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Georgia Southern University

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Bob DeBesse Named Offensive Coordinator of Georgia Southern Football
New Mexico enjoyed record-setting success under his six-year watch.
runs of 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 yards for the season, leading the nation in most 50 and 60 yard rushes (14 and 10 respectively).

The 2013 offense's 40 rushing touchdowns were two shy of the 1971 team record of 42. The unit also produced 5,062 yards, becoming just the sixth Lobo offensive unit to surpass the 5,000-yard mark. In 2012, the Lobos had the most improved rushing offense in the nation, going from 113.3 yards per game (ranking 103rd in rushing in ’11) to 301.3 yards per game (ranking fifth in ’12).

DeBesse went to New Mexico after a highly successful two-year stint as the offensive coordinator at Sam Houston State, which finished as national championship runner-up in the Football Championship Subdivision in 2011. The Bearkats averaged 36.9 points per game in 2011 with a 1,000-yard rusher in Tim Flanders (1,644 yards) and another one just shy of 1,000 yards in Richard Sincere (979 yards), as well as a 2,000-yard passer in quarterback Brian Bell (2,069 yards).

In his first season, DeBesse led the Kats to the top of the Southland Conference in rushing offense and had three players earn all-league honors.

DeBesse served as wide receivers coach at Texas A&M from 2006-07. As wide receivers coach, DeBesse helped direct Texas A&M squads to the 2006 Holiday Bowl and the 2007 Alamo Bowl.

Purdue employed DeBesse as wide receivers coach from 2003-05, where he mentored Taylor Stubblefield. Stubblefield was a consensus All-America selection and Biletnikoff Award finalist in 2004, setting a then-NCAA record with 316 receptions. In 2003, Boilermakers WR John Standeford set Big Ten records for receptions (broken by Stubblefield) and receiving yards with 3,788.

Prior to his arrival at Purdue, DeBesse was the head coach at Southwest Texas State from 1997-2002. His 2000 team went 7-4, the best mark by the school in a decade, and had a No. 24 national ranking in the NCAA Division I-AA final poll.

DeBesse served as offensive coordinator at the University of Minnesota from 1992-96. His units led the Big Ten in passing offense in 1992, 1993 and 1996 and led the Big Ten in passing offense in conference games in 1994 and ’95.

Before coming to Minnesota, DeBesse spent nine years (1983-91) at TCU, the last two years as offensive coordinator. From 1988-90, he coached alongside Rocky Long and earned Southwest Conference Offensive Coordinator of the Year honors in 1990. As quarterbacks coach, DeBesse helped the Horned Frogs earn an invitation to the Bluebonnet Bowl in 1984.

DeBesse was a three-year letterman at Southwest Texas State from 1978 to 1980. He was special teams captain and a Texas All-Academic team selection as a senior. DeBesse spent two years as a student assistant for SWT teams that won NCAA Division II national championships in 1981 and 1982. He was elected to the Southwest Texas State Hall of Honor in 1998.

Growing up in Texas, DeBesse earned a bachelor's degree in education from Southwest Texas State in 1982. He and his wife Janet, a former Southwest Texas gymnast and cheerleader, have three children: Britney, Kaila and Cameron. Cameron lettered as a wide receiver for the Lobos in 2012 and 2013.

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