

## **Lipscomb Quotes vs. Mississippi State NCAA Starkville Regional – May 29, 2026**

### **Head Coach Jeff Forehand Opening Statement**

These two guys battled for the first four innings, and what a masterful... efficient game by Duke. Such a solid, solid performance. I mean, he had us swimming in there for a while. We couldn't figure him out. You know, you're mixing four pitches for strikes, it was pretty good, but our guy matched him, pitched for pits there for a while.

### **Alexander Llinas**

#### *On solid pitching performance*

Really, the main game plan is, you know, don't give any free passes, trying to limit the walks, which kind of hurt me today. Walked three, so, you know, that's just, that's really what it was. Limited free passes. They can put the ball in play and trust myself in the zone.

#### *On journey to Lipscomb, from D2 and deliver to Friday night starter.*

It's been everything to me, especially, you know, with Coach Forehand and, Coach Ziegler, just putting the trust in me, you know, just give me the ball every Friday night and let me go out there and try and give him a chance to win the game and that was really all I asked for, you know. I told them, whatever they need me to do, relieve, start, do it for them. And, you know, it just meant all, you know, it meant the world to me, you know, for them to give me this opportunity.

#### *On standing ovation from Mississippi State fans*

It was honestly probably one of those coolest moments ever, you know, because this is one of the best places to play in baseball. You know, 15, 16,000 people, you know, the weight of the crowd, and it was a surreal moment. It was a pretty cool part.

#### *Coach Forehand on the Standing ovation*

That's what makes this place so special. You know? All that stuff that goes on in the outfield, and all that stuff that goes on around here, and, you know, recognize that this kid pitched a great game, held a really good team down for a bunch of innings, and for a sold out crowd to give a standing ovation to the other team. That's what makes this place so, so cool, so special.

### **Head Coach Jeff Forehand**

#### *On his pitcher Alexander*

Well, you know, I think he finally found a place he can land, and somebody had some confidence in him, like you said, being a reliever for most of his career, and, you know, he earned that. He didn't come in and just, all of a sudden, be the Friday night starter. I mean, he earned that throughout the fall, and in early spring, he earned that. And, you know, all year long, he got better and better. We talked about it a little bit yesterday that it took him a little while. When he was here, that's the first time he'd gotten us to five innings. And then,

there on after, he was getting on up, and then, especially toward the end, and then tournament, he gave us, you know, pitched into the 8th one time. He's just a special young man, you know, finally, uh, in his last year, found a spot that was good for him, and sometimes when you find that place you pitch a whole lot better and play a whole lot better.