



2018 NCAA® DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP

NCAA First Round

Maples Pavilion - Stanford, Calif. - Friday, March 16, 2018

LOCKER ROOM QUOTES

STANFORD

KIANNA WILLIAMS

"I'm excited. We've been working hard all season. This is what it all comes down to. I think we are well-prepared and are going to take it one game at a time and not look ahead."

"I first started playing basketball when I was four and I started watching college basketball when I was five or six. I actually went to a men's Final Four with my dad when it was in San Antonio (hometown)."

"We know we know we have a target on our backs. Historically, we've won a lot of games. We take great pride in wearing Stanford across our chests. I think we're going to be ready."

"It was a confidence-booster at the Pac-12 Tournament just being able to knock down shots on the biggest stage I've played on so far, and I'm just going to carry it into this tournament. I thought we could have executed better against Oregon, but it didn't fall our way. I think that will help motivate us."

ALANNA SMITH

"The issue for new people coming in can be, 'Wow, it's bright lights and tournament time.' The good thing about having experience is you know it's just another game and you just have to go at a slower pace than other people do. We had really good experiences last year with juniors and seniors that had been through it, so we're passing it down."

“One of the main things is we weren’t winning every game going into it, and we were down a lot of the time. It’s just about that persistence and determination. I think we were down 16 to Notre Dame at the half. It’s having that all or nothing mentality, where you have to give it all you’ve got. Having those experiences from last year really does help us.”

“Tara does a really job of preparing us for games like this. We always know that there’s a target on our back. We have learned from previous games that we can’t underestimate anybody. All the teams playing at Stanford are quality team and we have to play our A game.”

GONZAGA

LAURA STOCKTON

“It’s a different energy coming into the tournament. That was new for me last year, for the first time. We learned a lot. It’s a whole different mindset coming in. Not so much having to change your game, but focusing in on what you’re good at. You don’t have to play crazy to beat some of these teams. We’ve hard all year to get to this point, and just focusing on ourselves and our gameplan is what’s important for us. At least, that’s something I took from last year’s experience.”

“We’re playing new teams, teams we haven’t played. So, understanding that every team is coming in here with a gameplan for you. You’re not invincible. Everyone knows that in March only one team goes through the tournament undefeated. Obviously, anyone can get beat.”

EMMA WOLFRAM

“When I got here, they were already a tournament team. Just continuing to grow on that, continuing to do the things we do well, and recruit the same style of players who get out in transition and play hard. As long as we recruit those kinds of players, I think that’s why we’re still a tournament team.”

“We really have to play hard and play together. When we’re playing together and everybody’s playing at her best, we can be awesome. It’s just a matter of being the team that wants it, and is willing to get all the loose balls and the rebounds. All those hustle plays need to be our balls. That can really help us.”

“Having so many freshmen, it’s something, not that we have to teach them, but make sure we instill in them. They’ve already done it in high school, that’s why they recruited them. But just make sure that they know we are going to battle out there and we’re not going to let any team have it easy.”