



## 2016 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT MAY 24-29 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.

### | GAME 1 | VANDERBILT 7, MISSOURI 0 | NOTES AND QUOTES |

#### MISSOURI POST-GAME NOTES

- Starting pitcher Tanner Houck threw his 10<sup>th</sup> game of the season registering 6-plus strikeouts.
- Houck had Vanderbilt's number this year with 20 strikeouts in two appearances.
- Missouri is now 1-5 in SEC Tournament play, scoring just 15 runs in five games.
- Today's game was the first time Missouri has been shutout in the tournament.
- Kirby McGuire's reached on base streak improved to six games.

#### VANDERBILT POST-GAME NOTES

- Vanderbilt improves to 46-33 all-time in the SEC Tournament, including 33-19 in 13 appearances under head coach Tim Corbin.
- Vanderbilt is 14-0 all-time vs. Missouri, including victories against the Tigers in the SEC Tournament in consecutive years. The Commodores defeated Missouri 7-6 in 10 innings in the second round last year.
- Bryan Reynolds was 2-for-3 on the day with his 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> double of the season and drove in two runs and scored two runs.
- Patrick Raby, Collin Snider and Donny Everett combined to throw Vanderbilt's eighth shutout in SEC Tournament, which is the most all-time and the first for the Commodores since Tyler Beede and Brian Miller combined on a 3-0 shutout over Texas A&M on May 24, 2013.
- The win was the Commodores' ninth shutout of the season, which ties Texas A&M for the most in the SEC.

#### VANDERBILT HEAD COACH TIM CORBIN

##### *Opening Statement ...*

"I think first off we drew a tough assignment in the first game facing Missouri and facing Houck. I told the kids that the last four games, we are playing kids that are playing for their lives and trying to extend their season and that is difficult to do. It is difficult to end their season, and difficult to play that team. I thought we did a really good job with Houck. We had some good at bats early, then got the game open a little when Jeren got the hit and run down and Ryan, of course, with the double. Even to get to that point, it takes a pitching performance that can stabilize the opposition, and Patrick certainly did that. That was a big time performance by a young kid who is here for the first time, so good for him."

##### *On starting four freshmen*

"I think we are at a point now where they are no longer freshmen. They have gone through the fall and played a lot of games and they have been inserted at different times. As Alonzo mentioned, we all train them the same. We train them to the point where anyone we put in the game, we can trust and play well for us. I trust all of those kids. If they make a mistake, they make a mistake. I don't want them playing with fear and they certainly don't do that."

##### *On Alonzo's improvement defensively*

"Four weeks ago I went over to coach Jewett at a certain time in training, and saw him make a couple of plays and said watch the balls he is hit now in the training environment, and there is few mistakes. It is just a matter of him getting as many balls as he can. I think if you ask him, there was doubt outside of our program of whether or not the kid could come in and play the infield. I told him from the get go, we may have to try to find a place for you on the field, but you are coming in here to be an infielder and going to be a good one at that. He has taken ownership of his own abilities. He has been pretty consistent. Every time he goes out there, he gains more confidence playing the position. He is a rarity because he can do a lot of different things, like Reynolds. They are kids that are multi-dimensional on the baseball field."

## **BRYAN REYNOLDS, CF**

*On taking advantages of big opportunities*

"With a guy like Houck, you are not going to get a ton of opportunities to score because he is a great pitcher. So when you do have those opportunities, you just want to capitalize on them. We had Jeren, Ethan and other guys getting on for me and I just read it and put it in play to get a run."

*On how difficult it is to focus on each game while focusing on his future career and life*

"I think the most important thing is to really stay in the moment, we talk about that a lot within this program. Just worry about what you're doing that day. Keep your life centered on that, and everything else will happen. Don't worry about it."

*On how this conference helps prepare you*

"The SEC is the greatest conference in the country, no doubt. You get to go out every single game and play against the best pitches, best hitters, and best defenders. I think it is a good test of what you have and a great time to go out and compete with the best."

## **PATRICK RABY, P**

*On focusing on the opposing pitcher*

"I just thought of it as another game. I knew we were going to face him, but I didn't have much to worry about because I know our hitters are going to do what they can and it ended up working out for us."

## **ALONZO JONES, 2B**

*On having a couple SEC Top 10 plays*

"I think on the spin play, it was just kind of instinctive. I just try to be ready ever pitch, regardless of whether it is a routine play or not."

*On the freshmen class playing well this time of year*

"I just think that speaks volume for our preparation. Coaching staff does a great job of getting everyone ready to play regardless of the situation. As you saw, Julian came off the bench, hit for me and first pitch hits a bomb. So that is just great to see. Patrick Raby did a great job on the mound today to keep us in the game."

## **MISSOURI HEAD COACH TIM JAMIESON**

*Opening Statement ...*

"We didn't have enough pieces to compete with the best teams in the league. There are some really good teams in our league. We did okay with the guys at the bottom of the league, but not with the guys at the top, and we showed that again today. Vanderbilt played well, and we're just not quite as strong as they are."

*On past years in the SEC ...*

"We have to be more talented. We have three relievers that haven't pitched for us all year. In this league there is no margin for error. We have to play good defense. We have to have starting pitching, which I thought we did this year. We were lacking defense and offense. All of those things have to be good. All of the best teams have that."

*On Vanderbilt pitching...*

"I think the results speak for themselves. We're not a good offensive team, but we've been able to score runs. We didn't do a good job laying off early. We didn't do a good job staying above the baseball. They have a lot of arms and that makes it difficult to score late in the game."

*On freshmen playing first post season game...*

"The great thing about this league is that it prepares you for the post season. You're not going to play a better team in the regional then you do all year during conference. When you get to this point in the year,

the freshmen aren't freshmen anymore. Some freshman hit the wall earlier, but at this point, if they're still playing, they're playing well."

*On impression of the league...*

"I think it's stronger than it was last year. Last year four teams went to Omaha. I think the league is better than it was last year. That says a lot for the conference. When you look at the league there is a pretty strong line between the good teams and the teams that aren't quite there. I think the good teams took advantage of where teams like us finished. Each weekend I saw good pitching, good defense, and teams that are well coached. It's full of guys who have power arms and that's going to win you a lot of games. We have several teams that can not only get to Omaha, but also win national championships."

**TANNER HOUCK, P**

*On approach in the fourth inning...*

"Just kind of the same as the rest of the innings. We were going in on the zone around the knees. I elevated a few pitches and got behind, which was the cause of giving up a hit. We just fell behind."