



TURNAROUND NICK

When it comes to growing football programs, **NICK SABAN** has a green thumb.

The hard-nosed coach has restored winning traditions to three different universities and seeks in 2005 to do the same to the Miami Dolphins as the club's sixth-ever head coach.

A lot of production comes from Saban's work ethic. "Basically, if anybody doesn't want to work hard or be committed to the way he's committed, then they're going to have a problem with him," says New England Patriots coach **BILL BELICHICK**. "Now if they like to work, they won't have any problems with him at all."

At Toledo, Michigan State and LSU, Saban presided over 11 winning seasons, a share of the national championship at LSU in 2004, and three turnarounds.

In the NFL, as the Cleveland Browns defensive coordinator under then head coach Bill Belichick from 1991-94, Saban turned a defense that in 1990 allowed the most points in the league into one of the stingiest in the NFL.

The Saban turnarounds:

NICK OF TIME					
College	Year(s)	Record	At Cleveland (1991-94)		
<b>Toledo</b>			Year	Points Allowed	NFL Rank
Before Saban	1989	6-5	1990	462	27
Under Saban	1990	9-2	1991	298	13
<b>Michigan State</b>			1992	275	9
Before Saban	1990-94	22-34-1	1993	307	16
Under Saban	1995-99	34-24	1994	204	1
<b>LSU</b>					
Before Saban	1995-99	33-24-1			
Under Saban	2000-04	48-16*			

\*Including a 13-1 2003 season that ended with a share of the national championship



COWHER: THE DEAN FROM PITTSBURGH

Two coaches, 35 seasons.

That should say enough about the **PITTSBURGH STEELERS'** belief in steadfastness and the team's ability to pick head coaches.

"I just think you have to have patience and stability," says Steelers' chairman **DAN ROONEY**. "The teams that change coaches are starting over again."

First **CHUCK NOLL** thrived in the Steel City from 1969-91, and now **BILL COWHER** is doing the same. Starting his 14th season with the Steelers, Cowher is the most tenured active coach with one team in the NFL and the eighth-most tenured, one-team coach in history.

"A lot of guys like playing for coach Cowher, and that's why he's here," says Steelers wide receiver **HINES WARD**. "Everybody knows that when you come to the Steelers, you are going to go by his game plan. You can't try to come in and change it because you won't be around too long."

The most tenured coaches with one team in NFL history:

Coach	Team	Seasons	Years
Curly Lambeau	Green Bay	1921-49	29
Tom Landry	Dallas	1960-88	29
Don Shula	Miami	1970-95	26
Chuck Noll	Pittsburgh	1969-91	23
Steve Owen	New York Giants	1931-53	23
Bud Grant	Minnesota	1967-85	18
Hank Stram	Kansas City*	1960-74	15
<b>Bill Cowher</b>	<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>1992-present</b>	<b>15</b>

\*Includes two years as coach of the Dallas Texans

George Halas coached the Chicago Bears in almost every year from 1920 to 1967, but never for more than 10 years at a time.

