

2004 Schedule/Results (9-1, 0-0 SEC)

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
February		
13 (Fri.)	at Central Florida	W, 4-3
14 (Sat.)	at Central Florida	W, 17-4
15 (Sun.)	at Central Florida	L, 5-6 (10)
17 (Tue.)	UL-MONROE	W, 7-1
20 (Fri.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 6-1
21 (Sat.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 14-2
22 (Sun.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 19-1
27 (Fri.)	TEXAS STATE	W, 10-1
28 (Sat.)	TEXAS STATE	W, 2-1
29 (Sun.)	TEXAS STATE	W, 13-2

March		
2 (Tue.)	Tulane	7 p.m. #
5 (Fri.)	HOUSTON	6:30 p.m.
6 (Sat.)	HOUSTON	2 p.m.
7 (Sun.)	HOUSTON	1 p.m.
9 (Tue.)	at UL-Monroe	6:30 p.m.
12 (Fri.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	6:30 p.m.
13 (Sat.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	2 p.m.
14 (Sun.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	1 p.m.
16 (Tue.)	NEW ORLEANS	6:30 p.m.
19 (Fri.)	at South Carolina	6 p.m.
20 (Sat.)	at South Carolina	3 p.m.
21 (Sun.)	at South Carolina	12:30 p.m.
23 (Tue.)	at Centenary	7 p.m.
26 (Fri.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	6:30 p.m.
27 (Sat.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	2 p.m.
28 (Sun.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	1 p.m.
30 (Tue.)	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m.

April		
2 (Fri.)	at Auburn	6:30 p.m.
3 (Sat.)	at Auburn	3 p.m.
4 (Sun.)	at Auburn	1:30 p.m.
6 (Tue.)	TULANE	6:30 p.m.
9 (Fri.)	ARKANSAS	6:30 p.m.
10 (Sat.)	ARKANSAS	2 p.m.
11 (Sun.)	ARKANSAS	1 p.m.
13 (Tue.)	NICHOLLS STATE	6:30 p.m.
14 (Wed.)	Southeastern La. #	7 p.m.
16 (Fri.)	GEORGIA	6:30 p.m.
17 (Sat.)	GEORGIA	2 p.m.
18 (Sun.)	GEORGIA	1 p.m.
20 (Tue.)	at Southern	6:30 p.m.
23 (Fri.)	at Tennessee	6 p.m.
24 (Sat.)	at Tennessee	6 p.m.
25 (Sun.)	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
27 (Tue.)	Tulane	7 p.m. \$
30 (Fri.)	ALABAMA	6:30 p.m.

May		
1 (Sat.)	ALABAMA	2 p.m.
2 (Sun.)	ALABAMA	1 p.m.
7 (Fri.)	at Kentucky	5:30 p.m.
8 (Sat.)	at Kentucky	1 p.m.
9 (Sun.)	at Kentucky	Noon
14 (Fri.)	VANDERBILT	6:30 p.m.
15 (Sat.)	VANDERBILT	2 p.m.
16 (Sun.)	VANDERBILT	1 p.m.
21 (Fri.)	at Ole Miss	6:30 p.m.
22 (Sat.)	at Ole Miss	3 p.m.
23 (Sun.)	at Ole Miss	1:30 p.m.
26-30	SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.)	

June		
4-6	NCAA Regional (sites TBA)	
11-13/12-14	NCAA Super Regional (sites TBA)	
18-27/28	College World Series (Omaha, Neb.)	

- Zephyr Field (Metairie, La.) \$ - Louisiana Superdome



LSU TIGERS

(9-1, #1)

vs.

Tulane (8-1, #8)

Tuesday, March 2 @ 7 p.m. • Zephyr Field, Metairie, La.

Radio: LSU Sports Network (flagship WDGL-FM 98.1 in Baton Rouge)

TV: Jumbo Sports Network

No. 1 Tigers Face No. 8 Green Wave at Zephyr Field

No. 1 LSU (9-1) plays its first ranked opponent this season when the Tigers meet No. 8 Tulane (8-1) at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Zephyr Field in Metairie, La. The Tigers (#1 Collegiate Baseball, #3 Baseball America) enter Tuesday's game on a seven-game win streak after sweeping Texas State last weekend in Alex Box Stadium. Tulane (#8 Baseball America, #13 Collegiate Baseball) has won six in a row, including a three-game sweep of Utah last weekend in Turchin Stadium. The game will be televised statewide on the Jumbo Sports Network, and it can be heard on the LSU Sports Radio Network, including flagship WDGL-FM 98.1 in Baton Rouge. The radio broadcast and live stats may be accessed at www.LSUsports.net or www.tulanegreen-wave.com.

LSU's seven-game win streak represents the Tigers' longest since LSU also won seven games from April 7-19, 2002. The last time LSU won eight straight games was from April 21-May 1, 2001.

LSU coach Smoke Laval will send freshman left-hander Clay Dirks (1-0, 2.53 ERA) to the mound against Tulane. In two prior starts this season, Dirks, a 6-4, 235-pound native of Hernando, Miss., has allowed three earned runs on 10 hits in 10.2 innings with three walks and 11 strikeouts. Tulane coach Rick Jones will counter with sophomore left-hander Brian Bogusevic (0-1, 1.80 ERA), who will make his second start of the year. In in previous start -- a loss at UNO on Feb. 17 -- Bogusevic worked five innings and was charged with two runs (one earned) on three hits with no walks and five strikeouts.

The LSU-Tulane Series

LSU leads the all-time series between the schools, 155-117-3. The teams split four meetings last season; Tulane won 5-4 (11 innings) at Zephyr Field and 9-5 at the Louisiana Superdome, while LSU captured two meetings at Alex Box Stadium -- 8-0 during the regular season and 13-5 at the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional. LSU has a 9-7 mark in its games at Zephyr Field, where the Tigers have played at least one contest each season since 1998. LSU is just 2-6, however, in its Zephyr Field meetings with Tulane.

The Tigers' last win over the Wave at Zephyr Field came in Game 1 of the 2001 NCAA Super Regional (4-3 in 13 innings); LSU has since dropped three straight to the Wave in the Triple-A facility. Laval has a 5-5 career mark against Tulane, while Jones has a 12-14 career record versus LSU in 11 seasons as the Green Wave coach.

Pitching Matchup

LSU - Fr. LHP Clay Dirks (1-0, 2.53 ERA, 10.2 IP, 3 BB, 11 SO)
 TU - So. LHP Brian Bogusevic (0-1, 1.80 ERA, 5.0 IP, 0 BB, 5 SO)

LSU		Tulane	
Record	9-1 (0-0 SEC)	Record	8-1 (0-0 C-USA)
Ranking	No. 1 Collegiate Baseball No. 3 Baseball America No. 4 ESPN/Sports Weekly	Ranking	No. 8 Baseball America No. 10 ESPN/Sports Weekly No. 13 Collegiate Baseball
Coach	Smoke Laval	Coach	Rick Jones
Career Record	339-204-1 (10th year)	Career Record	710-294-1 (18 year)
LSU Record	98-45-1 (third year)	TU Record	434-205-1 (11th year)
Laval vs. Tulane	5-5	Jones vs. LSU	12-14

Tracking the Tigers

Week	BA	CB	ESPN/SW
Preseason	2	3	3
Feb. 2	2	3	3
Feb. 9	2	3	3
Feb. 16	2	4	5
Feb. 23	3	1	5
March 1	3	1	4

Baseball America (March 1)

- Stanford (13-2)
- Rice (7-2)
- LSU (9-1)**
- Texas (15-2)
- South Carolina (9-0)
- Miami, Fla. (7-3)
- Long Beach State (9-3)
- Tulane (8-1)
- Auburn (9-1)
- Arizona State (12-2)
- Notre Dame (9-0)
- Ole Miss (6-0)
- Georgia Tech (6-3)
- Texas A&M (12-1)
- Wichita State (0-0)
- Arizona (7-5-1)
- Cal State Fullerton (8-8)
- Clemson (2-3)
- Oklahoma (8-1)
- Florida Atlantic (12-1)
- East Carolina (12-0)
- Florida (10-3)
- Nebraska (5-1)
- North Carolina State (7-0)
- Baylor (4-5)

Collegiate Baseball (March 1)

- LSU (9-1)**
- Stanford (13-2)
- Texas (15-2)
- Rice (7-2)
- South Carolina (9-0)
- Arizona State (12-2)
- Notre Dame (6-0)
- Miami, Fla. (7-3)
- Wichita State (0-0)
- Long Beach State (9-3)
- Florida Atlantic (12-1)
- Texas A&M (12-1)
- Tulane (8-1)
- Auburn (9-1)
- Nebraska (5-1)
- Oklahoma (8-1)
- Georgia Tech (6-3)
- East Carolina (12-0)
- Florida (10-3)
- Oregon State (8-1)
- Ole Miss (6-0)
- North Carolina State (7-0)
- Florida State (9-4)
- Mississippi State (3-0)
- U.C. Irvine (9-2-1)

The LSU Lineup (probable batting order vs. Tulane)

Player	Pos.	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
Ryan Patterson	LF	Jr.-1L	R/R	.333	2	13	career-best 5 RBI vs. TXST (Feb.29)
J.C. Holt	CF	Jr.-2L	L/R	.395	0	6	4-for-13 in TXST series
Matt Liuzza	C	So.-1L	R/R	.371	1	7	.556, 2 2B, 1 HR, 3 RBI vs. TXST
Nick Stavinocha	DH	Jr.-JC	R/R	.308	2	9	One HR, 4 RBI in TXST series
Clay Harris	3B	Jr.-2L	R/R	.364	1	9	3-for-9, 2 BB vs. TXST
Jon Zeringue	RF	Jr.-2L	R/R	.444	2	8	.778, 3 2B, 1 HR, 5 RBI vs. TXST
Blake Gill	2B	Jr.-2L	L/R	.262	0	6	2-for-14 in TXST series
Derek Hebert	SS	Jr.-JC	L/R	.467	1	3	4-for-10, 1 2B, 2 RBI vs. TXST
Will Harris	1B	So.-1L	R/R	.333	1	2	1 2B, 1 HR, 2 RBI vs. TXST

Tigers Extend Win Streak with Sweep of Texas State

LSU recorded a three-game sweep of Texas State of the Southland Conference last weekend in Alex Box Stadium, increasing its win streak to seven. The Tigers batted .352 in the Texas State series, scoring 25 runs on 37 hits, including nine doubles and five homers. LSU raised its cumulative batting average to a season-high .339 (126-for-372).

Right fielder **Jon Zeringue** enjoyed a superb weekend, batting .778 (7-for-9) with three doubles, one homer and five RBI. Zeringue, who is riding a seven-game hitting streak, is batting a team-best .444 (16-for-36) this season with seven doubles, two homers and eight RBI.

Catcher **Matt Liuzza**, who is currently riding a nine-game hitting streak, batted .556 (5-for-9) in the Texas State series with two doubles, one homer and three RBI. Left fielder Ryan Patterson drove in six runs in the series, including a career-best five RBI on four hits in Sunday's 13-2 win.

Shortstop **Derek Hebert**, starting for the first time in his career in place of the injured Matt Horwath (shoulder), was 4-for-10 at the plate with one double, two RBI and three runs, and he posted a 1.000 fielding percentage in 14 chances.

LSU Pitchers Continue Early-Season Excellence

During its current win streak, the LSU pitching staff has allowed just two runs or less in each of the seven victories, as the Tigers have outcored their opponents by a total of 71-9.

LSU posted a team ERA of 1.33 in the Texas State series, as the staff surrendered four earned runs on 21 hits in 27 innings. The Tigers limited the Bobcats to a .206 batting average and just two extra-base hits (one double, one homer) in the series.

On the year, LSU's cumulative ERA is now 2.01, as the Tigers have allowed just 20 earned runs in 89.1 innings.

Smoke Seeks LSU Win No. 99

Smoke Laval, in his third season as the Tigers' head coach, is seeking his 99th LSU victory tonight versus Tulane. The 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, Laval has a 98-45-1 (.684) mark at LSU and a 339-204-1 (.624) record in 10 seasons as a collegiate head coach. He served as the head coach at Louisiana-Monroe for seven seasons (1994-2000) prior to taking the reins of the LSU program.

Notes on the Seven-Game Win Streak

LSU is hitting .365 (92-for-252) during its seven-game win streak with 19 doubles, two triples and six homers. The Tigers have outscored their opposition, 71-9, and have limited their foes to a .198 batting average during the streak. LSU's team ERA in the last seven games is 1.18, as the Tigers have surrendered just eight earned runs in 61 innings of work. LSU has a fielding percentage of .970 during the streak, with eight errors during the seven-game stretch.

Right fielder Jon Zeringue leads the Tigers during the streak with a .542 (13-for-24) batting average, and he has at least one hit in each of the seven games. Zeringue has six doubles, one homer, seven RBI, seven runs, a .917 slugging percentage and a .519 on-base average during the streak.

Liuzza Extends Hitting Streak to Nine Games

Sophomore catcher Matt Liuzza enters the Tulane game riding a nine-game hitting streak, the second-longest of his career (Liuzza posted a 12-game streak in 2003). During his current streak, Liuzza is hitting .406 (13-for-32) with three doubles, one homer, seven RBI, eight runs, a .594 slugging percentage and a .441 on-base percentage. Liuzza enjoyed a sensational series last weekend versus Texas State, batting .556 (5-for-9) with two doubles, one homer, three RBI and three runs.

Tigers Preserve Non-Conference Home Win Streak

Last weekend's sweep of Texas State extended LSU's win streak in non-conference regular-season home games to 17. The Tigers' last loss in a non-conference regular-season game in Alex Box Stadium came on Feb. 22, 2003, when the University of Houston posted a 7-2 win. Houston will have the opportunity to end the streak this weekend as the Cougars visit Alex Box Stadium for a three-game series. Game 1 is set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Game 2 at 2 p.m. Saturday and Game 3 at 1 p.m. Sunday.

The LSU Injury Report

INF Bryan Harris -- Harris, a transfer from Santa Ana (Calif.) College, was projected to be the Tigers' starter at third base; however, a hernia operation limited his participation during fall practice, and he underwent arthroscopic surgery in January to remove bone chips from his right knee. He stills several weeks away from being able to contribute to the Tigers lineup.

RHP Brandon Nail -- LSU's closer at the beginning of 2003, he pitched in just six games last season before suffering a torn labrum in his shoulder, which required surgery. He could return to the mound at some point this season, depending upon the progress of his rehabilitation.

SEC Coaches Select LSU to Repeat as League Champion

The LSU Tigers are the favorite to win the Southeastern Conference Baseball Championship, as voted by the league's 12 baseball coaches in the 13th annual preseason SEC poll. The Tigers seek to capture their 14th SEC Championship, having won or shared the title three times in the past eight seasons (1996, 1997 & 2003) and seven times since 1990. LSU won the both the overall SEC Championship and Western Division titles in 2003. In the overall SEC Champion vote, LSU received 11 of the 12 championship votes in the poll, the most possible by one team. South Carolina received the other vote.

In addition to picking a preseason SEC champion, the league's head coaches voted a predicted order of finish in the SEC Eastern and Western Divisions. In the Eastern Division, South Carolina was the favorite with 63 points. Florida came in second with 58 points and Vanderbilt third with 42 points. LSU was the predicted winner in the Western Division with a total of 66, again collecting the maximum points for a team. Auburn was second with 51, while Ole Miss finished third with 41.

Team	Pts.	'03 SEC Rec/Finish
Eastern Division		
1. S. Carolina (8)	63	19-11/1st
2. Florida (4)	58	13-16-1/3rd
3. Vanderbilt	42	14-165/2nd
4. Georgia	36	10-20/5th
5. Tennessee	30	13-17/4th
6. Kentucky	17	9-20/6th
Western Division		
1. LSU (11)	66	20-9-1/1st
2. Auburn (1)	51	18-12/2nd
3. Ole Miss	41	17-13/4th
4. Alabama	38	14-16/t5th
5. Miss. State	30	17-12/3rd
6. Arkansas	20	14-16/t5th

() - First Place Votes

SEC Champion: LSU (11); South Carolina (1)

ESPN/Sports Weekly (March 1)

1. Stanford (34) (13-2)
2. Rice (2) (7-2)
3. Texas (15-2)
4. **LSU (4) (9-1)**
5. South Carolina (9-0)
6. Arizona State (12-2)
7. Long Beach State (9-3)
8. Miami, Fla. (7-3)
9. Notre Dame (6-0)
10. Tulane (8-1)
11. Auburn (9-1)
12. Georgia Tech (6-3)
13. Wichita State (0-0)
14. Nebraska (5-1)
15. Florida Atlantic (5-1)
16. Texas A&M (12-1)
17. Oklahoma (8-1)
18. Ole Miss (6-0)
19. North Carolina State (7-0)
20. Cal State Fullerton (8-8)
21. Arizona (7-5-1)
22. Florida State (9-4)
23. Florida (10-3)
24. East Carolina (12-0)
25. Clemson (2-3)

2004 SEC Standings (March 2)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Florida	0-0	.000	11-3
Georgia	0-0	.000	7-2
Kentucky	0-0	.000	7-2
South Carolina	0-0	.000	9-0
Tennessee	0-0	.000	7-2
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	7-0
Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Alabama	0-0	.000	8-2
Arkansas	0-0	.000	11-3
Auburn	0-0	.000	9-1
LSU	0-0	.000	9-1
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	6-0
Miss. State	0-0	.000	3-0

This Week in the SEC (March 2-3)

Tuesday, March 2

Georgia Tech at Auburn • 6 p.m.
 Tulane vs. LSU • 7 p.m. (*Zephyr Field*)
 SE Missouri State at Ole Miss • 6:30 p.m.
 Jackson State at Mississippi State • 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

UAB at Alabama • 6:30 p.m.
 Florida at Stetson • 6 p.m.
 Georgia vs. Atlanta Braves • 1 p.m.
 East Tennessee State at Kentucky • 1 p.m.
 SE Missouri State at Ole Miss • 6:30 p.m.
 MVSU at Mississippi State • 4 p.m.
 Furman at South Carolina • 4 p.m.
 Tennessee Tech at Tennessee • 2 p.m.
 Western Kentucky at Vanderbilt • 4 p.m.

(All times are Central)

2004 LSU TV Schedule

Feb. 14	at UCF	Noon	JSN
Feb. 15	at UCF	Noon	JSN
March 2	at Tulane	7 p.m.	JSN
March 9	at UL-Monroe	6:30 p.m.	JSN
March 14	SE Louisiana	1 p.m.	Cox
March 21	at South Carolina	12:30 p.m.	JSN
March 30	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m.	JSN
April 4	at Auburn	1:30 p.m.	JSN
April 10	Arkansas	2 p.m.	Fox
April 11	Arkansas	1 p.m.	Cox
April 16	Georgia	6:30 p.m.	Cox
April 24	at Tennessee	6 p.m.	CSS
April 25	at Tennessee	1 p.m.	JSN
April 27	vs. Tulane (tape-delayed)	10 p.m.	Cox
April 30	Alabama	6:30 p.m.	Cox
May 9	at Kentucky	Noon	JSN
May 14	Vanderbilt	6:30 p.m.	Cox
May 22	at Ole Miss	3 p.m.	Fox
May 23	at Ole Miss	1:30 p.m.	JSN

JSN - Jumbo Sports Network

Cox - Cox Sports Television

Fox - Fox Sports Southwest (SEC-TV)

CSS - Comcast Sports Southeast

All Times are Central and Subject to Change

WALLY PONTIFF JR. BASEBALL CLASSIC

LSU and Southeastern Louisiana will meet in the first Wally Pontiff Jr. Baseball Classic on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 p.m. at Zephyr Field in Metairie. The game was originally scheduled for Feb. 25, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

Tickets for the game are \$15, and all seating is reserved. Tickets are on sale at the SLU athletic ticket office (985.549.5466), located at Gate 3 of the University Center. Tickets are also on sale at the Zephyr Field box office (504.734.5155) and at any Ticketmaster locations (800.488.5252).

Pontiff, who was a two-time all-SEC selection at LSU, died unexpectedly on July 24, 2002 at 21. Pontiff started for the Tigers from 2000 through 2002 and was the Most Valuable Player of the 2000 SEC Tournament and helped the Tigers win the 2000 national championship.

Pontiff was also a two-time selection to the SEC Academic Honor Roll and was a member of the 2002 District VI all-academic baseball team with a 3.25 GPA in biological sciences.

The game will mark SLU's first visit to Zephyr Field since winning three games at the park to open the 1998 season. LSU has played at least one game in the park each season since 1998, posting a 9-7 overall mark. Southeastern and LSU have tentative plans to play again at Zephyr Field in 2005. The Lions and the Tigers will also meet in a three-game series this season at Alex Box Stadium March 12-14.

Patterson, Harris Earn Collegiate Baseball Pre-Season Recognition

LSU outfielder **Ryan Patterson** and first baseman **Clay Harris** were named to the 2004 Collegiate Baseball pre-season all-America team. Patterson, a junior from Rowlett, Texas, was voted to the first team. Harris, a junior from Slidell, La., was a third-team selection.

Patterson earned first-team all-SEC honors last season as the Tigers' primary designated hitter, batting .350 (92-for-263) with 20 doubles, one triple, 16 homers and 51 RBI. He was voted to the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional all-tournament team, and he was named the state's Newcomer of the Year by the Louisiana Sportswriters Association.

Harris, also a 2003 first-team all-SEC selection, tied Patterson for the team lead in home runs with 16. Harris hit .332 (70-for-211) with 16 doubles and 62 RBI, and he was voted second-team all-Louisiana by the LSWA.

Holt, Zeringue Receive Baseball America Pre-Season Accolades

LSU outfielders **Jon Zeringue** and **J.C. Holt** were named to the 2004 Baseball America pre-season all-America team. Zeringue, a junior from Thibodaux, La., was voted to the second team. Holt, a junior from Sieper, La., was a third-team selection.

Zeringue earned second-team all-SEC honors last season as the Tigers' right fielder, batting .339 (77-for-227) with 15 doubles, 13 homers and 45 RBI. He was LSU's leading hitter during the second half of the season (34 games) with a .382 average.

Holt, the 2003 NCAA Baton Rouge Regional Most Outstanding Player, hit .299 last season with 11 doubles, two triples, five homers, 36 RBI, 51 runs and 16 stolen bases. The Tigers' center fielder was also voted in August the MVP of the Cape Cod League, the wooden-bat summer league for the nation's top collegiate players. Holt batted a league-high .388 (52-for-134) in the CCBL with six doubles, one triple, one homer, 19 RBI, 25 runs and 13 steals.

Aaron Hill's Donation Funds Locker Room Improvements

Smoke Laval received an unexpected Christmas gift in late December when former player Aaron Hill made a cash contribution to the LSU Baseball program. Hill, a first round draft pick of the Toronto Blue Jays in the 2003 amateur draft, signed professionally following his junior season after leading the Tigers to the 2003 College World Series. He was the 2003 SEC Player of the Year and is one of the Blue Jays' top prospects.

"I was stunned," said Laval of the gift. "He calls out of the blue over the holidays and wants to drop by and the next thing you know, he's handing me a check. I was speechless. I mean, it doesn't surprise me because that's A. Hill, that's him, but you never expect such generosity."

Laval said the gift was partially used to upgrade the carpet in the squad room, the locker room, the training room and the umpires' dressing rooms. In addition, it allowed Laval to replace all of the players' stools in the locker room.

"You see, Aaron Hill gets it", Laval said. "He gave us a lot while he was here as a player, but he has acknowledged on his own, without prompting, that he received a lot in return. To my knowledge, no player has ever given back directly to the baseball program like this, especially so soon after finishing his career here. It's the nicest thing that a former player of mine has ever done."

"People need to know what he has done and how much this place and this program have meant to him to make such a gift. And we plan to show him our appreciation and give the fans a chance to thank him properly as well."

Smoke Laval

HEAD COACH • THIRD YEAR

Raymond "Smoke" Laval enhanced his reputation as one of the country's top college baseball coaches, as, in just his second season at the helm of the LSU program, he guided the 2003 Tigers to the Southeastern Conference title -- LSU's first since 1997 -- and a berth in the College World Series.

Laval, the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, directed 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.

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, who served seven seasons (1994-2000) as the head coach at the University of Louisiana-Monroe, assumed control of the LSU program from Bertman, who led the Tigers to five NCAA championships and 11 College World Series appearances during an 18-year (1984-2001) tenure. Laval worked as Bertman's top assistant coach for 10 seasons (1984-93), helping lead LSU to its first two NCAA titles in 1991 and 1993. During Laval's 10 years as assistant coach, LSU posted a 483-182-1 record, won five SEC titles, appeared in six College World Series and captured two national championships.

Laval was known at LSU as one of the nation's best recruiters and brightest assistant coaches, as the Tigers reached the College World Series in only the third season (1986) of the Bertman-Laval regime. LSU followed the '86 CWS appearance with Omaha berths in 1987, 1989 and 1990 before the Tigers claimed the school's first baseball national title in 1991. After LSU captured its second NCAA crown in 1993, Laval departed Baton Rouge to become the head coach at Northeast Louisiana (now Louisiana-Monroe).

During his assistant coaching tenure at LSU, Laval -- who worked as the Tigers' primary recruiter - tutored 24 players who would eventually reach the major leagues. Some of the major leaguers with whom Laval worked include all-stars Albert Belle and Paul Byrd and first-round pick Todd Walker.

Laval compiled a 241-159 (.603) mark as the head coach at ULM, guiding the Indians to NCAA Regional appearances in 1995, 1999 and 2000.

Laval began his coaching career in 1977 as an assistant at Jacksonville University before moving to Wolfson High School in Jacksonville as a baseball and football coach. He served as a graduate assistant at LSU in 1979 under former Tiger head coach Jack Lamabe before working two years as an assistant at Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Fla.

Laval served as an assistant coach at Florida for two seasons (1982-83) before returning to LSU to work under 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.

Laval Year-By-Year

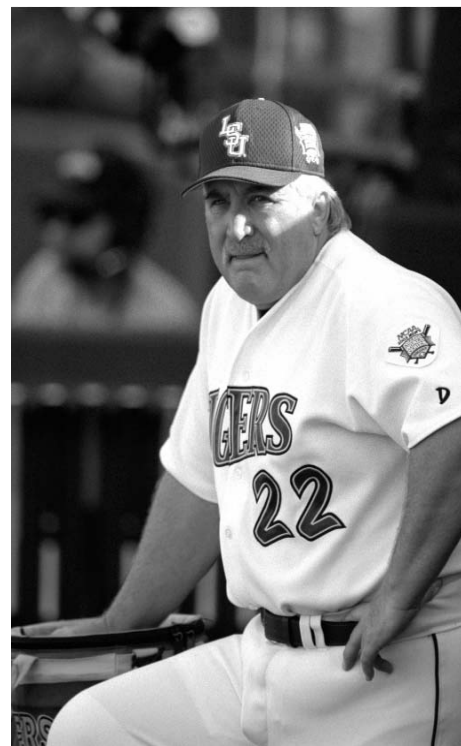
Year	W-L	School	Highlights
1994	20-33	UL-Monroe	Defeated Three NCAA Tournament Teams
1995	37-20	UL-Monroe	SLC Tournament Champions; NCAA Regional Participants
1996	41-19	UL-Monroe	School-Record 41 Wins; SLC Louisiana Division Champions
1997	33-21	UL-Monroe	Became Fourth Coach in ULM History To Record 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	9-1	LSU	

Career Record (10th year): 339-204-1

LSU Record (3rd year): 98-45-1

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



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 (Jacksonville, Fla.)
1979	Graduate Assistant	LSU
1980-81	Assistant Coach	Gulf Coast CC
1982-83	Assistant Coach	Florida
1984-93	Assistant Coach	LSU
1994-2000	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)

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.LSUsports.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.lsusports.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 will distribute all LSU Baseball games by satellite to 25 radio affiliates. WDGL-FM (98.1) Radio in Baton Rouge will serve as the flagship station for the LSU Sports Network. Jim Hawthorne, the "Voice of the Tigers" for all LSU sports, begins his 21st 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 will also air "Tiger Sportsline with Smoke Laval" each Monday from 7-8 p.m., beginning on March 29. 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 first installment of the 2004 season will air March 21, and the show will air weekly through May 23. The show 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 Cable Channel 4 in Baton Rouge.

Bill Franques
wfranqu@lsu.edu

Week 4: March 1-7

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	1	TUESDAY	2	WEDNESDAY	3	THURSDAY	4	FRIDAY	5	SATURDAY	6	SUNDAY	7
		vs. Tulane 7 p.m. Zephyr Field						vs. Houston 6:30 p.m. Alex Box Stadium		vs. Houston 2 p.m. Alex Box Stadium		vs. Houston 1 p.m. Alex Box Stadium	
		Radio: LSU Sports Network						Radio: LSU Sports Network		Radio: WJNH 107.3 FM in Baton Rouge only		Radio: LSU Sports Network	
		TV: Jumbo Sports Network						TV: None		TV: None		TV: None	