

2007 BASEBALL REVIEW

Records: 29-30, 15-15 SEC
NCAA Finish: Did not qualify
SEC Finish: T-6th overall/3rd in Eastern Division
Final Poll Rankings: Not ranked

All-Americans: One with five honors - 1B Matt LaPorta (ABCA, Baseball America, Rivals.com 1st Team, Collegiate Baseball Louisville Slugger, Pro-Line Athletic NCBWA 2nd Team)

Freshman All-American: One with two honors - SS Cole Figueroa (Rivals.com First Team Freshman All-American Team Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American Team)

All-South Region: 1 - First Team: Matt LaPorta

SEC Player of the Year: Matt LaPorta

All-SEC: 2 - First Team: Matt LaPorta, Brian Leclerc

SEC All-Freshman Team: 3 - Matt den Dekker, Cole Figueroa, Jonathan Pigott

SEC Community Service Team: Matt LaPorta

SEC Academic Honor Roll: 15 - Avery Barnes, Michael Branham, Teddy Foster, Kris Gawriluk, Jared Kubin, Matt LaPorta, Brandon McArthur, Chris Petrie, Clayton Pisani, Austin Pride, Bo Smith, Cody Wheeler, Tommy Wynn, Brett Bentley, Patrick Thompson

Departing Seniors: 8 - Kris Gawriluk, David Hurst, Matt LaPorta, Brian Leclerc, Chris Petrie, Steven Porter, Austin Pride, Patrick Thompson



Senior Matt LaPorta earned All-America honors from five different organizations.



Brian Leclerc capped off an outstanding senior season by earning first-team All-SEC recognition for the initial time.

Team Highlights

- The Gators (29-30) went 1-2 in their league-best 27th appearance at the SEC Tournament at Regions Park in Hoover, Ala. The sixth seed at the double-elimination event, UF dropped a 4-3 decision in 12 innings to seventh-ranked South Carolina before ousting Alabama, 3-2. The Gamecocks sent the Orange and Blue home with a 5-3 triumph.
- According to Warren Nolan, the Gators' strength of schedule ranked third in the country behind Ole Miss and Wake Forest.
- UF halted No. 1 Florida State's home winning streak at 30 games with a 5-4 triumph on April 18. The victory enabled the Gators to capture the regular-season series from both the Seminoles and Miami (Fla.) in the same campaign for the first time since 1996 and marked FSU's first loss at home since May 20, 2006 (15-7 to N.C. State).
- Senior first baseman Matt LaPorta was selected as the 2007 SEC Baseball Player of the Year for the second time in three years, while senior outfielder Brian Leclerc joined his classmate as a member of the first team.
- The Gators matched Ole Miss with a league-high three choices on the All-Freshman Team: outfielder Matt den Dekker, shortstop Cole Figueroa and outfielder Jonathan Pigott.
- Florida captured the first two games over LSU to clinch its first-ever series victory at Alex Box Stadium. The Orange and Blue batted .355 (43-for-121) on the weekend and totaled 15 extra-base hits (seven doubles, six homers, two triples).
- Sophomore Avery Barnes entered game two against Tennessee with one career homer and 15 RBI on the campaign. The second baseman cranked a grand slam in the second

inning and a three-run shot in the eighth to match the school and SEC-record 10-RBI standard set by Adam Davis versus the Vols during the 2005 campaign.

- The squad's total of 74 homers was seventh on the all-time list, led by Matt LaPorta (20), Cole Figueroa (11) and Austin Pride (11).
- UF was hit 82 times this year, two shy of the single-season standard set in 2003.
- Junior Bryan Augenstein kept Florida alive with a complete-game outing against Alabama in which he scattered eight hits and recorded eight strikeouts without issuing a walk. Over his final four starts, the right-hander was 4-0 with a 1.65 earned run average in 32.2 innings.
- Freshman Cole Figueroa led the Gators with a .538 (7-for-13) effort at the SEC Tourney. The shortstop also contributed three multiple-hit efforts in Hoover and ranked second on the club with a .332 overall average.
- Overcame an 8-2 deficit in the eighth inning against No. 4 South Carolina with a grand slam by Brian Leclerc and a three-run walk-off homer by Cody Neer with two down in the ninth to post a 9-8 win.

Individual Highlights

Bryan Augenstein, Jr., RHP

- Fired two complete games, including a 3-2 gem to eliminate Alabama from the SEC Tournament
- Became third Gator pitcher since 1998 to eclipse the 100-strikeout plateau in a season by notching 105 K

Avery Barnes, So., 2B

- Tied school and SEC record by driving in 10 runs during a 20-2 thrashing of Tennessee
- Cranked the first grand slam of his career and later added a three-run shot

Matt den Dekker, Fr., OF

- SEC All-Freshman Team

Cole Figueroa, Fr., SS

- First-team Freshman All-American from Rivals.com
- Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American
- SEC All-Freshman Team
- Finished second on the squad with a .332 average and led the club with 87 hits
- Rated second in RBI (50), runs (48), homers (11) and stolen bases (7)

Matt LaPorta, Sr., 1B

- Finalist for the USA Baseball Golden Spikes Award
- Finalist for the Dick Howser Trophy
- Finalist for the Brooks Wallace Award
- First player to be named SEC Player of the Year twice (2005, 2007)
- Chosen SEC Player of the Week twice (March 26, April 2).
- Earned SEC Player of the Week a school-record five times in his career
- Became just the fifth Gator to achieve All-America status in multiple years, joining Perry McGriff (1959, 1960), Tom Moore (1962, 1963), David Eckstein (1996, 1997) and Brad Wilkerson (1996, 1997, 1998).
- Became the seventh player in school history to eclipse the .400 plateau in a campaign with a .402 batting average
- Completed his collegiate career third on the SEC's all-time list with 74 dingers, a total which ranks among the top 10 in Division I history
- His 206 runs batted in are second on UF's chart behind Brad Wilkerson (214) and he was the squad's leader in nine different offensive categories during the '07 campaign
- Boasted a career-high 20-game hitting streak between March 23 and May 4, a span in which he batted .466
- Member of the SEC Community Service Team

Brian Leclerc, Sr., OF

- First-team All-SEC selection
- SEC Player of the Week (April 23)
- Overcame a .043 average in early March to be UF's third-best hitter with a career-high .313 performance
- Contributed a .366 clip in conference play
- Twenty-nine of his 32 RBI came against SEC foes
- Powered the Gators to a road win over top-ranked Florida State by going 4-for-4 and hit .414 in the series triumph over defending league co-champion Kentucky in mid-April.

Kyle Mullaney, Fr., RHP

- SEC Freshman of the Week (May 14).
- Making just his third start, the right-hander limited LSU to three runs in the series opener over a career-high eight innings as the Gators collected their first win in Baton Rouge since March 14, 1999 with a 19-3 victory

Jonathan Pigott, Fr., OF

- SEC All-Freshman Team

Professional Draft Selections

Player	Team (Round)
Matt LaPorta	Milwaukee (1st)
Bryan Augenstein	Arizona (7th)
Brian Leclerc	Chicago Cubs (31st)
Michael Branham	Philadelphia (39th)



David Hurst signed a free-agent contract with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim after leading the squad in lowest ERA (3.44) and saves (six).

Statistical Leaders

At Bats	Cole Figueroa (262)
Runs Scored	Matt LaPorta (60)
Hits	Cole Figueroa (87)
Doubles	Four players (12)
Triples	Avery Barnes (2)
Home Runs	Matt LaPorta (20)
Runs Batted In	Matt LaPorta (52)
Total Bases	Matt LaPorta (138)
Slugging Percentage	Matt LaPorta (.817)
Bases on Balls	Matt LaPorta (55)
Hit by Pitch	Matt LaPorta (19)
On-base Percentage	Matt LaPorta (.582)
Sacrifice Flies	Cole Figueroa (4)
Sacrifice Hits	Avery Barnes (5)
Stolen Bases	Cole Figueroa (7)
	Austin Pride (7)
Putouts	Matt LaPorta (421)
Assists	Cole Figueroa (173)
Earned Run Average	David Hurst (3.44)
Wins	Bryan Augenstein (8)
Appearances	Josh Edmondson (31)
Games Started	Bryan Augenstein (16)
Complete Games	Bryan Augenstein (2)
Saves	David Hurst (6)
Innings Pitched	Bryan Augenstein (112.0)
Hits Allowed	Bryan Augenstein (125)
Earned Runs Allowed	Bryan Augenstein (62)
Bases on Balls Allowed	Bryan Augenstein (31)
Strikeouts	Bryan Augenstein (105)
Opponent B.A.	David Hurst (.270)

Signees

Player	Hometown
Josh Adams	Jacksonville, Fla.
Cody Barnes	San Mateo, Fla.
Evan Chambers	Lakeland, Fla.
Jiwan James	Williston, Fla.
Travis Lawler	College Station, Texas
Ryan Mathews	Orlando, Fla.
Spencer Terry	Matthews, N.C.
Eric Thomas	Gainesville, Fla.
Tommy Toledo	Tampa, Fla.
John Talisano	Sanibel, Fla.

Schedule & Results

Overall: 29-30 Home: 17-17 Away: 10-11
Neutral: 2-2 SEC (T-6th): 15-15

Date	Opponent	Result
Feb. 9	VMI (GVO)	L, 3-5
Feb. 10	VMI	L, 4-7
Feb. 11	VMI	W, 7-0
Feb. 13	Florida A&M (GVO)	W, 15-1
Feb. 16	Miami (Fla.) (GVO)	W, 7-2
Feb. 17	Miami (Fla.) (GVO)	W, 7-5
Feb. 18	Miami (Fla.) (SUN)	L, 7-10
Feb. 20	Florida State (SUN/FSN)	L, 6-14
Feb. 23	Kent State (GVO)	L, 4-10
Feb. 24	Kent State (GVO)	W, 7-0
Feb. 25	Kent State (GVO)	L, 0-1
Feb. 27	at USF	W, 10-5
Mar. 3	George Washington (GVO)	W, 7-1
Mar. 3	George Washington	W, 24-4
Mar. 4	George Washington	W, 20-3
Mar. 6	Jacksonville	L, 5-6
Mar. 9	at Texas A&M	L, 1-7
Mar. 10	at Texas A&M (COX)	L, 5-13
Mar. 11	at Texas A&M (SUN)	L, 1-6
Mar. 14	Army	W, 5-3
Mar. 16	Mississippi State*	L, 9-12
Mar. 17	Mississippi State* (GVO)	W, 10-8
Mar. 18	Mississippi State* (FSN)	L, 13-14
Mar. 20	at Stetson	L, 3-4
Mar. 23	at Auburn* (FSN)	W, 8-7 (10)
Mar. 24	at Auburn* (SUN)	W, 12-9
Mar. 25	at Auburn* (CSS)	W, 10-3
Mar. 27	Bethune-Cookman	W, 5-3
Mar. 30	at Georgia* (GVO)	W, 7-5
Mar. 31	at Georgia* (GVO/CSS)	W, 9-1
April 1	at Georgia* (GVO/COX)	W, 3-2 (11)
April 3	vs. Florida State	W, 16-7
April 6	South Carolina* (GVO)	L, 2-12
April 7	South Carolina*	W, 9-8
April 8	South Carolina* (ESPN)	L, 6-8 (11)
April 10	UCF (SUN)	L, 2-6
April 14	at Arkansas*	L, 3-14
April 14	at Arkansas* (COX)	L, 1-7
April 15	at Arkansas* (COX)	L, 7-10
April 18	at Florida State	W, 5-4
April 20	Kentucky* (GVO)	L, 2-9
April 21	Kentucky*	W, 10-7
April 22	Kentucky* (GVO)	W, 5-4
April 27	at Vanderbilt*	L, 1-10
April 28	at Vanderbilt* (SUN)	L, 6-17
April 29	at Vanderbilt* (CSS)	L, 5-13
May 4	Alabama* (GVO)	W, 6-2
May 5	Alabama*	W, 9-3
May 6	Alabama* (SUN)	L, 5-7 (10)
May 8	North Florida	L, 8-15
May 11	at LSU* (COX)	W, 19-3
May 12	at LSU* (SUN/SEC-TV)	W, 8-4
May 13	at LSU* (COX)	L, 4-9
May 17	Tennessee* (GVO)	L, 5-6
May 18	Tennessee* (GVO)	W, 20-2
May 19	Tennessee* (SUN)	L, 7-11
May 23	South Carolina\$ (CSS)	L, 3-4 (12)
May 24	Alabama\$ (CSS)	W, 3-2
May 25	South Carolina\$ (FSN)	L, 3-5

*SEC Game; \$SEC Tournament; GVO denotes GatorVision Online; SUN/FSN denotes Sun Sports; COX denotes Cox Sports; CSS denotes College Sports Southeast; SEC-TV Game of the Week.