

**2005 Schedule/Results (0-0, 0-0 SEC)**

| Date            | Opponent                           | Time/Result  |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>February</b> |                                    |              |
| 11 (Fri.)       | NICHOLLS STATE                     | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 12 (Sat.)       | NICHOLLS STATE                     | 2 p.m.       |
| 13 (Sun.)       | NICHOLLS STATE                     | 1 p.m.       |
| 15 (Tue.)       | UL-MONROE                          | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 18 (Fri.)       | ARK.-LITTLE ROCK                   | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 19 (Sat.)       | ARK.-LITTLE ROCK                   | 4 p.m.       |
| 20 (Sun.)       | ARK.-LITTLE ROCK                   | 1 p.m.       |
| 25 (Fri.)       | at Houston                         | 7 p.m.       |
| 26 (Sat.)       | at Houston                         | 7 p.m.       |
| 27 (Sun.)       | at Houston                         | 1 p.m.       |
| <b>March</b>    |                                    |              |
| 2 (Wed.)        | at Centenary                       | 7 p.m. %     |
| 4 (Fri.)        | UAB                                | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 5 (Sat.)        | UAB                                | 2 p.m.       |
| 6 (Sun.)        | UAB                                | 1 p.m.       |
| 8 (Tue.)        | TULANE                             | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 11 (Fri.)       | ARIZONA STATE                      | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 12 (Sat.)       | WESTERN ILLINOIS                   | 4 p.m.       |
| 13 (Sun.)       | ARIZONA STATE                      | 4 p.m.       |
| 15 (Tue.)       | at New Orleans                     | 6:30 p.m. #  |
| 18 (Fri.)       | at Georgia                         | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 19 (Sat.)       | at Georgia                         | 3 p.m.       |
| 20 (Sun.)       | at Georgia                         | Noon         |
| 23 (Wed.)       | Southeastern La.                   | 6:30 p.m. \$ |
| 25 (Fri.)       | AUBURN                             | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 26 (Sat.)       | AUBURN                             | 2 p.m.       |
| 27 (Sun.)       | AUBURN                             | 1 p.m.       |
| 29 (Tue.)       | NEW ORLEANS                        | 6:30 p.m.    |
| <b>April</b>    |                                    |              |
| 1 (Fri.)        | at Alabama                         | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 2 (Sat.)        | at Alabama                         | 4 p.m.       |
| 3 (Sun.)        | at Alabama                         | 2 p.m.       |
| 5 (Tue.)        | at Nicholls State                  | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 6 (Wed.)        | Rice                               | 7 p.m. \$    |
| 8 (Fri.)        | SOUTH CAROLINA                     | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 9 (Sat.)        | SOUTH CAROLINA                     | 2 p.m.       |
| 10 (Sun.)       | SOUTH CAROLINA                     | 1 p.m.       |
| 12 (Tue.)       | NORTHWESTERN STATE                 | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 15 (Fri.)       | OLE MISS                           | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 16 (Sat.)       | OLE MISS                           | 2 p.m.       |
| 17 (Sun.)       | OLE MISS                           | 1 p.m.       |
| 19 (Tue.)       | at Tulane                          | 7 p.m. \$    |
| 22 (Fri.)       | at Arkansas                        | 7:05 p.m.    |
| 23 (Sat.)       | at Arkansas                        | 3:05 p.m.    |
| 24 (Sun.)       | at Arkansas                        | 1:05 p.m.    |
| 29 (Fri.)       | at Vanderbilt                      | 6 p.m.       |
| 30 (Sat.)       | at Vanderbilt                      | 2 p.m.       |
| <b>May</b>      |                                    |              |
| 1 (Sun.)        | at Vanderbilt                      | 1 p.m.       |
| 3 (Tue.)        | SOUTHERN                           | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 6 (Fri.)        | KENTUCKY                           | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 7 (Sat.)        | KENTUCKY                           | 2 p.m.       |
| 8 (Sun.)        | KENTUCKY                           | 1 p.m.       |
| 13 (Fri.)       | TENNESSEE                          | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 14 (Sat.)       | TENNESSEE                          | 3 p.m.       |
| 15 (Sun.)       | TENNESSEE                          | Noon         |
| 20 (Fri.)       | at Mississippi State               | 6:30 p.m.    |
| 21 (Sat.)       | at Mississippi State               | 2 p.m.       |
| 22 (Sun.)       | at Mississippi State               | 1:30 p.m.    |
| 25-29           | SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.)      |              |
| <b>June</b>     |                                    |              |
| 3-5             | NCAA Regional (sites TBA)          |              |
| 10-12/11-13     | NCAA Super Regional (sites TBA)    |              |
| 17-26/27        | College World Series (Omaha, Neb.) |              |

% - Fair Grounds Field # - Maestri Field  
\$ - Zephyr Field

**LSU BASEBALL****Weekend Release No. 1 • vs. Nicholls State**February 11, 12 and 13, 2005 • 6:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.  
Baton Rouge, La. • Alex Box Stadium (7,760)**Second-Ranked Tigers Open Season With Nicholls State**

Second-ranked LSU opens the 2005 season at 6:30 p.m. Friday as the Tigers play host to Nicholls State in Game 1 of a three-game series in Alex Box Stadium. Game 2 is set for 2 p.m. Saturday and Game 3 will be played at 1 p.m. Sunday. Games 1 and 3 on Friday and Sunday can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL-FM 98.1 in Baton Rouge). Game 2 on Saturday can be heard in Baton Rouge only on JAMN 107.3 FM. All three games can also be heard on the Internet at [www.LSUports.net](http://www.LSUports.net). None of this weekend's games will be televised.

Fourth-year LSU coach Smoke Laval directed the 2004 squad to a 46-19 record and the Tigers' second consecutive CWS appearance. LSU features 21 returning lettermen - including seven pitchers and six starters in the batting order. Laval will send senior left-hander Lane Mestepey, a two-time first-team all-SEC selection, to the mound on Friday. Mestepey, who missed the 2003 season after undergoing shoulder surgery, came on strong at the end of the '04 campaign, finishing with a 7-4 mark and a 3.51 ERA in 100 innings. Sophomore left-hander Clay Dirks (8-2, 3.43 ERA, 81.1 IP, 13 starts) will start Saturday's contest and junior left-hander Greg Smith (2-0, 2.35 ERA, 1 save) takes the mound on Sunday.

The Colonels return six pitchers to their staff this season, including senior right-hander Mark Fernandez who is slated to start the series opener on Friday night. Fernandez led the team in wins last season, compiling a 6-2 record with a 5.22 ERA in 2004. Nicholls State head coach B.D. Parker will counter with a pair of lefties on Saturday and Sunday. Redshirt freshman Justin Breaux will toe the rubber on Saturday, while JUCO transfer Marcus Markray is scheduled for the series finale on Sunday.

Following the season-opening series, LSU will play its first midweek game on Tuesday against another Southland Conference opponent in UL-Monroe before welcoming Arkansas-Little Rock to Alex Box Stadium next weekend.

**TV:** None**Radio:** LSU Sports Network (Charles Hanagriff, Patrick Wright); Saturday's contest available only in Baton Rouge**Pitching Matchups****Game 1**

LSU - Sr. LH Lane Mestepey (7-4, 3.51 ERA, 100.0 IP, 28 BB, 42 SO)  
NSU - Sr. RHP Mark Fernandez (6-2, 5.22 ERA, 70.2 IP, 36 BB, 67 SO)

**Game 2**

LSU - So. LH Clay Dirks (8-2, 3.43 ERA, 81.1 IP, 17 BB, 66 SO)  
NSU - RS Fr. LHP Justin Breaux (1-2, 4.81 ERA, 24.1 IP, 15 BB, 17 SO)

**Game 3**

LSU - Jr. LH Greg Smith (2-0, 2.35 ERA, 30.2 IP, 13 BB, 35 SO)  
NSU - Jr. LHP Marcus Markray (transfer from Paris (Texas) JC)

**LSU Probable Position Starters**

| Pos. | Player                                 | Cl.-Exp.         | B/T        | Avg.       | HR      | RBI     | Notable  |
|------|--|------------------|------------|------------|---------|---------|--|
| C    | Matt Liuzza                            | Jr.-2L           | R/R        | .328       | 9       | 45      | Team-high .417 BA in 2004 NCAA Tournament                                      |
| 1B   | Will Harris                            | Jr.-2L           | R/R        | .329       | 7       | 39      | 2004 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team   |
| 2B   | Clay Harris                            | Sr.-3L           | R/R        | .297       | 7       | 51      | 2004 Second-Team All-SEC   |
| SS   | Derek Hebert -or-<br>Michael Hollander | Sr.-1L<br>Fr.-HS | L/R<br>R/R | .278<br>-- | 1<br>-- | 6<br>-- | Started 21 games at SS in 2004<br>Led all newcomers with .424 BA in fall games |
| 3B   | Bryan Harris                           | So.-RS           | R/R        | --         | --      | --      | Earned medical redshirt in 2004  |
| LF   | Ryan Patterson                         | Sr.-2L           | R/R        | .341       | 14      | 67      | 2004 Second-Team All-SEC   |
| CF   | Bruce Sprowl                           | Jr.-1L           | L/R        | .290       | 1       | 33      | Redshirt in 2004, Started 61 games in 2003                                     |
| RF   | Nick Stavinoha                         | Sr.-1L           | R/R        | .323       | 8       | 42      | 2005 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team   |
| DH   | Blake Gill                             | Sr.-3L           | L/R        | .343       | 5       | 42      | 2004 NCAA Regional Most Outstanding Player                                     |

**LSU**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Record</b>        | 0-0 (0-0 SEC)   |
| <b>Ranking</b>       | No. 2 Baseball America<br>No. 5 Collegiate Baseball<br>No. 3 ESPN/Sports Weekly |
| <b>Coach</b>         | Smoke Laval   |
| <b>Career Record</b> | 376-222-1 (.629/11th year)  |
| <b>LSU Record</b>    | 135-63-1 (.681/fourth year)   |
| <b>Laval vs. NSU</b> | 23-6  |
| <b>Team BA</b>       | .333 in 2004  |
| <b>Team ERA</b>      | 3.67 in 2004  |

**Nicholls State**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Record</b>         | 0-0 (0-0 SEC)  |
| <b>Ranking</b>        | NR Baseball America<br>NR Collegiate Baseball<br>NR ESPN/Sports Weekly |
| <b>Coach</b>          | B.D. Parker  |
| <b>Career Record</b>  | 609-411 (.597/20th year)   |
| <b>NSU Record</b>     | 123-146 (.457/sixth year)  |
| <b>Parker vs. LSU</b> | 0-3  |
| <b>Team BA</b>        | .289 in 2004   |
| <b>Team ERA</b>       | 5.78 in 2004   |

## Tracking the Tigers

| Week      | BA | CB | ESPN/SW |
|-----------|----|----|---------|
| Preseason | 2  | 5  | 4       |
| Feb. 7    | 2  | 5  | 3       |

## Baseball America (Feb. 7)

1. Tulane (0-0)
2. **LSU (0-0)**
3. Cal State Fullerton (2-1)
4. Texas (3-0)
5. Miami, Fla. (4-0)
6. Stanford (4-2)
7. South Carolina (0-0)
8. Washington (0-0)
9. Georgia (0-0)
10. Baylor (0-0)
11. Arizona (3-0)
12. Arizona State (3-3)
13. Texas A&M (0-0)
14. North Carolina (0-0)
15. Florida (0-0)
16. Ole Miss (0-0)
17. Long Beach State (5-1)
18. Vanderbilt (0-0)
19. Rice (1-0)
20. Georgia Tech (0-0)
21. Notre Dame (0-0)
22. TCU (0-0)
23. Oklahoma State (3-0)
24. Oral Roberts (0-0)
25. Winthrop (0-0)

## Collegiate Baseball (Feb. 7)

1. Texas (3-0)
2. Miami, Fla. (4-0)
3. Cal State Fullerton (2-1)
4. Tulane (0-0)
5. **LSU (0-0)**
6. Stanford (4-2)
7. North Carolina (0-0)
8. South Carolina (0-0)
9. Georgia (0-0)
10. Texas A&M (0-0)
11. Arizona (3-0)
12. Long Beach State (5-1)
13. Georgia Tech (0-0)
14. Rice (1-0)
15. Florida State (6-0)
16. Ole Miss (0-0)
17. Washington (0-0)
18. Arizona State (3-3)
19. Mississippi State (0-0)
20. Notre Dame (0-0)
21. Clemson (0-0)
22. Florida (0-0)
23. Oklahoma State (3-0)
24. Central Florida (2-0)
25. Baylor (0-0)

## In the Polls

LSU moved up one spot to No. 3 in the latest ESPN/Sports Weekly poll released on Feb. 7. The Tigers also received one first place vote in the poll that accounts the coaches votes. LSU remained No. 2 in Baseball America, immediately behind in-state rival Tulane who reclaimed the top spot for the second consecutive week. LSU opened the 2004 season with the same No. 2 national ranking by Baseball America. The Tigers are ranked fifth in the latest Collegiate Baseball poll behind Texas, Miami (Fla.), Cal State Fullerton and Tulane.

## About Nicholls State

The Colonels return 11 letterwinners, including five position starters from a team that ended the 2004 season with a 20-29 overall record. NSU placed 10th in the Southland Conference last season, compiling a 9-16 league record under head coach B.D. Parker. The Colonels failed to qualify for the SLC Tournament. Parker enters his sixth season as head coach of the Colonels. In his previous five seasons, he has guided NSU to a 123-146 record. The Colonels return six pitchers to their staff this season, including senior right-hander Mark Fernandez who is slated to start the series opener on Friday night. Fernandez led the team in wins last season, compiling a 6-2 record with a 5.22 ERA in 2004. Senior shortstop Anthony Hatch (.379, 8 HR, 33 RBI in 2004) leads a NSU offense that batted .289 as a team last season. Senior outfielder Bubba Bell is another threat at the plate as he hit .330 last season with three homers and 35 RBI.

## The LSU-Nicholls State Series

LSU and Nicholls State meet for the 60th time on Friday night. The Tigers own a 38-21 all-time record against the in-state foe, dating back to 1968. LSU has won the last nine meetings between the two, including a 9-3 decision at Alex Box Stadium last season. Smoke Laval has compiled a 23-6 all-time record against the Colonels dating back to his coaching days at UL-Monroe. B.D. Parker is 0-3 against the Tigers. LSU and Nicholls will meet again on Tuesday, April 5 at Ray Didier Field in Thibodaux. It will be the first contest in Thibodaux for the Tigers since the 1994 season.

## LSU in Season-Opening Series

LSU has not lost a season opener since Kansas State defeated the Tigers, 9-8 in 2001. LSU is 9-1 in their last 10 home openers both home and away. The Tigers opened the 2004 season at Central Florida, taking two of three in Orlando. LSU has swept its last two home season-opening series with wins over Birmingham Southern in 2002 and Northwestern State in 2003. It will be the first season-opening series with Nicholls State since the two teams split wins in 1980.

## The Fourth Year of the Smoke Laval Era Begins

In just three seasons, head coach **Smoke Laval** has produced magnificent results, continuing the tradition-rich program of excellence established by former coach and current Athletic Director Skip Bertman. Laval guided the Tigers to consecutive College World Series appearances in 2003 and 2004, two NCAA Super Regional titles, three NCAA Regional titles and one Southeastern Conference championship. During that stretch, Laval has produced two SEC Players of the Year, including Aaron Hill (2003) and Jon Zeringue (2004). His marksmanship was not only displayed on the field but in the classroom. LSU placed 12 players on the 2004 SEC Academic Honor Roll, the highest total in the illustrious program's history.

## A Look Back at the 2004 Season

The Tigers earned their second consecutive final top-10 ranking in 2004 finishing No. 6 in the ESPN/Sports Weekly poll, No. 7 in the Baseball America poll and No. 8 in the Collegiate Baseball poll. It marked the 14th time in 19 seasons LSU has finished in the top 10. The Tigers culminated the season by advancing to the College World Series for the second straight season, recording a 46-19 overall record, LSU's best mark since the 2000 club finished 52-17. The Tigers lost consecutive games to Miami (Fla.) and South Carolina to finish in a tie for seventh place in Omaha. Head coach Smoke Laval earned the 2004 LSWA Coach of the Year award for the third consecutive season. He guided LSU to NCAA Regional and Super Regional championships as the Tigers played host to an NCAA Regional for the 15th year in a row. LSU led the SEC in seven offensive categories, thanks in large part to Jon Zeringue who earned first-team all-America honors by USA Today/Sports Weekly.

## Injury Report

LSU enters the 2005 season relatively healthy. Sophomore right-hander **Michael Bonura** will miss the entire 2005 season after undergoing Tommy John surgery during the offseason. In 2004, Bonura played a valuable role as a freshman in the LSU bullpen, posting a 4.46 ERA in 34.1 innings and 31 strikeouts. JUCO transfer pitcher **Daniel Forrer** will also sit out the 2005 campaign suffering a shoulder injury in the offseason. A shoulder injury will also keep senior **Blake Gill** from playing the infield the first month of the season. Gill will be limited to the designated hitter role until then and senior **Derek Hebert** and freshman **Michael Hollander** will platoon at shortstop. Freshman prospect **Nolan Cain** underwent Tommy John surgery last week and will also miss the 2005 season.

## Southpaw Series

Oddly enough, for the first time in recent history, LSU will send three left-handed starters to the mound this weekend. Southpaws have been hard to come by on recent Tiger squads. The 2003 team managed to make it back to Omaha with two lefties on the roster in **Jason Determann** and **Greg Smith**. Last year's squad featured four southpaws and all four of those players return this season. **Lane Mestepey** will get the starting nod on Friday night, followed by **Clay Dirks** on Saturday and Smith on Sunday. Nicholls State will counter with a pair of lefties on Saturday and Sunday. Freshman Justin Breaux makes his first start on Saturday, while JUCO transfer Marcus Markray is slated to start the series finale on Sunday.

## A New Opportunity For Mestepey

Senior **Lane Mestepey** has had a storied LSU career spanning four seasons. He has earned several all-SEC, all-American honors and pitched the Tigers to a College World Series but what the Zachary, La. native has not done in his career is make an opening night start. That will all change on Friday night. Last season, Justin Meier got the nod at Central Florida. In 2003, Mestepey sat out the season with an arm injury and in 2002, Bo Pettit got the call.

## Smith Gets First Starting Nod

Junior left-hander **Greg Smith** will make his first collegiate start on Sunday afternoon. The hard-throwing Smith has posted a 2-2 career record in 39 appearances but has never made a start in his previous two seasons. Last year, the Alexandria, La. native served a valuable member of the LSU bullpen making 22 relief appearances (the second-highest total on the staff), recording a 2-0 mark with a 2.35 ERA. He earned his first career victory in a relief appearance at South Carolina on March 19.

## Gill Riding 15-Game Hitting Streak

Amidst another College World Series berth and against tough competition, senior **Blake Gill** closed out the 2004 season with a 15-game hitting streak that will look to continue through the weekend. Gill's streak, which began versus Vanderbilt on May 15, ties for the longest of his career. It is also the longest current streak on the team. **Ryan Patterson** also maintained a 15-game hitting streak during a portion of the 2004 season.

## Harris To Harris To Harris

If one were to take a glance around the Tiger infield, you would notice three players with last name of Harris. **Bryan Harris**, a sophomore from Tustin, Calif., will occupy third base this season after earning a redshirt in 2004. The positioning moves former third baseman **Clay Harris** to second base, while his brother **Will Harris** will maintain first base for the second consecutive season. Bryan, despite the similar last name, is no relation to Clay and Will.

## Liuzza Named Preseason All-American by Baseball America

Junior catcher **Matt Liuzza** was voted to the 2005 Baseball America Preseason Third-Team. The Metairie, La. native has started 114 games behind the plate the past two seasons, helping lead the Tigers to consecutive College World Series appearances. He batted .328 (75-for-229) in 2004 with 14 doubles, nine homers, 45 RBI and 37 runs. Liuzza committed just four errors in 370 chances last season, and he threw out 14 base runners attempting to steal. For the entire 2004 NCAA Tournament - including the regional, super regional and CWS - Liuzza hit a sizzling .417 (10-for-24), and he posted a .563 on-base percentage.

## Coaches Pick LSU to Win SEC Title

In what has become a common occurrence over the past several seasons, LSU is the favorite to win the Southeastern Conference Baseball Championship, as voted by the league's 12 baseball coaches in the 14th annual preseason SEC poll. The Tigers seek to capture their 14th SEC Championship, having won or shared the title three times in the past nine seasons (1996, 1997 and 2003) and seven times since 1990. In the overall SEC Champion vote, LSU received nine of the 12 championship votes in the poll. South Carolina received two votes while Florida received one. LSU was the predicted winner in the Western Division with a total of 66, collecting the maximum possible points for a single team. Ole Miss was second with 51, while Arkansas finished third with 46.

### Eastern Division

| Team                  | Pts. |
|-----------------------|------|
| 1. South Carolina (9) | 63   |
| 2. Georgia (1)        | 50   |
| 3. Florida (2)        | 48   |
| 4. Vanderbilt         | 39   |
| 5. Tennessee          | 29   |
| 6. Kentucky           | 16   |

( ) - First Place Votes

**SEC Champion: LSU (9); South Carolina (2); Florida (1)**

### Western Division

| Team                 | Pts.      |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. <b>LSU (11)</b>   | <b>66</b> |
| 2. Ole Miss (1)      | 51        |
| 3. Arkansas          | 46        |
| 4. Mississippi State | 30        |
| 5. Alabama           | 29        |
| 6. Auburn            | 23        |

## Redshirts Sprowl, Stewart Return

Outfielders **Bruce Sprowl** and **Quinn Stewart** bring College World Series experience into the 2005 season after serving redshirt years in 2004. Sprowl, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., is expected to be the starting centerfielder on the squad and could serve as a leadoff hitter. In 2003, he played in 63 games, batting .290 (76-for-262) with eight doubles, three triples, one homer 33 RBI and 46 runs. In 51 of those games, the junior served as the Tigers' leadoff hitter. Stewart brings significant power to the lineup, an effort he demonstrated in the 2003 College World Series versus South Carolina on June 15. In that game, Stewart blasted a homer into the left-centerfield bleachers and also added four RBI. On the season, he played in 44 games, batting .297 (43-for-145) with nine doubles, one triple, seven homers, 30 RBI and 26 runs.

## Transfers Cahill, Ramirez to Make Immediate Impact

The most significant acquisitions on the 2005 squad could be transfer pitchers **Chris Cahill** and **Edgar Ramirez**. Cahill, a junior from Orlando, Fla., proved to be an excellent setup man in the Coastal Plains summer league. He posted a 4-0 record with a 1.13 ERA and three saves in 21 appearances. Cahill transferred to LSU after one season at Florida Gulf Coast University. He was joined on the summer league squad by teammate Edgar Ramirez. Ramirez could serve as a closer in 2005 and his dominating presence was displayed this past summer. The Miami, Fla. native was nearly unhittable, producing a 0.83 ERA and nine saves in 20 appearances. Ramirez comes to LSU after two seasons at Florida International.

## Liuzza Headlines Baseball America Preseason Awards

Baseball America released its preseason Southeastern Conference awards in its latest publication and catcher **Matt Liuzza** headlines the list of Tigers who earned recognition. Liuzza was rated as the conference's fourth-highest prospect for the upcoming 2005 Major League Baseball Draft. The publication also rated Liuzza as the best defensive catcher in the league with the best arm. **Blake Gill** earned recognition as one of Baseball America's top 50 senior prospects. Gill is listed as the nation's No. 19 rated senior, followed by **Ryan Patterson** who was listed 19th.

## ESPN/Sports Weekly (Feb. 7)

1. Texas (26) (3-0)
2. Cal State Fullerton (7) (2-1)
3. **LSU (1) (0-0)**
4. Miami, Fla. (1) (4-0)
5. Tulane (5) (0-0)
6. South Carolina (0-0)
7. Stanford (4-2)
8. Georgia (0-0)
9. Texas A&M (0-0)
10. Arizona (3-0)
11. Washington (0-0)
12. Long Beach State (5-1)
13. Arizona State (3-3)
14. Rice (1-0)
15. Georgia Tech (0-0)
16. Florida (0-0)
17. North Carolina (0-0)
18. Ole Miss (0-0)
19. Florida State (6-0)
20. Baylor (0-0)
21. Vanderbilt (0-0)
22. Notre Dame (0-0)
23. Clemson (0-0)
24. TCU (0-0)
25. Arkansas (0-0)

## 2005 SEC Standings (Feb. 11)

| Eastern Division |     |      |         |
|------------------|-----|------|---------|
| Team             | SEC | Pct. | Overall |
| Florida          | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Georgia          | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Kentucky         | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| South Carolina   | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Tennessee        | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Vanderbilt       | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |

| Western Division |     |      |         |
|------------------|-----|------|---------|
| Team             | SEC | Pct. | Overall |
| Alabama          | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Arkansas         | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Auburn           | 0-0 | .000 | 3-0     |
| LSU              | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Ole Miss         | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |
| Miss. State      | 0-0 | .000 | 0-0     |

## This Weekend in the SEC (Feb. 11-13)

(All times are Central)

### Friday, Feb. 11

Alabama at Hawaii • 10:35 p.m.  
 Auburn at Florida State • 2:30 p.m.  
 Charleston Southern at Florida • 5:30 p.m.  
 Arkansas vs. Dallas Baptist • 3 p.m. (Arlington, Texas)  
**Nicholls State at LSU • 6:30 p.m.**  
 Longwood at South Carolina • 2 p.m.  
 Tenn. vs. Texas A&M • 7 p.m. (at Minute Maid Challenge)

### Saturday, Feb. 12

Alabama at Hawaii • 10:35 p.m.  
 Auburn at Florida State • 1 p.m.  
 Charleston Southern at Florida • 1 p.m.  
 Arkansas vs. Dallas Baptist • Noon (Arlington, Texas)  
**Nicholls State at LSU • 2 p.m.**  
 Longwood at South Carolina • 12:30 p.m.  
 Tenn. vs. Ok. State • 3:30 p.m. (at Minute Maid Challenge)

### Sunday, Feb. 13

Alabama at Hawaii • 5:05 p.m.  
 Auburn at Florida State • Noon  
 Charleston Southern at Florida • Noon  
 Arkansas vs. UT-Arlington • Noon  
**Nicholls State at LSU • 1 p.m.**  
 Longwood at South Carolina • 12:30 p.m.  
 Tenn. vs. Baylor • 11:30 a.m. (at Minute Maid Challenge)

## LSU by the Numbers in 2005

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Home .....                                 | 0-0 |
| Away .....                                 | 0-0 |
| Neutral Sites .....                        | 0-0 |
| Day.....                                   | 0-0 |
| Night.....                                 | 0-0 |
| On Jumbo Sports .....                      | 0-0 |
| On Cox Sports .....                        | 0-0 |
| On SEC-TV .....                            | 0-0 |
| Vs. SEC .....                              | 0-0 |
| Vs. SEC West .....                         | 0-0 |
| Vs. SEC East.....                          | 0-0 |
| Non-SEC Games.....                         | 0-0 |
| Vs. Louisiana opponents.....               | 0-0 |
| Vs. Ranked opponents .....                 | 0-0 |
| Vs. C-USA .....                            | 0-0 |
| Vs. Mid-Continent .....                    | 0-0 |
| Vs. Pac-10 .....                           | 0-0 |
| Vs. Southland .....                        | 0-0 |
| Vs. Sun Belt .....                         | 0-0 |
| Vs. SWAC.....                              | 0-0 |
| Vs. WAC.....                               | 0-0 |
| Doubleheaders .....                        | 0-0 |
| Game 1 of weekend series .....             | 0-0 |
| Game 2 of weekend series .....             | 0-0 |
| Game 3 of weekend series .....             | 0-0 |
| Sunday .....                               | 0-0 |
| Tuesday .....                              | 0-0 |
| Wednesday.....                             | 0-0 |
| Friday .....                               | 0-0 |
| Saturday .....                             | 0-0 |
| One-run games.....                         | 0-0 |
| Extra inning games .....                   | 0-0 |
| Shutouts.....                              | 0-0 |
| Number of Losing Streaks .....             | 0   |
| Longest Losing Streak .....                | 0   |
| Games in which LSU scores first .....      | 0-0 |
| Games in which opponent scores first ..... | 0-0 |
| When LSU scores 10+.....                   | 0-0 |
| When LSU scores <5 .....                   | 0-0 |
| When opponent scores 10+.....              | 0-0 |
| When opponent scores <5.....               | 0-0 |
| When LSU leads after 6 innings .....       | 0-0 |
| When LSU trails after 6 innings.....       | 0-0 |
| When tied after 6 innings .....            | 0-0 |
| When LSU leads after 7 innings .....       | 0-0 |
| When LSU trails after 7 innings.....       | 0-0 |
| When tied after 7 innings .....            | 0-0 |
| When LSU leads after 8 innings .....       | 0-0 |
| When LSU trails after 8 innings.....       | 0-0 |
| When tied after 8 innings .....            | 0-0 |
| When LSU has 10+ hits.....                 | 0-0 |
| When LSU has <6 hits.....                  | 0-0 |
| When opponent has 10+ hits.....            | 0-0 |
| When opponent has <6 hits .....            | 0-0 |
| When LSU has more hits .....               | 0-0 |
| When LSU has fewer hits .....              | 0-0 |
| Equal hits .....                           | 0-0 |
| When LSU hits 3 or more home runs .....    | 0-0 |
| When LSU hits no home runs .....           | 0-0 |
| When opponent hits 3+ home runs .....      | 0-0 |
| When opponent hits no home runs .....      | 0-0 |
| Games won on final at-bat .....            | 0   |
| Games lost on final at-bat .....           | 0   |
| Come-from-behind wins.....                 | 0   |
| Losses when LSU led previously .....       | 0   |
| Blown saves .....                          | 0   |
| Longest game .....                         |     |
| Shortest game(9 or more innings) .....     |     |

## New Tigers Defeat Old Tigers in Alumni Game

Designated hitter **Chris Jackson** collected three of LSU's 18 hits and drove in one run to lead the Tigers to an 11-4 victory over a squad of former LSU players in the annual Alumni Game in Alex Box Stadium on Feb. 5. LSU is now 6-0 against the Alumni squad in a series that began prior to the 2000 regular season. Senior right-hander **Brandon Nall** earned the win for the Tigers, giving up two earned runs on four hits in two innings of work. He also allowed one walk and did not strike out a batter.

## New "Box" On Tap For 2008

When the 2008 season rolls around, LSU will move into a new modern facility. LSU athletics director **Skip Bertman** proposed the construction of a new baseball stadium to open in 2008 to the LSU Board of Supervisors. The stadium would be located at the corner of Nicholson Drive and Gourrier Lane, about 2,000 feet south of the current site of Alex Box Stadium, and would seat approximately 8,000 Tiger baseball fans. The new stadium, which will be named Alex Box Stadium, will be paid for by the LSU Athletics Department through a combination of the sale of revenue bonds and private donations. The expected cost of the project is approximately \$23 million.

# Smoke Laval

HEAD COACH • FOURTH YEAR

Raymond "Smoke" Laval continues to enhance his reputation as one of the country's top college baseball coaches, as, in three seasons at the helm of the LSU program, he has guided the Tigers to two College World Series berths, two NCAA Super Regional titles, three NCAA Regional championships, one SEC title and Top 10 finishes in each of the past two seasons.

Laval, the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, was named in 2004 the Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year for the third straight season.

Laval has directed LSU to the best SEC regular-season record in the past three seasons, posting a 57-31-1 (.646) mark. South Carolina has the second-best SEC record (57-32, .640), and Florida is third (50-39-1, .561). LSU earned its second consecutive final Top 10 ranking in 2004, as the Tigers finished No. 7 in the Baseball America poll and No. 8 in the Collegiate Baseball poll. The final rankings culminated a magnificent 2004 season that also featured record-breaking marks for academic achievements and attendance figures. The 2004 Tigers advanced to the College World Series for the second straight season, recording a 46-19 overall record, LSU's best mark since the 2000 club finished 52-17.

LSU played host to an NCAA Regional for the 15th straight season, winning the tournament with consecutive victories over Army, Southern Mississippi and College of Charleston. The Tigers then played host to an NCAA Super Regional for the third time in five years, defeating Texas A&M in a best two-of-three series to earn a berth in the CWS.

The 2004 Tigers had the best offensive club in the SEC, completing the year with a .333 team batting average, the second-highest in school history. The Tigers were led by two first-team all-SEC players - right fielder Jon Zeringue, the 2004 SEC Co-Player of the Year and a first-team all-America selection, and center fielder J.C. Holt, a third-team all-America choice. Zeringue was selected in the second round of the 2004 draft by the Arizona Diamondbacks, and Holt was the third-round pick of the Atlanta Braves.

LSU placed 12 players on the 2004 SEC Academic Honor Roll, the highest total in the program's history, and the Tigers' 2004 total home attendance with 36 playing dates was 284,328, the third-largest figure in school history. The average paid attendance in 2004 was 7,898, which is the highest average in LSU annals.

Laval guided the 2003 Tigers to the Southeastern Conference title -- LSU's first since 1997 -- and a berth in the College World Series. He was voted the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, directing LSU to a 45-22-1 overall record and a 20-9-1 conference mark, as the Tigers finished No. 5 in the final Baseball America rankings.

LSU played host to an NCAA Regional tournament for the 14th straight season and captured its eighth consecutive regional title. The Tigers entertained Baylor in an NCAA Super Regional series, defeating the Bears in two of three games to earn LSU's first CWS berth since 2000.

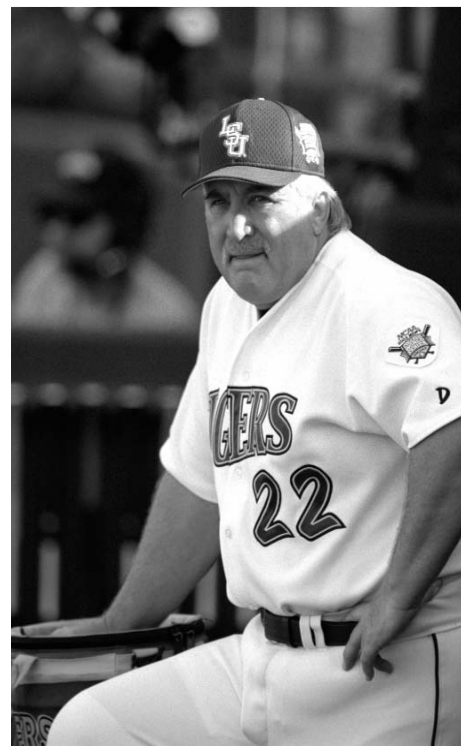
LSU also set an NCAA total attendance record in 2003, drawing 291,676 patrons to Alex Box Stadium.

The Tigers' shortstop, Aaron Hill, was named 2003 SEC Player of the Year and a first-team all-American. Hill was the first-round draft selection (13th pick overall) by the Toronto Blue Jays.

The magnificent '03 campaign augmented the success Laval enjoyed in his inaugural season as LSU's coach, as he led the 2002 Tigers to a 44-22 overall mark, an appearance in the NCAA Super Regional and a No. 11 final national ranking. Laval, named the 2002 Louisiana Coach of the Year by the Louisiana Sportswriters Association, continued the phenomenal tradition of excellence created by his predecessor, the legendary Skip Bertman.

Laval holds a bachelor's degree (1977) from Jacksonville in physical education and a master's degree (1979) from LSU in administration. The McDonald, Pa., native played two seasons at Gulf Coast Community College, where he lettered as a catcher. He completed his playing career at Jacksonville, where he led the ninth-ranked Dolphins in hitting at the 1976 NCAA South Regional.

Laval and his wife, Pam, are the parents of two children, Brandon and Jamie.



## The Laval File

**Full Name:** Raymond Peter Laval  
**Born:** December 20, 1955  
**Hometown:** McDonald, Pa.  
**Wife:** Pam Lewis of Reserve, La.  
**Children:** Jamie and Brandon

## Coaching Experience

|         |                      |                                    |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1977    | Assistant Coach      | Jacksonville                       |
| 1978    | Assistant Coach      | Wolfson HS<br>(Jacksonville, Fla.) |
| 1979    | Graduate Assistant   | LSU                                |
| 1980-81 | Assistant Coach      | Gulf Coast CC                      |
| 1982-83 | Assistant Coach      | Florida                            |
| 1984-93 | Assistant Coach      | LSU                                |
| 1994-00 | Head Coach           | UL-Monroe                          |
| 2001    | Administrative Asst. | LSU                                |
| 2002-   | Head Coach           | LSU                                |

## Education

High School: South Fayette(McDonald, Pa.), 1973  
 College: Jacksonville, 1977 (physical education)  
 Masters: LSU, 1979 (administration)

## Laval Year-By-Year

| Year | W-L     | School    | Highlights  |
|------|---------|-----------|---|
| 1994 | 20-33   | UL-Monroe | Defeated Three NCAA Tournament Teams                      |
| 1995 | 37-20   | UL-Monroe | SLC Tournament Champions; NCAA Regional Participants      |
| 1996 | 41-19   | UL-Monroe | School-Record 41 Wins; SLC Louisiana Division Champions   |
| 1997 | 33-21   | UL-Monroe | Became Fourth Coach in ULM History To Record 100 Wins     |
| 1998 | 33-22   | UL-Monroe | Led SLC In Hitting For Third Straight Season              |
| 1999 | 36-22   | UL-Monroe | SLC Champions; NCAA Regional Participants                 |
| 2000 | 41-22   | UL-Monroe | SLC Champions; NCAA Regional Participants                 |
| 2002 | 44-22   | LSU       | NCAA Regional Champions; NCAA Super Regional Participants |
| 2003 | 45-22-1 | LSU       | SEC Champions; College World Series Participants          |
| 2004 | 46-19   | LSU       | NCAA Regional/Super Regional Champions; CWS Participants  |
| 2005 | 0-0     | LSU       |   |

**Career Record (11th year):** 376-222-1 (.629)

**LSU Record (4th year):** 135-63-1 (.681)

### COACHING HONORS

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1995 | Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year                        |
| 1999 | Southland Conference Coach of the Year                                       |
| 2002 | Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year                        |
| 2003 | SEC Coach of the Year; Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year |
| 2004 | Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year                        |

## Playing Experience

1970-73: Catcher, South Fayette High School  
 1974-75: Catcher, Gulf Coast CC  
 1976-77: Catcher, Jacksonville University

## The Nickname "Smoke"

As a native of Western Pennsylvania, Raymond Peter Laval grew up as a Pittsburgh Pirates fan. He received the name "Smoke" in the late 1970s from his Gulf Coast Community College teammates, who derived the moniker from Smokey Burgess, a catcher for the Pirates in the 1960s.

# Media Services

## Interview Opportunities

### Head Coach Smoke Laval

Coach Laval is available for phone interviews on weekday mornings (9 a.m. -Noon) during the season. Please coordinate all requests for personal interviews with Coach Laval through his office.

Appointments and interviews may be arranged through Virginia Robertson at (225) 578-4148. **Coach Laval will talk to reporters approximately 10 minutes after the end of a game in the LSU dugout.**

### Players

Media members are invited to attend LSU baseball practice sessions. Players are available for interviews before each practice at approximately 1 p.m. in Alex Box Stadium. Requests for live player interviews on the field prior to a game should be made through Bill Franques in the Sports Information Office. **Post-game player interviews are conducted in front of the LSU dugout at the conclusion of a brief team meeting on the field.**

### Mailing Address

LSU Sports Information  
P.O. Box 25095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5095

### Overnight Mail Address

Room 501, LSU Athletics Admin. Bldg.  
N. Stadium Dr. at Nicholson Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5095

### Phone Directory

Press Box: 225-578-4149  
Sports Information: 225-578-8226  
Fax: 225-578-1861  
Baseball Office: 225-578-4148  
Fax: 225-578-4066

### Baseball Contact E-mail Address

wfranqu@lsu.edu

## Who to Contact

### Sports Information Office

(225) 578-8226

### Baseball Contact

Bill Franques - wfranqu@lsu.edu

### Asst. Contact

Bill Martin - wmarti4@lsu.edu

### LSU Television

(225) 578-1797

### Asst. AD/Television

Kevin Wagner - jwagne2@lsu.edu

### Manager/Television

John Schiebe - jschiebe@lsu.edu

### LSU Radio

(225) 578-1882

### Asst. AD/Radio

Jim Hawthorne - lsuradio@lsu.edu

## On the Internet

### www.LSUports.net

The Official Website of LSU Athletics is home to all the baseball information you need. Schedules, results, rosters, bios, statistics and game notes can be found and are always up to date.

### http://media.lsuports.net

Media can now access images for all LSU athletic teams, including action shots, heads shots, logos, etc. To gain access to the high-resolution pictures, email Bill Franques. You will be assigned a login and password that will enable you to retrieve pictures. This service is for the media use only.

## LSU Electronic Media

### Radio

The LSU Sports Radio Network distributes all LSU Baseball games by satellite to 25 radio affiliates. WDGL-FM (98.1) Radio in Baton Rouge serves as the flagship station for the LSU Sports Network. Jim Hawthorne, the "Voice of the Tigers" for all LSU sports, is in his 22nd season of calling baseball play-by-play action. He will be joined on the broadcasts by Charles Hanagriff and LSU baseball publicist Bill Franques. Selected LSU Sports Network stations air "Tiger Sportsline with Smoke Laval" beginning Monday, March 28 from 7-8 p.m. The show airs live from Superior Grill on Government Street in Baton Rouge.

### Television

Inside LSU Baseball is a weekly program featuring LSU head coach Smoke Laval. The show, which begins on March 20, features game highlights, player profiles and in-depth stories on college baseball's No. 1 program. Inside LSU Baseball is produced by the LSU Electronic Media Department – Kevin Wagner, Executive Producer; John Schiebe, Associate Producer. Inside LSU Baseball Affiliates include WBRZ Channel 2 in Baton Rouge and Cox Sports Television throughout the state of Louisiana.

Bill Franques  
wfranqu@lsu.edu

## Week 1: February 7-13

Bill Martin  
wmarti4@lsu.edu

| MONDAY | 7 | TUESDAY | 8          | WEDNESDAY | 9 | THURSDAY | 10 | FRIDAY  | 11 | SATURDAY   | 12 | SUNDAY   | 13 |
|--------|---|---------|------------|-----------|---|----------|----|---|----|--|----|--|----|
|        |   |         | Mardi Gras |           |   |          |    | vs. Nicholls State<br>6:30 p.m.<br>Alex Box Stadium<br>Baton Rouge, La.<br><br>Radio: LSU Sports<br>Network<br><br>TV: None |    | vs. Nicholls State<br>2 p.m.<br>Alex Box Stadium<br>Baton Rouge, La.<br><br>Radio: LSU Sports<br>Network (Baton Rouge<br>only)<br><br>TV: None |    | vs. Nicholls State<br>1 p.m.<br>Alex Box Stadium<br>Baton Rouge, La.<br><br>Radio: LSU Sports<br>Network<br><br>TV: None |    |