

# 2007 MVC Baseball Championship

## Game 4 Quotes - No. 1 Wichita State vs. No. 5 Southern Illinois

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### **Gene Stephenson, Wichita State Head Coach**

"It has already been a long day for us because we have been up since before 7 a.m. this morning. I can just say that it was rewarding because we did play pretty well today. We got some clutch hits at times. We hit some balls hard, and thankfully Andy (Dirks) hit a ball and I don't know how they made the catch in right field. Maybe things are going to change in our direction, we certainly hope so. It was a nice pitching game for our guys and they also handled the delay quite nicely as well."

"Baseball is a game that is played every day by the best of the best and it is all about consistency. When you are young, you are more inconsistent. All you guys from Wichita know I expect to win every game, but it can't be done. I thought Missouri State played a great game last night and did a wonderful job of moving runners. The story of us is we left all the runners in the world on base. Every day is a new day and when you go out and play this game, you have to learn from past mistakes. As you move forward, you gain more consistency."

### **Andy Dirks, Wichita State - On the three and a half hour rain delay**

"I think we were excited to get back on the field. After the rain delay we were just sitting around so we were excited to get back on the field."

### **On the comeback from last night's loss**

"I think the guys either step up or they don't in those situations and these guys are stepping up to get the job done."

### **Noah Krol, Wichita State**

"After getting beat last night, we talked about how we needed to get back. We were definitely excited to get the next game under our belt."

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### **Dan Callahan, Southern Illinois Head Coach**

"This is a sad moment. I am disappointed for our entire team. Kevin Koski, I am disappointed for him. We didn't have a great year but we had a decent year. I thought we would be here longer than this. I love this tournament. We had a track record there for a while where we were really doing well. So, our recent run hasn't been good and it isn't any fun. Missouri Valley Conference does such a good job of running this tournament and the longer you are in it, the better experience it is. I feel badly that we are two and out again."

"I am optimistic looking to our future. We are going to miss Kevin Koski a lot, and the seniors. We are going to have to hold our breath for the draft. We signed two left-handed pitchers and they are both getting some pro attention. You don't typically replace what you lose in the draft. That is what makes me optimistic once the season starts. Just trying to hang on to some of the pieces of the puzzle helps."

### **Senior Kevin Koski - On playing his final game**

"Everything I have been dreading the last few weeks, this is emotional. It is sad to know that it is over. It has hit me and it is pretty real that this is my last game. We didn't play very well defensively, didn't have clutch hitting. But I know we never gave up and played hard."