



No. 1 UConn 70, No. 2 USF 54
Game 11 – Final, March 6 2018, Mohegan Sun Arena – Uncasville, Conn.

UConn Postgame Notes

UConn captured its fifth American Women's Basketball Championship final in five years Tuesday night, defeating USF for the fourth straight year on the way to its 23rd conference tournament title.

With the victory, UConn improved to 101-0 since joining conference prior to the start of the 2013-14 season. It is 15-0 in this tournament.

In the history of the program, UConn is now 82-13 in conference tournament play and it is 23-5 in conference tournament finals.

UConn improved to 26-0 all-time against the Bulls.

Senior Gabby Williams led the Huskies with 19 points, and she also had seven rebounds, six assists and five steals. Williams surpassed 1,500 career points (1,510), and 450 assists (453), and moved within 26 rebounds of 1,000. Williams had appeared in 142 straight games before a hip injury forced her to sit out the semifinal against Cincinnati. It was her 70th career double-figure scoring game.

Azura Stevens was 6 of 9 from the field for 13 points with seven rebounds. In three tournament games, Stevens was 23 of 36 (63.8 percent) from the field, averaging 16.3 points and 9.6 rebounds.

Forward Napheesa Collier needed seven points to reach 1,500 for her career. She had 12 points and five rebounds with a pair of three-pointers. It was the 15th time in 16 games she has reached double figures and the 28th time overall this season.

Williams and Collier join UConn teammates Katie Lou Samuelson and Kia Nurse – who both reached 1,600 career points against Tulsa Sunday – as the only quartet of active players in the history of the program to reach 1,500 career points in the same season.

Samuelson had 12 points with two three-pointers and four rebounds. It was her 64th career double-figure scoring game. The MVP of The American last year, she made the All-Tournament team for the third straight season.

Sophomore Crystal Dangerfield was named to her first All-Tournament team at UConn.

USF Postgame Notes

USF fell to UConn in the American Women's Basketball Championship final for the fourth straight year. The Bulls are 26-7, and can tie the program record for most wins in a season (2008-09 and 2014-15) with one more victory

Junior guard Kitija Laksa had a game-high 26 points with five made threes Tuesday night, hitting 9 of 23 shots from the field. She scored at least 20 points in all three tournament games, averaging 22.3 points with 14 made three-pointers on 39 attempts.

Laksa posted her 31st double-figure scoring game of the season, the 81st of her career. It was also the 17th time this season she has scored at least 20 points. She has 34 games with at least 20 points in her career.

Senior Maria Jespersen had nine points and a team-high nine rebounds. She finished the tournament averaging 14.6 points and 7.3 rebounds with 10 assists.

Laksa and Jespersen were both named to the All-Tournament team for the second straight year.

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