



2016 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Second Round · Stanford vs. South Dakota State

Maples Pavilion · Stanford, Calif.

Sunday, March 20

PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES – STANFORD

Tara VanDerveer, Stanford Head Coach:

“Our teams did some really nice things but I think we’re going to have to play better tomorrow. We played South Dakota State two years ago and they’re a very well-coached team. Their kids play disciplined basketball, they have a lot of weapons and you have to come out ready and know what you’re doing against them.”

“We play against it a lot. Sometimes you feel a team like Jennifer’s (Azzi) team, USF, or some teams, are playing with house money. They can be very relaxed and play very hard. I think South Dakota State has a great tradition of women’s basketball. They come out and play very aggressive. It’s a one-game season.”

“We’ve played them before and we know how tough they are. We’re going to have to play really well. I think we understand their team and what they like to do and kind of the strengths of their team. Right now, they’ve already proved they’re not a 12, they’re a 5 (seed). So we’re playing a 4-5 game.”

“I don’t want to take anything away from the game itself, but it’s really exciting to see women’s basketball growing all over the country the way it is.”

“They do give you that challenge of spreading the floor, they pass well, they execute well and play with a purpose. Just outstanding players that play within themselves and don’t try to do too much. We have to do some things to frustrate them and not let them do what they like to do.”

Karlie Samuelson, Junior Guard:

“I don’t think anyone is surprised by her saying that because she is so passionate about basketball (on beating former player Jennifer Azzi and USF). She loves winning, she loves being competitive and loves her players. That’s what it’s all about.”

“I think they have a lot of good players. It looks like they are strong shooters outside and have some good posts inside. We have our work cut out but I think we’re ready.”

“I think that showed us in a tournament when you lose, you lose. You’re done. We didn’t get to go any further. I think that shows us the same thing with this tournament. You lose, you’re done, so you have to come out every game no matter who you are playing.” (on losing its Pac-12 Tournament opener)

“We love playing at home – our fans are great. I’m sure it will give us some sort of advantage, but they brought a lot of fans, too. I think it’s just a good atmosphere for us because we play here all year and we really love playing at home.”

Kaylee Johnson, Sophomore Forward:

“Every team we face, we know we have to give our best because it is tournament time and everyone is giving their best. Obviously, South Dakota State is really excited about the big win, but seeding doesn’t mean anything at this point. It’s all going to come down to the preparation.”

“Tara does a great job, whether it’s every game, every practice emphasizing how competitive we need to be. I think it gives us that extra push we need.”