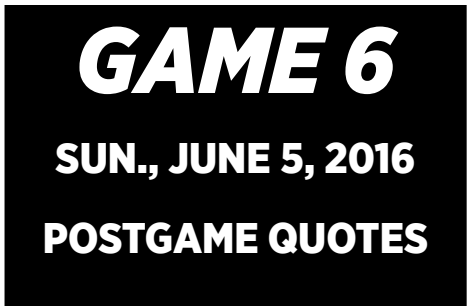




COLUMBIA REGIONAL • FOUNDERS PARK • JUNE 3-6



South Carolina 10, UNCW 1

South Carolina Head Coach Chad Holbrook

Opening Statement

Well, it was obviously a great day for our team. We played some great baseball for 18 innings today against some good players and teams. As far as the second game today, Tyler Johnson will go down in Gamecock lore for performances. That kind of reminded me of 2010 when we had some reliever that hadn't started a game named [Michael] Roth. We put him in there in Omaha, and he threw a complete game. Tyler worked extremely hard. I think he went into the outing thinking he was going to try to get three or four innings and give us a good start. He started getting loose around the third or fourth. He works extremely hard in the weight room and put on a lot of weight. That hard work allowed him to keep getting better as the game went on against a great hitting team. It was an incredible performance because those guys can really hit. They have more home runs than most teams have doubles. You hold your breath on every hitter that walks up there. So, for Tyler to do what he did was impressive. We had a lot of guys step up. DC [Arendas] had a great day after Jonah [Bride] got thrown out, and he played well again in the nightcap. Gene [Cone] had that big hit there that cleared the bases and started the five-run inning to get the momentum going in our dugout. It was a great day for us. We have to focus, get ready for tomorrow night and play our best baseball. That will certainly be a challenge.



On decision to start Tyler Johnson...

Me and Coach [Jerry] Meyers kind of got into a little argument between games. He told me before the game 'Hey, if we can get the first one and don't have to use Tyler, let's start him in game two.' That was at 7:30 this morning. We got through it and didn't have to use him. Then I think we started second-guessing ourselves a little bit because there was rain in the area. We didn't want him to get up and throw two innings. We started out-guessing ourselves. So, I filled the lineup out, left then pitchers position open and said fill it out. He threw the lineup back at me. So, I made a decent pitching decision tonight, I guess.

So. RHP Tyler Johnson

On his mindset starting the game...

I knew what kind of team they are. They're aggressive and hit the ball very well. So, I was just trying to go to three innings. Once I got to three, I was trying to get to four, then five. I was able to find a groove there and get some hitters out. I can't say enough about our defense either. UNCW hit some balls hard, and fortunately the guys behind me made some great plays.

On having to lobby to stay in the game as his pitch count grew...

I thought that the eighth and ninth inning is like my home. It has been all year. Those were just fun. As for lobbying, I didn't have to do much of that. Coach Meyers has a lot of confidence, and he knows that I can throw strikes in there. Thankfull,y he let me go back out there and let things fall into place.

Sr. INF DC Arendas

On what Coach Holbrook said about some guys stepping up...

I think everyone that was in the lineup today contributed. In the first game, we had a number of guys come off the bench and get a lot of hits. That's what we knew we'd have to do coming into today. We had the opportunity to play two games, so we knew everyone was going to have to contribute. We're going to have to do that again tomorrow. UNCW is a great offensive team. So we're going to have to put together some quality at-bats tomorrow.

On getting the chance to play today..

Coach [Holbrook] tells us every day to come to the park ready to play. I didn't really think I was going to be in that early in the game, but your role changes each day. You don't know what that's going to look like. It's your job, as a player, to be ready whenever your number is called. I was just glad we could do that today. We're going to need a team effort tomorrow as well.

Jr. OF Gene Cone

On taking the momentum away from UNCW..

I feel like we have a lot of momentum going into tomorrow. We played great tonight. Hopefully we can flush this one again, get ready for tomorrow and do the same thing again.



GAME 6
SUN., JUNE 5, 2016
POSTGAME QUOTES

South Carolina 10, UNCW 1

UNCW Head Coach Mark Scalf

The first thing I want to say is congratulations to Tyler Johnson. Tyler did a tremendous job on the mound. [South Carolina] Coach [Chad] Holbrook was thinking initially try to get three or four innings out of him. You guys saw what he gave him. It was a phenomenal effort. Offensively they took advantage of a couple one-out, back-to-back walks with three straight hits there in the second inning to open it up. We played catch up all game.



On expecting Tyler Johnson to start...

I thought there was a good chance Tyler [Johnson] would start even though he hadn't had any starts during the course of the year. He was the best arm available. Jerry [Meyers] and Chad [Holbrook] certainly made the right choice.

On how the four-out start from Cory [Gantz] changed the hopes for today...

It wasn't so much the four-out start but the runs on the board and additional runners out there. Bottom line was he didn't command the zone well enough. [DC] Arendas and [TJ] Hopkins did a really good job those first pitches in the zone hitting singles after [Gene] Cone's double. We needed to make a change, and I thought when [Whitman] Barnes came in he gave us an opportunity to try to get back into the ball game. Unfortunately, we were not able to get ahead on Johnson enough and putting enough runners out there to put pressure on him. Barnes did a really good job, but we had to get him. I think he had one walk in four innings, and he had two walks in that last inning. I knew he wasn't feeling well and that's why we went to the mound when we did. We probably should have gone a little sooner.

On if he thought the crowd affected Gantz...

I don't know if the crowd got to him. I think that he didn't finish pitching against [LT] Tolbert, left balls arm side, walked him and then made a couple pretty good pitches to [Marcus] Mooney that were borderline balls/strikes and got behind in the count. We got back in it but then ended up walking him and then it was a situation where we had to get ahead right here. [DC] Arendas did a great job on jumping on the first-pitch fast ball, singling to center field.

Jr. C Gavin Stupienski

On what made [Tyler] Johnson so effective...

He just mixed his pitches well. He worked well on his change up and locating his fast ball. We just have to make the adjustment and go back to work tomorrow.

On if they lost any momentum from the loss...

We knew we were coming into a tough atmosphere against a tough team. We are a tough team, too, and we will be back ready to play tomorrow.

Jr. INF/OF Robbie Thornburn

On what made [Tyler] Johnson so effective...

I think he just did a good job getting ahead of hitters, and, when you get ahead of hitters, it is easier to command the zone.

On if the crowd challenged their focus...

You try not to let [the crowd] affect you, but when they get loud like that, it is definitely hard not to notice. We have to do a better job of blocking out and staying focused and focusing on what we need to do.