

# **Guard Courtney Vandersloot**

## **Media Day Availability**

### **July 18, 2020**



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#### **On the opportunity to be on national television for the opener**

"Well, I think it's a great opportunity. We've been kind of waiting for this moment since whatever it was last September, around the end of the last season. I think we were just starting to hit our stride and it was kind of maybe taken away from us a little too quick. I think that we've kind of been waiting and preparing for this moment to show that the Chicago Sky is the real deal. We have what it takes to compete for a championship in this league. I think what better way to show it than our first game of the season."

#### **On one aspect of her game that she's been working on**

"I think mostly just like the details that you let slip after not playing for a while. No way we're going to be in the tip-top shape in the first game. I don't think anybody in the bubble will be, and if they say that they are I think it's maybe not true. So we're not really focusing as much on that, but we're focused on making sure that the spacings, our schemes, rebounding, taking care of the ball, those types of things. Those type of intangible things that make you win games and championships. We're getting better every single day and by the start of the first game that's something that we're going to focus on throughout the season."

#### **On what advice she's giving to players that weren't on the 2014 Finals team**

"I think the biggest thing is that anything can happen throughout the season. If you remember that season, we actually I think were maybe .500 going into playoffs. Of course I'm not telling them that. But the point is that like, even if things get a little bumpy, which in every season there is a moment for every team that feels like a little bumpy, things aren't going well. That's not the end of the world. It can

turn around really quick and just being able to be playing our best basketball towards the end of the season is most important. I think that's the biggest thing for us right now is how important a top seed is. The difference now compared to 2014 is the playoff format and being up in that top seed and getting byes into the playoffs is a humongous deal. I think playing early is way more important now than it was before. 22 games, we have. We're not used to that. And we have to play our best basketball for 22 games."

#### **On her goals for herself**

"I think one of the main things I always focus on is just like becoming a better leader. Every year we all get older and every year I seem to just like continue to be the old one. Leadership is something that has not always been so natural. On the court it is, but it's more of like an off court vocal type thing. That's always my main goal, is to be able to get the team that I have in front of me to be able to play at the best level that we can. I always want to kind of add things to my game, continue to be a better passer, continue to take care of the basketball and always be a threat offensively. Not a liability on defense. I'm never going to be a Defensive Player of the Year or anything but continue to make things difficult for the other point guard. It's just goals like that. My role on the team has always been kind of get us going defensively and offensively, be that leader on the floor. And so that's kind of where I start at every season, just continue to grow on everything like that."