



NCAA



**2022 DIVISION I  
BASEBALL  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
BLACKSBURG SUPER REGIONAL**



**Virginia Tech Baseball  
Head Coach John Szefc Q&A Highlights  
Game One  
Friday, June 10**

***Opening statement:***

“That was a tough one, obviously not the outcome we're looking for but give Oklahoma credit. Bennett was really tough and Michael was just as good for them at the end. We faced two pretty good arms today. We had a lot of threats and got pretty close. We just weren't able to come back and tie it. We got plenty of good players and arms to come back and even it up tomorrow and win it on Sunday. Right now it hurts a little bit, but when you get to this stage of the game, you're gonna play really good people. I think we're good and I think they're really good. If you enjoy watching college baseball, that was a really good college baseball game to watch. From a fan perspective. So I'll leave it at that.”

***On Weycker's performance:***

“It was really important for him to go that long. He was very good just looking at his line. He came in and stabilized things to give our offense a chance to come back. He's done it before. In a lot of cases we have come back but we just ran into two really good arms today. We just couldn't get that big knock that we needed. Both the two home runs were big and we had some good at bats but we'll regroup and even it up tomorrow.”

***On confidence in Drue Hackenberg:***

“His stuff's really good and he has a lot of experience. He's been there before. I'd say those are probably the three things that I would feel good about with him pitching.”

***On the decision to pull Griffin Green:***

“I think he probably wasn't at his best. He wasn't throwing a ton of strikes at that point. He's had some issues with the middle finger on his pitching hand that probably affected him. It's been a day-to-day thing. We were just trying to change momentum a little bit. They had scored three runs, and their numbers say that they have had issues against left-handed pitching. That's what made that move.”

***On the offense:***

“I think they're trying to make some adjustments but you gotta realize that was one of the best lefties we've faced all year. He was at his best today and you got to give the guy credit. He made some really big pitches when he had to. We climbed back in the game and almost tied it after being down 5-0 at one point. I give our guys a lot of credit. You're down five with nothing going against that arm. In that spot our goal is to get the



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tying run to the plate and we did that. We just didn't quite get over the hump. I can't fault them. We'll come back and be good tomorrow."

***On Oklahoma's closer:***

"The scouting report on him was that when it all comes down to it he's gonna throw in the slider and that's exactly what he did. You still have to be able to have good at bats and put things into play. The one at bat that told me how good his slider is was in the bottom of the ninth when Demartini went down looking. He rarely ever does that when he sees a right-handed pitcher. That should probably tell you how sharp he was."

***On defensive adjustments:***

"I don't know that there was a whole lot of messaging going on. Our guys knew how aggressive they were coming in and them scoring from first was just evidence of it. When something like that happens, you talk about it in the dugout but I don't think that you need to send any message. The message is already sent as far as the third base coach sending that runner. We were ready for it the next time around. Our relay was good and Schobel threw the guy out at the plate."

***On runners left in scoring position:***

"I don't really know that we had issues, we were just facing two good arms. On certain days they're going to be a little better than you but that's also why this is a three-game series. You have to win two games here. You don't have to win three. We'll come back tomorrow and strap it up and go."



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Virginia Tech Baseball  
OF Jack Hurley Q&A Highlights  
Game One  
Friday, June 10

***On team mindset after losing for the first time in the NCAA postseason:***

“Just moving forward and not dwelling on what happened tonight. It was a good game, it just didn’t go our way and we’ve got two more opportunities hopefully.”

***On Bennett’s pitching and if adjustments were made after hitting a homerun:***

“He’s just a good pitcher. He was hitting his spots. The umpire might have been giving a ball off and sometimes that might affect the game a little bit, but he was pitching it where the umpire was calling strikes and it kind of made it tough on our hitters. The longer you pitch, the more you see him and get more comfortable. I think some of the guys were able to make some adjustments. I was just trying to swing as hard as I could and hit the ball as hard as I could like I always do.”

***On what takeaways the team has after losing the first game of a series earlier this season:***

“Just to have a short memory and realize that they have to come out and beat us again tomorrow. Just not letting that happen. We’re a tough group, mentally we get over things pretty quickly so I think a lot of us have already turned the page and are looking forward to tomorrow.”

Virginia Tech Baseball  
P Henry Weycker Q&A Highlights  
Game One  
Friday, June 10

***On team mindset after losing for the first time in the NCAA postseason:***

“I mean, we’ve been here before. We were here against Pitt and Louisville and ended up winning those series. Everybody’s calm, we’re all in a good place right now and I think we just need to move forward and look to the next game.”