

Charlotte Quotes
Game One
Columbia Regional

Charlotte Head Coach Loren Hibbs

“I’m really proud of our guys. I thought that we were ready to play with the first pitch. We got three runs in the first and [Adam] Mills was outstanding as he has been all year. It’s amazing what he has done for us this year. I thought we played pretty good defense even though we made a couple of errors. We have a bunch of skinny guys that can run around and that’s how we play and how we’ve played all year. We pitch a little and play defense and try to take as many opportunities as we can when we have runners in scoring position by taking good swings.”

“It’s a good opponent and we played well. We have a lot of respect for NC State. I just thought that we were better than they were today. We could play tomorrow and they could be better than us. When you play at this level, as you all know, it’s just a matter of a pitch here or there or an at-bat here or there. Both teams are pretty even. I thought that Surkamp was better as the game went on.”

“We won today and we’ll try to do our best against whoever we play tomorrow. If we’re successful we’ll turn around and play the next day. I’m not thinking past tonight. We get off the bus and we play the game. We do the best we can that game and make adjustments during the game. We go back to the hotel get a good night sleep and something to eat, get up and do it again the next day.”

Adam Mills, Pitcher

(on his performance)

“It’s one of those things that I’m not going to get too wrapped up in all of that. I’m going to go out and worry about my game. You have to watch how you approach things like that. I just go out there and fill it up with my fastball. They’re approach wasn’t too aggressive early in counts and I was spotting my fastball a little better than I usually do. It was one of those days.”

“A lot of the games we have won is because we have scored in the first couple of innings. It’s part of the reason why our pitching staff has been as successful as it has been. It takes the pressure off the pitchers. It’s so easy to pitch for this team as a pitcher whether you’re a starter or a reliever. If we don’t score in the first couple of innings, you know they are going to eventually.”

Chris Taylor, Designated Hitter

“It’s always big for our team to come out and score early. Today we had a great opponent in NC State. [Eric] Surkamp did a great job early locating his fastball. We saw some pitches us and got some guys on base and then scored them. That’s the key to any game.”

“I was hoping that ball would have been out of the park, but Mother Nature hates me right now. It seems like all my hits stay in the park now. I saw a pitch that was up, put a good swing on it. It’s a two-run double, so I’ll take it. We got some runs for Adam and he took control after that.”

NC State Quotes
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N.C. State Head Coach Elliott Avent

“Certainly thought (pitcher) Adam Mills was everything he was billed to be. He is what the word pitcher means. He commands both sides of the plate and keeps the ball down mostly. He didn’t give us anything to hit. I thought Mills was pretty much everything he’s cracked up to be. He took care of things and got it done today.

“I will be very surprised if Eric Surkamp isn’t pitching in the championship game Monday night.

(on Charlotte’s record and the game)

“They are a good team. I am not going to say anything about the way they played. That would be wrong. They won, they beat us. They beat us pretty handily with Adam Mills. I am sure our players aren’t going to say it, but I will say it. I am not sure our guys can play any worse than they did. I don’t think it has anything to do with effort or desire or heart. Maybe they just wanted it too much. That wasn’t the way we usually play. I’d like to think we are going to play better and we are going to stick around awhile longer. I can’t pick a part of the game we did well. Eric pitched well and made a lot of pitches. It’s the game as baseball as well. That’s what makes the game of baseball so beautiful. It seems like it all went Charlotte’s way. They outplayed us in everyway. They deserved to win, but I think NC State’s got better baseball ahead.”

Starting pitcher Eric Surkamp

“All in all they are a pretty good hitting ball club. I felt like I let some of my pitches up in the first inning. The pitch was they got the double, I let that up. I felt pretty good all day long, but they were swinging a good bit. They are pretty quick, but they didn’t do very much today (on the bases). I thought they would try to bunt and do more stuff like that, but they didn’t do that today.

Infielder Dallas Poulk

“He threw well (Charlotte’s Adam Mills). He had really good command. He threw a lot of strikes. We got ourselves out a lot today. (the throwing error): Felt like we had a play there, I just threw the ball across my body a little too much. I guess I was trying to make a great play. I guess I should have held it, but I can’t look back at it now.

“We are gonna come back tomorrow after a lot of rest tomorrow and fight. It’s gonna be a fight from here on out. We are gonna have to show a lot of heart everyday. Talent can’t take you all the way so we will have left in the tanks.”