

**2017 NCAA Baton Rouge Regional – Postgame Quotes  
LSU vs. UL-LAFAYETTE – May 22, 2017  
LSU – 5, UL-Lafayette – 1**

**LSU Head Coach Beth Torina**

“I think the past few days has just been a testament to how tough this team is. What they have been through in the last few days is just unreal when you think about the hours and what they had to endure. I couldn’t be prouder of them. I think it’s amazing that you can think about legends and the legacy they created this weekend. None of this could have happened without the work of our staff, especially our ground crew who worked tirelessly around the clock. The LSU staff put on an absolute first-class event like they always do. It wouldn’t have happened without all of their tireless efforts, and we really appreciate all of them. We’re really proud of our team, and hopefully we’ll be prepared when we move on to the next round.”

***Her thoughts on what Carley Hoover does to ignite the team...***

“She’s such a competitor, and I think she competes with a lot of energy and fire. I think there’s times in games where you just need that momentum switch or that pick-me-up moment, and she was able to give that to us this weekend. All of our pitchers were great. I think that’s the cool thing about her and Allie (Walljasper) in the postseason is that it was Carley this weekend, but it could be Allie next weekend. They can play off of each other, and it allows us to match up. It was Carley’s weekend. She was heroic in everything she did this weekend. I know our team loves when she’s out there, and our team loves our entire pitching staff and will fight for them.”

***Her thoughts on the offense...***

“I think as the offense goes, it’s contagious. I think as you get more confident, the bigger you see it and the better you seem to be. I also think our staff worked tirelessly to prepare them. From film to understanding what would be coming, or tendencies, she educated and prepared them. I think our staff worked hard to get them there, and our kids were just really confident.”

***Her thoughts on Emily Griggs’s hot streak...***

“I think Bailey (Landry) has had similar streaks for us. It almost got comical to me. She would get on first base, and I almost couldn’t believe it. It was amazing. I felt so confident every time she got up. I think when you go through the lineup, it was about getting it back to Emily. Aliyah Andrews in front of her was huge as well. I think the two of them working together and feeding off of each other let Aliyah have a great tournament as well.”

**Centerfielder Emily Griggs**

***Her thoughts on the hot streak she is experiencing at the plate...***

“I would have to say it’s because I’m not thinking. I think I’m going up there with a clear mind, and knowing that I’ve put in the work to help myself feel confident.”

***On being the table-setter for the rest of the offense...***

“I think I’ve been focusing on setting the table, and making sure I was doing my job each at-bat. Whether it was a bunt that needed to be put down, or whatever needed to be done, I knew what I needed to do.”

## **Pitcher Carley Hoover**

### ***On starting her appearance with a strikeout and what tone that set for the remainder of the game...***

"It was really big, but it was also really cool because regardless if I gave up a walk or a single, my defense was there. We turned a lot of double plays, and props to coach because we knew how to attack every single batter this weekend, especially these last two games which set us up from the start."

### ***Her thoughts on going up against DJ Sanders...***

"We had it setup right from our coaches, but you cannot be scared of anybody. If you put DJ on, the next kid will hit it around, so you need to attack everyone in the lineup. That's my mindset."

### ***On if she sees comparisons to the 2015 team...***

"Yes, but it seems more fun this year because we knew what to expect. Kind of like going to the World Series last year was more fun than the first time because we knew what to expect. After we lost game one it really sucked. It sucked to lose to ULL, but we knew we had been there and how to fight out of it. We were all in the locker room talking to pump each other up. We didn't even take a second to be down on ourselves, we just fought back."

## **UL-Lafayette Head Coach Michael Lotief**

"First of all, you always take time at this moment to reflect and understand how wonderful this tournament has become. I remember when we all started out, regionals weren't like this. Now the venues have expanded, the coverage has expanded and hopefully we continue to grow our sport and we make sure our student-athletes have an opportunity to experience this. Our kids are going to be better because of this experience. It's a wonderful experience to go through, it doesn't matter if you're on the winning side or the losing side. These females get to come into a movie, whether it's hostile or it's friendly, and play a game that they love and feel their emotions go back and forth. They learn from that and they're going to grow from that. Right now, I've got a bunch of kids on the bus that have put their heart and soul into this season and they're disappointed. I'm not disappointed in them, I'm never going to be disappointed in this group because they've always loved each other, they've always played hard and they've always given it everything they've had. Even until the last out, they were fighting. In a lot of ways, this year was supposed to be a rebuilding year. These kids took us on a special ride and they made us believe they could do anything. They really made this a special season with how hard they worked, how much they loved each other, how hard they fought and how they overcame adversity. Sometimes you fall short, but I've told them the measure is whether you've taken the risk, whether you're striving valiantly, and if you come up short, that's not how you're going to be labeled. You're going to be labeled by being in the arena and going for it. I'm proud of this group, I'm proud of how they played, I'm proud of the season and I'm proud of our sport. I think this venue is incredible, I think the way that we've expanded our sport is incredible. I think we can do more. I think the opportunities we give our student-athletes with this experience has become amazing. I can sit up here and just keep going on and on and on because I've got mixed feelings. I want to win and I want to go on because I know how hard my kids have worked. There's a lot of pride in me right now. There's a lot of pride about my team and how far they've come, this fan base and how far we've come. It's going to be OK."

## **UL-Lafayette Right fielder Haley Hayden**

### ***On how the last two games against LSU unfolded after making it to the winner's bracket...***

“We went out there and laid it all out on the line. We have no regrets. We fought every single pitch. Obviously, we didn’t get the result that we wanted, but we were in the right mindset. We have no regrets; we left it all out on the field.”

**UL-Lafayette Shortstop DJ Sanders**

***On finishing at 1 a.m. and turning around to play another game on the same day in the afternoon...***

“We still got plenty rest. We can’t use it as an excuse or anything. We had enough time to turn around. LSU had the same game time as we did. They finished at the same time (early this morning), and they got up at the same time and had to be here at the same time too. At the end of the day, we competed and that’s all that we can do.”