

2015 Baton Rouge Super Regional-June 5, 2015

UL-Lafayette Post Practice Quotes

UL-Lafayette Head Coach Tony Robichaux

On when he made the decision to start pitcher Wyatt Marks over Gunnar Leger...

“All week long we’ve been talking as coaches about a game one starter. Coming out of the conference tournament and into the regional, Gunnar had thrown a lot. We asked him to go on three days rest after I think 106 pitches in the conference tournament, and he threw on three days rest. Then we got into the rain out in Houston that backed his start up then we got out of that, and it looked like it was going to give him roughly five days if we go out game one. We think he needs the six days rest; he’s at 106 innings pitched as a true freshman. All our freshman are the future of our program, and the biggest thing that concerned us was that you can’t come out here a little tired because (LSU) is too good. In Gunnar’s case around the sixth inning in Houston, he felt like he was gassed. We took him out of the game and went on in with a reliever. We’re just being very cautious that he’s at his best. You have to win two games, and it doesn’t matter what order you win them. We want him to be as fresh as he can be. Wyatt’s at 59 or 60 innings pitched, so he’s the freshest guy for us. One of them was going to get a game, so we just felt that it would be good to give Gunnar that extra day’s rest and getting him back to where he was all season with six days in between starts.”

On how he plans to use bullpen pitchers Greg Milhorn and Will Bacon...

“Our best bullpen is in middle relief. They’re our two guys, and I think they’re equal. I think you can use them on any day that you want. They’re both up and running and ready to go. Milhorn hasn’t thrown as many innings as Bacon coming off that groin injury, but both of them are two veteran guys. It gives us that junior and senior from the fifth and sixth (inning) into the deep part of the game. We’ll have a little bit of experience there after we take out that true freshman.”

On LSU head coach Paul Mainieri stating that this is a great series for Louisiana baseball...

“I agree totally. We have so much respect for Paul. When I was 24 years old, I took over McNeese, and we came over here and tried to slay coach (Skip) Bertman. We’ve been after it for a long time. This program is very storied in their history. When I got my 1000th win, Paul was one of the first guys to send me a text of congratulations. We text him when he has a great weekend, and we have no ill will on the field at all. I mean baseball is baseball. There will be a year where you get some salty guys, and if the other team has some salty guys, you got a little bit of gumbo right there. We’re coming to play baseball; that’s all we’re concerned with. Some people wanted to bring up (what happened in) 2002; we wanted to make sure they know it’s 2015. We got a lot of respect for him. Paul sent me a text after we won our regional in Houston saying that it’s going to be a great weekend, and I congratulated his team and told him the same thing. A lot of our guys know them; we’ve recruited some of them. We’re all close, and we all know each other. One great thing is that Louisiana is going to be represented at the College World Series. It can’t get much better than that.”

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ULL Practice Quotes June 5, 2015**

P Wyatt Marks

On the expectations...

"It's pretty amazing. It is going to be a great atmosphere to throw in tomorrow. It should be a great weekend."

On dealing with emotions...

"I am very excited. You just have to deal with it like you deal with every game. You just have to go out there and pitch."

SS Blake Trahan

On being in a super regional...

"We've played well this whole post-season. We feel good as a team. We feel strong. We feel confident coming in here in Alex Box Stadium. We are ready to go and we are ready to play hard."

On what it means to be playing another in-state school...

"I think two Louisiana teams coming in here and playing for a chance to go to the College World Series is awesome. I think they are going to be great games. The energy in the stadium is going to be unbelievable. I wouldn't want it any other way. We will see who the king of Louisiana is after it's done."

On what the ULL team has accomplished...

"It's been kind of a long season. We have had a lot of ups and downs throughout the season. We really got hot at the end. We're hot now and we are ready to go."

DH Tyler Girouard

On getting back to a super regional...

"I wouldn't say that I am surprised we are back. We had some tough times during the season, but getting back to where we are now was always the goal. We just had to keep that in our minds and not get let down. It is a different feel compared to last year in how we had to get here. We are just having fun with it. It is a different journey."

On the identity of last year's team...

"Last year we just kind of over powered people. We had some dominant arms and a powerful offense. This year the freshmen have stepped up and done great. We struggled at the beginning of the year. It is finally just starting to click for us. We are playing a lot looser this year. We are having fun. We have some good senior leadership in handling the pressure that was put on us when facing the struggles we have gone through."