

2005 Schedule/Results (29-13, 10-8 SEC)

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

% - Fair Grounds Field # - Maestri Field
\$ - Zephyr Field



LSU BASEBALL

Weekend Release No. 12 • at Vanderbilt

April 29, 30 and May 1, 2005 • 6 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.
Nashville, Tenn. • Charles Hawkins Field (1,575)

Tigers Wrap Up Seven-Game Road Swing At No. 25 Vanderbilt

No. 9 LSU (29-13, 10-8 SEC) wraps a seven-game road swing with a key Southeastern Conference series at 25th-ranked Vanderbilt (28-12, 9-9) this weekend from Charles Hawkins Field in Nashville. Game 1 of the series is set for 6 p.m. CDT Friday, Game 2 begins at 2 p.m. CDT Saturday and Game 3 starts at 1 p.m. CDT Sunday.

>Broadcast Info

All three games can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL 98.1 FM in Baton Rouge). Jim Hawthorne and Charles Hanagriff will call the action. The radio broadcast and live stats are also available on the LSU Athletics web site, www.LSUsports.net. Sunday's contest will be televised by the Jumbo Sports Network (cable ch. 6 in Baton Rouge). Lyn Rollins (play-by-play) and Ronnie Rantz (analyst) will call the action.

>Last Time Out

LSU completed its second SEC road sweep of the season, taking three games at No. 11 Arkansas last weekend. The Tigers rallied from a 7-1 fifth-inning deficit last Friday to win 10-7 on Nick Stavinoha's three-run ninth inning homer. Both Clay Dirks (Saturday) and Greg Smith (Sunday) tossed complete game shutouts in the LSU's 7-0 and 6-0 victories.

>Notables

LSU pitching has held opponents scoreless over the last 23.1 innings ... This weekend's series will mark the Tigers' 12th, 13th and 14th games against ranked opponents out of the last 15 ... LSU is 9-6 vs. ranked foes on the season, including a 6-1 mark on the road ... On April 26, outfielder Ryan Patterson was named to the Golden Spikes Award Watch List ... Clay Dirks was named SEC Pitcher of the Week for his three-hit shutout last weekend at Arkansas ... Infielder Chris Jackson is riding a 12-game hit streak, currently the longest on the team ... LSU's 60 team homers is tops in the SEC ... The Tigers own sole possession of second place in the SEC West entering the weekend.

Pitching Matchups

Game 1

LSU -- Sr. LHP Lane Mestepey (5-5, 3.93 ERA, 71.0 IP, 13 BB, 39 SO)
VU -- Jr. RHP Jensen Lewis (6-2, 2.20 ERA, 65.1, 13 BB, 66 SO)

Game 2

LSU -- So. LHP Clay Dirks (8-1, 3.06 ERA, 64.2 IP, 20 BB, 45 SO)
VU -- Jr. LHP Ryan Mullins (5-0, 2.42 ERA, 52.0 IP, 17 BB, 46 SO)

Game 3

LSU -- Jr. LHP Greg Smith (6-2, 2.57 ERA, 70.0 IP, 19 BB, 58 SO)
VU -- Fr. LHP David Price (2-2, 2.22 ERA, 48.2 IP, 22 BB, 70 SO)

LSU Probable Position Starters

Pos.	Player	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
C	Matt Liuzza	Jr.-2L	R/R	.232	2	18	Baseball America College Top 50 Prospect
1B	Will Harris	Jr.-2L	R/R	.225	4	18	.276 (8-for-29) with runners in score position
2B	Clay Harris	Sr.-3L	R/R	.395	8	43	.487 (19-for-39), 3 HR, 14 RBI last 10 games
SS	Michael Hollander	Fr.-HS	R/R	.241	1	12	Committed no errors in last 10 games
	-or- Derek Hebert	Sr.-1L	L/R	.230	2	7	.333 (3-for-9), 1 HR, 1 RBI vs. Arkansas
3B	Chris Jackson	Fr.-RS	R/R	.392	1	9	Team-high 12-game hitting streak
LF	Quinn Stewart	Jr.-1L	R/R	.232	1	10	.259 (7-for-27), 1 HR, 1 RBI, 3 BB last 10 gms
	Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.400	16	40	.429 (6-for-14), 3 HR, 4 RBI vs. Arkansas
CF	Ryan Patterson	Sr.-2L	R/R	.400	16	40	BA Midseason All-Am.; Golden Spikes Watch
	-or- Bruce Sprowl	Jr.-1L	L/R	.255	1	9	.375 (3-for-8), 0 HR, 2 RBI last five games
RF	Nick Stavinoha	Sr.-1L	R/R	.359	11	42	.370 (17-for-46), 4 HR, 15 RBI last 10 games
DH	Blake Gill	Sr.-3L	L/R	.321	5	37	.415 (17-for-41) with runners in score position

	LSU	Vanderbilt
Record	29-13 (10-8 SEC)	28-12 (9-9 SEC)
Ranking	No. 16 Baseball America No. 14 Collegiate Baseball No. 9 ESPN/Sports Weekly	No. 25 Baseball America NR Collegiate Baseball No. 25 ESPN/Sports Weekly
Coach	Smoke Laval	Tim Corbin
Career Record	405-235-1 (.633/11th year)	100-59 (.629/third year)
LSU Record	164-76-1 (.683/fourth year)	100-59 (.629/third year)
Laval vs. Vandy	4-5	Corbin vs. LSU 3-3

Tracking the Tigers

Week	BA	CB	ESPN/SW
Preseason	2	5	4
Feb. 7	2	5	3
Feb. 14	2	5	3
Feb. 21	2	3	2
Feb. 28	3	3	2
March 7	5	6	5
March 14	5	5	6
March 21	3	3	3
March 28	5	4	5
April 4	8	9	6
April 11	22	19	12
April 18	20	18	12
April 25	16	14	9

Baseball America (April 25)

1. Texas (35-7)
2. Cal State Fullerton (30-11)
3. Tulane (35-7)
4. Florida (30-10)
5. Miami (Fla.) (30-10-1)
6. Oregon State (30-7)
7. Georgia Tech (30-10)
8. Nebraska (34-8)
9. Arizona (27-14)
10. North Carolina (23-8)
11. Baylor (27-16)
12. Long Beach State (29-14)
13. Alabama (29-13)
14. Missouri (30-10)
15. Rice (29-14)
16. **LSU (29-13)**
17. Arizona State (28-15)
18. Tennessee (28-12)
19. South Carolina (30-11)
20. Stanford (24-14)
21. UL-Lafayette (35-8)
22. Southern Cal (26-12)
23. Arkansas (31-11)
24. Florida State (35-13)
25. **Vanderbilt (28-12)**

Collegiate Baseball (April 25)

1. Tulane (35-7)
2. Texas (35-7)
3. Florida (30-10)
4. Cal State Fullerton (30-11)
5. Nebraska (34-8)
6. Georgia Tech (30-10)
7. Miami (Fla.) (31-10-1)
8. Arizona (27-14)
9. Oregon State (30-7)
10. North Carolina (33-8-1)
11. Long Beach State (29-14)
12. Baylor (27-16)
13. Alabama (29-13)
14. **LSU (29-13)**
15. Florida State (35-13)
16. Missouri (30-10)
17. Arizona State (28-15)
18. South Carolina (30-11)
19. Tennessee (28-12)
20. Southern Cal (26-12)
21. UL-Lafayette (35-8)
22. Stanford (24-14)
23. Arkansas (31-11)
24. Cal Poly (27-14)
25. Central Florida (35-9)

Statistical Comparison

LSU	Vanderbilt
.298	.294
3.70	3.16
90	69
13	8
60	31
.494	.423
.379	.368
25/33	79/99
.248	.233
288	394
10	13
.968	.968

In The Polls

LSU jumped back into the top 10 in one major poll this week, claiming the ninth spot in ESPN/Sports Weekly. The Tigers moved up four spots to No. 16 in Baseball America and four places to 14 in Collegiate Baseball. Vanderbilt is ranked 25th in Baseball America and ESPN/Sports Weekly.

RPI Watch

As expected with its three-game sweep over No. 11 Arkansas, LSU made a major move in this week's pseudo-RPI's as compiled by Boyd's World. The Tigers, who were 18th last week, moved up to No. 9 in the RPI. Two other SEC teams are rated above LSU, including Florida (3) and Ole Miss (7). Vanderbilt is seeded three spots behind the Tigers at the No. 12 position. Ten SEC teams are ranked in the top 30.

The LSU-Vanderbilt Series

LSU leads the all-time series 44-24 (.647) since the first meeting between the two in 1954, but Vanderbilt has won four out of the last five contests. The Tigers took two of three from the Commodores in Baton Rouge last season, winning a pair of extra-inning affairs to open the series (3-2 in 10, 7-6 in 11). Vandy salvaged a game by blanking LSU, 8-0, in finale on Sunday. The Tigers last won a series in Nashville during the 2000 season, sweeping a pair of games. The third and final game was rained out.

Patterson Named To Golden Spikes Watch List

Senior **Ryan Patterson** was named to the Golden Spikes Award Watch List on April 26. Recognized as amateur baseball's most prestigious honor, the Golden Spikes Award is presented to the top college baseball player in the country. Patterson is one of 40 players named to the watch list, which will be trimmed to five finalists in early June. The 28th Annual Golden Spikes Award Show will take place in July in conjunction with USA Baseball. LSU has one Golden Spikes Award winner to its credit when pitcher Ben McDonald took home the hardware in 1989.

Dirks Named SEC Pitcher of the Week

Clay Dirks was named SEC Pitcher of the Week for his performance at Arkansas last weekend. Dirks, a native of Hernando, Miss., pitched a brilliant three-hit shutout on Saturday at Arkansas as the Tigers posted a 7-0 victory. Dirks, who allowed just three singles in the contest, walked one and recorded a career-high eight strikeouts. He allowed only one Arkansas player to advance to second base, firing 124 pitches in the outing. The shutout was the second of Dirks' career -- he also blanked Tulane last season on four hits. Dirks' performance was the best by an LSU pitcher since April 27, 2002, when Brian Wilson fired a three-hit shutout against Arkansas in Baton Rouge. Dirks is 8-1 this season with a 3.06 ERA in 64.2 innings; he has registered 20 walks and 45 strikeouts, and opponents are batting .193 against him.

Career Bests For Smith

Junior left-hander **Greg Smith** has fired two complete games in his last two starts, including a 6-0 shutout at No. 11 Arkansas last weekend. Smith scattered eight hits, walked two and struck out three. The southpaw tossed the first complete game of his career versus Ole Miss the weekend before (April 17), hurling a one-run, four-hit masterpiece to propel the Tigers to a 5-1 victory. Smith, who became a starter at the beginning of the season, limited the hot-hitting Rebels to four hits and one run. The outing was the finest of his career. He had previously worked a career-high seven innings in games earlier this season against Houston (Feb. 27) and Arizona State (March 13). Smith fired an economical 96 pitches, struck out seven and walked none.

Another Two-Sport Jackson

Redshirt freshman **Chris Jackson** made the first start of his career versus South Carolina on April 10 and did not disappoint, going 2-for-5 with an RBI. In 13 games this season, Jackson is hitting .392 with a homer, three doubles, 13 runs scored and 10 RBI. At the same time, the River Ridge, La. native just wrapped up spring football practice as the squad's starting place kicker/punter. Against Northwestern State on April 12, Jackson arrived to Alex Box 20 minutes before first pitch after going through a football workout. Without taking infield or batting practice, Jackson made his first career start at third base and went 3-for-6 with four runs and four RBI. He also belted his first career homer in the bottom of the seventh. On April 16, he competed in the annual LSU spring football scrimmage in the morning before reporting to the Box 45 minutes before a 2 p.m. first pitch against Ole Miss. In his first at-bat Jackson lined a single to right field and finished the game 3-for-5 with a run and an RBI. He also displayed tremendous defense at third base with four critical assists in the Tigers 7-6 triumph over the Rebels.

405 Wins And Counting For Laval

With LSU's sweep of Arkansas, **Smoke Laval** finished the weekend with 405 career victories. Laval won his 400th career game in a 19-2 thrashing of Northwestern State on April 12. Laval compiled a 241-159 mark as head coach at UL-Monroe for seven seasons (1994-2000). Since then, Smoke has won 164 games in his fourth season at LSU after taking over for Skip Bertman.

Down But Never Out

Before the Nicholls State contest on April 5, LSU had not scored first in each of its last 11 games. Despite falling behind early, the Tigers still managed to win seven of the 11 contests with come-from-behind victories. On the season, LSU is 12-10 when opponents score first. Fourteen of the team's 29 wins are of the come-from-behind variety. The streak was snapped on April 5 as the Tigers jumped out to a 2-0 lead over the Colonels after two innings of play. LSU has rallied for wins in three of its last six games. Last Friday night, the Tigers rebounded from a 7-1 deficit to capture a 10-7 win over Arkansas.

Hitting Streaks

Chris Jackson hit safely in all three games last weekend, extending his hitting streak to 12 games hitting, the longest current stretch on the team. Jackson has hit safely in 13 of the 17 games he has played in. Earlier this season, **Blake Gill** maintained a 20-game hitting streak, dating back to last season. Gill's run, which began versus Vanderbilt on May 15 last season, is the longest of his career and the longest since head coach Smoke Laval took over the program.

Longest Hitting Streaks (past six seasons)

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

Patterson Tops In SEC In Six Categories

Ryan Patterson currently leads the SEC in five offensive categories, including runs scored (55), hits (66), doubles (16), home runs (16), slugging percentage (.812) and total bases (134). The senior is also fourth in batting average (.400) and ninth in on-base percentage (.471). Tennessee's Chase Headley and Ole Miss' Brian Pettway are the only other players in the league who are tops in multiple categories.

Clay Harris Named SEC Player Of The Week Versus Ole Miss (April 15-17)

Senior second baseman **Clay Harris** was named Monday, April 18 as the SEC Player of the Week by the league office. Harris, a native of Slidell, La., led the 12th-ranked Tigers to three wins in four games last week, including an SEC series victory over Ole Miss (April 15-17). Harris enjoyed a phenomenal week at the plate, batting .625 (10-for-16) in four games with three doubles, two homers and seven RBI. He launched a ninth-inning, walk-off solo homer to lift the Tigers to a 7-6 on Saturday against Ole Miss. Harris also unloaded a grand slam in Friday's game versus the Rebels. For the entire Ole Miss series, he hit .667 (8-for-12) with two doubles, two homers and seven RBI, posting a 1.333 slugging percentage and a .714 on-base percentage. Harris is hitting .392 (58-for-148) on the year with 13 doubles, one triple, seven homers and 38 RBI. The SEC Player of the Week honor is the second of Harris' career. He received the same recognition on April 5, 2004, after leading LSU to a series victory at Auburn. Harris also went 4-for-5 with a homer, two runs and four RBI versus No. 1 Tulane on Tuesday.

Mestepey Second In All-Time Career Wins

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

LSU Career Pitching Victories

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

Mestepey Enters Top-Three In SEC Career Innings Pitched

Senior left-hander **Lane Mestepey** became the school's all-time leader in innings pitched on Feb. 25 at Houston. Mestepey worked six frames to surpass Scott Schultz's (1992-95) record of 398. On the season, Mestepey sits at 447.2 innings pitched and recently overtook third-place in the SEC career record books with his seven-inning outing at Alabama on April 1. He is 17.1 innings away from tying Auburn's John Powell (1990-94). South Carolina's Kip Bouknight (1998-01) holds the all-time SEC record of 482.

SEC Career Innings Pitched

Player	Innings
1. Kip Bouknight, USC (1998-01)	482.0
2. John Powell, Auburn (1990-94)	477.0
3. Lane Mestepey, LSU (2001-present)	452.2
4. R.A. Dickey, Tennessee (1994-96)	434.0

ESPN/Sports Weekly (April 25)

1. Texas (40) (35-7)
2. Tulane (35-7)
3. Cal State Fullerton (30-11)
4. Miami (Fla.) (31-10-1)
5. Florida (30-10)
6. Nebraska (34-8)
7. North Carolina (33-8-1)
8. Georgia Tech (30-10)
9. **LSU (29-13)**
10. Arizona (27-14)
11. Oregon State (30-7)
12. Long Beach State (29-14)
13. South Carolina (30-11)
14. Rice (29-14)
15. Arkansas (31-11)
16. Baylor (27-16)
17. UL-Lafayette (35-8)
18. Stanford (24-14)
19. Florida State (35-13)
20. Arizona State (28-15)
21. Southern Cal (26-12)
22. Ole Miss (27-13)
23. Alabama (29-13)
24. Missouri (30-10)
25. **Vanderbilt (28-12)**

2005 SEC Standings (April 27)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Florida	13-5	.772	30-10
Tennessee	10-7	.588	30-12
South Carolina	10-8	.556	30-11
Vanderbilt	9-9	.500	28-12
Georgia	6-11	.353	21-18
Kentucky	3-14	.176	20-19
Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Alabama	8-4	.667	29-13
LSU	7-5	.583	29-13
Miss. State	6-5	.545	28-11
Ole Miss	6-6	.500	28-13
Auburn	6-6	.500	26-17
Arkansas	5-7	.417	32-11

This Week in the SEC (April 22-24)

(All times are Central)

Friday, April 29

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

Saturday, April 23

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

Sunday, April 24

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

LSU by the Numbers in 2005

Home	17-8
Away	10-5
Neutral Sites	2-0
Day.....	14-5
Night.....	15-8
TV Games.....	9-3
On Jumbo Sports	6-1
On Cox Sports	3-1
On ESPN 2	0-1
On SEC-TV	0-0
Vs. SEC	7-8
Vs. SEC West	7-5
Vs. SEC East.....	3-3
Non-SEC Games.....	18-5
Vs. Louisiana opponents.....	8-3
Vs. Ranked opponents	9-6
Vs. C-USA	4-4
Vs. Mid-Continent.....	1-1
Vs. Pac-10	2-0
Vs. Southland	7-0
Vs. Sun Belt	3-0
Vs. SWAC.....	0-0
Vs. WAC	1-0
Doubleheaders	0-0
Game 1 of weekend series	6-5
Game 2 of weekend series	10-1
Game 3 of weekend series	7-4
Sunday	6-3
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	4-2
Wednesday.....	2-1
Friday	6-4
Saturday	9-1
One-run games.....	3-3
Extra inning games	0-1
Shutouts.....	2-1
Number of Losing Streaks	2
Longest Losing Streak	3
Games in which LSU scores first	17-3
Games in which opponent scores first	12-10
When LSU scores 10+	11-0
When LSU scores <5	3-9
When opponent scores 10+	1-2
When opponent scores <5.....	19-4
When LSU leads after 6 innings	24-1
When LSU trails after 6 innings.....	3-11
When tied after 6 innings	2-1
When LSU leads after 7 innings	25-2
When LSU trails after 7 innings.....	2-11
When tied after 7 innings	2-0
When LSU leads after 8 innings	27-0
When LSU trails after 8 innings.....	0-12
When tied after 8 innings	2-1
When LSU has 10+ hits.....	19-7
When LSU has <6 hits.....	1-3
When opponent has 10+ hits	8-6
When opponent has <6 hits	8-2
When LSU has more hits	24-3
When LSU has fewer hits	4-9
Equal hits	1-1
When LSU hits 3 or more home runs	10-0
When LSU hits no home runs	5-6
When opponent hits 3+ home runs	0-1
When opponent hits no home runs	14-4
Games won on final at-bat	1
Games lost on final at-bat	1
Come-from-behind wins.....	14
Losses when LSU led previously	6
Blown saves	2
Longest game	4:30 (at Alabama, 4/3 - Game 1)
Shortest game(9 or more innings)	2:06 (at Alabama, 4/1)

Going the Distance

Last weekend, **Clay Dirks** and **Greg Smith** tossed the Tigers fifth and sixth complete game outings by LSU pitchers this season. Dirks and Smith each own two nine-inning starts to their credit this season, as does senior **Lane Mestepey**.

Patterson Named Top Senior by Baseball America in Midseason Report on April 12

Ryan Patterson was named the top senior in the nation by Baseball America in its midseason edition released on April 12. Patterson was also a unanimous first-team midseason All-American in the outfield. He is one of only two SEC players who made the first-team list. Tennessee's Luke Hochevar also made the list as a starting pitcher. Nebraska's Alex Gordon was named the nation's top player, and Rice's Joe Savery made the list as the top freshman.

Wallace Watch

Lefty **Lane Mestepey** joined senior outfielder **Ryan Patterson** on March 8 as a candidate for the Brooks Wallace Award, presented annually to the national college baseball player of the year. Mestepey was one of 38 players added to the watch list. The Brooks Wallace Award was captured by Cal State Fullerton's Kurt Suzuki last season. The Wallace Watch will be trimmed to 12 semifinalists on May 24. The selection committee will then narrow the list to three finalists following the NCAA Super Regionals at a press conference in Omaha on June 16. Vanderbilt's Warner Jones, Cal-State Fullerton's Ricky Romero, Tennessee's Luke Hochevar, Ole Miss' Stephen Head and Georgia's Will Startup also headline the list.

Determann Nominated For Scholar-Athlete Post-Graduate Scholarship

Pitcher **Jason Determann** is one of two nominees from LSU for the H. Boyd McWhorter Scholar-Athlete Post Graduate Scholarship. The award is presented annually to the SEC's top male and female scholar-athletes. Determann has maintained a 3.781 grade point average, majoring in biology. He is a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta national premedical honor society and has been named to the Dean's List every semester at LSU and the Chancellor's Honor Roll twice. He has already posted the required MCAT scores to qualify for acceptance into medical school.

Faircloth Receives SEC Community Service Post-Graduate Scholarship

Pitcher **Jordan Faircloth** is one of two Southeastern Conference athletes awarded to the league's community service post-graduate scholarship, commissioner Mike Slive announced on April 8. Faircloth and South Carolina diver Holly Hodges each will receive a \$5,000 post-graduate scholarship provided by the SEC. The two were chosen by a committee of Faculty Athletics Representatives from SEC universities. Faircloth becomes the second LSU athlete to receive the honor. Former catcher Tim Lanier earned the award in 1997.

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 helped lead the Tigers to consecutive College World Series appearances. He batted .328 (75-for-229) in 2004 with 14 doubles, nine homers, 45 RBI and 37 runs. Liuzza committed just four errors in 370 chances last season, and he threw out 14 base runners attempting to steal. For the entire 2004 NCAA Tournament - including the regional, super regional and CWS - Liuzza hit a sizzling .417 (10-for-24), and he posted a .563 on-base percentage.

Liuzza Headlines Baseball America Preseason Awards

Baseball America released its preseason Southeastern Conference awards in its college baseball preview and catcher **Matt Liuzza** headlined the list of Tigers who earned recognition. Liuzza was rated as the conference's fourth-highest prospect for the upcoming 2005 Major League Baseball Draft. The publication also rated Liuzza as the best defensive catcher in the league with the best arm. **Blake Gill** earned recognition as one of Baseball America's top 50 senior prospects. Gill is listed as the nation's No. 18 rated senior, followed by **Ryan Patterson** who was listed 19th.

Laval Fifth Place In Games Coached

The season-opening win over Nicholls State was head coach **Smoke Laval's** 200th as the Tiger skipper. Laval currently sits at 241 games, the fifth-highest mark of any coach in the school's history. Laval is eight games away from reaching Jack Lamabe's (1979-83) total of 249. Laval's LSU coaching record of 164-75-1 (.683) 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)	241

Injury Report

Sophomore right-hander **Michael Bonura** will miss the entire 2005 season after undergoing Tommy John surgery during the offseason. In 2004, Bonura played a valuable role as a freshman in the LSU bullpen, posting a 4.46 ERA in 34.1 innings and 31 strikeouts. JUCO transfer pitcher **Daniel Forrer** will also sit out the 2005 campaign suffering a shoulder injury in the offseason. Freshman prospect **Nolan Cain** underwent Tommy John surgery at the beginning of February and will also miss the 2005 season. Outfielder **Steven Broschofsky** underwent shoulder surgery during the first of March to repair a torn labrum.

Player	Injury	Status
RHP Michael Bonura	Elbow	Offseason Tommy John surgery; out for season
OF Steven Broschofsky	Shoulder	Surgery in late February; out for season
RHP Nolan Cain	Elbow	Tommy John surgery in February; out for season
LHP Daniel Forrer	Shoulder	Offseason surgery; out for season

Four Tigers On Major League Rosters

Four former LSU baseball players are on the rosters of Major League Baseball teams. Todd Walker, who is in his 10th Major League season, suffered a MCL injury on April 10 and will be out at least two more weeks. Pitcher Paul Byrd relocates to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim after spending a season with the Atlanta Braves. Byrd will serve as the No. 4 starter in the Angels' rotation. Veteran Russ Springer is once again a member of the Houston Astros bullpen corps. Brad Hawpe begins his first full Major League season with the Colorado Rockies.

Tigers In The Majors (as of April 28, 2005)

Player	Team	Position
Paul Byrd	Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim	SP
Mike Fontenot	Chicago Cubs	2B
Brad Hawpe	Colorado Rockies	RF
Russ Springer	Houston Astros	RP
Todd Walker	Chicago Cubs	2B

Coaches Pick LSU to Win SEC Title

In what has become a common occurrence over the past several seasons, LSU is the favorite to win the Southeastern Conference Baseball Championship, as voted by the league's 12 baseball coaches in the 14th annual preseason SEC poll. The Tigers seek to capture their 14th SEC Championship, having won or shared the title three times in the past nine seasons (1996, 1997 and 2003) and seven times since 1990. In the overall SEC Champion vote, LSU received nine of the 12 championship votes in the poll. South Carolina received two votes while Florida received one. LSU was the predicted winner in the Western Division with a total of 66, collecting the maximum possible points for a single team. Ole Miss was second with 51, while Arkansas finished third with 46.

Eastern Division		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)

New "Box" On Tap For 2008

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

SEC Team Statistical Rankings

At The Plate

Batting Average

1. Tennessee	.327
7. LSU	.298

Slugging Percentage

1. Tennessee	.509
2. LSU	.494

On-Base Percentage

1. Tennessee	.413
t7. LSU	.379

Runs Scored

1. Tennessee	334
3. LSU	316

Hits

1. Tennessee	467
3. LSU	449

RBI

1. Tennessee	300
2. LSU	289

Home Runs

1. LSU	60
2. Florida	51

Total Bases

1. LSU	745
2. Tennessee	728

Stolen Bases

1. Arkansas	91
t11. LSU	25

On The Mound

Earned Run Average

1. Tennessee	3.14
9. LSU	3.70

Opponents Batting Average

1. Alabama	.230
6. LSU	.248

Strikeouts

1. Alabama	400
8. LSU	288

Saves

1. Auburn	16
t5. LSU	10
Ole Miss	10

In The Field

Fielding Percentage

1. Ole Miss	.973
South Carolina	.973
t3. LSU	.968
Vanderbilt	.968

Double Plays

1. Ole Miss	41
t8. LSU	36

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 1 • LSU 12, Nicholls State 1

Feb. 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 2 • LSU 19, Nicholls State 2

Feb. 12, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 3 • LSU 6, Nicholls State 3

Feb. 14, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 4 • LSU 9, UL-Monroe 6

Feb. 15, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 5 • LSU 4, Ark.-Little Rock 2

Feb. 18, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 6 • LSU 11, Ark.-Little Rock 8

Feb. 19, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 7 • LSU 15, Ark.-Little Rock 9

Feb. 20, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 8 • Houston 2, LSU 1

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

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

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

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

Game 9 • LSU 11, Houston 5

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

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

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

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

Game 10 • LSU 8, Houston 1

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

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

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

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

Game 11 • Centenary 6, LSU 1

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

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

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

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

Game 12 • LSU 12, UAB 6

March 4, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 13 • LSU 7, UAB 3

March 5, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 14 • UAB 4, LSU 3

Feb. 5, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 15 • Tulane 6, LSU 2

March 8, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 16 • LSU 6, Arizona State 5

March 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 17 • LSU 10, Western Illinois 8

March 12, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 18 • LSU 20, Arizona State 3

March 11, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 19 • LSU 8, Georgia 2

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

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

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

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

Game 20 • LSU 5, Georgia 3

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

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

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

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

Game 21 • LSU 5, Georgia 3

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

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

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

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

Game 22 • LSU 4, Southeastern Louisiana 2

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

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

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

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

Game 23 • Auburn 6, LSU 4

March 25, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

Game 24 • LSU 6, Auburn 3

March 26, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 25 • Auburn 7, LSU 5

March 27, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

S: Madden (4)

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

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

Game 26 • LSU 18, UNO 10

March 29, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

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

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

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

Game 27 • Alabama 4, LSU 0

April 1, 2005 at Sewell-Thomas Stadium (Tuscaloosa, Ala.)

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

W: Large (5-2) **L:** Mestepey (5-3)

Time: 2:06 **Att:** 4,226

Notes: T.J. Large fired a four-hit shutout, the first suffered by LSU since May 27, 2004 when the Tigers were blanked by Georgia, 1-0, in the SEC Tournament. Ryan Patterson and Clay Harris saw their hitting streaks end at 15 games. Lane Mestepey suffered the loss after allowing four runs (three earned) in seven innings.

Game 28 • LSU 11, Alabama 2

April 2, 2005 at Sewell-Thomas Stadium (Tuscaloosa, Ala.)

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

W: Dirks (7-0) **L:** Carter (4-2)

Time: 3:00 **Att:** 4,518

Notes: LSU launched three homers, including three-run shots by Ryan Patterson and Blake Gill. Dustin Weaver added a two-run homer to send the Tide to its worst loss of the season. Clay Dirks remained perfect, working five innings and limiting the Tide to two runs on two hits. Gill's blast highlighted a four-run eighth that put the game away.

Game 29 • Alabama 5, LSU 4 (13 inn.)

April 3, 2005 at Sewell-Thomas Stadium (Tuscaloosa, Ala.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	-	R	H	E
LSU	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	11	11	3
UA	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	2	5	3

W: Davis (3-0) **L:** Faircloth (1-1)

Time: 4:30 **Att:** 4,591

Notes: Evan Bush's walk-off RBI single in the bottom of the 13th sent LSU to its second consecutive SEC series defeat. The Tigers had not lost two consecutive SEC series since 2002. Jordan Faircloth surrendered the game-winning single and took the loss. Ryan Patterson gave LSU a 4-3 lead on a two-run single in the seventh. Jason Determann couldn't hold the lead, allowing the tying run to score in the eighth. Edgar Ramirez had an impressive outing in relief, working 3.1 innings without allowing a run on just two hits.

Game 30 • LSU 3, Nicholls State 2

April 5, 2005 at Raymond Didier Field (Thibodaux, La.)

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

W: Nall (2-1) **L:** Breaux (0-3)

S: Faircloth (4)

Time: 4:30 **Att:** 4,591

Notes: Brandon Nall turned in the most impressive performance of his career, tossing 8.1 innings in a 3-2 win. Nall allowed only two runs on six hits, walked one and struck out three. His previous career high was three innings. Ryan Patterson, Clay Harris and Nick Stavinoah combined for six of LSU's 11 hits. Stavinoah collected two doubles. Jordan Mayer had a pair of sacrifice bunts, which led to the Tigers' first two runs. Jordan Faircloth notched the save, recording the final two outs and stranding the tying and winning runs on second and first in the ninth.

Game 31 • LSU 8, Rice 2

April 6, 2005 at Zephyr Field (Metairie, La.)

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

W: English (1-0) **L:** Cox (1-2)

Time: 2:46 **Att:** 6,393

Notes: LSU launched three homers against a Rice staff that had only allowed six homers all season (31 games). The Owls were holding hitters to an opposing batting average of .203. Blake Gill, Ryan Patterson and Nick Stavinoah combined for six of LSU's 12 hit attack -- the most allowed by Rice pitching all season. Eric English earned his first career win, hurling three innings of shutout ball in relief of Justin Meier in the fifth. Meier did not qualify for the win, despite limiting Rice to no runs on one hit.

Game 32 • South Carolina 3, LSU 1

April 8, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Fletcher (4-1) **L:** Mestepey (5-4)

S: Marsh (6)

Time: 2:10 **Att:** 7,691 (paid); 4,541 (actual)

Notes: Lane Mestepey and Jason Fletcher battled in a pitcher's duel, but Fletcher earned the upper hand surrendering one lone run on a Will Harris homer. Bruce Sprowl and Blake Gill combined for four of the six hits. Mestepey hurled a complete game after a shaky start, allowing three runs (two earned) on eight hits, while striking out five and walking one. Fletcher stymied the Tigers, recording 17 fly-ball outs. LSU's most prominent threat came in the seventh with runners in scoring position and two outs, but Fletcher retired Ryan Patterson.

Game 33 • South Carolina 5, LSU 1

April 9, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: McCamie (7-1) **L:** Dirks (7-1)

Time: 2:11 **Att:** 7,475 (paid); 4,049 (actual)

Notes: Zac McCamie fired a complete game three-hitter. For the first time since 1995, LSU dropped its third straight SEC series. South Carolina won its first ever series at Alex Box. The Tigers were unable to capitalize on five walks. Clay Dirks suffered his first loss of the season. All three LSU hits were singles, including Clay Harris' RBI hit in the fifth. Two of the Gamecock runs were unearned. McCamie retired 11 of the final 13 batters in a season-high nine innings.

Game 34 • South Carolina 7, LSU 5

April 10, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
SC	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	-	7	10	3
LSU	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	-	5	13	3

W: Rawl (6-2) **L:** Smith (4-2)

S: Marsh (7)

Time: 2:48 **Att:** 7,198 (paid); 3,013 (actual)

Notes: South Carolina completed a sweep, scoring in each of the first four innings. The Gamecocks became the first team to sweep LSU at Alex Box since Arkansas in 2004. Greg Smith worked 3.2 innings -- his shortest starting outing of the season. Two of the Tigers' five runs came via solo homers by Dustin Weaver and Blake Gill. Derek Hebert went 3-for-4, and Chris Jackson had two hits in his first career start. Aaron Rawl held LSU to two hits entering the fifth. Brent Marsh recorded his second save of the weekend, stranding the tying run at the plate.

Game 35 • LSU 19, Northwestern State 2

April 12, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Nall (3-1) **L:** Jones (3-2)

Time: 2:46 **Att:** 7,175 (paid); 2,324 (actual)

Notes: Smoke Laval earned his 400th career victory on a night where the Tigers erupted from their hitting woes. Northwestern State suffered its worst loss to LSU since a 24-0 thrashing in 1986. Eight of the runs came via three homers, including a grand slam by Nick Stavinoah. Chris Jackson, who arrived to the field 20 minutes before first pitch after football practice, went 3-for-6 with his first career homer and four RBI. Brandon Nall worked five innings to qualify for the win in his third start of the season. Matt Liuzza, Blake Gill and Quinn Stewart each had three hits.

Game 36 • Ole Miss 14, LSU 8

April 15, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
UM	0	6	3	1	0	0	0	4	0	-	14	18	1
LSU	2	0	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	-	8	12	0

W: Baumgardner (1-0) **L:** Mestepey (5-5)

Time: 3:12 **Att:** 7,699 (paid); 4,502 (actual)

Notes: LSU was unable to overcome a seven-run deficit after three innings of play and lost its fifth straight SEC game for the first time since 1983. Four LSU pitchers, including Lane Mestepey, combined to allow a season-high 14 runs on 18 hits. Eight of the hits were of the extra-base variety. Mestepey lost his fourth straight game in 1.2 innings of work -- the shortest outing of his career. In its 11 previous league games, opponents had taken an early lead on LSU. The Tigers reversed the trend, plating two in the first. Clay Harris went 3-for-5 with a grand slam and five RBI.

2005 Game-By-Game Recaps

Game 37 • LSU 7, Ole Miss 6

April 16, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Determann (2-0) **L:** Baumgardner (1-1)
Time: 3:10 **Att:** 7,837 (paid); 4,187 (actual)

Notes: Clay Harris' walk-off homer in the bottom of the ninth snapped LSU's five-game SEC losing streak. Harris was a perfect 4-for-4 with a homer, two runs and one RBI. Chris Jackson added three hits and arrived to the field 45 minutes before the first pitch after going through spring football practice in Tiger Stadium. The Tigers trailed entering the seventh but plated two runs on a homer by Nick Stavinoha and a single by Will Harris. Smoke Laval was ejected in the frame. Jason Determann pitched the final two innings flawlessly to record the win in relief of Clay Dirks.

Game 38 • LSU 5, Ole Miss 1

April 17, 2005 at Alex Box Stadium

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

W: Smith (5-2) **L:** Fowler (2-2)
Time: 2:25 **Att:** 7,600 (paid); 3,862 (actual)

Notes: Greg Smith tossed the first complete game of his career, hurling a one-run, four-hit masterpiece to secure the series for LSU. Smith tallied seven strikeouts and walked none in an economical 96 pitches. Eric Fowler took the loss, despite an equally brilliant performance entering the sixth. Fowler struck out eight batters through the first five innings. Chris Jackson collected two hits, and Will Harris added a homer and two RBI. Smith benefited from two inning-ending double play balls in the sixth and seventh.

Game 39 • Tulane 11, LSU 8

April 19, 2005 at Zephyr Field (Metairie, La.)

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

W: Crowel (8-0) **L:** Nall (3-2)
S: Latham (6)
Time: 2:37 **Att:** 12,069 (new Zephyr Field record)

Notes: A seven-run fourth inning highlighted by a three-run triple from Micah Owings and a three-run homer by Joe Holland powered No. 1 Tulane past LSU. The Green Wave benefited from five hit-batsmen and five walks. Brandon Nall took the loss and hit three batters in the fourth. Clay Harris went 4-for-5 with a homer, two runs and four RBI. The Tigers scored three in the first, ending J.R. Crowel's streak of 26.0 scoreless innings. The record attendance broke the old mark of 11,925 set in a minor league game between New Orleans and Nashville on July 3, 2003.

Game 40 • LSU 10, Arkansas 7

April 22, 2005 at Baum Stadium (Fayetteville, Ark.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	R	H	E
LSU	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	0	3	-	10	8	1
ARK	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	7	13	4

W: Determann (3-0) **L:** Boyce (7-6)
Time: 2:46 **Att:** 8,806

Notes: Nick Stavinoha's three-run ninth-inning homer lifted the Tigers to a 10-7 victory. LSU rebounded from a 7-1 fifth-inning deficit. Arkansas took a 6-0 lead after two innings on Lane Mestepey. The Tigers struck for five runs in the fifth aided by three Razorback errors. Ryan Patterson blasted two homers and added three runs and three RBI. Quinn Stewart tied the game in the sixth with a solo homer. Relievers Jordan Faircloth and Jason Determann combined to hold Arkansas scoreless over the final four innings.

Game 41 • LSU 7, Arkansas 0

April 23, 2005 at Baum Stadium (Fayetteville, Ark.)

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

W: Dirks (8-1) **L:** Gilbert (3-1)
Time: 2:39 **Att:** 9,133

Notes: Clay Dirks fired a brilliant three-hit shutout, moving the Tigers into second place in the SEC Western Division. It marked the second shutout of his career and first since March 2, 2004 (at Tulane). It also was the fourth complete game of his career and second this season. The performance was the best by an LSU pitcher since Brian Wilson tossed a three-hit shutout in an 8-0 win over Arkansas on April 27, 2002. Clay Harris went 2-for-2 with a run and an RBI, while Derek Hebert and Jordan Mayer belted homers. Mayer's three-run blast came in the eighth.

Game 42 • LSU 6, Arkansas 0

April 24, 2005 at Baum Stadium (Fayetteville, Ark.)

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

W: Smith (6-2) **L:** Land (1-1)
Time: 2:49 **Att:** 8,068

Notes: Greg Smith tossed his second complete game in as many starts, blanking Arkansas and securing a series sweep for LSU. It marked the Tigers' first sweep at Arkansas since 1993. LSU shutout an opponent in consecutive games for the second time in the past four seasons. Tiger pitching held the league's second-leading hitting team scoreless over the last 23.1 innings of the series. Smith scattered eight hits, walked two and struck out three. Nick Stavinoha went 3-for-5 with a double, a run and two RBI, while Chris Jackson collected two hits to extend his hitting streak to 12 games.

Smoke Laval

HEAD COACH • FOURTH YEAR

Raymond "Smoke" Laval continues to enhance his reputation as one of the country's top college baseball coaches, as, in three seasons at the helm of the LSU program, he has guided the Tigers to two College World Series berths, two NCAA Super Regional titles, three NCAA Regional championships, one SEC title and Top 10 finishes in each of the past two seasons.

Laval, the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, was named in 2004 the Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year for the third straight season.

Laval has directed LSU to the best SEC regular-season record in the past three seasons, posting a 57-31-1 (.646) mark. South Carolina has the second-best SEC record (57-32, .640), and Florida is third (50-39-1, .561). LSU earned its second consecutive final Top 10 ranking in 2004, as the Tigers finished No. 7 in the Baseball America poll and No. 8 in the Collegiate Baseball poll. The final rankings culminated a magnificent 2004 season that also featured record-breaking marks for academic achievements and attendance figures. The 2004 Tigers advanced to the College World Series for the second straight season, recording a 46-19 overall record, LSU's best mark since the 2000 club finished 52-17.

LSU played host to an NCAA Regional for the 15th straight season, winning the tournament with consecutive victories over Army, Southern Mississippi and College of Charleston. The Tigers then played host to an NCAA Super Regional for the third time in five years, defeating Texas A&M in a best two-of-three series to earn a berth in the CWS.

The 2004 Tigers had the best offensive club in the SEC, completing the year with a .333 team batting average, the second-highest in school history. The Tigers were led by two first-team all-SEC players - right fielder Jon Zeringue, the 2004 SEC Co-Player of the Year and a first-team all-America selection, and center fielder J.C. Holt, a third-team all-America choice. Zeringue was selected in the second round of the 2004 draft by the Arizona Diamondbacks, and Holt was the third-round pick of the Atlanta Braves.

LSU placed 12 players on the 2004 SEC Academic Honor Roll, the highest total in the program's history, and the Tigers' 2004 total home attendance with 36 playing dates was 284,328, the third-largest figure in school history. The average paid attendance in 2004 was 7,898, which is the highest average in LSU annals.

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

LSU played host to an NCAA Regional tournament for the 14th straight season and captured its eighth consecutive regional title. The Tigers entertained Baylor in an NCAA Super Regional series, defeating the Bears in two of three games to earn LSU's first CWS berth since 2000.

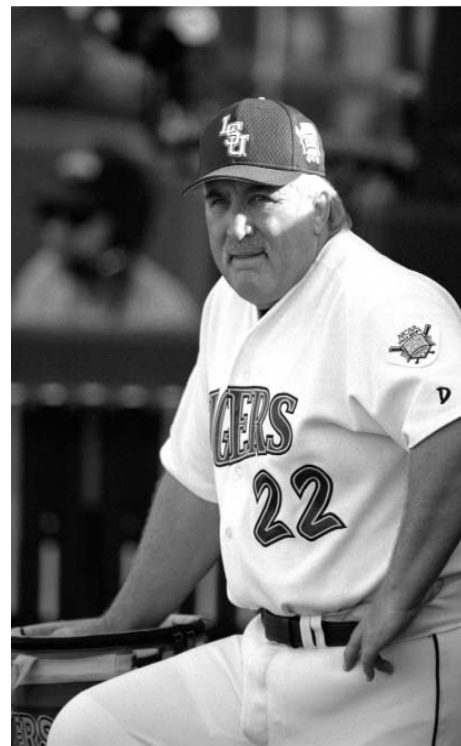
LSU also set an NCAA total attendance record in 2003, drawing 291,676 patrons to Alex Box Stadium.

The Tigers' shortstop, Aaron Hill, was named 2003 SEC Player of the Year and a first-team all-American. Hill was the first-round draft selection (13th pick overall) by the Toronto Blue Jays.

The magnificent '03 campaign augmented the success Laval enjoyed in his inaugural season as LSU's coach, as he led the 2002 Tigers to a 44-22 overall mark, an appearance in the NCAA Super Regional and a No. 11 final national ranking. Laval, named the 2002 Louisiana Coach of the Year by the Louisiana Sportswriters Association, continued the phenomenal tradition of excellence created by his predecessor, the legendary Skip Bertman.

Laval holds a bachelor's degree (1977) from Jacksonville in physical education and a master's degree (1979) from LSU in administration. The McDonald, Pa., native played two seasons at Gulf Coast Community College, where he lettered as a catcher. He completed his playing career at Jacksonville, where he led the ninth-ranked Dolphins in hitting at the 1976 NCAA South Regional.

Laval and his wife, Pam, are the parents of two children, Brandon and Jamie.



The Laval File

Full Name: Raymond Peter Laval
Born: December 20, 1955
Hometown: McDonald, Pa.
Wife: Pam Lewis of Reserve, La.
Children: Jamie and Brandon

Coaching Experience

1977	Assistant Coach	Jacksonville
1978	Assistant Coach	Wolfson HS (Jacksonville, Fla.)
1979	Graduate Assistant	LSU
1980-81	Assistant Coach	Gulf Coast CC
1982-83	Assistant Coach	Florida
1984-93	Assistant Coach	LSU
1994-00	Head Coach	UL-Monroe
2001	Administrative Asst.	LSU
2002-	Head Coach	LSU

Education

High School: South Fayette(McDonald, Pa.), 1973
 College: Jacksonville, 1977 (physical education)
 Masters: LSU, 1979 (administration)

Laval Year-By-Year

Year	W-L	School	Highlights
1994	20-33	UL-Monroe	Defeated Three NCAA Tournament Teams
1995	37-20	UL-Monroe	SLC Tournament Champions; NCAA Regional Participants
1996	41-19	UL-Monroe	School-Record 41 Wins; SLC Louisiana Division Champions
1997	33-21	UL-Monroe	Became Fourth Coach in ULM History To Record 100 Wins
1998	33-22	UL-Monroe	Led SLC In Hitting For Third Straight Season
1999	36-22	UL-Monroe	SLC Champions; NCAA Regional Participants
2000	41-22	UL-Monroe	SLC Champions; NCAA Regional Participants
2002	44-22	LSU	NCAA Regional Champions; NCAA Super Regional Participants
2003	45-22-1	LSU	SEC Champions; College World Series Participants
2004	46-19	LSU	NCAA Regional/Super Regional Champions; CWS Participants
2005	29-13	LSU	

Career Record (11th year): 405-235-1 (.633)

LSU Record (4th year): 164-76-1 (.683)

COACHING HONORS

1995	Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year
1999	Southland Conference Coach of the Year
2002	Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year
2003	SEC Coach of the Year; Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year
2004	Louisiana Sportswriters Association Coach of the Year

Playing Experience

1970-73: Catcher, South Fayette High School
 1974-75: Catcher, Gulf Coast CC
 1976-77: Catcher, Jacksonville University

The Nickname "Smoke"

As a native of Western Pennsylvania, Raymond Peter Laval grew up as a Pittsburgh Pirates fan. He received the name "Smoke" in the late 1970s from his Gulf Coast Community College teammates, who derived the moniker from Smokey Burgess, a catcher for the Pirates in the 1960s.

Media Services

Interview Opportunities

Head Coach Smoke Laval

Coach Laval is available for phone interviews on weekday mornings (9 a.m. -Noon) during the season. Please coordinate all requests for personal interviews with Coach Laval through his office.

Appointments and interviews may be arranged through Virginia Robertson at (225) 578-4148. **Coach Laval will talk to reporters approximately 10 minutes after the end of a game in the LSU dugout.**

Players

Media members are invited to attend LSU baseball practice sessions. Players are available for interviews before each practice at approximately 1 p.m. in Alex Box Stadium. Requests for live player interviews on the field prior to a game should be made through Bill Franques in the Sports Information Office. **Post-game player interviews are conducted in front of the LSU dugout at the conclusion of a brief team meeting on the field.**

Mailing Address

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P.O. Box 25095
Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5095

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Room 501, LSU Athletics Admin. Bldg.
N. Stadium Dr. at Nicholson Dr.
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Sports Information: 225-578-8226
Fax: 225-578-1861
Baseball Office: 225-578-4148
Fax: 225-578-4066

Baseball Contact E-mail Address

wfranqu@lsu.edu

Who to Contact

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(225) 578-8226

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Asst. Contact

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(225) 578-1882

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Jim Hawthorne - lsuradio@lsu.edu

On the Internet

www.LSUports.net

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

http://media.lsuports.net

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

LSU Electronic Media

Radio

The LSU Sports Radio Network distributes all LSU Baseball games by satellite to 25 radio affiliates. WDGL-FM (98.1) Radio in Baton Rouge serves as the flagship station for the LSU Sports Network. Jim Hawthorne, the "Voice of the Tigers" for all LSU sports, is in his 22nd season of calling baseball play-by-play action. He will be joined on the broadcasts by Charles Hanagriff and LSU baseball publicist Bill Franques. Selected LSU Sports Network stations air "Tiger Sportsline with Smoke Laval" beginning Monday, March 28 from 7-8 p.m. The show airs live from Superior Grill on Government Street in Baton Rouge.

Television

Inside LSU Baseball is a weekly program featuring LSU head coach Smoke Laval. The show, which begins on March 20, features game highlights, player profiles and in-depth stories on college baseball's No. 1 program. Inside LSU Baseball is produced by the LSU Electronic Media Department – Kevin Wagner, Executive Producer; John Schiebe, Associate Producer. Inside LSU Baseball Affiliates include WBRZ Channel 2 in Baton Rouge and Cox Sports Television throughout the state of Louisiana.

Bill Franques
wfranqu@lsu.edu

Week 12: April 25-31

Bill Martin
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	25	TUESDAY	26	WEDNESDAY	27	THURSDAY	28	FRIDAY	29	SATURDAY	30	SUNDAY	31
						Depart for Nashville at 6 a.m. Team Headquarters: Holiday Inn Select Vanderbilt 2613 West End Ave. Nashville, TN 37203 615.327.4707	at Vanderbilt 6 p.m. Charles Hawkins Field Nashville, Tenn. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None	at Vanderbilt 2 p.m. Charles Hawkins Field Nashville, Tenn. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: None	at Vanderbilt 1 p.m. Charles Hawkins Field Nashville, Tenn. Radio: LSU Sports Network TV: Jumbo Sports Network				