



2015 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT
MAY 19-24 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.

| GAME 7 | LSU (9), AUBURN (8) | NOTES AND QUOTES |

LSU POST-GAME NOTES

- Overall Record: 47-9
- LSU leads the all-time series with Auburn 95-68.
- LSU will face the winner of No. 4 seed Florida and No. 5 seed Arkansas Thursday.
- This was LSU's largest comeback under head coach Paul Mainieri in the SEC Tournament, and it also marked LSU's largest comeback this season.
- Tonight's game marked the fourth time this season LSU has scored six runs in a single inning.
- The Tigers improved to 23-1 when scoring eight or more runs on the year.
- It was the 18th time this season the pitching staff combined for 10 or more strikeouts (11 tonight).
- LSU has been held to 10 or fewer hits in just 21 of its 56 games this season.
- This was third baseman Connor Hale's team-high 17th multi-RBI game of the season.
- Left fielder Jake Fraley extended his hitting streak to six games, going 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored.
- First baseman Chris China extended his reached-base streak to a team-high 17 games, going 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored.

AUBURN POST-GAME NOTES

- Overall Record: 35-23
- Auburn plays the loser of Game 8 between Florida and Arkansas.
- Auburn's five-run first inning tonight was the most runs the Tigers have scored in an inning vs. an SEC opponent since scoring five in the fourth vs. Ole Miss on April 18 of this year and the fourth time Auburn has scored five runs in an inning vs. an SEC opponent this season.
- This is the first time this season Auburn has scored at least six runs in consecutive games against SEC opponents.
- Auburn's eight runs are the most the Tigers have scored in an SEC Tournament game since beating Alabama 9-1 on May 16, 1998.
- Auburn's eight runs are the most for the Tigers against LSU since an 8-7 win on April 15, 2011.
- With two stolen bases on Wednesday, Auburn has now stolen 32 in its past 22 games after stealing 23 bases in the first 36 games.
- With three walks tonight, Auburn's Damon Haecker increased his team-best reached base streak to 13 games. It's the sixth time this season an Auburn player walked three times in a game.

LSU COACH PAUL MAINIERI

Opening Statement...

"That was about the ugliest game of the year that we have played for the first four innings. Our starting pitcher gives up five runs in the first, we walked a couple, we made an error, and we had a couple of other plays we didn't get to that we typically would have made. We only scored in two innings out of eight. Somehow we found a way to win a game. That to me is a credit to our kids. They really hang in there. We've become so used to falling behind in games. I think we've been behind in something like eight of our last 11 games in the SEC, and we've won about seven of those. Our guys don't flinch. They know we have a good offensive team. They're not going to give up when we fall behind like that. They don't lose confidence. I thought getting Jared out of there and putting a new arm in there might change the momentum of the game. I thought Jake Godfrey gave us a really good second inning. Our bullpen I thought was terrific from the fifth inning on. I don't think this game will be archived and used as lessons

for how to play the game of baseball but we'll take it. It was a good game to get one under our belt. Now it's time to move on to tomorrow."

On the importance of winning the first game ...

"I thought about this but I didn't tell the players about it. This is the third time they have given us the regular season championship trophy at the first game of the tournament and we've lost those games twice. Then we gave up five runs in the first inning I'm thinking, 'Oh goodness, I shouldn't have thought that way.' We lost the first one in 2009 and came back and won the tournament. Obviously if you can win the first two games and get a day off and then get to the final weekend and win on Saturday you're fortunate to only have to play four ballgames."

On the performance of his bullpen ...

"I thought Zac [Person] was really outstanding. He came out in the seventh and faced [Kyler] Dreese and got the big out. Then I thought he gave us a really good eighth and I was tempted to keep him out there in the ninth. We have some leeway in this tournament to try some things and I wanted to run [Parker] Bugg out there and see if he could handle the ninth, and I wanted to save Zac for another day if we need him. We don't have that one established closer like we've had a lot of years, but a lot of great teams in history didn't have a great closer. Sometimes you just go with the hot hand. If this was the NCAA Tournament I might have played it different but not tonight. I wanted to have Person available again. Ultimately Parker made the big pitches when he needed to."

NO. 17, JARED FOSTER, 2B, SR.

On the big fifth inning ...

"I think we were just trying to get on base and get it to the next person. We kept it rolling, took it one pitch at a time, and it worked."

On being one of few seniors on this team and using their leadership to start a rally ...

"We just try to go out there and have fun. We come out here every day to work hard and play hard. We have veterans in the lineup one through nine, and we have guys to come off the bench, even the young guys, that know what we're trying to do and have what it takes."

NO. 5, CHRIS SCIAMBRA, DH, SR.

On the big fifth inning ...

"It's easy when you're down to play the scoreboard and get passive. We just stayed aggressive and knew we had a lot of game left to play. We just continued to play like we always do."

On being one of few seniors on this team and using their leadership to start a rally ...

"Personally I'm just trying to go out and enjoy the last couple of games I have here. I'm going to go out and play as hard as I can just like I would, but I'm not putting too much pressure on myself I'm just trying to enjoy it. I think it's good to have the seniors we have, but our whole lineup is filled with veteran guys even if they're not seniors. We know what we can do and we never give up. We just keep playing our game."

NO. 8, ALEX BREGMAN, SS, JR.

On the big fifth inning ...

"I just think we are a very resilient team. We are going to battle to the end. That's how we've done it all year, and that's what we are going to continue to do. That inning we were just trying to get it to the next guy. We wanted to find a way to get something started and get on base. We knew if we did that we could get it back. They won the first three innings of the game, and our coaches said, 'Let's win the last five,' and that's what we did."

AUBURN HEAD COACH SUNNY GOLLOWAY

Opening Statement...

"I thought our guys came out and did a tremendous job getting a lead and attacking their starting pitcher [Jared] Poche. We put up the five runs and they countered with the three. It was important for us to counter and we got the three back. You cannot really ask much more of an offense output there. They just have a lot of firepower. They can hit. They are the No. 1 team in the country for a reason, and I thought the 6-run inning really took a lot of air out of our dugout. I just tried to tell the guys we could either look at it as glass half empty or glass half full. We scored those runs early, so we were still in the ball game late. I think it would be hard for any team in the country to overcome the six run inning. We battled and had a chance."

On Rocky McCord early in the game...

He came over and talked to me after he had already been relieved. He is very calm and mature. He felt like at the beginning he didn't have his better stuff. Honestly, the things that are important at this point in the season are making sure your starting pitchers are doing a good job and that you feel good about them going into the post season. Sure you want to win the SEC tournament but to get a team to Omaha, you have to make sure in tournaments like this that your starting pitching does a good job and you are playing good defense. I thought we played pretty good defense overall. I thought he pitched better. He got his pitch count up there so he is good to go next week."

On LSU...

"They are really good. I have tremendous respect for Paul Mainieri and what he has done at LSU. He had those guys calm and that is why they were able to come back. [Alex] Bregman made an incredible play in the ninth and almost threw it to second. I wish he had because we would have been safe. He is such a good player. I think the sixth run just took the air out of us. They are still learning and we are still learning as a program."

NO. 1, BLAKE LOGAN, C, SO.

On dealing with a tough loss...

"Coach told us after the game that we can look at it as glass half empty or glass half full. That is the approach you have to take with a team like LSU. They are the No. 1 team in the country. They are a great team and have great players. We have to take this and learn from it and bounce back tomorrow."

NO. 23, JORDAN EBERT, DH, JR.

On dealing with a tough loss...

"When you look at a team like LSU they are really talented and the No. 1 team in the country. It felt good to have a big lead on them, but at the end of the day they are still the No. 1 team in the country. They are a team that is going to be hosting a regional and super regional. We can play with these guys. We have a shot to go do some things that a lot of people didn't think we could do. I hope and I think that we are taking this as a positive and this really shows us that we are better than we think we are."