



**2008 NCAA SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
HOUSTON REGIONAL**
Cougar Softball Stadium – Houston, Texas
POSTGAME QUOTES

Houston 9, Delaware State 0
May 16, 2008

University of Houston Quotes
Head Coach Kyla Holas

Opening statement:

“I was really excited for our team. I felt like we showed up to play tonight. Not only did we have a perfect game on the mound from Angel, I felt like offensively we worked really hard as well and we ended up having a pretty big moment with especially with Amanda Grote’s grand slam.

On the perfect game:

“I think perfect games are pretty rare. They don’t happen all the time and any time one of those comes by you tend to appreciate the moment and look back and say ‘Wow that was pretty amazing.’

On the team’s hitting:

“We’ve been working pretty hard at making good choices at the plate and doing things by not relying on the long ball. I think offensively we’re really focused and executed the plan we put forth before them.”

On Jessica Valis:

“I think there’s going to be some adjustment time, especially for her, getting her timing down and seeing pitches again live. Anytime you’ve been out for that amount of time you’re going to struggle a little bit. I expect her to have better at bats as the weekend goes on. “

On the Cougars’ No. 8 National Seed:

“I think too many times people try to assume that by seed you should place and move on and do those things but there has been a lot of upsets already. We were really focused on coming out and doing our job and not overlooking our opponent.”

Angel Shamblin, P, Sr.

On her performance:

“I just focused on working on my pitches, hitting spots and not leaving any pitches over the plate for them to put in play hard. Catcher Elaina Nordstrom did an excellent job working with me behind the plate as well. Once I got ahead I had them guessing on what would be coming next. It was a different pitch every time so they never knew what was coming. I did a good job mixing things up and not leaving anything over the plate.”

On the offense:

“Definitely, it’s always good to early run support. You can relax a little bit but I still had to stay focus throughout the rest of the game.”

Amanda Grote, OF, Sr.

On her performance:

“I just knew that that’s what we needed and as a senior I had to step up tonight. When we had the bases loaded we needed to score so I was just trying to put something in the green.”

On the win:

“It’s a lot of confidence that we get to go into the next game with and hopefully pull ahead tomorrow. “

On her grand slam tonight:

“It was amazing. I loved it. It was an inside pitch and I was pretty excited about that.”

Katie Bush, OF, Jr.

On her performance:

“Today, I just kind of went with the plan and just put the ball in play. It was different adjusting to different pitching so I went up there just trying to focus more.”

On playing in the outfield today:

“We had a lot of fun out there today. It’s nice to play behind her (Shamblin) when she’s like that. We get to have fun and talk to each other. We’re a lot more relaxed when it’s a game like that.”

Delaware State Quotes:

Jeff Savage, Head Coach

Opening Statement:

“First of all, congratulations to the Houston Cougars. There’s no question why they’re the No. 8 ranked team in America. They have a terrific ball club and dominating pitching certainly on their end. They’ll do very, very well in this tournament so congratulations to Houston.”

On if they had seen a pitcher like UH’s Angel Shamblin this season:

“No, not this year. We’ve seen pitchers of that caliber in the past. In Hawaii, we saw pitchers from Alabama and Cal a couple of years ago. We were in Las Vegas last year and saw a kid who was very similar and a kid from Nebraska who was very similar as well. So we’ve seen that level of pitching but this is not the norm at our level. She’s (Angel Shamblin) a terrific pitcher and better than what we’ve seen this year. “

On approaching the game offensively:

“When we looked at stats and looked at what Houston’s tendencies were pitching wise, we thought we had to go early and go often. In other words, we didn’t want to get deep in counts and get behind in the counts because she’s pretty surgical. So we were trying to hit from in front and catch the first or second pitch but obviously that didn’t work well for us. One thing we did do a good job of was getting a little deeper in the box. As the game carried on, I thought the riseball wasn’t as much of a factor as it was in the first couple of innings. She didn’t necessarily get us out on up pitches as she did on the hard stuff away. “

On facing Texas tomorrow:

“Texas is pretty good too. For us to get to this level on this stage for the first time is great for our program. I think it was pretty obvious at times that we had a little stage fright. The only good thing about tomorrow is that we’ve gotten a little of that taken care of since we’ve been out here and gone through it a little bit. Texas is very good. They have good quality pitching but not at good of team speed like Houston has.”