



2017 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

First Round · South Carolina vs. UNC Asheville

Colonial Life Arena · Columbia, S.C.

Postgame Quotes – March 17, 2017

POSTGAME QUOTES – SOUTH CAROLINA

Dawn Staley, Head Coach:

Opening Statement

"It was great getting back on the court after being off for a few weeks. I thought our players really locked into the game plan and executed on both sides of the ball."

On turning up the pressure in the second quarter...

"It's probably more of a response to the game situation. I just thought that we needed to change how we were playing ball screens in particular, and also just the pace of it. We needed to create some offense from our defense and the best way you do that is to speed the game up and press a little bit. We had a little bit of a smaller lineup in so we were able to get out and play fast, and it worked for us today."

On playing without Alaina Coates...

"It's become a situation where you have got to like it because it's who you are as a basketball team. We can go a little bigger by inserting (Mikiah Herbert Harrigan) into the lineup, but she's athletic and quick like a guard, and we can do some things with her facing the basket. I do like that it gives us options to play a little quicker than we normally play. It gives us an opportunity from a defensive standpoint to fly around and jump the defense up and not be so reliant on our half-court defense, which we did a lot when we had our two bigs."

On using different lineups...

"No, it is what will give us the best edge at the start of the game. I just thought today, just going with a little more experience and Bianca gave us an opportunity to get out and play a little bit quicker. Also, you have to be strategic too. You got two post players and you want to make sure that you balance them out and make sure that they stay out of foul trouble. It all depends on who the opponents are and how we're feeling, how we're practicing, and where we can create our edge."

On the success of the lineup in the second quarter...

"I just think over a 40-minute period, with our team and our opponent, I felt good about the direction we were going in. But since we did have the smaller lineup in I wanted to play a little bit fast and force the tempo to see if we could get up and down and create some offense from our defense, and it worked. That's a luxury for us, to be able to change up our defense and play a different way. We're at a place where teams will have to scout us differently; they have to prep for us differently than they have, not having Alaina in the lineup."

Bianca Cuevas Moore, Junior Guard:

On accumulating several steals in a row...

"Coach McCray said 'I need you to get three steals in a row right here,' so I said 'Alright, I got you.' I gave her a little bump, came out there, pressured the court and got that ball scored."

Allisha Gray, Junior Guard:

On taking the other team's best shot...

"I feel like every team kind of comes out playing hype against us, but once we gain the flow of the game, we take control, and it's pretty much our game."

On setting a career high in rebounds...

"Yeah I just took advantage. I was there so why not rebound? I mean, we've been working on rebounding all week, so I just did what I was supposed to do."