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=====
College Football 2026 HEAD-COACHING CARROUSEL REPORT
Generated Saturday, June 06, 2026
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Of 138 FBS teams in our database, 33 have a NEW head coach for
the 2026 season -- a 24% turnover rate. 30 coaches overall are
entering their FIRST season at their current school (tenure_years <= 0).
Source: trends/cfb-coaches-database.csv (carousel pairs authoritative;
program ATS = real 2023-2025 box-score data). No hire grades or
predicted records are fabricated -- those fields are intentionally NULL.
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(b) 2026 HEAD-COACHING CHANGES
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TEAM OUT -> IN REASON NEW HC CAREER
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Arkansas Razorbacks Sam Pittman -> Ryan Silverfield performance 50-25 (.667)
Auburn Tigers Hugh Freeze -> Alex Golesh performance 23-15 (.605)
California Golden Bea Justin Wilcox -> Tosh Lupoi performance NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Coastal Carolina Chan Tim Beck -> Ryan Beard performance 7-5 (.583)
Colorado State Rams Jay Norvell -> Jim Mora performance 73-53 (.579)
Florida Gators Billy Napier -> Jon Sumrall performance 43-12 (.782)
Kansas State Wildcats Chris Klieman -> Collin Klein performance NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Kentucky Wildcats Mark Stoops -> Will Stein performance NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
LSU Tigers Brian Kelly -> Lane Kiffin performance 116-52 (.690)
Michigan State Sparta Jonathan Smith -> Pat Fitzgerald performance 110-101 (.521)
Oklahoma State Cowboy Mike Gundy -> Eric Morris performance 22-16 (.579)
Oregon State Beavers Trent Bray -> JaMarcus Shephard performance NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
UAB Blazers Trent Dilfer -> Alex Mortensen performance 2-4 (.333)
Virginia Tech Hokies Brent Pry -> James Franklin performance 128-60 (.681)
Kent State Golden Fla Kenni Burns -> Mark Carney off-field 5-7 (.417)
Michigan Wolverines Sherrone Moore (fired for cause)+ off-field NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Penn State Nittany Li James Franklin -> Matt Campbell off-field 107-70 (.605)
Stanford Cardinal Troy Taylor -> Tavita Pritchard off-field NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
UCLA Bruins DeShaun Foster -> Bob Chesney off-field 21-6 (.778)
Iowa State Cyclones Matt Campbell -> Jimmy Rogers lateral-move 6-6 (.500)
James Madison Dukes Bob Chesney -> Billy Napier lateral-move 62-35 (.639)
Memphis Tigers Ryan Silverfield -> Charles Huff lateral-move 39-25 (.609)
Missouri State Bears Ryan Beard -> Casey Woods lateral-move NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
North Texas Mean Gree Eric Morris -> Neal Brown lateral-move 72-51 (.585)
Ole Miss Rebels Lane Kiffin -> Pete Golding lateral-move 2-1 (.667)
South Florida Bulls Alex Golesh -> Brian Hartline lateral-move NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Southern Miss Golden Charles Huff -> Blake Anderson lateral-move 74-55 (.574)
Toledo Rockets Jason Candle -> Mike Jacobs lateral-move NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Tulane Green Wave Jon Sumrall -> Will Hall lateral-move 14-30 (.318)
UConn Huskies Jim Mora Jr. -> Jason Candle lateral-move 81-44 (.648)
Washington State Coug Jimmy Rogers -> Kirby Moore lateral-move NULL (new to FBS HC / not in dataset)
Northern Illinois Hus Thomas Hammock (left for NFL/Sea+ HC left for NFL0-0 (NULL)
Utah Utes Kyle Whittingham -> Morgan Scall+ vacancy (Whittingham left for Michigan)1-0 (1.000)
Note: 'lateral-move' = coach-to-coach domino hire; 'performance' /
'off-field' flag the firings noted this cycle. NEW HC CAREER is the
incoming coach's prior FBS W-L (NULL if new to FBS HC / not in dataset).
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(c) CHAIN REACTIONS (the 2026 domino hires)
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Kiffin domino: LSU <- Ole Miss (Kiffin) ; Ole Miss <- Pete Golding
Morris domino: Okla St <- North Texas (Morris) ; North Texas <- Neal Brown
Campbell domino: Penn St <- Iowa St (Campbell) ; Iowa St <- Jimmy Rogers
...Iowa St's Rogers came from Washington State (WSU -> Kirby Moore)
Sumrall domino: Florida <- Tulane (Sumrall) ; Tulane <- Will Hall
Silverfield dom: Arkansas <- Memphis (Silverfield) ; Memphis <- Charles Huff
...Memphis's Huff came from Southern Miss (S.Miss -> Blake Anderson)
Candle domino: UConn <- Toledo (Candle) ; Toledo <- Mike Jacobs
Mora/Golesh: Colo St <- Jim Mora (was UConn) ; UConn filled by Candle (above)
Golesh domino: Auburn <- USF (Golesh) ; USF <- Brian Hartline
Franklin domino: Va Tech <- Penn St (Franklin) ; Penn St <- Campbell (above)
Chesney domino: UCLA <- James Madison (Chesney) ; JMU <- Billy Napier (ex-Florida)
Beard domino: Coastal Car <- Missouri St (Beard) ; Mo St <- Casey Woods
Five coaches were fired in-cycle: Franklin (PSU), Foster (UCLA),

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Norvell (Colo St) on performance; Moore (Michigan) and Burns (Kent St)
off-field. Per The Athletic, 34 total HC changes this cycle.

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(d) FIRST-YEAR COACH WATCH

Program ATS shown = PRIOR-STAFF data (2023-2025 school results),
NOT the incoming coach. Use as a regime baseline, not a read on
the new staff.

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TEAM HEAD COACH PRIOR-STAFF ATS H/R/Conf

Arkansas Razorbacks Ryan Silverfield 6-15-0 (0.286) / 9-4-0 (0.692) / 11-11-0 (0.5)
Auburn Tigers Alex Golesh 9-12-1 (0.429) / 7-7-0 (0.5) / 8-13-1 (0.381)
California Golden Bea Tosh Lupoi 8-11-0 (0.421) / 9-9-0 (0.5) / 9-15-0 (0.375)
Coastal Carolina Chan Ryan Beard 10-9-0 (0.526) / 8-10-0 (0.444) / 11-11-0 (0.5)
Colorado State Rams Jim Mora 7-12-0 (0.368) / 8-8-0 (0.5) / 9-14-0 (0.391)
Florida Gators Jon Sumrall 9-10-0 (0.474) / 6-8-0 (0.429) / 13-9-0 (0.591)
Iowa State Cyclones Jimmy Rogers 10-9-0 (0.526) / 8-9-0 (0.471) / 15-13-0 (0.536)
James Madison Dukes Billy Napier 12-7-0 (0.632) / 14-5-0 (0.737) / 13-10-0 (0.565)
Kansas State Wildcats Collin Klein 11-8-0 (0.579) / 7-9-0 (0.438) / 16-13-0 (0.552)
Kentucky Wildcats Will Stein 11-11-0 (0.5) / 7-7-0 (0.5) / 10-12-0 (0.455)
LSU Tigers Lane Kiffin 10-11-0 (0.476) / 5-8-0 (0.385) / 8-14-0 (0.364)
Memphis Tigers Charles Huff 10-10-0 (0.5) / 9-6-0 (0.6) / 10-14-0 (0.417)
Michigan State Sparta Pat Fitzgerald 6-14-0 (0.3) / 10-5-0 (0.667) / 12-12-0 (0.5)
Michigan Wolverines Kyle Whittingham 7-14-0 (0.333) / 8-7-0 (0.533) / 12-12-0 (0.5)
Missouri State Bears Casey Woods 4-2-0 (0.667) / 4-4-0 (0.5) / 4-4-0 (0.5)
North Texas Mean Gree Neal Brown 11-8-0 (0.579) / 10-8-0 (0.556) / 15-10-0 (0.6)
Northern Illinois Hus Rob Harley (interim 4-14-0 (0.222) / 9-9-0 (0.5) / 6-14-0 (0.3)
Oklahoma State Cowboy Eric Morris 8-12-0 (0.4) / 7-9-0 (0.438) / 12-16-0 (0.429)
Oregon State Beavers JaMarcus Shephard 9-11-0 (0.45) / 5-10-0 (0.333) / 7-5-0 (0.583)
Penn State Nittany Li Matt Campbell 11-11-0 (0.5) / 8-6-0 (0.571) / 11-14-0 (0.44)
Sacramento State Horn Alonzo Carter 0-0-0 (--) / 3-1-0 (0.75) / 0-0-0 (--)
South Florida Bulls Brian Hartline 11-6-0 (0.647) / 10-8-0 (0.556) / 13-11-0 (0.542)
Stanford Cardinal Tavita Pritchard 9-10-0 (0.474) / 6-11-0 (0.353) / 12-13-0 (0.48)
Toledo Rockets Mike Jacobs 12-6-0 (0.667) / 8-10-0 (0.444) / 10-10-0 (0.5)
Tulane Green Wave Will Hall 10-11-0 (0.476) / 11-8-0 (0.579) / 14-13-0 (0.519)
UCLA Bruins Bob Chesney 5-13-0 (0.278) / 10-8-0 (0.556) / 12-15-0 (0.444)
UConn Huskies Jason Candle 12-7-0 (0.632) / 9-8-0 (0.529) / 1-1-0 (0.5)
Utah Utes Morgan Scalley 11-8-0 (0.579) / 8-9-0 (0.471) / 14-14-0 (0.5)
Virginia Tech Hokies James Franklin 9-10-0 (0.474) / 7-9-0 (0.438) / 13-10-0 (0.565)
Washington State Coug Kirby Moore 11-7-0 (0.611) / 8-9-0 (0.471) / 5-7-0 (0.417)

*** CAPTION: every ATS line above belongs to the PREVIOUS regime. A
new staff resets scheme, roster usage, and tendencies -- treat these
as the situation the new coach inherited, not a predictor of cover rate.

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(e) CONTINUITY / STABILITY (top 10 longest-tenured HC still in place)

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TEAM HEAD COACH SINCE YRS PROG ATS H/R

Iowa Hawkeyes Kirk Ferentz 1999 27 12-9-0 (0.571) / 10-5-0 (0.667)
Clemson Tigers Dabo Swinney 2009 17 8-13-0 (0.381) / 8-7-0 (0.533)
NC State Wolfpack Dave Doeren 2013 13 11-10-0 (0.524) / 6-8-0 (0.429)
Army Black Knights Jeff Monken 2014 12 7-11-0 (0.389) / 10-3-0 (0.769)
Eastern Michigan Eagl Chris Creighton 2014 12 10-8-0 (0.556) / 10-9-0 (0.526)
Miami RedHawks Chuck Martin 2014 12 11-6-0 (0.647) / 12-7-0 (0.632)
Pittsburgh Panthers Pat Narduzzi 2015 11 13-7-0 (0.65) / 6-9-0 (0.4)
BYU Cougars Kalani Sitake 2016 10 12-6-0 (0.667) / 10-8-0 (0.556)
Georgia Bulldogs Kirby Smart 2016 10 6-14-0 (0.3) / 4-8-0 (0.333)
Minnesota Golden Goph P. J. Fleck 2017 9 10-11-0 (0.476) / 6-9-0 (0.4)
These programs have continuity: scheme/staff carry over, so the
2023-2025 program ATS is more representative of the current operation
than for the carousel teams above.

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(f) BETTING CONTEXT - how to read coaching change in your number

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- NEW-COACH situations are HIGH VARIANCE. A new staff changes scheme,
tempo, fourth-down/2pt aggression, and personnel deployment -- the
very inputs that drive both side and total outcomes.

- For all 32 carousel teams, the program ATS splits in our data are tied to the SCHOOL's 2023-2025 results, which means they reflect the PRIOR regime, NOT the incoming coach. They are LESS PREDICTIVE here. (See coach_data_caveat per team.)
- Early-season lines on new-coach teams are softer (markets are still pricing in uncertainty). Edges are real but so is variance -- size down.
- Continuity programs (section e) are where 3-year program ATS history carries the most signal, because the operation is unchanged.
- Hire grades in the DB are SOURCED MEDIA CONSENSUS (Athlon/CBS/The Athletic), stored for reference only -- NOT our projection and NOT a betting edge. Bet the number and the situation, not the narrative.

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