

Untitled

Overall Record: 21-4
SEC: 4-2

Last Week: 3-1

March 23 -- at Centenary (W, 9-3)
March 26 -- #24 MISSISSIPPI STATE (L, 3-7)
March 27 -- #24 MISSISSIPPI STATE (W, 11-6)
March 28 -- #24 MISSISSIPPI STATE (W, 14-3)

NOMINEE FOR PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Jon Zeringue, RF, Jr., Thibodaux, La.

Zeringue led LSU in hitting in its series victory over #24 Mississippi State, batting .556 (5-for-9) with one homer, six RBI and six runs. He also walked three times, recorded one steal and posted a .667 on-base percentage. Zeringue is hitting .394 (37-for-94) this season, and he leads LSU in homers (seven) and doubles (12), and he is second on the club with 24 RBI.

NOMINEE FOR PITCHER OF THE WEEK

Clay Dirks, LHP, Fr., Hernando, Miss.

Dirks, making his first career SEC start, defeated Mississippi State on Saturday with a strong eight-inning outing. Dirks limited the Bulldogs to two runs on five hits with one walk and seven strikeouts as he improved to 5-0 on the year. Dirks' ERA stands at a team-best 1.64 and opponents are batting just .179 against him.

NOTES ON THE TIGERS

LSU defeated Mississippi State in two of three games last weekend to record its seventh straight series victory this season. The Tigers have won their last four SEC series dating back to last season.

LSU improved its record to 5-2 this year against Top 25 opponents. Seventeen of LSU's 21 wins have come by a margin of five runs or more, including the two victories over MSU last weekend.

Senior third baseman Ivan Naccarata launched two homers and collected seven RBI in Sunday's 14-3 victory over Miss. State. Naccarata's seven-RBI output was the largest by an LSU player since March 3, 2001, when former Tiger first baseman Bryan Moore also recorded seven RBI in a game at Arizona State.

Junior right fielder Jon Zeringue led LSU in hitting over the weekend, batting .556 (5-for-9) with one homer, six RBI and six runs. Zeringue also walked three times, recorded one steal and posted a .667 on-base percentage. Zeringue is hitting .394 (37-for-94) this season, and he leads LSU in homers (seven) and doubles (12), and he is second on the club with 24 RBI.

As a team, the Tigers hit .333 (35-for-105) in the MSU series with six homers, six doubles and 28 runs. LSU collected a total of 31 hits in Games 2 and 3 after being held to just six hits in the Game 1 loss on Friday. The six-hit outing broke a string of 13 consecutive games in which the Tigers had reached double figures in hits.

Freshman left-hander Clay Dirks, making his first career SEC start, defeated Mississippi State on Saturday with a strong eight-inning outing. Dirks limited the Bulldogs to two runs on five hits with one walk and seven strikeouts as he improved to 5-0 on the year. Dirks' ERA stands at a team-best 1.64 and opponents are batting just .179 against him.

LSU reached the 20-win mark this year in its 24th game (Saturday's 11-6 victory over MSU); the Tigers didn't reach the 20-win plateau last season until their 30th game.

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LSU's win over Centenary in Shreveport, La., last Tuesday improved the Tigers' mark to 7-0 this season against Louisiana schools. LSU has won 10 straight games versus its in-state foes over the last two seasons.