

Kim Mulkey's fourth LSU team is coming into focus as transfer portal window closes. While Hailey Van Lith visited schools, looking for a place to finish her collegiate career, the LSU women's basketball team searched quietly for a ballhandler who could replace her. Sheppard is a pesky defender but a limited scorer. In addition to the three transfer guards, LSU also signed Jersey Wolfenbarger, a transfer forward from Arkansas, and Jada Richard, a freshman guard from Lafayette Christian Academy. Missing from LSU's group of additions is the star power it landed last offseason, when Mulkey reeled in not only the nation's top two transfers in Van Lith and Aneesah Morrow but also its best freshman class, headlined by Mikaylah Williams and Aalyah Del Rosario, a pair of top-10 recruits. This cycle, LSU's top transfer, Day-Wilson, is ranked 19th in ESPN's latest transfer rankings. It settled on three: Miami's Shayeann Day-Wilson, Arizona's Kailyn Gilbert and Mississippi State's Mjracle Sheppard. With those additions, coach Kim Mulkey and her staff replenished LSU's guard depth. Next season, Mulkey no longer will be faced with the challenge of divvying up shots and touches for a star-laden starting lineup.