



## 2016 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

First Round · Stanford vs. San Francisco

Maples Pavilion · Stanford, Calif.

Friday, March 18

### PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES – STANFORD

#### **Kaylee Johnson, Stanford Forward:**

"We know that USF is a solid team. And we know most importantly that this is tournament time. Everyone's excited, everyone's prepared. We can't overlook any team. I'm sure everyone in the nation is thinking that at this point."

"The loss to Washington in the Pac-12 Tournament was a newsflash. It was a hard realization that we only have one game left with these girls under this staff, and we're not going to get this opportunity again, so I think this is something we're all excited to take advantage of."

#### **Brittany McPhee, Stanford Guard:**

"We know that USF just came off a big tournament win so they're going to bring a lot of energy. So we have to match that and key in on what we need to do defensively."

"It's just coming out mentally focused. Not letting any defensive mistakes happen. Because when you get stops, push it out in transition, and get easy buckets, your energy gets up. That's what gets you kind of rolling and gets you kind of feeling it."

"We let Washington do what they liked and didn't make adjustments defensively that we should have to get stops to let us get us rolling. That's what we have to do in this game better."

#### **Tara VanDerveer, Stanford Head Coach:**

"For us, this has been a really good week of practice considering that this is Finals Week. I think our team has been working really hard and we're very prepared and ready for USF. We want to come out and play very well tomorrow."

"I have confidence in our team and how well we played down the stretch. We just have to use the fact that we didn't play well at the Pac-12 Tournament to our advantage. And learn from it, and play better this time. Our team got the message. You get one game and you're done."

"First of all, we took more days off last week. We looked at people's finals schedule and we just tried to get in and out of the gym. We went shorter and we went harder. Finals is a tough time, and I'm really glad that finals are over. Let them get their sleep. You can tell that they're different

during finals – not the concentration you like. But we did have a good week of practice, considering finals, and I think people are very excited to be playing.”

“I feel like our team is very prepared. There are some times that we’ve gone undefeated in the conference and haven’t had close games. I feel like we have experienced everything against Pac-12 competition. We played against as big a player you’re going to play at against Oregon State, we played against as athletic a team as there is against UCLA, we played against an aggressive team with Arizona State, and we played against the best three-point shooting team in the country in Oregon. We look at all the different things we’ve played against, and day in and day out, you never could take a game for granted. You really had to prepare.”

“I think it will hit [USF Head Coach Jennifer Azzi] when she comes into Maples. Jennifer put Stanford women’s basketball on the map. She was to women’s basketball in the Bay Area what Steph Curry is to men’s professional basketball. Her style, her passion, her work ethic.”

“[Jennifer Azzi] came up to me one time her freshman year after a loss – we lost to BYU – she had a triple-double, and she said to me, ‘Tara, we need to be running more sprints.’ What player says that?”

“[Jennifer Azzi] means so much to our program, I’m so excited for her. I just wish I could be cheering for her tomorrow, but I will not be.”

## **LOCKER ROOM QUOTES – STANFORD**

### **Lili Thompson, Stanford Guard:**

“Right when I got back I had to work to get my cardio back up, get in the gym, and get my shot back going. These last few days in practice were just getting ready. I feel like things are pretty much back to normal.”

“We can either have a pity party for ourselves or we can use it to get better. Like you said it has to motivate us going into the tournament. Now it’s really one and done. There’s nothing left after this. We have to take that and realize how much we did not like that feeling.”

“I think everyone finished their finals yesterday and today. That’s a good thing because finals aren’t easy especially here at Stanford. I think that brings more excitement. Other people are on Spring Break, this is kind of our Spring Break because we’re not in class, we’re not studying, and we’re just spending time with each other. We are a pretty rowdy group.

### **Briana Roberson, Stanford Guard:**

“I think that our energy is going to have to be at an ultimate high these next couple of games. It is on us to start off with as much energy as we can but it is on the players coming in to maintain or even bring it up if need be. I think the amount of energy is going to be critical for these next couple of games especially.”

“In a way my role has changed. I came in as a two, second to Amber. I really didn’t have the point guard role that I have now. I’m willing to do anything for my team. I’m really excited for my role this year and I have been. I’m just happy that my team trusts me with the role that I’m given here. I’m just going to do the best that I can to fulfill it.”