**2017 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT**



**MAY 23-28 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.**

| GAME 5 | KENTUCKY (7), SOUTH CAROLINA (2) | NOTES AND QUOTES |

**KENTUCKY POST-GAME NOTES**

• Today marked the sixth-straight appearance in the tournament for Kentucky, the longest in school history.

• Kentucky’s win snapped a 3-game losing streak.

• Kentucky has now gone 76 games without being shutout, the seventh-longest such streak in school history.

• Kole Cottam hit his sixth home run of the season. Cottam now has nine hits in his last four games, 18 multi-hit games this season and 24 for his career.

• Evan White had four RBI’s, including 3 in the bottom of the sixth with a two-out double. He now has 222 hits in his Kentucky career. He has a hit in 30 of his last 34 games and reach base safely in 23 of the last 24 games.

• Tristan Pompey now has reached base safely in 28-straight games. He’s also hit safely in 41 of the past 46 games and has 24 multi-hits games this season and 31 for his career.

• Connor Heady now has 12 multi-hit games this season and 18 for his career.

• Zach Reks has reached base safely in 26 of his last 27 games.

• Marcus Carson was hit by his team high-19th pitch, the sixth most in a single-season at UK.

• Kentucky’s bullpen in six innings of relief combined for zero earned runs, five strikeouts and no walks.

**SOUTH CAROLINA POST-GAME NOTES**

• The Gamecocks fall to 33-24 on the season and 26-44 at the SEC Tournament. They are 1-1 this week.

• South Carolina is now 2-4 vs. Kentucky at the SEC Tournament.

• Riley Hogan recorded a single-game career high three hits, marking his sixth multi-hit game of the year.

• Justin Row and Carlos Cortes have each successfully reached base in eight-consecutive games.

• South Carolina is 11-4 in games decided by five or more runs.

**KENTUCKY COACH NICK MINGIONE**

*Opening Statement …*

“Well I thought that the story of the game was Zach Louge and Chris Machamer going six innings, only giving up 3 hits and not walking a guy. I mean they struck out five guys. It also helps that we have some of the best players in the entire country. I thought that the first at-bat was big today. Cheers to (Tristan) Pompey with a 9-pitch at-bat to get things started. I think it showed the grit and fight that our team had. Bringing it back with Kole Cottam swinging really good.”

*On the pitching the way that you did it today …*

“Well that is a really good question. We were going to go with Brad (Schaenzer) as long we felt like he was throwing strikes and executing pitches. As the game went on, they started taking better swings and he wasn’t hitting his spots as well. What a privilege to have Zach Louge ready for us. He has been pitching for us on the weekends. We had a conversation with him about having him try out a couple different roles. We told him, you get in the bull-pen you might start, honestly just be ready for anything. I thought he came in there and rammed the ball with strikes and really did well in there. We didn’t have it mapped out for 3-3-3, but I am glad that it worked out like it did.”

**EVAN WHITE, 1B**

*On two years here you haven’t been up on that podium …*

“It felt really good and something that we kind of talked about after the game. Some of us have had an opportunity to win a game here. This win is something that is special and we will continue to celebrate it throughout the year. It is something that coach has talked about since he got here and is something that is really special to finally see that come true this year. “

**KOLE COTTAM, DH**

*On the homerun what kind of pitch …*

“It was 2-1 count. I watched the change-up a little so it was a middle fastball, and I timed it right before it so it felt pretty good.”

**SOUTH CAROLINA COACH CHAD HOLBROOK**

*Opening Statement …*

“It was a really good start. We got all we asked out of Cody Morris, our starter. He had not been in a situation like that, and to start against an SEC team, he kept us in the game.”

*On the turning point in the game …*

“I think the big turning point for us is we almost had them exactly like we wanted it when we were up 2-0, [runners on] second and third with two outs and LT had a great at-bat, and the kid- Becker - made a great play in the hole at third base and it could have easily been up 4-0. But, we have to give credit to Kentucky, they made some great plays defensively, and obviously they swung the bat very, very well when it mattered most when people were out there and they are very, very good offensively. We just were not able to keep up with them after that.”

**Jonah Bride, 3B**

*On loser’s bracket and coming back from losing a game the next day …*

“It’s definitely difficult, but I think we come back with confidence. I think we played a fine game today, and Kentucky is a really good ball club and they came up with some big hits. Our pitchers kept us in the game, and we had some defensive miscues there, but correct that and be ready to go tomorrow.”

**Riley Hogan 1B**

*On four errors and how to fix it …*

“I mean, I think we just, we continue to work the field and not let it happen again.”