

2005 Schedule/Results (9-2, 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	6:30 p.m.
5 (Sat.)	UAB	Noon
6 (Sun.)	UAB	1 p.m.
8 (Tue.)	TULANE (COX)	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 (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. 4 • vs. UAB

March 4, 5 and 6, 2005 • 6:30 p.m., Noon, 1 p.m.
Baton Rouge, La. • Alex Box Stadium (7,760)

Tigers Return Home To Host UAB

Second-ranked LSU (9-2) returns to Alex Box Stadium this weekend as the Tigers play host to UAB (6-3) in a three-game series. LSU completed a four-game road swing with a 6-1 loss to Centenary Wednesday at Fair Grounds Field in Shreveport. The Tigers won two of three games at Houston last weekend. Game 1 of the LSU-UAB series is set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Game 2 begins at Noon Saturday and Game 3 starts at 1 p.m. Sunday. The games on Friday and Sunday can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL 98.1 in Baton Rouge). Saturday's game will be broadcast in Baton Rouge only on WTGE 107.3 FM.

LSU seeks to rebound this weekend after managing just two hits in Wednesday's loss to Centenary. The two-hit output was LSU's lowest since May 4, 1997, when the Tigers also collected two hits in a 16-1 loss at Arkansas. With the series victory at Houston last weekend, the Tigers have now won nine consecutive regular-season series, dating back to last season. LSU last lost a weekend series on April 9-11, 2004, when Arkansas swept three games in Alex Box Stadium.

LSU's team batting average fell to .300 after Wednesday's Centenary game. Second baseman Clay Harris leads the Tigers' offense, hitting .395 (15-for-38) with five doubles, two homers and eight RBI. Preseason all-America left fielder Ryan Patterson is batting .333 (13-for-39) with four doubles, two homers and eight RBI. Right fielder Nick Stavinoha is batting .314 (11-for-35) with a team-high 12 RBI to go along with one double and two homers.

LSU coach Smoke Laval will send senior left-hander Lane Mestepey (2-1, 0.46 ERA) to the mound in Friday's series opener. Mestepey became LSU's all-time leader in innings pitched last Friday at Houston, as he worked six frames in a 2-1 loss. Mestepey has now fired 401.1 career innings, surpassing the previous LSU mark of 398 set by Scott Schultz from 1992-95.

TV: None

Radio: LSU Sports Network (Jim Hawthorne, Charles Hanagriff); Saturday only in Baton Rouge

Pitching Matchups

Game 1

LSU - Sr. LHP Lane Mestepey (2-1, 0.46 ERA, 19.2 IP, 3 BB, 11 SO)
UAB - Sr. RHP Adam Price (1-0, 2.70 ERA, 13.1 IP, 3 BB, 8 SO)

Game 2

LSU - So. LHP Clay Dirks (3-0, 3.78 ERA, 16.2 IP, 5 BB, 14 SO)
UAB - Sr. RHP Jeff Brown (1-0, 6.43 ERA, 14.0 IP, 8 BB, 17 SO)

Game 3

LSU - Jr. LHP Greg Smith (3-0, 2.55 ERA, 17.2 IP, 6 BB, 21 SO)
UAB - Sr. RHP Cole Helms (1-0, 1.00 ERA, 9.0 IP, 4 BB, 8 SO)

LSU Probable Position Starters

Pos.	Player	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
C	Matt Liuzza	Jr.-2L	R/R	.190	1	4	2005 Preseason All-American by Baseball Am.
1B	Will Harris	Jr.-2L	R/R	.333	1	7	Second on team in batting average
2B	Clay Harris	Sr.-3L	R/R	.395	2	8	Team-high BA, batted .500 (5-for-10) at UH
SS	Derek Hebert -or- Michael Hollander	Sr.-1L	L/R	.280	1	4	Started 21 games at SS in 2004
3B	Bryan Harris -or- J.P. Padron	Fr.-HS	R/R	.389	0	6	Baseball America High School Top 200 prospect
LF	Ryan Patterson	Fr.-HS	R/R	.182	0	5	Batting .429 (3-for-7) with runners in score pos.
CF	Bruce Sprowl	Fr.-HS	R/R	.211	0	2	Started Game 2 and 3 at Houston
RF	Nick Stavinoha	Sr.-1L	R/R	.333	2	8	.385 (5-for-13), 2 HR, 5 RBI at Houston
DH	Blake Gill	Sr.-1L	L/R	.250	1	6	1.000 fielding percentage as starting CF
		Sr.-3L	L/R	.314	2	12	Sixth in SEC in RBI
		Sr.-3L	L/R	.375	0	6	Recently had a 20-game hitting streak

LSU		UAB	
Record	9-2 (0-0 SEC)	Record	6-4 (0-0 C-USA)
Ranking	No. 3 Baseball America No. 3 Collegiate Baseball No. 2 ESPN/Sports Weekly	Ranking	NR Baseball America NR Collegiate Baseball NR ESPN/Sports Weekly
Coach	Smoke Laval	Coach	Larry Giangrosso
Career Record	385-224-1 (.632/11th year)	Career Record	706-458-1 (.606/27th year)
LSU Record	144-65-1 (.689/fourth year)	UAB Record	132-160 (.452/ninth year)
Laval vs. UAB	First Meeting	Giangrosso vs. LSU	First Meeting
Team BA	.300	Team BA	.305
Team ERA	3.15	Team ERA	3.25

Tracking the Tigers

Week	BA	CB	ESPN/SW
Preseason	2	5	4
Feb. 7	2	5	3
Feb. 14	2	5	3
Feb. 21	2	3	2
Feb. 28	3	3	2

Baseball America (Feb. 28)

1. Tulane (9-1)
2. Texas (15-0)
3. **LSU (9-2)**
4. Cal State Fullerton (7-2)
5. South Carolina (9-0)
6. North Carolina (8-0)
7. Georgia (5-1)
8. Florida (8-2)
9. Miami (Fla.) (10-3)
10. Arizona (11-3)
11. Stanford (9-6)
12. Rice (10-2)
13. Vanderbilt (6-0)
14. Baylor (6-4)
15. Texas A&M (7-4)
16. Ole Miss (5-2)
17. Georgia Tech (7-2)
18. Florida State (15-1)
19. Arkansas (9-1)
20. College of Charleston (7-1)
21. UL-Lafayette (10-0)
22. Texas Tech (11-1)
23. Southern Cal (5-2)
24. Oregon State (8-1)
25. TCU (7-3)

Collegiate Baseball (Feb. 28)

1. Texas (15-0)
2. Tulane (9-1)
3. **LSU (9-2)**
4. North Carolina (8-0)
5. South Carolina (9-0)
6. Cal State Fullerton (7-2)
7. Rice (10-2)
8. Florida State (15-1)
9. Georgia (5-1)
10. Florida (8-2)
11. Miami (Fla.) (10-3)
12. Stanford (9-6)
13. Georgia Tech (7-2)
14. Arizona (11-3)
15. Wichita State (11-0)
16. Arkansas (9-1)
17. Texas A&M (7-4)
18. Nebraska (7-0)
19. Mississippi State (2-0)
20. Ole Miss (5-2)
21. Southern Cal (5-2)
22. UL-Lafayette (10-0)
23. Coastal Carolina (7-1)
24. Clemson (4-2)
25. Baylor (6-4)

In the Polls

LSU dropped to No. 3 in Baseball America this week, but remained second and third in ESPN/Sports Weekly and Collegiate Baseball, respectively. Texas (15-0) jumped from the No. 3 spot to No. 2 in Baseball America, while Tulane reclaimed the top spot for the fifth consecutive week. The Tigers are ranked second by ESPN/Sports Weekly for the second straight week, behind Texas. The Longhorns and Green Wave are ahead of the Tigers in Collegiate Baseball.

Nine And Counting ...

LSU has won its last nine regular-season series, dating back to last season. LSU last lost a weekend series on April 9-11, 2004, when Arkansas swept three games at Alex Box Stadium. Since then, the Tigers have taken series from Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Ole Miss, Nicholls State, Arkansas-Little Rock and Houston.

Notables From Wednesday's Game At Centenary

- LSU was held to just one run on two hits in a 6-1 loss at Centenary on Wednesday. The two hits is the lowest output by LSU since being two-hit in a 16-1 loss at Arkansas on May 4, 1997.
- It was the first loss to Centenary in the last 22 meetings between the two, dating back to 1956.
- Outfielder **Quinn Stewart** broke up a no-hit bid by the Gents' J.C. Biagi with a one-out single in the seventh.
- Senior right-hander **Brandon Nall** (0-1) was tabbed with the loss in his first career start.

Notables From Last Weekend At Houston

- LSU took two of three from Houston last weekend, including a doubleheader sweep last Sunday (11-5, 8-1).
- The teams were originally supposed to play on Saturday, but heavy rains forced the teams to play a twin-bill on Sunday.
- The Tigers lost the series opener, 2-1, despite a valiant pitching effort from senior southpaw **Lane Mestepey**. Mestepey became the school's all-time leader in innings pitched, working six innings and allowing two runs (both unearned) on six hits.
- Three of the six Tiger hits on Friday night were collected by **Clay Harris**.
- In a doubleheader sweep on Sunday, **Ryan Patterson** went 5-for-9 with a pair of homers, five RBI and six runs scored.
- In Game 2 of the twin-bill, junior left-hander **Greg Smith** tossed the most impressive performance of his career, limiting the Cougars to one run on five hits in a career high seven innings pitched.

Scouting UAB

UAB enters its first road series with a 6-4 record on the season. The Blazers snapped a three-game losing skid with two victories in as many days over Florida A&M on Tuesday and Wednesday. Senior Cole Helms was the hero on Tuesday, knocking in the game-winning run with a walk-off RBI single in the bottom of the 11th inning to give UAB a 6-5 victory. Despite the chilly weather on Wednesday, UAB's bats were on fire as the Blazers pounded out 15 hits en route to an 8-3 win. Seniors Nathan McCorkle and Seth Rollin each hit their second home run of the season in the game. Freshman Clint Toomey has stepped into the leadoff spot in the order while playing center field for the Blazers and leads the team with a .417 batting average. He has 10 hits and nine walks in just seven games while compiling a .576 on-base percentage. Also keeping UAB's offense clicking have been Helms and Rollin. Helms is batting .343 and leads the Blazers with 12 RBIs while Rollin's average sits at .353 after a strong week against Florida A&M. UAB is coached by Larry Giangrosso, who is in his ninth season at the school. The Blazers have been projected by Baseball America to finish eighth in Conference USA.

The LSU-UAB Series

LSU leads the all-time series with UAB, 3-1. The Tigers swept a three-game series from the Blazers in 1994 at Alex Box Stadium (11-5, 6-5, 17-6), while UAB posted a 14-8 win in 1982 at Alex Box in the first meeting between the schools.

Conference USA Showdown

This weekend's three-game set will be the second consecutive weekend the Tigers face off against a Conference USA foe when UAB visits Alex Box Stadium. LSU took two of three from Houston, who has become a common opponent over the past several seasons. Following this weekend's series, LSU hosts C-USA favorite, the top-ranked Tulane Green Wave on Tuesday. The Tigers are 7-3 in their last 10 games against C-USA opponents, dating back to a three-game series with Houston last February.

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 second on the squad in batting average. Clay, who made the move from third base to second base in the off-season, leads the team with a .395 average and a slugging percentage of .684. Clay is tied with the team lead in runs (13) and homers (2). The older Harris also owns an impressive .625 average (5-for-8) against left-handers. Will, the younger of the two, is hitting .333 on the season with nine runs, a homer and seven RBI.

Mestepey Becomes All-Time Leader In Innings Pitched

Senior left-hander **Lane Mestepey** became the school's all-time leader in innings pitched last Friday 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. The Zachary, La. native also moved into the SEC's top five in innings pitched. 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)	401.1

Mestepey Closes In On All-Time Wins Record

Senior southpaw **Lane Mestepey** eclipsed the 30-win plateau in his season-opening victory over Nicholls State and then won his 31st game versus Arkansas-Little Rock on Feb. 18. He is just seven wins shy of tying Scott Schultz's mark (38) for LSU career victories. His 31 wins are currently tied for third with current Anaheim Angels pitcher Paul Byrd (1989-91). He is two wins away from tying Stan Loewer (1984-87) for second place with 33. Mestepey is also two wins away from entering the SEC's all-time top 10 in pitching victories. South Carolina's Kip Bouknight (1998-01) and Mississippi State's Jeff Brantley (1982-85) hold 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
3. Paul Byrd (1989-91)	31
Lane Mestepey (2001-present)	31

Out the Box

A common theme for LSU has been early inning uprisings. The Tigers have outscored their opponents 25-6 in the first inning on the season and have typically put games away from the start. LSU has amassed 54 runs to opponents 17 runs in the first, second and third innings combined. The first (25) and second (15) frames have been the Tigers' most productive of the season. After falling to Houston in the series opener last weekend, LSU responded with two runs in the first game of a doubleheader, including eight runs over the first three innings. In the season-opening series, LSU posted first innings of seven and five runs in the final two games versus Nicholls State. The Tigers 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

Gill Hitting Streak Snapped at 20 Games

Senior **Blake Gill's** 20-game hitting streak came to an end last weekend at Houston. Gill, who had hit safely in all five games he had played this 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. A shoulder injury will also keep senior **Blake Gill** from playing the infield the first month of the season. Gill continues to progress and could see action in the infield later this month. 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.

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
IF Blake Gill	Shoulder	DH role until mid-March

ESPN/Sports Weekly (Feb. 28)

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

2005 SEC Standings (March 3)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
South Carolina	0-0	.000	10-0
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	7-0
Georgia	0-0	.000	6-1
Kentucky	0-0	.000	4-0
Florida	0-0	.000	9-2
Tennessee	0-0	.000	7-3

Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Miss. State	0-0	.000	3-0
Arkansas	0-0	.000	9-1
LSU	0-0	.000	9-2
Alabama	0-0	.000	9-3
Auburn	0-0	.000	10-4
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	6-3

This Week in the SEC (March 2-6)

(All times are Central)

Wednesday, March 2

Samford (4) at Alabama (8)
Georgia (4) vs. Georgia State (1) (Marietta, Ga.)

LSU (6) at Centenary (1)

Northwestern State (1) at Ole Miss (10)
Wofford (1) at South Carolina (13)
Lipscomb (3) at Vanderbilt (9)

Friday-Sunday, March 4-6

McNeese St. at Alabama • 6:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 2 p.m.
Clemson at Auburn • 7 p.m., 4 p.m., 1 p.m.
Villanova at Florida • 5:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 11 a.m.
Ill.-Chicago at Arkansas • 2:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 1 p.m.
Georgia at ECU Tournament (Greensville, N.C.)
Toledo at Kentucky • 3 p.m., Noon, Noon
UAB at LSU • 6:30 p.m., Noon, 1 p.m.
Purdue at Ole Miss • 6:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., Noon
Miss. State hosts NBC Classic
South Carolina at Minnesota Tournament
Morehead State at Tennessee • 2 p.m., 1 p.m., 1 p.m.
Ball State at Vanderbilt • 4 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.

LSU by the Numbers in 2005

Home	7-0
Away	2-2
Neutral Sites	0-0
Day.....	4-0
Night.....	5-2
TV Games.....	3-0
On Jumbo Sports	2-0
On Cox Sports	1-0
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.....	9-2
Vs. Louisiana opponents.....	4-1
Vs. Ranked opponents	0-0
Vs. C-USA	2-1
Vs. Mid-Continent.....	0-1
Vs. Pac-10	0-0
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	2-1
Game 2 of weekend series	3-0
Game 3 of weekend series	3-0
Sunday	2-0
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	1-0
Wednesday.....	0-1
Friday	2-1
Saturday	3-0
One-run games.....	0-1
Extra inning games	0-0
Shutouts.....	0-0
Number of Losing Streaks	0
Longest Losing Streak	0
Games in which LSU scores first	6-1
Games in which opponent scores first	3-1
When LSU scores 10+	5-0
When LSU scores <5	1-2
When opponent scores 10+	0-0
When opponent scores <5.....	5-1
When LSU leads after 6 innings	8-0
When LSU trails after 6 innings.....	0-2
When tied after 6 innings	1-0
When LSU leads after 7 innings	9-0
When LSU trails after 7 innings.....	0-2
When tied after 7 innings	0-0
When LSU leads after 8 innings	9-0
When LSU trails after 8 innings.....	0-2
When tied after 8 innings	0-0
When LSU has 10+ hits.....	6-0
When LSU has <6 hits.....	1-1
When opponent has 10+ hits	3-0
When opponent has <6 hits	3-0
When LSU has more hits	7-0
When LSU has fewer hits	1-2
Equal hits	1-0
When LSU hits 3 or more home runs	2-0
When LSU hits no home runs	2-2
When opponent hits 3+ home runs	0-0
When opponent hits no home runs	6-2
Games won on final at-bat	0
Games lost on final at-bat	0
Come-from-behind wins.....	2
Losses when LSU led previously	1
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)

"Country Strong" Mayer Shines in Debut

Freshman designated hitter **Jordan Mayer** was brilliant in his LSU debut on Feb. 12 in a Game 2 win over Nicholls State. Mayer, who redshirted in 2004, went 2-for-3 with a triple, a homer and six RBI in his first game as a Tiger. The six RBI are the most by an LSU freshman since **Blake Gill** accomplished the feat on April 14, 2002 at Georgia. In his first at-bat, Mayer drilled a three-run triple off of the centerfield wall to give the Tigers a 5-0 lead in the first. He later collected his first career homer, sending a three-run shot over the leftfield wall. Mayer, who head coach Smoke Laval admirably refers to as a "country-strong" hitter, will also see time at first base this season and could serve as a catcher in the future.

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 210 games, the fifth-highest mark of any coach in the school's history. Laval is 39 games away from reaching Jack Lamabe's (1979-83) total of 249. Laval's LSU coaching record of 144-65-1 (.692) 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)	210

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. 19 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 turned their first double play to end the seventh inning at Centenary on March 2.

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.

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.

SEC Team Statistical Rankings

At The Plate

Batting Average

1. Mississippi State	.379
10. LSU	.300

Slugging Percentage

1. South Carolina	.624
6. LSU	.469

On-Base Percentage

1. Mississippi State	.465
8. LSU	.398

Runs Scored

1. South Carolina	111
4. LSU	97

Hits

1. Auburn	158
5. LSU	117

RBI

1. South Carolina	108
3. LSU	87

Home Runs

1. South Carolina	20
3. LSU	13

Total Bases

1. South Carolina	231
4. LSU	183

Stolen Bases

1. Arkansas	26
11. LSU	3

On The Mound

Earned Run Average

1. South Carolina	1.80
10. LSU	3.15

Opponents Batting Average

1. Alabama	.191
6. LSU	.237

Strikeouts

1. Alabama	134
2. LSU	94

Saves

1. Auburn	6
2. LSU	4

In The Field

Fielding Percentage

1. Vanderbilt	.988
8. LSU	.965

Double Plays

1. Florida	12
t3. LSU	11

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 Stavinoha 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 Stavinoha 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: Vaclavik (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 Vaclavik 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.

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.

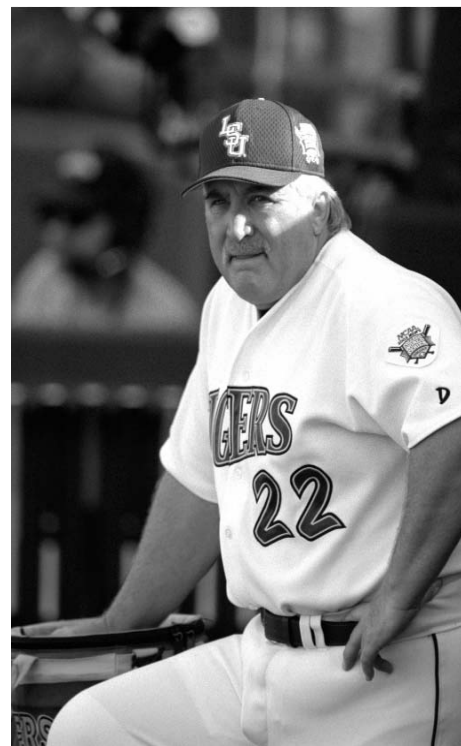
LSU also set an NCAA total attendance record in 2003, drawing 291,676 patrons to Alex Box Stadium.

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 (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	9-2	LSU	

Career Record (11th year): 385-224-1 (.632)

LSU Record (4th year): 144-65-1 (.689)

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 4: February 28 - March 6

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	28	TUESDAY	1	WEDNESDAY	2	THURSDAY	3	FRIDAY	4	SATURDAY	5	SUNDAY	6
				at Centenary L, 1-6 Fair Grounds Field Shreveport, La. Radio: LSU Sports Network (Baton Rouge only) TV: None				vs. UAB 6:30 p.m. Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None		vs. UAB Noon Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La. Radio: LSU Sports Network (Baton Rouge only) TV: None		vs. UAB 1 p.m. Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None	