

**2019 Mississippi State Baseball  
Postgame Quotes  
Mississippi State vs. Alabama  
April 13, 2019**

**Head Coach Chris Lemonis**

***Q: Another series clinched today. How important is it to get that out of the way on Saturday?***

CL: It's nice. I'd like it every Saturday if we could finish it up. It's big tomorrow too, for us to win games. We're in a tight battle in our league and for us to get another one tomorrow is huge. We expect to go out and play well.

***Q: Peyton [Plumlee] with another back-to-back good performance for you. What were you seeing with him today?***

CL: He found some balls on the ground. We probably should have had another double play on the one ball. But for him to get balls pounded into the ground, that's when he's pitching well.

***Q: Keegan James comes in and gives you a 34-pitch outing. What does that say about tomorrow? Do you know who your starter's going to be tomorrow?***

CL: JT Ginn is starting tomorrow. Keegan's in the pen. We have a full bullpen for tomorrow. JT's fine. He'll be ready to go tomorrow.

***Q: How long do you expect JT's outing to be?***

CL: Probably a normal outing. He feels fine. We've been trying to be cautious all week long, making sure he gets through bullpen, long toss, all those things. He feels fine, so he'll run out there and throw tomorrow.

***Q: Looking around your offense, up and down the lineup, a lot of guys spread those hits around. What were you seeing from the team?***

CL: I thought we had a really good inning [in the fourth] when we scored the two, and Rowdey [Jordan] had a big hit in there. Just grinding out some at-bats, because they going to have some really good stuff. [Brock Love] had that high-spin-rate fastball, and we couldn't lay off some of those high balls in those early innings. And then we're able to add to it. Some of those home run balls there late really help you because you get to save your bullpen for tomorrow a little bit and spread that game out.

***Q: You've got Jordan Westburg and Jake Mangum. Those guys have been producing all year. For you as a coach though, you see Marshall Gilbert get a home run, Rowdey Jordan has a big game, Brad Cumbest had a multiple-hit game last night. How much production can you get from the bottom of your order?***

CL: I think that's one of our strengths, is the depth of our lineup. Josh Hatcher had a couple of really good weeks. We've had some guys give us some good at-bats down there. Rowdey and [Tanner Allen] are really coming along right now, so that gives us a tough lineup.

**Elijah MacNamee**

***Q: Another big day offensively, took you a little bit to get going, what were you seeing out there?***

EM: Coming in to the series now and the season, a lot of teams know what we're capable of hitting so they're trying to work around that. We have to be patient and understand what might be coming from other pitchers, but just staying with our same approach and doing what we do."

***Q: Did you have some anxiety thinking that the home run might not get out?***

EM: I knew I crushed it. The reaction of the fans I kind of knew it was going out, they started jumping up and down. I was praying that it had two legs to grow and get out of there and it did so I put a good swing on it and good things happen.

***Q: With a tough schedule coming up over the next four weeks, how important was it for you guys to build momentum over these last two series?***

EM: Great. It's been there but it's baseball. You have your ups and downs and I think we were a little down not long ago but we were still doing well and now we're climbing again.

***Q: How good do you feel like this offense is?***

EM: I want to shout out Coach Gautreau. He's the best hitting coach out there. He's gives us the right approach. He gives us the right mentality to go up there and understand that we're the best. When you have a whole club of guys with the same mentality, it's dangerous. I know people are like, 'Oh, they're hot right now,' but we've worked too hard to just be hot for one little period of time. When one guy does well, another guy might not, but the next day it could be reversed, so that's how we look at it.

***Q: What do you attribute your individual consistency to?***

EM: Just going up there with the same approach knowing what my ability is and what I'm capable of and understanding that I'm in this league for a reason. I'm an older guy for a reason. I know how people are going to pitch me now and [I'm] just going up there with confidence.

***Q: What's leading to that patience at the plate?***

EM: Understanding what pitches I can hit. What pitches I used to chase or something I couldn't hit, even if I made contact. Seeing pitches well in the zone knowing where I can hit them and if they're out of that zone I'm not swinging and they're most likely balls. Just understanding what pitches, I can and can't hit. If it's out of the zone, I'm just taking it.

**Peyton Plumlee**

***Q: How are you feeling? What's working for you?***

PP: I feel really good. After seeing Small's start and he punches out 15 guys, there's a lot you can think about going into the next day. I knew the best way to get these guys out was going to be able to move my ball up and down zone, change speeds and I think that's what helped me out.

***Q: How was mindset today knowing that you were going to start days in advance?***

PP: It didn't change a whole lot. It put me on a better routine for this week, obviously. Other than that, I think coming to the field day-to-day ready to pitch is one of the biggest things and I think whether you expect to pitch or not, that you should always be ready to go. That's kind of how I looked at it all week.

***Q: How easier is it to challenge hitters when you have a lead that can't be surrendered in one swing?***

PP: It's really easy. This whole year I've been working on the two seam, sinker combo and I knew that if I was going to be able to throw that for a strike, that I was going to be able to cruise through the lineup and make those guys put it in play instead of going up there trying to strike everybody out. Especially when you get three runs on the board with our lineup, it's a lot of comfortability as a pitcher and it gives you a lot of room for error too.

***Q: Winning another series, you got a little momentum going?***

PP: Absolutely. I think everybody is playing with their hair on fire right now. I think we've had some games up to this point where people have doubted us a little bit but nothing ever changes with us and we're just going to look to keep moving forward and get another win tomorrow. This weekend's not over yet.