



2017 Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Championship

Jonesboro, Arkansas – First National Bank Arena
November 17, 2017

Post-Match Quotes

Arkansas State Head Coach David Rehr

Opening statement ...

"A little opening jitters in the first great game for us. Troy already had a nice five sets to go before we got into this thing so I think that we played that way a little bit. But once we got it rolling... we got it rolling, but we've got to get better. To get Coastal Carolina tomorrow we have to be a better team and I think we can do that, but I'm proud of the effort and I think we did a really good job. Troy set the bar in the first set with four blocks and we answered back with 13. So, we did a really good job defensively and I'm proud of us and what we have done. Great job to the two ladies next to me."

On what he liked and didn't like in tonight's match ...

"It makes your heart warm when Carlisa says the right things. We're working on body language... We're working on making sure that we are into the game with our emotions and the way we carry our posture and things like that because we are a very emotional team. So when we feel that we aren't trusting each other we kind of pull away a little bit and I love what Carlisa, Drew, and Ellie Watkins and Kenzie Fields and Jessica Uke bring to our leadership. That has helped us kind of get to this point and we're not done. We didn't play well, but let's credit Troy for a gutsy game but we have got to get a lot better to get through Coastal. I think we are up to the challenge."

On if the bye was an advantage or disadvantage ...

"Honestly if I were Texas State and Coastal I wouldn't like it. Everybody gets a game or two games before you get into it and you've just been sitting around. I mean Coastal has been here since Tuesday night, so it's the question with what happens tomorrow night with Louisiana and Texas State and us with Coastal and see what that layoff has done, but I'm not comfortable with it, but it is better than playing four days of volleyball the way it is. I mean basketball does some kind of format like this so it is what it is, but I'm happy to get another first-round or second-round win, or whatever we are going to call this thing."

Arkansas State defensive specialist Tatum Ticknor

On the atmosphere in First National Bank Arena ...

"The atmosphere was really exciting. There was a lot of people here and just knowing that it is now or never helps a lot and I think that our team came out with a lot of energy. We didn't play like we had it, but we had a lot of energy. More than we usually do."

Arkansas State outside hitter Carlisa May

On what she has learned in previous Sun Belt tournaments ...

“Just play every game like it is the last game. A big thing for me is just working on how to be a leader. Especially at the end of the season, I’m working a lot on not showing facial expressions if I’m sad and just trying to be the same player at all times instead of picking and choosing when. Coach [Rehr] has talked a lot to me about my facial expressions and just being able to let my teammates pick me up and me just getting out of a rut if I am having one.”

On tonight’s performance ...

I think that Tatum [Ticknor] did great and our defense did great. A lot of it was our defense today and Ellie [Watkins] was dishing the ball out well today and that helps a lot when our middles are pulling blocks and getting blocks. It opens us up and with Drew [Jones] scoring on the right and Kenzie [Fields] scoring on the right and that helps me out a lot and it helps our team out a lot.”