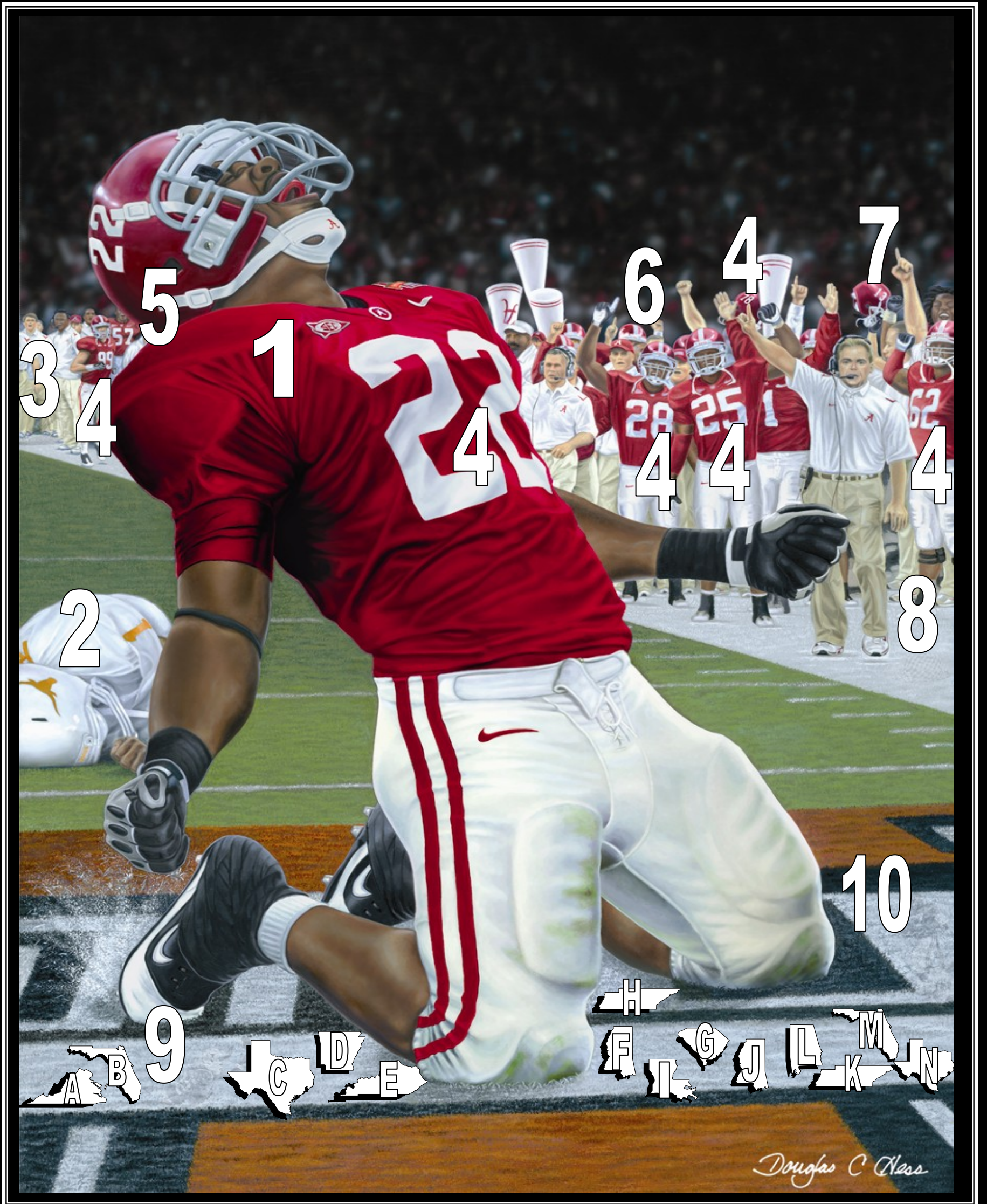


*“Championship Passion”*



By Artist  
**DOUGLAS C. HESS**

# THE MEANING BEHIND THE COMPOSITION

The following provides the artist's explanation of the significant components of the painting.

1. Artist Douglas C. Hess captures the passion of the moment when Alabama's first Heisman Trophy winner, Mark Ingram was overcome realizing the emotion of the championship after his clinching touchdown with 2:01 left in the fourth quarter. In that moment, Ingram and the rest of the Alabama player felt the thrill of victory. They knew that buying in to Coach Saban's philosophy of discipline, hard work, overcoming adversity and having mental and physical toughness was all worth it, achieving their ultimate goal; winning the national title and bringing it back to Tuscaloosa after a long 17 years.
2. I positioned the Texas player face down representing the agony of defeat after being within a heart beat away from winning it all.
3. Artist Douglas C. Hess has used symbolic hidden images since 1996 to give his work a deeper meaning beyond his remarkable painting ability. The hidden image of the Heisman Trophy pays tribute to Mark Ingram as the first player at the University of Alabama to win the Heisman Trophy.
4. I chose to honor another accomplishment for the University of Alabama as the first team in NCAA history to produce six first team All-America players. They include Javier Arenas (28), Terrance Cody (62), Bama's first Heisman Trophy winner Mark Ingram (22), Mike Johnson (78), Butkus Award winner Rolando McClain, and Leigh Tiffin.
5. The number 57 represents Alabama's NCAA lead in the number of bowl games played.
6. There are 13 hands (not holding helmets) raised celebrating the moment. The raised hands include coaches, players, managers and cheerleaders representing the focus, dedication and support of everyone involved in the program required to win it all.
7. The number 13 on the raised helmet represents Alabama's 13th National Championship accomplished with 14 wins, the most ever by the Crimson Tide.
8. I positioned Coach Saban next to the hidden image of Coach Bryant's houndstooth hat. This represents their similar coaching philosophies of establishing a standard of excellence through hard work, conditioning, rigid discipline and a swarming hard-nosed defense.
9. One of the biggest plays of the game is shown as a hidden image of Texas quarterback Gilbert, sacked on a blind-side hit by Eryk Anders. Alabama recovered the ensuing fumble and Ingram scored on a 1 yard run.
10. The second big play shown as a hidden image features Marcell Dareus' interception of the Texas quarterback's shuttle pass with three seconds left in the half.

11. I included hidden images in the grass, representing each 2009 and 2010 victory on the road to the championship. There are hidden images of the outline of the state of each university defeated by Alabama over the 2009-2010 season. The schematic on the previous page identifies where in the image each state is located as referenced below.

<u>Item</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Score:</u> <u>AL vs Opponent</u>
A	Virginia	Virginia Tech	34-24
B	Florida	Florida Inter.	40-14
C	Texas	North Texas	53-7
D	Arkansas	Arkansas	35-7
E	Kentucky	Kentucky	38-20
F	Mississippi	Ole Miss	22-3
G	South Carolina	South Carolina	20-6
H	Tennessee	Tennessee	12-10
I	Louisiana	LSU	24-15
J	Mississippi	Mississippi St.	31-3
K	Tennessee	UT Chattanooga	45-0
L	Alabama	Auburn	26-21
M	Florida	Florida	32-13
N	Texas	Texas	37-21

## *About The Artist*

Douglas C. Hess was born in Lima, Ohio in 1954 and has resided in Alabama since 1957. The realism captured in his painting featuring exquisite detail has created a strong demand for his work from collectors. He has used symbolic hidden images since 1996 to give his work deeper meaning beyond his remarkable painting ability. Hess's paintings have honored a distinguished list of national collegiate football champions, universities, head football coaches and Heisman Trophy winners. The opportunity to share his artistic talents came with the release of his first print "FINAL VICTORY" in 1984 which sold out and continues to increase in value establishing it as a worthy investment to art collectors.

Since the release of Douglas C. Hess' first print, his work can be found in university, corporate, museum and private collections both here and abroad. Today, he makes his home and studio in Madison, Alabama with his wife, daughter and three sons.

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