SEC COACHES: a Family Affair

By Tex Noel/1st-N-Goal; StatHistorian/SEC SportsFan.com

Long before there was a SEC; a football coach who would was wrapping-up his playing career before heading south to embark on a legendary coaching career.

Dan McGugin, who was the starting left guard in the inaugural Rose Bowl, while playing for his future brother-in-law (Fielding "Hurry-up" Yost); as he was the first of eight family members with conference ties to become a college football coach.

McGugin led Vanderbilt to 197 wins during his time in Nashville—1 more than Yost—over a career that spanned 30 years, from 1904-17, 19-34.

Interesting, it would be another 30 years before the family unit would make its mark in the SEC with not one but two coaching that made their debut in 1964.

Vince Dooley, despite dropping the first game of his career a 31-3, would go onto to win the most games All-Time by of SEC family mentors. Doug Dickey, was Tennessee's third coach in 10 years, also began patrolling the sidelines in 1964; he opened with a slim 10-6 victory over Chattanooga (now Tennessee-Chattanooga).

Both men dropped their first-ever meeting with the Conference's coaching icon, Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Dooley's came in the opener; while Dickey who would win 46 game in Knoxville, fell to the coaching giant, 19-8. After six seasons at UT, he would head further south to Gainesville for 9 more season and 12 additional triumphs.

In his first game against Bryant, Dickey had the same result—a loss—by 31: 46-31; and against his former employer, in Knoxville, was also by a 31-point difference, 38-7.

After sitting out the 1997-98 seasons, Lou Holtz returned to the sidelines—this time at a SEC school, South Carolina; where he inherited a team that compiled a 1-10 mark the year before his arrival. In 1999, the bottom fell completely out for the Gamecocks, finishing 0-11 (and 0-8 for the second straight year against conference foes.)

In his career, the popular Holtz—a 2009 College Football Hall of Fame inductee—won 249 games (33 in Columbia)—which stands eighth on the major college ledger.

The SEC's newest coach, Lance Kiffin is the seventh father-son coaching combination. His father, Monte, now the Vols defensive coordinator, previously held the head-spot at North Carolina State, 1980-82, winning 16 of 33 games.

Kiffin isn't the first former Vol to have football-coaching-father; as that honor goes to the team's outstanding back of the mid-1950s, Johnny Majors.

Majors' 116 wins at his alma mater is second to Dooley for family wins; third and the only other coach with 100+ triumphs was Dickey, who had 104—of coaches at SEC schools.

Three brothers that patrolled sidelines for a total of 36 combined SEC seasons won a total of 258—led by Dooley's victories at the Athens-based school. Combing for the other 58 wins were Terry Bowden and Watson Brown, with 47 and 10, respectively.

Brown and his brother, Mack currently at the University of Texas, head into the 2009 season with the second highest of brother wins with SEC-ties; a combined total 302 victories.

Dooley and his brother, Bill tallied 363 wins over their combined career of 51 seasons.

			#	Seasons	
	COACH	COLLEGES	Sea	Coached	W-L-T W%
				FATHERS-	
				SONS	
Father	Bobby		43	1959-62, 70-2008	372-120-4 .754
Son	Tommy		10	1997-2008	90-49-0 .647
Son	Terry	Auburn	6	1993-98	47-17-1 .731
	-		16	1983-98	11151-2 .727
	BOWDEN		69	1959-62, 70-2008	573-220-6 .721
F	Doug	Tennessee	6	1964-69	46-15-4 .738
		Florida	9	1970-78	58-42-4 .578
			15	1964-78	104-57-6 .665
S	Daryl		5	1997-2000, 08	30-24-0 .523
	DICKEY		20	1964-78; 97-2000; 08	134-91-6 .593
F	Vince	Georgia	25	1964-88	201-77-10 .715
S	Derrick		2	2007-08	13-12-0 .520
	DOOLEY		27	1964-88; 2007-08	214-89-10 .700
				1969-75, 77-96, 99-	
F	Lou		32	2004	249-132-7 .651
		South Carolina	6	1999-2004	33-37-0 .471
S	Skip		9	1994-98, 2005-08	98-67-0 .594
	HOLTZ		41	1969-74,77-2008	347-199-7 .634
F	Monte		3	1980-82	16-17-0 .485
S	Lance	Tennessee	1	2009	tbd
	KIFFIN		4	1980-82	16-17-0 .485
F	Shirley		21	1957-77	91-67-5 .574
S	Johnny	Tennessee	16	1977-92	116-62-8 .645
			29	1968-96	184-137-10 .571
	MAJORS		50	1957-96	275-204-15 .572
				BROTHERS	
	Terry	Auburn	6	1993-98	47-17-1 .731
		- 10.00.11	16	1983-98	
	Tommy		10	1997-2008	90-49-0 .647
					1 20 .0 0 .0

	BOWDEN		26	1983-2008	201-100-2 .667
	Mack		25	1983, 85-2008	
	Watson	Vanderbilt	5	1986-90	10-45-0 .182
			23	1979-80, 84-2008	101-167-1 .377
	BROWN		48	1979-80, 83-2008	302-294-3 .508
	Vince	Georgia	25	1964-88	201-77-10 .715
			25	1964-88	
	Bill		26	1967-92	162-126-5 .561
	DOOLEY		51	1964-92	363-203-15 .638
				Othern	
				Other	
				Deletives	
				Relatives	
Brother					
S	Fielding "Hurry-up" Yost		29	1897-1923, 25-26	196-36-12 .828
in-law	Dan McGugin	Vanderbilt	30	1904-17, 19-34	197-55-19 .762
	_		30	1904-17, 19-34	197-55-19 .762
	YOST/McGugin		59	1897-1934	393-81-31 .793