



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

### **| GAME 12 | LSU 6, MISSISSIPPI STATE 2 | NOTES AND QUOTES |**

#### **LSU POST-GAME NOTES**

- LSU has won 14 of its last 15 games, including 11 of its last 12 contests against SEC opponents.
- LSU's victory snaps a three-game losing streak to Mississippi State in the SEC Tournament. Mississippi State beat LSU 3-2 and 4-3 on May 23 and 25, 2012, and 9-2 on May 25, 2005. Prior to tonight, LSU's last SEC Tournament win against Mississippi State was a 17-5 victory in 2003.
- With the win, LSU clinches its fourth-straight trip to the semifinals of the SEC Tournament. The Tigers have won two SEC Tournament crowns during that period.
- This is the seventh time in eight trips to the SEC Tournament under head coach Paul Mainieri the Tigers have made it to the semifinals.
- In two games against Mississippi State starting pitcher Dakota Hudson this year, LSU has scored 11 runs on 21 hits in 11.1 innings.
- Tonight is the second career SEC Tournament win for Jared Poche, who threw a 7-inning complete game in an 11-1 victory against Vanderbilt in 2014.
- Antoine Duplantis has recorded multi-hit games in all three of LSU's games in this year's SEC Tournament. He is 7-of-16 with a run and an RBI. He is tied with Ole Miss's Henri Lartigue for the most hits in the tournament.
- LSU's three games in the tournament have covered 12 hours, 1 minute, an average of 4 hours per game.

#### **MISSISSIPPI STATE POST-GAME NOTES**

- Mississippi State fell to 63-49 in SEC Tournament history, 11-5 under 2016 SEC Coach of the Year, John Cohen.
- After tonight's loss, the Bulldogs now lead the Tigers 9-8 In SEC Tournament history.
- Tonight's loss snapped Mississippi State's 12-game win streak dating back to its 2-1 win at Alabama on April 30, 2016.
- Junior RHP Dakota Hudson snapped his five-game win streak and fell to 9-4 on the season.
- Sophomore shortstop Ryan Gridley went 2-for-4 at the plate tonight, his 19th multi-hit game of the season; in the top of the seventh, Gridley drove in his 30th run of the season.
- Redshirt junior outfielder Jacob Robson drove in a run on a triple in the top of the seventh – the fourth triple of his career.
- Freshman second basemen Hunter Stovall was 2-of-4 at the plate, tying a career-high two hits for the sixth time of his career. It was his sixth multi-hit game of the season.

#### **LSU HEAD COACH PAUL MAINIERI**

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

"This is what I do for a living. I stress for nine innings, sometimes 14 innings or however many innings we have to play. There's never really any time to relax. The only time to relax is when that last out is squeezed by your first baseman, and you know the ballgame is over and you have it in the books. I thought tonight was really a very solid performance by our team in every facet. Jared Poche' was as good as he's been all year. You could tell even in the first inning that he was commanding his fastball and his breaking ball. He had life on his fastball. I thought Poche' was outstanding, and of course, Parker Bugg did a tremendous job. We played good defense with the exception of that pop fly that we dropped. I still thought we swung the bats. We had 12 hits today and faced one of the best pitchers in the league (Dakota Hudson). I thought Papierski had a great game, drove in three runs. It was just a solid game all-around, maybe one of our better games we've played all year."

*On Michael Papierski...*

"Nobody works harder than Michael Papierski. You guys don't see him, but he's always the first guy to the field and the last guy to leave. He's in the batting cages. He's got a lot of pride. He was a really good hitter in high school and just hasn't performed at that level here at LSU. He wants to, and he's working at it. Today, batting right-handed helped him a little bit. He had a big base hit and got the big sacrifice fly with two strikes on him. That was huge. Sometimes in the season you go through ebbs and flows, some real peaks and some really big valleys. When you're 18, 19 years old sometimes those things are hard to handle, and I think he's handled them really well. He's growing up as a man."

**BEAU JORDAN, LF**

*On catcher Michael Papierski's two-RBI single...*

"I love Pap. He works just as hard as everybody. He was due for a hit, and it was the biggest hit of the game. It worked out perfectly."

*On not having to come back from behind to win the game...*

"It felt really good, but you take a win however you can get it. It felt good not to have to come back from behind. That's what we tried to do today. Before the game, (Jared) Poche' was like 'Hey man, can y'all score some runs early?' We came out and started swinging it. The first inning he put us down pretty fast, but after that, we started battling, seeing better pitches and hitting them."

**MISSISSIPPI STATE HEAD COACH JOHN COHEN**

*On thoughts on LSU approach at plate ...*

"In 27 at bats against Dakota (Hudson), they hit three balls and made it in the outfield in the air."

*On runs against Dakota...*

"He got underneath their bats and hit ground balls where we weren't standing. Three balls out of 27 at bats; that means you have sync, and you're making them hit them on the ground. That's what we want."

**JACOB ROBSON, CF**

*On team being out of sync ...*

"I think some things didn't go our way offensively and some things went there way against Dakota. They had a lot of infield hits, balls off the end of the bat, or they got jams that ended up being hits. They capitalized on that and our errors. We're going to look to minimize that and move forward tomorrow with confidence."