



NCAA



2022 DIVISION I
SOFTBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP
BLACKSBURG REGIONAL



Virginia Tech Softball
Head Coach Pete D'Amour Q&A Highlights
Game 1 Postgame Presser
May 20, 2022

Opening Statement:

"A win's a win. I didn't think we played our best today, which is a good sign moving forward. Coming out of the regional, the first game you always have a bit of jitters. I've been in enough of them where that almost always a tough game. Just happy to get the win and see who wins the next game."

On keeping the team focused on the bigger picture of the tournament:

"If you look at the tournament as a whole and you're trying to win the tournament, obviously, it puts a lot of pressure on you. You see the big picture and you're saying, 'We're going to Oklahoma City,' it doesn't work like that. My message to the team before the game was, 'This is what we work for. You know, go out and play loose. All the hard work since August is for today and the next couple of weeks, so just go out and enjoy it. If you're not enjoying this moment in regionals and the postseason, [this] is probably not the program for you. Just enjoy what we're doing.'"

On what he liked about Keely Rochard's performance:

"A lot of swings and misses, her velocity was good and one walk. You know, one walk is pretty legit. And seventeen [strikeouts]? That's a pretty good ratio."

On the significance of Keely Rochard throwing a no-hitter in an NCAA Regional:

"I've been around a lot of good pitchers and a lot of regionals. I can't remember off the top of my head a no-hitter in regionals, it might've happened. Everyone here can play softball and it's a pressure-packed situation, and to be able to perform like that against anybody you play is a big deal. It's a special moment."



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Pitcher Keely Rochard Q&A Highlights
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On the significance of throwing a no-hitter in the postseason:

“I try to just do that throughout the pre-season and regular season, too. Just to mimic what I want in the postseason. Any no-hitter, regardless of whether it’s in the post-season, is really hard to do.”

On if that the Game One no-hitter was Rochard’s favorite no-hitter of her career:

“I think my perfect game is still my favorite.”

Saint Francis (Pa.) Softball
Head Coach Jessica O’Donnell Q&A Highlights
Game 1 Postgame Presser
May 20, 2022

Opening statement:

“Virginia Tech is really tough. We knew that going into this game. We knew that Rochard was going to be tough. I thought Rachel pitched a phenomenal game. She kept us in this game. I mean we didn’t have any hits. We struggled a little bit seeing her (Rochard) and I think towards the end of the game, we were just starting to catch on. Unfortunately, we can only play seven innings. I’m just really proud of Rachel and the team defensively. I thought we played pretty well. We played a lot better than we have in the past going into the first game. I was proud of the way we showed up and how Rachel pitched. We have to do a better job hitting but other than that, we played a really good game.”



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On what makes hitting Rochard difficult:

“It’s the way she spins the ball. I told you guys yesterday I thought that we prepared pretty well for her, but I don’t think you can truly prepare for her until you see her in person and that definitely caught us off guard a little bit. Our game plan early on was not our game plan late in that game. We had to make some adjustments. She has really nice spin on the ball and does a good job placing it in different locations that threw our hitters off a little bit.”

St. Francis (Pa.) Softball

Pitcher Rachel Marsden Q&A Highlights

Game 1 Postgame Presser

May 20, 2022

On being able to pitch out of jams for most of the afternoon:

“I was just sticking to my game plan in there and doing what I know I can do. Try not to overthrow it. It’s kind of easy to get in that mindset when you have runners on base. And overall, I just trust in my stuff, my spin and my defense behind me, and I knew that we’d work out of it together.”

On what was working with her game:

“My drop ball and my changeup were really good. I was keeping hitters off balance with that. And I think that that’s kind of been the key to my success this year is just having those two pitches and throwing them with confidence and consistency. And the combination of the two of them when they’re on really works well. And so that’s what I had going for me today.”