



Charles Alexander

“Alexander the Great”, as Louisiana State University fans used to call him during his college career, was selected by the Cincinnati Bengals in the first round, 12th overall, of the 1979 NFL draft. His strong performance at LSU vaulted him from being an unknown high school player to being a top prospect in the nation.

After being mostly a blocking back at high school, Charles was recruited by LSU. The college coaches recognized his 6’1” 226 pound size and sprinter’s speed as being a perfect package. During his first two seasons at college, he backed up the starter with modest success. He became the Tigers’ starting RB in his junior season and had a breakthrough season with 1,686 yards rushing. In each of his last 2 seasons at LSU, he was a consensus All-American. During his college career, he set or tied 10 SEC records and 27 LSU records.

After joining the Bengals in 1979, Charles found himself backing up Pro Bowl running back Pete Johnson and splitting playing time with two-time Heisman Trophy winner, Archie Griffin. His best season was in 1980 when he rushed for 702 yards and caught passes for another 192 yards for a total of 894 yards from the line of scrimmage.

In the 1981 playoffs against the Buffalo Bills, Alexander became the first Bengals player ever to score multiple touchdowns from scrimmage in a single postseason game, rushing for 72 yards and two TD’s. That season the Bengals played in Super Bowl XVI but fell short in a comeback attempt against the San Francisco 49ers.

Over his NFL career, Charles rushed for 2,645 yards, scored 15 touchdowns and caught 165 passes for an additional 1,130 yards. He is a member of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, the LSU Athletic Hall of Fame and in 2012 was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Following his NFL career, Alexander entered the oil and gas business and in 2011 he founded his own spice company, C’Mon Man Cajun Seasonings, with a line of seasonings and hot sauces. A modest and sincere man, fans love meeting and interacting with Charles.

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