



2014 BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

DIVISION I

COLUMBIA REGIONAL • CAROLINA STADIUM • MAY 30-JUNE 2

GAME 3 POSTGAME QUOTES

Campbell 4, Old Dominion 1 (12 Innings)

Campbell Head Coach Greg Goff

Just a tremendous game. I thought that both clubs played a really flawless game for a 1-1 game to go that long. My hats off to Old Dominion and their competitive spirit. They just played phenomenal. We just got some breaks there at the end. Great game, hate that somebody lost. It was great to be on the other side of things from last night.

On the performance of Hector Cedano and Ryan Thompson...

Hector, I think we're 11-1 on his starts. He's not flashy, just pitches to contact, and we play good defense behind him. Ryan Thompson, you can't say enough. He is a true All-American, not only on the baseball field, but in person too. He's the biggest, lovable guy that we have. He loves our teams. He rallies our team.



On Old Dominion's Dean Ali...

I thought Dean was tremendous. We just couldn't figure him out. He would just locate his fastball and mixed in his breaking pitch. Our offense usually scores somehow most of the time, but we were just frustrated. Our guys got frustrated. I felt that in our dugout. I was concerned, really concerned, and I was glad to see him get taken out. Guys were applauding him for throwing so well. It was amazing to see him throw. We couldn't do anything with him.

Freshman second baseman Brooks Borders

On his hit in the 12th inning...

It's hard to put into words. I've been to so many games here growing up, coming to Carolina games since I was a little kid. Just to be able to come back here and play in this environment, it's just awesome. To be a part of this team is beyond words.

Senior starting pitcher Hector Cedano

On if he had watched any of Old Dominion's games this year, knowing that he would start today...

No, I just trusted the coaching staff because they have a plan, and I believe that it will give us the win that day.

Senior relief pitcher Ryan Thompson

On how much he has left for the weekend...

It's my last go-round. I'm a senior, so I'm going to do whatever I can to prepare myself. We have one of the best athletic trainers in the nation, I fully believe that, so he's going to be working on me for a few hours tonight. Sorry for him, but I'll be back tomorrow.



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Old Dominion Head Coach Chris Finwood

Well, it was another good ball game, and we've played a ton of those this year and another extra-inning game, we've played a ton of those this year. You have to give Campbell's pitchers a lot of credit. They threw a lot of big pitches when they had to. I was really proud of our guys for how we pitched and fought hard. Dean (Ali) came in and gave us a tremendous performance out of the bullpen and pitched like a guy that didn't want his career to end, and they just got a couple of hits and we walked some guys there in that last inning and that's what hurt us. Heck of a ball game, and you've got to tip your hat to Campbell for winning the ball game.



On Campbell's pitching staff...

They did a good job. We've had trouble with lefties like that, with a left-handed heavy lineup and he kept the ball down. He didn't make a lot of mistakes in the middle of the zone. We had a couple of shots at him with first and third in one inning, and (Mike) Perez hits into a double play. He's been one of our guys that has hit lefties real well, but he swung at a pitch down and rolled over to third base and turned two. (Ryan) Thompson is an All-American for a reason. He mixes his pitches well, and he's got a lot of body movement to get you off, trying to figure out the window that the ball's coming out of. He's been their go-to guy. You've got to give him credit; he threw last night and then five today, and I think he threw every game in their conference tournament. When you have a workhorse like that down there, it's pretty nice. They rode him to a win today. They've got a good club; they won 41 games for a reason. I was really proud of Dean (Ali), he came in there and gave us chance after chance. It's one of those games that you see some of the time these days when we just could not get a big hit. We had plenty of opportunities. We felt like the right guys were up, but to their credit they had good pitches and we couldn't get a hit for whatever reason. We swung the bat pretty good during the season but for the last 3-4 weeks we have been in that mode where we haven't gotten those big hits, and that carried over into the regional, unfortunately.

On what he hopes to take out of this experience...

I think it was a stepping stone, coming into a new league, Conference USA. We were picked to come in 10th in the preseason. Nobody expected a whole lot out of us, but the guys fought hard. We played a heck of a tough schedule, and the guys did some many good things. I told them to keep their heads up; they just got beat in two close games down here, and, for our younger guys, hopefully that's a growing experience. When we get back, they can talk to the other guys about it. There's a lot of truth to being said that you have to be there, and Old Dominion hasn't been here in quite some time, so we hope this is a growing experience for us and we can continue to grow the program.

On Dean Ali...

Dean's one of those relievers that we call utility relievers. He can be a short guy; he can be a long guy. He started for us on Friday's last season, but we just felt like we could use him more out of the bullpen. So, he's gone five, six innings before when we've had to get him in there. Brett (Harris) didn't have his good stuff, so we felt we needed to get Dean in there and sometimes it's earlier in the game. He has been a wonderful kid for us. He's a great student and a super kid and he left it all out there, so it was fun to watch.

Senior pitcher Dean Ali

On this experience...

All year we've been battling, and I can't hold my head down because of what we accomplished this year. I couldn't be more proud of our team and what we've done and proved people wrong this year.

On his pitching today...

I mean, I would just say being able to control my fastball, most importantly, and being able to have my slider and spot it when I could. I just hit my spots where they needed to be, and getting outs.

On his mindset...

The longest I've gone this year is four innings, so I wasn't really expecting to go in as long, but this was a game that we needed to win, and I just went out there and did what I could for the team.

Freshman second baseman Nick Walker

On this experience...

I'm lucky I had a great group of seniors and leaders for this team to show me, myself, a lot of things. Being a freshman, I learned a lot from these guys, and we're definitely going to miss them next year.

On facing Campbell reliever Ryan Thompson...

I think that, as a right-hander, it was just a little funky, especially when he was in the stretch. He was a little quick to the plate, especially for being a lefty, and we couldn't adjust in time, I think. He made good pitches and made us swing and miss a lot.