

2019 Big West Women's Basketball Tournament

Game 4 - Quarterfinals Quotes

Final - No. 5 UC Irvine def No. 4 CSUN, 59-57

No. 5 UC Irvine

Head Coach Tamara Inoue

(Opening statement)

"Really excited, and when you want something so bad you start to tighten up, and I think that's what happened to our team. Getting to the Honda Center has never happened and that's a big goal of ours. And to do that for Andee and Sabrina was huge for us. Just really proud of us. CSUN is a fantastic team, and (Channon) Fluker, I'd pick her in the top two rounds of the WNBA. It was really tough and I'm proud of our team for really grinding this one out."

(On the progress of the team)

"It feels great, we definitely started out hot in the preseason and made some good statements. But then we battled injuries and sickness, and just kind of didn't have our core and couldn't get into a rhythm. We have 20 wins, that's part of the elite and we always talk about getting to the elite. But 20 isn't enough. Records are great and we're breaking a lot of them. What matters right now is these next two games."

(On facing UC Davis)

"UC Davis is a very well coached team, Jen is a tremendous coach. She has a system in play and we have to disrupt her system somehow. At the Honda Center, we have to understand that things may not drop, but we have to stay locked in defensively."

Junior guard Lauren Saiki

(On the game-winning play)

"I knew we had to get the last shot off. So I waited a little bit and I saw them come right at me. And I saw Tahlia right there and I'm glad she made it."

(On her aggressiveness in the game)

"Every team is usually locked in on Andee and Jordan. But I just have to stay aggressive on offense so they have to respect my shot and I can get them open."

Sophomore forward Jordan Sanders

(On how she's feeling after returning from injury)

"I feel good, especially with these wins, we've been able to get into a rhythm to get to the Honda Center."

No. 4 CSUN

Head Coach Jason Flowers

(Opening statement)

"Congrats to Tamara and her team they played a really good game. Not the way we wanted to end our season, but I am extremely proud of our group of seniors who helped us reestablish the things we want our program to be about moving forward. I thought our team showed a lot of heart and character in the final minutes of the game fighting back and putting us in a situation to win it."

(On the seniors)

"These seniors came into a situation their freshmen year where CSUN had the best team in school history. It started off as a group of five and outside of Serafina it ended being a group of two. They went through their trials and tribulations. Very rarely do you get to control the things that happen to you but you always get to control the way you respond to it. These young women responded the right way when it got really hard even when they felt like giving up."

Senior center Channon Fluker

(On her future)

"I am not exactly sure what is ahead for me but I know I really want to pursue professional basketball and I will work every day until I get a chance to do that"

(On her role models in the program)

"I had people to look up to in Tessa (Boagni) and Serafina (Maulupe) to help me become a better person and teammate."