



## 2009 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

### Missouri Press Conference Quotes

#### Game 11 -- May 23, 2009

#### AT&T Bricktown Ballpark

##### **Head Coach Tim Jamieson**

###### *Opening Statement:*

"It's a scrappy victory and those of you who watched it probably think we had no business winning the game, but we found a way to get it done. That's how we've been playing the second half of the season, and I'd take our team in any ballgame. I know we are going to compete and have a chance to win it, and we made some big-time plays. One key to the game was getting out of those early innings with only a couple of runs and of course the ninth inning they had a couple of chances to put us away and we kept fighting."

###### *On changes they have made in the last couple of weeks to make them a better team:*

"I think we're making good decisions, we're making the timely plays and have timely hitting, and that's how you win baseball games. When you play great competition like we are and will, you have to make the big things happen. If you only get four hits, you have to be opportunistic when those are put together. You have to score a lot."

###### *On this game helping chances to host an NCAA regional in Columbia:*

"I think it helps. I think three Big 12 teams are deserving of it, and we come behind Texas and Oklahoma. We finished third in the conference, and it's about how we're playing now and our capability of winning a regional. I would think that we're at least in the discussion."

##### **Junior infielder Michael Liberto**

###### *On the final play:*

"Coach told me it's the 55th game of the season and we can't be making mistakes like that -- talking about the one that I gave back when I threw it and nobody was even running. So I threw it and I had to make up for it. Yesterday somebody was saying they experience a state of flow, you don't see or hear anything and all you see is the ball, and I guess that's what happened. I just called the ball and fielded it and threw it to first to get the out."

##### **Senior infielder Kyle Mach**

###### *On what it would mean to host a regional during his senior season:*

"That's what we're here playing for. That has been our goal here all season, to host a regional. It would be awesome to stay home, sleep in our own beds. It's a pretty big advantage when you're able to stay in the same routine so that is definitely our main goal."

##### **Sophomore pitcher Nick Tepesch**

###### *On his approach coming into today's game:*

"Coach (Tony) Vitello always stresses to take one inning at a time, and that's just what I went out thinking in the first inning -- to get that one under my belt and just go from there."



## **2009 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship Oklahoma Press Conference Quotes Game 11 -- May 23, 2009 AT&T Bricktown Ballpark**

### **Head Coach Sunny Golloway**

#### *Opening Statement:*

"This was a tremendous disappointment for our young men to come in here where we feel like we have a lot of the pieces of the puzzle. We are an extremely talented ball club and we just broke down. Today we were pretty good on the mound and we break down offensively. We have a 2-0 lead, runners on first and third with no outs, and we decide to be an umpire and take a called strike. We then get picked off at first base.

"Late in the game we have a chance to bunt two guys up and sure enough, we get a hit on the backside of that inning, and as you look back, we can't bunt the guy up. If you want to be a championship club you can't afford to make those mistakes, and clearly we made those mistakes today. It's a disappointment because we stress fundamentals hopefully as much as anybody in the country. We will go back and we will practice tomorrow, we will practice Monday and we won't worry about fatigue. We will get better and we will clean up our mistakes."

#### *On the eighth and ninth innings:*

"We have opportunities, and we have done it all year. We know we are going to hit back. We teach our guys to take the blow and get ready to hit. We were going to hit back, and we knew that. Even after the ball where Bryant (Hernandez) is making a play and he steps on second base, you say is it meant to be or not? You just know our offense is going to score."

#### *On being mentally prepared for the postseason:*

"As coaches, we think we bring them along halfway to three-quarters through the year and players bring coaches along late in the year. I think coaches work on psychological things more than anything. Keeping a guy up after a tough outing and giving them confidence when the game takes it away. The things we control are the fundamentals. We are going to make sure we sure that up and make sure our guys feel comfortable and confident to do that."

### **Junior outfielder Jamie Johnson**

#### *On being left on base due to offensive errors:*

"Baseball is a game of luck, too, as much as skill. We have bad luck and when you equal how we have been doing bunting-wise, just fundamentally it is hard to win like that. With the errors we are making, that are key errors at crucial times, and just like Coach said, it is a big blow and maybe the biggest disappointment of the year."