



BOBBY APRIL III

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

FIRST-AND-10

BOBBY APRIL III was named outside linebackers coach for the Bills in 2026. April returns for his second stint in Buffalo after previously serving as the linebackers coach from 2015-16. He most recently spent three seasons at Stanford (2023-25) as the Willie Shaw Director of Defense and outside linebackers coach.

COACHING SHOUTOUTS

2023-25: (Stanford)

- 2025 marked the first time Stanford's defense held teams to fewer than 30 points per game since 2018, and the unit's total yards allowed per game mark of 408.2 was the lowest since 2017. They ranked 28th in the country in rush defense (119.3 yards per game), the team's best rush defense since 2014.
- In 2024, the defense forced 17 turnovers, the most by a Stanford defense since 2018. Eight turnovers came on forced fumbles, the most at Stanford since 2017. The team also recorded 26 sacks, the most by Stanford's defense since 2019.

2018-22: (Wisconsin)

- Working under Jim Leonhard, oversaw the outside linebackers for five seasons and was the defensive run game coordinator for three years.
- Part of a defensive staff that produced three-straight top-five national finishes in total defense.
- In 2022, the Badgers led the country and set a school record by allowing just 64.8 yards per game on the ground, becoming just the second FBS team since 2008 to allow fewer than 70.0 rushing ypg. over an entire season.
- In his first year as defensive run game coordinator, Wisconsin led the Big Ten and ranked fifth nationally in rush defense (96.1 ypg.).
- Mentored a trio of productive pass-rushers who went on to become NFL draft picks in Andrew Van Ginkel, Zack Baun, and Nick Herbig. Baun was a consensus first-team All-American and a finalist for the Butkus Award for the nation's top linebacker in 2019.

COACHING SHOUTOUTS

2015-16: (Buffalo Bills)

- In his final season with the Bills, coached a pair of All-Pro linebackers in Lorenzo Alexander and Zach Brown. Alexander earned Defensive MVP honors in the Pro Bowl.
- Under his guidance in 2015, Preston Brown excelled as he racked up 117 tackles, two interceptions (including one returned for a touchdown), six quarterback hits and four passes defended. Under April's watch, Brown's 117 tackles ranked as the second most among all second year defensive players.

2013-14: (New York Jets)

- Spent the 2013 season as a quality control assistant before being promoted to linebackers coach in 2014.
- In 2014, both David Harris (123) and Demario Davis (115) surpassed the 100-tackle mark.

2011-12: (Philadelphia Eagles)

- Got his start in the NFL under head coach Andy Reid, working as a quality control assistant with the Philadelphia Eagles' secondary in 2011 and 2012.

PERSONAL

- A native of Mandeville, LA. Son of longtime coach Bobby April Jr., a two-time NFL Special Teams Coach of the Year. The elder April coached for the Bills from 2004-09 as the assistant head coach and special teams coordinator.
- He and his wife, Laura, have two daughters, Olivia and Gabby.
- A graduate of Louisiana-Lafayette, earning his bachelor's degree in sports management.