



2017 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

OKLAHOMA STATE POSTGAME QUOTES - Game 7 Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark: May 25, 2017

No. 8 Oklahoma State 8, No. 4 West Virginia 4

Oklahoma State Head Coach Josh Holliday

Opening statement...

“Tyler (Buffett) did a great job tonight. He gave us six strong innings. I thought it was a very lively ballpark tonight with the wind and how fast the field was playing. West Virginia is a good offensively-oriented team. They hit well and they are tough to strikeout. I thought Tyler was throwing the ball great tonight. Even though he gave up 12 hits, I thought he was very sharp. That was as good of an outing as he has had in a long time. We cost him a few pitches here and there, but he buckled down and showed his resolve. Our bullpen was good once again. And Colin (Simpson), what a day he had. He was catching, whacking balls out of the yard, hitting doubles and knocking in runs. He came up clutch for us. We needed another push there after they started closing in on us, and that three-run home run that he hit was exactly the push we needed. Colin shined, our kids played well and I loved seeing that from them.”

Tyler Buffett, Sr., RHP

On his approach against West Virginia...

“There were a few pitches tonight that I thought could have been strikes, but this is baseball and I know I’ve had a few balls that were called strikes. They got a bunch of hits off me, but most of them were singles.”

On watching the team succeed...

“It’s awesome. I really think that guys like Colin (Simpson), (Garrett) Bengue, (Carson) Teel are helping us find our identity. We are gritty Pokes. We are going to fight and win. It’s time.”

Colin Simpson, So., C

On his batting against West Virginia...

“I really don’t know what it is. I’m not sure if it’s the way the pitchers throw, but I tend to see the ball well when it leaves their hands. Honestly, I don’t know what it is.”

On how he feels after offensive success...

“It definitely boosts my confidence a lot, but you can’t get too big and high on yourself because it will come back and bite you in your next at bat. Even though you are having a good day, you still have to buckle down and take it one pitch at a time. I knew how they planned on pitching against me, and I was definitely locked in at the plate.”

On getting a day to rest...

“It’s a positive and a negative. It’s nice to stay in the rhythm of the game, but it’s also nice to get a day off and get our bodies back to 100%.”



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WEST VIRGINIA POSTGAME QUOTES - Game 7 Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark: May 25, 2017

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West Virginia Head Coach Randy Mazey

Opening statement...

“When we left Stillwater earlier this year, we gave their catcher the nickname of Homer Simpson. He lived up to the billing today again. He’s like I said yesterday. Some people play really good on a certain field like we do. He just feels so comfortable at the plate against us. That guy’s killed us. Our offense, we were clicking tonight. We just left too many guys on base early. Every guy that stood in there had a really good at-bat. We made a lot of hard outs. We got a lot of hits. I think the difference was we walked seven and hit two, and they only walked two. We gave them a lot more free bases, but our offense really grinded that one out. I’m super proud of them. Our kids are tired. We’re out there battling as hard as we can against a really good team. We knew coming in that these guys were going to be tough on us. They’d won three in a row playing in front of their home crowd. They’re playing with a lot of confidence, as are we. I just thought that was a really good game. I looked up in the fifth inning and they’re beating us 8-2, but we’re out-hitting them at the time 12-10, I think. That was the difference, the free bases. Some of their hits went and landed on the wrong side of the fence and none of ours did.”

On his message to the team about refocusing for tomorrow...

“We’ll rest, relax, get off our feet. We’ve made a really strong effort this year to make sure that we’re well-rested going into every game. This is when you get tested. We’ve talked about it all year long. You get into conference tournaments and playing a lot of games in a short period of time, it really tests your bullpen and your pitching staff. The list tomorrow, the bullpen list is going to be a short one. We need big Alek (Manoah) to go out there and get us pretty deep into that game if we can.”

Jackson Cramer, Sr., 1B

On leaving runners on base...

“It wasn’t too frustrating in the beginning of the game because we thought we were going to have some balls fall and it would break open eventually, but there was definitely some frustration later in the game when we were hitting balls hard out. Their pitcher did a good job, especially with runners on. He started really locking in on his pitches. Once he had to make the right pitches with runners on, he did a good job with that.”

Braden Zarbnisky, So., OF

On going 4-for-4 at the plate...

“It was just being confident, working on my hitting, keep on driving the ball and going out there with confidence, don’t let the pitcher out-think you, just work on driving the ball. If he gets two strikes just work on putting out the play and see if you can beat anything out.”