

**2019 Mississippi State Baseball
Postgame Quotes
Mississippi State vs. LSU
March 28, 2019**

Head Coach Chris Lemonis

Q: Was JT Ginn's rocky start more to do with him or LSU?

CL: I think it was more LSU, the left-handed hitters in the lineup. He left a couple balls up. Typical JT he fought and competed in that inning and we should have gotten out of it. That's the disappointing side.

Q: It seems like it's been tough to get a clean start. What are you seeing from the team?

CL: We've had a couple of rough starts. I felt like defensively we could have gotten off the field [a couple of times]. It's a good lineup. Those guys are competing. They had some good at bats early. That lineup is a little top heavy when you have [Antoine] Duplantis and [Zach] Watson and [Daniel] Cabrera, but we can be better in the first that's for sure.

Q: Twice you cut into the lead, and they immediately came back. How frustrating is that?

CL: That's frustrating because you need a hold. You can win that game. We've had that happen a couple of times, probably last week to us. You can get a hold and chip away and get back into it and dig into somebody's bullpen. I give our guys some credit. We fought the whole time through three of their best arms. The first two guys were really good tonight. Our guys had to really scratch. We couldn't afford that score of a game.

Q: What did LSU do to have success against JT [Ginn]?

CL: I think he got the ball up a little bit, and they barreled up some balls and put them in play. I don't think they crushed them, just put them in play. We didn't play great defense tonight too. That piece has been my frustrating piece lately. We have got to be able to defend better if we want to do the things we want to do. Defense shows up every night. In these types of games, you have got to be able to defend.

Q: What was the reaction of the team to losing a game like this?

CL: We talked about it in the locker room because tonight was our first bad effort. We played hard. We just didn't play good. Even some of our losses, we got beat, but tonight we didn't play as well. Tip your hat to LSU. I thought they played really well. Defensively, they suffocated us. Their pitchers were really good, and they had some great at bats. I didn't think we played the game great tonight.

Q: What were some of the positives from tonight?

CL: We had some big at bats. Jordan Westburg and Jake [Mangum] had a couple of really good hits. Jack Eagan came in and threw a really good inning, but we made an error in that inning. I thought we were pretty good in some of the areas and had some good at bats. I thought their starter was really good so for us to compete and get him out in the fifth and flip it over was good. Even to make them use their other bullpen arms was a big piece, and it may have an effect in tomorrow's game.

JT Ginn

Q: It was a little bit of a different night tonight, what was happening out there?

JG: They just did a good job. They had a good approach, and they had some good swings on me. That's baseball. When you pitch in the SEC things like that are going to happen.

Q: I feel like your locations and everything were on tonight, was it more of just a credit to LSU?

JG: I felt like I had good stuff and that I commanded the ball pretty well. Like you said, some balls found some holes and you are going to have nights like that.

Q: There are a lot of left handers in this line up and I know that can change your approach, do you expect to see a lot more of that?

JG: They are always going to stack lefties. Especially because I'm a sinker ball pitcher, they are always going to have lefties in the line-up. You just have to pitch to all of them.

Q: How frustrating was it that anytime you guys would score, LSU would come right back within the next inning?

JG: You just have to give credit to them. They are a good ball club and they are coming in here to win the game just like we are. They put some good swings on the ball and they just won [the game].

Jordan Westburg

Q: Jordan, kind of a frustrating night in the yard, what was it like in the dugout?

JW: Just like you said, frustrating. There was a lot of frustration going around. We didn't play very good defense at the start, in the first inning, and that is a big emphasis that we need to work on.

Q: It seems like in the last few ballgames it has been difficult to get a clean first inning. What do you think might be the disconnect there?

JW: I don't know what it is honestly. Maybe it's just a mental thing of not being locked in. They put a few good swings on the ball and started moving the ball. That's what good teams do. They move the ball and make teams make good plays.

Q: There seems to be a few struggles defensively, what do you think could be going on out there in the infield?

JW: I couldn't tell you. We go in and work every day and maybe it is not putting enough work in at practice, or enough intensity. You know I, myself, have fallen victim to the same thing. Everybody has fallen victim. Maybe it is just a miscommunication, but we will get better.

Q: What do you have to do to come back and win the series tomorrow

JW: Shake it [off]. It's baseball. You have another game [tomorrow], and it only takes two to win the series.