

2005 Schedule/Results (4-0, 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	W, 9-6
18 (Fri.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	6:30 p.m.
19 (Sat.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	4 p.m.
20 (Sun.)	ARK.-LITTLE ROCK	1 p.m.
25 (Fri.)	at Houston	7 p.m.
26 (Sat.)	at Houston	7 p.m.
27 (Sun.)	at Houston	1 p.m.
March		
2 (Wed.)	at Centenary	7 p.m. %
4 (Fri.)	UAB	6:30 p.m.
5 (Sat.)	UAB	2 p.m.
6 (Sun.)	UAB	1 p.m.
8 (Tue.)	TULANE	6:30 p.m.
11 (Fri.)	ARIZONA STATE	6:30 p.m.
12 (Sat.)	WESTERN ILLINOIS	4 p.m.
13 (Sun.)	ARIZONA STATE	4 p.m.
15 (Tue.)	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m. #
18 (Fri.)	at Georgia	6:30 p.m.
19 (Sat.)	at Georgia	3 p.m.
20 (Sun.)	at Georgia	Noon
23 (Wed.)	Southeastern La.	6:30 p.m. \$
25 (Fri.)	AUBURN	6:30 p.m.
26 (Sat.)	AUBURN	2 p.m.
27 (Sun.)	AUBURN	1 p.m.
29 (Tue.)	NEW ORLEANS	6:30 p.m.
April		
1 (Fri.)	at Alabama	6:30 p.m.
2 (Sat.)	at Alabama	4 p.m.
3 (Sun.)	at Alabama	2 p.m.
5 (Tue.)	at Nicholls State	6:30 p.m.
6 (Wed.)	Rice	7 p.m. \$
8 (Fri.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	6:30 p.m.
9 (Sat.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	2 p.m.
10 (Sun.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	1 p.m.
12 (Tue.)	NORTHWESTERN STATE	6:30 p.m.
15 (Fri.)	OLE MISS	6:30 p.m.
16 (Sat.)	OLE MISS	2 p.m.
17 (Sun.)	OLE MISS	1 p.m.
19 (Tue.)	at Tulane	7 p.m. \$
22 (Fri.)	at Arkansas	7:05 p.m.
23 (Sat.)	at Arkansas	3:05 p.m.
24 (Sun.)	at Arkansas	1:05 p.m.
29 (Fri.)	at Vanderbilt	6 p.m.
30 (Sat.)	at Vanderbilt	2 p.m.
May		
1 (Sun.)	at Vanderbilt	1 p.m.
3 (Tue.)	SOUTHERN	6:30 p.m.
6 (Fri.)	KENTUCKY	6:30 p.m.
7 (Sat.)	KENTUCKY	2 p.m.
8 (Sun.)	KENTUCKY	1 p.m.
13 (Fri.)	TENNESSEE	6:30 p.m.
14 (Sat.)	TENNESSEE	3 p.m.
15 (Sun.)	TENNESSEE	Noon
20 (Fri.)	at Mississippi State	6:30 p.m.
21 (Sat.)	at Mississippi State	2 p.m.
22 (Sun.)	at Mississippi State	1:30 p.m.
25-29	SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.)	
June		
3-5	NCAA Regional (sites TBA)	
10-12/11-13	NCAA Super Regional (sites TBA)	



LSU BASEBALL

Weekend Release No. 2 vs. Arkansas-Little Rock
 February 18, 19 and 20, 2005 6:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 1 p.m.
 Baton Rouge, La. Alex Box Stadium (7,760)

Tigers Play Host To Arkansas-Little Rock This Weekend

Second-ranked LSU plays host to Arkansas-Little Rock this weekend in a three-game series in Alex Box Stadium. Game 1 begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Game 2 is set for 4 p.m. Saturday and Game 3 will be played at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Games 1 and 3 on Friday and Sunday can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL-FM 98.1 in Baton Rouge). Game 2 on Saturday can be heard in Baton Rouge only on WIGEL07.3 FM. All three games can also be heard on the Internet at www.LSUsports.net. None of this weekend's games will be televised.

LSU has won its first four games of the year, sweeping Nicholls State in a three-game series and defeating Louisiana-Monroe (9-6) on Tuesday night. UALR a member of the Sun Belt Conference -- swept a doubleheader from Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Wednesday. The Trojans opened the season Feb. 5-6 by winning two of three games against Western Illinois before losing two games to Evansville last weekend.

LSU coach Smoke Laval will send senior left-hander Lane Mestepey (1-0) to the mound on Friday. Mestepey defeated Nicholls State on Feb. 11 in the Tigers season opener, limiting the Colonels to one unearned run on two hits in seven innings with no walks and four strikeouts.

UALR coach Brian Rhees is expected to counter with senior right-hander Bennett Croner (1-0), who has recorded four walks and 14 strikeouts in 16 innings this season.

Sophomore left-hander Clay Dirks (1-0, 1.50 ERA) will start Saturday's contest for LSU and junior left-hander Greg Smith (1-0, 3.18 ERA) takes the mound on Sunday. The remainder of UALR's rotation will be

Pitching Matchups

Game 1
 LSU - Sr. LHP Lane Mestepey (1-0, 0.00 ERA, 7.0 IP, 0 BB, 4 SO)
 UALR - Sr. RHP Bennett Croner (1-0, 2.25 ERA, 16.0 IP, 4 BB, 14 SO)

Game 2
 LSU - So. LHP Clay Dirks (1-0, 1.50 ERA, 6.0 IP, 1 BB, 5 SO)
 UALR - TBA

Game 3
 LSU - Jr. LHP Greg Smith (1-0, 3.18 ERA, 5.2 IP, 1 BB, 9 SO)
 UALR - TBA

LSU Probable Position Starters

Pos.	Player	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
C	Matt Liuzza	Jr.-2L	R/R	.222	0	0	2005 Preseason All-American by Baseball Am.
1B	Will Harris	Jr.-2L	R/R	.500	0	3	2004 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team
2B	Clay Harris	Sr.-3L	R/R	.500	1	4	2004 Second-Team All-SEC
SS	Derek Hebert	Jr.-Sr.-1L	L/R	.222	0	2	Started 21 games at SS in 2004
	Michael Hollander	Fr.-HS	R/R	.667	0	3	Led all newcomers with .424 BA in fall games
3B	Bryan Harris	So.-RS	R/R	.167	0	3	Earned medical redshirt in 2004
IF	Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.167	0	0	2004 Second-Team All-SEC

LSU		Arkansas-Little Rock	
Record	4-0 (0-0 SEC)	Record	4-3 (0-0 SEC)
Ranking	No. 2 Baseball America	Ranking	NR Baseball America
	No. 5 Collegiate Baseball		NR Collegiate Baseball
	No. 3 ESPN/Sports Weekly		NR ESPN/Sports Weekly
Coach	Smoke Laval	Coach	Brian Rhees
Career Record	380-222-1 (.631/11th year)	Career Record	263-357-1 (.424/13th year)
LSU Record	139-63-1 (.688/fourth year)	UALR Record	171-261 (.396/ninth year)
Laval vs. UALR	First Meeting	Rhees vs. LSU	First Meeting
Team BA	.345	Team BA	.296
Team ERA	2.75	Team ERA	3.45

Tracking the Tigers

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

Baseball America (Feb. 14)

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

Collegiate Baseball (Feb. 14)

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

In the Polls

LSU earned the same ranking in all three major polls this week. The Tigers are No. 3 in the latest ESPN/Sports Weekly poll released on Feb. 14. LSU remained No. 2 in Baseball America, immediately behind in-state rival Tulane who reclaimed the top spot for the third consecutive week. The Tigers are still ranked fifth in the latest Collegiate Baseball poll behind Texas, Miami (Fla.), Cal State Fullerton and Tulane.

Scouting Arkansas-Little Rock

The Trojans are 4-3 on the young season, posting a pair of wins against Western Illinois and Arkansas-Pine Bluff. UAIR returns 11 letterwinners from a team that went 16-32 last season, placing ninth in the Sun Belt Conference. The Trojans are coached by Brian Rhees, who enters his 13th year at the helm. Rhees nor the Trojans have ever faced the Tigers. UAIR is led at the plate by returning senior outfielder Jimmy Scott. Scott is batting .318 (7-for-22) with a team-high two homers and nine RBI. In his last contest, Scott blasted a three-run homer against Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Wednesday. Senior catcher Tommy Bryant also had two homers on the season to go along with a .400 average (8-for-20) and six RBI. Bryant leads the Trojans in slugging percentage at .750. UAIR lost two of their top three starters from a year ago but return senior right-hander Bennett Cromer from the rotation last year. Cromer led the team in strikeouts with 66 in 2004 and is 1-0 on the 2005 season with a 2.25 ERA in 16.0 IP. The senior worked seven strong innings in a season-opening win versus Western Illinois, allowing no runs on just three hits and striking out four. UAIR took two of three from the Leathernecks, an opponent LSU will face on March 12 at Alex Box Stadium.

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 203 games, the fifth-highest mark of any coach in the school's history. Laval is 46 games away from reaching Jack Lamabe's (1979-83) total of 243. Laval's LSU coaching record of 139-63-1 (.688) 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)	203

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. The Alexandria, La. native did not disappoint. 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. On the season, Mayer is batting .429 (3-for-7) with three runs and seven RBI. 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.

Injury Report

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

Gill Extends Hitting Streak To 18 Games

Senior Blake Gill has hit safely in all three games he has played this season, upping his hitting streak to 18 games. Gill's streak, which began versus Vanderbilt on May 15 last season is the longest of his career. A native of Bradenton, Fla., Gill collected singles in both contests last weekend and did not play in Saturday's Game 2 against Nicholls State. Gill then had a superb outing versus UL-Monroe on Tuesday, going 4-for-5 with two runs and one RBI. It was the second four-hit game of his career. The hitting streak is the longest by any Tiger since former infielder Ivan Naccarata maintained a 19-game streak during the 2003 season.

Longest Hitting Streaks (past six seasons)

Player	Streak
Brad Cresse (1999-2000)	24
Cedrick Harris (1999-2000)	21
Ivan Naccarata (2003)	19
Wally Pirtiff (2001-02)	19

Blake Gill (2004-05)	18
Ryan Theriot (2001)	17
J.C. Holt (2002)	16

Mestepey Reaches 30-Win Milestone, Approaches Innings Pitched Record

Senior left-hander Lane Mestepey reached the 30-win plateau in the season-opening win versus Nicholls State on Feb. 11. Mestepey, a native of Zachary, La., went seven strong innings, allowing no earned runs on just two hits, striking out four and walking none. He threw an economical 80 pitches, including 58 strikes in a game that lasted 2:14. The 30 wins by the southpaw moved him into a tie for fourth all-time in LSU's pitching victories with Pat Mook, Chad Ogea and Mike Sirotka. With one more win, Mestepey will tie Paul Byrd (1989-91) for third on the list. He is eight victories away from tying Scott Schultz (1992-95) as the all-time winningest pitcher in LSU history. Mestepey is also 9.1 innings away from tying Schultz in the school's all-time innings pitched mark at 398.

Player	Wins
1. Scott Schultz (1992-95)	38
2. Stan Loewer (1984-87)	33
3. Paul Byrd (1989-91)	31
4. Lane Mestepey (2001-)	30
Pat Mook (1972-75)	30
Chad Ogea (1989-91)	30
Mike Sirotka (1990-93)	30

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 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.

Liuzza Named Preseason All-American by Baseball America

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

Coaches Pick LSU to Win SEC Title

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

ESPN/Sports Weekly (Feb. 14)

1. Texas (28) (7-0)
2. Cal State Fullerton (5) (4-1)
3. LSU (4-0)
4. Miami, Fla. (1) (7-0)
5. Tulane (6) (4-0)
6. Stanford (7-2)
7. South Carolina (3-0)
8. Georgia (0-0)
9. Arizona (6-0)
10. Rice (3-1)
11. Florida State (8-1)
12. Baylor (3-0)
13. North Carolina (0-0)
14. Long Beach State (5-3)
15. Ole Miss (0-0)
16. Georgia Tech (2-1)
17. Texas A&M (1-2)
18. Arizona State (6-4)
19. Florida (2-1)
20. Southern Cal (3-0)
21. Vanderbilt (0-0)
22. Notre Dame (0-0)
23. Arkansas (4-0)
24. Clemson (0-0)
25. TCU (3-0)

2005 SEC Standings (Feb. 17)

Team	Eastern Division		
	SEC	Pct.	Overall
South Carolina	0-0	.000	3-0
Florida	0-0	.000	3-1
Tennessee	0-0	.000	1-2
Georgia	0-0	.000	0-0
Kentucky	0-0	.000	0-0
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	0-0
Team	Western Division		
	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Arkansas	0-0	.000	4-0
LSU	0-0	.000	4-0
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	1-0
Auburn	0-0	.000	5-2
Alabama	0-0	.000	2-2
Miss. State	0-0	.000	0-0

This Week in the SEC (Feb. 15-20)
(All times are Central)

Tuesday, Feb. 15

Arkansas State (0) at Ole Miss (10)
Mercer (5) at Auburn (6)
Florida A&M (2) at Florida (17)
UL-Monroe (6) at LSU (9)

Friday-Saturday, Feb. 18-20

UNC Asheville at Alabama 6:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 2 p.m.
VCU at Auburn 4 p.m., 4 p.m., 1 p.m.
Miami (Fla.) at Florida 5:30 p.m., 11 a.m., noon
Arkansas at Louisiana Tech 6 p.m., 3 p.m., 1 p.m.
Elon at Georgia 4:30 p.m., 2 p.m., noon
Kentucky at Charleston Southern Tournament
Ark.-Little Rock at LSU 6:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 1 p.m.
Ole Miss at Rice Tournament
Radford at S. Carolina 2 p.m., 12:30 p.m., 12:30 p.m.
B-Cookman at Tennessee 2 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.
VMI at Vanderbilt 4 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.

LSU by the Numbers in 2005

Home	4-0
Away	0-0
Neutral Sites	0-0
Day	1-0
Night	3-0
On Jumbo Sports	0-0
On Cox Sports	1-0
On SEC-TV	0-0
Vs. SEC	0-0
Vs. SEC West	0-0
Vs. SEC East	0-0
Non-SEC Games	4-0
Vs. Louisiana opponents	4-0
Vs. Ranked opponents	0-0
Vs. C-USA	0-0
Vs. Mid-Continent	0-0
Vs. Pac-10	0-0
Vs. Southland	4-0
Vs. Sun Belt	0-0
Vs. SWA C	0-0
Vs. WAC	0-0
Doubleheaders	0-0
Game 1 of weekend series	1-0
Game 2 of weekend series	1-0
Game 3 of weekend series	1-0
Sunday	0-0
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	1-0
Wednesday	0-0
Friday	1-0
Saturday	1-0
One-run games	0-0
Extra inning games	0-0
Shutouts	0-0
Number of Losing Streaks	0
Longest Losing Streak	0
Games in which LSU scores first	2-0
Games in which opponent scores first	2-0
When LSU scores 10+	2-0
When LSU scores <5	0-0
When opponent scores 10+	0-0
When opponent scores <5	3-0
When LSU leads after 6 innings	3-0
When LSU trails after 6 innings	0-0
When tied after 6 innings	1-0
When LSU leads after 7 innings	4-0
When LSU trails after 7 innings	0-0
When tied after 7 innings	0-0
When LSU leads after 8 innings	4-0
When LSU trails after 8 innings	0-0
When tied after 8 innings	0-0
When LSU has 10+ hits	3-0
When LSU has <6 hits	1-0
When opponent has 10+ hits	1-0
When opponent has <6 hits	2-0
When LSU has more hits	3-0
When LSU has fewer hits	1-0
Equal hits	0-0
When LSU hits 3 or more home runs	1-0
When LSU hits no home runs	1-0
When opponent hits 3+ home runs	0-0
When opponent hits no home runs	4-0
Games won on final at-bat	0
Games lost on final at-bat	0
Come-from-behind wins	2
Losses when LSU led previously	0
Blown saves	0
Longest game	3:03 (vs. UL-Monroe, 2/15)
Shortest game(9 or more innings) 2:14 (vs. Nicholls State, 2/11)	

single team. Ole Miss was second with 51, while Arkansas finished third with 46.

Eastern Division		Western Division	
Team	Pts	Team	Pts
1. South Carolina (9)	63	1. LSU (11)	66
2. Georgia (1)	50	2. Ole Miss (1)	51
3. Florida (2)	48	3. Arkansas	46
4. Vanderbilt	39	4. Mississippi State	30
5. Tennessee	29	5. Alabama	29
6. Kentucky	16	6. Auburn	23

() - First Place Votes
SEC Champion: LSU (9); South Carolina (2); Florida (1)

Redshirts Sprowl, Stewart Return

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

Transfers Cahill, Ramirez to Make Immediate Impact

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

Liuzza Headlines Baseball America Preseason Awards

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

New Tigers Defeat Old Tigers in Alumni Game

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

New "Box" On Tap For 2008

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

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: Markay (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
UM	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 : Detemmann (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

Detemmann came on and shut down the Indians, working the final 4.1 innings without allowing a run. Detemmann surrendered just three hits and struck out six.

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.

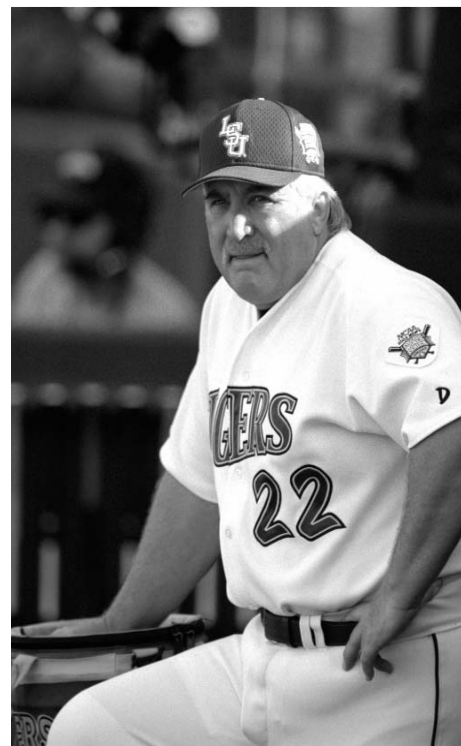
Laval guided the 2003 Tigers to the Southeastern Conference title -- LSU's first since 1997 - and a berth in the College World Series. He was voted the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, directing LSU to a 45-22-1 overall record and a 20-9-1 conference mark, as the Tigers finished No. 5 in the final Baseball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



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	Wolfsen 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 educa-

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	4-0	LSU	
Career Record (11th year):			380-222-1 (.631)
LSU Record (4th year):			139-63-1 (.688)
COACHING HONORS			

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 team-

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

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, logs, 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 WRZ

Bill Franques
wfranqu@lsu.edu

Week 2: February 14-20

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	14	TUESDAY	15	WEDNESDAY	16	THURSDAY	17	FRIDAY	1	SATURDAY	19	SUNDAY	20
vs. Nicholls State W, 6-3 Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La.		vs. UL-Monroe W, 9-6 Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La.						vs. Ark.-Little Rock 6:30 p.m. Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La.		vs. Ark.-Little Rock 4 p.m. Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La.		vs. Ark.-Little Rock 1 p.m. Alex Box Stadium Baton Rouge, La.	
								Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None		Radio: LSU Sports Network (Baton Rouge only) TV: None		Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None	