

2012 Big West Men's Basketball Tournament

Game 6 Quotes

Final - No. 7 UC Irvine d. No. 2 Cal State Fullerton, 65-59

No. 7 UC Irvine

Head Coach Russell Turner -

(On the game): "I'm proud of the team for the defense we played. Obviously we focused on our defensive performance because of what Fullerton had done to us in the previous two games when they had the ball. I'm proud of the team and I think our guys did a fine job."

(On his team's turnovers): "I want my players to be aggressive, that's important for their confidence. We played at a slower pace in this game more than we have all year because of the turnover problems. We've got to find a better balance because we want to be a running team. The reason they went on that run on us was because of the turnovers we allowed them to get transition baskets."

(on his team's win): "We say we want to be at our best in March. All we want to do is get rest and get ready for tomorrow against whoever we will play."

Chris McNealy, sophomore guard

(On DJ Seely): "We wanted to deny Seely. He scored 27 points on us in both games. We wanted to guard their perimeter and (Omondi) Amoke. We had to try to stop all of them."

(On the win): "In the first two games I thought we could beat them, but we just didn't play defense down the stretch. That's what we needed to do and I thought that's what we did."

Adam Folker, junior center

(On the win): "It's definitely a big win for us. I haven't made it past the first round and as a team, it's huge for us. We are going to build off of this. We have a pretty young squad and they're going to step up."

No. 2 Cal State Fullerton

Head Coach Bob Burton -

(Opening statement): "I'd first like to congratulate UC Irvine because they just came in and did an absolutely terrific job against us in all facets of the game. They played great defense. Offensively they played really good. We knew this would be a hard game. We had a close game at their place and had the same kind of game at our place but we were able to come back and win the game."

"Obviously we're incredibly dejected coming off of a real high beating Long Beach last week which I think was probably a little hang over effect on this thing."

(On coming out tight): "No I think we were too loose. I thought we were not really ready. I told my coaches this is either going to be really good or bad. Sometimes (loose) is good, but it wasn't in this case."

"They did a great job of guarding our shooters. I think we were 0 for 3,000. I was going to start putting helmets on people i

Omondi Amoke , senior forward

(On setting tournament record for rebounds): "I've always prided myself on trying to out-hustle guys and out work players. I shot 4 for 12 from the floor today, so if I'm not scoring the ball, I need to be doing something out there to help our team win, and tonight I was just trying to get on the boards and get us extra possessions."

(On hangover from win against Long Beach State): "We were really juiced off that win against Long Beach, but I feel like by Monday or Tuesday we were ready to start working on Irvine. There is no excuse for the way we played. We just didn't come out ready. Didn't shoot the ball well. Didn't defend out of the gate."

Orane Chin, senior forward

(On jump shots for the night): "I felt like we weren't aggressive at all tonight. Nobody really got into the paint, and it showed. We took a lot of threes, we settled a lot and it showed."