

**2019 Mississippi State Baseball
Postgame Quotes
Mississippi State vs. Auburn
March 23, 2019**

Head Coach Chris Lemonis

Q: Did you sense that night's result was the reason for hot bats today?

CL: I did. Early on, it played out a lot like last night. In the first couple of innings we left some guys on. [Our guys] were very focused and ready to play like always. They usually come ready to go. We were very offensive today. In the second and third we left a couple of guys on, but we were still having great at-bats.

Q: Can Rowdey Jordan's three hits today get him going?

CL: I think so. I think he got going a little bit at Samford the other night, and then last night was ok. Then tonight you are seeing, the ball he hit into right-center in the middle part of the game was one of his better swings he's had all year. Sometimes when you are coming out of that, it's just nice to relax and play ball and have fun.

Q: Rowdey didn't just get hits, he got hits in key moments.

CL: Good at-bats. Just on the ball. He does what he does, and he is so athletic to let him get on base and run around, it's nice to see.

Q: How did you attack Auburn's starter?

CL: [It's] pretty much that left-handed approach, trying to stay on some balls, hitting the other way. When you have Mangum, he gets on, it feels like, every game, so he gets it going right there in that first inning. The atmosphere helps. When you play in a place like this and you have a freshman on the mound, you get a chance to get the inning going really early.

Q: How do you keep the intensity going tomorrow?

CL: I don't know, it's kind of the make-up of our team. I felt like we've had that all year. I made a comment to them, I think it was at Samford, because we had a lot of travel and a lot going on. They show up to play every day. It's a gritty group. They really love to play the game. They pretty much show up and have that intensity. Like somebody said earlier, they were a little upset last night and they had something to prove [today].

Q: Is JT Ginn the type of pitcher that keeps the infield ready with all the ground balls?

CL: And it's the choppers, it's the slow-rollers. We even have to play up a little bit, and we talk about it a lot. Ethan is a little bit like that, too. We get a lot of chopped balls off of Ethan, so we have to be a little more aggressive when they pitch.

Q: How important is it for JT Ginn to have effective innings?

CL: It's huge. You usually see those innings come at about the third, the fourth, the fifth. He seems to usually settle in and gets going, and then he'll have some of those real efficient innings. You are up and down really quick, and back in the dugout. That's what has let him extend into games.

Q: Will that matter going into the next series?

CL: It does a little bit. That's why we kind of, having this short week, that was the decision to take him out of the game. We were trying to get Liebelt ready to run out there and we just couldn't get him ready. We had the replay and everything. I thought that would help us, but it took a little longer than we thought.

Q: How does Westburg hit the ball so hard every time he hits?

CL: He is a big, strong, physical kid. He puts some balls in play. His exit [velocities] are in that 100-110 [area] every time he hits it, so I just need him to hit it more often.