**2017 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT**



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

| GAME 15 | LSU (11), SOUTH CAROLINA (0) | NOTES AND QUOTES |

**LSU POST-GAME NOTES**

• The victory gave the Tigers their 80th win in SEC Tournament play, tops in the conference. It was also Paul Mainieri’s 30th tourney win — the fifth coach to reach that milestone. On Sunday, Mainieri will try to tie Jim Wells and Skip Bertman for most SEC Tournament titles. He is a perfect 5-0 in championship games.

• Jared Poche’ moved into sole possession of second place on LSU’s all time wins leaderboard with his 37th career victory.

• Kramer Robertson’s first-inning home run gave him dingers in consecutive at-bats dating back to the last inning of the Kentucky game.

• Greg Deichmann went yard twice in the game’s first three innings, his first career multi-homer game.

• With no outs in the top of the third, every single hitter in the LSU lineup had reached base. The first two times through the order they hit 9 for 15 (.667) with two walks and a HBP.

• The Tigers recorded their fifth-consecutive double-digit scoring game for the first time since a streak of six straight in 2009 and their first against SEC opponents since 2000. The 10-run shutouts in consecutive games hadn’t been achieved since they beat Southern 19-0 and McNeese State 16-0 in 1996.

• This was the first time since 2007 a team has recordd back-to-back shutouts since Arkansas blanked Alabama and South Carolina 9-0 and 6-0, respectively.

• LSU recorded its 10th consecutive victory and 11th straight against the SEC.

• Despite not committing a multi-error game in 26 games, the Tigers were charged with four errors in the win,

 their most since March 15.

**SOUTH CAROLINA POST-GAME NOTES**

• South Carolina dropped to 36-25 on the season and 28-45 at the SEC Tournament.

• The Gamecocks finished the tournament 3-2, their best since 2004.

• South Carolina is 2-6 vs. LSU at the SEC Tournament.

• Justin Row reached base in every game this week, extending his on-base streak to 11 games.

• South Carolina was the first No. 11 seed to reach the semifinals of the SEC Tournament.

**LSU COACH PAUL MAINIERI**

*Opening Statement …*

“Big win for the Tigers today. It gets us to the championship game tomorrow, which we’re excited and fired up about. I think the game went as well you hoped for. South Carolina played their fifth game in five days, and certainly they’ve gone through a lot of pitching, but I still credit our hitters. They went out there and did the job.”

*On Greg Diechmann this season …*

“He got really hot at the end of last year and he ended up with 11 home runs. He probably had a half a dozen or seven of those in the last few weeks of the season. He was locked in. He could’ve gone out. He was ready for professional ball if he wanted to do it. I sat down with him, and we talked. It was amazing how mature he was. I wasn’t trying to talk him into coming back.”

**JARED POCHE’, P**

*On pitching with such a large lead …*

“Yeah well I definitely love runs. There’s no doubt about that. If they could score in under ten minutes that would be ideal. The story of today was offense today. They have been doing it for the past weeks. It makes it easier on us pitchers.”

**GREG DEICHMANN, OF**

*On the offense…*

“I think the biggest thing is just coming out and putting emphasis on scoring first. We try to do that every game.”

**KRAMER ROBERSTON, INF**

*On his at-bat s…*

“I knew after my third at-bat going into the fourth and fifth inning, when I stepped up in my fifth at-bat in the top of the seventh inning, I dug in, and I thought it would be nice to see a double here.”

**SOUTH CAROLINA COACH CHAD HOLBROOK**

*Opening Statement …*

“We knew it was going to be a tall order today. LSU is a good team playing at a high level. They may be one of the best two or three teams in the country. They are awfully hot right now. We have played about 40 innings in this tournament going into today and LSU has played 16 so they were a little bit fresher than we were from a position player standpoint but also being able to throw a weekend guy so it was going to take a great and perfect game from us. They got off to a great start and Kramer’s (Robertson) swing gave them momentum. They ambushed us offensively against our pitchers and that was the story of the game. They are a great team playing at a high level, and we weren’t able to combat them today for a number of different reasons.

*On why South Carolina should be included in the NCAA Tournament…*

“There’s going to be some anxious moments, but I think our numbers will speak for themselves when compared against some other bubble teams. If you factor in the fact that for a good portion of the season, maybe six or seven SEC series, we didn’t have Tyler Johnson or Clarke Schmidt on the mound, you can see the type of team that we are when we have Tyler on the mound after this week. There’s a lot of bubble teams and there’s a lot of teams that have some anxious moments, but when you compare our resume against some of those other teams and how we played this week and having a healthy Tyler Johnson, we can win a regional in a heartbeat. We have to wait and see.”

**ALEX DESTINO, DH**

*On what this team will take away from this SEC Tournament …*

“A lot of grit and fight. A lot of people had the book closed on the Gamecocks coming in and they were telling us what we couldn’t do in Hoover based on what we’ve done in the past and we let that be our motivation. Coming here it was good to see. We showed a lot of fight against some extremely good teams. I think we definitely made some noise in Hoover and the team is excited about that.”

**JONAH BRIDE, INF**

*On should this team make it to the NCAA Tournament…*

“We feel that we showed all year that on any day we can beat any opponent. Our record shows that we were in a lot of the games and that we didn’t get swept by anybody. I think we can play with anybody.”