



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

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME | Vanderbilt 11, Ole Miss 10 | NOTES AND QUOTES

POST-GAME NOTES

- This was the Commodores' 11th appearance and first since 2015. This is their third conference title (2019, 1980, 2007).
- The Commodores have now scored the most runs in the SEC this season with 500 and the most home runs with 82.
- Vanderbilt has 32 hits in its four wins this week in Hoover
- Martin now leads the SEC with 76 runs scored and Bleday with 72.
- Junior Ty Duvall recorded four RBI Saturday and added another one during the championship game. He led the SEC Tournament with eight.
- Vandy has won 22 out of 23.
- A record 162,699 fans attended the 2019 SEC Tournament.
- This is the Commodores; largest comeback this season; previous deficit was 4 against Illinois St. on March 8.
- Austin Martin tied the single season run-scored record with 76.
- Harrison Ray's third double of the day sets a SEC Tournament championship game record and ties the record for doubles in an SEC Tournament game.

2019 SEC All-Tournament Team

P: John Doxakis, Texas A&M

P: Parker Caracci, Ole Miss

C: Saul Garza, LSU

DH: Matt Goodheart, Arkansas

1B: Tanner Allen, Mississippi State

2B: Brandt Broussard, LSU

3B: Edouard Julien, Auburn

SS: Josh Smith, LSU

OF: JJ Bleday, Vanderbilt

OF: Thomas Dillard, Ole Miss

OF: Pat DeMarco, Vanderbilt

Most Valuable Player: JJ Bleday, Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt Coach Tim Corbin

Opening Statement ...

"Well, certainly a lot to that game, for sure. I'll have to go back through it several times just to kind of create those memories again, but happy for the outcome, of course, and how these guys have celebrated their time here. They've made great use of it and gotten better a long the way. I think the biggest challenge when you get into a situation like this sometimes for players and coaches is when you win the regular season, getting to a tournament situation the value of competition and how much value you put on it. You can see by the actions of the guys that they value competition. They did things well, and they put themselves in opportunities that they could enjoy. For that, and for everyone at Vanderbilt, we're grateful to be a part of it."

On senior class...

"I'm happy for the group, but that 101 will come down underneath the video board. It'll come down with that trophy that we take forward. This in a lot of ways is for Teddy and Susan Everett, and Donny and that group of seniors. I'm glad they got to see it come full circle. Not only from the standpoint that we played everyone in the conference; first time we've ever done that, but to come full circle for the seniors and to be able to finish something that was Donny's aim."

VANDERBILT 2B HARRISON RAY

On folding after going down early...

"Nobody really thought about that. I think we wanted to play this game, and we wanted to win this game. Packing it in for the NCAA's was never a thought for everybody. I think the biggest thought was just that we were just going to chip away at this lead. We were going to stay together just one by one. We were going to do it every inning. We were just going to try to get back in it as best we could."

VANDERBILT DH PHILIP CLARKE

On walk-off hit...

"I didn't come through in the bottom of the seventh, so I felt like I needed to in the bottom of the ninth. I got with Coach Baxter, went over the scouting report. We didn't have much info on him. I was just looking for a pitch to hit, got one, and put a good swing on it."



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POST-GAME NOTES

- Ole Miss fell just short of winning its second-consecutive SEC Tournament title and was looking to be the first team to repeat since LSU in 2013 and 2014.
- The 7-seed Ole Miss knocked off three higher seeds en route to the finals.
- Ole Miss tallied 19 runs combined in the last two SEC Tournament finals, which is the most since Alabama combined for 27 in 1996 and 1997.
- Vanderbilt and Ole Miss combined for the most runs since 1979 in the SEC Tournament Final with 21.
- Sunday marked the second meeting in the SEC Tournament finals between the two schools. Ole Miss prevailed 9-3 in 2006. The Rebels now lead the all-time series 66-60-2.
- The Rebels scored six runs in the first inning. Ole Miss had not scored more than five total runs in a game in the previous five games in the SEC Tournament.
- Ole Miss tied an SEC Tournament record with six games played.
- The last time the Rebels scored six runs in an inning at the SEC Tournament was May 26 2004 against South Carolina.
- Junior Thomas Dillard drove home two runs to tally his sixth RBI for the SEC Tournament and 51 for the season.
- Junior Grae Kessinger recorded two RBI to earn six for the tournament and 46 on the season.
- Junior Zack Phillips started the game on three days rest, going 2.0 innings while allowing three runs on six hits.
- Junior Austin Miller pitched 2.2 innings striking out six batters in relief.
- The game was the longest nine-inning contest in SEC Tournament history at 4 hours, 22 minutes and the longest in the championship game.
- 162,699 fans attended the 2019 SEC Tournament. The previous best total was 150,064 set in 2016.

Ole Miss Coach Mike Bianco

Opening Statement ...

“Just really proud of my guys. As you’ve guys seen, it’s been an incredible week for us, and they played well all week including today. One of the challenges is to go through this gauntlet of a tournament and get to this point and be able to really compete in the championship, and they did. They gave it everything they could, everything they had, left it out in the field. I don’t know how many people we didn’t use just about the whole roster today, and I’m just proud. It’s a really good team. The dugout on this team has played really well. It’s unfortunate. I tell them all the time that losing stinks but really just proud of the way not only that they played this week but today as well.”

On keeping the team’s belief alive after this loss ...

“It’s a great question, and I don’t know if it’s something you can bottle up and put a lid on. You hope that they realize that just because you have believe and just because you play hard and do a lot of things well this game is very humbling. You’re not going to win them all. I think at some point, maybe it’s a few hours, maybe it’s tomorrow during the selection show, they’ll realize that we did the best that we could. That’s all we can ask for. We didn’t win, but I was really proud of these guys.”

Ole Miss Junior Outfielder Cooper Johnson

On Ole Miss rebounding from their six-game losing streak entering the tournament ...

"We talked about in the pregame meeting about how at some point something kind of switched. I'm not sure, I don't think anyone is really sure, exactly when it flipped. We just started to play differently. We started to play differently, and we started to believe. We start to believe and anything can happen."

Ole Miss Junior Catcher Thomas Dillard

On Ole Miss's performance this week ...

"Nobody really expected us to be here. We kind of skated at the end of the year. It just showed the heart that our team has. We had to play six games in six days to get here. To jump out on a great Vanderbilt team like that, I think shows a lot about our team. I'm really proud of them. I think we fought as hard as we could. Made it to the last pitch of the game just came up a little short but really proud of our team this week."