



## 2018 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT MAY 22-27 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.

### | GAME 7 | FLORIDA 4, LSU 3 | NOTES AND QUOTES |

#### LSU POST-GAME NOTES

- This is the first time this season LSU has competed against Florida, ranked No. 1 in the country. LSU is 61-50-1 against Florida, however, the Gators have a 12-10 lead in the last 22 meetings and have won five of the last six versus LSU.
- Freshmen pitcher Ma'Khail Hilliard had his 12<sup>th</sup> start of the season pitching for 4.2 innings with four strikeouts. Hilliard faced 23 batters allowing only seven hits.
- Hilliard (9-5) leads the SEC in victories.
- Jake Slaughter hit a home run in the top of the second to kick start LSU's momentum. It was his sixth home run this year. He's now reached a personal record 10 games in a row.
- Slaughter had a team-high 2 RBI against the Gators.
- Daniel Cabrera went 2-for-4 to extend his hitting streak to 10 games.
- Cabrera is now tied for second in the SEC with 48 RBI with Wil Dalton.
- After relieving Hilliard, Cam Sanders came in on relief for his 15<sup>th</sup> appearance and pitched 3.1 scoreless innings.
- With his one hit, Antoine Duplantis now has a team high 80.

#### LSU COACH PAUL MAINIERI

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

"Obviously it was a tough loss. Anytime you lose a close one like that, you look back on all the little things over the course of the game that could have made a difference. That game was full of them, that's for sure. We competed hard in a lot of ways and just came up a little bit short today."

##### *On opportunity to play Florida . . .*

"We honestly felt like we could play with them. We just came up a little bit short today. We came up a little bit short last June, and we came up a little bit short today. I don't think the disparity is great. We had a chance, and if that kid doesn't make that play, we might be sitting here talking about an exhilarating victory against the No. 1 team in the country. It's just how close things can be. Florida has a good program. I think the world of Kevin (O'Sullivan). He has done a great job, but I think we have a good program as well."

#### LSU 3B JAKE SLAUGHTER

##### *On final at bat of the game . . .*

"I got to 3-1, he threw a good slider. I drove the ball down the third base line, but he made a good play. I thought for sure it was a double, but he made a good play."

##### *On opportunity to play Florida . . .*

"We were really excited to play Florida. They're a great team, and it was a big challenge. We needed a big win. We played a tough game, and they came out on top."

#### LSU P MA'KHAIL HILLIARD

##### *On his start . . .*

"I feel like I started off really well. The last few innings, I felt like I should have been a little more focused."

*On opportunity to play Florida . . .*

"We wanted to play them really bad, and we wanted to compete as hard as we could. It doesn't always have to go your way, but you have to go out there and fight."