



**2023 NCAA Baseball Nashville Regional**  
Postgame Quotes  
Game 2 • June 2, 2023  
#4 Eastern Illinois vs. #1 Vanderbilt



### **#4 Eastern Illinois Panthers**

#### **Head Coach Jason Anderson**

##### **Opening statement...**

"We were beating those guys for a half inning until they came up to bat. I'm really proud of our guys, the way we came out really set the tone the way that we normally do. The wheels kind of fell off after that, we walked too many guys to a really good team and they really made us pay for it."

##### **On his team's response...**

"I'm proud of them. The energy was there. They were competing hard. We just didn't play good baseball. Very rarely do we walk eight guys in eight innings, it's even rarer that we're walking four guys in the same inning. I don't know if it was nerves. I don't know if it was just the end of the year where some of our pitchers are getting tired, but it happened and you can't walk four guys in an inning against a team like Vanderbilt without somebody getting up there and clearing the bases, which is what happened."

##### **On getting ready for the postseason...**

"They were ready. They could not be any more ready than they were. All I ask for them is to go play hard and they didn't stop, they didn't get down. Once we had the big inning, our goal was to shove them down the rest of the way and we did for the most part and then they got a hold of a couple home runs. But, I'm glad that they didn't give in. We had the bases loaded, we ran ourselves out of an inning with the runner at third base. In the first inning, we could've gotten a second run if we could just hit a ground ball with a runner on third with less than two outs. So there were things we could've done, baseball-wise, we just didn't take care of business to get those runs across."

#### **Lincoln Riley • Sr. • Outfield**

##### **On the game and the new environment...**

"It's a really cool environment, really cool to be here, but trying to set the tone, just trying to get the guys going, I was able to do that. Triple in the gap, and then Iggy [Ryan Ignoffo] with a double and just kind of went from there."

##### **On his first time in the postseason...**

"It's an amazing feeling, especially with a sold-out crowd and under the lights. It was an amazing feeling."

##### **On the momentum swing in the third inning...**

"We just have to play clean baseball at the end of the day. Clean pitching, we have to be able to demand and play defense. So it just kind of went their way with momentum."

### **#1 Vanderbilt Commodores**

#### **Head Coach Tim Corbin**

##### **Opening statement...**

"It's good to win a first game, these games are never easy no matter what the outcome is it's new baseball. I thought we pitched pretty well, Devin [Futrell] gave us a good start and got us midway through with Schultzy [Thomas Schultzy] finishing up. If you can use two guys in one game that's a good thing. Offensively we were pretty timely at the beginning of the game, both Enrique [Bradfield Jr.] and Davis [Diaz] did a good job of making things happen right away, certainly after their inning in the first. I thought we responded well, certainly a six-run inning is a big thing for a team."

##### **On the team's sloppy start...**

"It could be nerves, it's expected playing these games, you see a lot happen in first games. It's really about how we rebounded from that at that point, I thought we settled in pretty good. There were some uncharacteristic moments defensively for us, but we worked around that. We turned a couple of big double plays, especially the one that got Schultz out of that inning, that game could've turned right there at that point. The margin wasn't so big that the game was out of hand, that was a big double play that Davis [Diaz] started to finish that inning. That might've been the biggest defensive play of the game."

##### **On why the Commodores started Devin Futrell...**

"I trust him, he's been in some tough situations. It's just his presence, how you feel about the kid and how he feels about himself. You just know what you're getting with him, you're getting strikes, you're getting quick pace, you get believability. He'll compete."

##### **On the importance of using only two pitchers...**

"I think pitchers certainly want to help the team as much as much as they can knowing full well that you can play five games in this tournament. Just to do their part and give us some length and volume to keep everyone else in the garage is a pretty powerful thing."

##### **On Oregon...**

"They're good, they're pretty balanced. They have power in the middle of the lineup, they've got a guy at the top who gets on base. They're here for a reason, they won a good league."

#### **Davis Diaz • So. • Infield**

##### **On what sparked the offense in the third inning...**

"Just getting guys on. Any time the lead-off guy gets on it makes the next guy more comfortable knowing that he got and just connecting with him."

#### **Devin Futrell • So. • Pitcher**

##### **On what changed after the first two extra-base hits...**

"Nothing really changed, I just stuck to throwing strikes and getting outs for the team by pounding the zone more and trusting my defense."

##### **On if there were nerves starting the opening game of a regional...**

"No, it was just another game. I was just focusing on today and not really worrying about past games. This game holds the same value as game one."

##### **On if it was important to go deep into the game...**

"Yeah, that's always on the back of my mind. I always want to go as deep as possible to be able to help set up the team pitching-wise for the rest of the regional is pretty good."