

**2013 NCAA Women's Volleyball Tournament**  
**First & Second Rounds**  
**Dec. 5, 2013 | Stanford, Calif.**

**Stanford Head Coach John Dunning**

*Opening statement...*

"It's nice to get to this part of the season. It's exciting every year you get a chance to do this. I think our team is ready for this, and I think tonight we showed that we are. Very proud of the two people next to me [Rachel Williams and Carly Wopat], all the things that they have done for our team this year on the court, off the court, leadership, everything. You get here because people are doing great things and these two certainly are every day. We want to, as a program, congratulate Hampton on their first trip to the playoffs. We want to congratulate them. I had time to talk to their coach today, she's wonderful. Congratulations to them."

*On the team's serving tonight against Hampton...*

"I thought, as a group, our whole team did a good job serving tonight. No matter what the situation is, if you have more aces than errors, you're doing a good job. I thought Kyle [Gilbert] and Mary Ellen Luck both served very well."

*On what it feels like when you're hitting well offensively...*

"Fun."

**Senior opposite Rachel Williams**

*On her play this season...*

"I think I'm in rhythm with our setter [Madi Bugg]. I think she's doing a good job of keeping the ball consistent in terms of where I'm approaching to and my timing is on with her. I'm seeing a lot more. Definitely comfortable on the right now and know how to adjust in off situations, where I was a little bit more comfortable on the left going into the season. I think it's been a work in progress all season and I'm starting to feel things really clicking with her."

*On the challenges Oklahoma brings...*

"I think we're looking at each match as its own challenge. I think our mindset for tonight was to come out and play with the energy that we wanted to have for all six matches of the tournament. One of the things I emphasized before the match is there's nothing more important than our match tonight, and that's the same thing that I'm going to say tomorrow night, that there's nothing more important than the match we've got against Oklahoma. I think that with each match comes a new set of challenges and more distractions and so being in the present and playing against the team that's on the other side of the net that night is key for us."

**Senior middle blocker Carly Wopat**

*On playing a team that is undersized...*

"We talked about this a little bit, but every team we play is going to have a little bit different style of play, so we have to be prepared for that because it matches up differently to us than we're used to. A lot of what we talked about coming into this match was being able to adjust and move on to the next point. They might score some points in ways we're not used to, but seeing that and adapting to it and figuring out how to stop them, I think we did a good job with that."

*On what it feels like when you're hitting well offensively...*

"Yeah, it's pretty fun. That's one thing I'm thinking about and I'm just trying to attack the other team basically, and also be smart with it. Inky [Ajanaku] and I are both aggressive hitters, so when we get up there we want to swing away. We had a lot of openings tonight too because I think Madi [Bugg] set us really well. It was a good matchup for us."

## **Hampton Head Coach Karen Weatherington**

*Opening Statement*

"I definitely don't want to go without saying it's just been a thrill to be in the tournament for our first time ever, and it's a great atmosphere to play in. Every opportunity is a great learning lesson. We enjoyed our trip out here, and really and enjoyed what it's like to compete in the first round of the NCAA Volleyball Championships."

*On what her team learned from playing in the NCAA Tournament...*

"Mental toughness. This is something that is very different to travel a long ways, and it takes a toll on a group, and we learned team chemistry and all that we work on during the season really manifested itself in this championship season. We've played in some great arenas and on the big stage, and traveled a lot early, and so we tried to translate that into being prepared."

*On how the program will go forward from here...*

"The toughest thing to do in this business is to win a championship and, as anyone can attest to, the only tougher thing is to repeat. I think the confidence of getting to this level and the sure luck of the draw of getting to come to Stanford is great. The epitome of coming to play a team in the Pac-12, where volleyball is done at such a high level, shows us that we can have those high aspirations."