

# **2012 NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES**

**May 31 - June 6**

**ASA Hall of Fame Stadium**

**Oklahoma City, Okla.**

## **Wednesday Press Conference Quotes (Session 1)**

### **ALABAMA HEAD COACH PATRICK MURPHY**

#### *Opening comment:*

"I just want to say thank you to everyone: the Oklahoma City All Sports Association, the NCAA Division I Softball Committee and the ASA for putting on another outstanding event. This is something that we look forward to since we came the first year in 2000 and it just keeps getting bigger and better. Another big thank you to you, the media, because you make the sport relevant. If you're not here, our sport isn't on the front page or on the news. So, we at Alabama appreciate you very much."

#### *On the parity of the sport:*

"That's the hardest part, is getting here. You look at a Hofstra from the northeast that goes to UCLA and is basically one pitch away from its first College World Series, and South Florida does it against them. I think the parity this year was unbelievable. I mean, the first weekend out, the scores were unbelievable. Sorry, Clint (Myers of Arizona State), but McNeese State beat Arizona State. You never hear that. I think it's really good for the sport, though. The toughest part is just to get here. I know we had a tough road and I'm sure everybody up here did."

#### *On the SEC looking for its first softball national title and on the pressure of winning one at a school that has produced other recent national championships:*

"I think when one (SEC) team does it, it's going to make it that much easier for the next team. The toughest one is the very first one. (Tennessee's) Monica (Abbott) got there, Florida got there twice. When the first team wins it, it's going to make it that much easier for the next one and the next one. But the first one's the toughest. Our hallway at Alabama has Sarah Patterson (women's gymnastics) at one end, who has won six national championships. My door next to me is Mic Potter, the women's golf coach who just won a national championship last week. Two doors down from him is Jay Seawell, who is leading the men's golf national championship, and then Anthony Grant is three doors down with men's basketball. It's a tough hallway to be in, for sure."

### **ALABAMA SOPHOMORE PITCHER JACKIE TRAINA**

#### *On Alabama's rivalry with Tennessee this season:*

"It was a great two games. We can't contest that both teams had a lot of fun. Tennessee is a great team and it's always fun to play a great team like them. Playing them tomorrow will be fun; we'll see how it goes."

### **ARIZONA STATE HEAD COACH CLINT MYERS**

#### *Opening comment:*

"I'd like to piggyback on what Pat (Murphy) said. Again, I'd like to thank the people of Oklahoma because they're so gracious and supportive with anything that we need. The storm last night – there were people in the hotel contacting us and moving people around. This is an experience that these young athletes get to have that they will remember for the rest of their lives. Again, it's because of the people of Oklahoma and the people of Oklahoma City. I'd like to thank all of them."

#### *On the parity of the sport:*

"The parity across the country, the rivalries between the conferences; the toughest part is getting here. The (NCAA) regionals are getting a lot more quality teams. The super regionals speak for themselves. I mean, look at who you had in the super regionals. Then the eight teams that were fortunate to get here. It's going to be a great show, great competition. All of us are excited to be here."

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## **ARIZONA STATE SENIOR INFIELDER KATELYN BOYD**

*On her memories from watching the Women's College World Series:*

"I don't remember really watching a lot. The older I got, the more aware of it I was. I just enjoyed playing the game, I never really grew up admiring anyone individually. I just admired the entire package of it. I remember watching Michigan hit that walk-off home run (in 2005). I remember, obviously, watching ASU win it in 2008 when I was coming in as a freshman. Those are probably the two memories I have watching it."

*On her first trip to the WCWS in 2009:*

"It's just really overwhelming, in a good way. I've played here a bunch with club ball so I was aware of what the field was like, how big it was, this and that. I've played here a bunch of times before, but never at the Women's College World Series, obviously, so I just remember being really overwhelmed and it was really exciting. Something I'll never forget."

*On her improvements at the plate:*

"I think I've grown immensely. Coach's son, Casey Myers, has really worked with me a lot. I've gone through multiple batting stances and have learned the mental side of it. Just trying different physical things, but I've learned that it's the mental side of hitting that you need to conquer. Not that I've conquered it, but I have grown leaps and bounds with it. I give all the credit to God for putting Casey in my life and Coach in my life and just helping mold me into what I've become and that natural talent to just pick up things. I still have a lot to learn, and I try to get better every day with it."

## **OREGON HEAD COACH MIKE WHITE**

*Opening comment:*

"I know it has been 23 years since the Ducks have been to the College World Series. Cheers to every single player on our team that has dreamt about being in this situation. We are super excited to be here. It's definitely what we call 'the show.' It's first class. It's put on by ASA, NCAA. We can't thank them enough. And again, I reiterate about ESPN. That's what drives this sport and is getting the sport bigger and bigger, year by year."

*On what his first steps were coming to Oregon to coach:*

"Coming off a 16-34 season, the first thing was to change the attitude and change their belief system. I think that they just needed something fresh. That was our biggest battle, changing the belief that we could win. How do you change a team that hadn't won a series, three games in the Pac 12? It was a slow process. Gradually they started to buy in. Toward the end of the season we went out there and had nothing to lose. We played Georgia Tech. We played extremely well. Then we went to Missouri and we kind of froze a little bit. I think the stage sort of got to us. The same thing happened last year at Florida. Now with our first wins against Texas, I think we've started the belief system that we belong in this show. We are capable of beating the top teams."

*On if there were points where he believed things really started clicking and his team turned a corner:*

"It's difficult because we really have areas where we look really good and areas where we are not so good. It's an evolving process. It's not going to happen overnight. Very rarely do these things happen straight away. You've got to build these sorts of things. I think we are starting to build that. I think we have a great team this year. We are here to play this year. We have a better team coming next year. That's going to be the trick – to continue to repeat this process. Keep it fresh and keep the drive to continue to have a top-eight team."

## **TENNESSEE CO-HEAD COACH RALPH WEEKLY**

*Opening comment:*

"I would just like to re-echo our thanks for everybody that puts on this show – all the media and ESPN. We are very humbled and very honored to be here with eight great teams; eight great staffs and the best players in America."

*On his feelings toward Alabama coach Patrick Murphy and the other coaches here:*

"It's just amazing. It was my Hall of Fame induction and Patrick (Murphy) was the president of the NFCA. Being the president, he got a suite. He graciously offered me his suite for my Hall of Fame party. It was pretty amazing for Alabama to do that for Tennessee. I told him we were going to decorate it in orange."

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He said, 'That's OK, just take it down when the party's over.' I told him we would. I have respect for all of these coaches. I talked Mike White into coaching many years ago. He's a great guy. He was playing on the men's team. I told him he was too good of a coach not to be coaching. He said last night, 'I appreciate you talking to me about it'. I have so much respect for him. He is such a great coach. Clint Myers and I went to school together. We graduated a year apart at Arizona State. Patrick Murphy is as great a gentleman as you'll find in this game. I think there are a lot of good coaches here. I just feel like we have a really good relationship. Whatever happens tomorrow night, we will still have a good relationship. What this game needs right now, and somebody needs to say it, is more graciousness and more sportsmanship amongst coaches. Not some of the stuff that's going on right now. It's a game. You play the game. You fight hard when you are playing and afterward you shake hands and respect each other. That's the way it's supposed to be."

## **TENNESSEE SENIOR OUTFIELDER ASHLEY ANDREWS**

*On the rivalry between Alabama and Tennessee:*

"A lot of what Jackie (Traina) just said, but I know with me and our coaching staff and my teammates, we respect Alabama so much. They are one of the teams that we respect the most in the SEC. We always love playing them. We always have great games with them, so we are really excited."

*On how she feels about Alabama and how people back home (classmates) feel about playing Alabama:*

"Like I said, we respect Alabama so much. All of their players are just class acts. We love playing them and their coaches are great. It's going to be a tough game. We know that every time going in to Alabama. We are just really excited to compete. We all know any Alabama (team) – whatever sport you are playing – I don't care what you are ranked or not ranked, it's going to be a good game. Football, softball, basketball or whatever. My classmates back home, everyone back home, it's a big rivalry and they all know it. Everyone we have seen all week has just been so geared up for it. They are excited."

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