



LSU Quotes

Saturday, May 26, 2018

2018 NCAA Super Regional Softball Press Conference

Beth Torina, LSU Head Coach:

Opening Statement:

"I'm really proud of my team. I'm really proud of the way they fought. I think a couple of missed opportunities in the first game today, game two of the series cost us. I think a couple of things we could've done better there and we had an opportunity to win that game. I'm upset because we lost but I'm not upset because we lost. I'm just more upset that it was my last day to call the game for Allie Walljasper, and Carley Hoover. It's my last day doing my handshake with Emily Griggs. It's been a long run with these guys. They've just had a special, special career for these four seniors—just something that is in the history books forever in this program. I mean these careers changed this program. So it's not a normal loss tonight. It's just some of my favorite days as a coach I can think and they are with these girls. And I just don't want to think about not being in the bullpen with Carley and Allie anymore. It breaks my heart. I've loved every minute of the ride with these guys. I know they are going to be a success in everything they do. I'm proud of this team. I'm proud of the legacy they left behind. I'm proud of the culture that they have helped to build, and I am excited to see the future of LSU softball."

On how emotionally draining it is to play game three so late:

"It was a tough day for both teams. I don't know if you can say that that was a factor because I think both teams are in the same situation. Both teams had a pitcher that was ready to go and that was talented for game three. Both teams were in the same situation so I don't know if it was that big of a factor."

On if she was upset about not playing game three on Sunday:

"Both teams were dealt the same card. So it's not like we had to play and they didn't so both teams were in the same spot. I mean it was fair...I think it was fair to everyone involved. We're not a team that's going to make excuses for anything, and I don't think there is one to be made there."

On Kylee Hanson's performance:

"She was better today. I mean there's a lot of reason why. I'm sure she wanted to be better today to answer back from yesterday, but different strike zone, different situation. There's a lot of factors to it but she was definitely better today."

On the first game going into extra innings:

"I felt good in that situation. We hadn't lost a lot of games in that situation—we've been there so many times. I thought we had a lot of opportunities there too—second and third. We had a couple of opportunities that we could've made something happen. Like I said, I think our opportunities were more in that game two then they were even in game three so we made a couple of mistakes in there so we had an opportunity to win that game.

On where does this program go:

"I think we talk all the time about trying to replace these kids, and you don't replace them. Now we get to see some of our young kids be themselves and do it their own way. But there's never going to be another Carley Hoover. There's never going to be another Allie, Emily, and we're not asking anybody to be that. So it would be impossible. You couldn't do what these kids have done. These guys have to do it their own way in the next way. And they're still going to fight to win a national championship, and they're going to do it their own way. That's going to be really fun to see and fun to help them grow into that."

On Griggs' performance:

"I thought she was awesome. I thought that she gave us every bit of everything that she had. She's been out for a couple of weeks and trying to get back and get going to get ready for this. She gave us everything she had and then some. I was really proud of the effort, and I thought, even though the effort wasn't the winning effort, I thought it still might be the effort that created a win out of the whole series just pushing it so that their pitcher wasn't available either in the next game. We had had good success against Hanson so I thought maybe it would be one of those heroic performances that she didn't necessarily get the win. Either way she did great. She gave us everything that she had.

On the excitement of the series and playing FSU:

"There's no team playing this weekend that isn't good. Everybody that's left playing is going to fight, is going to play hard every game. You saw scores around the country the last couple of games—every game is like this, every game is down to the wire, every game is back and forth. Everyone competing this time of the year is really good, and they're all playing for a reason. So I'm proud that our team was still playing this weekend. I'm proud that we competed well enough to be included in the last 16 out of almost 300 softball teams, we're the last 16. I'm proud of their effort in getting to this point."

On Jessie Warren:

"She's a great player. She did a great job. She's everything that she's built to be."

Carley Hoover, Pitcher:

On the final moments on the field with Griggs as seniors:

"Before the game I told her no matter what and she stopped me right there. But I said no matter what I'm proud and I wouldn't have wanted to do it with anybody else. You've heard our whole four years that we're so different and completely opposite. We really are, but I couldn't have imagined that past four years with anybody else. So I'm lucky to have been with her."

Emily Griggs, Centerfielder:

On what the legacy of the seniors will be:

"I just hope that all four of us leave LSU better than we found it. That's the first thing Coach Torina taught us when we walked in four years ago—just leave everything better than you found it. So I really hope that we get that, and I'm so extremely blessed and humbled to be a part of something so much bigger than me and to be a Tiger so I think hopefully we just leave our love for LSU and like I said leave it better than we found it."