



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

GAME 10 | LSU 4, Auburn 3 | NOTES AND QUOTES

POST-GAME NOTES

- LSU's win moves the Tigers to a league-best 87-43 all-time in the SEC Tournament.
- The Tigers hold a 106-75 lead in the series with Auburn. That includes an 18-5 mark against AU in the last 23 games.
- Josh Smith finished 2-for-4 to move his hitting streak to seven games. During that stretch, he is batting .324 (11-34) with three doubles, one home run, five RBI, five runs scored, two walks, a hit-by-pitch and one stolen base.
- Smith's two-hit day was his team-leading 26th multi-hit game this season.
- Cade Beloso's 1-for-4 performance pushed his hitting streak to seven games. Over the seven games, Beloso is batting .407 (11-27) with a home run, eight RBI, two runs scored, a walk and three hit-by-pitch.
- Antoine Duplantis' hit streak came to an end at nine games. Across the streak from May 9-22, the senior batted .375 (15-40) with three doubles, three home runs, 10 RBI, nine runs scored and four walks.

LSU Coach Paul Mainieri

Opening Statement ...

"Obviously, we're happy to stay another day in wonderful Hoover. I told the players after the game that there's a saying in baseball that 'Everyday you show up to the field, you're liable to see something you've never seen before,' and I can't recall in 37 years that I've ever seen a walk-off win with two runs scoring on a wild pitch like we did. In all honesty after last night, we'll take whatever we can get. We were happy to do it. I actually feel like we earned it. Giovanni had a great bat, got a base hit to start the inning. Then, I'm sure people thought a bunt there to play for the tie, but after playing 17 innings last night, we were either going to win or lose right here in the ninth inning. Saul came through with a big hit and then hustled to second base, and I didn't pinch run initially for Saul because with Bianco as our only pinch runner available I thought I might use him to hit for Hal Hughes if they brought in the left hander. I didn't know what the situation would be, and when we had the situation where we just needed somebody to make contact and put the ball into play, I thought Chris Reid hitting lefty against lefty was the better option. That's when we put Bianco in to run for Saul, and I just can't say enough about what Giovanni has meant to our team. His fearlessness and reaction to that play made it for us. He had the base hit to start the inning, the big homerun last night, and the sacrifice fly. He's a kid that's blossomed before our eyes. Last thing I wanted to say before you ask your questions is that the job that Landon did today was phenomenal. I don't know what we would've done if he hadn't pitched deep into the game. Not only did he pitch successfully, but he burned up a lot of innings for us, which is what you want your starting pitchers to do especially at this point in the tournament

On what this win means to him ...

"I told them this morning at breakfast in a very heartfelt way that I was very proud of them last night despite the result of the game, and if somehow they could find the energy and the enthusiasm to go out there today and find a way to win this game, that it would be one of the more special wins that I'll ever remember at LSU because nobody would give us a chance. Who would give you a chance after getting into bed at 4:30 in the morning and having to get up four hours later for pre-game meal? And somehow the kids found a way to go out there and do it, and I'm just really proud of them."

LSU Freshman Outfielder Giovanni DiGiacomo

On Chris Reid waving him home for the game-tying run ...

"He was definitely telling me to come home, and Nolan (Cain) was kind of saying the same thing. I just kind of froze at first to make sure it was right and kind of saw it kick out and then went."

LSU Freshman Right-Handed Pitcher Landon Marceaux

On stepping up today with a short bullpen ...

"I felt like I really needed to carry this team today. Just get on my back and then let's go. I go as deep and as hard as I can. That's all I was trying to do today."

LSU Junior Shortstop Josh Smith

On recovering from last night's 17-inning game ...

"Crazy game last night. We played our hearts out. Everybody did what they could. We just came up a little short, but I think it says a lot about the team how we responded today even being down a run in the last inning. Nobody thought we were going to lose that game. Some people came through. Some freshmen made a big base run for us. Marceaux pitched great for us to give us a chance there. I think it says a lot about this team that we're just not going to quit, and everybody wants to win each and every game no matter what."



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- Auburn is now 75-106 all-time in the series.
- Wednesday's meeting between the two schools marked the 12th time they have met in the SEC Tournament, with LSU holding a 9-3 advantage.
- Jack Owen threw a career-high 102 pitches, breaking his mark of 98 against UTSA on March 19, 2019.
- Judd Ward ties his career-high of 3 hits. This is the 5th time he has had 3 hits in a game.
- With this loss, Auburn fell to 31-2 in games they have lead after the 8th inning.
- With this loss, Auburn fell to 34-49 all time in the SEC tournament.

Auburn Coach Butch Thompson

Opening Statement ...

"Unusual, tough way to lose it, but I enjoyed our guys' bounce back from yesterday's contest (against Vanderbilt). We talked about pace, and we talked about pride, good pride. Putting this uniform on and representing for this conference, with 18 of our guys being new. That's a great opportunity for us to keep learning. I'm disappointed, not mad or sad that our journey ends here in Hoover, but I thought Jack Owen did a great job with pace of play. That was one of my huge requests, and I thought he worked quick. I know Josh Smith had a leadoff double to start the game, and I just thought we made a lot of good pitches. I thought (Owen) had three really good pitches going. I thought he did good with their really good left-handed hitters. He threw some fastballs in with two strikes to the righties. I thought we had a really good plan and executed it well. That was (Cody) Greenhill's third outing since Saturday. That's kind of where we are and some of the challenges we're facing when trying to create depth for a Regional atmosphere. So we have our work cut out and have to pay a lot of attention to how we're going to figure that out moving forward. But Greenhill had one good pitch to get out of the seventh inning.

On moving forward ...

"We're going to circle the wagons and keep working, wait for Monday and see where we're going and start our preparations."

Auburn Sophomore Pitcher Jack Owen

On pace of pitching and relievers ...

"It's just tempo. If you look back to the game yesterday with Vanderbilt, we were out on the field for a lot more than Vanderbilt was, and whether if you think that factors into it and being able to go back to the dugout and be able to work with your hitters means a lot. It makes it a lot easier to make something happen. Judd (Ward) standing in leftfield for a long time and whoever being in the dugout and not staying out there in the heat can make a difference. So I try to be quick, keep everything going and not give up a hit and go back on the run and keep going to get back to work. With our bullpen, everyone is doing a good job. We trust Cody (Greenhill) more than anybody. It's not that he did a bad job. He came in and did what he's supposed to do and LSU has a very good lineup from top to bottom. Those two singles (in the ninth) were good swings."

Auburn Junior DH Conor Davis

On the tough ending after battling back ...

"I think after yesterday like Coach was talking about, we obviously needed to come out with a faster pace. And I think that we did. Jack (Owen) started it off for us. But just the way that that ended, (Matt) Scheffler has been working crazy hard all year. It's just one of those plays that you can't really predict what would happen. But battling after yesterday, especially after what Jack was saying, Vanderbilt was hitting for over two hours in the game yesterday and we were in the field. But it shows a lot of grit that our team has. I think this fight that we showed today after yesterday will definitely help us moving forward next week in a Regional."