



## 2017 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

First Round · Duke vs. Hampton  
Cameron Indoor Stadium · Durham, N.C.  
Friday, March 17, 2017

### **Joanna P. McCallie, Duke Head Coach:**

#### ***Opening Statement:***

"We're just really excited to play. It's been a great couple of weeks for rest and also for getting to work on some fundamentals that we needed to work on. We're just pacing ourselves right now because we play tomorrow night at 9. We're very excited. This is a tournament of winners. Every team is very, very good. You just prepare and get your energy in the right spot so we'll be good to go tomorrow."

#### ***On playing at home:***

"I just think you have to manage whatever situation you're in. We have the team together so our actions are very much like they are on the road, in terms of the hotel and everything that we do. That's important because if you do advance, you're going to be in that situation anyway down the road. You just have to manage whatever situation you're in, but obviously it is an honor to be at home. It is an honor for Duke and wonderful for our team, but it is what you make of it. This is a new season. I don't look for anything to be an advantage unless it is created. This is a tournament of winners. Everyone can play, so I think that is an important concept."

#### ***On playing a 9 p.m. game:***

"It is more that we've been out for two weeks. If we had played recently at 9, you're kind of in a routine. The challenge for us, and pretty much everyone else depending on when you played in the [conference] tournament, is to be sharp and to come out ready to go. I, like everyone else, cannot wait to see what we have at 9 tomorrow. Hopefully, it is pretty fierce intensity of what we're trying to accomplish. As you know, it's a long wait. You have to focus. I think it's great to watch some of these games going on because it's great to support the entire tournament, but there is a time where all you're concerned about is your team and what you need to do for your team and what your team needs to accomplish. We've earned one game so far and we need to be aggressive and try to earn another."

***On Hampton:***

“They play so hard. We know Hampton fairly well because they’ve been here before. They have the greatest band. Seriously. They will have a lot of people here. They tend to take over Cameron, particularly their band. From a team standpoint, they’ve been so resilient it’s been a mind boggle. With the injuries they’ve had and to win that conference tournament and march through like they did...I was just so impressed watching that. They’re very aggressive and they’ve played a terrific schedule, with South Carolina and other teams. They’re a seasoned NCAA team who has been to Cameron before. They play super hard. Monnazjea Finney-Smith is a fantastic shooter. They have penetrators around and some good post players. They play well as a team.”

***On things they’ve worked on this week:***

“We’ve had a chance to really look at some things offensively and have been able to change a few things to make it fun. From a defensive end, we really had a lot of slippage in the ACC Tournament. There is enormous slippage from the first game to the second game and so on. We’ve looked at those details and the fundamentals. The best thing about the ACC Tournament is getting three games. That experience is great if you can win. But then we had two weeks off. It’s been great for Duke, but we lost our scout team [with Duke on spring break]. That has been the saddest thing for me because they’ve been gone a lot, so that is hurtful to us. Again, fundamentals and shortening practice overall.”

***On Elon in the tournament:***

“I feel very fortunate that I was able to witness them cut down the nets twice. I miss a lot. I’ve missed a lot of [my daughter] Maddie’s career because that just happens. It was a wonderful blessing to be able to do that. My family is up in College Park supporting Maddie and Elon. I might sneak a computer into practice [to watch]. I know my daughter has her role on the team, but when you follow a team that closely, you love them all. You love all the players and you get excited about all of them. This Elon team is the most fabulous team. They are a special group. To be history making is very fitting for them. To be able to watch that has been really neat for me. I’ve been in the business a long time and it’s just fun to see a program develop like that one has. Charlotte [Smith] and her staff deserve a lot of credit. Every parent feels split sometimes, so you have to talk about it to somebody and then it feels better. That’s the only way to get through.”



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### PRE-TOURNAMENT QUOTES – Duke

#### **Rebecca Greenwell, Redshirt Junior, Guard:**

##### ***On the extra time before the first game:***

“Like Coach P [McCallie] said, we’ve been working on fundamentals. We’ve been trying to tighten up on some things we need to work on. We’ve been cleaning up our offenses, making sure everything is running smoothly. Also, we’ve been working on our defense. We had a really good practice yesterday from defense. We’ve been working on a lot of different little things that we need to clean up.”

##### ***On playing at home:***

“It’s great. It’s definitely going to be a big advantage for us. It’s nice to have a home crowd here for us as well. We had a good season at home and want to continue that.”

##### ***On confidence from the ACC Tournament:***

“I think it gives us a great boost of confidence. We played some tough games. With every team in the ACC, it’s going to be a battle. We obviously didn’t finish the way we wanted to, but we learned from that game. I think we grew a lot from the first two games as well. We’re ready for tomorrow night, but we’re going to take it one game at a time.”

#### **Lexie Brown, Junior, Guard:**

##### ***On the extra time before the first game:***

“We got a lot of shooting in and definitely worked on our conditioning as well. We had a lot of time to get back on the court. We got up and down a lot, which is something that I think we really needed. Like Becca [Greenwell] said, our biggest focus was our defense, and I think we cleaned up a lot of stuff.”

#### **Kyra Lambert, Sophomore, Guard:**

##### ***On confidence with playing at home:***

“It gives us tremendous confidence just playing at home. It’s a great spot to be in Cameron Indoor Stadium and having our crowd here, so it gives us a great boost.”