



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

GAME 4 | Georgia 2, Texas A&M 0 | NOTES AND QUOTES

#### POST-GAME NOTES

- Georgia's win today moves its all-time record in the SEC Tournament to 29-45.
- Following today's win, Georgia is now 5-9 all-time against Texas A&M, including a 1-1 mark in the Tournament.
- The victory was UGA's first in the SEC Tournament since 2011.
- The win extended the Bulldogs' winning streak to five games, tying for their third-longest of the 2019 season.
- The trio of Tim Elliott, Justin Glover and Zac Kristofak combined to two-hit the Aggies. The two-hit shutout was the Bulldogs' first since Emerson Hancock, Tony Locey, Kristofak and Aaron Schunk accomplished the same feat against Texas A&M on March 30, 2018.
- The combined shutout was Georgia's first since C.J. Smith, Cole Wilcox, Justin Glover and Schunk blanked LSU on March 23 of this season.
- The shutout was Georgia's fifth of the 2019 campaign.
- Randon Jernigan's single in the bottom of the eighth broke up the no-hit bid for Texas A&M starter Chris Weber.
- The home run from Cam Shephard was Georgia's first walk-off home run since Gordon Beckham's three-run shot against Georgia State on April 16, 2008.
- This was Georgia's sixth walk-off win in SEC Tournament play, one behind Mississippi State's seven in tournament history.
- Aaron Schunk's hitting streak came to an end at 12 games.
- Schunk's streak of reaching base ended at 23 straight games.
- LJ Talley's hit streak ended at 10 games.
- Talley's reached base streak also ended today at 19 consecutive games.

Georgia Coach Scott Stricklin

#### *Opening Statement ...*

"Well I thought it was a really well played game. Both teams obviously pitched really well and had great defense on both sides. It was just a matter of the team trying to break through somehow, someday and we were able to get it. John came and got the two-out hit and just got us started. If he gets to second base, then we were going to pinch-run for him. With Chaney Rogers in there, Chaney kind of waiting to pinch-run, so we can score on a single and then Cam decided to end it. Just put a great swing on a clutch play by a clutch player and that's a big win for our program."

#### *On breaking the losing streak ...*

"Well it feels good. I didn't even know until last year when we lost the first game and we were back in the hotel, they show the score of our game and they give highlights. It says that UGA has not won in Hoover since 2011, went zero for their last eight. And then the next day I had to watch it say 0-9. So, I told the players I do not want to see that anymore. So, we talked about it and I don't believe in jinxes. I just believe in talking about stuff and we just said, 'We haven't won here since 2011. We are 0-9. We need to make sure that we do everything we can to win that first game and see what happens.' I'm proud of our guys and we competed and battled. It was a tough, hard-fought win, but we found a way."

*On Chris Weber, longest no-hitter carried in the tournament ...*

"He was really good. He commanded his fast balls, was able to throw inside to those righties, which opened up that breaking ball. So, he even threw inside to the lefties, which is really tough. When you see L.J Talley not comfortable at the plate, you know the guy has good stuff. L.J Talley is as good a hitter as anyone in the country. He can just move his fast ball in and out. He can elevate it and throw two different breaking balls. He has a change-up that he can use. I thought he was outstanding. I really hate that he is a freshman. I hate that Menefee is a freshman. I hate that Lacy is a sophomore. Rob Childress has a great staff, and they are going to continue to be good. They always have arms. That is a special pitching staff."

Georgia Junior Shortstop Cam Shepherd

*On his experience helping him and his home run ...*

"I think the experience is huge. Over the years, you learn to slow your heart rate down and just treat it like every other guy. Which is what I tried to do. And then when I was running around first base I saw him kind of tide up and jump and my heart dropped a little bit, but I'm glad it went over the fence."

*On the pitch for the walk-off home run ...*

"I have never hit a walk-off. I think I hit one sac-fly last year, but never a walk-off home run. It was a slow hanging breaking ball. I missed the fast balls early and got a breaking ball up and just tried to keep my hands back and put my foot in the barrel."

Georgia Right-Handed Pitcher Zac Kristofak

*On maintaining momentum and winning as many games as they can ...*

"Absolutely. I think coming here and winning is super important and definitely builds momentum. It's something that we haven't done in a really long time and for us with that first win, hopefully it will snowball into some of it for us going into next weekend as well."

*On sixth inning being a turning point ...*

"Absolutely. We were either two guys on or bases loaded at that time, but they got the ground ball because that could have been a run or two runs. And then we don't score until the ninth, but that was huge. He did a great job and gave the ball over to me. Then, obviously Cam came in and did what he did, and we found a way to win. Plain and simple."



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GAME 5 | Georgia 2, Texas A&M 0 | NOTES AND QUOTES

#### POST-GAME NOTES

- With today's loss, Texas A&M is 12-8 all-time at the SEC Tournament.
- Texas A&M is now 9-4 all-time against Georgia, 1-1 mark at the SEC Tournament.
- Aggie pitchers combined for six strikeouts today, moving the 2019 staff to 620 this season. The 620 strikeouts is a new program record for a single season, surpassing the previous record of 612 by the 2010 team.
- Chris Weber's 7.1 innings pitched is a high high. His previous best was 6.0 against Prairie View A&M on Feb. 20 of this season.
- Weber's 106 pitches is also a career high, surpassing his 102 pitches against Arkansas on May 16, one week ago.

Texas A&M Coach Ron Childress

#### *Opening Statement ...*

"We came out and played a great game if you're a fan of pitching and defense with a masterful performance of Chris Weber and Georgia's pitching staff. We certainly had a lot of opportunities to score, probably in the first inning with a leadoff double run out with a moving score, then loaded the bases with one out in the sixth. We had seven runners in scoring position, and we just didn't get a big hit, but from the standpoint of our pitching and our defense, I couldn't be more proud of our guys. If you're a fan of pitching and defense, it was a great game."

#### *On Weber's record-breaking 7.1 innings of allowing no hits and general performance on the mound:*

"Georgia's had a great year. They've got a lot of veteran hitters in their lineup, and they've done a great job against left-handed pitching all year long. For Chris to go out there and do that just makes you understand how special that is. Chris has been, for the last eight weeks, as good as anybody that we have on the mound and that's a bold statement when you talk about the guys we've been running out there. He's a great kid and a hard worker. He prepares the right way and there's certainly successes following that way."

#### **Texas A&M Freshman Pitcher Chris Weber**

#### *On Chris Weber's no-hitter through 7.1 innings ...*

"It's something you notice, but it's just like any other game where your goal is to go out there and keep runs from crossing the plate to give your team a chance, and just going inning by inning."

#### *On his reaction when he gave up his first hit of the game:*

"I knew it, but it wasn't my focus. My focus was to make sure that zeros kept showing up on the board each inning. Obviously, it was a little disappointing whenever they got a hit, but I know I had "Moo" behind me so I wasn't worried about anybody scoring, I know he was going to help give us a chance to win."

**Texas A&M Jr. SS Braden Shewmake**

*On leftfielder Cam Blake's attempt at catching Georgia's walk-off home run:*

"Cam does that all the time in BP, so we're not surprised when he does come down with the ball. He laid it all on the line for us and tried to make a play, but it just didn't happen for him."