



2003 LSU BASEBALL

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2003 LSU Baseball Notebook
Monday, March 3
Overall Record: 7-6

Last week's results:

Friday—lost at Long Beach St., 12-1

Saturday—lost at Long Beach St., 5-1

Sunday—won at Long Beach St., 7-2

This week's games (all times CST):

Wednesday—Southeastern Louisiana, 6:30 p.m.

Friday—Winthrop, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday—Winthrop, 2 p.m.

Sunday—Winthrop, 1 p.m.

Player of the Week Nominee

Jr. 3B/2B Ivan Naccarata (5-11, 185, Longueuil, Quebec—Chipola JC, Georges-Vanier HS)

Day	Opponent	W/L	Avg.	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB=SBA
Fri.	Long Beach St.	L	.250	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0-0
Sat.	Long Beach St.	L	.500	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	0-0
Sun.	Long Beach St.	W	.400	5	1	2	1	0	0	1	0-0
SERIES TOTALS (3 G)			1-2	.385	13	1	5	1	0	2	0-0
SEASON TO DATE (13 G)			.326	46	7	15	3	1	1	10	1-1

Notes on Naccarata:

- Tied for the team lead with J.C. Holt by posting a .385 batting average in the Long Beach St. series:
- Ended the weekend on a 10-game hitting streak, batting .359 (14-for-39) with 9 RBI during the streak.
- Enters this week as the Tigers' second leading hitter on the season at .326, trailing only Holt's team-leading mark of .349.
- Leads the Tigers in RBI (10), and is batting a solid .429 (6-for-14) with runners in scoring position.
- Hitting .476 (10-for-21) in all situations with runners on base.
- Naccarata has four games of two or more hits during the streak, including the final two games of the Long Beach St. series.
- His RBI single on Saturday accounted for LSU's only run in a 5-1 setback.
- On Sunday, Naccarata scored LSU's first run in the fourth inning following a two-out double, then he drove in the game's final run with an RBI single in the ninth.
- Started the first two games of the series at third base, then moved back to second base for the series finale.



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- Committed no errors in nine chances in the field in the Long Beach series, and has accepted 20 consecutive errorless chances.

Pitcher of the Week Nominee

Sr. RHP Bo Pettit (6-1, 215, Houston—Sharpstown HS)

Day	Opponent (Team result)	Dec.	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Sun.	Long Beach St. (W)	W	1.50	6.0	5	1	1	2	3
SEASON TOTALS (2 G-1 GS)		1-0, 1 SV	1.12	8.0	5	1	1	3	6

Notes on Pettit:

- Salvaged the final game of the Long Beach St. series with an outstanding performance in his first start of 2003, limiting the Dirtbags to one run on five hits over six innings.
- Allowed runners on base in every inning except the fourth, but incredibly left nine runners stranded in his six innings—eight of them in scoring position. Long Beach had runners on third base in the third, fifth and sixth innings but could not score.
- Threw 106 pitches and hit three batters, but walked just two and struck out three.
- Won for the fourth time since the start of the 2002 season immediately following an LSU loss. Seven of his 19 career victories have come in games that immediately followed an LSU defeat, making him the Tigers' stopper supreme.
- Has allowed two earned runs or fewer in nine of his last 13 starts, and over his last 13 starts, Pettit is 9-3 with a 2.55 ERA over 71 2/3 innings pitched.
- Pettit passed the 200 innings pitched mark for his career on Sunday, bringing his total to 205.0 innings pitched.
- In those 205 career innings, Pettit has fanned 207 batters, or 9.09 per nine innings.

Notes from the Long Beach St. series:

- After collecting 12 hits and scoring two runs in the first two games of the series in California, LSU exploded for 14 hits and seven runs in a 7-2 victory on Sunday. The 14 hits are the second highest total on the season, behind the 19 hits the Tigers collected on February 11 at Centenary.
- The 14-hit outburst represented LSU's fifth game of 10 or more hits this year, but first since a 13-hit game on February 14 vs. Kansas.
- Literally everybody had a hand in the Sunday barrage, as all nine LSU starters collected at least one hit, marking the first time the Tigers have accomplished the feat since last year's regional opener vs. Southern on May 31.
- In the Sunday contest, four LSU players had at least two hits, the first time the Tigers had that many players with multiple hits since the Centenary game when six players had at least two hits.
- LSU set a season high with six doubles in Sunday's contest, besting the previous high of four in the Centenary game. The Tigers had six or more doubles in a game only once last year, rapping out eight in the second game of a May 4 doubleheader at Tennessee.
- LSU recorded a total of eight extra base hits in the Long Beach series finale, with six doubles and two home runs. LSU also had eight extra base hits (four doubles, three triples, one home run) in the Centenary game.
- The two home runs in the series finale at Long Beach was the Tigers' second mutli-home run game of the season. LSU blasted a season high three home runs on February 14 vs. Kansas.
- Sophomore OF Ryan Patterson continues to provide the Tigers with power at the plate, hitting a pair of home runs in the Long Beach series. He hit a solo home run in the third inning of Friday's game to tie the score, and then hit a two-run shot in the sixth inning on Sunday that gave LSU its first lead of the series.
- Patterson is tied for the team lead in home runs with three, and five of his 10 hits this year have gone for extra bases (2 doubles, 3 home runs), allowing him to post a team best .636 slugging percentage. Patterson is hitting .364 (4-for-11) with runners in scoring position.



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- Sophomore DH Quinn Stewart tied Patterson for the team lead in home runs with a solo shot in the seventh inning for his third round-tripper of the season. Stewart leads LSU in runs scored (10) and extra base hits (7—4 doubles, 3 home runs), and is second on the team with a .574 slugging percentage.
- Another sophomore OF, Bruce Sprowl, went 2-for-5 with a double and two RBI in Sunday's contest. Sprowl is one of the Tigers' top clutch hitters, batting .417 (5-for-12) with runners in scoring position.
- The surprise hitting star of the LSU victory in Long Beach was sophomore IF Clay Harris, who made his first start of the season. Harris, an honorable mention Freshman All-American in 2002, was 3-for-5 with two doubles, two runs scored and an RBI.
- Harris, who was 4-0 for the Tigers on the mound in 2002, had made only one plate appearance this season due to a shoulder injury, walking in the Centenary game.
- Clay Harris' younger brother, freshman 1B Will Harris, has solidified his starting role in the LSU lineup. Will Harris is hitting .313 (5-for-16) since being installed in the starting lineup in the Houston series last weekend.
- Sophomore CF J.C. Holt made a strong recovery from a 2-for-13 slump in California, tying Ivan Naccarata for the team lead in batting average in the Long Beach St. series, hitting .385 (5-for-13).
- Holt collected back-to-back two-hit games in the final two games of the series, his first two-hit games since collecting three hits in back-to-back outings at Centenary (February 11) and vs. Kansas (February 14).
- Holt's strong weekend allowed him to raise his batting average to a team high .349. Holt is second on the Tigers in on-base percentage (.420) and leads LSU with four stolen bases in five attempts.
- Junior C Dustin Weaver started every game of the Long Beach series, and he has started all five games since returning from a shoulder injury that forced him to miss five games in February. Weaver has been strong behind the plate, committing only one error in 60 chances, allowing no passed balls and cutting down four potential base-stealers in 14 attempts, a 29.2 percent success rate.
- LSU's batting average may be lower by nine points through 13 games this season (.287) than in 2002 (.296), the Tigers are faring much better in several offensive categories. The Tigers have raised their slugging percentage by 35 points (.444 to .409) and their on-base percentage by 53 points (.361 to .308). LSU has collected 41 extra-base hits (25 doubles, 5 triples 11 home runs) compared to 32 (20 doubles, 3 triples, 9 home runs) through this point in 2002.
- Freshman LHP Greg Smith made his longest outing of his brief LSU career on Friday, going three innings. Smith yielded eight runs on eight hits, but seven of the runs were unearned. Smith, the top prep player in Louisiana in 2002, has allowed one earned run in five innings this season.
- Junior RHP Brandon Nall loaded the bases in the ninth inning on Sunday, but got out of the jam without allowing any runs, his third straight scoreless appearance since taking a loss on February 14 vs. Kansas. Nall has not allowed a run over his last 3 1/3 innings.
- In the final two games of the series, LSU's bullpen continued its strong play, allowing just two runs (one earned) on five hits in 5 2/3 innings and recording four strikeouts. For the season, LSU's bullpen has allowed just a 1.49 ERA in 42 1/3 innings, giving up a .250 opponents' batting average.
- Tiger hurlers continue to be effective with runners in scoring position, giving up a .246 average with RISP situations and a .242 average with RISP and two out.
- LSU pitchers continue to allow extra base hits begrudgingly, giving up only 25 extra base shots (15 doubles, 1 triple, 9 home runs) compared to 28 at this point in 2002. LSU allowed an SEC low 145 extra base hits in 2002.
- The Tigers' staff ERA has shown a significant decline at the 13-game mark this season from 2002, standing at 3.55 this season after a 4.21 mark through 13 games of 2002. LSU has also walked fewer batters (34) than this time in 2002 (38).
- Sunday's game time, 3 hours and 39 minutes, is the Tigers' longest of 2003, the longest nine-inning game for LSU since a 2001 regional game with Virginia Commonwealth took 3:48. The Tigers previous long game of 2003 by 33 minutes, a February 16 contest vs. Kansas that took 3:06. LSU played only one game longer than 3 hours, 30 minutes in 2003, and that was a 13-inning game with Birmingham-Southern on February 9 that took 4:23.



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- Sunday's game still had a long way to go to catch the longest LSU-Long Beach game ever, an 11-inning marathon in the 1997 South I regional that lasted 4:55.
- The weekend series at Long Beach marked the Tigers' first trip to California in their 110-year history, and only the program's third trip west of the Rocky Mountains. LSU won two of three at UNLV in 1991 and went 2-0-1 at Arizona St. in 2001.

On deck this week:

- LSU returns home and opens a four-game stand at Alex Box Stadium on Wednesday by welcoming Southeastern Louisiana in the first of two meetings with the Lions this season. The teams were slated to meet only once this season, but the cancellation of games for LSU (vs. Houston) and SLU (vs. Southern) prompted the addition of an April 23 game in Baton Rouge.
- The game is a homecoming for first-year SLU coach Dan Canevari. Canevari was an assistant for the Tigers under coaches Skip Bertman and Smoke Laval from 1991 through 2002, starting out as a graduate assistant (1991-92), administrative assistant (1993-97) and pitching coach (1998-2002). The Tigers led the SEC in ERA in 1998 and 2002 under Canevari's tutelage. Along with Bertman, Canevari was the only other person involved in all five of LSU's national championships.
- Canevari also played at Miami from 1977-79 under Ron Fraser when Bertman was the Hurricanes' associate head coach, and was a graduate assistant for Miami's 1982 national championship team.
- One of Canevari's assistants at SLU, Bill Dailey, will also be making a homecoming. Dailey, a catcher at Old Dominion under current Florida coach Pat McMahon, was the Tigers' third base coach from 1998 through 2001.
- LSU and SLU split a two-game series last year, with the Lions winning 4-3 in Baton Rouge on February 12 to break a 17-game losing streak to the Tigers, before LSU won 9-7 in Hammond on March 26, the Tigers' seventh straight win at Alumni Field.
- The Tigers face a new opponent this weekend when they host Winthrop of the Big South Conference. The school from the Charlotte suburb of Rock Hill, S.C., will be the Tigers' final tune-up before Southeastern Conference play starts on March 14 against Florida.
- LSU has never faced a CURRENT member of the Big South Conference. The Tigers defeated North Carolina-Greensboro in the 1997 South I Regional while the Trojans were in the Big South, but UNC-G is now a member of the Southern Conference. The Tigers also swept Birmingham-Southern in 2002, as the Panthers are set to join the Big South in 2004.



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