



2013 BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

GAME 4 POSTGAME QUOTES

COLUMBIA REGIONAL • CAROLINA STADIUM • MAY 31-JUNE 3

South Carolina 19, Liberty 3

South Carolina Head Coach Chad Holbrook

Obviously, this is a big win for our team. A winner's bracket game in a four-team regional is a very big. It sets you up and puts you in a great position for the weekend. There is no guarantee that we will be the champions of this regional, but we have put ourselves in a very good position.



As far as the game, Jordan Montgomery was terrific. He threw the ball as good as he's done all year long, and I said that about his last start against Vanderbilt in Hoover. But Jordan keeps getting better and better, and that bodes well for us. Hopefully we can get him out there again. I thought the big momentum changer of the game was that second and third in the bottom of the second with nobody out. I think if they get those runs home, it would have been a different kind of game. But Jordan bowed his neck and got three punch outs there, and we came back in the top of the third and got four runs there. We're swinging well – great performances by Kyle [Martin], Max [Schrock] had a big homerun, Chase [Vergason] had a couple of hits. Our outfielders, collectively, were very good, and Graham [Saiko], Connor [Bright], Tanner [English], TJ [Costen] got in there and got a couple of hits, Sully (Sean Sullivan) got a hit. It was a well played game on our part and a well pitched game. Jordan was terrific – no errors, played great defense – and I'm happy to get a win.

On facing Brooks Roy knowing he pitched five shut out innings last time they saw him...

It kind of relaxed our dugout [getting three runs in the first inning]. Not only were we the benefit of four walks, but he [Roy] also had a play that he could have made a double-play ball. Obviously that's three unearned runs there in the first, and it relaxed our team and got some momentum going.

On how he feels about Jack Wynkoop pitching tomorrow...

Jack Wynkoop has been throwing the ball very well. The good thing about today's game is not only did Jordan [Montgomery] throw well and deep into the game, but we didn't have to use Adam Westmoreland or Tyler Webb, and I feel good to have those three lefties available tomorrow.

Sophomore centerfielder Tanner English

On first career home run...

I'm pretty sure that I couldn't stop smiling the whole way around the bases. It felt pretty good. I'm pretty sure it was the first pitch in the count. It was a fastball, and he elevated it a little bit, and Coach [Sammy] Esposito told me to stay short on it. I kind of got big on my last swing, and when I hit it I didn't think it had a chance. I started busting my tail to first base, and I looked up and the umpire was signaling that it went out. At first I thought it was some type of sick joke.

On the change in batting order...

I'd like to thank all the coaches for believing in me. I spent a lot of time hitting at batting practice and working on the swing here in the past week, because obviously I did struggle down in Hoover and I have been lately. But it doesn't matter where you hit in the lineup. I'm going to hit wherever coach puts me and luckily I put some good swings on the ball and helped the team win.

Sophomore first baseman Kyle Martin

On the value of Gamecocks' lineup...

Well, that's the great thing about our lineup. We have speed; we have power; we have just about everything you can have and everything you can ask for. Everybody does their job of getting on, and everyone does their job of getting runs, and putting the ball in play. We have a great squad, and they just do their job.

Sophomore pitcher Jordan Montgomery

On pitching around danger in bottom of the second inning...

I knew I was just trying to play damage control right there. The first punch out was huge. I was just trying to get a pop fly or something. Then I started pitching for strikeouts, and I got lucky.

On successful NCAA starts...

Well, it helps when your defense is playing that way with four or five web gems out there – Tanner [English] diving, and Graham [Saiko] diving. I was just trying to pitch to Grayson [Greiner]'s mitt and get them swinging.



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Liberty Head Coach Jim Toman

First off, Congratulations to South Carolina for their 26 straight NCAA home field wins here in Columbia. Between Sarge Frye and here (Carolina Stadium) I think that is 26 in a row. They are very impressive and we didn't get off to a good start and it got worse. Yesterday against Clemson we played defense, we got some pretty good hitting and we got good pitching the three phases of the game. We had all three clicking yesterday and today we didn't hit we didn't play defense or pitch. When you do that you aren't going to win too many games especially when you are playing against this caliber of competition. That is basically it. We didn't play very well. We need to regroup quickly because we have a quick turnaround tomorrow. We need to get up off of the ground and play Clemson tomorrow at 1 p.m. We are still alive. After today roughly 48 teams are left in the country that are still playing and if we win the first one tomorrow there would be roughly 32 teams. Then obviously it would be a long day tomorrow if we can win that first one we have a couple of bullets left in the gun to play tomorrow night, then Monday if we can continue on. So it will be a tough road but it can happen. This didn't get off to a good start today and it just got out of hand. Once you are down 7-0 and you know you have a possibility of playing 18 innings tomorrow it is very difficult to know who to throw because you have to save arms but I think we did a decent job of saving guys so we still have a few guys left to pitch tomorrow.



On who will pitch for Liberty tomorrow...

We will probably start Trey Lambert, our right handed pitcher. He has been pretty good for us this year and we have a couple of guys in the pen that we didn't use and our closer is fresh. We still have a couple of bullets left.

On not being able to push the runners across in the second inning...

Well we started off bad, it was 3-0 and you have Jordan Montgomery out there who can really pitch and he had us off balance pretty much all night. Jerry Meyers the pitching coach is over there and he does a great job of calling pitches and Jordan can throw anything Coach Meyers tells him to whether it is fastball in, fastball away, curveball. He had us looking fastball and then he would throw a changeup. We would look changeup and he would throw a curveball. Then look curveball and he would throw a changeup so Jerry is pretty good at mixing the pitches up. You have to give credit to Coach Meyers. When we did get second and third and had some pretty good hitters up it seemed like Montgomery took it to the next level. He struck three guys out in a row and if we just get a groundball then we get another run. We didn't even put the ball in play; we had three straight strikeouts. That didn't help and we thought that (Jared) Lyons may come in and help but it probably wasn't fair to him to put him in so early. When your starter doesn't make it out of the first inning it is hard to get someone loose fast enough. When it got to 7-0 and it is still in the third or fourth inning you have to decide am I going to put some of my better pitchers in and burn them and the way Montgomery was throwing it didn't make sense to put our top of the line guys in. Then we made an error here in that big inning when they scored nine they probably should have scored two and we didn't make a play. So just overall not a good day. I told our guys we have to flush it and the good part is we are still alive and if we play well tomorrow then we get to play again tomorrow night. I expect our guys to bounce back and I told them that it would be difficult and that we needed to stay the course and that the sun will come up tomorrow and God loves us even though we lost 19-3. Tomorrow we have a great opportunity in front of us and that we have (Trey) Lambert going tomorrow and he has been pretty good and we have (Ashton) Perrit and we have (Blake) Fulghum if we make it to the third game. We have an opportunity and we need to flush this one and look forward to tomorrow and that it is a new day.

Junior centerfielder Ryan Cordell

On Jordan Montgomery's performance tonight...

It looked like he had everything going for him. He was hitting the corners with his fastball, he was getting some guys inside with the fastball. Then he would throw the changeup away and that is one of the best changeups I have seen all year. He stayed on the corners and then changed speeds and just kept us off balance.

On staying positive after the first inning...

I think us getting started strong has been key this season so that was tough to give up three runs in that first inning. We were still up and we felt like we were still in the game but it just became a snow ball affect when we started walking guys and giving up a lot of hits. They hit the ball well tonight.

Senior left fielder Justin Sizemore

On his home run in the 9th inning...

It is pretty good momentum just trying to keep the team positive and like coach said we have to get back up and have to flush this and come back tomorrow ready to play. Game by game and day by day it gives us a little momentum and puts a fire in us. Nothing is ever as bad as it seems and nothing is every as good as it seems. It just gave us a little momentum going in to tomorrow when we play Clemson.