



2013 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Second Round · UCLA Press Conference

St. John Arena · Columbus, Ohio

Sunday, March 24, 2013

UCLA QUOTES

Cori Close, UCLA head coach

On the game possibly being a high scoring game

"I don't want it to be a high scoring game because most of the time you have teams in the tournament that scout well and they emphasize defense and rebounding. If you were averaging 70 points per game you'll probably go down to the 60's in the tournament. That's just how it goes and we don't want it to be a perimeter game. I think that plays into Oklahoma's hands. A physical battle plays more into our hands."

On the positives of the first game and possible improvements

"We had a high rebounding margin, but we missed 21 layups, so I think if we would've taken care of business the first time, there wouldn't have been such a high rebounding margin. We need to finish high percentage shots; those are too hard to come by in the tournament. We need to control possessions."

On junior guard Aaryn Ellenberg

"What a great player. She gets into transition very early and really changes our transition defense because we want to control the baskets and work our way out. She's just that good and a timely competitor."

On playing physical

"Playing physical for us is, it's a battle every night to control that area around the paint, that eight foot box, controlling dribble penetration, blocking cuts, initiating contact in a legal fashion and making sure we're relentless. It's going to be a physical game."

Alyssia Brewer, senior forward

On the first game with Oklahoma

"I would say the first game we were very physical with them. It was the first time playing a top 25 team and both teams have grown since then. So I think that you're probably going to see two different teams out there."

On making the tournament this year

"I made it a goal to make it into the tournament this year after sitting out last year. I told myself that wasn't going to happen again."

On Oklahoma not being to keep up with UCLA

"In the tournament you can't say anything like that because it's anybody's game. I don't think either team is going to focus on what happened in the past."

Thea Lemberger, junior guard

On the first game with Oklahoma

"We didn't know each other that well early in the season. It was the second game of our season. It was on our home court. We had a lot of hunger and it was fun. They've changed a lot since then and so have we so it'll be interesting this time around to see game plan-wise and player-wise what they come at us with."

On UCLA's advantage on Oklahoma

"I think with every game it's our big frontline. They've been dominating all season, just rebounding wise, staying on the boards, getting touches. The depth in our inside game will help us."

On the game possibly being a high scoring game

"Our coaches want us to say no. We're going to lock down on defense and it's going to be a low scoring, boring game."