



2019 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT
MAY 21-26 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.

GAME 3 | Auburn 5, Tennessee 3 | NOTES AND QUOTES

POST-GAME NOTES

- Auburn is now 35-48 overall in the SEC Tournament. The Tigers are also 1-0 against Tennessee in the postseason with tonight's pairing being the first matchup.
- Elliott Anderson's start tonight was the third of his career and the longest in the starting role.
- The 78 total pitches from Anderson are a career-high, surpassing his previous long of 76 he set last week on May 16 in the start at LSU.
- Anderson's 4.0 frames marked the fifth time this season he has worked 4.0 or more innings in an appearance.
- Bailey Horn's 4.0 innings of work are a career-long for the redshirt sophomore. His previous long outing totaled 3.2 frames at LSU on May 17.
- Horn totaled 56 pitches in his relief stint, also a career-high. He worked 53 in that outing against LSU for his previous high.
- The six strikeouts from Horn are also a career-best. That number doubles his previous high of three he had at Jacksonville State on April 23 of this season.
- Ryan Bliss' three walks matched the Auburn program record for free passes in an SEC Tournament game. Seven other Tiger hitters had previously accomplished the feat, most recently Steven Williams against Ole Miss in Hoover last season on May 23.
- Edouard Julien recorded his team-leading 16th multi-RBI game of the year. Julien paces the Tigers in RBI with 47.

Auburn Coach Butch Thompson

Opening Statement ...

"This was a great atmosphere today, pretty amazing crowd on a Tuesday at a 4:30 p.m. ballgame, and it's only the first day of the SEC Tournament. Tennessee has had a great year, especially since we played them in the first SEC weekend, to get back and play them again is really neat. Elliot Anderson played really well and got us off to a good start. I think his outing was short just from a command standpoint. He had a few walks but none the less had six strikeouts and got us into the game. Bailey Horn also got us to the finish line. He did a great job shoving the ball into the strike zone and he just kept getting better and better with the pinch hit home run. I'm just happy we were able to cover all ground with team oriented defense, making a lot of plays and 13 strikeouts. I'm thankful to get this first win."

Going into post season with win ...

"We just felt like these last couple of games the season has been on the line and these guys responded. There are some things you look for statistically and all that. We now understand from our guys hitting that we really can't run away from anybody, so we're used to playing really tight ball games. I think they're getting rid of their nerves and realized it's time to play."

Past two years ...

“The last two years I think we’ve gotten consistently better in some areas. We have a new-found sense of character in our program, and we’re building a very solid foundation as we fight through different situations. We always continue to fight, continue to battle and I’m really just as proud of this club as I’ve been the last two because this ball club has been through more.”

Auburn Sophomore Pitcher Bailey Horn

Performance tonight ...

“That’s what I’ve been striving for throughout this year, especially after coming back from surgery. I think it’s just part of the process of coming back. I’ve been listening to my coaches, and they’ve been guiding me and telling me what I need to do, and I think because of that I did well tonight.”

Auburn Sophomore Third Baseman Edouard Julien

Struggles during game ...

“Every time I go out there I try to compete and battle. I try to put the ball in play every time, and I’ve been pinch throwing a lot lately. I was very happy that these balls fell off and that I could just get the team going, and I felt pretty good about that.



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POST-GAME NOTES

- Tennessee is 25-25 all-time in the SEC Tournament and its first appearance since 2016.
- The Vols are now 39-96 against Auburn all-time, and this is the first meeting between the two teams in the SEC Tournament.
- Auburn swept Tennessee earlier in the season when the Vols visited Auburn in mid-March. Tennessee has not won against the Tigers since April 14, 2017.
- Jake Rucker recorded his 27th RBI of the season.
- Garrett Stallings earned his 15th start for the Vols, finishing the game with five strikeouts. He has recorded five or more strikeouts in 13 games this year.
- Andre Lipcius leads Tennessee with 20 multiple-hit games. He has recorded multiple hits in seven of the last 10 outings. He also leads the Vols with 67 hits. He was 2-for-4 on the day.
- Alerick Soularie extended his reached base streak to 22 games. He finished the day 1-for-4.
- Zach Daniels hit his fourth home run of the season.

Tennessee Coach Tony Vitello

Opening Statement ...

"It's fortunate for our guys, they got rewarded and got to experience this. I know this is the first time for these two guys, and I'm sure they were blown away with the event. But the truth of the matter is, just like our conference, it's kind of a cutthroat event and it can end pretty quickly on you, especially if you don't play good ball. I think as an entire team we probably look at our effort and say, 'Man, Christian Scott's ball was over the fence, we got a tie game, maybe we can win that game,' but I don't think anybody can say if that ball goes over the fence that we deserve to win that game. We didn't play good ball. Defense has been our strength all year, and we didn't play good defense behind Garrett Stallings. He could've managed a couple different things better, maybe we should've gotten to that game with five at-bats. All in all, just not a good day for us, which is disappointing because Volunteer fans are pretty die hard and they deserve to see a little bit better and this tournament is a banger so they deserve better."

On how this game prepares them for regionals ...

"It certainly helps, but we have to get in first. You win tonight, maybe secure it up but if you're an at-large you're never really secure until they announce your name. We'll let them decide that, and I think Florida should be in. Good luck dealing with them if they're in a regional. As far as just the next postseason game that Tennessee gets to play, they'll realize that it's just baseball. Made the comment to a couple guys tonight that this is a pretty special place but it isn't Omaha and a couple guys thought we were in game three of the championship series of Omaha and this weekend maybe as coaches we could've done something different but they've become a pretty tight-knit group and they're the ones that have gotten us to the point that they have so we left them alone and didn't do anything crazy."

Tennessee Junior Infielder Andre Lipcius

On Auburn's pitching doing so well ...

"I think that their command was pretty good tonight, and they threw a lot of strikes. Those lefties kept us off balance and we've seen a lot of righties the past couple weeks and all they threw were lefties except for one at bat to me and the other to Green so I think the lefties juts kept us off balance."

Tennessee Junior Pither Garrett Stallings

On what he saw from Auburn ...

"Some things they did for the first time all year and it was almost a little bit tight tonight and then they got a little bit of location on it and it was kind of a disadvantage. They're a great team and all of the times they see me, the better they're going to do and they came up on the better side."