

## **Appendix B – Celebrity Participants**

### **1 Coach Charles “Cholly Mac” McClendon**

Charles Youmans McClendon (October 17, 1923 – December 6, 2001), also known as "**Cholly Mac**", was an [American football](#) player and coach. He served at the head coach at [Louisiana State University](#) from 1962 to 1979. McClendon was inducted into the [College Football Hall of Fame](#) in 1986.

### **2 Bert Jones**

Bertram Hays Jones (born September 7, 1951) is a former [American football quarterback](#) who played in the [National Football League](#) (NFL) for the [Baltimore Colts](#) and the [Los Angeles Rams](#). At [Ruston High School](#) in [Ruston, Louisiana](#), he was given the nickname, "The Ruston Rifle." Jones played [college football](#) at [Louisiana State University](#) (LSU). He is the son of former NFL [running back](#) [Dub Jones](#) of the [Cleveland Browns](#). He was named the [NFL Most Valuable Player](#) in 1976 with the Colts. In 2016, Jones was inducted into the [College Football Hall of Fame](#).

### **3 Tommy Casanova**

Thomas Henry Casanova III (born July 29, 1950) is a former [American football](#) player and [politician](#). He played professionally in the [National Football League](#) (NFL) for the [Cincinnati Bengals](#) for six seasons and was invited to three [Pro Bowls](#), as well as an [All-Pro](#) in [1976](#). He played college football at [Louisiana State University](#), where he was a three-time first-team [All-American](#). He is a [Republican](#) former member of the [Louisiana State Senate](#), having served a single term from 1996 to 2000.

### **4 Billy Cannon**

William Abb Cannon (August 2, 1937 – May 20, 2018) was an [American football running back](#) and [tight end](#) who played professionally in the [American Football League](#) (AFL) and [National Football League](#) (NFL). He attended [Louisiana State University](#) (LSU), where he played college football as a [halfback](#), [return specialist](#), and [defensive back](#) for the [LSU Tigers](#). At LSU, Cannon was twice unanimously named an [All-American](#), helped the [1958 LSU team](#) win a [national championship](#), and received the [Heisman Trophy](#) as the nation's most outstanding college player in 1959. His [punt return against Ole Miss](#) on Halloween night in 1959 is considered by fans and sportswriters to be one of the most famous plays in LSU sports history.

### **5 Jake Gibbs**

Jerry Dean "Jake" Gibbs (born November 7, 1938) is a former [Major League Baseball](#) player who played for the [New York Yankees](#) as a platoon [catcher](#) from 1962 to 1971. Although Gibbs was the regular starting catcher for NY in 1967 and '68, he was primarily a back-up for [Elston Howard](#) and then [Thurman Munson](#) at the tail-end of his career.

Prior to beginning his professional baseball career, Gibbs had successful careers in [college baseball](#) and [college football](#) at the [University of Mississippi](#) (Ole Miss) for the [Ole Miss Rebels](#).

### **6 Edwin Edwards**

Edwin Washington Edwards (born August 7, 1927) is an American politician and member of the [Democratic Party](#) who served as the [U.S. Representative](#) for [Louisiana's 7th congressional district](#) from 1965 to 1972 and as the 50th [Governor of Louisiana](#) for four terms (1972–1980, 1984–1988 and 1992–1996), twice as many elected terms as any other [Louisiana](#) chief executive. He served a total of 16 years in office, the sixth-longest serving gubernatorial tenure in post-Constitutional U.S. history at 5,784 days.

7 **J. Bennet Johnston**

John Bennett Johnston Jr. (born June 10, 1932) is an [American](#) attorney and politician in the Democratic Party and later [lobbyist](#). He represented [Louisiana](#) in the [United States Senate](#) from 1972 to 1997. He was re-elected to several terms.

8 **Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant**

Paul William "Bear" Bryant (September 11, 1913 – January 26, 1983) was an American [college football](#) player and coach. He was best known as the [head coach](#) of the [University of Alabama football team](#). During his 25-year tenure as Alabama's head coach, he amassed six national championships (tied for the most in modern college football history) and thirteen conference championships. Upon his retirement in 1982, he held the [record for the most wins \(323\) as a head coach in collegiate football history](#).

9 **Chris Schenkel**

Chris Schenkel was hired by ABC in 1965, and there he broadcast college football, Major League Baseball, NBA basketball, golf and tennis tournaments, boxing, auto racing, and the Summer and Winter Olympic Games.

10 **Bud Wilkinson**

Charles Burnham "Bud" Wilkinson was an American football player, coach, broadcaster, and politician. He served as the head football coach at the University of Oklahoma from 1947 to 1963.

11 **Jimmy Taylor**

**James Charles Taylor** (September 20, 1935 – October 13, 2018) was an [American football fullback](#) who played professionally in the [National Football League](#) (NFL) for ten seasons, with the [Green Bay Packers](#) from 1958 to 1966 and with the expansion [New Orleans Saints](#) in 1967. With the Packers, Taylor was invited to five straight [Pro Bowls](#) and won four [NFL championships](#), as well as a victory in the [first Super Bowl](#). He was recognized as the [NFL Most Valuable Player](#) after winning the [rushing title](#) in 1962, beating out [Jim Brown](#).

Playing college football for [Louisiana State University](#) (LSU), Taylor led the [Southeastern Conference](#) (SEC) in scoring in 1956 and 1957 and earned first-team [All-America](#) honors as a senior.