

Tulsa head coach John Bargfeldt

Opening statement:

"I told [the team] after the game that I thought they put together a complete game in terms of playing good defense, and the pitching was outstanding. We had some outstanding defensive plays. We made the outstanding plays and we made all the routine plays that we needed to make. I felt like their swings were aggressive. I felt like at times this season that we took some defensive swings early in the count, and I challenged them this week to have a plan and to put some aggressive swings on the ball. Some of them led to hits and some of them led to tough plays on their part, so I commend them for that."

On his team's rally in the seventh inning:

"I thought that there were several balls on the barrel. You guys could probably tell that the infield was pretty firm, so any time you hit a ball on the barrel there's a good chance that it's going to turn into a tough play. So, I was just proud of them that they kept going and kept having good at-bat after good at-bat. That's the type of team we are. We're not going to hit a three-run homer very often. Every once in a while we will, but just need to be somebody that just passes the bat and keeps the line moving."

Tulsa senior catcher Rylie Spell

On every player for Tulsa doing their job:

"I think we were having some good at bats all game, and Chenise [Delce] threw a great game. She kept us in there the whole time. Being a nothing-nothing ball game, everybody has to do their job. It was a pitching duel. I thought it was great, and really good team win."

On the final inning:

"Before the inning we all said, 'We've been hitting this girl all game, so let's string something together.' Haley [Meinen] coming up and getting that big hit right off the bat was really good, and got our momentum going, and the girls in the dugout were great with all of the cheers. So just having momentum from the first at-bat was really important."

Tulsa freshman pitcher Chenise Delce

On her confidence coming into such a big game:

"I really tried to go into the game with a blank slate. In high school it's a lot different, so coming here and pitching in this atmosphere is a lot different. It's kind of scary to be honest, but you've just gotta go through it."

On her mindset as the game progresses:

"When you look at the stats, when people get scared – get in their head – it just doesn't work out. So, I knew I had to stay even-keeled for us to get outs in those tough situations."

Arkansas head coach Courtney Deifel

On making mistakes on a two-run play from Tulsa in the seventh inning:

"I think we panicked on that play. She kicked it a little bit. When she picked it up I'm not really sure she had a play at home and really, in that moment you have to know you're beat there and throw it across the field. When she rushed that throw, she threw it past our catcher and allowed another run to come home and that's really the big difference. They get one on that play and we get an out across the field then it changes the momentum, but it also allows them to get one and we can battle to get out of that and then get back in the dugout and fight from a one-run deficit. Instead, it just kind of leads to more and the next thing you know, they have five."

On the team's hitting today:

"This time of the year is all about timely hitting and we didn't get it today. I thought these two [Ashley Diaz and Danielle Gibson] had great at-bats all day. We needed to hit them in though, and I just didn't think our timely hitting was there today."

On Tulsa's momentum in seventh inning:

"It doesn't feel good. Demoralizing seems like a harsh word. It doesn't feel good in that moment when you're just fighting your butt off and you give away free runs. It just kind of takes the wind out of your sails, but I also think we could've grabbed it back. I think we could've made some plays in that moment and kept the deficit a lot less and given ourselves a chance to hit out of it. I just don't think we controlled the moment very well."

Arkansas senior first baseman Ashley Diaz

On Tulsa pitcher Chenise Delce:

"She's a really good pitcher. My mindset going into my at-bats is trying to be a spark for my team, trying to do whatever I can to get on base to start something, to get that run across. Obviously we didn't do that today, but I'm hopeful that tomorrow is going to be different".

Arkansas sophomore designated player Danielle Gibson

On what makes Delce tough to hit and Gibson's goals at the plate:

"I think just doing something different every at-bat, knowing that we see everybody in front of us popping up. Being able to work the defense is a big thing that I try to do and just be the hardest out of the game is always my goal, and make them work for it."

On motivation for winning the next one:

"I don't want to see [Ashley Diaz's] career end. I think that's more my motivation to fight for them, because she's an amazing player and I think as a team we just have to want it more. We didn't show it today as a group, and I'm hoping tomorrow we can come out with a fire lit and guns blazing."