



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

### | GAME 16 | FLORIDA 1, LSU 0 | NOTES AND QUOTES |

#### FLORIDA POST-GAME NOTES

- This was Florida's seventh shutout in the SEC Tournament all-time, and its first since A.J. Puk blanked Arkansas 10-0 in a 7-inning game on May 22, 2015. It was Florida's first 9-inning shutout in the SEC Tournament since a 5-0 win over Vanderbilt on May 29, 2011.
- Florida will make its 14<sup>th</sup> appearance in the SEC Tournament championship game, second-most all-time to LSU's 17. It will be the Gators' third straight trip to the title game and Florida's fourth under head coach Kevin O'Sullivan.
- This is the fifth time a school has made it to at least three straight SEC Tournament title games [LSU (1990-95 and 2008-10), Vanderbilt (2011-13) and Alabama (1995-97)].
- This was the fifth 1-0 game in the SEC Tournament all-time and the first since Georgia defeated LSU on May 27, 2004.
- Florida starting pitcher Scott Moss set career highs with 6.0 innings pitched, seven strikeouts and 71 pitches.
- Since the third inning vs. Alabama on Thursday, Florida's pitching staff has allowed three runs on 15 hits and four walks with 20 strikeouts in its last 23 innings (1.17 ERA).
- There have been a total of 14 runs scored in the last four SEC Tournament meetings between Florida and LSU: 2-0 LSU on 5/25/14, 2-1 Florida on 5/23/15, 5-3 LSU (14 innings) on 5/25/16 and 1-0 Florida today.

#### LSU POST-GAME NOTES

- LSU falls to 42-18 on the season, 27-6 in the SEC Tournament under Paul Mainieri.
- Today's game marked the fifth time LSU has faced Florida in 10 days with the Tigers taking 3-of-5. The games have spanned 48 innings, 15.9 hours, and 46 runs have been scored between the two teams.
- Today's shutout is only the second time the Tigers have been shutout this season. The first came at the hands of McNeese State on March 12.
- Despite today's loss, LSU has won 14 of its last 16 games and are outscoring opponents, 86-52.
- Second baseman Cole Freeman has safely reached base in 25-consecutive games.
- This marks only the second time this season that LSU has not been walked in a game.
- Outfielders Jake Fraley, and Antoine Duplantis are the only Tigers to start all in all 60 games this season.
- Kramer Robertson's single extended his team leading hit streak to 15 games.

#### FLORIDA HEAD COACH KEVIN O'SULLIVAN

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

"Unbelievable game. It was exciting. We have played LSU five times in a week-and-a-half. The games have been exciting and really good. I'm really impressed with LSU. They have gotten so much better through the course of the year. Their offense is really clicking right now. Coming into today they have won the last 14 of 15 (games). To be able to shut them out is hard to do in any year, especially this year. They are competitive. Our pitching was outstanding. I'm really happy for Scott Moss. It has been a long road for him. He had that surgery his freshman year. The timing of it was off. It was in March of his freshman year. You fast forward 12 months, and we made a decision as a staff to take it slow and not rush him back last year. For him to have this opportunity and take advantage of it like he did was awesome. It was great for Kirby (Snead) to get an important out there and then Shaun (Anderson) was really good and had to make some big pitches in the middle of the order. I anticipate seeing LSU down the road at some point. Give them a lot of credit. We're excited to play one more day. I have no idea about pitching yet, so we'll figure it out tonight."

*On multiple SEC teams competing for national seeds...*

"It's an interesting question. I think the SEC is really top-heavy this year. I don't know how the committee is going to do it. They have a really tough decision to make. There are a lot of teams deserving of a national seed in our league. Historically, one league doesn't get five national seeds. It might be different this year. I don't know if I have seen pitching this deep and this many arms. We're playing the fourth game and LSU is running on a freshman that's (throwing) 90-94 (MPH) today, who is locating. There is a lot of depth in this league. This is my ninth year, and I can honestly say this is the best it has been for the top eight or nine teams. It's been very competitive."

*On Scott Moss' performance...*

"I think, for him, it has been a long road. This is an outing he will never forget. It has been very difficult for him. There are a lot of lonely days in that training room. Certainly, he has never been forgotten, but sometime there have been some long days. For him to have this opportunity, and to do what he did against LSU, it's a memory he will never forget. This is a huge confidence boost for him. Going into the day, it was a big outing for him for a lot of reasons — from a team perspective, for his role moving forward, for the draft, and let's be honest, it was a big day for him. I'm proud of him. He has been a great teammate. He was on a 70 pitch count. He took advantage of his pitch count and got him through six innings."

### **JONATHAN INDIA, 3B**

*On Scott Moss' performance...*

"He was throwing first-pitch strikes. He competed today. It's the best I've seen him all season. I was a joy to watch and to play behind him all day."

### **SCOTT MOSS, P**

*On his performance...*

"Just attack them with first-pitch strikes. I did that the whole day. It was a good all-around day for me. I felt like I could go all nine. My arm has never been healthier. Every pitch I was throwing was honestly better than my high school stuff. I think I have progressed enough to start any game and continue all nine innings."

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

*Opening Statement ...*

"Well it was a great ballgame. What a good game. After five of these with these guys, I feel like (Muhammad) Ali and (Joe) Frazier going 15 rounds. I'd rather play somebody new to be honest with you. We've had five great games with Florida. We were able to win three of them. Today, we just came up a little bit short. I thought it was a tremendous ballgame. Caleb (Gilbert) pitched his heart out, and so did their kid (Scott Moss). We had a chance early in the game with runners on first and third with nobody out with two of our top guys at the plate. I don't know if it was great pitching on their part, but we just didn't get the job done. We weren't able to capitalize on that situation. Of course, we had that situation in the ninth inning with Kramer (Robertson) with a great at-bat to lead off and took second on the wild pitch. We had a chance there as well. We were going against one of the best closers in the country, and (Shaun Anderson) just got the better of us right there. I can't emphasize enough how proud I am of our team. We are disappointed. Believe me. We came here to win a championship and came up a little bit short of that, but the first three games were amazingly thrilling. The last three weeks have been amazingly thrilling. I think our team is about as primed as we can possibly be to enter the NCAA Tournament. People are going to say it doesn't seem fair. You were undefeated. Listen, those are the rules that we have in this tournament. Nobody is complaining about it. We knew it going in, and I just give credit to Florida. They played a great game. We did too. The margin of difference between the two teams was razor thin, a pitch here, a play here and an at-bat here. It was the difference in the ballgame."

*On his assessment of his team heading into the NCAA Tournament...*

"I really like the way our team is playing, I can tell you that. I think we are about as ready to go. I assume you are alluding to what the selection committee will decide, and I have absolutely no idea what they will decide. It's not a very transparent process, as you know. There are a lot of good, really deserving teams

out there. I listened to (South Carolina head coach) Chad Holbrook's press conference after they were beaten, and I thought he said it exactly the way it is with tremendous class. Ole Miss, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, ourselves, we are all pretty tight in there, but how many national seeds are they going to give to the SEC? I couldn't tell you. Do I think we are deserving? Absolutely. I think we are one of the best eight teams in the country. I feel that way strongly. I think we've done it on the field and so have the other teams. I'm sure they feel the same way that we do. You just have to trust the process. The men on that committee are men of integrity. They will do what they think is right, and I will accept whatever they say. I would think we would have a pretty good shot at hosting. I'd be extremely disappointed if we didn't host a regional in the first round. We will see how it goes. I will be anxious to hear just like anyone else."

### **KRAMER ROBERTSON, SS**

*On Florida's starting pitcher Scott Moss...*

"He's a 6-foot-5 lefty throwing 94 mph, and he located his pitches... We had some tough at-bats against him, but we didn't execute when we had the opportunity. That's what happens when you can throw pitches for strikes. You'll have a lot of success in the game, and they made plays behind him. He did a good job."

*On expecting to bounce back in the ninth....*

"That's been how this season's gone. Even when we are down, we are not out of it. We still have a chance to go out and get on the board. I knew if I got on right there, I'd give us a chance to tie the game up or get ahead. We had the chance. We just didn't come through there, and a lot of times we do. Next time when it's that situation, I'll still have all the confidence in the world in the guys behind me to get me in there."

### **CALEB GILBERT, RHP**

*On his emotions while pitching in his hometown...*

"My emotions were running high, but I tried to stay even-keeled all day, especially during the game. As far as that goes, it went well just staying calm. When I got that ovation, just the support system I have here in Hoover is just awesome and a great, great moment."

*On missing his spot to Jonathan India who doubled during the sixth inning...*

"I did. It was supposed to be a fastball off. It just kind of ran in on his hands a little bit, and he did what he was supposed to do."