

It is an honor and a pleasure for our defensive staff to represent our Head Coach Jeff Bower and The University of Southern Mississippi. Our defensive staff includes Tyrone Nix, defensive backs; Randy Butler, defensive line; Lytrel Pollard, outside linebackers and Ron Landphair, graduate assistant - defensive backs. All of these people are tremendous individuals. They all believe in our program and themselves but more importantly have a faith and trust in God.

### Objectives

1. The most important objective is to prevent our opponent from scoring. Ultimately this is the bottom line for measuring the effectiveness for our defense.

2. Have an efficient multiple system. Everything that we do is a system.

3. Put as much speed as possible on the field.

4. Create confusion for the offense. Stem - Prowl - Scatter - Radar

5. Take away their favorite plays (stop the run).

6. Win the turnover battle.

In order to be successful at our objectives, there are certain principles that must be followed. We call these principles Habits. We must believe in them as coaches and we must instill these habits in our players. At this point let me define what a habit is. A habit is a combination of three things:

1. Knowledge: Knowing what to do.

2. Skill: Knowing how to do it.

3. Attitude: Having the inner drive. A burning desire to do it to the best of your ability.

It takes all three: Knowledge, Skill and Attitude to make it a habit. If you only have one or two then it's not habit. It takes all three.

If you want to be successful, develop great habits.

Important habits to promote success:

1. Integrity: Character, values, standards. Do what is right.

2. Communicate: No cancers on the team. Must communicate both on an off the field.

3. Togetherness: The concept of team. What's best for the team.

4. Effort: Not everyone's talent level is the same, but everyone can give his very best effort. Do your best!

5. Discipline

A. Physical: Train properly/Nutrition/Rest

B. Mental: Preparation study/Learn/ Eliminate Mistakes.

6. Fundamentals: Can't win without them. Everyone must believe this is how we win!

7. Fun: Make it interesting. Change drills, be creative.

8. Consistency: Are you someone we can count on. This ties everything together.

### 4-3 Defenses (Stack) and Reduced Fronts

The foundation of our multiple schemes begins with our stack fronts. In this system our fronts are taught with what we call half fronts.

A. Two calls are made in the huddle. Example (Split - Tight)

B. How To Align:

1. The bandit, tackle, and stinger travel together. They always align to the first call.

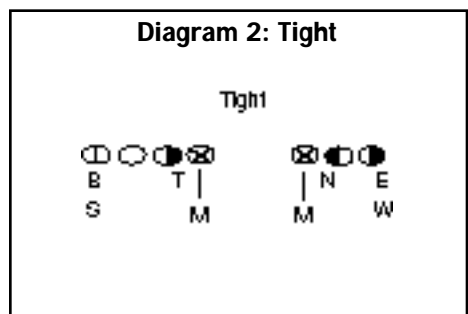
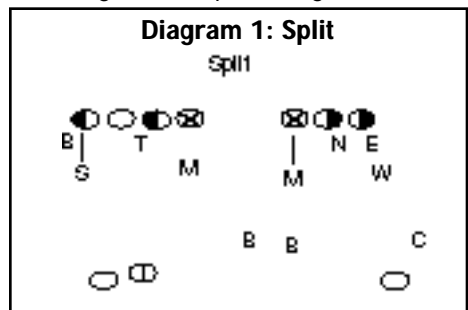
2. The end, nose and wolf travel together and they always align to the second call.

C. Our half fronts are taught in two groups.

1. Words: split, tight, shade, slide, Texas, force

2. Numbers: oh, ace, deuce, Trey

D. Alignments: split and tight.



E. Each call is taught by position that mirror each of these:

1. Bandit and end

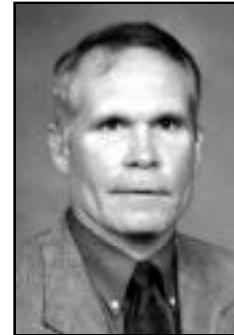
2. Tackle and nose

3. Stinger and wolf

4. Mike fits in the middle and adjusts according to the call.

F. Declarations: Directional call for setting the defense:

## Organized Confusion



**Dave Wommack**

**Defensive Coordinator**

**University of Southern Mississippi**

**Hattiesburg, Miss.**



**Randy Butler**

**Defensive Line Coach**



**Lytrel Pollard**

**Outside Linebackers Coach**

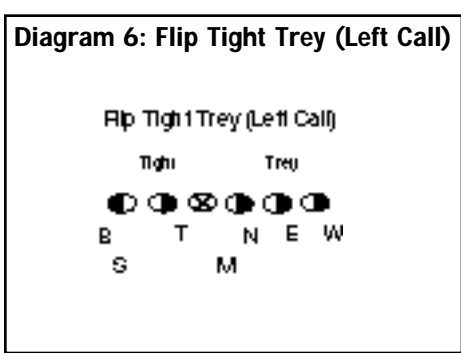
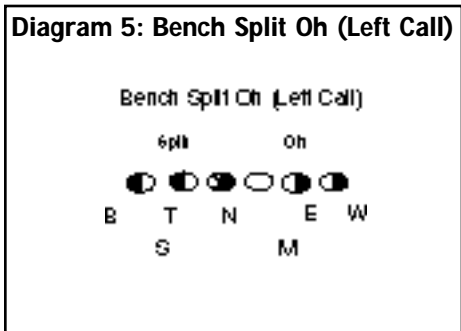
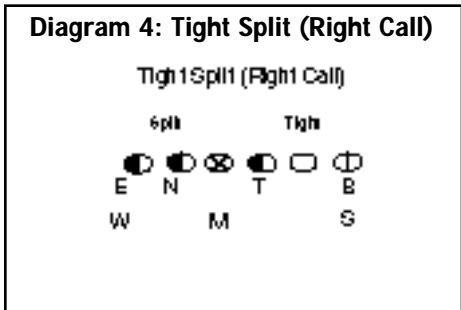
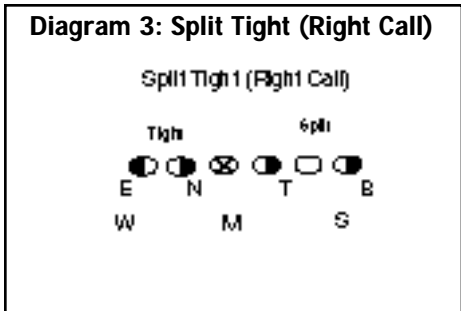


**Tyrone Nix**

**Defensive Backs Coach**



1. Field: Call to the wide side of the field.
2. Bench: Call to the short side of the field.
3. Tight End: Call to the tight end.
4. Flip: Call away from the tight end.
5. Rt/Lt: Call made to the right or left direction.
- G. Combination: Two half fronts make a full front.



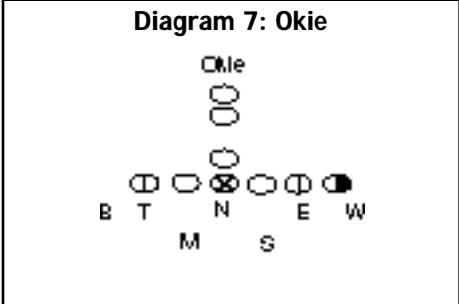
As you can see this half front system allows us to be very multiple with our stack and reduced fronts with very little teaching involved. This system is also very effective for modifying game plans as well as promoting creativity and changes on a weekly or need basis.

**Randy Butler, Defensive Line**

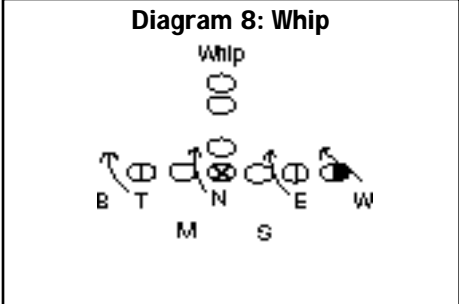
**Okie**  
 When we want to play a 50 Defense, we refer to and teach this as Okie. We do not have to change any personnel. We slide our front and linebackers to get into a 5-2 alignment. The bandit and wolf align in nine techniques. The tackle and end align in four techniques. The nose aligns in a zero technique.

From this alignment we can slant, stunt, or blitz according to tendencies, wide side/short side of field, protections, or personnel strengths or weaknesses. We have the ability to move the front and/or bring a combination of one, two, or three inside/outside linebackers.

This is another part of our multiple package at Southern Miss.

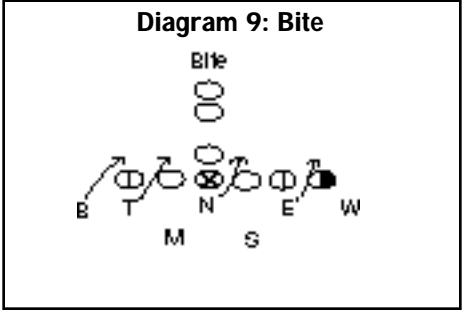


**Whip**  
 From an Okie alignment the tackle, nose, and end slant to the call/field. The Wolf slants to the call/field. The bandit plays a nine technique and is responsible for D gap/drop versus pass. The Mike has B gap versus run to. Versus run away, he scrapes, checking cutback. Versus pass, he has coverage. The stinger has C gap versus run to. Versus run away, he scrapes. Versus pass he has coverage.

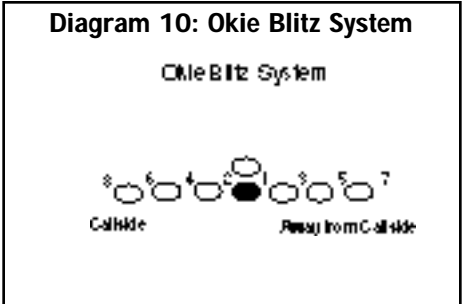


**Bite**  
 From an Okie alignment the tackle, nose, and end slant away from the call/field. The bandit slants away from the call/field. The wolf plays a nine technique and is responsible for D gap/drop versus pass. The Mike has C gap versus run to. Versus run away he scrapes, checking cut-

back. Versus pass, he has coverage. The stinger has B gap versus run to. Versus run away, he scrapes. Versus pass he has coverage.



- Okie Blitz System**
1. Numbering system for gaps to blitz:
    - A. Even numbers go to call side (field): 2/4/6/8.
    - B. Odd numbers go away from call side (boundary): 1/3/5/7.



2. Name lettering system for designated blitzes. With this system we can take any combination of players and designate them as Blitzers.
  - A. BaM: Bandit and Mike
  - B. BasS: Bandit and stinger
  - C. BoW: Bandit and wolf
  - D. SaM: Stinger and Mike
  - E. SaW: Stinger and wolf
  - F. MoW: Mike and wolf

By taking the numbering system and the name lettering system, we design our blitzes for a particular game plan. We simply take the name (example: bow) and designate what gaps we want them to rush (example: 87). The defensive front call would be bow 87. The B in bow corresponds with the first number in 87, the eight. In this blitz, the bandit runs the eight gap. The W in bow corresponds with the second number in 87, the seven. In this blitz, the Wolf runs the seven gap.

3. Containment and gap rules for the tackle, nose and end:
  - A. Tackle
    1. When you don't hear the number eight, you have contain rush responsibility.
    2. When you hear the number eight,

you have a free rush on the offensive tackle.

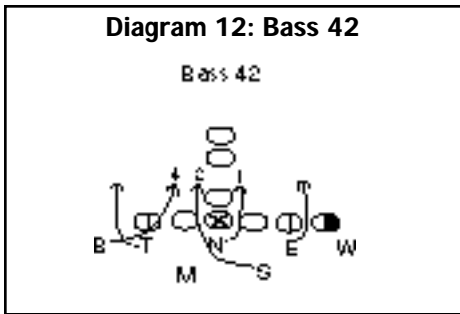
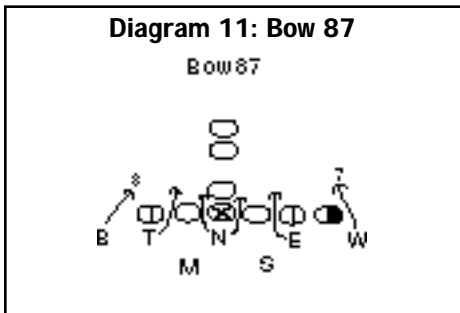
**B. Nose**

1. Rush the two gap unless you hear the number two.
2. If there is no one or two, you can rush either one or two gap.

**C. End**

1. When you don't hear the number seven, you have contain rush responsibility.
2. When you hear the number seven, you have a free rush on the offensive tackle.

Here are two examples of our Okie blitz package:



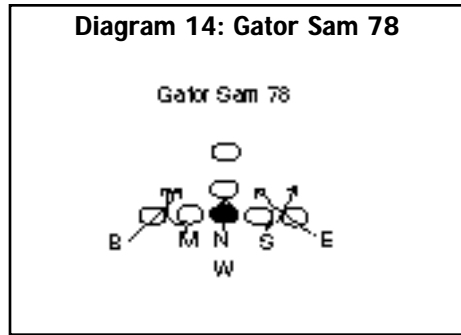
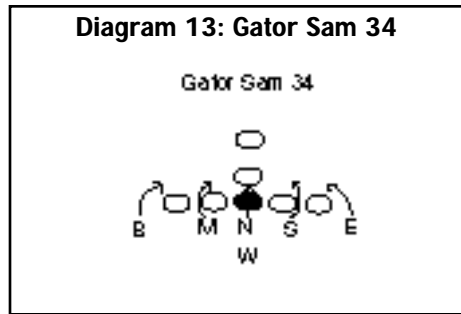
As you can see, our Okie blitz system allows us to be very multiple with combinations of letters and numbers. The beauty of the scheme is that it allows for carry over in our other defensive fronts and defensive personnel packages.

**Lytrell Pollard, Outside Linebackers**

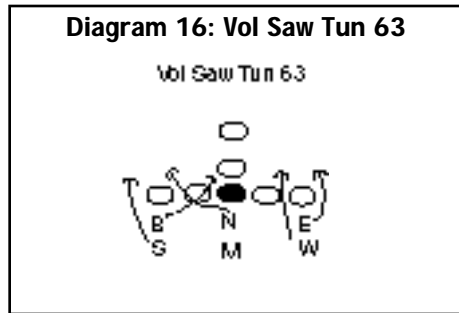
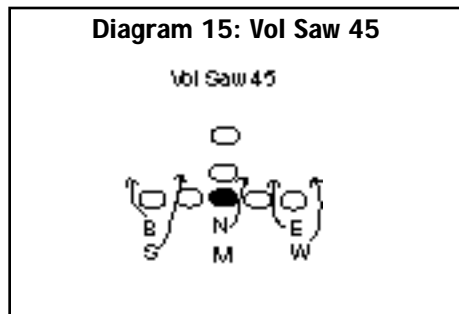
I really appreciate the opportunity to be able to stand before you and talk about Southern Mississippi Defense. Without God, AFCA, Coach Bower, and Coach Wommack none of this would be possible.

The Gator package is one of many packages that we run. Our personnel consists of three defensive linemen, three linebackers, and five defensive backs. In this package we can run the same Okie blitz system that we run in our 3-4 Okie defense. The alignment for the bandit and end versus a tight end is a seven technique. Versus no tight end is a

five technique, Nose is a zero alignment. The stinger, Mike, and wolf alignments change based on the call. Two calls in gator we will talk about are Gator Sam 34 and Gator Sam 78. In Diagram 13 Gator Sam 34 the bandit and end has contain rushes, Nose can free rush either A gap, stinger rushes weak B gap from up position, Mike rushes strong B gap from up position, and the wolf is in coverage. In Diagram 14, Gator Sam 78 is the same alignment up front as Sam 34. The bandit and end rush hard inside now, nose has a free rush, stinger has a contain rush weak from up position, Mike has a contain rush strong from the up position, and the wolf is in coverage.



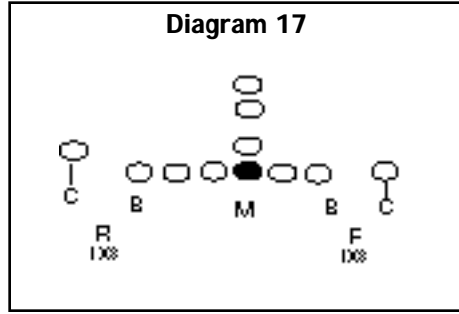
Another package we run is Vol. It consists of the same personnel as Gator. The only thing that changes is some alignments and a few rules on the number system. Bandit and end play four techniques, Nose is a zero alignment, stinger and wolf play 40 techniques, and the Mike is stacked behind the nose. We still can run our Okie blitz system. The two calls in Vol we will talk about Vol Saw 45 and Saw Tun 63. In Diagram 15, Saw 45, the bandit has contain rush, end has a free rush inside, nose goes weak A gap, Stinger blitzes four hole from second level, Wolf blitzes five hole from second level, and the Mike is in coverage. In Diagram 16, Vol Saw Tun 63, the bandit and nose run a Tun with the Bandit going first, end has a contain rush, stinger blitzes six hole, wolf blitzes three hole and the Mike is in coverage.



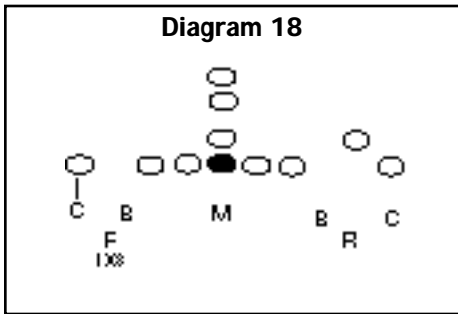
**Tyrone Nix, Defensive Backs**

First of all I would like to thank God for giving me this opportunity to work in a great profession. Thanks to the AFCA from recognizing our program at Southern Miss, my head coach Jeff Bower and my boss, Dave Wommack for allowing me to coach and be myself.

Here at Southern Miss we have a multiple front and a multiple secondary. One of our leading coverages that we run on any down and distance is our quarter coverage. We run this coverage with our Stack, Okie, Gator and Vol packages. In Diagram 17 our corners are locked in to man coverage five yards off of our No. 1 receivers. Safeties rover and free cocked 1x8 on the end man on the line of scrimmage. This technique is bounce bounce and key the release of the No. 2. If there is any vertical release they have No. 2 man. Any outside release by No. 2 the backer to that side takes him man middle backer drops off of No. 3. With this coverage it allows us strong run support up to a nine-man front. It also helps on the curl, post and dig route.

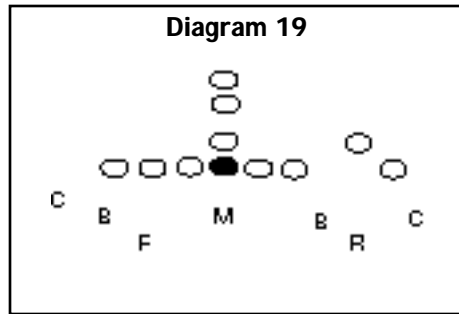


In Diagram 18 the free and corner to that side have the same rules as before. The rover and corner to the opposite side now



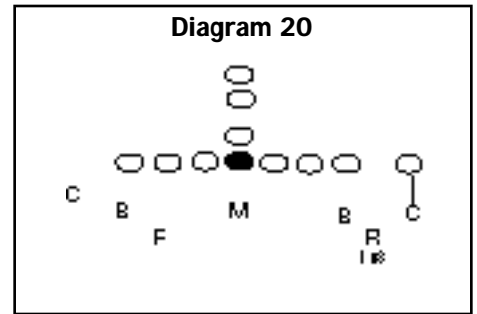
check the routes of No. 2 and No. 1. The linebacker to that side now gets help from the corner and safety. With an outside release by No. 2 10 yards or more up the field. The corner takes him and the linebacker now looks to help the curl. The rover looks to take No. 1. The Mike still drops off of No. 3.

Diagram 19, is the same as before for the rover and the corner to that side. The



opposite side free and corner have combo on the tight end if a inside or vertical the free safety will take him and the corner is now the extra run support player (We can switch the alignment and rules for the corner and free for a more physical run player up on the line of scrimmage).

In Diagram 20 the rover and corner and linebacker have the same rules as dia-



gram 19 and free and corner to that side have the same rules as Diagram 19.

This is our leading coverage and it only has a few checks as you can see. Our biggest asset in the secondary is that we want to be great tacklers. We chart this each practice and game. Next is speed and last be fast thinkers for motions, shifts and all other formations.

## American Football Coaches Association Code of Ethics Summary

*“The ultimate success of the principles and standards of this Code depends on those for whom it has been established — the football coaches.”*

Ever since the AFCA adopted its first formal Code of Ethics in 1952, the organization has had a keen awareness of its importance and has done all in its power to keep the public aware of the AFCA's concern with morality and integrity.

A complete copy of the Code of Ethics is sent to every member. Vital tenets include:

*“PREAMBLE:* The distinguishing characteristic of a profession is its dedication to the service of humanity.

“Those who select football coaching must understand that the justification for football lies in its spiritual and physical values and that the game belongs, essentially, to the players.

“The welfare of the game depends on how the coaches live up to the spirit and letter of ethical conduct and how the coaches remain ever mindful of the high trust and confidence placed in them by their players and the public.

“Coaches unwilling or unable to comply with the principles of the Code have no place in the profession...

“The Code should be studied regularly by all coaches and

its principles should always be followed. Violations of the Code should be reported to the Ethics Committee.”

*“PURPOSE:* The Code of Ethics has been developed to protect and promote the best interests of the game and the coaching profession. Its primary purpose is to clarify and distinguish ethical and approved professional practices from those considered detrimental.

“Its secondary purpose is to emphasize the purpose and value of football and to stress the proper functions of coaches in relation to schools, players and the public.”

The AFCA Code of Ethics deals at length with the following subject areas:

- Article One: Responsibilities to players
- Article Two: Responsibilities to the institution
- Article Three: Rules of the game
- Article Four: Officials
- Article Five: Public Relations
- Article Six: Scouting
- Article Seven: Recruiting
- Article Eight: Game day and other responsibilities
- Article Nine: Acceptance of all-star assignments and other all-star coaching honors

**Be A Responsible Member Of The Football Coaching Profession  
Follow The AFCA Code Of Ethics**