



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

| GAME 16 | LSU 2, ARKANSAS 1 | NOTES AND QUOTES |

LSU POST-GAME NOTES

- LSU improved to 85-41 in the SEC Tournament following its win against Arkansas.
- The Tigers are now 11-4 in SEC Tournament elimination games since 2000.
- LSU improved to 10-5 this season when wearing purple jerseys.
- Paul Mainieri now stands at 35-7 in the SEC Tournament, passing Tim Corbin and Jim Wells for third all-time.
- LSU became the first No. 8 seed to reach the SEC Tournament championship since 2010 when the No. 8 seeded Tigers beat Alabama 4-3 in 11 innings.
- LSU is now 11-3 against Arkansas in the SEC Tournament.
- Daniel Cabrera finished the game 0-for-4, which ended his 12-game hitting streak.
- LSU has scored 52 runs in the sixth inning this season, which is its best total across nine innings.

LSU COACH PAUL MAINIERI

Opening Statement . . .

"I think it was a thrilling victory for us today. We got a win against number one and two RPI teams in the country, in the same day. It was a pretty exciting day for the Tigers. The story of (Zack) Hess' hitting in the game is incredible. When you're a coach, then you know kids. You know who to believe in, stick with and stick by. You know what their work ethic, desire and ability is. That's why I'll never give up on Hess. Today, we went out and competed like crazy. That's why I think he's one of the best pitchers in the country. He set the tone of the game for us. It's been a while since I've seen (Zach) Watson hit one out. There wasn't much hitting today. (Isaiah) Campbell was very tough when we dropped the breaking ball. Once we had it figured on, Watson hit it out."

On LSU fans . . .

"This is one of the greatest things about being a part of LSU baseball, we have the greatest fanbase in America. They're so passionate about LSU baseball, and they enjoy coming out to Hoover. They have a great time, and I understand why. This place is awesome. I might end up retiring here. They come out, cheer us on, make us feel special, and our players take a lot of pride in that. We love to reward them for showing support for our team. It never gets old in Hoover. I can assure you of that."

LSU P ZACK HESS

On tournament mindset . . .

"I think when we first got here, winning the tournament wasn't the first thing in our minds. It's been a year of ups and downs, and we've had our backs against the wall a lot this season. Coming into this thing, we were trying to play for our hopes of the postseason. After we got a second victory, we felt like we really solidified ourselves. Anything we get from here on out is icing on the cake. It's a testament to coach Mainieri because he always seems to get the most out of his team. Year-in-and-year-out, something special happens for LSU."

LSU CF ZACH WATSON

On what makes Hoover so special . . .

"To me, it feels like the Box. The outfield is just as big, and LSU fans pack it out. It's a great environment with the fans out here. We even get to sign autographs after the game. It's a thrilling time."

