

2008 BASEBALL REVIEW

Records: 34-24, 17-13 SEC
NCAA Finish: T-33rd (0-2 at Tallahassee Regional)
SEC Finish: 3rd overall/2nd in Eastern Division
Final Poll Rankings: Not ranked

All-Americans: None

Freshman All-American: One with one honor -
 2B Josh Adams (Louisville Slugger
 Freshman All-American Team)

All-South Region: 2 - First Team: Patrick
 Keating; Second Team: Josh Adams

All-SEC: 4 - First Team: Josh Adams, Matt den
 Dekker, Patrick Keating; Second Team:
 Avery Barnes

SEC All-Freshman Team: 1 - Josh Adams

SEC Community Service Team: Brandon
 McArthur

SEC Academic Honor Roll: 17 – Bryson
 Barber, Avery Barnes, Brett Bentley, Billy
 Bullock, Kevin Chapman, Tony Davis, Matt den
 Dekker, Josh Edmondson, Cole Figueroa, Teddy
 Foster, Jake Hicks, Patrick Keating, Brandon
 McArthur, Jonathan Pigott, Clayton Pisani,
 Hampton Tignor, Jon Townsend

Academic All-District III: Cole Figueroa (third
 team)

Departing Seniors: 9 – Dustin Bamberg,
 Bryson Barber, Brett Bentley, Michael Branham,
 Josh Edmondson, Teddy Foster, Stephen
 Locke, Brandon McArthur, Jon Townsend



Josh Adams enjoyed a tremendous rookie season in which he was first-team All-SEC selection and a unanimous pick on the league's All-Freshman Team.



Sophomore center fielder Matt den Dekker was 20-for-20 on the basepaths on his way to first-team All-SEC recognition and was a member of the SEC All-Defensive Team.

Team Highlights

- The Gators (34-24) made their 24th NCAA Tournament appearance, first since 2005, earning the second seed in the Tallahassee Regional.
- Florida went 0-2 in NCAA action, falling to Tulane (7-4) and Florida State (17-11)
- UF made its league-best 28th appearance at the SEC Tournament at Regions Park in Hoover, Ala. The third seed at the double-elimination event, the Gators fell to No. 21 Vanderbilt (7-3) before being ousted by No. 19 South Carolina (11-3).
- According to Warren Nolan, the Gators' strength of schedule ranked fourth in the country behind Clemson, Wake Forest and North Carolina.
- Head coach Kevin O'Sullivan became the fourth Gator skipper to lead the team into NCAA play in his first season.
- Entering Regionals, UF had just three players on its roster with NCAA experience: designated hitter Bryson Barber, left-hander Stephen Locke and first baseman Brandon McArthur.
- The Gators claimed series from both the Eastern and Western Division winners, Georgia and LSU.
- With an SEC Tournament berth on the line, Florida swept defending league champion Vanderbilt. UF collected two one-run victories over the Commodores, including a 13-12 decision in 11 innings on the last day of the regular season.
- The trio of 2B Josh Adams, OF Matt den Dekker and RHP Patrick Keating achieved first-team All-SEC status. UF's most on the first squad since four honorees in 1991.
- Adams was also a unanimous pick on the SEC All-Freshman Team and den Dekker made the league's first-ever All-Defensive Team.

- Junior Avery Barnes led the team with a .360 overall average and was voted second-team All-SEC.
- The squad's 72 double plays tied for the fourth-most in school history.
- The Gators turned a pair of triple plays during the season, a 1-4-6-3 sequence against Auburn on March 15 and a 4-6-3 trifecta at Tennessee on April 6. Before this year, the squad's last triple had occurred on March 15, 1997 against Alabama.
- After managing a 17-17 showing at McKethan Stadium in 2007, the Gators were 27-6 (.818) at home this season and sported a 9-1 series mark on their own turf.
- The Orange and Blue were 109-for-131 on the basepaths, the eighth-highest stolen base total in school history. Avery Barnes (26), Matt den Dekker (20), Cole Figueroa (20) and Josh Adams (11) reached double-digits in thefts.
- Sophomore Cole Figueroa set a single-season mark for RBI by a Gator shortstop with 57.
- The three-game series crowd of 11,836 between Florida and LSU from March 28-30 was the fourth-highest in school history and was the second-largest since the stadium renovations behind the total of 12,083 for Miami (Fla.)'s 2007 visit.
- O'Sullivan became the first Florida coach to win his initial encounter with Florida State when the Gators handled the third-ranked 'Noles, 6-1, in Gainesville on March 18.

Individual Highlights

Josh Adams, Fr., INF

- Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American
- Second-team All-South Region
- First-team All-SEC
- SEC All-Freshman Team
- SEC Freshman of the Week (March 17)
- Paced the Gators in walks (35), doubles (17) and slugging percentage (.536)
- Hit .330, drove in 51 runs and belted eight homers

Avery Barnes, Jr., OF

- Second-team All-SEC
- Led the team in batting average (.360), on-base percentage (.434), hits (81), runs (65) and stolen bases (26)

Matt den Dekker, So., OF

- Chosen to the 2008 USA Baseball National Team
- First-team All-SEC
- SEC All-Defensive Team

Cole Figueroa, So., SS

- Third-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District III
- Finished second on the squad with a .350 average and led the club with 57 RBI and nine dingers
- Rated second in hits (78), runs (61), doubles (12) and stolen bases (20)

Patrick Keating, Jr., RHP

- First-team All-South Region
- First-team All-SEC
- SEC Pitcher of the Week (March 31)
- Captured his first eight decisions and finished 8-1 with a 4.16 earned run average

Stephen Locke, Jr., LHP

- Fired a pair of complete games to defeat No. 5 Georgia and Alabama
- Completed the lowest ERA of the club's starting pitchers (3.17) and tallied a couple of saves.

Brandon McArthur, Sr., INF

- Member of the SEC Community Service Team
- Played with a ruptured ACL suffered on April 2 and hit a team-best .367 after returning to the lineup
- Led Florida with a .362 average in league games and had a .337 overall clip

Tommy Toledo, Fr., RHP

- SEC Freshman of the Week (March 24)
- Claimed first four decisions, including wins over Auburn and No. 8 Ole Miss

Professional Draft Selections

Player	Team (Round)
Cole Figueroa	San Diego (6th)
Avery Barnes	Washington (40th)
Josh Edmondson	L.A. Angels of Anaheim (41st)



Josh Edmondson was drafted by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim after leading the squad in lowest ERA (2.87) and lowest batting average against (.254).

Statistical Leaders

At Bats	Avery Barnes (225)
Runs Scored	Avery Barnes (65)
Hits	Avery Barnes (81)
Doubles	Josh Adams (17)
Triples	Avery Barnes (4)
	Brandon McArthur (4)
Home Runs	Cole Figueroa (9)
Runs Batted In	Cole Figueroa (57)
Total Bases	Cole Figueroa (119)
Slugging Percentage	Josh Adams (.536)
Bases on Balls	Josh Adams (35)
Hit by Pitch	Clayton Pisani (9)
On-base Percentage	Avery Barnes (.434)
Sacrifice Flies	Cole Figueroa (7)
Sacrifice Hits	Four Players (4)
Stolen Bases	Avery Barnes (26)
Putouts	Brandon McArthur (363)
Assists	Cole Figueroa (173)
Earned Run Average	Josh Edmondson (2.87)
Wins	Patrick Keating (8)
Appearances	Tony Davis (34)
Games Started	Patrick Keating (14)
Complete Games	Stephen Locke (2)
Saves	Kyle Mullaney (3)
Innings Pitched	Patrick Keating (84.1)
Hits Allowed	Patrick Keating (104)
Earned Runs Allowed	Billy Bullock (46)
Bases on Balls Allowed	Tommy Toledo (32)
Allowed	
Strikeouts	Billy Bullock (63)
Opponent B.A.	Josh Edmondson (.254)

Signees

Player	Hometown
Jeff Barfield	Perry, Ga.
Anthony DeSclafani	Freehold, N.J.
Will Jolin	Guilford, Conn.
Greg Larson	Longwood, Fla.
Nick Maronde	Lexington, Ky.
Ben McMahan	Windermere, Fla.
Michael Mooney	Loxahatchee, Fla.
Alex Panteliodis	Tampa, Fla.
Daniel Pigott	Ormond Beach, Fla.
Juan Carlos Sulbaran	Davie, Fla.
Tyler Thompson	Tequesta Fla.
Preston Tucker	Tampa, Fla.
Ryan Weber	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Jerico Weitzel	Ridgeway, Pa.
Kenny Wilson	Tampa, Fla.

Schedule & Results

Overall: 34-24 Home: 27-6 Away: 7-14
Neutral: 0-4 SEC (3rd): 17-13

Date	Opponent	Result
Feb. 22	Siena (GVO)	W, 10-7
Feb. 23	Siena (GVO)	W, 4-0
Feb. 24	Siena (GVO)	W, 13-6
Feb. 27	Eastern Michigan	W, 15-2 (7)
Feb. 27	Eastern Michigan	W, 16-8
Feb. 29	at Miami (Fla.)	L, 4-8
Mar. 1	at Miami (Fla.)	L, 5-8
Mar. 2	at Miami (Fla.) (CSS)	W, 6-2
Mar. 4	Campbell (GVO)	W, 15-3
Mar. 5	Campbell	W, 15-0
Mar. 8	Brown	L, 2-11
Mar. 8	Brown	W, 8-7
Mar. 9	Brown	W, 13-2
Mar. 11	Florida Gulf Coast	W, 2-1
Mar. 14	Auburn* (GVO)	W, 7-1
Mar. 15	Auburn* (GVO)	W, 12-8
Mar. 16	Auburn* (SUN)	W, 6-2
Mar. 18	Florida State (FSN-FL)	W, 6-1
Mar. 21	at Ole Miss* (FSN-FL)	L, 4-5
Mar. 22	at Ole Miss* (FSN-FL)	W, 6-4
Mar. 23	at Ole Miss* (GVO)	W, 10-2
Mar. 25	Jacksonville (GVO)	W, 11-6
Mar. 26	at Jacksonville	L, 5-8
Mar. 28	LSU* (GVO)	W, 8-5
Mar. 29	LSU*	W, 7-1
Mar. 30	LSU* (SUN)	L, 3-6
April 1	vs. Florida State (Jacksonville)	L, 2-10
April 2	North Florida	L, 10-11 (10)
April 5	at Tennessee* (SUN)	L, 4-5
April 5	at Tennessee* (SEC-TV)	L, 6-12
April 6	at Tennessee*	W, 7-2 (7)
April 8	North Florida (GVO)	W, 5-3
April 9	North Florida (GVO)	W, 3-2
April 11	Arkansas* (GVO)	L, 1-2
April 12	Arkansas*	W, 6-1
April 13	Arkansas* (GVO)	L, 4-10
April 15	at Florida State	L, 2-4
April 18	at Kentucky* (BBSN)	L, 7-11
April 19	at Kentucky* (BBSN)	W, 13-7
April 20	at Kentucky* (COX)	L, 2-3 (10)
April 25	Georgia* (SUN)	L, 4-7
April 26	Georgia* (SUN)	W, 7-2
April 27	Georgia* (GVO)	W, 7-2
May 2	at South Carolina* (SUN)	W, 9-3
May 3	at South Carolina*	L, 5-6
May 4	at South Carolina* (CSS)	L, 6-9
May 7	Bethune-Cookman (SUN)	W, 11-10
May 9	at Alabama*	L, 6-7
May 10	at Alabama*	W, 6-2
May 11	at Alabama* (CSS)	L, 7-8
May 13	USF (GVO)	W, 12-2
May 15	Vanderbilt* (GVO)	W, 8-6
May 16	Vanderbilt* (GVO)	W, 5-4
May 17	Vanderbilt* (SUN)	W, 13-12 (11)
May 21	Vanderbilt\$ (CSS)	L, 3-7
May 22	South Carolina\$ (CSS)	L, 3-11
May 30	Tulane%	L, 4-7
May 31	Florida State% (SUN)	L, 11-17

*SEC Game; \$SEC Tournament (Hoover, Ala.); %NCAA Tallahassee Regional (Tallahassee, Fla.); GVO denotes GatorVision Online; CSS denotes Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast; SUN/FSN-FL denotes Sun Sports/FSN Florida; SEC-TV Game of the Week; COX denotes Cox Sports