

2005 Schedule/Results (20-6, 4-2 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
18 (Fri.)	at #17 Georgia	W, 8-2
19 (Sat.)	at #17 Georgia	W, 5-3
20 (Sun.)	at #17 Georgia (JSN)	W, 6-4
23 (Wed.)	Southeastern La.	W, 4-2 \$
25 (Fri.)	AUBURN	L, 4-6
26 (Sat.)	AUBURN	W, 6-3
27 (Sun.)	AUBURN	L, 5-7
29 (Tue.)	NEW ORLEANS (COX)	W, 18-10
April		
1 (Fri.)	at Alabama	6:30 p.m.
2 (Sat.)	at Alabama (JSN)	6 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	Noon
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	Noon
13 (Fri.)	TENNESSEE (COX)	6:30 p.m.
14 (Sat.)	TENNESSEE (SEC-TV)	3 p.m.
15 (Sun.)	TENNESSEE	Noon
18 (Wed.)	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m. #
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. 8 • at Alabama

April 1, 2 and 3, 2005 • 6:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 2 p.m.
Tuscaloosa, Ala. • Sewell-Thomas Stadium (6,118)

No. 4 LSU Faces Alabama In Early SEC West Showdown

Fourth-ranked LSU (20-6, 4-2) continues Southeastern Conference play this weekend as the Tigers travel to Tuscaloosa to face Alabama (20-8, 4-2) at Sewell-Thomas Stadium. The teams enter the series in a four-way tie – along with Mississippi State and Ole Miss -- for first place in the SEC Western Division and in the overall league standings. Game 1 of the LSU-Alabama series is set for 6:30 p.m. CST Friday, Game 2 begins at 6 p.m. CST Saturday and Game 3 starts at 2 p.m. CDT Sunday. All three games can be heard on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL 98.1 FM in Baton Rouge) and on the LSU Athletics web site, www.LSUsports.net. The games on Saturday and Sunday will be televised statewide by the Jumbo Sports Network (Cable Ch. 13 in Baton Rouge).

LSU has won 22 of its last 24 regular-season series over the past three seasons. The Tigers' string of 12 consecutive regular-season series victories – including seven straight SEC series wins -- ended last weekend when LSU dropped two of three games to Auburn. Prior to the Auburn series, LSU's last series lost came on April 9-11, 2004, when the Tigers were defeated by Arkansas.

Alabama leads the all-time series with LSU, 183-138-3, in a series that dates back to the 1906 season. LSU has won the last five series with Alabama, including the last two series (2001 and 2003) in Tuscaloosa. The Tigers have a 14-4 mark against Alabama over the past five seasons (2000-04).

Alabama's last series win over LSU came in 1999, when the Tide won two series from the Tigers in Tuscaloosa. The Crimson Tide took two of three in the regular season and then later swept LSU in the NCAA Super Regional to advance to the College World Series in Omaha.

TV: Jumbo Sports Network (Lyn Rollins -- play-by-play, Ben McDonald -- analyst); Saturday and Sunday only

Radio: LSU Sports Network (Jim Hawthorne -- play-by-play, Bill Franques -- analyst); WDGL 98.1 in Baton Rouge

Pitching Matchups

Game 1

LSU -- Sr. LHP Lane Mestepey (5-2, 2.79 ERA, 48.1 IP, 10 BB, 29 SO)

UA -- Jr. RHP T.J. Large (4-2, 1.57 ERA, 46.0 IP, 22 BB, 54 SO)

Game 2

LSU -- So. LHP Clay Dirks (6-0, 2.95 ERA, 39.2 IP, 11 BB, 28 SO)

UA -- Sr. LHP Brent Carter (4-1, 2.64 ERA, 44.1 IP, 5 BB, 54 SO)

Game 3

LSU -- Jr. LHP Greg Smith (4-1, 2.93 ERA, 43.0 IP, 15 BB, 43 SO)

UA -- TBA

LSU Probable Position Starters

Pos.	Player	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
C	Matt Liuzza	Jr.-2L	R/R	.222	2	11	Baseball America Preseason All-American
1B	Blake Gill	Sr.-3L	L/R	.308	2	26	.343 (24-for-70) vs. right-handed pitchers
	-or- Will Harris	Jr.-2L	R/R	.222	1	11	.286 (8-for-28) with runners in scoring position
2B	Clay Harris	Sr.-3L	R/R	.414	4	26	.680 (17-for-25) vs. left-handed pitchers
SS	Michael Hollander	Fr.-HS	R/R	.290	1	12	.316 (6-for-19) vs. left-handed pitchers
3B	Derek Hebert	Sr.-1L	L/R	.209	1	4	Made first career start at 3B vs. UNO on Tues.
	-or- Bryan Harris	So.-RS	R/R	.118	0	5	Started 9 games in 2005
LF	Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.440	12	28	Leads SEC in Four Offensive Categories
	-or- Quinn Stewart	Jr.-1L	R/R	.250	1	10	.250 (5-for-20) in SEC games
CF	Bruce Sprowl	Jr.-1L	L/R	.300	1	7	Started 16 games at CF in 2005
	-or- Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.440	12	28	.542 (13-for-24) in SEC games, 1.125 Slg. %
RF	Nick Stavinoha	Sr.-1L	R/R	.347	6	24	Current 9-game hitting streak is career-high
DH	Jordan Mayer	Fr.-RS	R/R	.297	1	12	.400 (6-for-15) with runners in scoring position
	-or- Dustin Weaver	Sr.-2L	R/R	.222	2	11	.269 (7-for-26), 1 HR, 6 RBI in last 10 games

LSU		Alabama	
Record	20-6 (4-2 SEC)	Record	20-8 (4-2 SEC)
Ranking	No. 5 Baseball America No. 4 Collegiate Baseball No. 5 ESPN/Sports Weekly	Ranking	NR Baseball America NR Collegiate Baseball NR ESPN/Sports Weekly
Coach	Smoke Laval	Coach	Jim Wells
Career Record	396-228-1 (.635/11th year)	Career Record	650-299 (.685/16th year)
LSU Record	155-69-1 (.692/fourth year)	UA Record	458-210 (.686/11th year)
Laval vs. UA	9-7	Wells vs. LSU	20-28

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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
March 7	5	6	5
March 14	5	5	6
March 21	3	3	3
March 28	5	4	5

Baseball America (March 28)

1. Texas (23-4)
2. Cal State Fullerton (17-6)
3. Georgia Tech (21-4)
4. Tulane (21-5)
5. **LSU (20-6)**
6. Ole Miss (19-5)
7. Florida (19-7)
8. Miami (Fla.) (22-7)
9. Arkansas (21-4)
10. Arizona (18-10)
11. North Carolina (20-5)
12. Stanford (14-8)
13. Rice (18-9)
14. South Carolina (19-5)
15. Baylor (16-10)
16. Texas A&M (19-9)
17. Florida State (27-5)
18. Oregon State (19-4)
19. College of Charleston (20-4)
20. Nebraska (21-3)
21. Mississippi State (17-4)
22. Long Beach State (18-10)
23. Auburn (19-8)
24. Arizona State (18-13)
25. Central Florida (25-5)

Collegiate Baseball (March 28)

1. Georgia Tech (21-4)
2. Cal State Fullerton (17-6)
3. Tulane (21-5)
4. **LSU (20-6)**
5. Texas (23-4)
6. Florida State (27-5)
7. Nebraska (21-3)
8. Arkansas (21-4)
9. Florida (19-7)
10. South Carolina (19-5)
11. North Carolina (20-5)
12. Miami (Fla.) (22-7)
13. Arizona (18-10)
14. Mississippi State (17-4)
15. Ole Miss (19-5)
16. Stanford (14-8)
17. UL-Lafayette (22-5)
18. Central Florida (25-5)
19. Michigan (15-3)
20. Long Beach State (18-10)
21. Wichita State (22-6)
22. Baylor (16-10)
23. Rice (18-9)
24. Texas A&M (19-9)
25. Coastal Carolina (21-4)

Statistical Comparison

LSU	Alabama
.303	.290
3.61	2.51
56	47
10	12
35	17
.497	.424
.384	.382
12/16	37/49
.246	.200
195	291
9	5
.968	.957

In The Polls

LSU dropped in all three major polls this week, falling to No. 5 in Baseball America and ESPN/Sports Weekly. The Tigers are ranked fourth in Collegiate Baseball.

The LSU-Alabama Series

Alabama leads the all-time series with LSU, 183-138-3, in a series that dates back to the 1906 season. LSU has won the last five series with Alabama, including the last two series (2001 and 2003) in Tuscaloosa. The Tigers have a 14-4 mark against Alabama over the past five seasons (2000-04). Alabama's last series win over LSU came in 1999, when the Tide won two series from the Tigers in Tuscaloosa. The Crimson Tide took two of three in the regular season and then later swept LSU in the NCAA Super Regional to advance to the College World Series in Omaha. Jim Wells has a 20-28 (.417) career mark against LSU, including an 18-22 (.450) record during his 11 seasons at Alabama. Laval has a 9-7 (.563) career mark against Alabama, and he is 7-3 (.700) against the Tide in his four seasons at LSU.

Alabama Ties

Crimson Tide infielder Rocky Scelfo lettered at LSU in 2002, before transferring UL-Lafayette in 2003 and Alabama in 2004. Head coach Jim Wells served as an assistant coach under former LSU head coach Skip Bertman.

On Deck

LSU will play in two mid-week games next week, traveling to Thibodaux on Tuesday to face Nicholls State at 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the Tigers will square off against No. 13 Rice in the second-annual Wally Pontiff Classic at Zephyr Field in Metairie. First pitch is scheduled for 7 p.m. LSU continues SEC play next weekend against No. 10 South Carolina at Alex Box Stadium.

At The Track, At the Wall, Gone!

Ryan Patterson has homered 10 times in LSU's last 10 games, including three two-homer games during that stretch. Eight of the dingers have been the solo variety, and the senior is currently riding a 15-game hitting streak, which ties a career high. During the Georgia series (March 18-20), the Rowlett, Texas native batted .545 (6-for-11) with three homers, four RBI and four runs scored. On Tuesday, Patterson hit his first career grand slam in LSU's 18-10 win over UNO.

Patterson Tops In SEC In Four Categories

After putting on a hitting display over the past two weeks, Ryan Patterson currently leads the SEC in four offensive categories, including slugging percentage (.920), runs scored (40), home runs (12) and total bases (92). The senior outfielder is also fourth in batting average (.415) and second in hits (44). No other player in the SEC is tops in more than two categories.

Streak of 12 Straight Series Wins Snapped

Auburn's series win over LSU ended the Tigers streak of 12 straight regular season series wins, dating back to last season. The Tigers have won 22 out of their last 24 regular-season series, dating back to the final two weekends of the 2003 regular season. In that span, before last weekend, 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 and Georgia.

2-3-4-5

LSU's 2-3-4-5 hitters of Ryan Patterson, Blake Gill, Clay Harris and Nick Stavinoha are hitting a combined .405 (66-for-163) in their last 10 games. The lethal group has 12 doubles, three triples, 16 homers, 47 RBI and 30 runs scored in their last seven games.

Mestepey Second In All-Time Career Wins

Senior left-hander Lane Mestepey claimed sole possession of second place in LSU career victories with his 34th win over Georgia on March 18. The Zachary, La., native passed Stan Loewer, who tallied 33 wins between 1984-87. Mestepey is now four wins shy of tying Scott Schultz' career mark of 38, achieved between 1992-95. The southpaw also moved into a tie for ninth place in SEC career victories with Auburn's Ryan Halla (1993-96). With one more win, Mestepey will tie Mississippi State's Bobby Reed (1987-90) for eighth place. South Carolina's Kip Bouknight (1998-01) and Mississippi State's Jeff Brantley (1982-85) share the all-time SEC record with 45 career wins.

LSU Career Pitching Victories

Player	Wins
1. Scott Schultz (1992-95)	38
2. Lane Mestepey (2001-present)	34
3. Stan Loewer (1984-87)	33
4. Paul Byrd (1989-91)	31

Mestepey Moves Into Fourth-Place In SEC Career 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. Mestepey currently sits at 430 innings pitched. He is four innings away from tying Tennessee's R.A. Dickey (1994-96). 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. Lane Mestepey, LSU (2001-present)	430.0
5. Jeff Brantley, Miss. State (1982-85)	427.0

Going the Distance

Lane Mestepey fired his 16th career complete game at Georgia on March 18, limiting the Bulldogs to two runs -- all in the first inning -- on seven hits with two walks and three strikeouts. It was the first complete game effort for the senior left-hander since the 2004 NCAA Baton Rouge Super Regional. Mestepey hurled a masterful five-hit shutout against Texas A&M (June 13), helping the Tigers advance to the College World Series. After returning from an injury, which sidelined him during the 2003 season, Mestepey has since thrown four complete games. As a sophomore in 2002, the senior pitched an incredible eight complete games. Pat Moock (1972-75) holds the school record in complete games with 27.

Southpaw Series

In the three-game sweep over Georgia (March 18-20), four LSU left-handers combined to shut down the Georgia attack. Lane Mestepey fired a complete game on Friday night. He was followed up by sophomore lefty Clay Dirks who went six innings to earn the win before yielding to southpaw stopper Jason Determann. Determann worked three innings, allowing no runs to pick up the save on Saturday. On Sunday, junior lefty Greg Smith made his first career SEC start, going six strong innings. Determann also hurled the final 1.2 frames without allowing a hit or a run to notch his second save of the weekend.

Hitting Streaks

Both Ryan Patterson and Clay Harris currently hold 15-game hitting streaks, dating back to the Tigers series' opening win over UAB on March 4. For Harris, it is a career high, while Patterson's ties a career. Patterson maintained a 15-game stretch last year. Earlier this season, Blake Gill maintained a 20-game hitting streak, dating back to last season. It 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 Feb. 25 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.

Longest Hitting Streaks (past six seasons)

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

Out the Box

A common theme for LSU has been early inning uprisings. The Tigers have outscored their opponents 129-54 in the first four innings combined. LSU's most productive innings have been the first and fourth frames. The Tigers have amassed 37 runs to opponents' six runs in the fourth inning on the year. LSU is also outscoring opponents 36-18 in the first inning.

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 201-102-2 (.662) all-time on television, which includes a 6-1 mark this season.

ESPN/Sports Weekly (March 28)

1. Texas (34) (23-4)
2. Cal State Fullerton (4) (17-6)
3. Tulane (1) (21-5)
4. Georgia Tech (1) (21-4)
- 5. LSU (20-6)**
6. Miami (Fla.) (22-7)
7. Ole Miss (19-5)
8. South Carolina (19-5)
9. Arkansas (21-4)
10. Florida State (27-5)
11. Stanford (14-8)
12. Arizona (18-10)
13. North Carolina (20-5)
14. Rice (18-9)
15. Florida (19-7)
16. Nebraska (21-3)
17. Baylor (16-10)
18. Mississippi State (17-4)
19. Texas A&M (19-9)
20. UL-Lafayette (22-5)
21. Auburn (19-8)
22. Wichita State (22-6)
23. Vanderbilt (17-6)
24. Long Beach State (18-10)
25. Texas Tech (17-8)

2005 SEC Standings (March 31)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Florida	3-3	.500	20-7
Tennessee	3-3	.500	18-8
Vanderbilt	3-3	.500	18-6
Georgia	2-3	.400	15-9
South Carolina	2-4	.333	21-5
Kentucky	0-5	.000	14-9
Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Alabama	4-2	.667	20-8
LSU	4-2	.667	20-6
Ole Miss	4-2	.667	20-5
Mississippi State	4-2	.667	17-5
Arkansas	3-3	.500	21-4
Auburn	3-3	.500	19-9

This Weekend in the SEC (April 1-3)

(All times are Central)

Friday, April 1

LSU at Alabama • 6:30 p.m.
 Arkansas at Auburn • 7 p.m.
 Kentucky at Florida • 5:30 p.m.
 Georgia at South Carolina • 6 p.m.
 Ole Miss at Vanderbilt • 6 p.m.
 Miss. State at Tennessee • 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 2

LSU at Alabama • 6 p.m.
 Arkansas at Auburn • 4 p.m.
 Kentucky at Florida • 3 p.m.
 Georgia at South Carolina • 3 p.m.
 Ole Miss at Vanderbilt • Noon
 Miss. State at Tennessee • 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 3

LSU at Alabama • 2 p.m.
 Arkansas at Auburn • 10:30 a.m.
 Kentucky at Florida • 11 a.m.
 Georgia at South Carolina • 12:30 p.m.
 Ole Miss at Vanderbilt • 1 p.m.
 Miss. State at Tennessee • 1 p.m.

LSU by the Numbers in 2005

Home	14-4
Away	5-2
Neutral Sites	1-0
Day	10-2
Night	10-4
TV Games	6-1
On Jumbo Sports	3-0
On Cox Sports	2-1
On Comcast	1-0
On ESPN 2	0-0
On SEC-TV	0-0
Vs. SEC	4-2
Vs. SEC West	1-2
Vs. SEC East	3-0
Non-SEC Games	15-4
Vs. Louisiana opponents	6-2
Vs. Ranked opponents	3-1
Vs. C-USA	4-3
Vs. Mid-Continent	1-1
Vs. Pac-10	2-0
Vs. Southland	5-0
Vs. Sun Belt	3-0
Vs. SWAC	0-0
Vs. WAC	0-0
Doubleheaders	0-0
Game 1 of weekend series	5-2
Game 2 of weekend series	7-0
Game 3 of weekend series	5-2
Sunday	4-1
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	2-1
Wednesday	1-1
Friday	5-1
Saturday	6-0
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	11-1
Games in which opponent scores first	9-5
When LSU scores 10+	9-0
When LSU scores <5	2-5
When opponent scores 10+	1-0
When opponent scores <5	12-2
When LSU leads after 6 innings	17-1
When LSU trails after 6 innings	2-4
When tied after 6 innings	1-1
When LSU leads after 7 innings	18-1
When LSU trails after 7 innings	2-5
When tied after 7 innings	0-0
When LSU leads after 8 innings	20-0
When LSU trails after 8 innings	0-6
When tied after 8 innings	0-0
When LSU has 10+ hits	13-3
When LSU has <6 hits	1-1
When opponent has 10+ hits	5-3
When opponent has <6 hits	4-1
When LSU has more hits	16-2
When LSU has fewer hits	3-3
Equal hits	1-1
When LSU hits 3 or more home runs	5-0
When LSU hits no home runs	4-3
When opponent hits 3+ home runs	0-0
When opponent hits no home runs	11-4
Games won on final at-bat	0
Games lost on final at-bat	0
Come-from-behind wins	11
Losses when LSU led previously	3
Blown saves	1
Longest game	3:27 (at Houston, 2/27 - Game 1)
Shortest game(9 or more innings)	2:08 (vs. Auburn, 3/26)

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 underwent shoulder surgery during the first of March 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

LSU-UNO Makeup Announced for May 18

LSU's baseball game at New Orleans, which was postponed due to inclement weather on March 15, has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m., it was announced this week.

Mestepey Joins Patterson On National Player Of The Year Wallace Watch

Lefty Lane Mestepey joined senior outfielder Ryan Patterson on March 8 as a candidate for the Brooks Wallace Award, presented annually to the national college baseball player of the year. Mestepey was one of 38 players added to the watch list on March 8. The Brooks Wallace Award was captured by Cal State Fullerton's Kurt Suzuki last season. 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, Tennessee's Luke Hochevar, 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.

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 225 games, the fifth-highest mark of any coach in the school's history. Laval is 24 games away from reaching Jack Lamabe's (1979-83) total of 249. Laval's LSU coaching record of 155-69-1 (.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)	225

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.

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: 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.

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 Stavinoha 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 outit 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:** Feger (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 Stavinoha 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 Stavinoha 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.

Game 19 • LSU 8, Georgia 2

March 18, 2005 at Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

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

W: Mestepey (5-1) **L:** Boggs (1-2)
Time: 2:18 **Att:** 1,633

Notes: Lane Mestepey moved into sole possession on the LSU career victories list with his 16th career complete game effort. He limited the Bulldogs to two runs -- on a two-run homer in the first -- on seven hits with two walks and three strikeouts. Ryan Patterson homered for the third consecutive game and Clay Harris delivered a two-RBI double in a seventh inning uprising.

Game 20 • LSU 5, Georgia 3

March 19, 2005 at Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

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

W: Dirks (5-0) **L:** Hyle (1-1)
S: Determann (2)
Time: 2:22 **Att:** 2,745

Notes: Ryan Patterson unloaded two solo homers for his third multi-homer game of the season in a 5-3 win. Clay Dirks and Jason Determann combined to scatter six hits. For Patterson, it was the fourth game in a row the senior had homered and seventh time in the last four games. In Dirks' final five innings of work, he held the Bulldogs to no runs on just two hits after a shaky first inning. Determann fired three scoreless innings, allowing two hits and striking out four.

Game 21 • LSU 5, Georgia 3

March 19, 2005 at Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

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

W: Meier (1-1) **L:** Startup (1-1)
S: Determann (3)
Time: 2:59 **Att:** 2,801

Notes: LSU overcame a two-run deficit with a three run eighth sparked by freshmen Jordan Mayer and Michael Hollander. Mayer, in his first SEC at-bat, delivered a pinch-hit two-run double off of preseason All-American Will Startup to tie the game, while Hollander followed with an RBI single to give the Tigers a 5-4 lead. Clay Harris' solo homer in the ninth provided insurance for Jason Determann, who earned his second save of the weekend. Greg Smith made his first SEC career start, going six strong innings, limiting Georgia to one earned run on seven hits. It was the Tigers' first SEC series' sweep since blanking Tennessee at Alex Box Stadium in 2003.

Game 22 • LSU 4, Southeastern Louisiana 2

March 23, 2005 at Zephyr Field (Metairie, La.)

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

W: Faircloth (1-0) **L:** St. Germain (0-3)
S: Determann (4)
Time: 2:30 **Att:** 4,217

Notes: LSU rallied for the second time in as many games, using a two-run go-ahead single by Blake Gill in the eighth and a RBI single by Jordan Mayer in the ninth to win his seventh straight game. LSU starter Justin Meier and SLU starter Bernard Robert engaged in a pitchers duel. Meier worked 6.1 solid innings, scattering six hits and allowing two runs. Ryan Patterson homered for the eighth time in the past six games. The Tigers also had two sacrifice bunts by Matt Liuzza and Michael Hollander, which proved to be critical in the late-inning heroics. Jason Determann worked the final 1.1 innings perfectly to earn his third save in as many games.

Game 23 • Auburn 6, LSU 4

March 25, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Madden (4-0) **L:** Mestepey (5-2)
Time: 2:48 **Att:** 7,673 (paid); 4,882 (actual)

Notes: LSU's seven-game win streak came to an end. Lane Mestepey suffered his first loss since Feb. 25, allowing seven hits and six runs, while walking a season-high four batters. Three of the walks were to the leadoff hitter and all three came into score. Ryan Patterson went 4-for-5 with two runs and his ninth homer in the past seven games. With the game tied at four apiece, Mestepey set down 11 of 12 batters between the third and sixth innings. Karl Amonite had the go-ahead single for Auburn in the seventh off of Jason Determann. AU reliever John Madden retired all 11 batters he faced to pick up the win.

Game 24 • LSU 6, Auburn 3

March 26, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Dirks (6-0) **L:** Sullivan (4-2)
Time: 2:08 **Att:** 7,341 (paid); 3,208 (actual)

Notes: Michael Hollander had a two-run single in the fifth and had four brilliant assists in the field to help Clay Dirks' record remain perfect on the season. Bruce Sprowl went 2-for-3 in his first game back since suffering a broken finger on March 6. Three of LSU's runs were unearned. Nick Stavinoha had a two-run double in the eighth to give the Tigers a comfortable lead.

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 25 • Auburn 7, LSU 5

March 27, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Nix (4-1) **L:** Meier (1-2)

S: Madden (4)

Time: 2:48 **Att:** 7,254 (paid); 2,534 (actual)

Notes: LSU's streak of 12 straight series' wins came to an end as Auburn scored six unanswered runs after facing a four-run deficit. The Tigers were 16-0 on the season when leading after seven innings of play. Greg Smith started the game and went 6.2 innings, allowing three runs on six hits and striking out nine. LSU's 2-3-4 hitters of Blake Gill, Ryan Patterson and Clay Harris went 6-for-13. Tyler Johnstone delivered the go-ahead two-run single off of Justin Meier in the eighth. LSU only managed two hits after the fifth inning.

Game 26 • LSU 18, UNO 10

March 29, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
UNO	4	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	-	10	9	2
LSU	3	2	2	1	4	5	0	1	X	-	18	17	6

W: Nall (1-1) **L:** Rodriguez (1-3)

Time: 3:11 **Att:** 7,324 (paid); 2,814 (actual)

Notes: Ryan Patterson finished a single shy of the cycle, going 3-for-5 with four runs, five RBI and his first career grand slam. Brandon Nall earned his first career win, pitching three innings of relief. UNO scored six runs in the first two innings off of starter Eric English, but the Tigers responded with nine unanswered runs. LSU had four homers on the night. The Tigers also had a season-high six errors, including four committed by Michael Hollander.

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.

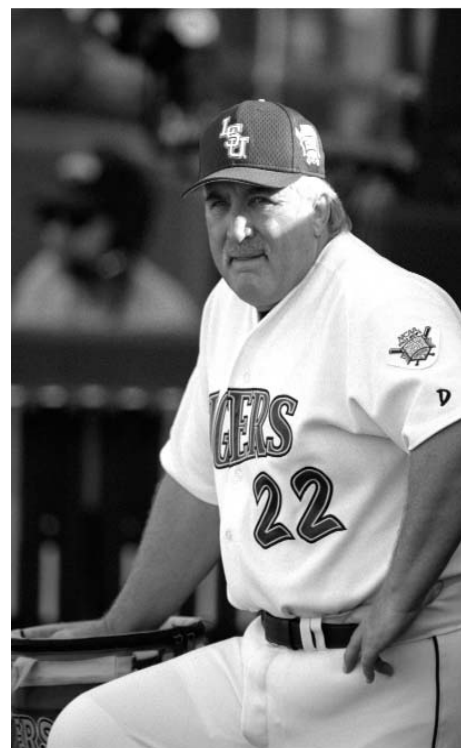
LSU also set an NCAA total attendance record in 2003, drawing 291,676 patrons to Alex Box Stadium.

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	20-6	LSU	

Career Record (11th year): 396-228-1 (.635)

LSU Record (4th year): 155-69-1 (.692)

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.LSUsports.net

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

http://media.lsusports.net

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

LSU Electronic Media

Radio

The LSU Sports Radio Network 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 8: March 28-April 3

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	28	TUESDAY	29	WEDNESDAY	30	THURSDAY	31	FRIDAY	1	SATURDAY	2	SUNDAY	3
		vs. UNO W, 18-10 Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: Cox Sports				Depart For Tuscaloosa Team Headquarters: Hamton Inn University 600 Harper Lee Drive Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205.553.9800		at Alabama 6:30 p.m. Sewell-Thomas Stadium Tuscaloosa, Ala. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None		at Alabama 6 p.m. Sewell-Thomas Stadium Tuscaloosa, Ala. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: Jumbo Sports Network		at Alabama 2 p.m. Sewell-Thomas Stadium Tuscaloosa, Ala. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: Jumbo Sports Network	

LSU VS. ALABAMA