



Dixieland Delight: A Football Season on the Road in the Southeastern Conference

By Clay Travis

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There is no college ball more passionate and competitive than football in the Southeastern Conference, where seven of the twelve schools boast stadiums bigger than any in the NFL and 6.5 million fans hit the road every year to hoot and holler their teams to victory.

In September 2006, popular sports columnist and lifelong University of Tennessee fan Clay Travis set out on his "Dixieland Delight Tour." Without a single map, hotel reservation, or game ticket, he began an 8,000-mile journey through the beating heart of the Southland. As Travis toured the SEC, he immersed himself in the bizarre game-day rituals of the common fan, brazenly dancing with the chancellor's wife at a Vanderbilt frat party, hanging with University of Florida demigod quarterback Tim Tebow, and abandoning himself totally to the ribald intensity and religious fervor of SEC football. *Dixieland Delight* is Travis's hilarious, loving, irreverent, and endlessly entertaining chronicle of a season of ironic excess in a world that goes a little crazy on football Saturdays.

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Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #432261 in Books
- Brand: Travis, Clay
- Published on: 2007-07-31
- Released on: 2007-07-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .86" w x 5.31" l, .74 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 400 pages

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Editorial Review

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Sports columnist Travis grew up a University of Tennessee football fan, and it was clear early on he would remain one for his entire life. That's typical in the Southeastern Conference, where football on Saturdays is about as natural as butter on toast. Travis takes us with him as he chronicles the 2006 season on the SEC bandwagon. Armed with only a copy of the Volunteers' 12-game schedule, he follows the team's path, determined to wing it when it comes to finding game tickets and places to sleep along the way. Travis coins his journey the DDT (Dixieland Delight Tour) and records his impressions one week at a time. Summing up his more than 8,000 miles of road traveled, Travis shares his "Lessons from the DDT," 18 nuggets of wisdom such as "No matter what fan base you're a part of, at least 15 percent of your fans suck. Really suck." There's plenty of football in these pages, but it's the irreverent attitude and willingness to make fun of one's own obsessions that give the account its zip. Wilkens, Mary Frances

Review

"As indispensable to college football fans as ibuprofen on Sunday morning." (Warren St. John, bestselling author of *Rammer Jammer Yellow Hammer*)

"[*Dixieland Delight*] promises to be so popular down South it might replace the Bible in select motel rooms. Pretty much anyone will love this thing, but if you have even a remote interest in the SEC, this essentially is your new handbook on life." (Dan Wetzel, Yahoo! national sports columnist and co-author of *Glory Road*)

"A weaving, high-spirited road trip of a book....Reading it will make you happier than a dog with two peters!" (Will Blythe, New York Times bestselling author of *To Hate Like This Is To Be Happy Forever*)

About the Author

Author of *Dixieland Delight: A Football Season on the Road in the Southeastern Conference*, Clay Travis is a writer for FanHouse.com. A former columnist at CBSSports.com and editor at Deadspin.com, he has also written for *Sports Illustrated* and *The Oxford American*, and taught creative writing at Vanderbilt University. He cohosts the daily "Midday Madness" radio show in Nashville, Tennessee, where he lives with his wife and son.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rose Warfield:

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