

2017 Big West Women's Basketball Tournament

Game 1 - First Round Quotes

Final - No. 5 UC Riverside def. No. 8 UC Irvine, 92-60

No. 5 UC Riverside

Head Coach John Margaritis -

(On turning it around after a slow start)

"I just felt that before we came for today's game we talked about the emotions and pressures and so when that happened we were mentally prepared not only to continue to play the game but this is 40 minutes. I thought that we could have emotional highs and lows. Obviously Irvine came in and took the lead and we said we need to keep playing and We kept playing.

(On everyone stepping up today)

I've seen they are more than capable. You have to go back to previous games when everybody did not contribute like this and then you wonder why. They are not selfish.

(On junior guard Michelle Curry)

Her ability to stay on the floor and out of foul trouble helped with the outcome of the game. I felt that time came where I had to make a decision whether we are going to play without her or I can put her back in and let them go as they go.

Junior Guard Lauren Holt -

(On the effect of heavy minutes and back-to-back games)

"They are young. I don't think we will lose because of fatigue. You will see tomorrow night.

(On what the team takes away from today)

I think just a lot of confidence. Everybody showed up. We started off slow like you mentioned but we were able to come back and I think we are ready to settle in and that's what good going in to tomorrow. We got the jitters away and we don't have to play so tight.

Senior Guard Simone DeCoud -

(On her availability today)

"I was going to play today...this was possibly my last game so I knew I was going to play.

No. 8 UC Irvine

Head Coach Tamara Inoue

(On senior guard Irene Chavez)

You know Chavez went 3 for 17 tonight and even though that happened we had the opportunity to make plays with other players. Chavez gives me 100% day in and day out so we can't blame it all on one kid.

(On her first year with the program)

I wanted to come in and set the ground work. It's tough. I've never had a coaching change so to have a new coach who you didn't chose to play for, its tough and for them to allow me and my staff to come in, I appreciate that they welcomed me in.