

**2004 Schedule/Results (6-1, 0-0 SEC)**

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
<b>February</b>		
13 (Fri.)	at Central Florida	W, 4-3
14 (Sat.)	at Central Florida	W, 17-4
15 (Sun.)	at Central Florida	L, 5-6 (10)
17 (Tue.)	UL-MONROE	W, 7-1
20 (Fri.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 6-1
21 (Sat.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 14-2
22 (Sun.)	JACKSONVILLE STATE	W, 19-1
27 (Fri.)	TEXAS STATE	6:30 p.m.
28 (Sat.)	TEXAS STATE	2 p.m.
29 (Sun.)	TEXAS STATE	Noon

<b>March</b>		
2 (Tue.)	Tulane	7 p.m. #
5 (Fri.)	HOUSTON	6:30 p.m.
6 (Sat.)	HOUSTON	2 p.m.
7 (Sun.)	HOUSTON	1 p.m.
9 (Tue.)	at UL-Monroe	6:30 p.m.
12 (Fri.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	6:30 p.m.
13 (Sat.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	2 p.m.
14 (Sun.)	SOUTHEASTERN LA.	1 p.m.
16 (Tue.)	NEW ORLEANS	6:30 p.m.
19 (Fri.)	at South Carolina	6 p.m.
20 (Sat.)	at South Carolina	3 p.m.
21 (Sun.)	at South Carolina	12:30 p.m.
23 (Tue.)	at Centenary	7 p.m.
26 (Fri.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	6:30 p.m.
27 (Sat.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	2 p.m.
28 (Sun.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	1 p.m.
30 (Tue.)	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m.

<b>April</b>		
2 (Fri.)	at Auburn	6:30 p.m.
3 (Sat.)	at Auburn	3 p.m.
4 (Sun.)	at Auburn	1:30 p.m.
6 (Tue.)	TULANE	6:30 p.m.
9 (Fri.)	ARKANSAS	6:30 p.m.
10 (Sat.)	ARKANSAS	2 p.m.
11 (Sun.)	ARKANSAS	1 p.m.
13 (Tue.)	NICHOLLS STATE	6:30 p.m.
14 (Wed.)	Southeastern La. #	7 p.m.
16 (Fri.)	GEORGIA	6:30 p.m.
17 (Sat.)	GEORGIA	2 p.m.
18 (Sun.)	GEORGIA	1 p.m.
20 (Tue.)	at Southern	6:30 p.m.
23 (Fri.)	at Tennessee	6 p.m.
24 (Sat.)	at Tennessee	6 p.m.
25 (Sun.)	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
27 (Tue.)	Tulane	7 p.m. \$
30 (Fri.)	ALABAMA	6:30 p.m.

<b>May</b>		
1 (Sat.)	ALABAMA	2 p.m.
2 (Sun.)	ALABAMA	1 p.m.
7 (Fri.)	at Kentucky	5:30 p.m.
8 (Sat.)	at Kentucky	1 p.m.
9 (Sun.)	at Kentucky	Noon
14 (Fri.)	VANDERBILT	6:30 p.m.
15 (Sat.)	VANDERBILT	2 p.m.
16 (Sun.)	VANDERBILT	1 p.m.
21 (Fri.)	at Ole Miss	6:30 p.m.
22 (Sat.)	at Ole Miss	3 p.m.
23 (Sun.)	at Ole Miss	1:30 p.m.
26-30	SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.)	

<b>June</b>		
4-6	NCAA Regional (sites TBA)	
11-13/12-14	NCAA Super Regional (sites TBA)	
18-27/28	College World Series (Omaha, Neb.)	

# - Zephyr Field (Metairie, La.) \$ - Louisiana Superdome



# LSU TIGERS

(6-1)

vs.

## Texas State (8-3)

Friday, Feb. 27 @ 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 28 @ 2 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 29 @ Noon

Radio: Feb. 27 and 28 - LSU Sports Network; Feb. 29 -- KLSU-FM 91.1 (Baton Rouge only)

TV: None

### Tigers Play Host to Texas State in Weekend Series

Top-ranked LSU (6-1) plays host to Southland Conference member Texas State (8-3) beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Alex Box Stadium. Game 2 is set for 2 p.m. Saturday and Game 3 will be played at Noon Sunday. The games on Friday and Saturday can be heard statewide on the LSU Sports Network (WDGL-FM 98.1 in Baton Rouge) and on the internet at [www.LSUsports.net](http://www.LSUsports.net). Sunday's game can be heard in Baton Rouge only on KLSU-FM 91.1. Tickets are available for all three games of the series at [www.LSUsports.net](http://www.LSUsports.net) or by calling 225.578.2184 or 800.960.8587.

LSU is ranked No. 1 this week by Collegiate Baseball magazine. The top ranking marks the Tigers' first No. 1 designation since April 30, 2001, when LSU was No. 1 in the ESPN/Sports Weekly poll. LSU enters Friday's contest riding a four-game win streak after the Tigers swept a three-game set from Jacksonville State last weekend in Alex Box Stadium. Texas State, guided by fifth-year coach Ty Harrington, defeated Louisiana-Lafayette in two of three games last weekend in San Marcos.

LSU's scheduled game on Wednesday versus Southeastern Louisiana was postponed due to rain. The contest has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. at Zephyr Field in Metairie, La. Texas State also experienced a rainout this week, as the Bobcats' Tuesday game at Baylor was postponed due to inclement weather.

### About Texas State

Friday's game marks the first meeting between LSU and Texas State, though the Tigers have a 193-69 (.737) all-time record versus Southland Conference schools. LSU is 49-16 vs. Southeastern Louisiana, 42-10 vs. Northwestern State, 37-21 vs. Nicholls State, 34-8 vs. Louisiana-Monroe, 19-9 vs. McNeese State, 9-0 vs. Stephen F. Austin, 2-0 vs. Texas-Arlington and 1-5 vs. Lamar. LSU has never played Texas-San Antonio nor Sam Houston State.

Texas State, located in San Marcos, was formerly known as Southwest Texas State. The Bobcats were picked fifth (out of 10 teams) in the 2004 preseason Southland Conference coaches poll. TSU finished 30-28 overall last season, 19-7 in the SLC. The Bobcats have made NCAA A Regional appearances in 1997, 1998 and 2000.

### Pitching Matchups

#### Game 1

LSU - So. RHP Justin Meier (1-0, 2.13 ERA, 12.2 IP, 3 BB, 13 SO)  
 TSU - Sr. LHP Paul Schappert (1-1, 6.16 ERA, 19.0 IP, 9 BB, 16 SO)

#### Game 2

LSU - Jr. LHP Lane Mestepey (2-0, 1.64 ERA, 11.0 IP, 4 BB, 5 SO)  
 TSU - Jr. RHP Brian Hurley (1-1, 6.91 ERA, 14.1 IP, 5 BB, 10 SO)

#### Game 3

LSU - Sr. RHP Nate Bumstead (0-0, 6.75 ERA, 2.2 IP, 3 BB, 3 SO)  
 TSU - Sr. LHP Tom Robbins (2-1, 2.86 ERA, 22.0 IP, 10 BB, 13 SO)

LSU		Texas State	
<b>Record</b>	6-1 (0-0 SEC)	<b>Record</b>	8-3 (0-0 SLC)
<b>Ranking</b>	No. 1 Collegiate Baseball No. 3 Baseball America No. 5 ESPN/Sports Weekly	<b>Ranking</b>	Not Ranked
<b>Coach</b>	Smoke Laval	<b>Coach</b>	Ty Harrington
<b>Career Record</b>	336-204-1 (10th year)	<b>Career Record</b>	144-106 (fifth year)
<b>LSU Record</b>	95-45-1 (third year)	<b>TSU Record</b>	same
<b>Laval vs. TSU</b>	13-12	<b>Harrington vs. LSU</b>	first meeting

## Tracking the Tigers

Week	BA	CB	ESPN/SW
Preseason	2	3	3
Feb. 2	2	3	3
Feb. 9	2	3	3
Feb. 16	2	4	5
Feb. 23	3	1	5

## Baseball America (Feb. 23)

- Stanford (10-2)
- Rice (5-2)
- LSU (6-1)**
- Miami, Fla. (4-2)
- Georgia Tech (6-0)
- Texas (11-2)
- South Carolina (6-0)
- Long Beach State (7-2)
- Tulane (5-1)
- Auburn (5-1)
- Clemson (0-0)
- Arizona State (8-2)
- Cal State Fullerton (6-6)
- Wichita State (0-0)
- Baylor (3-4)
- Arizona (5-3-1)
- North Carolina (3-0)
- Ole Miss (3-0)
- Notre Dame (2-0)
- Texas A&M (7-0)
- Florida Atlantic (10-0)
- Florida (6-3)
- Nebraska (3-0)
- North Carolina State (4-0)
- Florida State (7-3)

## Collegiate Baseball (Feb. 23)

- LSU (6-1)**
- Stanford (10-2)
- Georgia Tech (6-0)
- Texas (11-2)
- Rice (5-2)
- South Carolina (6-0)
- Arizona State (8-2)
- Miami, Fla. (4-2)
- Wichita State (0-0)
- Notre Dame (2-0)
- Long Beach State (7-2)
- Florida Atlantic (10-0)
- Tulane (5-1)
- Texas A&M (7-0)
- Auburn (5-1)
- Nebraska (3-0)
- Clemson (0-0)
- North Carolina (3-0)
- Arizona (5-3-1)
- Cal State Fullerton (6-6)
- Florida (6-3)
- Washington (5-1)
- Florida State (7-3)
- Lamar (6-2)
- Minnesota (0-0)

## The LSU Lineup (probable batting order vs. Texas State)

Player	Pos.	Cl.-Exp.	B/T	Avg.	HR	RBI	Notable
J.C. Holt	CF	Jr.-2L	L/R	.433	0	6	.533 BA in last four games
Ryan Patterson	LF	Jr.-1L	R/R	.323	1	7	.500 BA in JSU series
Blake Gill	2B	Jr.-2L	L/R	.321	0	6	.364 BA, 4 RBI vs. JSU
Nick Stavinocha	DH	Jr.-JC	R/R	.345	1	5	.417 BA, 2 RBI vs. JSU
Clay Harris	1B	Jr.-2L	R/R	.375	1	9	.400 BA, 4 RBI vs. JSU
Matt Liuzza	C	So.-1L	R/R	.308	0	4	.364 BA, 2 RBI vs. JSU
Ivan Naccarata	3B	Sr.-1L	L/R	.192	1	6	1 HR, 6 RBI in JSU series
Jon Zeringue	RF	Jr.-2L	R/R	.333	1	3	.400 BA, 3 2Bs in last four games
Matt Horwath	SS	Fr.-RS	R/R	.286	1	5	.364 BA, 4 RBI in last four games

## Tigers' Bats Explode in Sweep of Jacksonville State

LSU swept Jacksonville State -- the preseason Ohio Valley Conference favorite -- last weekend by a combined score of 39-4 in the three-game set. The Tigers outhit the Gamecocks, 44-18, and batted .393 in the series. Meanwhile, the LSU pitching staff posted a 1.08 ERA for the weekend and limited JSU to a .196 batting average.

Sunday's 19-1 victory over JSU marked the most runs scored by the Tigers since June 6, 2003, when LSU scored 20 in the NCAA Super Regional final versus Baylor. The Tigers had 20 hits in Sunday's contest, marking the first time they reached the 20-hit mark since May 6, 2003, versus Loyola-New Orleans.

For the entire week (Feb. 16-22) - including a Feb. 17 win over UL-Monroe - LSU hit .374 (55-for-147) and outscored the opposition, 46-5.

Preseason all-America center fielder **J.C. Holt** led the Tigers with a .533 (8-for-15) average last week, including one double, four RBI, six runs, two steals and a .611 on-base percentage. Holt hit .500 (6-for-12) in the Jacksonville State series, as did left fielder **Ryan Patterson**, who was 6-for-12 at the plate with three doubles, three RBI and six runs.

As a team, the Tigers are hitting .333 (89-for-267) on the year with eight home runs. LSU hit seven homers in its first two games; however, the Tigers have just one homer in their last five contests.

## LSU Pitchers Impressive Through First Seven Games

LSU's pitching staff enters the Texas State series with a 2.31 cumulative ERA and a .210 opponents' batting average. The Tigers have surrendered three or fewer earned runs in six of their seven contests. In the past four games, the staff has allowed just four earned runs, posting a 1.06 ERA in 34 innings (three nine-inning games and one seven-inning contest).

Sophomore right-hander **Justin Meier** (1-0, 2.13 ERA) will start Friday's game on the mound for LSU. Meier fired a career-high eight strikeouts in defeating Jacksonville State last Friday, as he allowed one run on four hits in 6.2 innings with one walk. Meier, a 2003 Collegiate Baseball Freshman All-American, was 8-3 with a team-best 2.83 ERA in 2003.

Junior left-hander **Lane Mestepey** (2-0, 1.64 ERA), who will start Game 2 against Texas State, defeated Jacksonville State last Saturday (his 24th career win), limiting the Gamecocks to one run on six hits in six innings with two walks and four strikeouts. Mestepey, a two-time first-team all-SEC selection, returned to the mound this season after missing all of last season after undergoing shoulder surgery in the summer of 2002.

Senior right-hander **Nate Bumstead** (0-0, 6.75) was scheduled to start Wednesday's postponed contest against Southeastern Louisiana, so LSU coach Smoke Laval will send him to the mound for Sunday's game versus Texas State. Bumstead, an all-SEC pitcher in 2003, is working himself back into shape after suffering a shoulder injury on Feb. 3 in an intrasquad game. Bumstead has made on relief appearance this season - Feb. 15 at Central Florida - where he surrendered two runs on four hits in 2.2 innings with three walks and three strikeouts.

## Tigers Seek to Preserve Non-Conference Home Win Streak

LSU enters Game 1 of the Texas State series having won 14 straight non-conference regular-season home games. The Tigers' last loss in a non-conference regular-season game in Alex Box Stadium came on Feb. 22, 2003, when the University of Houston posted a 7-2 win.

## \$1 Tickets Available for Sunday's LSU-Texas State Game

Tickets for Sunday's LSU-Texas State game will sell for just \$1 when fans present their men's basketball ticket for the Tigers' game against Kentucky. The LSU-TSU baseball game starts at Noon Sunday in Alex Box Stadium, and the LSU-UK men's basketball game tips off at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

Fans must present their men's basketball ticket at the Alex Box Stadium ticket windows on Sunday to receive the \$1 admission. The stadium ticket office opens at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

Tickets are still available for the LSU-Kentucky men's basketball game, which will feature a special halftime ceremony honoring former coach Dale Brown as a Living Legend of the SEC. Fans are encouraged to wear gold to the men's basketball game.

For more information on baseball and men's basketball tickets, visit [www.LSUsports.net](http://www.LSUsports.net) or call 225.578.2184 or 800.960.8587.

## The LSU Injury Report

**RHP Nate Bumstead** -- LSU's leader in wins (11) and innings pitched (110) in 2003, Bumstead's status for this season was questionable after he injured his shoulder during a pre-season intrasquad game on Feb. 3. An MRI revealed a tear in the labrum of his right shoulder. However, Bumstead conducted a bullpen workout on Feb. 12 during the Tigers' road trip at UCF, and he pitched pain-free with normal velocity. He then pitched in relief in the Feb. 15 game vs. UCF, working 2.2 innings and allowing two runs on four hits with three walks and three strikeouts. Bumstead is scheduled to pitch again on Sunday when he gets a starting assignment against Texas State in Alex Box Stadium.

**INF Bryan Harris** -- Harris, a transfer from Santa Ana (Calif.) College, was projected to be the Tigers' starter at third base; however, a hernia operation limited his participation during fall practice, and he underwent arthroscopic surgery in January to remove bone chips from his right knee. He stills several weeks away from being able to contribute to the Tigers lineup.

**RHP Brandon Nail** -- LSU's closer at the beginning of 2003, he pitched in just six games last season before suffering a torn labrum in his shoulder, which required surgery. He could return to the mound at some point this season, depending upon the progress of his rehabilitation.

## SEC Coaches Select LSU to Repeat as League Champion

The LSU Tigers are the favorite to win the Southeastern Conference Baseball Championship, as voted by the league's 12 baseball coaches in the 13th annual preseason SEC poll. The Tigers seek to capture their 14th SEC Championship, having won or shared the title three times in the past eight seasons (1996, 1997 & 2003) and seven times since 1990. LSU won the both the overall SEC Championship and Western Division titles in 2003. In the overall SEC Champion vote, LSU received 11 of the 12 championship votes in the poll, the most possible by one team. South Carolina received the other vote.

In addition to picking a preseason SEC champion, the league's head coaches voted a predicted order of finish in the SEC Eastern and Western Divisions. In the Eastern Division, South Carolina was the favorite with 63 points. Florida came in second with 58 points and Vanderbilt third with 42 points. LSU was the predicted winner in the Western Division with a total of 66, again collecting the maximum points for a team. Auburn was second with 51, while Ole Miss finished third with 41.

Team	Pts.	'03 SEC Rec/Finish
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### Eastern Division

1. S. Carolina (8)	63	19-11/1st
2. Florida (4)	58	13-16-1/3rd
3. Vanderbilt	42	14-165/2nd
4. Georgia	36	10-20/5th
5. Tennessee	30	13-17/4th
6. Kentucky	17	9-20/6th

### Western Division

1. LSU (11)	66	20-9-1/1st
2. Auburn (1)	51	18-12/2nd
3. Ole Miss	41	17-13/4th
4. Alabama	38	14-16/t5th
5. Miss. State	30	17-12/3rd
6. Arkansas	20	14-16/t5th

( ) - First Place Votes

SEC Champion: LSU (11); South Carolina (1)

## ESPN/Sports Weekly (Feb. 23)

1. Stanford (26) (10-2)
2. Rice (10) (5-2)
3. Texas (2) (11-2)
4. Miami, Fla. (4-2)
5. **LSU (1) (6-1)**
6. Georgia Tech (1) (6-0)
7. Arizona State (8-2)
8. South Carolina (6-0)
9. Long Beach State (7-2)
10. Tulane (5-1)
11. Clemson (0-0)
12. Notre Dame (2-0)
13. Wichita State (0-0)
14. Auburn (5-1)
15. North Carolina (3-0)
16. Florida Atlantic (10-0)
17. Nebraska (3-0)
18. Cal State Fullerton (6-6)
19. Arizona (5-3-1)
20. Baylor (3-4)
21. Ole Miss (3-0)
22. Florida State (7-3)
23. Texas A&M (7-0)
24. North Carolina State (4-0)
25. Florida (6-3)

## 2004 SEC Standings (Feb. 23)

Eastern Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Florida	0-0	.000	6-3
Georgia	0-0	.000	6-1
Kentucky	0-0	.000	3-2
South Carolina	0-0	.000	6-0
Tennessee	0-0	.000	4-2
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	3-0
Western Division			
Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Alabama	0-0	.000	5-2
Arkansas	0-0	.000	6-0
Auburn	0-0	.000	5-1
LSU	0-0	.000	6-1
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	3-0
Miss. State	0-0	.000	0-0

## This Week in the SEC (Feb. 23-29)

### Tuesday, Feb. 24 (All times are Central)

McNeese State at Arkansas • 2:35 p.m.

Samford at Auburn • 3 p.m.

Michigan at Florida • 5:30 p.m.

Eastern Michigan at Kentucky • 2 p.m.

Lipscomb at Vanderbilt • 4 p.m.

### Wednesday, Feb. 25

Centenary at Alabama • 6:30 p.m.

McNeese State at Arkansas • 2:35 p.m.

Michigan at Florida • 5:30 p.m.

LSU at SE Louisiana • 6:30 p.m. (*Zephyr Field*)

Murray State at Ole Miss • 3 p.m.

### Friday, Feb. 27-Sunday, Feb. 29

SE Louisiana at Alabama • 6:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 2 p.m.

Arkansas at Aggie Baseball Classic (*College Station*)

Hofstra at Auburn • 3 p.m., 2 p.m., 1:30 p.m.

Northwestern at Florida • 1 p.m., Noon (Sat.-Sun.)

Birmingham So. at Georgia • 1 p.m., Noon (Sat.-Sun.)

Kentucky at Service Academy Tourney (*Millington, Tenn.*)

Texas State at LSU • 6:30 p.m., 2 p.m., Noon

Ole Miss at South Alabama • 6 p.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m.

Mississippi State hosts MSU Challenge (*Starkville, Miss.*)

South Carolina hosts Gamecock Classic (*Columbia, S.C.*)

Eastern Michigan at Tennessee • 2 p.m., 1 p.m., 1 p.m.

Vanderbilt hosts Music City Classic (*Nashville, Tenn.*)

Southern Illinois at Vanderbilt • 4 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m.

## 2004 LSU TV Schedule

Feb. 14	at UCF	Noon	JSN
Feb. 15	at UCF	Noon	JSN
March 2	at Tulane	7 p.m.	JSN
March 9	at UL-Monroe	6:30 p.m.	JSN
March 14	SE Louisiana	1 p.m.	Cox
March 21	at South Carolina	12:30 p.m.	JSN
March 30	at New Orleans	6:30 p.m.	JSN
April 4	at Auburn	1:30 p.m.	JSN
April 10	Arkansas	2 p.m.	Fox
April 11	Arkansas	1 p.m.	Cox
April 16	Georgia	6:30 p.m.	Cox
April 24	at Tennessee	6 p.m.	CSS
April 25	at Tennessee	1 p.m.	JSN
April 27	vs. Tulane (tape-delayed)	10 p.m.	Cox
April 30	Alabama	6:30 p.m.	Cox
May 9	at Kentucky	Noon	JSN
May 14	Vanderbilt	6:30 p.m.	Cox
May 22	at Ole Miss	3 p.m.	Fox
May 23	at Ole Miss	1:30 p.m.	JSN

**JSN - Jumbo Sports Network**

**Cox - Cox Sports Television**

**Fox - Fox Sports Southwest (SEC-TV)**

**CSS - Comcast Sports Southeast**

**All Times are Central and Subject to Change**

### **WALLY PONTIFF JR. BASEBALL CLASSIC**

LSU and Southeastern Louisiana will meet in the first Wally Pontiff Jr. Baseball Classic on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 p.m. at Zephyr Field in Metairie. The game was originally scheduled for Feb. 25, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

Tickets for the game are \$15, and all seating is reserved. Tickets are on sale at the SLU athletic ticket office(985.549.5466), located at Gate 3 of the University Center. Tickets are also on sale at the Zephyr Field box office (504.734.5155) and at any Ticketmaster locations (800.488.5252).

Pontiff, who was a two-time all-SEC selection at LSU, died unexpectedly on July 24, 2002 at 21. Pontiff started for the Tigers from 2000 through 2002 and was the Most Valuable Player of the 2000 SEC Tournament and helped the Tigers win the 2000 national championship.

Pontiff was also a two-time selection to the SEC Academic Honor Roll and was a member of the 2002 District VI all-academic baseball team with a 3.25 GPA in biological sciences.

The game will mark SLU's first visit to Zephyr Field since winning three games at the park to open the 1998 season. LSU has played at least one game in the park each season since 1998, posting a 9-7 overall mark. Southeastern and LSU have tentative plans to play again at Zephyr Field in 2005. The Lions and the Tigers will also meet in a three-game series this season at Alex Box Stadium March 12-14.

### **Patterson, Harris Earn Collegiate Baseball Pre-Season Recognition**

LSU outfielder **Ryan Patterson** and first baseman **Clay Harris** were named to the 2004 Collegiate Baseball pre-season all-America team. Patterson, a junior from Rowlett, Texas, was voted to the first team. Harris, a junior from Slidell, La., was a third-team selection.

Patterson earned first-team all-SEC honors last season as the Tigers' primary designated hitter, batting .350 (92-for-263) with 20 doubles, one triple, 16 homers and 51 RBI. He was voted to the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional all-tournament team, and he was named the state's Newcomer of the Year by the Louisiana Sportswriters Association.

Harris, also a 2003 first-team all-SEC selection, tied Patterson for the team lead in home runs with 16. Harris hit .332 (70-for-211) with 16 doubles and 62 RBI, and he was voted second-team all-Louisiana by the LSWA.

### **Holt, Zeringue Receive Baseball America Pre-Season Accolades**

LSU outfielders **Jon Zeringue** and **J.C.Holt** were named to the 2004 Baseball America pre-season all-America team. Zeringue, a junior from Thibodaux, La., was voted to the second team. Holt, a junior from Sieper, La., was a third-team selection.

Zeringue earned second-team all-SEC honors last season as the Tigers' right fielder, batting .339 (77-for-227) with 15 doubles, 13 homers and 45 RBI. He was LSU's leading hitter during the second half of the season (34 games) with a .382 average.

Holt, the 2003 NCAA Baton Rouge Regional Most Outstanding Player, hit .299 last season with 11 doubles, two triples, five homers, 36 RBI, 51 runs and 16 stolen bases. The Tigers' center fielder was also voted in August the MVP of the Cape Cod League, the wooden-bat summer league for the nation's top collegiate players. Holt batted a league-high .388 (52-for-134) in the CCBL with six doubles, one triple, one homer, 19 RBI, 25 runs and 13 steals.

### **Aaron Hill's Donation Funds Locker Room Improvements**

Smoke Laval received an unexpected Christmas gift in late December when former player Aaron Hill made a cash contribution to the LSU Baseball program. Hill, a first round draft pick of the Toronto Blue Jays in the 2003 amateur draft, signed professionally following his junior season after leading the Tigers to the 2003 College World Series. He was the 2003 SEC Player of the Year and is one of the Blue Jays' top prospects.

"I was stunned," said Laval of the gift. "He calls out of the blue over the holidays and wants to drop by and the next thing you know, he's handing me a check. I was speechless. I mean, it doesn't surprise me because that's A. Hill, that's him, but you never expect such generosity."

Laval said the gift was partially used to upgrade the carpet in the squad room, the locker room, the training room and the umpires' dressing rooms. In addition, it allowed Laval to replace all of the players' stools in the locker room.

"You see, Aaron Hill gets it", Laval said. "He gave us a lot while he was here as a player, but he has acknowledged on his own, without prompting, that he received a lot in return. To my knowledge, no player has ever given back directly to the baseball program like this, especially so soon after finishing his career here. It's the nicest thing that a former player of mine has ever done."

"People need to know what he has done and how much this place and this program have meant to him to make such a gift. And we plan to show him our appreciation and give the fans a chance to thank him properly as well."

# Smoke Laval

HEAD COACH • THIRD YEAR

Raymond "Smoke" Laval enhanced his reputation as one of the country's top college baseball coaches, as, in just his second season at the helm of the LSU program, he guided the 2003 Tigers to the Southeastern Conference title -- LSU's first since 1997 -- and a berth in the College World Series.

Laval, the 2003 SEC Coach of the Year, directed 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.

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, who served seven seasons (1994-2000) as the head coach at the University of Louisiana-Monroe, assumed control of the LSU program from Bertman, who led the Tigers to five NCAA championships and 11 College World Series appearances during an 18-year (1984-2001) tenure. Laval worked as Bertman's top assistant coach for 10 seasons (1984-93), helping lead LSU to its first two NCAA titles in 1991 and 1993. During Laval's 10 years as assistant coach, LSU posted a 483-182-1 record, won five SEC titles, appeared in six College World Series and captured two national championships.

Laval was known at LSU as one of the nation's best recruiters and brightest assistant coaches, as the Tigers reached the College World Series in only the third season (1986) of the Bertman-Laval regime. LSU followed the '86 CWS appearance with Omaha berths in 1987, 1989 and 1990 before the Tigers claimed the school's first baseball national title in 1991. After LSU captured its second NCAA crown in 1993, Laval departed Baton Rouge to become the head coach at Northeast Louisiana (now Louisiana-Monroe).

During his assistant coaching tenure at LSU, Laval -- who worked as the Tigers' primary recruiter - tutored 24 players who would eventually reach the major leagues. Some of the major leaguers with whom Laval worked include all-stars Albert Belle and Paul Byrd and first-round pick Todd Walker.

Laval compiled a 241-159 (.603) mark as the head coach at ULM, guiding the Indians to NCAA Regional appearances in 1995, 1999 and 2000.

Laval began his coaching career in 1977 as an assistant at Jacksonville University before moving to Wolfson High School in Jacksonville as a baseball and football coach. He served as a graduate assistant at LSU in 1979 under former Tiger head coach Jack Lamabe before working two years as an assistant at Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Fla.

Laval served as an assistant coach at Florida for two seasons (1982-83) before returning to LSU to work under 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.

## 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	6-1	LSU	

**Career Record (10th year):** 336-204-1

**LSU Record (3rd year):** 95-45-1

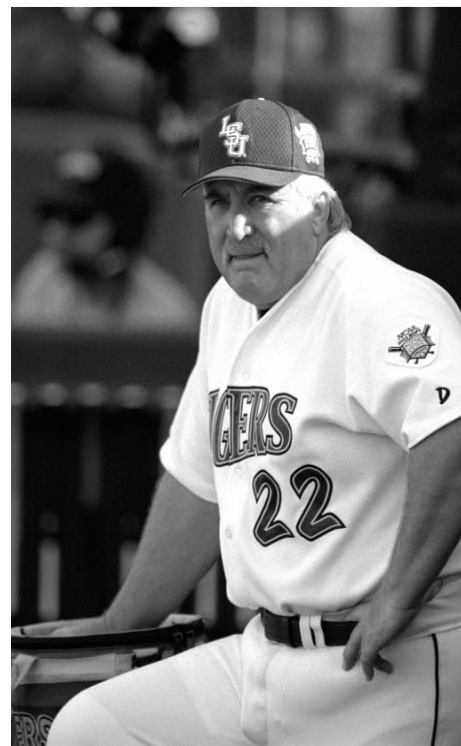
### COACHING HONORS

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



## 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
1994-2000	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)

## Playing Experience

1970-73: Catcher, South Fayette High School

1974-75: Catcher, Gulf Coast CC

1976-77: Catcher, Jacksonville University

## The Nickname "Smoke"

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

# Media Services

## Interview Opportunities

### Head Coach Smoke Laval

Coach Laval is available for phone interviews on weekday mornings (9 a.m. -Noon) during the season. Please coordinate all requests for personal interviews with Coach Laval through his office. Appointments and interviews may be arranged through Virginia Robertson at (225) 578-4148. **Coach Laval will talk to reporters approximately 10 minutes after the end of a game in the LSU dugout.**

### Players

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

**Post-game player interviews are conducted in front of the LSU dugout at the conclusion of a brief team meeting on the field.**

### Mailing Address

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

### Overnight Mail Address

Room 501, LSU Athletics Admin. Bldg.  
N. Stadium Dr. at Nicholson Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5095

### Phone Directory

Press Box: 225-578-4149  
Sports Information: 225-578-8226  
Fax: 225-578-1861  
Baseball Office: 225-578-4148  
Fax: 225-578-4066

### Baseball Contact E-mail Address

wfranqu@lsu.edu

## Who to Contact

### Sports Information Office

(225) 578-8226

### Baseball Contact

Bill Franques - wfranqu@lsu.edu

### Asst. Contact

Bill Martin - wmarti4@lsu.edu

### LSU Television

(225) 578-1797

### Asst. AD/Television

Kevin Wagner - jwagne2@lsu.edu

### Manager/Television

John Schiebe - jschiebe@lsu.edu

### LSU Radio

(225) 578-1882

### Asst. AD/Radio

Jim Hawthorne - lsuradio@lsu.edu

## On the Internet

### www.LSUsports.net

The Official Website of LSU Athletics is home to all the baseball information you need.

Schedules, results, rosters, bios, statistics and game notes can be found and are always up to date.

### http://media.lsusports.net

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

## LSU Electronic Media

### Radio

The LSU Sports Radio Network will distribute all LSU Baseball games by satellite to 25 radio affiliates. WDGL-FM (98.1) Radio in Baton Rouge will serve as the flagship station for the LSU Sports Network. Jim Hawthorne, the "Voice of the Tigers" for all LSU sports, begins his 21st 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 will also air "Tiger Sportsline with Smoke Laval" each Monday from 7-8 p.m., beginning on March 29. 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 first installment of the 2004 season will air March 21, and the show will air weekly through May 23. The show 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 Cable Channel 4 in Baton Rouge.

Bill Franques  
wfranqu@lsu.edu

## Week 3: February 23-29

Bill Martin  
wmarti4@lsu.edu

MONDAY	23	TUESDAY	24	WEDNESDAY	25	THURSDAY	26	FRIDAY	27	SATURDAY	28	SUNDAY	29
				vs. Southeastern Louisiana				vs. Texas State 6:30 p.m. Alex Box Stadium		vs. Texas State 2 p.m. Alex Box Stadium		vs. Texas State Noon Alex Box Stadium	
			ppd., rain					Radio: LSU Sports Network		Radio: LSU Sports Network		Radio: KLSU-FM 91.1 in Baton Rouge only	
			re-scheduled for Wed., April 14 7 p.m. Zephyr Field Metairie, La.					TV: None		TV: None		TV: None	

2004 LSU Baseball

Overall Statistics for LSU (as of Feb 22, 2004)

(All games Sorted by Batting avg)

Record: 6-1 Home: 4-0 Away: 2-1 SEC: 0-0

Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
1 J.C. Holt.....	.433	7-7	30	10	13	1	0	0	6	14	.467	2	1	3	0	.485	0	0	2-2	19	0	0	1.000
21 Clay Harris.....	.375	7-7	24	7	9	1	2	1	9	17	.708	10	1	2	0	.571	0	0	0-0	59	6	2	.970
43 Nick Stavinoha...	.345	7-7	29	6	10	0	0	1	5	13	.448	1	1	4	0	.387	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
16 Jon Zeringue.....	.333	7-7	27	5	9	4	0	1	3	16	.593	3	0	10	0	.387	1	0	0-1	10	0	0	1.000
12 Ryan Patterson...	.323	7-7	31	10	10	4	0	1	7	17	.548	3	1	6	0	.400	0	0	1-1	12	0	0	1.000
3 Blake Gill.....	.321	7-7	28	5	9	1	1	0	6	12	.429	3	0	1	1	.387	0	0	0-0	12	17	1	.967
14 Matt Liuzza.....	.308	7-7	26	5	8	1	0	0	4	9	.346	2	0	8	0	.357	0	1	0-0	46	6	0	1.000
34 Matt Horwath.....	.286	7-7	21	6	6	0	0	1	5	9	.429	5	1	6	0	.444	0	0	0-0	9	16	1	.962
7 Ivan Naccarata...	.192	7-7	26	8	5	0	0	1	6	8	.308	5	1	6	0	.344	0	0	1-2	1	16	1	.944
-----																							
2 Derek Hebert.....	.600	3-0	5	4	3	1	0	1	1	7	1.400	0	0	0	0	.600	0	0	0-0	3	1	1	.800
10 Ty Jensen.....	.500	4-0	4	1	2	0	0	0	3	2	.500	0	0	1	0	.500	0	0	0-0	2	0	0	1.000
38 Brad Bass.....	.500	2-0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	.500	0	0	0	1	.500	0	0	0-0	3	0	0	1.000
30 Bobby DiLiberto..	.400	3-0	5	2	2	0	0	1	4	5	1.000	0	0	1	0	.400	0	0	0-0	0	3	1	.750
9 Dustin Weaver....	.400	3-0	5	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	.400	0	0	0	0	.400	0	0	0-0	4	1	0	1.000
25 Will Harris.....	.000	3-0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	1	1	0	.600	0	0	0-0	4	1	0	1.000
32 Rhett Buteau.....	.000	3-0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	3	0	0	0	.750	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
52 Will Davis.....	.000	1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	1	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
Totals.....	.333	7-7	267	72	89	13	3	8	64	132	.494	39	7	50	2	.430	1	1	4-6	187	79	7	.974
Opponents.....	.210	7-7	229	18	48	12	1	3	14	71	.310	25	4	51	3	.296	2	2	5-9	177	60	17	.933

LOB - Team (66), Opp (57). DPs turned - Team (3), Opp (3). IBB - Team (0), Opp (2). Picked off - Holt 1, Gill 1.

(All games Sorted by Earned run avg)

Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
46 Lane Mestepey....	1.64	2-0	2	2	0	0/0	0	11.0	11	2	2	4	5	1	0	1	38	.289	1	1	0	0	1
35 Justin Meier.....	2.13	1-0	2	2	0	0/0	0	12.2	8	3	3	3	13	1	0	1	43	.186	0	0	0	1	0
13 Clay Dirks.....	2.53	1-0	2	2	0	0/0	0	10.2	10	4	3	3	11	6	0	0	43	.233	0	2	1	0	1
28 Michael Bonura...	3.86	1-0	2	1	0	0/0	0	7.0	5	4	3	5	4	0	1	0	25	.200	0	0	1	1	0
-----																							
27 Greg Smith.....	0.00	0-0	3	0	0	0/0	0	5.0	1	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	17	.059	0	0	0	0	0
25 Will Harris.....	0.00	0-0	2	0	0	0/0	0	2.0	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	8	.250	0	1	0	0	0
33 Jason Determann..	1.42	1-0	2	0	0	0/0	1	6.1	5	1	1	1	5	0	0	0	23	.217	0	0	1	0	0
6 Collin Smith.....	3.00	0-0	2	0	0	0/0	0	3.0	2	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	13	.154	0	0	0	0	0
29 Jordan Faircloth.	4.50	0-1	2	0	0	0/0	0	2.0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	7	.000	0	0	0	0	0
41 Nate Bumstead....	6.75	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	0	2.2	4	2	2	3	3	1	0	1	12	.333	1	0	1	0	0
Totals.....	2.31	6-1	7	7	0	0/0	1	62.1	48	18	16	25	51	12	1	3	229	.210	2	4	4	2	2
Opponents.....	7.63	1-6	7	7	0	0/0	0	59.0	89	72	50	39	50	13	3	8	267	.333	8	7	2	1	1

PB - Team (1), Liuzza 1, Opp (3). Pickoffs - Team (2), Mestepey 2, Opp (2). SBA/ATT - Liuzza (5-9), Meier (1-3), Mestepey (2-2), Faircloth (1-1), Bonura (0-1), Smith, C. (1-1), Determann (0-1).

## 2004 LSU Baseball

Overall Statistics for LSU (as of Feb 22, 2004)

(All games Sorted by Fielding pct)

Player	C	PO	A	E	FLD%	DPs	SBA	CSB	SBA%	PB	CI
14 Matt Liuzza.....	52	46	6	0	1.000	0	5	4	.556	1	0
1 J.C. Holt.....	19	19	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
12 Ryan Patterson...	12	12	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
16 Jon Zeringue.....	10	10	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
25 Will Harris.....	5	4	1	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
9 Dustin Weaver....	5	4	1	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
46 Lane Mestepey....	5	0	5	0	1.000	0	2	0	1.000	0	0
29 Jordan Faircloth.	3	1	2	0	1.000	0	1	0	1.000	0	0
35 Justin Meier.....	3	1	2	0	1.000	0	1	2	.333	0	0
38 Brad Bass.....	3	3	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
13 Clay Dirks.....	2	0	2	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
10 Ty Jensen.....	2	2	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
33 Jason Determann..	1	0	1	0	1.000	0	0	1	.000	0	0
28 Michael Bonura...	1	1	0	0	1.000	0	0	1	.000	0	0
21 Clay Harris.....	67	59	6	2	.970	3	0	0	---	0	0
3 Blake Gill.....	30	12	17	1	.967	3	0	0	---	0	0
34 Matt Horwath.....	26	9	16	1	.962	1	0	0	---	0	0
7 Ivan Naccarata...	18	1	16	1	.944	1	0	0	---	0	0
2 Derek Hebert.....	5	3	1	1	.800	0	0	0	---	0	0
30 Bobby DiLiberto..	4	0	3	1	.750	0	0	0	---	0	0
41 Nate Bumstead....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
52 Will Davis.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
32 Rhett Buteau.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
6 Collin Smith.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	0	1.000	0	0
27 Greg Smith.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
43 Nick Stavinoha...	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
Totals.....	273	187	79	7	.974	3	5	4	.556	1	0
Opponents.....	254	177	60	17	.933	3	4	2	.667	3	0

2004 LSU Baseball  
 Game Results for LSU (as of Feb 22, 2004)  
 (All games)

Game date	Opposing team	Score	r	h	e/	r	h	e	Inns	Overall	SEC	Pitcher of record	Attend	Time	
-----	-----	----	-----/-----			----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Feb 13, 2004	at UCF	W 4-3	4	7	0/	3	7	3	(10)	1- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	Determann (W 1-0)	1922	3:15	
Feb 14, 2004	at UCF	W 17-4	17	19	1/	4	7	2	9	2- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	Mestepey (W 1-0)	1642	3:20	
Feb 15, 2004	at UCF	5-6 L	5	8	1/	6	10	1	(10)	2- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	Faircloth (L 0-1)	1575	3:27	
Feb 17, 2004	Louisiana-Monroe	W 7-1	7	11	1/	1	6	2	9	3- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	Bonura (W 1-0)	7643	2:46	
Feb 20, 2004	Jacksonville State	W 6-1	6	10	0/	1	6	4	9	4- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	Meier (W 1-0)	7448	2:41	
Feb 21, 2004	Jacksonville State	W 14-2	14	14	1/	2	8	3	9	5- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	Mestepey (W 2-0)	7528	2:44	
Feb 22, 2004	Jacksonville State	W 19-1	19	20	3/	1	4	2	7	6- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	Dirks (W 1-0)	7494	2:30	

\* = Conference game  
 () extra inning game