**2018-2019 LSU Tigers Scouting Report**

The Tigers have had a very emotional season from losing one of their players before the season started to a murder and now the scandal involving Coach Will Wade and the FBI. However, they have come together at the right time to make a run at the Final Four.

The biggest strength for LSU is their offense as they average 81 points a game while giving up 73. The offense runs through 5’11” Point Guard Tremont Waters who averages 15 PPG and 5.9 AST, but he is not the only story here. 6’10” 250 pound Freshman Naz Reid averages 13.7 PPG and 7.2 RPG and can be dominant at times. He also runs the floor very well for a big man and shoots 35% from 3-point range. Skylar Mays is a pre-med student that displays high basketball IQ and makes few mistakes. He and Freshman Javonte’ Smart are also capable of running LSU’s high-powered offense when Waters is taking a rest. LSU is not a great defensive team but tend to make big defensive plays in clutch situations. Waters averages 3 steals a game and Senior Kavell Bigby-Williams has 67 blocks on the year. Emmitt Williams comes off the bench and gives solid minutes and averages 7.1 PPG and 5.4 RPG. As a team, they only turn the ball over 13 times a game, so they rarely beat themselves. A major con for LSU is that they tend to build big leads but relax too soon. If this can be fixed this team can go very far, potentially the Final Four. If not, they may not make it past Michigan State in the Sweet 16.

**Critique**: Excellent young team with undeniable talent but must learn to close out games strong. Could be a maturity issue but it seems fixable. They must also shoot the 3 better for a chance to upset #2 seed Michigan State. They survived against Maryland by only making 7-24 (30.4%) from 3-point range but shooting this percentage against the Spartans will more than likey result in an ugly loss.