



**SOONERS OPEN TALLAHASSEE REGIONAL WITH SLUGFEST VICTORY OVER MSU**  
*Oklahoma scored early, lost the lead and then came back to win in impressive fashion.*

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – If game one was any indication, the NCAA Tallahassee Regional is going to be a wild one. Second-seeded Mississippi State and No. 3 seed Oklahoma waged a heavyweight slugfest that lasted more than 4:40 at high noon Friday. The Sooners (37-23) took a 5-0 lead early, trailed 10-7 after six and then scored 13 unanswered to upset the Bulldogs (31-26) 20-10 in the opening game.

The two teams combined to score multiple runs in six of the nine innings, record 10 extra base hits and total more than 30 hits overall. Even though Mississippi State accounted for all four homeruns in the game, it was the Sooners that capitalized on their chances going 13-25 with runners in scoring position compared to 3-12 for the Bulldogs.

Oklahoma picked the right time to have its best offensive game in the postseason in over 30 years considering this was the second straight game the team allowed an opponent to score 10 runs. The 20 runs scored by the Sooners were the most in an NCAA Tournament game for OU since they scored 21 in 1986 and the 22 hits were the most for the squad this season.

Seven of the Sooners' 11 batters recorded RBIs on the day and six had multi-RBI outings. Brandon Zaragoza led the team with four RBI on four hits in seven plate appearances. The Oklahoma bullpen also starred in the game as four relievers combined to allow just two runs after the Bulldogs put eight on the board versus the Sooner starter. Oklahoma's Kyle Tyler entered in the fourth, allowed just two runs in 2.2 innings of work and picked up the win to move to 6-2. MSU reliever JP France (4-5) was saddled with the loss.

Oklahoma saw an early 5-0 lead evaporate yet would bounce back and answer taking a two-run lead in the fourth. After falling behind once again in the bottom of the inning allowing four runs to an inspired Bulldog club, it was a nine-run explosion in the top of the seventh that finally cemented the OU win. That inning Oklahoma recorded seven hits, was aided by three MSU errors and sent 15 batters to the plate.

The victory places OU in the winner's bracket where the Sooners will face either top-seeded Florida State or Samford. The game is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Saturday with TV TBD and the stream available via ESPN3.