

NCAA Women's Basketball Championship: Regional 2 Semifinal - Maryland vs South Carolina

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Birmingham, Alabama, USA

Legacy Arena

Maryland Terrapins
Shyanne Sellers

Kaylene Smikle

Sarah Te-Biasu

Sweet 16 Pregame Media Conference



when we play different opponents.

My defense is consistently getting better because they're always going to tell me when I'm making mistakes or even things I'm doing well so I know the difference.

Q. Ashlee Barker, what was so different about guarding her and just -- especially even though you guys kind of knew they were going through her, especially near the end of the game? What was the challenge of that and just being on the court with one of the historic March Madness performances?

SHYANNE SELLERS: I think we were trying to limit their threes, and she got downhill. You know, I think this next game, we're going to do our game plan just as well and move on.

SARAH TE-BIASU: Yeah, we know she's a great player. We did what we had to do against her, and now, like Shy said, move on to the next game, following the game plan.

KAYLENE SMIKLE: They summed it up.

Q. Sara, Kaylene, you guys have gone through the transfer portal and had success getting to Maryland. If there were things that went well or didn't go well, would you share what you would improve on or what you thought went well since there are 900 kids in there in the first couple of days?

KAYLENE SMIKLE: Well, for me, I know I was going to end up where God needed me to be. Maryland was the place where I needed to be at this time. I feel like I came here at a perfect time. Everything happens for a reason.

SARAH TE-BIASU: Yeah, exactly. Everything happens for a reason. Same as Kaylene. I was just looking for a school where I can be the best player that I can and improve my game and everything, so I think I chose the right place for me, yeah.

Q. Shy, as you have gone through the scout, what, from your perspective, has stood out the most about South Carolina, and what's the challenge against a

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

Q. Just a couple of days after that overtime game, just what do you think some of the biggest things that you guys took from that particular game and just being able to build off that going forward?

SARAH TE-BIASU: After that game, what did we learn is just (laughing) -- it was a good fight. It was a good game. We were all happy. Now we're just focusing on the next game just to be prepared for this game. That was what we learned, yeah.

SHYANNE SELLERS: I just think our heart, our resiliency, and at this rate, it's just survive and advance, so...

KAYLENE SMIKLE: We learned that we're capable of anything. If we put our minds to it, no matter when things get hard, we play 40 minutes. After that overtime, overtime, we're still going to get teams. I feel like we just have so much confidence in each other.

Q. Kaylene, a big game defensively for you against Alabama. The offense has been steady all year, but what's been working recently on the defensive end for you?

KAYLENE SMIKLE: I mean, my coaches -- I know one thing is an emphasis on playing better and defense. I know my coaches are always on me on defense. One day I'm digging too much; the next day, it's this. So, I feel like just learning how to balance and changing my defense



team that rotates so many people through?

SHYANNE SELLERS: Yeah, I think they're aggressive. They keep fresh bodies. They're very disciplined. They're well-coached.

On the flip side, I think we can be really disciplined. I think we can make them work. I think it's going to be a battle of the boards. We rebound very well. They rebound very well. So at the end of the day, it's going to come down to who wants it more.

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