

# 2014 America East Men's & Women's Basketball Championship Presented by SEFCU Women's Final: #1 Albany 70, #2 Stony Brook 46, Postgame Quotes

#### Albany's Coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson opening statement:

I am just so proud of them; I can't even tell you how proud of them I am. A day we had to get the game plan down, a day, and it worked, defensively. The last time we played them it was our defense. We really watched a lot of film. Coach Balerio did a great job with the scout and helping me. I told Sarah, I told Shereesha and I told Megan, no matter what there is going to be recall. And what I mean by that is when you get into these situations and these championship experiences it doesn't matter how good or bad you're playing there's going to be recall. You know what to do, you remember, you have that feeling. I told these three, you three have to make it happen. Last year it was Ebone and Julie, and Reece and Sarah. Ebone made it happen last year. This year somebody had to make it happen. I told these three if you want this you have to make it happen. You have to step up and obviously all three did, if you look at the stat sheet. It's just proven their leadership. They're all back next year so that makes my life really, really happy.

#### Albany's Sarah Royals on going to the NCAA Tournament again:

It's just a great feeling that all our hard work and sacrifices that we've made throughout this year – and it's literally been the whole year. We worked hard all summer, we worked hard in preseason, we worked hard every single day – and it finally paid off. I am really proud of this team. It wasn't just me and Reese and Megan. Everybody stepped up and it's great to have such a deep bench. We only lose Tammy next year, so hopefully we can be just as great next year.

#### Albany's Shereesha Richard on going to the NCAA Tournament again:

It's a great feeling knowing that we are going to the NCAA Tournament again. The game overall, how we played, was exceptional tonight. Especially the freshman who came in and stepped up when me and Megan were in foul trouble. We all did this together as a team, and we've been working for this all year long. It's a great feeling and we deserve it.

#### Albany's Megan Craig on the team's performance in the game:

I am very proud of how the freshman stepped up. Me and Reece got in foul trouble early in the first half. I was very proud of the he grit and determination that we finished up with. We never really slowed down. We set the pace. We set the tone and just kept on going. I am just very proud of everyone who came into the game. It really showed our true potential.

### Albany's Coach Abe on returning to the NCAA Tournament:

We just have to go into this with high hopes that we get a good placement and go in there and do what we do.



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#### Stony Brook Coach Beth O'Boyle's opening statement:

I thought Albany played a great game today. I thought that they did a great job of starting out the game putting on a lot of pressure. It forced us to get back on our heels a little bit. We were trying to cut into their lead and I thought we made some great plays to get it close, but obviously when you're playing in the championship game you need to make a few more baskets than we did today. But I'm really proud of our players and where we've taken this program. They've done such a good job of buying into our system and it's been a long time since Stony Brook has been in the America East Championship. We're excited about going into the WNIT. A lot of credit goes to Albany, their coaching staff and their players. I thought Shereesha (Richards) played an extraordinary game today, and we wish them the best of luck in the NCAA's representing the America East.

#### Stony Brook's Sabre Proctor on going up against Megan Craig:

It's tough because she's 6-9 and she's a big presence in the post. We wanted to attack her, and she did a great job of staying out of foul trouble in the second half. But it's hard and we were trying to kick out to shooters, but our shots just weren't falling today. I still think we did a great job inside and out.

#### Stony Brook's Chikilra Goodman on playing in catch-up mode:

Albany came out great, ready and with intensity. Like coach said, we fell back on our feet. We have to be ready for something like that. We're excited for the WNIT, and we'll be ready if someone does the same thing.

#### Stony Brook's Jessica Ogunnorin on the prospect of beating Albany again on their own floor:

They made some adjustments to how they played the last time. It was a game of hustle and boards. Obviously we have to make some shots too, so we're in a good position shooting the ball.

#### Stony Brook's Jessica Ogunnorin on guarding Shereesha Richards:

She's very athletic and competitive, and that's why I really respect her. We needed to communicate better on defense.

### Stony Brook's Sabre Proctor and Chikilra Goodman on going to the WNIT:

Proctor: It's great like coach said to be going to the postseason, and it hasn't been done here in years. I'm excited because we've still got a lot of fight in us and we've still got a lot of games to play. We just want to come back out and we're going to play the next team just as hard as we've played any other team this year.

Goodman: We'll learn from this, and we're excited about the WNIT. I believe when we go there we'll do great because we'll learn from this experience.

## Stony Brook Coach Beth O'Boyle on the prospect of beating Albany again on their floor knowing they'd be ready:

When you have home court advantage in any play-off game or championship game you know you have to come in and be ready to handle the pressure of the crowd and the excitement. I think that's what Albany did well. When they got the lead they didn't play like they had it and they kept pressuring us. I really felt like the big difference maker in the game today was Tammy Phillip, because of her ability to knock down some shots we had to change how we were defending Richards. And then Richards obviously had an extraordinary game, and you've got to respect that. They played hard, they're obviously well coached and they did a great job tonight.

#### Stony Brook Coach Beth O'Boyle on being without Miranda Jenkins:

One of the things that Miranda has brought to us is points. In the first game we had she was on the floor and doing a lot of great things for us offensively. And she's one of our taller guards. I thought our players, no matter who was on the floor, gave us great minutes. I could hear Miranda calling out plays and screaming from the bench and that's what you want. Obviously it's hard for her, coming back from an ACL injury to hurt her knee again in our last game to be out there. But the type of person she is and her character I think it just came through tonight. She was phenomenal on the bench, and I'm glad she's on my team. She'll be back, there's no doubt.

#### Stony Brook Coach Beth O'Boyle on going to the WNIT:

It's incredible, I look at my first year when we won a game in January and we didn't win another game until the following year. To go through that experience and look at where we are now, I'm just proud of the way we've built it and we've tried to do it the right way. We have a great support system at Stony Brook. We have great academics and our facilities are unbelievable. We want this to be what Stony Brook basketball is about. We want it to be about getting to the postseason and playing in championship games. I think our players did a great job of representing Stony Brook today. Obviously we want to make some more shots and have a different outcome, but I think the players played hard and represented us well.