

2005 Schedule/Results (14-4, 0-0 SEC)

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
February		
11 (Fri.)	NICHOLLS STATE	W, 12-1
12 (Sat.)	NICHOLLS STATE	W, 19-2
13 (Sun.)	NICHOLLS STATE	W, 6-3
15 (Tue.)	UL-MONROE (COX)	W, 9-6
18 (Fri.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	W, 4-2
19 (Sat.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	W, 11-8
20 (Sun.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	W, 15-9
25 (Fri.)	at Houston	L, 1-2
27 (Sun.)	at Houston (JSN)	W, 11-5
27 (Sun.)	at Houston (JSN)	W, 8-1
March		
2 (Wed.)	at Centenary	L, 1-6
4 (Fri.)	UAB	W, 12-6
5 (Sat.)	UAB	W, 7-3
6 (Sun.)	UAB	L, 3-4
8 (Tue.)	#1 TULANE (COX)	L, 2-6
11 (Fri.)	ARIZONA STATE	W, 6-5
12 (Sat.)	WESTERN ILLINOIS	W, 10-8
13 (Sun.)	ARIZONA STATE	W, 20-3
15 (Tue.)	at New Orleans	PPD
18 (Fri.)	at #17 Georgia	6 p.m.
19 (Sat.)	at #17 Georgia	3 p.m.
20 (Sun.)	at #17 Georgia (JSN)	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 (COX)	6:30 p.m.
April		
1 (Fri.)	at Alabama	6:30 p.m.
2 (Sat.)	at Alabama	4 p.m.
3 (Sun.)	at Alabama (JSN)	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 (COX)	1 p.m.
19 (Tue.)	at Tulane (ESPN 2)	6 p.m. \$
22 (Fri.)	at Arkansas	7:05 p.m.
23 (Sat.)	at Arkansas	3:05 p.m.
24 (Sun.)	at Arkansas (JSN)	1:05 p.m.
29 (Fri.)	at Vanderbilt	6 p.m.
30 (Sat.)	at Vanderbilt	2 p.m.
May		
1 (Sun.)	at Vanderbilt (JSN)	1 p.m.
3 (Tue.)	SOUTHERN (COX)	6:30 p.m.
6 (Fri.)	KENTUCKY (COX)	6:30 p.m.
7 (Sat.)	KENTUCKY	2 p.m.
8 (Sun.)	KENTUCKY	1 p.m.
13 (Fri.)	TENNESSEE (COX)	6:30 p.m.
14 (Sat.)	TENNESSEE (SEC-TV)	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 (JSN)	1:30 p.m.
25-29	SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.)	
June		
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. 6 • at Georgia**March 18, 19 and 20, 2005 • 6 p.m., 3 p.m., Noon CST
Athens, Ga. • Foley Field (3,291)**No. 5 LSU Opens SEC Play At Defending Conference Champion Georgia**

Fifth-ranked LSU (14-4, 0-0) opens Southeastern Conference play this weekend as the Tigers travel to Athens to face No. 17 Georgia (10-6, 0-0) at Foley Field. The series matches two of the four SEC teams – along with South Carolina and Arkansas – that advanced to the 2004 College World Series.

Game 1 of the LSU-UGA series is set for 6 p.m. CST Friday, Game 2 begins at 3 p.m. CST Saturday and Game 3 starts at Noon CST Sunday. The game on Friday can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL 98.1 FM in Baton Rouge). The radio station for Saturday's game will be determined by LSU's participation in the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. Sunday's baseball game will be broadcast in Baton Rouge only on WTGE 107.3 FM., as the LSU women's basketball NCAA Tournament game will be carried on the full network (98.1 FM in Baton Rouge). All three games can also be heard on the LSU Athletics web site, www.LSUsports.net.

Laval will send senior left-hander Lane Mestepey (4-1, 1.89 ERA) to the mound in Friday's series opener. Mestepey moved into a tie for second place on the all-time LSU wins list, as he earned his 33rd victory last Friday over Arizona State. Mestepey is five wins shy of tying Scott Schultz (38 wins, 1992-95) as the Tigers' career victories leader. Georgia coach David Perno is expected to counter with junior right-hander Mitchell Boggs (1-1, 1.38 ERA), who will be making his first start this season and the second start of his career.

LSU leads the overall series with Georgia, 48-14-1. The teams split four meetings last season, as the Tigers won two of three games versus UGA in Baton Rouge before the Bulldogs posted a 1-0 victory at the SEC Tournament in Hoover, Ala.

TV: CSS (Saturday, no Louisiana affiliates); JSN (Sunday; Lyn Rollins -- play-by-play, Ronnie Rantz -- analyst)

Radio: LSU Sports Network (Charles Hanagriff -- play-by-play, Bill Franques -- analyst); Full network on Friday, TBD pending men's basketball in NCAA Tournament on Saturday, Baton Rouge only on Sunday

Pitching Matchups**Game 1**

LSU -- Sr. LHP Lane Mestepey (4-1, 1.89 ERA, 33.1 IP, 4 BB, 24 SO)

UGA -- Jr. RHP Mitchell Boggs (1-1, 1.38 ERA, 13.0 IP, 1 BB, 13 SO)

Game 2

LSU -- So. LHP Clay Dirks (4-0, 2.55 ERA, 24.2 IP, 8 BB, 22 SO)

UGA -- Jr. RHP Michael Hyle (1-0, 2.79 ERA, 19.1 IP, 7 BB, 18 SO)

Game 3

LSU -- Jr. LHP Greg Smith (4-1, 2.97 ERA, 30.1 IP, 11 BB, 31 SO)

UGA -- Sr. RHP Sean Ruthven (1-1, 4.11 ERA, 15.1 IP, 10 BB, 14 SO)

LSU Probable Position Starters

Pos.	Player	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
C	Matt Liuzza	Jr.-2L	R/R	.244	2	8	.417 (5-for-12), 1 HR, 3 RBI last weekend
1B	Will Harris	Jr.-2L	R/R	.265	1	10	.318 (7-for-22) with runners in scoring position
2B	Clay Harris	Sr.-3L	R/R	.439	3	17	.667 (8-for-12), 1 HR, 5 RBI last weekend
SS	Michael Hollander	Fr.-HS	R/R	.361	0	7	<i>Baseball America</i> HS Top HS prospect in 2004
	-or- Derek Hebert	Sr.-1L	L/R	.205	1	4	Started 21 games at SS in 2004
3B	Blake Gill	Sr.-3L	L/R	.339	2	20	Returned to infield last weekend (shoulder inj.)
LF	Quinn Stewart	Jr.-1L	R/R	.241	1	6	.333 (4-for-12), 1 HR, 5 RBI last weekend
CF	Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.403	6	16	Tied 1st in SEC in runs scored, 2nd in HR
RF	Nick Stavinocha	Sr.-1L	R/R	.328	4	20	Finished single shy of cycle vs. ASU (3/13)
DH	Dustin Weaver	Sr.-2L	R/R	.257	1	8	.364 (4-for-11), 0 HR, 3 RBI last weekend

LSU				Georgia			
Record	14-4 (0-0 SEC)			Record	10-6 (0-0 SEC)		
Ranking	No. 5 Baseball America			Ranking	No. 21 Baseball America		
	No. 5 Collegiate Baseball				No. 17 Collegiate Baseball		
	No. 6 ESPN/Sports Weekly				No. 18 ESPN/Sports Weekly		
Coach	Smoke Laval			Coach	David Perno		
Career Record	390-226-1 (.633/11th year)			Career Record	116-84 (.580/fourth year)		
LSU Record	149-67-1 (.690/fourth year)			UGA Record	116-84 (.580/fourth year)		
Laval vs. UGA	8-2			Perno vs. LSU	2-8		

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Tracking the Tigers

<u>Week</u>	<u>BA</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>ESPN/SW</u>
Preseason	2	5	4
Feb. 7	2	5	3
Feb. 14	2	5	3
Feb. 21	2	3	2
Feb. 28	3	3	2
March 7	5	6	5
March 14	5	5	6

Baseball America (March 14)

1. Texas (21-1)
2. Cal State Fullerton (14-3)
3. Tulane (15-3)
4. South Carolina (15-1)
5. **LSU (14-4)**
6. Florida (15-4)
7. Miami (Fla.) (17-4)
8. Texas A&M (15-5)
9. Arizona (14-6)
10. Georgia Tech (16-2)
11. Rice (14-5)
12. Stanford (11-7)
13. North Carolina (11-3)
14. Ole Miss (13-3)
15. Arkansas (16-1)
16. Baylor (11-7)
17. Vanderbilt (12-3)
18. College of Charleston (13-3)
19. UL-Lafayette (17-2)
20. Florida State (20-4)
21. Georgia (10-5)
22. Oregon State (13-3)
23. Nebraska (12-2)
24. TCU (12-5)
25. East Carolina (11-4)

Collegiate Baseball (March 14)

1. Texas (21-1)
2. South Carolina (15-1)
3. Cal State Fullerton (14-3)
4. Tulane (15-3)
5. **LSU (14-4)**
6. Georgia Tech (16-2)
7. Arkansas (16-1)
8. Rice (14-5)
9. North Carolina (11-3)
10. Florida (15-4)
11. Miami (Fla.) (17-4)
12. Texas A&M (15-5)
13. Arizona (14-6)
14. Wichita State (16-3)
15. Stanford (11-7)
16. Florida State (21-4)
17. Georgia (10-5)
18. Mississippi State (9-2)
19. UL-Lafayette (17-2)
20. Ole Miss (13-3)
21. Nebraska (12-2)
22. Central Florida (19-3)
23. Michigan (8-3)
24. Southern Cal (9-6)
25. Tennessee (14-3)

Statistical Comparison

LSU	Georgia
.308	Batting Average .278
3.60	Earned Run Average 3.32
39	Doubles 24
6	Triples 3
24	Homers 17
.500	Slugging Percentage .434
.399	On-Base Percentage .386
8/10	Stolen Bases/Attempts 16/26
.247	Opponents Batting Average .251
150	Strikeouts 144
6	Saves 5
.969	Fielding Percentage .975

In the Polls

LSU remained No. 5 in Baseball America this week after earning a sweep last weekend. The Tigers moved up to fifth in Collegiate Baseball and dropped to No. 6 in ESPN/Sports Weekly. Texas (21-1) owns the top spot in all three major polls.

The LSU-Georgia Series

LSU owns a 48-14-1 all-time advantage against Georgia, dating back to the first meeting between the two in 1975. Last season, the two foes split in four contests with the Tigers taking two of three in Baton Rouge. However, the Bulldogs won the last two meetings, taking the series finale on April 18 and eliminating LSU, 1-0, in the SEC Tournament on May 27.

11 and Counting ...

With its series sweep over Arizona State and Western Illinois, LSU has won its last 11 regular-season series, dating back to last season. The Tigers have also won an amazing 21 out of its last 22 regular-season series, dating back to the final two weekends of the 2003 regular season. In that span, LSU last lost a weekend series on April 9-11, 2004, when Arkansas swept three games at Alex Box Stadium. Since the loss, the Tigers have taken series from Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Ole Miss, Nicholls State, Arkansas-Little Rock, Houston, UAB, Western Illinois and Arizona State.

Notables From Last Weekend's Arizona State/Western Illinois Series

- LSU held on to win games over Arizona State on Friday night and Western Illinois on Saturday, before blasting the Sun Devils, 20-3, in the series finale on Sunday.

- Senior lefty **Lane Mestepey** picked up his 33rd career victory in Friday's opener, working eight innings and striking out five.

- LSU's 20-3 victory on Sunday featured a 12-run fourth inning highlighted by four consecutive home runs from **Blake Gill**, **Ryan Patterson**, **Clay Harris** and **Nick Stavinoha**. LSU last hit four homers in an inning on May 30, 1998, when the Tigers unloaded four dingers in a 12-10 College World Series victory over Southern California

- The 12-run inning against Arizona State marked the Tigers' largest scoring output in a single frame since May 27, 2000, when LSU scored 14 runs in the third inning of an NCAA Regional game against Louisiana-Monroe in Alex Box Stadium

On Deck

LSU travels to Metairie on Wednesday to face Southeastern Louisiana at Zephyr Field at 6:30 p.m. The Tigers return home to host Auburn in their SEC home opener next weekend

Bash Brothers

It's no secret that both **Clay** and **Will Harris** are brothers. The two, who occupy the left side of the Tigers' infield, are first and sixth on the squad in batting average. Clay, who made the move from third base to second base in the off-season, propelled his hitting a team-high .439 over last weekend. Will, the younger of the two, is hitting .265 on the season with 12 runs, a homer and 10 RBI.

Out the Box

A common theme for LSU has been early inning uprisings. The Tigers have outscored their opponents 32-9 in the first inning on the season and have typically put games away from the start. In the season-opening series, the Tigers posted first innings of seven and five runs in the final two games versus Nicholls State. LSU also had a six-run outburst in the series finale versus Arkansas-Little Rock on Feb. 20.

Notable First Innings

Opponent	LSU First-Inning Runs
Nicholls St. (Feb. 12)	7
Nicholls St. (Feb. 13)	5
Ark.-LR (Feb. 20)	6

Mestepey Becomes All-Time Leader In Innings Pitched

Senior left-hander **Lane Mestepey** became the school's all-time leader in innings pitched on Feb. 25 at Houston. Mestepey worked six frames to surpass Scott Schultz's (1992-95) record of 398. He finished the game with 401.1 career innings worked. Mestepey currently sits at 415 innings pitched. The Zachary, La. native also moved into the SEC's top five in innings pitched. He is 12 innings away from tying Mississippi State's Jeff Brantley (1982-85) for fourth place. South Carolina's Kip Bouknight (1998-01) holds the all-time SEC record of 482.

SEC Career Innings Pitched

Player	Innings
1. Kip Bouknight, USC (1998-01)	482.0
2. John Powell, Auburn (1990-94)	477.0
3. R.A. Dickey, Tennessee (1994-96)	434.0
4. Jeff Brantley, Miss. State (1982-85)	427.0
5. Lane Mestepey, LSU (2001-present)	415.0

Mestepey Tied for Second in Career Victories

Senior southpaw **Lane Mestepey** eclipsed the 30-win plateau in his season-opening victory over Nicholls State and since then has won his 31st, 32nd and 33rd games. He is just five wins shy of tying Scott Schultz's mark (38) for LSU career victories. Mestepey entering the SEC's all-time top 10 in pitching victories last Friday. South Carolina's Kip Bouknight (1998-01) and Mississippi State's Jeff Brantley (1982-85) share the all-time record with 45 career wins.

LSU Career Pitching Victories

Player	Wins
1. Scott Schultz (1992-95)	38
2. Stan Loewer (1984-87)	33
Lane Mestepey (2001-present)	33
4. Paul Byrd (1989-91)	31

Gill Hitting Streak Snapped at 20 Games

Senior **Blake Gill's** 20-game hitting streak came to an end on Feb. 25 at Houston. Gill, who had hit safely in all five games he had played to start the season, went 0-for-4 on Friday at UH, despite hitting the ball hard in three of his four at-bats. Gill's streak, which began versus Vanderbilt on May 15 last season is the longest of his career and the longest since head coach Smoke Laval took over the program. Gill had a superb outing versus UL-Monroe on Feb. 15, going 4-for-5 with two runs and one RBI. It was the second four-hit game of his career.

Longest Hitting Streaks (past six seasons)

Player	Streak
Brad Cresse (1999-2000)	24
Cedrick Harris (1999-2000)	21
Blake Gill (2004-05)	20

Injury Report

A few Tigers will not see action in 2005 due to season-ending surgeries. 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. Freshman prospect **Nolan Cain** underwent Tommy John surgery at the beginning of February and will also miss the 2005 season. Outfielder **Steven Broschofsky** recently underwent shoulder surgery to repair a torn labrum. Centerfielder **Bruce Sprowl** broke his right pinky finger in last weekend's UAB series. He underwent surgery on March 10 and will be sidelined two to three weeks.

Player	Injury	Status
RHP Michael Bonura	Elbow	Offseason Tommy John surgery; out for season
OF Steven Broschofsky	Shoulder	Surgery in late February; out for season
RHP Nolan Cain	Elbow	Tommy John surgery in February; out for season
LHP Daniel Forrer	Shoulder	Offseason surgery; out for season
OF Bruce Sprowl	Broken Finger	Underwent surgery on March 10, out for 2-3 weeks

Laval Coaches 200th Game in Nicholls State Series Opener

The season-opening win over Nicholls State was head coach **Smoke Laval's** 200th as the Tiger skipper. Laval currently sits at 213 games, the fifth-highest mark of any coach in the school's history. Laval is 32 games away from reaching Jack Lamabe's (1979-83) total of 249. Laval's LSU coaching record of 149-67-1 (.690) is the second-highest mark, behind Skip Bertman's all-time winning percentage of .724.

All-Time LSU Games Coached

Coach	Games
1. Skip Bertman (1984-2001)	1,203
2. Jim Smith (1966-78)	489
3. Harry Rabenhorst (1927-42, 1946-56)	446
4. Jack Lamabe (1979-83)	249
5. Smoke Laval (2002-present)	217

ESPN/Sports Weekly (March 14)

- 1. Texas (39) (21-1)
- 2. Cal State Fullerton (1) (14-3)
- 3. South Carolina (15-1)
- 4. Tulane (15-3)
- 5. Miami (Fla.) (17-4)
- 6. **LSU (14-4)**
- 7. Rice (14-5)
- 8. Arkansas (16-1)
- 9. Georgia Tech (16-2)
- 10. Arizona (14-6)
- 11. Texas A&M (15-5)
- 12. Stanford (11-7)
- 13. Florida (15-4)
- 14. North Carolina (11-3)
- 15. Ole Miss (13-3)
- 16. Florida State (21-4)
- 17. UL-Lafayette (17-2)
- 18. Georgia (10-5)
- 19. Baylor (11-7)
- 20. Vanderbilt (12-3)
- 21. Nebraska (12-2)
- 22. Wichita State (16-3)
- 23. Southern Cal (9-6)
- 24. Texas Tech (15-5)
- 25. TCU (12-5)

2005 SEC Standings (March 17)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
South Carolina	0-0	.000	16-1
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	13-3
Florida	0-0	.000	15-4
Tennessee	0-0	.000	14-4
Kentucky	0-0	.000	12-4
Georgia	0-0	.000	10-6
Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Arkansas	0-0	.000	16-1
Miss. State	0-0	.000	11-2
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	15-3
LSU	0-0	.000	14-4
Auburn	0-0	.000	15-5
Alabama	0-0	.000	12-5

This Week in the SEC (March 18-20)
(All times are Central)

Friday, March 18

Kentucky at Alabama • 6:30 p.m.
Tennessee at Auburn • 7 p.m.
Florida at Ole Miss • 6:30 p.m.
Arkansas at South Carolina • 6 p.m.
LSU at Georgia • 6 p.m.
Vanderbilt at Miss. State • 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 19

Kentucky at Alabama • 4 p.m.
Tennessee at Auburn • 4 p.m.
Florida at Ole Miss • 1:30 p.m.
Arkansas at South Carolina • 3 p.m.
LSU at Georgia • 3 p.m.
Vanderbilt at Miss. State • 2 p.m.

Sunday, March 20

Kentucky at Alabama • 2 p.m.
Tennessee at Auburn • 1 p.m.
Florida at Ole Miss • Noon
Arkansas at South Carolina • 11:30 a.m.
LSU at Georgia • Noon
Vanderbilt at Miss. State • 1:30 p.m.

LSU by the Numbers in 2005

Home	12-2
Away	2-2
Neutral Sites	0-0
Day.....	7-1
Night.....	7-3
TV Games.....	3-1
On Jumbo Sports	2-0
On Cox Sports	1-1
On ESPN 2	0-0
On SEC-TV	0-0
Vs. SEC	0-0
Vs. SEC West	0-0
Vs. SEC East.....	0-0
Non-SEC Games.....	14-4
Vs. Louisiana opponents.....	4-2
Vs. Ranked opponents	0-1
Vs. C-USA	4-3
Vs. Mid-Continent	1-1
Vs. Pac-10	2-0
Vs. Southland	4-0
Vs. Sun Belt	3-0
Vs. SWAC	0-0
Vs. WAC	0-0
Doubleheaders	0-0
Game 1 of weekend series	4-1
Game 2 of weekend series	5-0
Game 3 of weekend series	4-1
Sunday	3-1
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	1-1
Wednesday.....	0-1
Friday	4-1
Saturday	5-0
One-run games.....	1-2
Extra inning games	0-0
Shutouts.....	0-0
Number of Losing Streaks	1
Longest Losing Streak	2
Games in which LSU scores first	10-1
Games in which opponent scores first	4-3
When LSU scores 10+	8-0
When LSU scores <5	1-4
When opponent scores 10+	0-0
When opponent scores <5.....	7-2
When LSU leads after 6 innings	13-0
When LSU trails after 6 innings.....	0-4
When tied after 6 innings	1-0
When LSU leads after 7 innings	14-0
When LSU trails after 7 innings.....	0-4
When tied after 7 innings	0-0
When LSU leads after 8 innings	14-0
When LSU trails after 8 innings.....	0-4
When tied after 8 innings	0-0
When LSU has 10+ hits.....	10-1
When LSU has <6 hits.....	1-1
When opponent has 10+ hits	5-1
When opponent has <6 hits	4-1
When LSU has more hits	10-2
When LSU has fewer hits	3-2
Equal hits	1-0
When LSU hits 3 or more home runs	3-0
When LSU hits no home runs	3-2
When opponent hits 3+ home runs	0-0
When opponent hits no home runs	8-2
Games won on final at-bat	0
Games lost on final at-bat	0
Come-from-behind wins.....	5
Losses when LSU led previously	2
Blown saves	0
Longest game	3:27 (at Houston, 2/27 - Game 1)
Shortest game(9 or more innings)	2:13 (vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, 2/18)

LSU-Tulane ESPN 2 Tilt Highlight TV Schedule

LSU's April 19 contest versus Tulane at Zephyr Field in Metairie has been picked up by ESPN 2, the network announced on Feb. 28. The matchup highlights the Tigers' television schedule this season. The nationally-televised contest will mark LSU's 56th appearance on either ESPN or ESPN2. The Tigers first appeared on ESPN on April 22, 1984 at Miami (Fla.). The game, which was originally scheduled for 7 p.m., has been moved up to 6 p.m. to accommodate the broadcast. To date, LSU is 198-101-2 (.662) all-time on television, which includes a 3-0 mark this season.

Patterson Named To National Player Of The Year Wallace Watch

Senior outfielder **Ryan Patterson** was named to the 2005 Wallace Watch list on Feb. 15, presented annually to the national college baseball player of the year. The Brooks Wallace Award was captured by Cal State Fullerton's Kurt Suzuki last season. Patterson is one of 65 baseball student-athletes named to the list. The Wallace Watch will be trimmed to 12 semifinalists on May 24. The selection committee will then narrow the list to three finalists following the NCAA Super Regionals at a press conference in Omaha on June 16. Vanderbilt's Warner Jones, Cal-State Fullerton's Ricky Romero, Ole Miss' Stephen Head and Georgia's Will Startup also headline the list.

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.

Liuzza Headlines Baseball America Preseason Awards

Baseball America released its preseason Southeastern Conference awards in its college baseball preview 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. 18 rated senior, followed by **Ryan Patterson** who was listed 19th.

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. The trio have turned two 5-4-3 double plays on the season.

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. LSU (11)	66
2. Ole Miss (1)	51
3. Arkansas	46
4. Mississippi State	30
5. Alabama	29
6. Auburn	23

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 also 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.

SEC Team Statistical Rankings

At The Plate

Batting Average

1. Ole Miss	.346
9. LSU	.308

Slugging Percentage

1. South Carolina	.560
5. LSU	.500

On-Base Percentage

1. Tennessee	.538
8. LSU	.399

Runs Scored

1. Tennessee	171
4. LSU	157

Hits

1. Auburn	227
8. LSU	197

RBI

1. Tennessee	155
4. LSU	144

Home Runs

1. South Carolina	26
t2. LSU	24

Total Bases

1. Tennessee	357
4. LSU	320

Stolen Bases

1. Arkansas	55
12. LSU	8

On The Mound

Earned Run Average

1. Alabama	2.28
10. LSU	3.60

Opponents Batting Average

1. Alabama	.195
7. LSU	.247

Strikeouts

1. Alabama	232
t5. LSU	150

Saves

1. Auburn	8
t2. LSU	6

In The Field

Fielding Percentage

1. South Carolina	.980
t4. LSU	.969

Double Plays

1. Florida	22
t5. LSU	16

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 1 • LSU 12, Nicholls State 1

Feb. 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
NSU	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	2	1
LSU	0	0	3	4	0	0	5	0	X	-	12	10	1

W: Mestepey (1-0) **L:** Fernandez, M. (0-1)
Time: 2:14 **Att:** 8,185 (paid); 5,284 (actual)

Notes: Bruce Sprowl -- in his first game since the 2003 season -- went a perfect 3-for-3 providing one of four LSU homers, while Lane Mestepey went seven strong innings, allowing no earned runs on just three hits. Mestepey fired 80 pitches, including 58 strikes, struck out four and walked none. It was Mestepey's 30th win of his career. Nick Stavinocha added a three-run shot and Dustin Weaver had a two-run homer. Eric English made his debut working the final two innings without allowing a hit.

Game 2 • LSU 19, Nicholls State 2

Feb. 12, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
NSU	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	-	2	5	4
LSU	7	1	1	0	5	0	5	0	X	-	19	20	1

W: Dirks (1-0) **L:** Breaux (0-1)
Time: 2:44 **Att:** 8,236 (paid); 5,359 (actual)

Notes: Freshmen Jordan Mayer and Michael Hollander led a 20-hit LSU attack, combining to go 5-for-8 with four runs and seven RBI in their first collegiate starts. All nine Tiger starters plated runs and six first-year players collected hits in the largest margin of victory since posting a 20-3 win over Auburn on May 10, 2003. Clay Dirks pitched six innings, allowing one run on two hits and striking out five. Mayer finished the game 2-for-3 with a triple, a homer and six RBI.

Game 3 • LSU 6, Nicholls State 3

Feb. 14, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
NSU	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	-	3	8	4
LSU	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	X	-	6	5	0

W: Smith (1-0) **L:** Markray (0-1)
S: Faircloth (1)
Time: 2:39 **Att:** 7,118 (paid); 1,920 (actual)

Notes: A five-run first inning highlighted by Michael Hollander's two-run double proved to be just enough run support for three LSU pitchers. Greg Smith earned the win in his first career start, working into the sixth inning and allowing two runs on six hits with nine strikeouts. Smith had two critical pickoffs that erased any kind of Colonel threats late in the game. Jordan Faircloth wrapped up the save surrendering two hits and striking out two.

Game 4 • LSU 9, UL-Monroe 6

Feb. 15, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ULM	0	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	6	10	3
LSU	0	2	4	0	0	0	1	2	X	-	9	14	2

W: Determann (1-0) **L:** Stephens (0-1)
Time: 3:03 **Att:** 7,418 (paid); 3,207 (actual)

Notes: A run-scoring balk in the seventh broke a 6-6 tie and Clay Harris' two-run homer in the eighth added insurance in a wild game. The game featured four lead changes. Blake Gill led the Tigers at the plate, going 4-for-5 with two runs and one RBI. Chase Dardar earned the start and left in the fifth after allowing six earned runs on seven hits and striking out six. Jason Determann came on and shut down the Indians, working the final 4.1 innings without allowing a run. Determann surrendered just three hits and struck out six.

Game 5 • LSU 4, Ark.-Little Rock 2

Feb. 18, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ALR	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	-	2	8	1
LSU	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	X	-	4	8	1

W: Mestepey (2-0) **L:** Cromer (1-1)
S: Faircloth (2)
Time: 2:13 **Att:** 7,646 (paid); 3,757 (actual)

Notes: Lane Mestepey and Bennett Cromer battled in a pitchers duel with Mestepey earning his second win in 6.1 innings. Ryan Patterson broke out of an early season slump going 2-for-3. Two unearned runs proved to be the difference in the game. Edgar Ramirez fell into trouble in the ninth, letting the tying run come to the plate. Jordan Faircloth came on and recorded the final out for the save.

Game 6 • LSU 11, Ark.-Little Rock 8

Feb. 19, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ALR	2	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	1	-	8	13	3
LSU	2	0	1	4	2	0	1	1	X	-	11	14	0

W: Dirks (2-0) **L:** Enlow (0-3)
S: Determann (1)
Time: 3:03 **Att:** 8,044 (paid); 4,670 (actual)

Notes: Both teams combined to pound out 19 runs on 27 hits in a game featuring five pitchers. Ryan Patterson led LSU at the plate, going 3-for-5 with two RBI. Clay Dirks went five innings, allowing three runs on six hits and striking out four. LSU's four-run first was the result of two critical UALR errors. Justin Meier made his first appearance in the sixth, getting out of a bases loaded jam. He left with two on in the ninth and gave way to Jason Determann who recorded his first save since earlier last season.

Game 7 • LSU 15, Ark.-Little Rock 9

Feb. 20, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ALR	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	5	0	-	9	9	0
LSU	6	6	0	0	1	0	0	2	X	-	15	16	4

W: Smith (2-0) **L:** Clay (1-1)
S: English (1)
Time: 3:21 **Att:** 7,475 (paid); 3,234 (actual)

Notes: LSU won its seventh straight contest, its best start since 1997. Nick Stavinocha went 2-for-3 with a homer, a double and a career high five RBI. Greg Smith earned the win, working five innings and allowing two runs on five hits. After the first two innings, the Tigers pounded out 12 runs on 11 hits, including three homers and four doubles. UALR brought the tying run to the plate in the eighth after a five-run inning. Eric English worked out of a bases loaded jam in the eighth and then worked a perfect ninth for his first save.

Game 8 • Houston 2, LSU 1

Feb. 25, 2005 at Cougar Field (Houston, Texas)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
LSU	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-	1	6	1
UH	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	X	-	2	7	0

W: Farrington (2-0) **L:** Mestepey (2-1)
S: Vachlavik (1)
Time: 2:15 **Att:** 2,456

Notes: LSU dropped its first game of the season, collecting only six hits during the contest -- three of them from Clay Harris. Lane Mestepey suffered the hard-luck loss, despite becoming the school's all-time leader in innings pitched in the third. He finished the game with 401.1. Houston's Matt Farrington handcuffed LSU for six innings, allowing one run thanks to Bruce Sprowl's sacrifice fly in the fifth. UH scored their two runs in the bottom of the frame on Jake Stewart's two-run single (both unearned) that bounced off of Mestepey's glove into right field. Cougar reliever Justin Vachlavik recorded the save, despite a threat by the Tigers in their final at-bat.

Game 9 • LSU 11, Houston 5

Feb. 27, 2005 at Cougar Field (Houston, Texas)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
LSU	2	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	-	11	14	1
UH	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	-	5	12	2

W: Dirks (3-0) **L:** Lincoln (0-2)
Time: 3:27 **Att:** 2,785

Notes: LSU exploded for eight runs on nine hits through the first three innings and never looked back in the first game of a double-header. Ryan Patterson tied a career high with four hits, producing four runs and two RBI on a homer in the third. Clay Dirks settled down after a shaky start and registered his third win, allowing four runs (three earned) on seven hits and striking out five. The Tigers broke the game open in the third with homers by Will Harris and Patterson.

Game 10 • LSU 8, Houston 1

Feb. 27, 2005 at Cougar Field (Houston, Texas)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
LSU	0	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	-	8	8	1
UH	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	5	4

W: Smith (3-0) **L:** Flores (0-3)
Time: 2:55 **Att:** n/a

Notes: LSU finished off a doubleheader sweep as Greg Smith tossed the most impressive performance of his career, limiting the Cougars to one run on just five hits in a career high seven-inning outing. Ryan Patterson delivered a three-run homer, while Bruce Sprowl and Michael Hollander added two hits apiece. Four Tigers scored unearned runs in the second courtesy of an error by third baseman Kevin Roberts. Justin Meier closed out the final two innings with a dominating performance, striking out four of the seven batters he faced.

Game 11 • Centenary 6, LSU 1

March 2, 2005 at Fair Grounds Field (Shreveport, La.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
LSU	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	-	1	2	3
CC	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	X	-	6	6	3

W: Biagi (1-0) **L:** Nall (0-1)
Time: 2:26 **Att:** 3,805

Notes: For the first time since 1956, LSU was defeated by Centenary behind a complete-game shutout from righty J.C. Biagi on a frigid night. LSU had won the last two meetings between the two, dating back 48 years. Biagi allowed one unearned run on just two hits -- LSU's lowest output since being two-hit at Arkansas in 1997. Brandon Nall suffered the loss in his first career start, lasting just two innings and walking three. Biagi finally surrendered a base hit in the seventh, allowing a single to Quinn Stewart. Matt Liuzza had a sac-fly, but Biagi worked a perfect eighth and ninth.

Game 12 • LSU 12, UAB 6

March 4, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
UAB	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	-	6	13	7
LSU	1	0	0	4	2	0	3	2	X	-	12	9	0

W: Mestepey (3-1) **L:** Price (1-1)
Time: 2:54 **Att:** 7,419 (paid); 3,876 (actual)

Notes: Nick Stavinocha went 2-for-4 with a homer and four RBI and Ryan Patterson tied a career high with four runs. UAB committed a season-high seven errors. Lane Mestepey earned the win despite not having his best stuff in 5.2 innings. Mestepey moved into sole possession of third place in LSU all-time victories and tied a career high with eight strikeouts. The Tigers trailed for the second time in as many games but a fourth-run fourth highlighted by Clay Harris' double and Stavinocha's three-run homer swung the momentum of the game. Stavinocha added an RBI double in the seventh.

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 13 • LSU 7, UAB 3

March 5, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
UAB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	-	3	4	1
LSU	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	0	X	-	7	10	0

W: Dirks (4-0) L: Brown (2-0)
Time: 2:26 Att: 7,539 (paid); 3,846 (actual)

Notes: Clay Dirks notched his fourth win, facing the minimum in a brilliant seven-inning, one-hit outing. Dirks took a no-hitter into the seventh, before surrendering his only hit to leadoff man Clint Toomey to start the frame. He also tied a career high with seven strikeouts. LSU turned three doubles plays. Nick Stavinocha collected three hits and two RBI. Chris Cahill relieved Dirks in the eighth and gave up three runs in the final two innings.

Game 14 • UAB 4, LSU 3

Feb. 5, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
UAB	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	-	4	5	1
LSU	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	3	8	3

W: Mills (1-0) L: Smith (3-1)
Time: 2:38 Att: 7,605 (paid); 3,773 (actual)

Notes: RF Cole Helms' solo homer broke a 3-3 tie in the sixth and UAB starter Randy Mills went seven strong innings to snap LSU's 15-game home winning streak. Greg Smith took the loss, allowing four runs and striking out eight, one shy of a career high. Smith committed two errors, which led to two unearned runs. Clay Harris went 2-for-4 with one RBI, boosting his average to .400. Blake Gill added a two-run double in the third. Despite putting the leadoff man on in the ninth, the Tigers were unable to score the tying run.

Game 15 • Tulane 6, LSU 2

March 8, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
TU	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	-	6	10	0
LSU	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	2	12	0

W: Gomes (2-0) L: Meier (0-1)
S: Latham (2)
Time: 2:54 Att: 7,913 (paid); 6,297 (actual)

Notes: Brian Bogusevic's two-out, two-run single in the eighth inning broke open a close game. LSU outthit its opponent for the second consecutive game. Justin Meier registered the loss in his first start of the season. Meier went five innings, surrendering four runs on three hits. Blake Gill hit his first homer of the year, highlighting a 2-for-5, two RBI night for the senior. Defensive gems and perfect positioning denied the Tigers any chance of a comeback.

Game 16 • LSU 6, Arizona State 5

March 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ASU	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	-	5	9	0
LSU	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	X	-	6	10	1

W: Mestepey (4-1) L: Zinicola (2-2)
S: Dirks (1)
Time: 2:38 Att: 7,298 (paid); 3,470 (actual)

Notes: Lane Mestepey worked eight innings to pick up his fourth win. LSU trailed early as Mestepey uncharacteristically allowed two hit batsmen and back-to-back singles in the second. In third, the Tigers' top four hitters all collected hits, including Clay Harris who added a two-run double. Quinn Stewart knocked his first homer of the year. Arizona State brought the tying run to the plate in the ninth and scoring two unearned runs. Clay Dirks registered his second career save in the ninth, striking out one and walking one.

Game 17 • LSU 10, Western Illinois 8

March 12, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
WIU	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	-	8	16	0
LSU	1	0	4	2	0	1	0	2	X	-	10	11	2

W: Dardar (1-0) L: Ferger (0-2)
S: Faircloth (3)
Time: 3:02 Att: 7,265 (paid); 3,356 (actual)

Notes: LSU survived a late scare for the second consecutive game, leading by as many as five runs but rallies by Western Illinois in the fifth, sixth and ninth kept the Leathernecks within striking distance. Clay Harris finished a homer shy of the cycle, going 4-for-4 with four runs scored and one RBI. Ryan Patterson added three hits, including a pair of homers, four runs scored and three RBI. Chris Cahill made his first career start, but Chase Dardar earned his first career win in relief.

Game 18 • LSU 20, Arizona State 3

March 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
ASU	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	3	6	3
LSU	4	0	0	(12)	1	2	0	1	X	-	20	20	1

W: Smith (4-1) L: Bresnehan (1-2)
Time: 2:54 Att: 7,422 (paid); 3,397 (actual)

Notes: A memorable 12-run fourth inning, featuring four consecutive homers by Blake Gill, Ryan Patterson, Clay Harris and Nick Stavinocha overpowered Arizona State. It was the first time the feat was accomplished in the program's history. Patterson homered twice for the second straight game and Stavinocha finished a single shy of the cycle. LSU sent 17 batters to the plate in the fourth and the first out was not recorded until the 12th hitter of the frame. It was the highest run tally in an inning for the Tigers since the 2000 NCAA Baton Rouge Regional versus UL-Monroe.

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.

Laval Year-By-Year

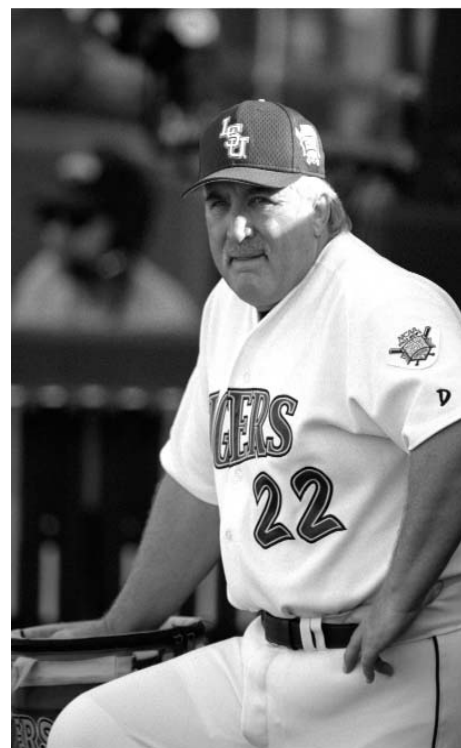
Year	W-L	School	Highlights
1994	20-33	UL-Monroe	Defeated Three NCAA Tournament Teams
1995	37-20	UL-Monroe	SLC Tournament Champions; NCAA Regional Participants
1996	41-19	UL-Monroe	School-Record 41 Wins; SLC Louisiana Division Champions
1997	33-21	UL-Monroe	Became Fourth Coach in ULM History To Record 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	14-4	LSU	

Career Record (11th year): 390-226-1 (.633)

LSU Record (4th year): 149-67-1 (.690)

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



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
1994-00	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)

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 PittsburghPirates 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

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N. Stadium Dr. at Nicholson Dr.
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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 6: March 14-20

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY 14	TUESDAY 15	WEDNESDAY 16	THURSDAY 17	FRIDAY 18	SATURDAY 19	SUNDAY 20
	vs. UNO PPD TBA make-up date Maestri Field New Orleans, La.		Depart for Athens, Ga. Team Headquarters: Holiday Inn Athens 706.549.4433	at Georgia 7 p.m. EST Foley Field Athens, Ga. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: CSS	at Georgia 4 p.m. EST Foley Field Athens, Ga. Radio: LSU Sports Network (TBD, pending men's basketball in NCAA Tournament) TV: None	at Georgia 1 p.m. EST Foley Field Athens, Ga. Radio: LSU Sports Network (Baton Rouge only) TV: JSN

LSU VS. GEORGIA