



# TRACY ROCKER

## DEFENSIVE LINE

**NFL Experience:** 4th Year (1st with Eagles)  
**College:** Auburn **Hometown:** Atlanta, GA



A 30-year coaching veteran, **Tracy Rocker** was hired as the Philadelphia Eagles' defensive line coach during the 2021 offseason.

Widely respected among his peers, Rocker is considered one of the greatest college defensive linemen ever and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2004. He was a two-time All-American defensive tackle at Auburn and won the Lombardi Award (nation's top college football player) and Outland Trophy (nation's top interior lineman) in 1988, becoming the first player in SEC history to earn both honors. During his coaching career in the collegiate ranks, which spans more than two decades, Rocker mentored 15 NFL Draft picks (including five first-rounders), six All-Americans and two national award winners. Additionally, he was a member of four conference championship programs as well as Auburn's national title team in 2010.

Prior to joining the Eagles' coaching staff, Rocker coached the defensive line at South Carolina during the 2020 season. With the Gamecocks, he guided defensive lineman **Kingsley Enagbare** to the fifth-most sacks (6.0, tied) in the conference.

From 2017-19, Rocker was the defensive line coach at Tennessee, where he played a crucial role in the Volunteers becoming one of the most improved defenses in college football in 2018. That season, Tennessee elevated 74 spots in run defense (154.0 ypg) and 45 spots in third-down defense (39.0 pct.) compared to the previous year.

Rocker spent the 2014-16 seasons as the defensive line coach at Georgia and added the title of associate head coach from 2015-16. In that span, Georgia finished in the Top 17 in total defense each season and had the eighth-best scoring defense (16.9 ppg) in 2015.

Rocker first entered the NFL coaching scene as a defensive line coach with the Tennessee Titans from 2011-13, working alongside Eagles defensive coordinator **Jonathan Gannon**. In 2012, Tennessee produced the 10th-most sacks (39.0) in the league, while defensive end **Derrick Morgan** turned in a breakout year, posting 59 tackles, 23 quarterback hits, 6.5 sacks and five passes defensed. In 2011, Rocker led a young group that included **Karl Klug**, who ranked first among rookie defensive tackles in sacks (7.0, fourth among NFL defensive tackles), as well as rookie defensive end **Jurrell Casey**, who registered the most tackles (74) by any Titans defensive lineman that season.

Returning to his alma mater, Rocker served as Auburn's defensive line coach from 2009-10. He was key in developing defensive tackle **Nick Fairley** (14th-overall pick by the Detroit Lions in 2011), who was named the Lombardi Award winner and received All-America honors during the Tigers' 2010 national championship-winning season. Rocker also tutored defensive end **Dee Ford** (23rd-overall pick by the Kansas City Chiefs in 2014) during his time at Auburn.

Rocker was the defensive line coach at Mississippi in 2008, when the Rebels finished first in the SEC and fourth in the country in sacks (39.0). He coached two standout players – defensive tackle **Peria Jerry** (24th-overall pick by the Atlanta Falcons in 2009) and defensive end **Greg Hardy** – to All-America recognition.

From 2003-07, Rocker coached the defensive line at Arkansas. He guided defensive end **Jamaal Anderson** (eighth-overall pick by the Atlanta Falcons in 2007) to a 14.0-sack season in 2006 and helped the Razorbacks finish second in the conference in sacks (29.0) in 2005.

In 2002, Rocker worked as the defensive line coach at Cincinnati and helped the Bearcats to a Conference USA championship.

### COACHING TIMELINE

Years	Team	Position
2021-	Philadelphia Eagles	Defensive Line
2020	South Carolina	Defensive Line
2017-19	Tennessee	Defensive Line
2014-16	Georgia	Defensive Line/Associate HC
2011-13	Tennessee Titans	Defensive Line
2009-10	Auburn	Defensive Line
2008	Mississippi	Defensive Line
2003-07	Arkansas	Defensive Line
2002	Cincinnati	Defensive Line
1997-2001	Troy State	Defensive Line
1994-96	West Alabama	Defensive Line
1992-93	Auburn H.S. (AL)	Defensive Coordinator



Rocker became the defensive line coach at Troy State in 1997 and spent five seasons with the program. During his time with the Trojans, Rocker coached future NFL star defensive ends **DeMarcus Ware** (11th-overall pick by the Dallas Cowboys in 2005) and **Osi Umenyiora**. Ware, who was the 2004 Sun Belt Player of the Year, earned three all-conference honors and Umenyiora was a two-time all-conference selection. Rocker also mentored two-time I-AA All-American defensive lineman **Al Lucas**, who won the 1999 Buck Buchanan Award as the top defensive player in I-AA. All three of those players are members of the Troy University Sports Hall of Fame.

Rocker began his collegiate coaching career working with the defensive line at West Alabama from 1994-96 after serving as the defensive coordinator at Auburn High School (Auburn, AL) from 1992-93.

In addition to his full-time coaching experience, Rocker spent two summers working with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2006) and Indianapolis Colts (2001) as a part of the NFL's Minority Internship Program.

Following a highly decorated career at Auburn that also included 1988 SEC Player of the Year honors, Rocker was drafted by Washington in the third round (66th overall) in 1989 and played two seasons before sustaining a knee injury. He concluded his professional career with the Orlando Thunder of the World Football League in 1991.

A native of Atlanta, GA, Rocker was also inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame (2018) and Alabama Sports Hall of Fame (2005).

Rocker and his wife, Lalitha, have a son, Kumar, who led Vanderbilt's baseball team to the 2019 NCAA Championship as a freshman. Kumar was named the 2019 College World Series Most Outstanding Player and tossed a 19-strikeout no-hitter in the NCAA Super Regionals.