



**2008 NCAA SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP  
HOUSTON REGIONAL**  
Cougar Softball Stadium – Houston, Texas  
**POSTGAME QUOTES**

**Houston 2, Washington 1**  
**May 18, 2008**

**University of Houston Quotes**

**Head Coach Kyla Holas**

*Opening statement:*

“We were hoping that lightning couldn’t strike twice. We worked really hard both mentally and physically that that wouldn’t happen again and today we found a way. Anytime you’ve done it one time before you have that experience and that feeling and emotion of where you’re going and what you want to be different. This time, we experienced that and wasn’t going to let it happen again.”

*On the pressure to win this season after losing in a regional final last year:*

“I feel a little differently. There was a key moment in the fifth inning where I thought we had lost a kid and I felt like we were getting a little frustrated offensively. I think we had to gut check and I needed to go out there and call time. It was still a 0-0 ballgame, nobody’s given up anything and we haven’t lost anything yet. This is not the moment to get frustrated and it’s not the moment to give in. I felt like that was a sigh of relief in the infield for everyone. Thankfully they responded well after that.”

*On Noble starting for Washington:*

“This whole tournament they’ve went with Noble in the beginning and brought Macon in the moment anything changed in momentum. I was expecting that the moment that started her. It wasn’t a surprise to me but I was surprised that they pulled her so early. I though they could’ve let her settle in a little bit more.”

**Junior Outfielder Haley Valis, Houston**

“I think we are a very confident bunch and we felt a lot better coming into this tournament vice last year’s. I tried to stay focused and hit the ball hard. It wasn’t like she (Noble) was overpowering. We just had to swing at strikes. I was trying to hit something hard and make it happen.”

**Senior Pitcher Angel Shamblin, Houston**

“I didn’t feel any pressure. I thought we played composed and stayed that way throughout the game. The defense has played well behind me all season, especially this weekend. I felt like they stepped up when we needed them to the most. They came through for me and it was very relaxing for me as well. We got some key outs in key moments. After this past weekend (C-USA Championship) we just wanted to play and we were just pumped up and were going to put it on anyone we played. We were fired up for our mission at hand.”

**How is this year’s team different from last year’s team?**

*On the differences between last year and this year:*

“Last year we just wanted to make it to regionals. This year we knew we were going to regionals and now that we’re here its scary that we’re only two games away from the Women’s College World Series. We believe and we know we can get there.”

## **University of Washington Quotes**

### **Head Coach Heather Tarr**

#### *Opening Statement:*

“I thought that we had a good game plan. I thought Caitlin (Noble) pitched a good game but unfortunately I made the call to bring Aleah (Macon) in and close out the game but it didn’t work out. We gave up an extra run and it didn’t work out for us. I am proud of our team. We battled all year long and have faced more obstacles than can be discussed in a press conference. What a great way to go out, awesome.”

#### *On Angel Shamblin:*

“I think we missed a couple of pitches today. She (Shamblin) locates her pitches really well and expands the zone. She’s a senior and she wants it. So, all those things included are going to help a pitcher performs when it matters. I thought we made her (Shamblin) throw a lot of pitches. Again, I think we missed a couple here and there. They played great defense. I thought we had a much better performance today off of her even though the results didn’t reflect it. Lack of execution doesn’t allow you to do much. We didn’t’ execute all day.”

### **Senior Pitcher Caitlin Noble, Washington**

“I was able to get my curveball going today. It was my out pitch and I was able to get them waving at it. I definitely had to mix my pitches knowing that sticking on one side of the plate wouldn’t work. Our catcher Alicia (Blake) called a great game for me today. We busted them (Houston) in and got them to wave out and mixed in a few change ups here and there.”