



# NCAA Softball Durham Regional

## Postgame Quotes – South Carolina at Duke

May 18, 2024 // Duke Softball Stadium // Durham, N.C.

### South Carolina Head Coach Beverly Smith

#### ***Opening Statement***

“Certainly, wasn't our best game, but I will tip my cap to Jala Wright. I thought she pitched a great game today. Nine strikeouts is a dominating performance. So certainly, for us to be able to come back, we've got to figure out a way to hit Jala. I thought Sage Mardjetko gave us a good start on the mound today, and you know we picked up the ball behind her well. We've just got to regroup and get ready to come back this afternoon for another game.”

#### ***On what the rest of the day looks like***

“It's a reset. The team's getting back on the bus right now. We'll eat. We'll go scout and see who wins this game. It could be Morgan State or Utah. We're not overlooking anybody. For us to win, I think it's less about our opponent and more about how we show up and play. We've got eight seniors that I know do not want their season to end like it did today in the first game. So, I think we just need to reset and get ready to come back and attack whoever our opponent is.”

### Senior Infielder Riley Blampied

#### ***On the team's struggles hitting against Jala Wright***

“We put in a lot of work the past week preparing for Jala, and today we just came up short in terms of adjusting quick and early. I would say we're focusing on Utah or Morgan State now and then coming back and getting Jala again. Hopefully we will make some adjustments next time. But we're ready to go.”

#### ***On what makes Jala Wright so good***

“The down ball. It moves a pretty good bit. It's just hard seeing the difference between the strikes and the balls.”

#### ***On regrouping for the next game***

“Last year we lost the first game of the tournament and made it to the championship. So, it's no different than that in terms of focusing on this next game — win that one and go to the championship again.”