2000 CHAMPIONS NATIONAL 1991 1993 1996

# **Five**

#### NCAA College World Series Championships: 1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000

LSU is one of only four schools to win five CWS titles. Only LSU and Southern California have won four in one decade.

#### **Southeastern Conference Championships**

LSU claimed six SEC titles in the '90s. The Tigers won an unprecedented four straight league crowns from 1990-93.



1991

# 284,328 The Nation's Best Attendance

LSU drew 284,328 fans to Alex Box Stadium in 2004 to lead the USA in attendance for the ninth straight season.

# **CWS Appearances in the Past 19 Years**

LSU and Miami (Fla.) are the only two schools in the country with 13 CWS berths since 1986.



1993

1996

# **NCAA Tournament Berths**

The Tigers have made 16 straight NCAA Tournament appearances from 1989-2004.

# NCAA Regional Host Site for 15 Straight Seasons

LSU has played host to an NCAA Regional Tournament each year since 1990.

# 28-5 **Record on Championship Day in NCAA Tournament Competition**

LSU is 23-5 in the final rounds of NCAA regionals and super regionals, and the Tigers are 5-0 in CWS championship games.



LSU has a 104-39 record and a .727 winning percentage in regional/super regional and CWS games combined.



1997

-630 Fourth-Highest All-Time College World Series Winning Percentage

LSU is 29-17 (.630) at the CWS. The Tigers have won 14 of their last 20 CWS games.

Most All-Time CWS Victories (29) and Appearances (13) Among SEC Teams

The second-highest totals among SEC schools are 17 CWS victories and eight CWS appearances.



2000

# Nine 50-Win Seasons

LSU is the only SEC school with more than four 50-win seasons in its annals.

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> **TIGERS** COACHES REVIEW

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# LSU Baseball Legacy/Contents

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MEDIA

#### **United States Olympic Head Coach**

Skip Bertman - 1996 Bronze Medal Team

#### **United States Olympic Medalists**

RHP Kurt Ainsworth - 2000 Gold Medal 2B Warren Morris, SS Jason Williams - 1996 Bronze Medal RHP Ben McDonald - 1988 Gold Medal

#### **National Coach of the Year**

Skip Bertman - 1986, 1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000 Bertman was voted the second-greatest coach of the 20th Century in a Baseball America magazine poll.

#### **National Player of the Year**

RHP Ben McDonald - 1989; RHP Lloyd Peever - 1992; 1B Eddy Furniss - 1998

#### **National Freshman of the Year**

2B Todd Walker - 1992; RHP Brett Laxton - 1993; 2B Mike Fontenot - 2000; LHP Lane Mestepey - 2001

> LSU has made 13 College World Series appearances in the past 19 years, winning NCAA titles in 1991, 1993, 1996, 1997 and 2000.

#### Southeastern Conference Player of the Year

2B Todd Walker - 1993; SS Russ Johnson - 1994; 1B Eddy Furniss - 1996; SS Aaron Hill - 2003; OF Jon Zeringue - 2004

#### 15 First-Team All-Americans in the Past 17 Seasons

Outfielder Jon Zeringue received 2004 First-Team All-America recognition from USA Today/Sports Weekly.

#### 47 Major League Players

LSU has produced 33 big-leaguers since 1985, including MLB All-Stars Albert Belle and Paul Byrd.



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Todd Walker 1993 & 1994 First Team All-American



Russ Johnson 1994 SEC Player of the Year



Albert Belle Major League All-Star



Ben McDonald 1989 National Player of the Year



Brett Laxton
1993 National Freshman of the Year



Eddy Furniss 1998 National Player of the Year



Mike Fontenot 2000 National Freshman of the Year



Aaron Hill 2003 SEC Player of the Year



Jon Zeringue 2004 SEC Player of the Year

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#### CREDITS

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LAYOUT & DESIGN: David Hurd, Annie Martin
COVER DESIGN: Annie Martin

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

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#### PRINTING

EBSCO Media - Birmingham, Ala



The 2005 LSU Baseball Official Yearbook was produced by the LSU Sports Information Office on Power Macintosh G4 using QuarkXpress 6.0 and Adobe Photoshop 7.0.

The LSU Baseball Yearbook has been rated among the top six college baseball publications in the nation in 10 of the past 12 years. The yearbook was named "Best in the Nation" in 1993 and in 1994 by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association; the publication ranked fourth in 1995, second in 1996, fourth in 1997, second in 1998, sixth in 1999, fifth in 2001, third in 2003 and second in 2004. The cover of the 2003 guide was also named "Best in the Nation" by CoSIDA.

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# 2005 Schedule/Road Headquarters

2005 LSU I	Baseball Schedule		
DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
FEBRUARY			
11 (Fri.)	NICHOLLS STATE	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
12 (Sat.)	NICHOLLS STATE	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
13 (Sun.)	NICHOLLS STATE	BATON ROUGE	1:00 p.m.
15 (Tue.)	LOUISIANA-MONROE (COX)		6:30 p.m.
18 (Fri.)	ARKANSAS-LITTLE ROCK	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
19 (Sat.)	ARKANSAS-LITTLE ROCK	BATON ROUGE	4:00 p.m.
20 (Sun.)	ARKANSAS-LITTLE ROCK	BATON ROUGE	1:00 p.m.
25 (Fri.)	at Houston	Houston, Texas	7:00 p.m.
26 (Sat.)	at Houston (JSN)	Houston, Texas	3:00 p.m.
27 (Sun.)	at Houston (JSN)	Houston, Texas	1:00 p.m.
27 (Suit.)	at Houston (1914)	Troustori, rexas	1.00 p.m.
MARCH		<u></u>	
2 (Wed.)	at Centenary	Shreveport, La. (Fair Grounds Field	
4 (Fri.)	ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
5 (Sat.)	ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
6 (Sun.)	ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM	BATON ROUGE	1:00 p.m.
8 (Tue.)	TULANE (COX)	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
11 (Fri.)	ARIZONA STATE	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
12 (Sat.)	WESTERN ILLINOIS	BATON ROUGE	4:00 p.m.
13 (Sun.)	ARIZONA STATE	BATON ROUGE	4:00 p.m.
15 (Tue.)	at New Orleans	New Orleans, La. (Maestri Field)	6:30 p.m.
18 (Fri.)	at Georgia	Athens, Ga.	6:00 p.m.
19 (Sat.)	at Georgia	Athens, Ga.	3:00 p.m.
20 (Sun.)	at Georgia (JSN)	Athens, Ga.	Noon
23 (Wed.)	Southeastern Louisiana	Metairie, La. (Zephyr Field)	6:30 p.m.
25 (Fri.)	AUBURN	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
26 (Sat.)	AUBURN	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
27 (Sun.)	AUBURN	BATON ROUGE	1:00 p.m.
29 (Tue.)	NEW ORLEANS (COX)	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
ADDII			
APRIL	at Alabama	T1 A1-	( 20
1 (Fri.)		Tuscaloosa, Ala.	6:30 p.m.
2 (Sat.)	at Alabama	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	4:00 p.m.
3 (Sun.)	at Alabama (JSN)	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	2:00 p.m.
5 (Tue.)	at Nicholls State	Thibodaux, La.	6:30 p.m.
6 (Wed.)	Rice	Metairie, La. (Zephyr Field)	7:00 p.m.
8 (Fri.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
9 (Sat.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
10 (Sun.)	SOUTH CAROLINA	BATON ROUGE	Noon
12 (Tue.)	NORTHWESTERN STATE	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
15 (Fri.)	OLE MISS	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
16 (Sat.)	OLE MISS	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
17 (Sun.)	OLE MISS (COX)	BATON ROUGE	1:00 p.m.
19 (Tue.)	at Tulane (JSN)	Metairie, La. (Zephyr Field)	7:00 p.m.
22 (Fri.)	at Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark	7:05 p.m.
23 (Sat.)	at Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark.	3:05 p.m.
24 (Sun.)	at Arkansas (JSN)	Fayetteville, Ark.	1:05 p.m.
29 (Fri.)	at Vanderbilt	Nashville, Tenn.	6:00 p.m.
30 (Sat.)	at Vanderbilt	Nashville, Tenn.	2:00 p.m.
MAY			
1 (Sun.)	at Vanderbilt (JSN)	Nashville, Tenn.	1:00 p.m.
3 (Tue.)	SOUTHERN (COX)	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
6 (Fri.)	KENTUCKY (COX)	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
7 (Sat.)	KENTUCKY	BATON ROUGE	2:00 p.m.
8 (Sun.)	KENTUCKY	BATON ROUGE	Noon
13 (Fri.)	TENNESSEE (COX)	BATON ROUGE	6:30 p.m.
			•
14 (Sat.)	TENNESSEE (SEC-TV)	BATON ROUGE	3:00 p.m.
15 (Sun.)	TENNESSEE	BATON ROUGE	Noon
20 (Fri.)	at Mississippi State	Starkville, Miss.	6:30 p.m.
21 (Sat.)	at Mississippi State	Starkville, Miss.	2:00 p.m.
22 (Sun.)	at Mississippi State (JSN)	Starkville, Miss.	1:30 p.m.
May 25-29	SEC Tournament	Hoover, Ala.	
June 3-5	NCAA Regional Tournament	Site TBA	
	3 NCAA Super Regional Series	Site TBA	



#### ROAD HEADQUARTERS

February 24-27 Westin Galleria 5060 West Alabama Street Houston, TX 77056 713.960.8100

#### Georgia

March 17-20 Holiday Inn Athens 197 East Broad Street Athens, GA 30603 706.549.4433

#### Alabama

March 3I-April 3 **Hampton Inn University** 600 Harper Lee Drive Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205.553.9800

#### **Arkansas**

April 21-24 **Holiday Inn Express** 1251 North Shiloh Road Fayetteville, AR 72701 479.444.6006

#### **Vanderbilt**

April 28-May I Holiday Inn Vanderbilt 2613 West End Avenue Nashville, TN 37203 615.327.4707

#### Mississippi State

May 19-22 **Comfort Inn** 801 Russell Street Starkville, MS 39759 662.324.9595

#### **SEC Tournament**

May 24-29 Wynfrey Hotel 1000 Riverchase Galleria Birmingham, AL 35244 205.987.1600

June 10-12/11-13 NCAA Super Regional Series

College World Series

Site TBA

Omaha, Neb.

June 17-26/27

TV KEY JSN - Jumbo Sports Network SEC-TV - Fox Sports South/Southwest COX - Cox Sports Television

#### 2005 LSU Baseball Numerical Roster

	O LOO Baooban Man	ioi ioui it	00101					
<b>NO.</b> 2	NAME Derek Hebert	POS. INF	<b>в-т</b> L-R	<b>HT</b> . 5-11	<b>wt</b> . 185	CL. Sr.	<b>EXP.</b> 1L	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL) New Iberia, La. (El Camino College)
3	Blake Gill	INF	L-R	5-10	190	Sr.	3L	Bradenton, Fla. (Manatee HS)
4	Bryan Harris	INF	R-R	6-2	195	So.	RS	Tustin, Calif. (Santa Ana College)
5	Chris Jackson	INF	R-R	5-11	165	Fr.	RS	River Ridge, La. (John Curtis HS)
7	Michael Hollander	INF	R-R	5-8	180	Fr.	HS	Mandeville, La. (Jesuit HS)
8	Brandon Nall	P	R-R	6-3	180	Sr.	RS	Dothan, Ala. (Wallace State CC)
9	Dustin Weaver	С	R-R	5-10	185	Sr.	2L	St. Amant, La. (Southeastern Louisiana)
10	Ryan Byrd	P	R-L	6-0	165	Fr.	HS	Denham Springs, La. (Denham Springs HS)
11	Jordan Mayer	INF	R-R	6-3	235	Fr.	RS	Alexandria, La. (Alexandria HS)
12	Ryan Patterson	OF	R-R	5-11	200	Sr.	2L	Rowlett, Texas (Texarkana College)
13	Clay Dirks	P	L-L	6-4	235	So.	1L	Hernando, Miss. (Hernando HS)
14	Matt Liuzza	C	R-R	6-0	200	Jr.	2L	Metairie, La. (Rummel HS)
16	J.P. Padron	INF	R-R	5-11	210	Fr.	HS	League City, Texas (Clear Creek HS)
18	Nicholas Pontiff	INF	R-R	5-8	165	Fr.	HS	Metairie, La. (Jesuit HS)
21	Clay Harris	INF	R-R	6-4	220	Sr.	3L	Slidell, La. (Slidell HS)
23	Chase Dardar	P	R-R	5-11	200	Jr.	JC	Marrero, La. (Delgado CC)
24	Bruce Sprowl	OF	L-R	5-8	170	Jr.	1L	Knoxville, Tenn. (Shelton State CC)
25	Will Harris	1B	R-R	6-3	230	Jr.	2L	Slidell, La. (Slidell HS)
27	Greg Smith	P	L-L	6-0	190	Jr.	2L	Alexandria, La. (Alexandria HS)
28	Michael Bonura	P	R-R	6-1	175	So.	1L	Destrehan, La. (St. Charles Catholic HS)
29	Jordan Faircloth	P	R-R	6-3	205	Sr.	2L	Alexandria, La. (Alexandria HS)
32	Rhett Buteau	OF	L-R	5-9	160	Sr.	3L	Jeanerette, La. (Catholic-New Iberia HS)
33	Jason Determann	P	R-L	5-10	170	Jr.	2L	Baton Rouge, La. (Catholic HS)
34	Eric English	P	R-R	6-0	195	Fr.	HS	Weston, Fla. (Cypress Bay HS)
35	Justin Meier	P	R-R	6-0	200	Jr.	2L	Windermere, Fla. (West Orange HS)
36	Edgar Ramirez	P	R-R	6-4	230	Jr.	Tr.	Miami, Fla. (Florida International)
37	Daniel Forrer	P	R-L	6-2	200	Jr.	JC	Montgomery, Ala. (Chipola College)
38	Brad Bass	C	R-R	5-9	195	Sr.	1L	Port Allen, La. (Southern University)
39	Nolan Cain	P	R-R	6-3	235	Fr.	HS	Cantonment, Fla. (Tate HS)
40	Quinn Stewart	OF	R-R	6-1	195	Jr.	1L	Rowlett, Texas (Odessa JC)
41	Chris Cahill	P	R-R	6-2	200	Jr.	Tr.	Orlando, Fla. (Florida Gulf Coast Univ.)
42	Trey Simon	OF	L-R	5-10	190	Fr.	HS	Destrehan, La. (Destrehan HS)
43	Nick Stavinoha	OF	R-R	6-1	220	Sr.	1L	Houston, Texas (San Jacinto CC)
46	Lane Mestepey	P	L-L	6-0	195	Sr.	3L	Zachary, La. (Central Private HS)
47	Kade Keowen	OF/1B	R-R	6-4	190	Fr.	HS	Baker, La. (Central HS)
48	Matt Greenwich	P	L-L	5-10	190	Fr.	RS	Baton Rouge, La. (Parkview Baptist HS)
49	Brett Sager	INF	R-R	5-6	160	Fr.	HS	Davie, Fla. (Nova HS)
50	Brady Dugas	P	R-R	6-0	210	Fr.	HS	Gonzales, La. (East Ascension HS)
51	Chris McDougall	P	L-L	6-4	230	Jr.	Sqd.	Arabi, La. (Jesuit HS)
52	Will Davis	C	R-R	6-1	185	So.	1L	Baton Rouge, La. (Lee HS)
53	Gerard Victoriano	C	R-R	5-9	200	Jr.	JC	Lafitte, La. (Delgado CC)
54	Steven Broschofsky	OF	R-R	6-1	210	Fr.	RS	Metairie, La. (Jesuit HS)
57	Will Goodwin	P	R-R	6-0	205	Fr.	RS	Houston, Texas (Episcopal HS)

#### **Coaching Staff**

22 Smoke Laval Head Coach (Jacksonville, 1977 - 16th season at LSU; fourth season as LSU head coach)

17 Turtle Thomas Assistant Coach (High Point College, 1975 - sixth season at LSU)

26 Brady Wiederhold Assistant Coach (Kennesaw State, 1994 - fourth season at LSU)

20 Jody Autery Assistant Coach (LSU, 2001 - sixth season at LSU)

Jeramie Moore Assistant (LSU, 1997 - first season at LSU)

#### **Pronunciation Guide**

Daniel Forrer: Four-er

Michael Bonura: Buh-nurr-uh Steven Broschofsky: Bro-shawf-skee Rhett Buteau: Byoo-toe Jason Determann: Dett-er-man Brady Dugas: Doo-gahs Derek Hebert: A-bear Kade Keowen: Cowen Smoke Laval: Luh-val Matt Liuzza: Lye-oo-zah Jordan Mayer: Mayor Justin Meier: Myer Lane Mestepey: Mess-tuh-pay J.P. Padron: Puh-drone Trey Simon: Sigh-mon Nick Stavinoha: Stav-in-aw Brady Wiederhold: Wee-der-hold THIS IS **L5U** 

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## **Facts About LSU**

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Dimensions: Playing Surface: Conference:

Year Opened:

**University Facts** 

Location:

Founded:

Enrollment:

Nickname:

Colors:

Mascot:

Stadium:

Capacity:

LSU System President: Chancellor:

Chairman, Athletic Council: Athletics Department

Athletics Director: Sr. Associate Athletic Director: Associate AD/SWA:

Associate AD/External Affairs: Assistant AD/Compliance: Assistant AD/Sports Information:

Assistant AD/Student Services: **Sports Information** 

Phone/Fax Web Site/E-Mail Baseball Contact: Sports Information Director: Sr. Associate SID:

Associate SID: Associate SID: Associate SID: Publications Director: Graphic Design Coordinator:

Graphic Design Coordinator: Photographer: Administrative Secretary:

Phone/TV/Radio Asst. AD/Television: Asst. Coordinator/Television: Asst AD/Radio:

**Ticket Office** 

Phone/Toll-Free Fax/E-mail

Baton Rouge, La. (State Capital)

31.582

Fighting Tigers Purple (PMS 267) and Gold (PMS 123)

Mike V (Live Bengal Tiger) Alex Box Stadium

1938 7,760

LF-330; LC-365; CF-405; RC-365; RF-330

Natural Grass

Southeastern (Western Division)

Sean O'Keefe ......Loyola, 1977 Kenneth E. Carpenter . . . . . Oklahoma, 1962

**Athletics Facts** 

Dan Radakovich . . . . . . . . Indiana (Pa.), 1980 Judy Southard . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Coker, 1970 Associate AD/Internal Operations: Verge Ausberry LSU, 1990
Associate AD/Internal Relations: Bo Bahnsen LSU, 1982
Associate AD/Business: Mark Ewing LSU, 1978 Herb Vincent ...LSU, 1983 Chris Howard ....Kansas, 1997

Michael Bonnette ......LSU, 1993 Miriam Segar . . . . . . . . . LSU, 1994

www.LSUsports.net . . . . . . . wfranqu@lsu.edu Bill Franques ... LSU, 1985 Michael Bonnette ... LSU, 1993 Kent Lowe . . . . . LSU-Shreveport, 1979 

Jason Feirman ......LSU, 2000 David Hurd . . . . . . . . . . LSU, 2003 Annie Martin . . . . . . . . . . . . LSU, 2004 Steve Franz .......LSU, 1993 Pat Fredericks

**Electronic Media** 

Kevin Wagner ......LSU, 1980 John Schiebe . . . . . Oklahoma State, 1986 Jim Hawthorne . . . . . . Northwestern St., 1967

225.578.2184 ...........1-800-960-8587

225.578.3344 . . . . . . . . . . . . tickets@etigers.net

**Baseball Facts** 

225.578.4148 ......225.578.4066 (Fax) Baseball Office

Press Box: 225.578.4149 vrobert@lsu.edu E-Mail: Head Coach: Raymond "Smoke" Laval

Alma Mater: Jacksonville, 1977 fourth as head coach, 16th overall Year at LSU: Record at LSU: 135-63-1 (681 three seasons) 376-222-1 (.629, 10 seasons) Career Record:

LSU All-Time W-L Record: 1953-1307-21 (.598 - since 1893)

NCAA Championships: . . . . . 5 (1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000) College World Series Appearances: . . . . 13 (1986, '87, '89, '90, '91, '93, '94, '96, '97, '98, '00,

(03, (04) 

'00, '01, '02, '03, '04)

NCAA Regional Appearances: . . . . . . .20 (1975, '85, '86, '87, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, '97, '98, '99, '00, '01, '02, '03, '04)

NCAA Super Regional Titles: . . . . . . 3 (2000, '03, '04) NCAA Super Regional Appearances: . . . 6 (1999, '00, '01, '02, '03, '04)

NCAA Super Regional Record: . . . . . . . 7-7 (.500)

(03)

SEC Western Division Championships: 12 (1961, '75, '85, '92, '93, '94, '96, '97, '98, '00.'01.'03

SEC Record: ... SEC Tournament Championships: . . . . . 6 (1986, '90, '92, '93, '94, '00)

2004 Record/SEC Record (finish) . . . . . . 46-19/18-12 (second in West, third overall) 

7th at College World Series

Position Starters Returning/Lost: . . . . . . 6/3 

Coaching Staff			
POSITION	NAME	ALMA MATER	YEAR AT LSU
Head Coach	Smoke Laval	Jacksonville, 1977	4th as head coach,
			16th overall
Asst. Coach	Turtle Thomas	High Point College,	, 1975 .6th
Asst. Coach	Brady Wiederl	noldKennesaw State, 19	9944th
Volunteer Coach	Jody Autery .	LSU, 2001	6th
Administrative A	sst. Jeramie Moore	e LSU, 1997	1st

#### Support Staff

Academic Counselor . . . . . . . . . . . . . Tommy Powell Student Trainer . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Gage Trahan 

Student Secretaries . . . . . . . . . Kellie O'Neal, Bridget Raymond 

Matthew Montgomery



"The Intimidator" billboard located behind the right-field wall of Alex Box Stadium includes recognition of LSU's five NCAA championships.

The 2005 LSU Baseball Media Guide is a source of information for the news media. Additional information is available upon request from the LSU Sports Information Office. News releases, photographs, and videotape cassettes will be made available to accredited members of the news media.

The LSU Sports Information Office is located on the fifth floor of the LSU Athletic Administration Building.

#### **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

5ports information. 225-576-62

Fax: 225-578-1861

Baseball Office: 225-578-4148

Fax: 225-578-4066

#### **Baseball Contact E-mail Address**

wfranqu@lsu.edu

#### **Credentials**

All media attending LSU baseball home games must present a media pass for admission to Alex Box Stadium. Credentials for home games are issued for working media only and should be requested as early as possible.

- Requests for credentials should be made in advance by mail on company stationery and directed to Associate SID Bill Franques.
- Requests will be screened to insure a working press box.
- Requests are honored from sports editors of daily and weekly newspapers, editors of sports periodicals, and sports directors of radio and television stations who broadcast regularly-scheduled daily sports reports and talk shows.
- Credentials not mailed may be picked up beginning 90 minutes prior to game time at the Will Call window in front of Alex Box Stadium.
- LSU reserves the right to refuse any credential request deemed not to be in the best interest of the university. Any requests placed less than 24 hours prior to the game may not be honored.

#### **Press Box Services**

A complete NCAA box score and pertinent game facts will be distributed to members of the working media.

- Press packets are provided 60 minutes prior to the first pitch, or earlier upon request. Press packets include a scorecard and team rosters, updated statistics for each team, conference statistics and game-day notes.
- A meal ticket, redeemable for refreshments from the concessions stand, will be issued to each media member during the game.

#### **Parking**

Reserved media parking is located in the lot on Skip Bertman Drive, directly across the street from the home plate entrance of Alex Box Stadium. There is also ample unreserved parking within easy walking distance of the stadium. Because of limited space, requests for parking passes should be made with credential requests. It should not be assumed that parking passes will be provided with all media credentials.

#### **Phones/Fax Machine**

There are two phones available in the press box on a first-come, first-served basis. Fax service is also available upon request.

#### Radio/Television

Radio and television space for broadcasting baseball games is located in the press box. LSU provides courtesy lines for radio stations wishing to broadcast a game from Alex Box Stadium

#### **LSU Sports Information Website**

# LSUsports.net

#### 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, e-mail LSU Baseball SID Bill Franques (wfranqu@lsu.edu). You will be assigned a login ID and password that will enable you to retrieve pictures. This service is for the media use only. Resale of these pictures is strictly prohibited.

#### INTERVIEW POLICIES

#### **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.

Post-game player interviews are conducted in front of the LSU dugout at the conclusion of a brief team meeting on the field. The LSU locker room is closed to the media.

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# Print

#### **Associated Press**

IOOI Howard Avenue, Suite 200-A New Orleans, LA 70II3 SPORTS EDITOR: Mary Foster PHONE: (504) 523-393I FAX: (504) 586-053I E-MAIL: nrtle@ap.org

#### The Advocate

P.O. Box 588
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
EXEC. SPORTS EDITOR: Butch Muir
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR: Matt Randolph
BEAT: Carl Dubois

PHONE: (225) 383-IIII

FAX: (225) 388-0318

E-MAIL: sports@theadvocate.com

WEB SITE: www.2theadvocate.com

#### **Times-Picayune**

3800 Howard Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70140
SPORTS EDITOR: David Meeks
SPORTS EDITOR: Peter Finney (columnist)
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR: Doug Tatum
BEAT WRITER: Jim Kleinpeter
KLEINPETER CELL: (225) 769-9291
PHONE: (504) 826-3405
FAX: (504) 826-3405

E-MAIL: sports@timespicayune.com WEB SITE: www.nola.com

#### The Shreveport Times

222 Lake Street
Shreveport, LA 7II30
SPORTS EDITOR: Scott Ferrell
PHONE: (3I8) 459-3300
FAX: (3I8) 459-3301
E-MAIL: sports@shreveporttimes.com

WEB SITE: www.shreveportimes.com

#### **Lake Charles American Press**

P.O. Box 2893
Lake Charles, LA 70602
SPORTS EDITOR: Scooter Hobbs (columnist)
PHONE: (337) 494-4069
FAX: (337) 439-4036
E-MAIL: sports@americanpress.com
WEB SITE: www.americanpress.com

#### **Alexandria Daily Town Talk**

P.O. Box 7558
Alexandria, LA 71301
SPORTS EDITOR: John Marcase
PHONE: (318) 487-6351
FAX: (318) 487-6315
E-MAIL: sports@thetowntalk.com

#### **Monroe News-Star**

4II No. Fourth Street Monroe, LA 71201 SPORTS EDITOR: Nick Deriso PHONE: (318) 362-0267 FAX: (318) 362-0273 E-MAIL: nderiso@thenewsstar.com WEB SITE: www.thenewsstar.com

#### **Gannett News Services**

333 State Capitol Blvd.
P.O. Box 44337
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
BEAT WRITTER: Glenn Guilbeau
PHONE: (225) 346-0921
CELL: (225) 907-8701 HOME: (225) 768-1931
E-MAIL: gguilbeau@gannett.com

#### **Lafayette Daily Advertiser**

P.O. Box 3268
Lafayette, LA 70502
SPORTS EDITOR: Kevin Foote
PHONE: (337) 289-6303
FAX: (337) 289-6443
E-MAIL: sports@theadvertiser.com
WB SITE: www.acadiananow.com

#### **Opelousas Daily World**

P.O. Box II79
Opelousas, LA 70570
SPORTS EDITOR: Tom Dodge
PHONE: (337) 942-4971
FAX: (337) 948-6572
E-MAIL: tomdodge@dailyworld.com
WEB SITE: www.dailyworld.com

#### **Ruston Daily Leader**

212 West Park Avenue Ruston, LA 71270 SPORTS EDITOR: O.K. Buddy Davis PHONE: (318) 255-4353 FAX: (318) 255-4006 E-MAIL: buddy@rustonleader.com

#### **Television**

#### WAFB-TV (CBS Affiliate - Channel 9)

844 Government Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
SPORTS DIRECTOR: Steve Schneider
REPORTER: Jacques Doucet, James Verrett
PHONE: (225) 336-8891
FAX: (225) 379-7880
E-MAIL: sports@wafb.com
WEB SITE: www.wafb.com

#### WBRZ-TV (ABC Affiliate - Channel 2)

P.O. Box 2906
Baton Rouge, LA 7082I
SPORTS DIRECTOR: Michael Cauble
REPORTERS: Andy Pepper, Pat Minnis
PHONE: (225) 336-236I
FAX: (225) 336-2347
E-MAIL: sports@wbrz.com
WEB SITE: www.2theadvocate.com

#### WVLA-TV (NBC Affiliate Channel 33)

5220 Essen Lane Baton Rouge, LA 70809 PHONE: (225) 766-3233 FAX: (225) 768-9191 WEB SITE: www.nbc33tv.com

#### WWL-TV (CBS Affiliate - Channel 4)

1024 No. Rampart Street New Orleans, LA 70II6 SPORTS DIRECTOR: Jim Henderson REPORTERS: Lee Zurik, Juan Kincaid PHONE: (504) 529-629I FAX: (504) 529-6472 E-Mail: !zurik@wwltv.com

#### WDSU-TV (NBC Affiliate - Channel 6)

846 Howard Avenue New Orleans, LA 70II3 SPORTS DIRECTOR: Rich Lenz REPORTER: Fletcher Mackle PHONE: (504) 679-0657 FAX: (504) 679-0733 E-Mail: rlenz@wdsu.com WEB SITE: www.wdsu.com

#### WGNO-TV (ABC Affiliate - Channel 26)

ITM Building
New Orleans, LA 70II2
SPORTS DIRECTOR: Ed Daniels
PHONE: (504) 619-6328
FAX: (504) 619-6328
FAX: Edaniels@tribune.com
WEB SITE: abc26.trb.com

#### WVUE-TV (FOX Affiliate - Channel 8)

P.O. Box 13847 New Orleans, LA 70185 SPORTS DIRECTOR: Darrell Greene PHONE: (504) 483-1542 FAX: (504) 483-1543 E-Mail: dgreene@wvue.emmis.com WEB SITE: www.fox8live.com

#### Radio

#### **WDGL/JAMN** (FM 98.1/107.3)

(LSU Radio Network Flagship)
P.O. Box 2231
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
SPORTS DIRECTOR: Charles Hanagriff
PHONE: (225) 388-9898
FAX: (225) 499-9800

#### Louisiana Network

263 Third Street, 5th Flooi Baton Rouge, LA 70801 Sports: Jeff Palermo PHONE: (225) 383-8788 FAX: (225) 342-9950 WEB SITE: www.la-net.net

#### WJBO/WSKR (AM 1150/1210)

P.O. Box 14061 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4061 PHONE: (225) 231-1860 FAX: (225) 499-9696 WEB SITE: www.wjbo.com

#### **WWL** (AM 870)

I450 Poydras Street Suite 440 New Orleans, LA 70II2 PHONE: (504) 593-6376 FAX: (504) 593-I850 WEB SITE: www.wwl.com

### **Specialty Media**

#### Tiger Rag

P.O. Box 496
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0496
EDITOR/BEAT: Mart Deville
PHONE: (225) 383-5271
FAX: (225) 343-4785
E-MAIL: matt@rigerrag.com
WER SITE- Jouisianastate theinsiders com

#### Sports Monday P.O. Box 14825

Baton Rouge, LA 70898 HOST: Lee Feinswog PHONE: (225) 926-3256 E-MAIL: lee@sportsbatonrouge.com WEB SITE: www.sportsbatonrouge.com

#### Purple & Gold

5800 One Perkins Place Suite 6-A Baton Rouge, LA 70808 EDITOR/BEAT: Dave Moormann PHONE: (225) 926-6300 FAX: (225) 926-9371 E-MAIL: david@purpleandgold.com WEB SITE: www.purpleandgold.com

## **Campus Services**

#### **LSU Daily Reveille**

Room 39, Hodges Hall, LSU Baton Rouge, LA 70140 PHONE: (225) 578-8676 FAX: (225) 578-1698 FAMIL:sports@reveille.stumedia.lsu.edu WEB SITE: www.lsureveille.com

#### **KLSU** (FM 91.1)

Hodges Hall, LSU Baton Rouge, LA 70894 PHONE: (225) 578-5911 FAX: (225) 578-1698 WEB SITE: www.klsu.fm

#### Tiger Television

Hodges Hall, LSU
Baton Rouge, LA 70894
PHONE: (225) 578-8687
FAX: (225) 578-1698
WEB SITE: www.tigertv.tv



# The Program

aymond "Smoke" Laval begins his fourth season in 2005 as the head coach of the LSU Fighting Tigers. Last season, Laval guided LSU to its second straight College World Series appearance, as the Tigers posted a 46-19 record and a No. 6 final national ranking. Laval, the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, served as the legendary Skip Bertman's No. 1 assistant coach at LSU from 1984-93, helping lead the Tigers to two national championships (1991, 1993), six College World Series appearances and Southeastern Conference titles in 10 seasons. Laval served as the head coach at Louisiana-Monroe from 1994-2000 before taking command of the LSU program prior to the 2002 season.

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Smoke Laval took over as LSU's head coach in 2002 and has directed the Tigers to two CWS berths.

# FIVE

NCAA Championships won by the LSU Tigers

LSU is one of only four schools to win five national titles in the 58-year history of the CWS. The other schools are Southern California, Arizona State and Texas.

LSU's success,
however, has been more
immediate, as the Tigers
have claimed five CWS
titles in the past I4 years.
By comparison, Southern
Cal has one national title in
the past 26 years; Arizona
State has gone 23 years
without a CWS crown; and
Texas has won two CWS
titles in 22 seasons.

1991, 1993, 1996,1997, 2000



#### THE SMOKE LAVAL ERA

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. 6 in the *USA Today/Sports Weekly* poll, 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.

finished 52-17. LSU played

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.

In just his second season at the helm of the LSU program, Laval guided the Tigers to the 2003 Southeastern Conference title and an appearance in the College World Series. The '03 Tigers posted a 45-22-1 overall record and completed the season ranked No. 5 in the nation by Baseball America magazine.

LSU played host to an NCAA Regional tournament for the 14th straight year and captured its

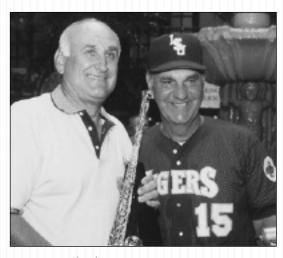
eighth consecutive regional title. LSU won two of three games over Baylor in the NCAA Super Regional to advance to the CWS for the 12th time in school history.

Laval was named 2003 SEC Coach of the Year and Louisiana Coach of the Year.

In the first season of the Laval era, the 2002 Tigers played host to an NCAA Regional at Alex Box Stadium for the 13th straight year. LSU captured its seventh consecutive regional title with two wins over Louisiana-Lafayette on the tournament's final day to advance to the Super Regional at Rice University.

For his outstanding efforts in his inaugural LSU season, Laval was named the 2002 Louisiana Coach of the Year by the Louisiana Sportswriters Association.

Prior to his new tenure at LSU, Laval resuscitated the UL-Monroe program, as in seven seasons he guided the Indians to a 241-159 record, including NCAA Regional appearances in 1995, 1999 and 2000. The 2000 ULM club posted a 41-22 mark en route to the Southland Conference title, tying the school record for wins. Laval, the 1999 SLC Coach of the Year, also led the Indians to the 1999 regular-season league title and to the 1995 conference tournament crown.



Skip Bertman (right) accepts the 1997 Louisville Slugger national championship trophy with LSU President Dr. William Jenkins.

#### THE SKIP BERTMAN ERA

Skip Bertman is LSU's all-time winningest coach, as he compiled an 870-330-3 (.724) record in 18 seasons (1984-2001). Bertman, the National Coach of the Year in 1986, 1991, 1993, 1996, 1997 and 2000, and the 1996 United States Olympic head coach, guided the Tigers to five national championships (1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000) and 11 College World Series appearances (1986, '87, '89, '90, '91, '93, '94, '96, '97, '98, '00). In a poll released by Baseball America in January, 1999, Bertman was voted the second-greatest college baseball coach of the 20th century, trailing

only Rod Dedeaux of Southern California. Under Bertman, LSU finished no worse than seventh in the national polls in 12 of his final 16 seasons.

Bertman is one of only two coaches to have won five College World Series titles in the 58-year history of the event (Southern Cal's Dedeaux won 10 CWS crowns in the 1950s, '60s and '70s). Bertman has the fifth-highest total of CWS victories (29) and the fourth-highest CWS winning percentage (29-13, 690).

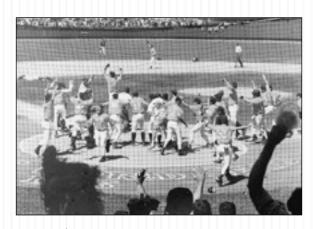
Bertman's record in SEC games was 328-159-2 (.673). Under Bertman, LSU dominated the SEC from 1989-2001, registering a 654-235-2 (.734) overall mark (an average of 50 wins per year) with five national championships, nine CWS appearances, six conference titles and eight 50-win seasons.

In addition to the five national titles, Bertman directed LSU to 13 NCAA Regional championships (1986, '87, '89, '90, '91, '93, '94, '96, '97, '98, '99, '00, '01), one NCAA Super Regional title (2000), seven Southeastern Conference regularseason titles (1986, '90, '91, '92, '93, '96, '97), six SEC Tournament crowns (1986, '90, '92, '93, '94, '00) and nine 50-win seasons (1986, 1989-93, 1996-97, 2000).

#### NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

Bertman directed LSU to its fifth national title in 2000, as the Tigers recorded a 52-17 mark, including a perfect 13-0 post-season record. LSU won the SEC Tournament with four straight wins, and the Tigers raced to a 9-0 mark in the NCAA Tournament. The Tigers captured the national title with a thrilling 6-5 win over Stanford in the CWS championship game, as LSU scored four runs in the last two innings to overcome a 5-2 deficit. Catcher Brad Cresse's RBI single in the bottom of the ninth inning drove home shortstop Ryan Theriot with the winning run.

LSU's road to the 2000 NCAA crown was arguably the most difficult in CWS history, as the Tigers had to defeat perennial powers Texas (28 CWS appearances), Southern California (20), Florida State (18) and Stanford (12) in order to claim the national championship.



The 2000 squad was Bertman's most productive offensive team, setting a school record for team batting average with a .340 mark. The Tigers also established Southeastern Conference records for hits (864) and doubles (194). For the fifth time, Bertman was voted National Coach of the Year by Collegiate Baseball magazine.

LSU claimed its fourth NCAA title in June, 1997, as the Tigers overwhelmed Alabama, 13-6, in the College World Series final. LSU became the first school to win back-to-back national championships since Stanford in 1987-88. The Tigers completed the year with a 57-13 mark, setting the Southeastern Conference record for most single-season victories. The Tigers also established the NCAA record for single-season home runs, as LSU unloaded a remarkable 188 round-trippers en route to the national championship. LSU joined Southern California (six titles in the 1970s) as the only schools to win four CWS crowns in one decade.

**LSU** claimed its third national championship of the **1990s** in **1996** when second baseman Warren Morris belted a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the Tigers to a thrilling 9-8 College World Series title game win over Miami (Fla.). The '96 Tigers were one of the most prolific offensive teams in Southeastern Conference history, establishing league records for home runs (131), runs scored (648), RBI (549) and total bases (1,331).

In 1993, LSU won its second NCAA title in three years with an 8-0 victory over Wichita State in the CWS final. The 1993 Tigers also captured the Southeastern Conference title, as LSU became the first SEC school to win the league championship in four consecutive seasons (1990-93).

In 1991, LSU captured its first national championship with a record-setting performance at the CWS. The Tigers defeated Wichita State, 6-3, in the title game and established Series marks for home runs, runs per game, slugging percentage and fielding percentage.

LSU is one of only four schools to win five national titles in the 58-year history of the CWS. The others are Southern California (12 titles), Arizona State (5) and Texas (5). LSU has claimed its five CWS titles in the past 14 years. By comparison, Southern Cal

Warren Morris' ninth-inning homer lifted LSU to the 1996 national championship.

# 284,328

Number of fans who attended LSU baseball games in Alex Box Stadium during the 2004 season. LSU ranked first in the nation in attendance for the ninth straight year.

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The 1975 Tigers earned LSU's first NCAA Tournament berth.



Southeastern
Conference
championships
claimed by LSU in
the 1990s,
including an
unprecedented
four in a row
from 1990-93



has just one national title in the past 26 seasons; Arizona State has played 23 seasons without a CWS crown; and Texas has won two CWS titles in the past 22 seasons.

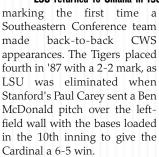
**All 13 of the Tigers' CWS appearances have come since 1986** -- LSU is one of only 10 schools to have made at least 13 CWS trips since the Series began in 1947. The Tigers have the fourth-highest all-time CWS winning percentage (minimum 20 games) -- LSU has a 29-17 (.630) CWS mark, trailing Southern California (74-26, .740), Minnesota (17-7, .708) and Arizona State (55-30, .647).

LSU has the highest all-time NCAA Tournament winning percentage (.727) with a 104-39 record. Remarkably, LSU has a 28-5 record in championship rounds of NCAA post-season play. The Tigers are 5-0 in CWS finals, 19-1 in NCAA Regional final rounds and 4-4 in NCAA Super Regional final rounds.

#### **COLLEGE WORLD SERIES TEAMS**

**LSU** made its first-ever **CWS** appearance in **1986**, when the Tigers finished fifth with a 1-2 record. LSU lost its CWS debut, 4-3, to Loyola-Marymount before rebounding with its first Series win, an 8-4 triumph over Maine. The Tigers were then eliminated by defending CWS champion Miami (Fla.), 4-3.

LSU returned to Omaha in 1987



In 1989, after an incredible two-game sweep of top-ranked Texas A&M -- the Aggies entered the regional final round with a 58-5 record -- in the NCAA Central Regional at College Station, Texas, LSU joined the CWS field, placing in a tie for third with a 2-2 record.

In 1990, the Tigers again emerged from an NCAA regional tournament losers' bracket to earn a CWS **berth**, as LSU captured the South I Regional at Baton Rouge with two scintillating one-run wins over Southern California. LSU finished in a tie for third at the '90 CWS, recording a 2-2 mark in the summer classic.

LSU claimed its first NCAA championship in 1991 as the Tigers decimated the CWS field, outscoring their opponents 48-15 in four games. LSU, which won the SEC regular-season title for the second straight year, became the first team since 1982 to win the national championship without a loss in the NCAA Tournament -- the Tigers won four consecutive games in both the NCAA South Regional and the College World Series. LSU's domination in Omaha was evidenced by the fact that the Tigers set CWS team records for most runs per game (12), highest fielding percentage (.993), highest slugging percentage (.603) and most home runs (nine).

LSU returned to Omaha in 1993 for another national championship crusade as the Tigers posted a 4-1 CWS mark, including an 8-0 victory over Wichita State in the final. Perhaps more memorable than the championship contest was LSU's 6-5 victory over Long Beach State in the CWS semi-finals, as the Tigers scored three runs in the bottom of the ninth inning for the win. LSU, which won the SEC for an unprecedented fourth straight year, advanced to the CWS by capturing the NCAA South Regional championship at Alex Box Stadium, which played host to a regional tournament for the fourth consecutive year.

In 1994, LSU became the first defending national champion to return to the CWS since Stanford accomplished the feat in 1988. The Tigers earned the CWS berth with four straight wins in the NCAA South Regional at Baton Rouge, including a thrilling 12-10 triumph over Southern California in the regional final. However, for the first time in its CWS history, LSU went "two-and-out" in Omaha, as the Tigers dropped consecutive decisions to Florida State and Cal State-Fullerton.

In 1996, the Tigers posted an 8-0 NCAA Tournament record to win the school's third national championship. LSU won four straight in Omaha, defeating Wichita State, Florida (twice), and Miami (Fla.). The championship game versus Miami provided the greatest finish in the history of the CWS as LSU second baseman Warren Morris launched a two-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to give the Tigers an electrifying 9-8 triumph.

The 1997 Tigers unloaded an NCAA-record 188 homers en route to the national title. The '97 club played host to the NCAA South I Regional, defeating North Carolina-Greensboro and Oklahoma in their first two games before suffering a third-round loss to South Alabama. The Tigers rebounded for a thrilling 14-7, 11-inning triumph over Long Beach State before posting a doubleheader sweep over South Alabama (14-4 and 15-4) to claim the regional crown. For the

Eddy Furniss claimed the 1998 Dick Howser Award as college baseball's most outstanding player.



second straight year, the Tigers went 4-0 in the College World Series, defeating Rice (5-4), Stanford (10-5 and 13-9) and Alabama (13-6). LSU became the first team to win back-to-back national titles without losing a CWS game. The only other teams to win consecutive national championships are Stanford (1987-88), Southern California (1970-71-72-73-74) and Texas (1949-

The 1998 LSU squad earned the Tigers' seventh CWS berth of the '90s by capturing the NCAA South II Regional title in Baton Rouge with victories over Nicholls State (18-4), Southwestern Louisiana (15-6) and Cal State-Fullerton (13-11 and 14-3). LSU defeated Southern California (12-10) and Mississippi State (10-8) in its first two CWS games, increasing the Tigers' Series winning streak to 10 games over three years. However, LSU suffered back-to-back losses to Southern Cal (5-4 and 7-3), and the Trojans advanced to the national championship game, where they defeated Arizona State.

LSU earned its 11th CWS trip in 15 seasons in 2000, as the Tigers played host to and won both an NCAA Regional and NCAA Super Regional. The Tigers defeated Jackson State and Louisiana-Monroe (twice) in the regional before sweeping two super regional games from UCLA to claim the ticket to Omaha. LSU then posted four straight victories in the CWS, securing the national title with wins over Texas (13-5), Southern California (10-4), Florida State (6-3) and Stanford (6-5). The Tigers completed the year with a perfect 13-0 post-season mark, as LSU also won four straight games in capturing the SEC Tournament crown.

LSU's 2003 SEC Championship club earned the school's first CWS trip since 2000. The Tigers played host to an NCAA Regional for the 14th straight year, as the Tigers won the tournament with a thrilling 9-8, 11-inning victory over North Carolina-Wilmington in the final game. LSU then entertained Baylor in NCAA Super Regional play, defeating the Bears in two of three games to advance to the CWS.

For just the second time in 12 CWS appearances, LSU failed to win a game in Omaha as the Tigers were defeated by Cal State Fullerton (8-2) and South Carolina (11-10).

The 2004 Tigers advanced to the College World Series, marking LSU's first back-to-back trips since 1996, '97 and '98. The '04 squad posted a 46-19 overall record, LSU's best mark since the 2000 team finished 52-17.

LSU played host in 2004 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-ofthree series to earn a berth in the CWS. LSU was eliminated from the CWS in two games, as the Tigers dropped decisions to Miami (Fla.) and South Carolina.



#### NCAA REGIONAL HISTORY

LSU has a 75-22 (.773) mark in NCAA Regional and Super Regional contests. The Tigers have advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 16 consecutive seasons and in 19 of the past 20 years. LSU first qualified for NCAA regional play in 1975, when the Tigers posted a 1-2 mark at the South Regional in Starkville, Miss. In 1985 -- the Tigers' first NCAA appearance under Skip Bertman --LSU dropped two consecutive games at the Central Regional in Austin, Texas, before advancing to its first College World Series a year later with a four-game sweep through the 1986 South I Regional field in Baton Rouge, La.

The Tigers returned to Omaha in 1987 after taking four straight games at the South II Regional in New Orleans, La., including a 5-2 victory over Cal State Fullerton in the final game. After failing to receive an NCAA bid in 1988, LSU won five of six games at the 1989 Central Regional in College Station, Texas, to secure its third CWS berth in four years. The Tigers defeated top-ranked Texas A&M twice on the tournament's final day -- including a 5-4, 11-inning victory in the championship game. LSU earned its fourth berth to the CWS in 1990 as the Tigers took of five of six games at the South I Regional in Baton Rouge. The Tigers posted consecutive victories over powerful Southern California -including a thrilling 7-6 win in the final contest -- to capture the regional title.

In 1991, LSU posted four straight victories at the South Regional in Baton Rouge to set the stage for its national title drive in Omaha. In 1992, LSU played host to an NCAA Regional for the third straight year; however, the Tigers were eliminated in the South I semifinal by Cal State-Fullerton. The loss marked the first time since 1985 LSU did not win a regional after receiving an NCAA Tournament bid. In 1993, after a second-round loss to Kent State University, LSU won three straight NCAA South Regional games to earn its sixth CWS trip. The Tigers defeated South Alabama, 9-4, in the regional final.

The Tigers played host to an NCAA Regional for the fifth straight season in 1994, as LSU

Ren McDonald received the 1989 Golden Spikes Award as the nation's best amateur baseball player.

Home runs by the Tigers in their 1997 National Championship season

The total is an NCAA record, shattering the previous mark of 161 set in 1988 by **Brigham Young. LSU** hit at least one home run in all 70 of its 1997 games.

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MEDIA

.727

LSU has the nation's

highest

all-time NCAA

**Tournament** 

winning percentage

(104-39, .727) and the fourth-highest

all-time College

World Series winning percentage

(29-17, .630).

defeated Southeastern Louisiana, Fresno State and Southern California (twice) to earn another trip to Omaha. Alex Box Stadium again served as the host site for an NCAA tournament in 1995, as the Tigers participated in the South Regional, finishing third behind champion Cal State-Fullerton and runner-up Rice. In 1996, LSU captured the South II Regional crown in Alex Box Stadium, defeating Georgia Tech, 29-13, in the championship game. The contest featured a record-setting seventh inning in which LSU scored 18 runs on 13 hits with 17 consecutive Tiger batters reaching base.

In 1997, the Tigers claimed the South I regional title in Baton Rouge, defeating South Alabama twice (14-4 and 15-4) on the tournament's final day. LSU hit .339 (82-for-242) in its six regional games, outscoring the opposition 76-29 while unloading 20 home runs. In 1998, the Tigers swept four games in the NCAA South II Regional at Baton Rouge, including two wins over former post-season nemesis Cal State-Fullerton. LSU hit .406 in the tournament while launching 20 homers in regional play for the second straight year.

In 1999, LSU claimed the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional as the Tigers emerged from the losers' bracket and posted consecutive victories over East Carolina. LSU advanced to the NCAA Super Regional in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where the Tigers dropped consecutive decisions to Alabama to end their post-season drive.

The 2000 Tigers played host to both a regional and super regional, marking the 11th straight year Alex Box Stadium served as a site for NCAA post-season play. The Tigers blitzed Jackson State (19-1) and Louisiana-Monroe (21-0, 5-3) to win the regional, and LSU overwhelmed UCLA (8-2, 14-8) in the super regional. In its five regional/super regional games, the Tigers hit .366 (70-for-192) with 18 doubles, one triple and 11 homers.

The 2001 Tigers captured LSU's sixth straight NCAA Regional championship with a 14-9 titlegame victory over Virginia Commonwealth in Alex Box Stadium. The Tigers advanced to NCAA

Super Regional play against Tulane at Zephyr Field in Metairie, La., where the teams played three games before sell-out crowds of nearly 12,000 per contest. LSU won a 13-inning thriller, 4-3, in Game 1, before the Green Wave rebounded for consecutive victories (9-4 and 7-1) to earn Tulane's first trip to the CWS.

The 2002 Tigers claimed LSU's seventh consecutive NCAA Regional crown, defeating Louisiana-Lafayette twice (by identical 12-2 scores) on the tournament's final day in Alex Box Stadium. LSU advanced to the NCAA Super Regional at Rice University, where the Owls blanked the Tigers twice (6-0 and 3-0) to capture the CWS bid.

LSU won its eighth straight regional in 2003, as the Tigers defeated Northeastern (11-8), Tulane (13-5) and UNC-Wilmington (9-8, 11 innings). Right fielder Jon Zeringue's solo homer in the bottom of the 11th inning propelled the Tigers to victory over UNCW. LSU faced Baylor in a Super Regional series at Alex Box Stadium, and, after dropping the opener to the Bears (4-1), the Tigers came back to record 6-5 and 20-5 victories to earn another trip to Omaha.

The 2004 Tigers earned LSU's ninth consecutive NCAA Regional title, winning consecutive games over Army (9-0), Southern Mississippi (6-2) and College of Charleston (11-3). The Tigers played host to Texas A&M in the Super Regional, sweeping the Aggies in two games (11-8 and 4-0) to advance to Omaha for the second year in a row.

#### SEC HISTORY

LSU captured its 13th Southeastern Conference title when the 2003 Tigers claimed the league crown. The Tigers recorded a 20-9-1 conference mark to win the 13th league championship in school history. LSU and Alabama each have claimed a leaguebest 13 SEC titles. LSU won six SEC championships in the 1990s, including an unprecedented four in a row from 1990-93.

LSU has finished either first or second in the overall conference standings in 12 of the past 16 years. LSU has won six SEC Tournament crowns (1986, '90, '92, '93, '94, 2000), and the Tigers are the only SEC team to have appeared in every conference tournament since 1985.

In 1993, LSU became the first team in Southeastern Conference history to win four straight league titles. The '93 Tigers, who registered an 18-8-1 SEC mark, clinched the overall championship by winning the SEC Western Division Tournament title in Alex Box Stadium. LSU defeated Mississippi State, 7-3, in the final game after battling out of the tournament losers' bracket. In 1992, LSU became the first league team to win three straight championships since Alabama in 1940, '41 and '42. Alabama also won three straight from 1934-36 and is the only other school with three consecutive titles since the SEC began recognizing a champion in 1933.



LSU has earned I3 CWS trips to Omaha's Rosenblatt Stadium.

The Tigers have won more College World Series games (29) than any other SEC school. South Carolina is second among league schools with 17 CWS triumphs. LSU is the only SEC squad with 13 CWS trips; South Carolina is second with eight all-time CWS berths. Since 1986, while LSU has made 13 CWS appearances, no other SEC school has reached Omaha more than four times. Other league schools in the CWS since '86 are Florida (four appearances), Georgia (four), Mississippi State (three), Alabama (three), Arkansas (three), South Carolina (three), Auburn (two) and Tennessee (two).

LSU has reached the 50-win plateau eight times in the past 16 years. LSU posted five consecutive 50-win seasons from 1989-93. No other Southeastern Conference team has had more than two consecutive 50-win campaigns. LSU in 1997 established the SEC record for most wins (57) in a season, breaking its own previous league mark of 55 set in 1986, 1989 and 1991. While LSU has nine 50-win seasons in its annals, no other SEC school has more than four 50-win campaigns in its history.

#### **INDIVIDUAL HONORS**

Former LSU pitcher Ben McDonald, a right-hander from Denham Springs, La., capped a magnificent 1989 season by receiving the Golden Spikes Award, given by the United States Baseball Federation to the nation's most outstanding amateur player. McDonald, the consensus College Player of the Year, was the first player chosen in the free-agent amateur draft and made his major league debut with the Baltimore Orioles in September, 1989.

McDonald, who set an LSU career mark with 373 Ks, established Southeastern Conference standards for single-season strikeouts (202), innings pitched (152.1) and consecutive scoreless innings (44.2). A two-time All-American and a 1988 Olympic gold medalist, he finished his LSU career with a 29-14 record and a 3.24 ERA.

Lloyd Peever, a right-handed pitcher from Stonewall, Okla., was named the 1992 National Player of the Year by Collegiate Baseball magazine. Peever, one of nine finalists for the 1992 Golden Spikes Award, was named first-team All-America by Collegiate



Lyle Mouton (21), catcher Gary Hymel and the Tigers won LSU's first NCAA championship in 1991 with a victory over Wichita State in the CWS.



Ray Wright's brilliant catch prevented a Stanford home run in the 2000 College World Series.

**28-5** 

Baseball, Baseball America and the American Baseball Coaches Association. He finished the season with a 14-0 record and a 1.98 ERA in 104.2 innings, and he became the first SEC pitcher to post 14 straight wins in one year. Peever signed with the expansion Colorado Rockies in 1992 after being selected in the fourth round of the major league draft.

LSU first baseman Eddy Furniss culminated a sterling four-year career by receiving the 1998 Dick Howser Trophy as college baseball's most outstanding player. Furniss finished his career as the SEC's all-time leader in hits (352), home runs (80), RBI (308), doubles, (87) and total bases (689). He is also No. 1 on the LSU career list for slugging percentage (.727) and walks (191). In NCAA annals, Furniss finished his career No. 3 all-time in total bases, No. 4 in home runs and doubles, and No. 5 in RBI. The Nacogdoches, Texas, native -- who posted a .371 lifetime batting average -- hit .403 in 1998 with 27 doubles, three triples, 28 homers, 85 runs and 76 RBI, earning First-Team All-America and all-SEC honors. He was also voted a second-team Academic all-American with a 3.5 gpa in zoology.

In 1997, Furniss helped lead LSU to its second straight NCAA title, earning second-team all-America and all-SEC recognition and firstteam Academic all-America honors. He batted .377 with 25 doubles, 17 homers and 77 RBI.

Furniss, a 1996 consensus first-team all-American, was voted the '96 Southeastern Conference Player of the Year after batting .374 (89-for-238) with a school-record 26 homers and an SEC-record 103 RBI. Furniss, whose home run and RBI totals were the best in the nation, also was named a second-team Academic all-American with a 3.7 gpa in zoology. Furniss became the third LSU player in four years to be named SEC Player of the Year (Todd Walker was the '93 recipient and Russ Johnson was the '94

Todd Walker was voted in 1996 as the second baseman on the College World Series All-Time Team by the readers of the Omaha World-Herald. Walker completed a brilliant three-year LSU career in 1994 as he became the SEC's all-time leader in hits (310), runs (234), RBI (246) and total bases (557). Walker, a native of Bossier City, La., was a 1994 finalist for the Golden Spikes Award and the Smith Award, as

LSU has a 28-5 record on championship day in NCAA post-season play (regional, super regional and CWS combined), including a 5-0 mark in CWS final games.

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LSU has produced 33
major leaguers over the
past 20 years, including
former all-star
outfielder Albert Belle.
Among the Tigers'
current big leaguers are
Paul Byrd of the Atlanta
Braves, Todd Walker of the
Chicago Cubs, Warren
Morris of the Detroit
Tigers and Kurt Ainsworth
of the Baltimore Orioles.

he batted .393 with 18 homers and 68 RBI. A consensus '94 All-American, he was also named the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA South Regional, and he was selected to the College World Series All-Tournament team. Walker finished his career as LSU's all-time leader in hits, runs, RBI, total bases, home runs (52), doubles (61), triples (15) and batting average (.396).

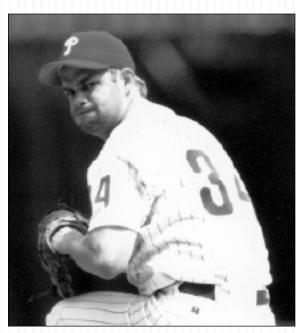
In 1993, Walker led LSU to the national championship as he was named the Most Outstanding Player of the College World Series and the SEC Player of the Year. Walker batted .350 in the CWS with three homers and 12 RBI. On the year, he hit .395 with 22 homers while establishing single-season SEC records for RBI (102), total bases (214) and hitting streak (33 games). Walker, a 1993 consensus first-team All-American and a finalist for the Golden Spikes Award, also set the LSU career RBI mark with 178 in only two seasons.

Walker was named the 1992 National Freshman of the Year by *Collegiate Baseball* and by *Baseball America*. He enjoyed a phenomenal rookie season, batting .400 with 12 homers and an SEC-high 76 RBI. Walker also led the conference in runs (72) and total bases (163), and he became the first player in LSU annals to hit .400 in a single season. Along with being a first-team Freshman All-American, Walker was named second-team All-America by *Collegiate Baseball* and *Baseball America*.

Shortstop Russ Johnson was named the 1994 Southeastern Conference Player of the Year after enjoying one of the best seasons in LSU annals. Johnson, a native of Denham Springs, La., batted .410 -- the highest single-season average in school history -- with 17 homers and 74 RBI. He led the SEC in doubles (26 - an LSU record), walks (67) and onbase percentage (.532), and he completed his three-year career with a .367 lifetime batting average.

Johnson was named a 1994 first-team All-American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, and he was voted Louisiana Collegiate Player of the Year by the La. Sportswriters Association. He was also selected as the Most Outstanding Player of the SEC Western Division Tournament, and he was named to the NCAA South Regional All-Tournament team. A Freshman All-America selection in 1992, Johnson finished his career in second place on the all-time LSU lists for runs (216), RBI (181), batting average (.367), doubles (60) and total bases (445).

**Pitcher Brett Laxton was named the 1993 National Freshman of the Year** by *Baseball America* and the National Co-Freshman of the Year by *Collegiate Baseball*, marking the second straight season an



Former LSU pitcher Paul Byrd (1989-91) was named to the 1999 National League All-Star team.

LSU player received such an honor (Todd Walker was the 1992 recipient). Laxton posted a 12-1 record and an SEC-best 1.98 ERA with five complete games, 98 strikeouts and 47 walks in 109 innings. He pitched a three-hit shutout in the CWS title contest against Wichita State, establishing a World Series championship game record by fanning 16 Shockers. A native of Audubon, N.J., Laxton earned first-team All-America and first-team All-Southeastern Conference recognition.

Shortstop Brandon Larson in 1997 became only the fourth player in NCAA history to hit 40 home runs. The consensus all-American from San Antonio, Texas, enjoyed a phenomenal season, batting .381 with SEC-record totals of 40 homers, 118 RBI and 250 total bases. Larson was named the Most Outstanding Player of the '97 CWS, leading LSU to the national title by hitting .368 (7-for-19) with three homers, eight RBI and six runs. Larson, a first-round draft choice of the Cincinnati Reds, established the LSU mark for most hits in a season (110), and he was named the Louisiana Collegiate Player of the Year.

Catcher Brad Cresse was a 2000 first-team all-America selection, as he led the nation in home runs (30) and RBI (106). Cresse, a native of Seal Beach, Calif., was named the 2000 recipient of the Johnny Bench National Collegiate Catcher of the Year award, and he was a finalist for the 2000 Golden Spikes Award.

Cresse, the fifth-round selection by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 2000 major league draft, helped lead LSU to the 2000 national title by hitting .388 (106-for-273) with 21 doubles, 30 homers, 106 RBI, 73 runs, 217 total bases and a .790 slugging percentage. He provided the

game-winning RBI in the 2000 national championship game versus Stanford, as his single in the bottom of the ninth inning scored shortstop Ryan Theriot from second base to give LSU a 6-5 win.

Cresse completed his career in second place on the SEC all-time HR list with 78 round-trippers, trailing Eddy Furniss, who hit 80 homers for LSU from 1995-98. Cresse ranked No. 2 in LSU career RBI with 257; Furniss was No. 1 with 308 RBI.

Second baseman Mike Fontenot was named 2000 National Freshman of the Year by The Sporting News and by Collegiate Baseball. Fontenot, a Slidell, La., native, became the third LSU player to earn freshman of the year accolades, following second baseman Todd Walker (1992) and pitcher Brett Laxton (1993). Fontenot, who was also voted the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year by the league's coaches, helped lead LSU to the 2000 national championship, as he batted .353 (103-for-292) with 13 doubles, three triples, 17 homers, 93 runs (SEC leader) and 64 RBI. He posted a .452 on-base percentage and stole eight bases in nine attempts. His 17 homers set the LSU freshman HR record formerly held by Blair Barbier (15 HR in 1997).

Fontenot was LSU's leading hitter in the 2000 College World Series, as he batted .462 (6-for-13) with two doubles, one homer, two RBI, six runs and five walks, earning CWS all-tournament honors.

He was also the Tigers' top hitter in nine NCAA Tournament games, batting .432 (16-for-37) with four doubles, two homers, nine RBI, eight walks and 13 runs.

Pitcher Lane Mestepey was voted the 2001 National Co-Freshman of the Year by *Collegiate Baseball*. Mestepey, a left-hander from Zachary, La., shared the honor with Wake Forest first baseman Jamie D'Antona. Mestepey emerged as the Tigers' No. 1 pitcher during the 2001 season, posting an 11-3 record and a 3.75 ERA with 79 strikeouts and 37 walks in 139.1 innings. He was voted first-team all-SEC and SEC Freshman of the Year by the league's coaches.

Mestepey also earned third-team all-America honors from *Collegiate Baseball*, and he was voted to the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional all-tournament team.

Mestepey became the fourth LSU player to earn National Freshman of the Year recognition. The others are second baseman Todd Walker (1992), pitcher Brett Laxton (1993) and second baseman Mike Fontenot (2000).

Shortstop Aaron Hill was named 2003 SEC Player of the Year, and he earned first-team all-America recognition from Baseball America. Hill, a native of Visalia, Calif., was also named a second team All-American by Collegiate Baseball newspaper, the American Baseball Coaches Association and ESPN/USA Today Sports Weekly.

Hill, who signed a contract with the Toronto Blue Jays as the club's first round selection (13th overall) in the '03 Major League Baseball draft, batted .358 on the year with nine home runs, 68 runs scored, 67 RBI and 27 doubles, the second-highest single-season total in LSU history.

Hill was also voted to the SEC all-Tournament team and to the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional all-Tournament squad.

Hill batted .335 for his three-year career with 23 home runs, 150 RBI, 141 runs scored and 208 hits. His 50 doubles ranked him seventh on the LSU career list.

Outfielder Jon Zeringue earned 2004 first-team all-America honors, and he was named the '04 SEC Co-Player of the Year (with Ole Miss 1B Stephen Head). Zeringue, a Thibodaux, La., native, was voted to USA Today/Sports Weekly's first-team all-America squad, as he hit .384 (98-for-255) with 19 doubles, 12 homers, 57 RBI and 56 runs. Zeringue hit a remarkable .432 in SEC regular-season games.

A second-round draft choice of the Arizona
Diamondbacks, Zeringue was also named a second-team all-America by *Collegiate Baseball*. He was voted to the 2004 NCAA Regional all-Tournament team, and he was named Player of the Year in Louisiana by the state's sportswriters association.

Conference team has more than four

Tournament team, and he was named Player of the Year in Louisiana by the state's sportswriters

50-win seasons in its

#### **MAJOR LEAGUES**

Forty-seven former LSU players have played major league baseball, including 33 big-leaguers since 1985. During his 18 years at LSU, Skip Bertman produced 111 players who signed professional contracts. Twelve Bertman-coached LSU products appeared on major league rosters in 2004, including Russ Springer (Astros), Todd Walker (Cubs), Keith Osik (Orioles), Paul Byrd (Braves), Curtis Leskanic (Red Sox), Warren Morris (Tigers), Brandon Larson (Reds), Kurt Ainsworth (Orioles), Brian Tallet (Indians), Roy Corcoran (Expos), Todd Linden (Giants) and Brad Hawpe (Rockies).



LSU has nine 50-win seasons since 1986, including six in the 1990s. No other Southeastern Conference team has more than four 50-win seasons in its history. LSU won an SEC-record 57 games in 1997.

Alex Box Stadium has played host to an NCAA Regional Tournament for 15 straight years.



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LSU's Kurt Ainsworth pitched the United States to wins over Holland and Australia en route to the 2000 gold medal in Sydney.



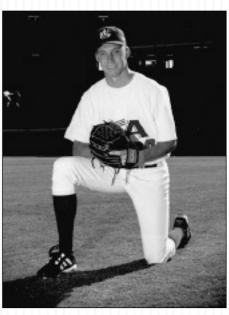
LSU has established an outstanding international reputation with representatives on U.S. Olympic squads:

Ben McDonald - 1988

Rick Greene - 1992

Warren Morris - 1996

Jason Williams - 1996



#### INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL

LSU has established an outstanding international reputation with representatives on U.S. Olympic squads in 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000. Skip Bertman served as the head coach of the United States Olympic team in 1996, directing the Americans to the bronze medal in Atlanta. As the USA Baseball Skip Bertman - 1988, 1996 head coach for two summers (1995 and '96), Bertman guided the U.S. to an incredible 71-11 record (.866 winning percentage), culminating his tenure with a victory over Nicaragua for the Kurt Ainsworth - 2000 1996 Olympic bronze medal.

In 1995, Bertman led the United States to an unprecedented four-game sweep of Cuba, the reigning World and Olympic champion, and the squad ended its summer tour on a 21-game win streak, the longest in the history of USA Baseball. The '96 U.S. team added to the streak by winning its first 18 games before dropping a 5-1 decision to Cuba on June 29.

In the fall of '96, USA Baseball presented Bertman with its annual Achievement Award, which is given to an individual who has participated in amateur baseball and has gone on to excel in his professional endeavors.

LSU second baseman Warren Morris and shortstop Jason Williams were two of the '96 Olympic team's brightest stars as the starting middle infielders. Morris was the Americans' leading hitter in the Olympics, batting .409 in nine games with five homers, one double, 11 RBI and 10 runs. Williams batted .367 in the Olympics with three homers, nine RBI and 10 runs.

Bertman served as the pitching coach of the 1988 U.S. Olympic team which captured a gold medal in Seoul. The '88 squad featured LSU pitcher Ben McDonald, who posted two Olympic victories. LSU pitcher Rick Greene was a member of the '92 Olympic team which competed in Barcelona, but fell short of earning a medal. LSU pitcher Kurt Ainsworth helped lead the U.S. to the gold medal at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney. Ainsworth pitched the Americans to wins over Holland and Australia en route to the Olympic

#### ATTENDANCE/FACILITIES

LSU set an NCAA average attendance record in 2004 with 7,898 tickets sold per contest. LSU placed first in total attendance for the ninth straight year, drawing 284,328 fans to Alex Box Stadium, which played host to an NCAA Regional for the 15th consecutive season.

LSU set the NCAA total attendance mark in 2003, drawing 291,676 fans to Alex Box Stadium. Over three million fans have seen LSU baseball over the past 21 seasons. A total of 3,434,632 patrons have experienced "Baseball at the Box" during that period.

LSU also helped to establish an NCAA single-game attendance mark, as the Tigers and Tulane played before an actual crowd of 25,101 (27,673 paid) on April 10, 2002, in the Louisiana Superdome. LSU won that contest, 9-5. The LSU-Tulane mark was surpassed in 2004, when San Diego State and Houston played before over 40,000 fans to christen Petco Park in San Diego.

LSU's single-game attendance mark at home was established in 2004 when 8,683 tickets were sold for a March 6 game versus the University of Houston.

Innovative promotional schemes, recordbreaking crowds and increasing revenues characterize LSU's baseball program. In 1983, the year before Skip Bertman's arrival as head coach, LSU drew only 10,002 fans for 22 dates at Alex Box Stadium, an average of 454 per game.

First-class is an appropriate description for LSU's playing and practice facilities, which are among the nation's finest. A recent improvement at Alex Box Stadium was the installation in 1999 of bleachers in left-center field, increasing capacity by about 800 seats. The stadium scoreboard was moved in the fall of 1998 from left-center field to rightcenter to make room for the new bleachers. Another major renovation project was completed at Alex Box Stadium in 1997, as four of the facility's light towers were moved behind the seating areas, providing all fans with an unobstructed view of the playing field.

In 1995, a squad meeting room was constructed which is also utilized for press conferences and receptions. The 1995 campaign also marked the debut of the "Home Run Village," a seating/picnic area behind the outfield fence. In 1994, the players' locker room and lounge were renovated and expanded, additional chair-back gold seats were installed, and the press box was refurbished. In 1993, Alex Box Stadium featured a new, advanced outfield drainage system. In

1992, the facility included a new umpires' locker room behind the visiting team dugout, terrace-level seating just above third base and bleachers behind the left-field wall.

Other improvements completed in recent years include the installation of a new grandstand roof; the insertion of chair-back seats in the grandstand and adjacent to the first-base dugout; and the addition of playground/picnic areas behind the outfield-line bleachers.

Alex Box Stadium also features a modern scoreboard and message center, an underground field sprinkler system, modernized restroom and concessions facilities and a beautifully landscaped entranceway. Other significant projects include the installation of luminous field lighting and a state-of-the art public address system, and construction of a coaches' office building.

#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The coaching staff's influence on LSU Baseball goes beyond the Tigers' achievements on the playing field. The primary ingredient in the Tigers' winning formula is a commitment to the education and emotional development of the players. LSU's steadfast emphasis on academics has produced exceptional results. Nearly 100 percent of the players who competed for at least four years at LSU have received their degrees. In addition, student-athletes who leave the university early to play professional baseball often return at a later time to earn their degrees. For example, pitcher Clay Parker, who completed his athletic eligibility in 1984, received his LSU degree in 1995 after enjoying a lengthy major league career. Chicago Cubs second baseman Todd Walker, who signed a pro contract in 1994, received a business degree from LSU in the fall of 1998.

Forty-four former baseball players have earned LSU degrees over the past four years. In December, 1999, five Tigers became LSU graduates -- pitchers Doug Thompson and Kevin Shipp, outfielders Danny Higgins and Wes Davis, and infielder Mike Neal. Twelve more former Tigers earned degrees in the 2000 calendar year -- pitchers Matt Colvin, Trey Hodges, Jeremy Loftice and Ben Saxon, outfielders Tom Bernhardt, Mike Koerner, Jeremy Witten, Christian Bourgeois and Antoine Simon, and infielders Mike Daly, Josh Dalton and Eddy Furniss. Infielder Trey McClure, a three-time team captain (1997-99), received his LSU degree in May, 2001.

Former Tigers earning degrees from May-December, 2002 include: infielders Blair Barbier and Jeff Leaumont; outfielders David Raymer, Bryon Bennett, Johnnie Thibodeaux, Tommy Morel and Christian Bourgeois (master's degree); catchers Jamin Garidel, Courtney Hernandez and Kevin Ward (MBA); and pitchers Billy Brian, Justin Hill, Weylin Guidry, Tim Nugent, Patrick Coogan, Barry Manuel, David



Miller, Chucky Son and Bhrett McCabe (Ph.D in psychology).

Graduates from May-December, 2003 include: pitchers Rick Greene, Bo Pettit, Chad Vaught and Jake Tompkins; outfielders Billy McBride and Matt Heath; and catcher Shawn French.

LSU's 2004 graduates included: pitchers Kurt Ainsworth, Brad David and Brandon Nall; catchers Ty Jensen and Chris Phillips; and first baseman Eric Wiethorn.

LSU placed a school-record 12 players on the 2004 SEC Academic Honor Roll. Players named to the honor roll included: Steven Broschosky, OF; Jason Determann, LHP; Bobby DiLiberto, INF; Jordan Faircloth, RHP; Bryan Harris, INF; J.C. Holt, OF; Matt Horwath, INF; Chris McDougall, LHP; Lane Mestepey, LHP; Brandon Nall, RHP; Bruce Sprowl, OF; Nick Stavinoha, DH.

Former LSU first baseman Eddy Furniss was named a 1997 first-team Academic all-American by GTE-CoSIDA, and he received second-team Academic all-America recognition in 1996 and 1998. LSU's other Academic all-America selections include pitcher Chris Demouy (third-team, 1996), second baseman Warren Morris (first-team, 1995) and catcher Tim Lanier (third-team, 1994). Third baseman Wally Pontiff was a member of the 2002 GTE/CoSIDA District VI Academic all-America team.

The scholastic progress of the players is closely monitored by both the coaching staff and by the counselors in LSU's Academic Center for Athletes. Monthly reports are sent to the players' parents detailing the athletes' educational and social advancement. Study sessions and exams always take precedence when conflicting with a baseball practice schedule.

Major leaguer Warren Morris a 1995 Academic All-American, was one of 12 former LSU players appearing on 2004 major league rosters.

# **TWELVE**

LSU placed a school record twelve players on the 2004 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

12

Players named to the honor roll included:

Steven Broschosky, OF Jason Determann, LHP Bobby DiLiberto, INF Jordan Faircloth, RHP Bryan Harris, INF J.C. Holt, OF Matt Horwath, INF Chris McDougall, LHP Lane Mestepey, LHP Brandon Nall, RHP Bruce Sprowl, OF Nick Stavinoha, DH THIS IS LSU

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