

*The Crimson Tide also posted an 18-game winning streak (Sept. 19, 1970-Sept. 28, 1974) and a 16-game winning streak (Sept. 21, 1991 through Sept. 9, 1995) in the month.

ONE THIS DATE

*Alabama's only other game on Sept. 3 was a 42-13 win over UT Chattanooga during the 1994 season at Legion Field.

BAMA COACHES IN SEPTEMBER

Alabama coaches have put up some impressive numbers in the month of September. Legendary coach Paul Bryant has the school's best September record (52-8-1) in his 25-year career with the Crimson Tide. In addition, five coaches -- DV Graves, Thomas Kelley, Xen Scott, Wallace Wade and Frank Thomas -- never lost a game in the month of September.

All-Time September Coaching Record

Coach	Record
D.V. Graves	4-0
Thomas Kelley	1-0
Xen Scott	3-0
Wallace Wade	8-0
Frank Thomas	13-0-2
Red Drew	7-5-1
J.B. Whitworth	0-3
Paul Bryant	52-8-1
Ray Perkins	11-2
Bill Curry	8-1
Gene Stallings	22-5
Mike DuBose	8-6
Dennis Franchione	5-3
Mike Shula	5-4

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

*Here are some interesting facts and figures about members of the Alabama football team. These may be some helpful hints for feature story ideas, etc.

*Sophomore kicker **Jeffrey Aul** was born in Seoul, South Korea.

*Junior wide receiver **Brandon Brooks** was a two-time Alabama high school state champion in the 55-meter dash, winning the Class 6A title in 1999 (6.51) and 2000 (6.43).

*Junior center **JB Closner's** full name is Jon-Bennett Closner.

*Sophomore defensive end **Chris Harris** is the fourth member of his family to play college football. His father, Orlando, played at Jackson State, while two cousins -- Anthony (Southern Miss) and Shaun Powell (Jackson State) -- also played college football.

*Junior free safety **Roman Harper** is one of five children born to Ronald and Princess Harper.

*Sophomore linebacker **Juke King's** real name is Tersheikiya King. He received the nickname "Juke" from a cousin because of the 1980s song "Jukebox Hero".

*Senior right corner **Anthony Madison** once had 400 all-purpose yards and scored five TDs in a game at Thomasville HS.

*Junior cornerback **Charlie Peprah's** grandfather, General I.G. Achampong, was the President of Ghana, West Africa in the 1970s.