

## UC San Diego vs. No. 25 Cal State East Bay Quotes, Mar. 29, 2013

### **UC San Diego Head Coach Eric Newman**

#### *General comments on the game:*

"I thought our guys competed throughout the day. Obviously, we were down. It wasn't looking too good. Their guy (Sean) Becker threw really well (in the opener). You could see why his numbers are what they are. He competes really hard. We got fortunate. They made one mistake (that lead to the first Triton run in the eighth), and then the last inning, our guys just really competed, put some good swings on, and it just changed the momentum of the day, really, for us. That carried over into the second game, and Troy Cruz just did a great job. You know what you're going to get with Troy. He's going to compete. It was a great day for us."

#### *On freshman Andrew Hobson's contribution in the 3-0 nightcap:*

"Hobson's two at-bats today were phenomenal. Getting two RBI for us of the three (runs) that we got, out of a freshman who has had limited playing time, but does a good job, he competes, he prepares himself well. Our team, we talk about how preparation will catch up. If we keep preparing, the preparation will lead to wins. It wasn't looking good, but we just said trust the preparation, keep going, keep going, and sure enough, you get Brian (Ho-Kyun) Choi with a game-winning RBI (in the first game), a guy who hasn't got but three or four at-bats (this season), and Andrew Hobson with not a lot of game experience, and they get three of the biggest RBI to this point for our year. That's just a credit to our players, a credit to our coaches who are working with those guys and putting in the work every day. All we can do is just keep preparing, keep preparing and keep preparing and trust that things will start to turn around and go our way."

#### *On Troy Cruz's 12 shutout innings to begin his collegiate starting pitching career:*

"He's off to a pretty good start. I don't know if maybe we should just retire him right now and put him back in the bullpen. No, I mean, this is the reason we made the move (from the closer role into the starting rotation). We made the move because we felt like Troy brought a special competitiveness to our team, and we wanted him out there. We wanted to have him out there as much as possible. That's why we did it, and he's been everything we hoped."

### **Freshman IF/RHP Troy Cruz**

#### *On the day:*

"(Blake) Fassler led the way in the first game. He did a great job again. I felt good. I just had command of a lot of pitches and was able to keep (Cal State East Bay) off balance."

#### *On his defense behind him:*

"My defense was great today. (East Bay) put a lot of hard-hit balls in play, and my defense was there. I don't think they made any mistakes out there. They were in the right spots and they were really good."

*On the lift the first-game comeback provided:*

"It was big. The guy (East Bay's starter Sean Becker) was good in the first game. We were lucky enough to scrap away, just really work hard to get the win in the first game, and my team put me in a good spot to take the doubleheader."

**Freshman IF Andrew Hobson**

*On his performance in the game-two victory:*

"I felt really good coming in. I knew I had to step up with Troy (Cruz) pitching. This was a big game and we had to come out and win. I really felt the need to step up. I felt good at the plate, took some good hacks, and good things happened."

*On his third-inning sacrifice fly:*

"I went up there with the mentality that I'm going to swing if the ball is over the plate. That's what happened (on the first pitch), and I hit a fly ball deep enough to score Suss (Danny Susdorf). Knowing that I have a speed guy at third, that definitely helped."

*On his RBI single in the fifth:*

"(I got a) low change-up. We've been working on the two-strike rhythm, trying to be able to hit the fastball and off-speed, and I stayed back enough to get a good piece of that."

*On the two key double plays turned by the Tritons in the first and third:*

"Yeah, (shortstop Dillon) Moyer really stepped up, made a good play and (gave me) a good feed (in the first). It made it easy for me to turn the double play. Then (Garrett) Tuck made a big play at third (in the fifth) and came up throwing. Those were huge plays for us."