

2012 Big West Men's Basketball Tournament

Game 8 Quotes

Final - No. 4 Cal Poly def. No. 5 UC Riverside - 66-54

No. 4 Cal Poly

Head Coach Joe Callero-

(Overall statement): "Well, we take our hats off to Riverside, a team that we've had a great rivalry with in a strange way because we met them last year and now we're against one another. Jim Wooldridge, a coach that is a defensive oriented guy as it becomes a real slug fest. They really held as tonight was the same thing. I think we finally in the second half, we got our offense rolling a little bit as we tried to stay with the same game plan."

(On playing UC Santa Barbara): "Obviously it's more than a semifinal game, it's a game against the Gauchos. It's a great rivalry. It means a lot to our guys, our coaches, to our students, our soccer team, our volleyball teams. That's what's great about college basketball. You have the rivalries, like the Duke's and North Carolina's, Indiana and Michigan State. The rivalries go on around college basketball. In our little corner of the world, our little central coast of the world, playing Santa Barbara is going to be a great honor, a team that's gone to the tournament twice, two-time MVP Orlando Johnson, an experienced coaching staff that does an outstanding job and the student section is great. We think it's just great. We're looking forward to it. We have a lot of work to do to try to knock them off."

Player-David Hanson, senior forward

(On 13-0 run in second half): "We lost here. Last year's team. So I know how it works. If you have a bad half that can be neutralized. I didn't know that we had a 13-0 run, but I knew we were capable of doing that. We were able to get it going as our defense was great that led to some great offensive possessions."

Player -Amarurys Ferman, senior guard

(On 13-0 run in second half): "All of us started talking about it's going to be another 20 minutes. We just kept playing, kept our poise and played together."

No. 5 UC Riverside

Head Coach Jim Woodridge -

(Opening statement): "The season's over. We just couldn't match them offensively. We knew they were going to continue to attack us in the lane. We just didn't have enough bulk in there, enough size in there. We just couldn't find any offense. It's pretty simple, if you're not scoring you pretty much have to play picture perfect on the other end and we didn't do that."

(On the difference in the second half): "At half it was even. I think the physicality of the interior part of the floor got to us. They shot 50-percent from the field in the second half and we shot 50-percent from the field in the first half. It was just a reverse story from one half to the next. We just didn't have enough inside to counter and just couldn't score the basketball."

(On what [Cal Poly] did different in the second half): "I thought our guys played hard. I thought we competed. I think how we played, how we performed, I am proud of us. We've seen it through the year, we get on that real thin line. We were on it again today. I thought we played a great first half. We were prepared for what they were going to give us in the second half and we just didn't get it done. I don't fault our guys for their effort, their competitiveness in the game today. Not one bit."

Player - Phil Martin, senior guard

(On the season as a whole): "We felt we had underachieved during the season, but that the Big West Tournament was a fresh start. One game, one shot, everyone has a chance, but we just didn't get it done."

Player - Robert Smith, junior guard

(On what happened in the second half, after scoring ten in the first): "My shot just stopped falling. Things just dried up on me."