

**2015 NCAA Baton Rouge Super Regional
LSU Practice Quotes—June 5, 2015**

LSU Head Coach Paul Mainieri

On facing UL-Lafayette in the NCAA Super Regional...

"Well, I tried not to look at it because you know how hard it is to get out of a regional. We were roughly reminded of that last year. You try to fight those feelings of ever getting ahead of yourself, but truthfully, in a private moment, you look at it. There were some amazing storylines there, really. Houston, of course, ended our season last year. It would have been nice to try to exact a little revenge on them. Rice was the last team we beat in 2009 when we went to Omaha to win the national championship. We've had some games with them that have been meaningful. Of course, when you thought of the possibility of Louisiana-Lafayette being your opponent that was pretty intriguing. As soon as they won I sent a text message to (Louisiana-Lafayette Head Coach) Tony (Robichaux) to congratulate him. I knew it was going to be an epic weekend here in Baton Rouge. It's great for the state. The enthusiasm would be off the charts. I thought it would be a hard ticket to get, quite frankly. We are just excited. I know our players and our coaches have such tremendous respect for them and know a lot of them. It will be great to be on the same field. The stakes are obviously very high. We are going to approach them as if they are any other team, and they are the team that's standing in our way of getting to Omaha."

On a team from Louisiana advancing to the College World Series...

"It speaks volumes about the quality of baseball in our state and the passion of our universities followings. It's going to be a sight to see across the country when they see such rabid fan bases. They are so loyal to their schools. That's what makes college sports so much fun. People ask me all of the time if I have any aspirations of going into the professional game. I have never once for one second thought about doing that in my career because I could never pass on the passion and that love that people have for their universities—the history and traditions you deal with whether it's LSU, Louisiana-Lafayette or any other school in the country. I don't hold any animosity toward any school. I love to go to Texas A&M when they start rocking back and forth and go to Arkansas ... I just love tradition. I love tradition in colleges. Obviously it will be on a very clear view for the entire country to see this weekend because these are two fan bases that love their schools."

On only scoring five runs against UNCW during the Regional and what it will take to win the Super Regional...

"I don't know. I couldn't answer that question because I've been in baseball for 33 years and haven't figured it out yet, okay. When I came to this job, again I'll tell you this same story I've said 100 times, someone asked me at the opening press conference what kind of team do you want to have—a team based on power, speed, pitching, defense. I said I want to have a winning team. I know in order to have a winning team, you have to be able to win any kind of game that comes your way. Sometimes it's a 2-0 game; sometimes it's a 12-10 game. You can't have a team that solely lives on stealing bases. You can't have a team that solely lives on hitting home runs. You can't have a just a pitching team without any offense. You can't have just a good defensive team. I'm very proud of the fact that the balance of our team is good. I'd put our defense up against anybody. Our pitching led the SEC in lowest earned run average. Our hitting led the SEC in team batting average, and we stole 120 bases. Across the board, we can beat you in a lot of different ways. That's not saying that we are going to win this weekend, but I think we are prepared for any kind of game that presents itself."

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LSU Shortstop Alex Bregman

On the mindset going into Super Regionals ...

"I don't know. I think you just take it like you've taken February 13th, February 14th, 15th and treat it like you've treated every single game all year. We've played this team before. For example, Alex Lange is not going to go up there and change anything that he's done all year. He's going to go up on the mound, get the ball, throw it in the zone and get outs for us. I think that the rest of the pitching staff is young and young hitters will do the same. This team has been to Omaha, a lot of these guys have been to Omaha and the goal was to get there. We are focused on winning this year, winning every game for the rest of the season and in order to do that we have to just take it one pitch at a time."

On previous experience in Omaha ...

"It helps. We've won the super regional before and we know what it takes to do that. It takes just playing what you've done all year. We have been to Omaha. We were really happy just to be there but that's not the case this year. We have higher goals than just to be there and in order to accomplish that we have to win Saturday. That's the most important game of the year and we have to accomplish that. It doesn't matter if we are playing Louisiana-Lafayette and it doesn't matter if we were playing William and Mary or Vanderbilt or TCU, we have to win Saturday. Saturday is the most important game of the year."

LSU Outfielder Andrew Stevenson

On playing against the home town team ...

"They've got a good program over there ... it's a pretty cool experience getting to play them in the supers."

On the intensity of the experience ...

"I don't know if it feels any bigger but it's just going to be a great environment. They're the next team we have to play so we aren't going to take them any less than any other team. It's going to be great; the environment is going to be awesome; the stands are going to be packed. I'm ready."

LSU Pitcher Alex Lange

On Louisiana-Lafayette ...

"That's what it takes to get to this point in the season. Sometimes you've got to scrap to win and that's what they did in their regional and that's the kind of team they are. We are going to hit and run. We are going to bunt. We are going to try to steal some bases. We are ready for it. I feel like the defense is ready and the pitchers are ready for their positions and it's going to be a fun weekend."

On nerves ...

"I really haven't thought about how much it means because once you start doing that then you start psyching yourself out. I'm just going to try to make another Saturday start in the Box. It's kind of routine for me. I'm getting really excited and obviously I want to get back out there and play and I'm really, really excited. It's a big weekend for us and we've been looking forward to it all year and this team is ready."