



FAYETTEVILLE NCAA SUPER REGIONAL

June 13, 2021

Arkansas vs. NC State

POSTGAME QUOTES: NC STATE 3, ARKANSAS 2

DAVE VAN HORN, Arkansas Head Coach

Opening Statement

"What a great series, two tough losses the last couple of days. Really just gotta give NC State credit, they played great, got some great hits and their pitchers did a great job. We had a chance to score but they made it tough on us. We had a great year, won a couple of championships. It was a fun team to be around. Kevin Kopps is an amazing pitcher and an amazing human being. He really wanted the ball and it was fun watching him work today. I mean, it didn't go our way, we didn't get enough going offensively."

RE: Taking Kopps Out In The Ninth Inning

"Well, the decision was made because he was still pitching really well. We just tied the game up, that was going to be his last inning no matter what. There's not much difference between 114 pitches and 125, it's all the same. I thought late in the game he was better than he was early in the game. I don't even think he made a mistake, I just think Torres went down and hit a good pitch and hit it a long way. Gotta give him credit, sometimes the hitters just get you."

RE: Looking Back On Consistent Success

"They showed up every weekend and played hard. They practiced hard and when they stepped on the field, they really wanted to win. You don't see that all the time. Especially week in and week out. Teams fighting like this team fought. We really don't have a bunch of superstars. We got some good players, some that are going to be drafted, but we just got a bunch of good players, that play hard. They won an SEC Championship... and SEC Tournament title for the first time ever. Those are the things that'll stand out to me when I think about this team."

RE: Remarks On Kevin Kopps

"Kevin is an incredible person. He's a great baseball player and he made himself great. There's not too many guys I would let pitch as much as I let him. He's going to be really successful in everything he does and anything he does... honestly. He's very humble and did everything he could for this team and I think you're going to see some pretty good rewards coming his way in the next couple of weeks."

KEVIN KOPPS, Arkansas RHP

RE: Post-game Time With The Fans

"One of the big things I think about is something Michael Jordan said about playing as hard as he can every single game because it might be someone's one and only game. So maybe that's someone's one and only chance to come watch a game so I feel like I need to give back to the fans because they give so much to us."

RE: Progressing Through The Game

"At the beginning of the game, I was trying to pitch too much like I was in my 'closing role,' and I didn't have my best stuff. So I remembered to focus more on hitting my spots instead of trying to just throw it by people. I felt good the whole way."