



2003 LSU BASEBALL

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2003 LSU Baseball Notebook

Thursday, April 24

Overall Record: 27-13-1

Southeastern Conference Record: 12-5-1 (West division and overall leader)

Results so far this week:

Wednesday—def. Southeastern Louisiana, 14-8

This weekend's games (all times CDT):

Friday—Tennessee, 6:30 p.m. (live TV on Cox Sports Television)

Saturday—Tennessee, 6 p.m. (live TV on Comcast Sports Southeast)

Sunday—Tennessee, 12:30 p.m. (live TV on Louisiana Sports Network)

Notes from the Southeastern Louisiana game:

- With 14 runs, LSU fell just one run shy of its highest scoring output of the year, which was 15 accomplished on February 11 at Centenary. The Tigers also scored 14 runs in defeating Ole Miss on April 12.
- The Tigers have cracked the double-digit barrier 12 times this season, including seven times in SEC play. LSU is 12-0 this season when scoring 10 or more runs and have won 22 consecutive games when scoring 10 runs dating back to a 12-11 loss at Houston last February 24.
- The 22 combined runs in the 14-8 LSU victory are the most total runs scored in any LSU game this year, and the most since the 23 runs tallied in the aforementioned game with Houston last year.
- LSU rapped out a season high seven doubles in the SLU contest, with Ryan Patterson collecting two and five other Tigers picking up one double each. The seven doubles are the most since LSU banged out eight last May 4 in the second game of a doubleheader at Tennessee.
- The 15 total hits by LSU marked the second time this year the Tigers have collected 15 or more hits in back-to-back games, as LSU had 17 on Sunday at Vanderbilt. LSU had 16 and 17 hits, respectively, in the final two games of its series with Ole Miss on April 12 and 13.
- LSU now has collected 32 hits in back-to-back games four times this year. The other times came at Centenary and vs. Kansas (19 and 13, February 11 and 14), at Georgia (14 and 18, March 21 and 22).
- LSU improved to 10-2 this year against in-state opponents, and 8-0 at home vs. Louisi-



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ana schools. Both losses came at Zephyr Field in Metairie by 5-4 scores, first to Tulane in 11 innings on March 11, and then to New Orleans on March 25.

- Few players are swinging a hotter bat than sophomore RF Jon Zeringue, who went 3-for-5 with a pair of RBI and two runs scored on Wednesday. It marked Zeringue's first career back-to-back three-hit games, and in the Tigers' last 10 games, Zeringue is hitting .375 (15-for-40) with nine RBI. When Zeringue was returned to the starting lineup on March 22, his season average was at .204; going into this weekend, it stands at .317, leaving him one of five LSU players at .317 or better. Zeringue takes an eight-game hitting streak into the Tennessee series, batting .441 (15-for-34) during the streak.
- Zeringue also showed uncommon speed in Wednesday's game, swiping two bases in one game for the first time in his career. Zeringue is 4-for-7 on stolen base attempts this year.
- Another Tiger with a significant hitting streak is sophomore 2B Blake Gill, who is batting an even .500 (14-for-28) during a seven-game hitting streak. Gill picked up another two-hit game on Wednesday by going 2-for-4 with a pair of RBI, raising his season average to .324. Gill is batting .462 (18-for-39) during the last 10 games.
- Sophomore 1B Clay Harris went over the .400 mark for the year with a 3-for-5 effort, moving to .402 on the year with a solid .766 slugging percentage. Harris has three hits in each of his last two games and a season high seven three-hit games this season.
- Junior SS Aaron Hill retained his lofty season batting average (.388) and scored four runs on Wednesday, the second time he has scored four times in a game. Hill leads the Tigers in runs scored with 43, and continues to pace the SEC in on-base percentage at .511.
- On the mound, the strongest effort was turned in by freshman LHP Greg Smith, who came into a bases loaded jam in the seventh with the Tigers clinging to an 11-8 lead. Smith struck out the next two batters to get out of the seventh, and then retired the side in order in the eighth. For the year, Smith has not allowed any of the eight runners he has inherited to score, and despite the fact the Tigers let two inherited runs score on Wednesday, they have allowed just 11 of 46 inherited runners to score this year.
- LSU's defense did prove fallible, committing two errors, the first two-error game for LSU since April 5 against South Carolina. Despite the miscues, LSU's fielding percentage remains strong at .972.

Looking ahead to the Tennessee series:

- This marks the Tigers' final series this season against an SEC East team. The Tigers are 8-3-1 vs. the SEC East and 4-11-1 at home, as LSU has never posted a losing record in a season against the East since the league returned to divisional play in 1992.
- LSU has dominated the Volunteers at Baton Rouge, winning 21 of 23 meetings on the bayou, including 19 of 21 at Alex Box Stadium. Tennessee's only win in Baton Rouge under coach Rod Delmonico came in the second game of a 1992 doubleheader, 9-2. LSU has won the seven meetings at home since then, including three-game sweeps in 1996 and 1998.
- LSU has not lost back-to-back SEC series since dropping its first two series of 2002 to Vanderbilt and Ole Miss, and the Tigers have never lost back-to-back series to SEC East teams in consecutive weekends. LSU had its streak of nine consecutive SEC series wins snapped last weekend by Vanderbilt.



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