



**June 1, 2012**

**Missouri State University**

**Postgame Press Conference**

**Head Coach Keith Guttin:**

*Opening Statement*

"I thought we had a complete effort, I mean, we knew what we're getting out of Pierce, and he's been outstanding all year. The seven spot in the first [inning] obviously, that relaxes everyone. We've been a team all year where if we get four or five runs, we've been very successful so to get seven and then nine runs. It really made us feel good."

*On small ball:*

"We've done that to kind of ignite our offense regardless of who is hitting, you know. We've just got better bunters on the team than we've had in the past couple years. So, if you feel like you've got a chance, you do it. We don't play the opponent, we play the game. What every game dictates offensively we're going to do."

*On mindset:*

"Tough loss last night. I knew it wouldn't affect [the team]. We have older guys; we've been through it all year. Regular season, conference tournament...I knew it wouldn't affect them. It helps when you have Pierce Johnson on the mound and have it not affect him."

**OF Keenen Maddox**

*On mindset:*

"Mindset for us was to come out and play. Basically the same mindset we've had all year. Give it all we got, I mean, have fun."

*After runs in first inning:*

"We were hype. We didn't want to stop scoring but that's the way it went. We got enough runs up and everything kind of leveled out through the end. But, we were still excited throughout the whole game which was good, that's what we needed."

*On 'it being this easy?':*

"It wasn't really easy. I think we just came out and played hard and really locked it and got ready to go. Not that it was easy for us at all."

*On good pitching staff:*

"We know if we put up four or five runs and we play defense, we've got a good chance of winning."

### **RHP Pierce Johnson**

*On pitching mindset:*

"Just throw strikes really...I know my defense behind me is going to be phenomenal like they have been all year for me. Just pound the zone and hopefully we can get it up from there."

*On pitching:*

"I was trying to establish my fastball but I was leaving it up a little bit so I had to go to my breaking ball. I tried to keep them off balance. I know they're a good hitting team and they're here for a reason so I had to be on key."