



2011 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

RedHawks Field at Bricktown

May 27, 2011

Quotes

No. 6 Kansas State 4, No. 3 Oklahoma 3

Oklahoma

Coach Sunny Golloway

On the game: "I'm really proud of the way our student-athletes fought and represented our university. We go the double-elimination format and we were excited about playing today. It just wasn't our day. Some things didn't go our way and that's baseball. Now we'll be left with the task to get some practice in and get our head up and head to the NCAA Tournament. I feel very fortunate and comfortable that our body of work will get us in the NCAA Tournament and we'll look forward to representing the University of Oklahoma. We have some outstanding student-athletes with a lot of character so it's going to fun to coach them in the tournament next week."

On the week: "It's been a week of almost for us. The good Lord prepares you for the things ahead and we've been tested. We've probably been beyond tested as far as baseball goes with the Baylor series and here. It has to be preparing us for something. We're going to be excited and await for that opportunity, whatever it is, and control the things we can control, which is going back and working out. We've got some kinks we need to work out and our number is five offensively. We have to find a way to score five runs in a ballgame and we know if we can do that with our pitching and defense we have a chance to advance."

On Erik Ross' 16-pitch at-bat: "I don't know that I've seen a strikeout that was good. That would be a tough call but I'm proud of the way he fought and proud of the way he kept fouling balls off. I could hear from down the hallway the crowd get into it and I thought that was pretty special. I wish the outcome was a little different but it wasn't, but it would have been huge. It could have been huge."

On making big plays in the game: "There were some big plays in the ballgame and I'm proud of our execution. I saw some at-bats that were huge at-bats. I saw Tyler Ogle show some real leadership and regroup on an at-bat and I saw Erik Ross battle his tail off. There were some huge plays in the ballgame and baseball is just that way. Sometimes you make plays and sometimes you don't."

Kansas State

Coach Brad Hill

On the game: "It was just a great battle, great game. Coming down the last at-bat with Ross was just phenomenal - his competitiveness and the crowd all of a sudden got energized - and for James (Allen) to fight that off and keep making pitches, it was a great battle between both of them and James ended up winning it. It was a great college ballgame. It was a great game both ways, just like it was the other night and we were real fortunate to come out on top. It was close and there were a couple times you wish you could've punched across another run. I think we had a runner on second base two other times and couldn't get the run and make us feel a little more comfortable. It kept the pressure on Evan (Marshall) and James all the way through. Those two guys have been very good all year long and have been very good for three years here and they continued that tonight for us."

On Oklahoma gaining momentum from the crowd after the ejection of Sunny Golloway and how Evan Marshall was able to settle the team down: "It was definitely key. It takes a lot of composure, a lot of maturity, and that's what juniors are out there for. Juniors are out there to be in that situation and they've handled that before, him and James both have been in that situation before, they've both handled that. That's why you grow them up to be juniors and, like I said, both of those guys have handled those situations very well throughout the years."

On beating Oklahoma four out of five times this season: "I'm not sure if we've ever beat them four times in three years. I hope that's not it for the next three years. Obviously, they're a very good ball club. They're just so well rounded and so balanced, they can throw so many weapons at you. Their kids fight and are fierce, just like you saw tonight. Sure don't like to have a one-run lead against them, you'd like to have a lot more."

James Allen

On the 16-pitch at-bat against Erik Ross: "I was just trying to keep it as simple as possible. If you think about other things, your success rate decreases a lot. I was just trying to hook up with (catcher Dan) Klein and just make a pitch."

On if it was frustrating to have Ross foul off so many pitches: "I really didn't have much time to think about it. Everyone had been grinding all day, I was just trying to finish it off and do the best I could."

Jason King

On the win: "It's huge. We just try to control what we can, like coach Hill said. It's not up to us, we wish it was up to us if we were in the tournament, but it's not, it's in other people's hands. This win was really important. It was something we knew had to get. We're just take it from here and hopefully get a couple more wins to make it that much more convincing."