



COLUMBIA SUPER REGIONAL • FOUNDERS PARK • JUNE 11-13

GAME 1
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016
POSTGAME QUOTES

OKLAHOMA STATE 5, SOUTH CAROLINA 1

South Carolina Head Coach Chad Holbrook

Well, you have to congratulate Oklahoma State, [Thomas] Hatch threw a great game. I thought Braden [Webb] was terrific as well. It was a 2-0 game there through eight innings, and I felt like we still had a chance. I felt good about our chances. Being honest with you, anytime you are home and you aren't behind too much, I think you have a chance and an opportunity. We couldn't do enough against their pitchers today; they were terrific. Hatch and [Trey] Cobb, they were lights out. Sometimes you have to tip your hat to your opponent, and that's what we are going to do today. The series isn't over; our season isn't over. I told our players after the game today that, would you have signed up for the opportunity to win two games in a row at home in advance to the College World Series back in September. They all said they would, and that's the opportunity in front of us, and that is how we are going to treat it. Our players played hard; they tried their tails off. Their pitchers were pretty good, and they capitalized on a couple of opportunities, and the opportunity we had there we didn't capitalize on it. That was ultimately the difference in the game.



On what happened in the fourth inning with Gene Cone getting thrown out at home...

Coach [Sammy] Esposito just thought the ball was a little bit farther in the outfield than it was. That's a bad angle and tough read. When the ball caroms off the shortstop and you see it heading towards the outfield, it's very, very hard to tell how fast the ball is rolling and how far it is going to get away from the infielders. Their second baseman made a great play and threw us out there. It was a difficult play. You hate to make the third out at home, but at the same point in time you feel like you have a chance to score and you hate to hold him up. That's one of the difficulties about coaching third base. Believe me, I've done it, and it's not easy. You have to credit Oklahoma State. They just made a great play.

On Oklahoma State only giving up five runs in four NCAA games and what you tell your team...

They're on a roll. They do things a lot like we do, in regards to trying to make it difficult on the opponent to score, like pitch and play great defense. They did that better than we did today. We pitched well. It was a tight game there in the ninth inning. We felt like we had a chance. Their catcher had a big day offensively for them and hit a home run. It was their day today. They're awfully good. I said that going in to the game, and that wasn't coaching speak. They're as good of a pitching staff and defensive team as we have played all year. It's hard to score against teams that pitch well and play great defense. They don't give you anything; you have to earn it. Then you have to step up when you have an opportunity because opportunities are few and far between. We didn't execute in the inning when we had runners on first and second with no outs. We could have changed the complexion of the game right there, but that's baseball. Sometimes you just have to tip your hat to the opponent.

Junior OF Dom Thompson-Williams

On comparing Thomas Hatch to SEC starters this season..

He is pretty good. He stayed away, and he kept it low. He got out of big jams and threw huge pitches in certain situations. You have to do that against a team like us, and he did it. Hats off to him for that.

On having to win the next two games...

You play three games for a reason. With this team, we are never out of it. We did it last weekend, and that definitely gives us motivation to do it again this weekend. I don't think heads will be down. I think we will be fired up to go tomorrow, and our pitchers will be, too.

Freshman RHP Braden Webb

On his performance today...

Whenever the coaches told me they were going to throw me today and let Clarke [Schmidt] rest a little bit more because he threw way more pitches than me last weekend, my mentality was to come in and do what ever Clarke [Schmidt] would do at the very first game. I felt like that would help me better prepare for the start. I felt like my outing today was not as great as I would've liked for it to have been, but I came out there and competed.



COLUMBIA SUPER REGIONAL • FOUNDERS PARK • JUNE 11-13

GAME 1
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016
POSTGAME QUOTES

OKLAHOMA STATE 5, SOUTH CAROLINA 1

Oklahoma State Head Coach Josh Holliday

Opening Statement

It was a good victory for our kids today. We got excellent starting pitching from Thomas (Hatch), and Trey Cobb came out of the bullpen and did a great job. We played good defense, which was important, and got a big swing of the bat late in the game by Collin Theroux to take what was a two-run lead and stretch it to a five-run lead. If you have watched enough baseball, which all of you folks have, you know there is a big difference in a two-run lead and a five-run lead. South Carolina showed you at the end why it's important to keep scoring. It was a good job by our kids. It was a very complete game. We will go back and re-hydrate, rest and show up for Game 2 tomorrow.



On getting out of the fourth inning...

It was big and fine defensive play by J.R. [Davis] to make that accurate throw. That was a good, aggressive play by South Carolina and good baseball. We were in the right place, communicated well and were able to make an accurate play.

On Thomas Hatch being effective in his postseason starts...

He's been good all year. It's honestly been one of the most consistent start-to-finish seasons you could ever hope for a kid to have. He throws a lot of strikes; they have sink, good velocity; and he has a slider and a change up. A lot of college hitters don't see sinkers very often. It's a different type of pitch. Most kids throw the ball on a flatter plane. His pitch has run and sink. So when he's down in the zone, he gets a lot of ground balls, and our kids behind him catch ground balls well. So it's a combination of strike throwing, being down in the zone and great defense behind him. His confidence has grown throughout the year.

Sophomore RHP Thomas Hatch

On his approach today...

I tried to pound the zone and be aggressive. I tried to keep guys off the base paths, but they put up really good at-bats. I think I walked two or three guys. They were aggressive, and they swing the bat pretty well. But my defense played phenomenal behind me. Collin (Theroux) caught a great game, and Rob (Walton) called a great game. To be honest, I didn't really have my ace stuff, but for my team to be able to pick me up behind me was big.

On the challenges of today...

I really think the heat had something to play into it. I was really tired, and the sweat was rolling down my arms. The crowd got pretty loud. Overall, my team picked me up behind me. I was able to battle through it, and Trey Cobb came in and shut the door.

On the atmosphere...

It was definitely something – I wouldn't say new because we just came from a really good play in Clemson with passionate fans – but it's hard to say that it doesn't affect you a little bit. It's really fun to play in front of a big crowd. Coming down the stretch, we've played in a bunch of big crowds. Being able to get used to that down the stretch is big. They were very passionate, I'll say that.

Junior C Collin Theroux

On the team's postseason success...

We had it in us. We just had to let it come out. Getting hot at the right time is something we have done over the years. Coming into conference play my freshman year, we played really well after we struggled at the beginning of the year. It's big to be able to respond to adversity, which we have done all year. Coming into the postseason and coming off the Big 12 Tournament where we had struggled a bit, it was in our minds, so we knew we could come back from that.

On the play at the plate...

It was a really good play by J.R. (Davis), really heads up to know that that guy would be sending him because it's so loud in that environment that you can't hear people saying, 'four four four,' or 'he's going home,' so really heads up play by him and a really good throw right on the money. I got him. He was out. He just took my feet out from under me. I'm a big dude and big trees fall hard, but I'm alright. It hurt at first, but I just had to get my TV time.