



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

### | GAME 2 | OLE MISS 5, GEORGIA 1 | NOTES AND QUOTES |

#### GEORGIA POST-GAME NOTES

- Center fielder Stephen Wrenn's solo homerun in the first inning marks his 13<sup>th</sup> of the season.
- Starting Pitcher Heath Holder lasted 3.2 IP while giving up four runs, all in the fourth inning.
- Georgia extends its four game losing streak in the SEC Baseball Tournament to five games, with its last tournament win coming was against Florida in 2011.
- Georgia is now 1-2 all time in the tournament against Ole Miss.
- Skyler Weber increased his hitting streak to six games after a single in the third inning.

#### OLE MISS POST-GAME NOTES

- Ole Miss is now 31-36 all-time in 21 SEC Tournament appearances, including 22-23 under head coach Mike Bianco, which ties him with former South Carolina head coach Ray Tanner for the sixth-most wins by a head coach in SEC Tournament history.
- J.B. Woodman drove in three runs today on a two-run triple (1<sup>st</sup> triple of the season) and RBI double (13<sup>th</sup> double of the season), giving him 52 RBI on the season, eighth-most in the SEC.
- Colby Bortles' two-run double in the fourth was his 18<sup>th</sup> of the season, which is tied for third in the SEC.
- Henri Lartigue's two stolen bases today are the first two steals of his career.
- Tate Blackman singled and scored in Ole Miss' four-run fourth inning to extend his hitting streak to a career-best 10 games.
- Ole Miss improves to 39-3 when scoring four or more runs and 36-0 when leading after eight innings this season.

#### OLE MISS HEAD COACH MIKE BIANCO

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

"I thought we played well today. The Tuesday game — it's that elimination day where there is pressure on you to play well or you go home. Sometimes it goes as scripted, and today it did. We decided during the rain delay at Texas A&M that we would play that Tuesday game and that Brady would get the ball. I just said 'can you hold them at bay until we can score some runs? You don't have to go six or seven, just give us three or four innings.' He certainly did that and let the bullpen take over. I learned a long time ago from my mentor Skip Bertman, baseball is about dominant pitching. That's the most important thing. The second most important thing is the timely hit. We certainly had both of those today. It was nice to get off to a good start."

##### *On having a must-win approach in order to host a regional...*

"I don't think so. We talked about it as a must-win because it is, but not necessarily for the reasons (of hosting a regional). We took that approach last Saturday at Texas A&M. After not having too much success that Thursday and Friday, we challenged the guys. It's like a regional final. We were going to go to the bullpen early, and we were going to do whatever we needed to do to win the baseball game. I thought we played terrific, and I think we grew up there a little bit. It's a tough place to play against a tremendous team. We tried to take that same approach today. When you play on this Tuesday, it's that win-or-go-home type of feeling. You'll go to the bullpen and do what you need to. People may ask, 'why (start) Bramlett?' He's our best shot to win, and if you don't win you go home quickly. I think we took more of that mindset in this tournament and not for anything else."

##### *On facing South Carolina after being swept in the regular season...*

"It seems like such a long time ago. They have had a tremendous year. Once you play them, you don't follow them as much and you just see the scores. That weekend in Oxford, and even from that weekend

on, they were so good in all phases. The starting pitching is outstanding. The bullpen is good. The offense is terrific. They play the game well. You don't have the success in our league that they have without being a complete club. We know that. We'll go with David Parkinson tomorrow. He's the next guy up."

*On depth of pitching...*

"We'll look at it tomorrow like we normally do on a Saturday. Certainly, Wyatt (Short) will be fine. Usually (Will) Stokes can come back the next day. Then we have others who we haven't thrown — (Connor) Green and (Andy) Pagnozzi and others who can come out of the pen. We'll do what we need to do to win and move on."

### **BRADY BRAMLETT, P**

*On his performance...*

"It felt great today. Granted, it was a short rest, but my body felt good. Regardless of how I feel, I'm going to go out there and compete regardless. Coach (Bianco) said 'I don't care if it's two innings, three innings or four innings, can you go out there and throw up some zeroes for us?' That was the mindset going in. The mindset is always going to be giving your team the best chance to win. After the homerun, the mindset was to make the big pitch and get off the field. I tip my hat to Georgia. They are a great ball club. They are a great swinging ball club. They made it tough. The mindset was to make a pitch, get off the field and throw up some more zeroes for us so we could have a chance to win."

*On centerfielder J.B. Woodman...*

"It's fantastic. He had two great plays behind me today. Luckily this place plays like a graveyard. Unfortunately, it wasn't like that for me in the first inning. It's great to know he is behind you. What's even better is having him at the plate as well. When he is at the plate he's going to give you a quality at-bat for our team and put the ball in play."

### **J.B WOODMAN, CF**

*On confidence in the bullpen...*

"We know our bullpen is awesome. Anytime we have a lead we know they are going to throw strikes, fill it up and get people out."

### **COLBY BORTLES, 3B**

*On facing Georgia's Heath Holder...*

"I think, from a righty standpoint, he threw a lot of sliders. He kept us off balance throughout the game. I think later in the innings we were able to foul off those sliders, and we were starting to get those fastball and sliders up and started hitting them well."

### **GEORGIA HEAD COACH SCOTT STRICKLIN**

*Opening Statement ...*

"Well, I thought Ole Miss played very well. They got a quality start out of Brady. We had the bases loaded and tried to hit the ball right on the nose toward centerfield. There's a difference between a 1-0 and 3-0 game. Their bullpen just took over, and I think their bullpen is just outstanding, and I said that before we started. Their bullpen is a big key to their team; they're very strong. We had a chance as we put some guys on bases, but all-in-all we just came up a little but short. Ole Miss is a Top 10 team for a reason, and our kids battled their hearts out. I hate that it ended like this but I'm proud of them."

*On the development of the team*

"We are certainly in a rebuilding phase. When I took over this job it was given to us that we would have to rebuild this program. When you're trying to rebuild in the toughest conference of the country, not to mention with Georgia Tech, Clemson, and Florida State and all the teams around you that are recruiting, it's tough. It's a task that we volunteered for; we wanted to take this task on. I think the foundation is being set. Recruiting in baseball, I think we all know goes back a little bit. Kids that are freshman right now are committing to colleges. The kids that were freshman when we got this job are now juniors and seniors in high school, and we'll see those guys next year. We feel like we've made some progress but at the end of

the day it's wins and loses. We understand that as coaches, and the wins and loses have been very disappointing. We were very close, I hear at the end of the season we were number one in strength of schedule in the country. We lost three games this last week, and they were heartbreakers, but I can tell you that the future is very bright for Georgia baseball. Patience is a dirty word for coaches and certainly fans. No one likes to be patient, but this program is going to be a great program, and I feel very confident with the kids that we have coming back and in this program. They're going to be difference makers and program changers."

*On the bullpen of Ole Miss*

"I was very impressed. Florida and Vanderbilt's bullpen is very good. I'll put Ole Miss up there too with their young arms. The freshmen are really coming out there throwing well. They are aggressive and can command their breaking balls."

*On the performance of their bullpen*

"He was really good early in those first three innings and just left a couple of those ball up. I thought his stuff during the first three innings were as good as I've seen. He went at it and might of gotten tired but he will compete. We had a lot of confidence in him and was as good in those first innings as we had seen him all year long. Ole Miss did a great job of getting to him in the fourth but Tucker did a great job of keeping the game manageable. I thought our bullpen did a great job of keeping the game close."

**Steven Wrenn, CF**

*On competing against the Ole Miss centerfield*

"I think it's a solid conference all the way around. I have a lot of respect for (JB) and the ball players in this conference."