



2019 NCAA Championships May 16-25 • Orlando, Fla. • USTA National Campus

Individual Tournament: Day 2 • May 21, 2019

PLAYER QUOTES

Women

#1 Estela Perez-Somarriba (Miami, junior)
def. Katya Townsend (Texas A&M), 6-2, 6-0

On what she thought went well for her today:

I think I was just playing solid from the baseline. I was going behind her as the point went on, I think I was able to just play my game and stay disciplined. I was serving pretty smart. I'm really excited for the next round.

On what she did differently after splitting the first four games to then winning the last 10:

Honestly, I knew I was in control of the match. I just needed to stay more disciplined and Paige [Yaroshuk-Tews, head coach] told me some tactics there. I was able to implement them and play well.

#6 Fernanda Contreras (Vanderbilt, senior)
def. Petra Granic (Texas), 6-3, 6-4

On her last few matches representing Vanderbilt:

It feels nostalgic, I've had the best four years I could've asked for. I'm really happy to be able to wear the gold star for at least one more day.

On how she has stayed motivated throughout the NCAAs:

I just try to take it one step at a time, point-by-point. I'm so grateful to have my great coaches here with me, on court with me all the time, looking out for me and just being there every step of the way.

Jada Hart (UCLA, junior)
def. Michaela Gordon (Stanford), 6-4, 6-1

On the transition from team competitions to individuals:

You have to adjust from going from a team environment to now focusing on yourself. I think having a few days off has gotten me into the mindset of playing an individual tournament. I think, for me, it was a quicker transition.

Asuka Kawai (Illinois, sophomore)
def. Brienne Minor (Michigan), 6-3, 7-6

On defeating the 2017 NCAA Division I singles champion Brienne Minor:

It's good for my confidence for going into the next match for sure. She's a great player and it was a tough match. I think we both competed well.

On it being her first time competing for the singles title:

I had nothing to lose. Everyone was telling me to give it all out there, play and enjoy, so that was my mindset.

Elysia Bolton (UCLA, freshman)
def. Anna Turati (Texas), 4-6, 6-3, 7-5

On how she kept her focus during a grueling three-hour match:

My coaches were very instrumental in keeping me in every point. I knew I could pull it out. I just really wanted to win for my school and for myself.

On her first NCAA tournament:

I'm loving it here, it's so fun. Having some of my teammates here, I'm having a really nice time. I also used to train here sometimes with the USTA.

Men

#1 Nuno Borges (Mississippi State, senior)
def. Andy Andrade (Florida, sophomore), 6-3, 6-4

On what was working well for him today:

Today, I didn't really play my best game. He really pushed me a lot throughout the match, so I just tried to stay tough and not give him much. That's what paid off for me. He made some mistakes and I took advantage of them.

#3 Alex Rybakov (TCU, senior)

def. Aleksandre Bakshi (Oklahoma) 3-6, 7-5, 6-2

On how he prepares for these consecutive matches:

I try to get a lot of sleep. I feel like it helps me because I'm from Florida originally, I grew up here and I practiced here. I know I need all the wristbands, I'm holding a huge bag of clothes as we speak, I need lots of clothes. I hydrate well and sleep well, too.

#8 Oliver Crawford (Florida, sophomore)

def. Tanner Smith (USC), 6-3, 7-5

On whether being a seeded player adds pressure:

I don't think there's any pressure. I think everybody can play in this tournament. I've played two matches that could've gone the other way as well.

On what it's like being here with some of his other teammates:

It's awesome. Obviously, I want the best for them. Andy [Andrade] didn't get it done today against a very good opponent [#1 Nuno Borges.] It was awesome seeing some of my teammates do well yesterday and hopefully we can keep moving it forward. We have Sam [Riffice] playing the singles later and McClain [Kessler] and Duarte [Vale] in doubles.

Will Blumberg (UNC, junior)

def. Matias Soto (Baylor), 6-1, 6-1

On what went right for him in the match:

I played well, it's tough playing at the end of the day. I was supposed to play at 5:00 p.m. and ended up playing around 6:15 p.m., it's tough waiting around. I think I did a good job in the beginning locking in because it's tough finding your focus after you've been watching and it's hot. I was really happy with how I focused and zeroed in on the match. I've still got a lot to play, I have a doubles match tonight so it's good to get off the court quick and prepare for the next match.