



2011 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

RedHawks Field at Bricktown

May 27, 2011

Quotes

No. 1 Texas 9, No. 4 Oklahoma State 3

Texas

Coach Augie Garrido

On the game: "What we were hoping for when we came to the ballpark was Longhorn baseball similar to what we played in the last game. We accomplished that. Cole (Green) set the tone and the pace. He was very aggressive to the mitt. For me, the most impressive inning of his included the home run because he didn't waver, flinch or change. He kept attacking the glove. It showed everybody on the field that he was going to pitch a fearless game no matter what happened. He trusted what the players would do defensively and what they could recover offensively. That sent a huge message to everyone."

On how the victory affects Texas' status for the NCAA Tournament: "We knew that this meant we did not lose a series all year long. The only team that beat us two out of three in the regular season was Oklahoma State. This evened it up, so that takes care of that. It also means we can't go out of the (Big 12 Championship) with a losing record. That's important because you want to have everything in place that you can when the committee decides so that there isn't an argument for taking us out of wherever we fit. We think this game was bigger than any one game because it balances out a couple little negatives that otherwise might exist."

On the team's offense: "We sustained the rallies. We did a good job hitting with runners in scoring position. We're now hitting. Our batting average over the last period of time is right in line with everybody. People have complained about the offense, and rightfully so. I won't argue with all of that, but it is a team effort. We've only scored 179 runs more than our opponents, so I think that's okay. I think we're starting to hit better. We're seeing as good of pitching in the Big 12 pretty much day-in, day-out as you're going to see in any championship. You'll see guys who throw harder, but not any better."

On Texas' pitching situation for the rest of the weekend: "Sam's (Stafford) going to start in the first game (Saturday). Part of the reason for (Hoby) Milner and (Nathan) Thornhill in (Friday's game) and out quickly is they will be our two starters (if we keep winning). We're going to have to bring some other pitching into this. It's going to have to come from some guys who aren't as familiar and haven't pitched as much. It's going to have to happen. We're going to have to weather that storm. This is their moment. This is their opportunity. This is kind of an exciting time. We won't take Thornhill and bring him in to save one of those (Saturday) games because if we don't have a starter for the (Texas A&M) Aggies, you can't just run somebody out there. You have to have somebody to pitch. He'll be the Sunday game, so you have to protect him. We have to win without him Saturday."

Brandon Loy

On the team's recent improvement in hitting: "I think it's a lot about maturity. We had a bunch of young guys who came in, and they know how to play total offense. They know how to do things right. We've had some switch-ups in the lineup when Cohl (Walla) got hurt. It kind of just came together. It's exciting for us. We always knew we could hit. We wouldn't be here if we could hit. It's one of those things where you go through slumps like that. At that point in the year, we were going through a little bit of a slump and that's why we got beat. We're excited about how we're hitting the ball right now. Hopefully we can keep it going."

On his personal hitting adjustments: "I've pretty much tried to stay consistent. During Oklahoma State earlier in the year was where I fell off a little bit, but I've picked it back up. It's just a lot of hard work and a lot of time put into it. We've had a lot of time to work. It just shows the character of this team and how hard we're willing to work to get the job done."

Cole Green

On if he's ever had trouble responding after giving up a homerun: "What we focus on trying to do as pitchers is get right back in there. It happened when we were playing Texas A&M last week. I gave up three runs. They came back and responded with a three-run bottom half of the inning. This week I gave up a two-run homerun, and we scored three in the bottom half of the inning. The confidence that I have in my offense is unbelievable at this point."

Oklahoma State

Coach Frank Anderson

On his thoughts of the game: "To me, the whole game kind of shook loose when we walked some people and hit some people and we didn't make some plays early in the game. I think Andrew (Heaney) gave us a chance. We kicked a couple balls around, we dropped some stuff. Right there, you're going to have to make those plays and we didn't make them, but we're still in that thing all the way through. I wanted to get (Jason) Hursh in the game late to see how he'd handle that situation and be out there. I like to keep track of how many balls were hit hard and I think we hit about 10 or 11 and they hit about seven or eight balls right on the nose. Like I said, we put some unforced runners on. They put pressure on us all day, and that's kind of the difference in the game."

On Zach Johnson's performance in the tournament: "He's obviously seeing the ball well and they haven't pitched around him much, which I've kind of been surprised at times. He's swinging the bat very well against a lot of different guys on the mound, left or right handed, and he's a good player."

On the committing multiple errors the past two games: "We were one of the top fielding teams in the league, but that had to a lot with the way we pitched early too. Like I said, we're hitting a little bit of a wall. Hunter Herrera pitched very well the first day here. We've had some positives out of this thing too. The field played a little bit hard because it's been so windy, it's tough for anybody to get out there. You can only do so much when you've got those winds like that. We've played good defense, for the most part, all the way through."

Devin Shines

On getting time to prepare for playing in a regional: "We came out, played hard, had a good tournament and we kicked a few balls around here or there, which may have cost us a few runs. We feel pretty good going into a regional. We feel like we have a chance to win a regional and a super regional and go to Omaha and have some fun."

On playing non-conference opponents in a regional: "It's always fun to go to new places and play new teams, to see new pitchers. Obviously, you're not 100 percent sure what they're going to do to you, but it's always fun going in there and they don't know you too well, so you might get a cookie pitch here and there to tee-off on. That would be nice."

Andrew Heaney

On how he felt being the starting pitcher: "I felt good. I felt like I had good stuff, I just made a few mistakes to a couple guys with wild pitches, hit a couple guys. With a team like Texas, they capitalize on your mistakes. I feel comfortable in whatever role and a pitcher is a pitcher."