

# ENLIGHTENED SPARTAN

# 2005

## GO YOU GREEN MOTHERS HOMEBREW

The ES has concocted his '05 homebrew. It's an EDME ENGLISH IPA wort with 1 oz of Nugget hop pellets at 12.2% alpha acid. Alcohol is a crisp 6.1%. Initial fermentation: August 12. The ES will crack it the morning of the Hawaii game... Aaaahhhh, can taste it already!



## ES AND JLS DISCUSS RETIREMENT AND A LOOK BACK AT 2005



So there was the ES, sipping a Bells Oberon with one of the winningest football coaches in D1-A history, John L. Smith. Smith had just completed his 13<sup>th</sup> season with the

Michigan State Spartans, and his second undefeated national championship title, and he was contemplating retirement. So, it wuz up to the ES to talk him out of it.

"Remember when you went climbing up Mt. Kilimanjaro, tough guy?" the ES asked JLS. "We didn't think you were off your rocker, but we sure wondered if you had your priorities straight."

"Yeah, East Lansingites didn't know me yet," says JLS. "After the mess I inherited, they figured the new guy would come in and give 100% football day and night, 365 days a year. But, I gotta have some type of life, too."

ES: "You had us worried. But, after that third year, we Spartans definitely started feeling we were getting our money's worth. You're an expensive guy, but that 10-2 season back in '05 sure made believers out of us."

JLS: "I never thought we'd beat the pants off Michigan like we did that year. Them Wolverines really got under my skin the year before, and I was determined the next year to kick them in the tail back in East Lansing and teach them who's boss."

ES: "That was beautiful. It was the first time we defeated them bastards by more than 20 points in something like 40 years."

JLS: "What it did was put us on the map. We knew if we took care of business against a Michigan team that everyone thought was the shit, that we'd be able

to get the program to turn the corner. But, I'd be lying if I told you that I thought we'd be eating oranges on New Year's Day before that season started."

ES: "It was a frenzy after the Michigan game around town. You remember the spectacle? All the Spartan ladies covered in nothing more than green and white paint, streaking naked in front of the new bronze Sparty?"

JLS: "I was too busy slugging a shot of Jack Daniels back in my office, just trying to calm myself from the excitement. Didn't pay any notice."

ES: "Well, you sure missed a helluva party. When did you know that the program would actually get to the NEXT level? To a top-10 level?"

JLS: "After we beat the Wolverines for the third year in a row, back in '07, I knew we'd have a chance to run the table that year. We had just squeaked out back-to-back wins at Iowa and Ohio State, but felt real good at 9-0 going into that game. We were rolling, and Hoyer was sharp as nails as our quarterback all year long. We were holding teams like Iowa and Notre Dame to 50 yards a game rushing. We had Michigan's number and kicked their tail again in East Lansing. That's when I knew we'd be in good shape for a title shot."

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## GRADE THE GRIDDERS **NEW**

In 2005, the ES gives YOU the opportunity to grade each Spartan after each game at [enlightenedspartan.com](http://enlightenedspartan.com). The ES will compile the stats throughout the season for each player's gridiron GPA according to the Spartan nation. Polls open each Sunday and close each Friday morning. Only at the ES... ENJOY AND HAVE FUN!

## ES PIX TOP 25

The Enlightened Spartan has been invited to participate in two national polling services: the BlogPoll and the CollegeRivals.org Top 25. ES takes a lot of heat early this year from national "pundits" -- hey, I'm a homer, but I truly believe that MSU is a BETTER team than scUM and that scUM is the most overrated team in the land (*why is scUM so overrated? see Stuart Mandel's column on SI.com*).

- 1 - Southern Cal
- 2 - Tennessee
- 3 - Ohio State
- 4 - Oklahoma
- 5 - LSU
- 6 - Iowa
- 7 - Miami-Fla
- 8 - Georgia
- 9 - Texas
- 10 - Purdue
- 11 - Florida St
- 12 - Cal
- 13 - Louisville
- 14 - Texas A&M
- 15 - Va Tech
- 16 - Auburn
- 17 - Michigan State
- 18 - Florida
- 19 - Alabama
- 20 - Michigan
- 21 - Pittsburgh
- 22 - Fresno St
- 23 - NC State
- 24 - Arizona St
- 25 - Utah

## ES PIX BIG TEN

- 1 - Purdue
- 2 - Ohio State
- 3 - Iowa
- 4 - Michigan State
- 5 - Michigan
- 6 - Joe Pa
- 7 - Minnesota
- 8 - Illinois
- 9 - Wisconsin
- 10 - Northwestern
- 11 - Indiana

## 2005 SPARTAN SCHEDULE

Sep. 3	KENT STATE
Sep. 10	HAWAII
Sep. 17	at Notre Dame
Sep. 24	at Illinois*
Oct. 1	MICHIGAN*
Oct. 15	at Ohio State*
Oct. 22	NORTHWESTERN (HC)*
Oct. 29	INDIANA*
Nov. 5	at Purdue*
Nov. 12	at Minnesota*
Nov. 19	JOE PA*

**RETIREMENT FROM PAGE 1**

ES: "But, you really thought your team could make a run like the basketball program? Izzo had just won his third title, but what made you think Izzo would accept a role as a "special consultant" to your program to get the team over the hump?"

JLS: "Well, Tom came in and said he thought he could help with the psyche of the program. He knew we were close to the gold mine, and I'd be stupid not to let a champ like Tom share his success with the kids. And, it worked. Next thing you know, old Jed's a millionaire and we're national champs in football AND basketball. Wasn't it a beautiful thing?"

ES: "So why quit now? You have turned this program into a dynasty, you just won your second national title and have completed your eighth 10-win season in the past 10 years. You have won five Big Ten titles outright. Jesus, you're the second coming of Chris...."

JLS: "Hold up there, partner. I'm a deeply religious southern... errr.. Idaho cowboy-boot wearin' baptist."

ES: "Anyhow, you're in orbit with the fans here. What will it take to keep you around?"

JLS: "Ummm... Where's that bottle of Jack? Let me take a swing and sleep on it..."

... Well, at least we can dream, can't we? **GO SPARTANS!!!!**

**ES RATES THE SPARTANS VS THEIR 2005 ENEMIES**

	MSU	Kent	Haw	ND	Ill	scUM	OSU	NW	Ind	Pur	Min	JoePa
OL	4	2	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4
WR/TE	4	2	4	4	3	4	5	4	2	4	4	2
QB	5	2	2	3	2	4	3	4	2	3	3	3
RB	4	2	3	4	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	3
DL	3	4	2	3	3	4	4	2	2	5	2	5
LB	3	3	3	3	2	3	5	4	3	4	3	4
CB	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	2	3	4	3	5
K/P	3/5	3/3	2/3	4/3	3/5	4/2	3/2	3/2	3/4	3/4	2/2	3/3
KR	3	2	2	3	4	5	5	3	4	3	3	2
COACH	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	4	4	5	3	4
H/A	-	H	H	A	A	H	A	H	H	A	A	H
CHANCE	-	5	4	3	3	4	2	4	5	2	3	3

TO WIN? (1=weak, 5=strong)

**ENLIGHTENED PICKS FOR 2005**



**POKE**

MSU '05: 7-4/5-3/5th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** Michigan  
**WORST LOSS:** Minnesota  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** The wise-guy attitude is getting old.  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Hopefully, Stanton stays healthy!



**SMIGDIGGLER**

MSU '05: 8-3/5-3/3rd  
**BIGGEST WIN:** at ND  
**WORST LOSS:** at Ohio State  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** JLS will continue to push his defensive theories and MSU will win a bowl game.  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Let's go BOWLing



**PAPA HIRK**

MSU '05: 6-5/4-4/8th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** Kent State  
**WORST LOSS:** at Ohio State  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** He's worth a try!  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Another rebuilding year



**DOC**

MSU '05: 7-5/4-4/4th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** Muck Fishigan  
**WORST LOSS:** In Diana  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** He is learning that Spartans are bipolar.  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Some great moments, another slightly above average season.



**THE ES**

MSU '05: 8-3/5-3/4th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** scUM  
**WORST LOSS:** at Purdue  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** Beat Michigan or walk the plank  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Seven wins or walk the plank



**BIG BOB**

MSU '05: 7-4/5-3/4th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** Michigan  
**WORST LOSS:** at Ohio State  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** It's time for results.  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** A lower-tier bowl game is within reach.



**CHICAGO SPARTAN**

MSU '05: 7-4/4-4/4th  
**BIGGEST WIN:** scUM  
**WORST LOSS:** N'western  
**THOUGHTS ON JLS:** I hope you like hot seats, cuz you're in one.  
**THOUGHTS ON '05:** Great potential with Stanton, but if he's injured, throw it away.

**ES PODCAST RANKS FIRST IN NATION**

Listen to the weekly Enlightened Spartan podcast - the first and the most popular college football podcast in America and the world! Download the real skinny on Spartan football and take it wherever you go at enlightenedspartan.com

**SPARTAN TAILGATING 101**

Let's Gig! Michigan State University has announced tailgating times on campus for this fall's home football games. Tailgating will be allowed up to three hours after the conclusion of each game.

Kickoff time	Tailgate start time
12 or 1 pm	7 am
3:30 pm	9 am
7 pm	1 pm

