



2017 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

**TCU POSTGAME QUOTES - Game 10
Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark: May 26, 2017**

No. 2 TCU 6, No. 3 Kansas 0

TCU Head Coach Jim Schlossnagle

Opening statement...

“Obviously a great night for Brian Howard and he was outstanding. He’s been a big game pitcher for us for his entire career. That was certainly needed by everybody not just our team but I think everybody in the press box and the grounds crew after some long games over the course of the last couple of days. We did a great job. We wiggled out of some jams early and then as we’ve said all year normally his last 50 pitches are better than his first 50, and that’s what it was tonight. We’re very fortunate in the first inning. They set the table with those walks and then we had a couple choppers get through the infield and that was enough for Brian. So, good win and glad to still be here.”

On the team clicking at the right time...

“I’ve said the whole season that we haven’t played really three or four consecutive days of really good baseball and the reason that’s the case is because the starting pitching hasn’t been consistent. And that’s not calling anybody out that’s just fact. The game begins and ends with starting pitching in my mind. If you think about last year, this time of the year, last year Janczak was just getting in the rotation. Brian’s last five starts he was 5-2. I don’t know what his ERA was but he was just kind of going through the season and in his last five starts Kansas State, Texas here, Arizona State, at A&M in the super regional, and Costal Carolina in Omaha, he won all five of those and pitched great. So getting Janczak back healthy and getting Brian to this time of the year where he normally shines, that’s what we’ve been counting on. Obviously we miss Luken and we hope Nolan is okay. We won’t know on him maybe till tomorrow. You have to pitch to win the postseason.

Brian Howard, Sr., RHP

On if he’s ready for next week and the rest of the postseason...

“Oh absolutely. It’s the best time of the year. You want the ball in your hands as much as possible during this time. For me I was just excited to go and give the bullpen a night off. I really didn’t get tired at all I just felt good. I think it’s because I ate a good lunch today and I was able to finish it.”

On this time of the year...

“I always love to pitch the whole season is fun but this time of the year it’s a little bit more fun and a little bit more meaningful games. I just wanted to go out there and win a game and we we’re able to do that.”

On his key to pitching like he did tonight...

“I think it’s just getting that cutter going. Tonight it took me while to get it going. They got some early hits when I fell behind in come counts early and I was able to work through them and limit damage. Just for me it’s about fastball command, fastball height, and being able to get that cutter going off of it. I was able to get the fastball down in the zone and establish it pretty much all night so I just look to keep

doing that the rest of the season.”

Connor Wanhanen, Jr., 1B/OF

On having their starting pitchers back again...

“We have a lot of confidence in him. We know he’s going to keep it close for us and it kind of takes a little pressure off of us in the lineup.”



2017 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

**KANSAS POSTGAME QUOTES - Game 10
Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark: May 26, 2017**

No. 2 TCU 6, No. 7 Kansas 0

Kansas Head Coach Ritch Price

Opening statement...

“I thought the performance of Brian Howard tonight was really special. You look at the 12 strikeouts and no walks; he absolutely dominated our lineup tonight. I know from the six-hole on down we didn’t have a base hit. We only had one last night from the six-hole, and the kid from Texas played pretty good last night as well. I’m happy to see (Jared) Janczak back on the field and pitching for TCU as they go into the playoffs. They’re a completely different team when he’s able to run out on the weekend as well. They got a really good chance to get back to Omaha again.”

On facing Brian Howard when he’s excelling...

“When he can mix and use that cutter and his change-up and pitch on both sides of the plate with his fastball, he can be really dominating. The ability to change speeds makes his fastball even more impressive. You look at the way he pitched to our left-handed hitters. I think he had 10 strikeouts against our left-handed hitters. He absolutely dominated those guys. It was a very impressive performance. He was head and shoulders above when we saw him at TCU in March. Last year, during the College World Series and the ball was cutting, sinking and moving. I was hoping he’d sign (professionally). I was disappointed when I saw he didn’t sign and was coming back. He was incredible in the College World Series last year. He was pretty special tonight.”

Stephen Villines, Sr., RHP

On his time at Kansas...

“I’ve got to think Skip (Ritch Price) for giving me the chance to come out here. The past four years have been an unbelievable blessing for sure. You see after the game, I’m still kind of tearing up. It’s for those guys every day going out on the field and in the clubhouse. It’s for those guys, and that’s what makes it special. It’s for the guys on the team.”

On the character of the clubhouse after battling at the end of the season...

“They’re definitely special. We’re young. I can’t even name the numbers. Skip said we have a bunch of freshman and sophomores going out there. We just stuck together. We believed in each other. I think this past month was the most fun I’ve had playing baseball. We just enjoyed every moment of it.”