



# 2011 SEC Baseball Tournament

Game 13 – Saturday, May 28 – 4:45 p.m.

#3 Florida vs. #5 Georgia

## GAME NOTES

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- Florida goes to 44-16 for the season and Georgia falls to 31-30.
- Sunday's championship game between Florida and Vanderbilt will be just the second time since 1996 that two Eastern Division teams will meet for the title (2004 – South Carolina vs. Vanderbilt).
- Regardless of tomorrow's outcome, an Eastern Division team will be the SEC Tournament Champion for just the third time since 1996 (South Carolina 2004; Vanderbilt 2007).

### Florida -

- The Gators will make their first SEC Tournament championship game appearance since 2000.
- This was Florida's 16th comeback win of the season.
- Nolan Fontana slugged his fourth home run of the season in the third inning. The two run home run tied the game up and gave Fontana his 38th and 39th RBI of the season.
- Daniel Pigott stole his fourth and fifth base of the SEC Tournament on Saturday night, giving him 14 stolen bases on the season. He now leads all players in stolen bases in the tournament.
- The Gators only had three hits through the first seven innings. Two of those hits were singles by Bryson Smith, who is now 7-for-14 in the 2011 SEC Tournament.
- With his two hits, Smith now has nine multi-hit games this season.
- Daniel Pigott only had one official at-bat in the game which was a fly-out. In two out of his other three plate appearances, he walked and then stole second base.
- Tommy Toledo made his second appearance in the tournament on Saturday night. Two out of the first three batters he faced were strikeouts, bringing his tournament total to eight, which is second most by a pitcher this week.
- Designated hitter Vickash Ramjit hit a double in the top of the ninth inning. It's only his third extra base hit of the season.
- As a team, Florida had four stolen bases in the game. The last time Florida had four stolen bases in a game was against Bethune-Cookman on May 3, 2011.
- Austin Maddox made his 18th appearance of the year in the ninth inning and held the lead for his fifth save of the season. Maddox now drops his ERA to 0.78 for the year.

### Georgia -

- Starting pitcher Patrick Boling pitched 2.2 innings and gave up a season high two earned runs on two hits, while giving up a home run.
  - Pitcher Blake Dieterich made his first plate appearance of the season in the fourth inning. It was also his first career at-bat and he struck out looking.
  - First baseman Kevin Ruiz went 3-for-4 with a single and two doubles in the game. That gives Ruiz four multi-hit games on the season and two three hit games.
  - The Bulldogs had three errors in the game. Two were made in the sixth inning by Colby May and those are his first errors of the year.
  - Georgia is now 8-6 when committing two errors or more.
  - Relief pitcher John Herman threw a season high 3.1 innings on Saturday night along with a season high two strikeouts.
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## GEORGIA QUOTES

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### HEAD COACH DAVID PERNO

#### *Opening Statement:*

"First game was really special for our program. It allows us to go into the second game and didn't have a lot of pressure on us. We just didn't take care of the baseball like we normally do, and it kind of hurt us. All in all, the kids played hard like they have all year, and I'm probably as proud of this team as any team we've ever had."

#### *On tough non conference schedule:*

"Obviously if we don't make that type of schedule we probably don't make this type of run here. Now, we might not need that type of run so it's kind of hand in hand. One of the things we have prided ourselves on...when you look back through the last ten years, we've had some tough runs, but we've accomplished as much - if not more - than any other SEC program. If you don't put yourself out there and play that type of schedule, I just think it's tough to be consistent and be a factor come regional time."

### MICHAEL PALAZZONE

#### *On pitching:*

"It was a quick turnaround, but I've done it the last couple weeks. Luckily my arm has been feeling like rubber lately so it was easy to get back out there. All around just a huge team effort. Everyone picked each other up. Awesome to win that third game."

#### *On seeing Johnathan Taylor:*

"What we've been through, baseball's just a game and that's real life. You can't take this game too seriously. You've got to go out there and have some fun. You're never guaranteed tomorrow, so you have to take every play for what it's worth."

## FLORIDA QUOTES

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### HEAD COACH KEVIN O'SULLIVAN

#### *Opening Statement:*

"Today got started on an emotional note with Johnathan Taylor, and then Brian (Johnson) got hit in the head. It was a hot, long, emotional day. The good thing is Brian is going to be okay. I'm glad we came out and played well and got that run in the last inning. Overall it was a great day, emotional day nonetheless, and I know these guys will sleep well tonight."

#### *On what was said to the team in between games:*

"I didn't say a whole lot after the first game. The guys were really concerned about Brian (Johnson), but when the word came that he was going to be okay, everyone eased up a little bit, but there wasn't much said in between games."

#### *On Tommy Toledo's great eighth inning:*

"Tommy came in with a runner on first and did a nice job. (Austin) Maddox is clearly our closer, but when Tommy threw an inning like that you almost wanted to throw him back out there. But, Austin was rested and wanted to be in there, and you don't want to try to get too much out of a pitcher that already threw earlier in the week."

#### *On the sportsmanship and class shown by both teams today:*

"We all want to win. It's competitive. I think today was a day for both teams to show some sportsmanship and some class. Georgia's been through a lot this year. The players came to me and told me they wanted to greet Johnathan (Taylor) before the game and I thought it was a great idea and a great gesture."

### Nolan Fontana

#### *On winning today and having to play Vanderbilt tomorrow:*

"Today was emotional, but we gotta come out tomorrow with a new mindset and play our game. We have to play nine innings of baseball and try to get the win."

#### *On tomorrow's championship game:*

"We're looking forward to tomorrow. It's going to carry over into the NCAA Tournament if we win tomorrow and that's what we want to do."

### Vickash Ramjit

#### *On making the spot start in a big game:*

"Coach told me to get ready and I got the opportunity to go out there and just contributed any way I could."