



COLUMBIA REGIONAL • CAROLINA STADIUM • MAY 30-JUNE 2

# **South Carolina 5, Campbell 2**

# South Carolina Head Coach Chad Holbrook

Campbell gave us all that we wanted and then some. They're terrifically coached, well coached and scrappy. Their pitchers did a great job against our hitters. I think the best decision I made all week was to give Jordan [Montgomery] the ball. I don't know if we win that game tonight if Jordan isn't out there because there were tense moments. There was a lot of anxiety out there. We weren't quite as loose as we normally are, and to have a cool customer in those situations before, in his NCAA postseason appearances, he knows what pitching on the big stage in postseason games is all about.



It was very hard fought, could have gone either way. We were very lucky and fortunate. That was a big two-out hit by Marcus Mooney there in the eighth with what all transpired there in the ninth.

#### On Jordan Montgomery...

When you start postseason play in the tournament, you can tell with the crowd and energy, there's a different feel. I say it all the time, but the anxiety level is higher and the reason why we feel so comfortable is because Jordan is not phased by too much. Whether we're home, away, postseason, he's been a good pitcher here for three years. He's been exceptional in the postseason, but he's been pretty darn good in the regular season. In tight moments, in a tight game, I know there might be some tension, but we feel very, very comfortable giving the ball to Jordan Montgomery. He was outstanding tonight.

## Junior pitcher Jordan Montgomery

#### On his change-up...

Definitely when I have my change-up, I'm able to go deeper into the game, and it makes my fastball more efficient. I can just throw it in and catch them guessing every now and then. When they're looking change-up, I can jam them on the hands. Even if they're still looking change-up, they can ground out.

#### On his mindset pitching in the postseason...

Most postseasons, I just want to win for the team, gets us as far in. Last year, I pitched in an elimination game. I just don't want to be the guy to end our season. There's that, and definitely this year, with the current events, I'm just trying to go out and throw. We're all thinking about Curt Britt right now, so we're playing for him. We're trying to win for him and let him know that we love him and we've got his back no matter what.

### Junior first baseman Kyle Martin

On the comfort of playing at home...

Getting those three runs in the first was a big thing. We had bases loaded and no outs and came up and started to put the ball into play. The crowd here helped us so much. Our fans get into when the playoffs come around. I think that factor really plays into it.

# Sophomore shortstop Marcus Mooney

On his late-game hit...

After my base running blunder earlier that took us out of the inning, I really just wanted to help my team and score some runs to help my team after making that mistake. Coach just told me to look for a slider away and shoot it into right, and he threw it there and I got a piece on it.





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# **Campbell Head Coach Greg Goff**

Well, I just thought it was a great game tonight. I thought both teams did really well, and I felt like our guys fell a little short, made a couple of bad pitches in some big situations. I thought their team did a great job of making our mistakes hurt us a little bit. I thought it was a great game, very well played. I'm disappointed that we lost, but we have to regroup and come back tomorrow.



On getting behind in the first inning with a great crowd...

No, I knew for us to be able to win I knew we had to get a good start from Heath (Bowers). He was just up in his zone and didn't locate. I was disappointed in his performance early, especially with the crowd, (in) our first time being in a regional like this. I knew if he could settle in, we would score. So, we got behind. Once he settled in and got some zeros on the board, I figured we would have a good shot at scoring. I thought (Jordan) Montgomery was good, but he was making some mistakes and getting behind. I think we chased it in the middle innings and gave some outs away. Overall, I think the biggest play was the two-out, two-strike hit to right to get the two runs. If it's a 3-1 game going into the top of the ninth, I thought they would probably go to the bullpen and so forth. So, to me that was the biggest play. We were trying to go in and (Ryan) Thompson shook and went with a breaking ball and the guy (Marcus Mooney) did a great job of staying behind it and getting a single. I think that was the biggest difference because 3-4-5 was coming up for us, and I thought we had a shot to score if we could just hold right there.

## On Jordan Montgomery...

Whenever you throw a changeup in fastball counts, it's hard for hitters to stay back on it. I thought he had great arm speed with it, it a lot of deception to it and a lot of our guys didn't adjust to it and just kept swinging at his arm speed. He did a great job with it. It's a great pitch and an above average pitch. We haven't seen anybody with that good of a changeup. His breaking ball was okay, throwing a little cutter in there for strikes. They did a good job as the game went along of equalizing our hitters, getting ahead with a breaking ball and being able to throw a fastball or changeup when he needed to,

## **Junior first baseman Seth LaRue**

On Jordan Montgomery's performance and his home run...

He (Jordan Montgomery) threw pretty well tonight. He kept us on our toes, mixed well. The at-bat that I hit the home run, I just did a good job of getting in a good count and got a ball that I could hit. I tried to hit in the gap, but it just went out.

## Senior centerfielder Matt Nadolski

On the crowd...

I think the first inning kind of got to us, but other than that, we settled down. It's a crowd; you don't really hear it when you're playing, so it doesn't really affect you.

On Jordan Montgomery's performance...

We've seen something similar, but I think what (Jordan) Montgomery did well was locate. He mixed his speeds up.

On the first inning setting them back...

Your goal is to not give up runs in games, so giving up three to South Carolina didn't really help up, but I thought we fought well and just came up short.