

# **2009 Big West Women's Basketball Tournament**

## **Game 5 Quotes**

### **Final - No. 1 UC Santa Barbara def. No. 6 Cal State Fullerton, 60-52**

#### **No. 1 UC Santa Barbara**

##### **Head Coach Lindsay Gottlieb -**

"March Basketball is so exciting. I am obviously very thrilled and excited about the win. Nothing is ever easy in March and we certainly did not expect it to be."

"So proud of our team and being able to gut it out. It was so critical to get off to a good start and a big lead. They came at us so hard, but we were able to hold them off with our own degree of toughness and execution."

On talking to coach French:

"I called on a lot of people I respect. I called Jenna (Green) into my office about a week ago to talk about her thoughts because she has been through this all. I talked to coach French to see what he would tend to do leading up to the tournament. He has been a great supporter."

##### **Player - Lauren Pedersen**

On extra step and driving to the basket:

"I have just been taking what they give me. This whole week I have had a smile on my face. This is so fun and I just love playing. I think that has contributed."

##### **Player - Jenna Green**

On the Gauchos swagger:

"I think knowing that you have been here before and that we have a target on our backs contributes to it. Also it is just taking pride in being a Gaucho."

#### **No. 6 Cal State Fullerton**

##### **Head Coach Dr. Maryalyce Jeremiah - Opening Statement**

"This game was a game we thought we had a chance to win. We just got too far behind and had to hope we could pull off a miracle at the end...No matter what you're doing, you never give up. You have to play like it's not over."

On when she greeted UCSB head coach Lindsay Gottlieb after the game (talking about her retirement)

"I told her that I thought it was fitting that the young one comes in and the old one goes out."

On how she felt about the game

"I'm very disappointed that we didn't get it to that next game."

On what she would have done differently

"You can change everything around but if you don't knock down shots you can't win. You have to score. I don't think we would have done a lot different."

Player - Toni Thomas

On why she had a better second half

"I was going to play hard no matter what, beginning to end. It just clicked more in the second half."

On what she thought of UCSB

"They're a really team. We could have run them more because they are a lot bigger than us but we really didn't and they won the game."