

2024 Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship

UCF POSTGAME QUOTES – Game 3 Globe Life Field: May 21, 2024

No. 8 UCF 6, No. 5 Cincinnati 5 (11 inn.)

UCF Head Coach Rich Wallace

Opening statement...

"That is one of the craziest college baseball games I've ever been a part of. This guy (Danny Neri) hitting three home runs in one game and just finding a way, after giving up the lead the way we did, finding a way to come back and win. Really well played ball game from both sides."

On getting his first win in the Big 12 tournament...

"You don't have to win the first game in the tournament to feel like you have to win it, but it sure feels like it. I feel like we were in control of the game up until the last ground ball in the ninth, and then this guy (Danny Neri) hit the big home run after being out there for four hours to close this out. I couldn't ask for anything better."

On how the Big 12 conference tournament differs from others...

"It's tough for it not to feel different with this park and the way it is. It's just elite. This place is elite. This tournament's format is obviously different. I have no idea who we play, when we play, what time we play. It definitely had a unique feeling to it."

On pitching multiple players...

"Yes, there's two reasons why. We had to do that at Baylor during the doubleheader on Friday, and Saturday, because those were games we had to win. We kind of use those guys that way throughout the year. I think that was twofold on that part."

Danny Neri, C, Sr.

On being the first player to hit three home runs in the Big 12 conference tournament...

"First of all, I don't want to overlook everything. Stag came out to give us a great start. Then Sosnowski, Bauer and Kramer all came out and held it down. I just happen to be the guy in the position to take the big swings. If you had told me at the beginning of the day or even at the beginning of the year, that I would hold any kind of home run record I would not have believed you. I just feel incredibly fortunate to have been in the right position, gotten the right pitches and put the swings on those balls to give us the chance to win a game like that."

On a career high of three homeruns in a game...

"Never. I've hit two in a summer ball game but never during a college game."

On repeating the same routine for the next game...

"After the third inning, I started to think about what time I went to dinner last night and what time I went to bed. My roommate Jackson said Danny, whatever you did last night, wash, rinse, and repeat, and do it again tomorrow. I will run it back and try to remember exactly what I did and hopefully, that magic will come back for tomorrow's game."

Kyle Kramer, R-Sr., RHP

On his mindset after the ninth inning...

"After that first hit, I had to slow the game down and tried to find ways to keep it steady and get a double-play ball. I wanted to keep it moving so I took a couple of deep breaths. I've been here before. It's nothing new and I told myself to just go on with it."