

**Louisiana Quotes vs. Lipscomb (Elimination Game)**  
**NCAA Starkville Regional – May 30, 2026**

**Head Coach Matt Deggs Opening Statement**

I thought it was a great response by our boys, and, we got to 40 wins. That was our goal. Some of you guys haven't followed us all year, Mark, you have kind of, but we've been on the ditch now and to see these kids pick themselves up and, uh, Boy, that's special feeling. And then to do it today with, you know, if you look out on my field today, you got five or six freshmen and a couple of sophomores, all contributing. I mean, freshman sophomore and then some older key dudes just playing good baseball. Very proud of them. I'm not going to take anything away from [Lipscomb]. They're a tough customer now. They're here for a reason. And to me, in my experience in regionals, that game, when you come off the disappointment of losing the 1st one, and we got crushed. So the disappointment wasn't like you lost an extra running game. But it's hard to respond off that, and typically it's against a lower seed. And that game's always tremendously difficult. So I'll be interested to see what happens tonight. This ought to be a great game tonight. Both teams are super talented. A lot of big leaguers on the field in this regional. So I'm just proud of our guys. Look, we've played 64 games, it's the most in the country, and we've had 8 extra-inning games. I dare to say that might be right up there. It speaks to these kids just love to play baseball and I really respect that. So we get to live to fight another day and see what happens.

**Mark Collins**

*On batting 2<sup>nd</sup> and responding*

It felt great. You know, coach had a lot of faith in me and I was just glad I was able to go out there and do my job and help us get started early.

**Head Coach Matt Deggs**

*On lineup changes that worked well*

I've been toying with it in my head. I just didn't really want to do that to Noah because he's a special talent. But I felt like we had reached a point based on our last 2 games, the starts we were getting off to in the last 2 games, the championship, and then last night. That kid right there, he's got everything that takes play in the big leagues. He does. He just, he comes out of a small school north of town, and he's learning, and you're starting to see some of that come together, and I thought him and Blaze would be really good together, and it worked out that way. And then I don't want Josh to get lost in all of this. I thought he had a tremendous day. So, yeah, that I've been messing with that in my head a little bit and went ahead and pulled the trigger on it today.