



THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

SPORTS INFORMATION

October 10, 2007

Women's Basketball Media Day Player Quotes

JoAnn Hamlin

Regarding competing for playing time...

"When it comes to practice and competitiveness and game time, you put that friendship aside and say 'hey I want to beat you.' We all have an understanding that we won't get mad at each other. What's on the court is on the court and what's off is off. "

On whether they feel it is their job to raise each other's level of play...

"We battle for one spot. Coming in last year, from a practice perspective, it was my job. I had to play my hardest to increase my teammates' level and their toughness. This year we are fighting for one spot so it may be the same as last year but more competitive. We're all probably going to get a valuable number of minutes, so whether I start or not, I don't think that will bother me that much."

Wendy Ausdemore

On if she can improve on anything...

"I can always work on something, whether it's my blocking or free throws. Sometimes if I'm tired I'll just go and practice free throws. In practice we work as a team to be better so there's always something we can improve on."

Playing with JoAnn...

"We're playing on the same team. Playing with her the past two years has been amazing, she's a great passer and we have similar styles of play. It's fun to have someone at that size with that quickness out there. I can read her more now."

On returning players from last year...

"Bringing back all starters, we gained a lot of experience last year and this year is about just getting it done. With senior leadership, it's great having people that have been here four or six years that have been through this and they know what's going on and they want to give it everything they have, which makes us want to give it everything we have, too."





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Jo Solverson

Regarding injury...

"I had to look forward because if I didn't look forward I never would have gotten through it. I knew what my limits were and when I could move to the next level. Rehab went a lot easier than I thought it would."

On getting the sixth year and having two years off...

"I didn't know I had the option of a sixth year, but my coaches explained my options so I decided to take my chances because the chance I would get a sixth year was pretty high since I didn't play any games for two years. I had a little rust in my game at the beginning, but I couldn't get frustrated, I had to keep reminding myself I hadn't gone through a whole practice in two years. I hope to be able to contribute in some way. I like to pass the ball and that's what I'm trying to work on. Last year was frustrating to watch from the bench. You can only say so much and it's hard to not be able to show from example."

Kristi Smith

Regarding the excitement of the upcoming season...

"I think we're all excited about this season. This year there's something different in the air. We have a lot more people and a lot more depth and everyone can be a contributor this season. I always put pressure on myself and it does make my job a little easier knowing I have so many weapons on the court with me that I can go to."

On whether the team has to prove itself this season...

"We definitely have to prove ourselves. We ended on a poor note last year and we want to redeem ourselves and show everyone what we are capable of this year. Last year was sometimes a little disheartening at the end of games but it won't be like that this year. "

On competitiveness of the team...

"I think our competitiveness sticks to the court, but we were definitely lacking in that area last year. We'll benefit a lot from experience this year, and our two freshmen are already contributing a lot. Before we left for Greece this summer we focused on rebounding and defense and those will be keys for us this year. Johanna (Solverson) brings a certain level of competitiveness with her return this season as well."

