

# John Francis Meagher Biography



**John Francis “Jack” Meagher - Class of 1915 - b. July 5, 1894, d. December 7, 1968**

From the EHS Yearbook, the Maroon: “Johnny” the little Irish bulldog of the squad was one of the gamest and grittiest players who ever wore a football suit. He had a good habit of breaking through the opposing guard, and “busting” up plays before they got started. More than once he has broken through the opponent’s line, and blocked a punt, thus paving the way for the team to make a touchdown.

Jack was an American football player, coach of football, basketball, and baseball, and college athletics administrator.

John F. “Jack” Meagher captained the Elgin High School football team in 1913 and he was the mainstay on the 1914 team that compiled a 5-1 record. After EHS, he played under the legendary Knute Rockne at Notre Dame University in 1916, rising to a second-team end under then-assistant coach, Knute Rockne. He served with the United States Marines in France during World War I and played in four games with the Chicago Tigers in 1920, the first year of the National Football League (NFL).

Meagher embarked on a career in coaching in 1921 at St. Edward’s University, where he served as head football coach from 1921 to 1928, compiling a record of 24–21–4, and as head basketball coach from 1921 to 1924. From 1929 to 1933, he coached football at Rice University, where he compiled a 26–26 record. From 1934 to 1942, he coached at Auburn University, where he compiled a 48–37–10 record. Meagher also coached the Iowa Pre-Flight Seahawks football team in 1944 during World War II. In 1946, he coached the first six games of the season for the Miami Seahawks of the All-America Football Conference (AAFC), going 1–5.

Meagher died on December 7, 1968. He is buried at Hollywood Memorial Gardens East in Hollywood, Florida. Meagher was inducted into the St. Edward’s University Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989.

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St. Edward's Hilltoppers (1921–1928)

St. Edward's: 24–21–4

Rice Owls (Southwest Conference) (1929–1933)

<b>Year</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>O'all record</b>	<b>Conf. record</b>	<b>Place</b>
1929	Rice	2–7	0–5	7th
1930	Rice	8–4	2–4	6th
1931	Rice	6–4	3–3	4th
1932	Rice	7–3	3–3	3rd
1933	Rice	3–8	1–5	7th
	Rice:	26 wins–26 losses		9–20 in Conference

Auburn Tigers (Southeastern Conference) (1934–1942)

1934	Auburn	2–8	1–6	10th
1935	Auburn	8–2	5–2	4th
1936	Auburn	7–2–2	4–1–1	3rd T Bacardi
1937	Auburn	6–2–3	4–1–2	3rd W Orange
1938	Auburn	4–5–1	3–3–1	T–7th
1939	Auburn	5–5–1	3–3–1	T–5th
1940	Auburn	6–4–1	3–2–1	5th
1941	Auburn	4–5–1	0–4–1	11th
1942	Auburn	6–4–1	3–3	7th 16
Auburn:		48–37–10	26–25–7	

Iowa Pre-Flight Seahawks (Independent) (1944)

1944 Iowa Pre-Flight 10–1 6th Place

Iowa Pre-Flight: 10–1

Total: 108–85–14

#Rankings from final AP Poll.