



VISITOR QUOTES

PHOENIX MERCURY vs. SEATTLE STORM

KEYARENA | MAY 4, 2016

MERCURY HEAD COACH **SANDY BRONDELLO**

On her expectations for the game and how her team performed

"Obviously it was the first time we've played together. We have five new players coming; it was more about getting our systems and getting a little more chemistry at both ends of the floor. We started off a little bit shaky; we didn't have any kind of cohesiveness. But I thought as the game went along, we got a little bit better and we got to playing better . . . there were glimpses of the way we want to play this year."

On Penny Taylor's play in the 2nd quarter

"Her leadership meant a lot. Penny and Diana (Taurasi) sat out last year. They are two of the best players in the world in my opinion. To get their leadership back . . . smart, intelligent players. They know when they have to take over. Penny just took over. She scores buckets. That's what she does. We're excited to have her back."

On how well her rookies played

"I think they did great. Courtney (Williams) is an offensive firepower. She had a high shooting percentage. She is very athletic and can make plays out of nothing basically. I thought once she got into the game, got a little more comfortable, she was better in that regards. I was happy with her. I thought Isabelle Harrison, for someone who's been out 17 months was really good for someone who hasn't played an organized game in such a long time. You saw what she can bring us. She can bring us the toughness that we need, rebounding and she's a pretty decent back-to-the-basket player. That's going to be great for us moving forward. We're excited to have her. Nirra Fields, our 3rd round pick . . . we like her. She plays with a lot of poise. She's Canadian, an international player and has that international experience . . . she has a lot of poise to her and can play at both ends of the floor. We're happy with her as well. Shelby (Chesiek), the local kid basically, she did a really good job. Not getting opportunities to shoot, but she understood what she needed to do, contested a lot of shots. She was very active defensively. She played her role; we're very happy with her."

On Seattle center Breanna Stewart

"Obviously she's a great talent. She can score in multiple ways. She's got that length. It was good to see her out there. She didn't make all her shots today, but she's capable of doing that. We just tried to make it as difficult as possible. She's very versatile, which will be an asset to the team this year."