



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

GAME 6 | Arkansas 5, Ole Miss 3 | NOTES AND QUOTES

POST-GAME NOTES

- Arkansas is now 34-40 all-time in the SEC Tournament following today's win. That total includes a 12-12 mark in the Hogs' Tournament-opening games.
- The Razorbacks are now even at 49-49 all-time against Ole Miss.
- Arkansas gained its final lead of the day in the bottom of the sixth. Today's win improves the Hogs to 37-1 when leading after the sixth inning.
- Matt Cronin recorded his team-leading 11th save of the season. The save moves him into a tie for third place in saves among SEC relievers.
- With his two runs scored today, Casey Martin has now scored 16 times in his last 14 games.

Arkansas Coach Dave Van Horn

Opening Statement ...

"Obviously it was a really good win for us. I think that both teams probably feel like they gave up too many runs out there. We were fortunate that Jack (Kenley) came up with a really big hit, gave us the lead back after we let it go. It wasn't exactly a real clean game by either team, but I felt like our bullpen came in and did a really nice job kind of keeping it where it was. Then Matt (Cronin) came in and really got us out of a jam there, I think it was in the top of the eighth and then the ninth was outstanding, so good win."

On Matt Cronin's performance ...

"Matt just got after it. What we were more excited to see was that it only took 3 pitches, so we felt good about him going back out... In the ninth inning, he struck out everybody we faced. It was one of his best outings ever. It was a pretty good team. He threw one, two, and three in the order and made them all hit so just happy that he didn't have to throw a lot of pitches and had a lot of success. I was really excited to see him drop that curve ball in there off that left-handed hitter because after that happened you could just see a different demeanor and body language in the hitter."

Arkansas Junior Second Baseman Jack Kenley

On his two-run single to put Arkansas ahead ...

"Credit to him, he's a very good pitcher. Just kind of knew that I was going to get a fastball at some point, and he kind of lured me in a little bit. The approach on him would just be to stay away and try to stay up the middle. I got the pitch middle of the line or so, fastball, and put it into go."

On facing Georgia for the first time tomorrow ...

"They're a really good crew up the middle, and they're a team everywhere else as well. We're anxious to get out there and put our best against their best."

Arkansas Junior Left-Handed Pitcher Matt Cronin

On his performance today ...

"That was a lot of fun out there. I threw two breaking balls, and it was the first breaking ball I've thrown for a strike in about five weeks. So it definitely felt good. I was just having fun out there. Trying to pummel the strike zone and it ended up going well for me."

On his mindset when entering the game today ...

"You never know that could've been the game right there, so you've got to come in and got to find a way to get that out without them scoring. I think my preferred way is a strikeout, and I got that."



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GAME 5 | Arkansas 5, Ole Miss 3 | NOTES AND QUOTES

POST-GAME NOTES

- With today's 5-3 loss, the Rebels now trail the Razorback's 46-49 in the all-time series.
- Ole Miss' loss marks its first SEC Tournament defeat since 2018, when Auburn defeated the Rebels 9-3 in its first contest of the conference tournament. The streak reached seven. Ole Miss would go on to win the tournament and take its third conference title in school history.
- Arkansas has now outscored Ole Miss 16-14 through the teams' four contests this year.
- Ole Miss has now scored three or more runs 52 times this season.
- The Rebels entered the game with the fewest walks allowed in SEC play (93) and gave up three against the Razorbacks.
- Ole Miss is now 4-8 in 2-run games and 9-13 when scoring 3-5 runs.

Ole Miss Coach Mike Bianco

Opening Statement ...

"Obviously a disappointing game for us. Arkansas is so good and can beat you in a lot of ways. The disappointing thing is we just didn't play very well. We gave them too many opportunities, a couple walks. I thought Zack was terrific, but two walks by us and an HB, three of their five runs. Part of that is because we don't make plays in the field. On the other side of the ball, we just had opportunities offensively that we didn't capitalize on, especially early. Twice I think in the first three innings, we had a runner at second base, and we just don't have enough good at-bats to score. So again, trying not to take credit from Arkansas, that's why they're so good, but to beat them you have to play better than that."

On Zack's outing...

"I thought he was terrific. I mentioned a couple walks and an HBP, but I thought he commanded it well today. We didn't help him defensively. One was a fielder's choice, but we could've gotten a lead runner at first base where we get the first runner but then we don't catch the ball, we bobble it and have to take the forceout. Then later a groundball that went as a hit but Tyler (Keenan) makes that play all the time. We don't make that play, another opportunity gets blown. I thought he pitched his heart out today. It was one of those, I didn't even think about it when we chose to pitch him about the Arkansas deal. He pitched with a lot of guts today against a really good offense. I thought he made some terrific pitches. And it's a shame in the end, bad pitch call by me to (Jack) Kenley where he gets a big base hit up the middle. Should've went breaking ball, but he was almost out of that inning. He would've pitched six innings against a really, really good offense."

Ole Miss junior left fielder Thomas Dillard

On difficulty of facing Matt Cronin...

"Cronin is an electric arm. One of the best fastballs in the country, and you've got to give him credit. When it comes down to it in the eighth and ninth, we've just got to have more competitive at-bats versus a guy like that. In the SEC, especially in the SEC Tournament, you're going to get the best arms. You're going to get closers like that all the time, so we just have to compete versus a guy like that, but he was really good today."

Ole Miss Junior Pitcher Zack Phillips PHILLIPS

On pitching against Arkansas...

"I felt good about it. Growing up in Arkansas, my whole family, big Arkansas fans, so it's pretty neat to get to pitch against them. Felt pretty good, just wasn't our day."

