



2011 Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship

RedHawks Field at Bricktown

May 28, 2011

Quotes

No. 8 Missouri 2, No. 1 Texas 1

Missouri

Tim Jamieson

On Kelly Fick's pitching: "To be quite honest with you, we wouldn't have given him the ball if we didn't think he could do it, but to think he was going to give us seven innings, that's beyond expectations. He hasn't done that all year. He's not conditioned to do that. He was very efficient with the pitch count. He had a good outing against Nebraska last weekend where he got extended a little bit but I didn't expect this. I expected him to compete and I expected him to do well, I just didn't expect him to go seven innings."

On the turning point in the season: "It was the Baylor weekend. Eric Anderson entered the lineup. We started Eric on Friday against Baylor not expecting to win. He ended up giving us three or four quality innings and we ended up winning the game and the series. We're 6-0 now when Eric has started. That's a big part of it and at the same time we started to get some timely hitting."

On playing Texas A&M in the Championship matchup: "Well they are one less game into the weekend which could make a difference but we have to just come out and compete and play well against them like we did in Columbia."

Kelly Fick

On his performance: "Coach Hobbs told me before the game to see it as a relief outing and just attack guys whether I gave them one or four or five innings. I was able to keep my pitch count down and change speeds and locate my fastball so I was able to go deeper in the game."

"I only threw a few curves but my changeup was really working today. Like I said it was all working off my fastball because I could put that where I wanted to and then I could just expand with the changeup."

On the Missouri jersey from Joplin hanging in the dugout: "The tragedy in Joplin and the devastation there really puts life in perspective. We don't have too many days left with me and Phil (McCormick) being seniors and it shows me that you can't take everything for granted in life. Look at the small things in life and be thankful for what you do have because you never know when it could happen to you or your family."

Phil McCormick

On the Missouri jersey from Joplin hanging in the dugout: "It really makes you appreciate the escape of the game. We're out here for six hours on the field just being kids; doing what we love and you think about the people in Joplin and they're rebuilding their lives one day at a time. We're trying to take the same approach with staying alive on the field and we want to play one more day just like they want to keep rebuilding one day at a time."

Blake Brown

On his performance: "I just really wanted to attack. I was really passive earlier today and I was taking too many strikes so I was out there just trying to hunt fastballs and I got a couple of hits and put the bat on the ball."

Texas

Augie Garrido

On his thoughts of the game: "I think it was a game that was unlike what anyone would have expected. That's part of championship baseball – the unexpected. That's what happened today. I don't think anyone would have looked at what was left of each pitching staff and expected great pitching by both teams, solid defense. (Missouri) was very opportunistic with their hits; at the time that they had three, they had converted them into two runs. They made key defensive plays, especially in the sixth inning when we had runners in scoring position. (Mark) Payton hits the ball right on the nose; the third baseman makes a great reflex play to catch the line drive. Tant (Shepherd) follows him with a hard hit ball and they made a great play out of the hole, short hop to first, scoop to first, gets him by a step. It was that kind of game. It was an exciting baseball game, and I think to say anything negative from our point of view would take away from the greatness of the victory from Missouri. That's really the way I feel about it. They earned that from every point of view. It shows the value of the tournament, in my opinion. It reinforces the importance of it. This gives them the chance to win the tournament, grab the automatic berth and put another team from the Big 12 that's capable of winning into the regionals. That's what this is all about, in my opinion."

On taking steps forward during the tournament: "I thought we took some steps forward. I thought we competed in the game today. Today is the first day we've played a split double-header like that, not that that can matter, but what I thought was really interesting about it was just the quality of the pitching, the quality of the defense by both teams and how the teams separated themselves. It was a good, old-fashioned baseball game where little things meant a lot."

On Kelly Fick's performance for Missouri: "He kept us off balance. We've had trouble with that kind of pitcher all year. Soft throwing, left-handed, breaking ball, sinker, slider, just the type that he's really effective against us for some reason."

Brandon Loy

On if he was surprised about struggling to hit in the game after batting successfully in their previous tournament games: "Like Coach said, it was one of those games where we hit a lot of balls hard, right at their guys, and they made good plays behind their pitcher. It was just one of those games. Those happen and we're not going to lose any confidence about it. We have to keep our confidence and I thought we had a great week at the plate. We struggled a little bit in that first game, but we had a good bounce-back after we struggled that first game and had three good games after that and tonight didn't go our way. We're just going to keep our confidence and keep fighting and get back to work this week and carry it over to regionals."

On the effects of playing two games in one day in the hot weather: "It was hot today. It definitely had that little bit of effect when you get a little bit tired throughout the day. Then again, we're young kids and we're out there playing what we love to do. We try to keep that out of our heads and just go out there and play hard and have fun doing it. I think we did that today, we just came up a little short."

Hoby Milner

On if he prefers being a starter or a reliever: "I throw whenever they want me to, it doesn't really matter. I'm comfortable coming out of the pen, I'm comfortable starting. I'm just going to go out there and throw the same way every time, so it doesn't really matter."