



2014 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Second Round · UConn vs. Saint Joseph's

Harry A. Gampel Pavilion · Storrs, Connecticut

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

POSTGAME QUOTES – Saint Joseph's

Cindy Griffin, Saint Joseph's Head Coach:

Opening Statement:

"We came to the tournament wanting to win, and go as far as we could go. Winning the first round game was certainly an accomplishment for us, to be able to go into this game with the opportunity of having nothing to lose, and we played that way. We played really strong today, and I can say that these kids left everything out on the floor. Connecticut is a wonderful team, they're number one in the country for a reason, and when they come off making four three's to start the game, we're going to have our hands full. We were always playing catch up and trying to challenge as much as possible, and we did that today. We're very proud of our kids, they did a wonderful job, and I think they can leave this year knowing we accomplished and maximized what this team could maximize."

On Mosqueda-Lewis' game tonight:

"We had a match up situation. It was tough because we knew Erin had the discipline to chase her around and guard the three, but we knew we were going to be exposed with the size, and we were... It was a tough match up for us, and they seized the opportunity. They see where the opportunity is that they can take advantage of and they did."

On the season as a whole:

"We had a fabulous year. We had a lot of resolve. Natasha St. Cloud's house burned down and for that kid to come back and compete the way she competed without a place to go home to is pretty impressive... This team is lead by Erin Shields and Natasha St. Cloud, and you can't find two better competitors that you can depend on everyday, not just on gameday, but in practice, and I believe that maximized who we were this year."

On what it would take to beat UConn:

"It's an interesting question because if you take away one thing, they're going to have an answer because the kids are so versatile, they're not just one dimensional players. If you have some speed and athleticism, maybe you can press them a little bit more... If they're not shooting, they can go inside, with the strength of Dolson and the quickness of Breanna Stewart. That kid doesn't stop working once she steps on the court, and you can say that for all of them. They would just need to have a bad day, because I don't think you're going to outwork that team."

Erin Shields, Saint Joseph's Senior Guard:

On the weekend and the season as a whole

"It's been a great weekend and it's been a great season. I was wondering after the game why I wasn't crying because it's my last game, and I looked back and realized that we gave it our best shot. That's what I was most proud of. Every single day at practice, every person gave it their best shot. To win an NCAA Tournament game, especially for the program, was a huge accomplishment. To even get there with an at-large bid, was a huge accomplishment for our program and our school. I think at the end of the day, we don't have any regrets. Connecticut is a great team. Obviously we would have wanted the game to turn out differently, but we're happy with what we accomplished this year."

On trying to defend UConn

"Well it's a very difficult task as has been shown for the last 30 games. I think that is why they are so difficult to guard. On any other team, you're looking at Breanna Stewart and you just have to focus on her. It's not like that, because they have four other players. You're hoping that they're missing some shots and you can put pressure on them and defend. Really, our game plan was centered around all five of them. We didn't want to give up 3's and you're so worried about your girl you don't have help. We addressed it at halftime but there is only so much that you can do. They have a great team and it is very, very difficult. You don't realize. You go through the scout and watch them on film and think 'How hard can it be?' It's hard. We haven't played that level of team this year, because they are at a different level. It was hard."

Natasha Cloud, Saint Joseph's Junior Guard:

On setting the programs all-time assist record

"I don't think it's ever a personal accomplishment. My assists need to go to someone, and they have to make the baskets. I have to give that to my team. It's a great accolade for myself, but without my team I wouldn't have been able to do it. I have a great team that gets open for me, so kudos to them."

On UConn's defense

"I think their defense, for us, it was hard because we had to focus on our outside shot and those weren't falling. I thought we ran our offense really well and we were getting whatever shots we wanted to, they just weren't falling."