



**March 19, 2010**

**Stanford Press Conference Quotes**

**Stanford Head Coach Tara VanDerveer**

*On UC Riverside...*

“For them I think it is the story of two different seasons. They had a slow start but they have turned it around. They won the Big West Tournament and played against good competition. Their schedule was tough. Their “center” is a scorer who can knock down three-pointers.”

*On playing in the NCAA Tournament at home...*

“It is very exciting to be playing here. Its fun and today we will have the full attention of the team.”

*On not overlooking any opponent...*

“Having been in the situation in 1998, making us the only No. 1 seed to have lost, those were extreme circumstances. We focus on the four teams in our bracket. We try to plan ahead without looking ahead. We will be very prepared for this game against UC Riverside and look forward to playing. UC Riverside earned their spot here in the Tournament. We know we have to play well to move on and we are very excited to get out there.”

*On any changes to preparation since the first round loss in 1998...*

“That was an extreme case. Since then we have changed our preparation in that we do less contact drills. Today will be a non-contact day. The main thing is to keep everyone healthy.”

*On Cal hosting first and second round NCAA games on the same days and times as Stanford...*

“For us hosting this first and second round, it gives our fan base a chance to be able to see us. I would like to credit Cal, Arizona State and Washington for being host sites. We need to help these schools draw crowds out to watch women’s basketball. We have a long way to go but I think having teams from, say the West Coast at a site on the West Coast helps with the draw. Like maybe UCLA could have played at Washington or Cal.”

*On having Rutgers head coach C. Vivian Stringer and Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder at the same site...*

“I think there are interesting storylines here with Vivian and I having coached against each other and then with Iowa here. It’s hard to believe that it was 25 years ago when we had a record-setting crowd of 22,000 at the Iowa vs. Ohio State game. I couldn’t have shared it with a better



friend and colleague. She is a great coach and a fabulous person. I don't mind looking back when I was 20 years old. As competitive and intense as rivalries can get, you can still be friends through it."

*On preparing for the Tournament...*

"I never want to be happy and I'm not. There is always something that gets under my skin. I think we are edgy, in a good way. We have never gotten high or low this season. Everyone on this team is so competitive. I'm excited about the play of Tinkle, Harrison and Murphy. Players know that if they are not taking care of business then they will be sitting on the bench right now."

*On the play of Jayne Appel...*

"Jayne makes other players look better and that is a mark of a great player. We need her out there. She is the key to our success. She is a leader and hasn't only performed on the offensive end, but she has also defended and rebounded well. I think now with her ankle injury we have come to appreciate her more."

*On the squad's three-point shooting...*

"It is definitely by design. We have very good three-point shooters. We have great confidence in our three-point shooting and it forces other teams to extend their defense out beyond the arc, which they usually don't want to do."

### **Senior Center Jayne Appel**

*On keeping her focus during her senior season...*

"My team helps me keep my focus. If it wasn't for the other 14 players on this team, I probably wouldn't be as focused as I am. I always told the seniors in the past that I was playing for them. Everyone on this team holds each other accountable. It's easy to be focused now because we want a national championship. Things haven't been easy but we push each other."

*On the NCAA Tournament and this first round game...*

"I am feeling great. We are really excited, but it's been a waiting game since the men's tournament started yesterday. We are really ready to get back on the court. My ankle has been feeling good. The trainer and I have been working to get the swelling out. It feels good and I don't think it will be a factor tomorrow."



*On feeling any pressure coming into her final Tournament...*

"I think it would be expected for things to be nerve-racking but I think I am more excited to see how our team will play and how all of our hard work in practice will pay off. I haven't seen the full bracket yet. I only know the teams that are here and I am really just staying focused. I just really enjoy playing at home. We don't have to pack and travel which is nice, although we will go and stay in a hotel as a team to stay focused. We need to play a full 40 minutes and know that nothing is guaranteed. We are focused on what we want to do on defense and how to execute our offense the way we want to."

### **Sophomore Forward Nne mkadi Ogwumike**

*On how the team is approaching this first round game...*

"We tackle every game like it is our last. We don't really change things. We will practice and scout the opposing team like we do for every game. We do a good job of maintaining our style and strategy."

*On already having a NCAA Tournament under her belt from last year...*

"Last year I was anxious and excited. I think my team felt the same way. This time around we are ready to go and ready to play. I felt good last year and I feel good this year too. I am ready to go."