

Forward Cheyenne Parker

Media Availability

July 14, 2020



On how her first week in Florida has been

“My first week has been pretty good. It’s been an adjustment just being in this heat. I naturally sweat a lot so I just have to kind of make sure I’m hydrating a little bit extra, riding my bike to the gym and stuff like that. It’s really hot outside but it’s been fun. It’s been a good first week, just excited to be back with the squad.”

On if she thinks she’ll do too much in getting ready for the season

“Not really. As professional athletes we should have been at least maintaining a certain level of exercise daily. So I think at this point now we’re just getting back into game shape. I think it was good to have that much time to rest. A lot of players have been battling different injuries, different personal things. I think it’s OK. I think we’ve got enough time to get ourselves together.”

On what the bubble has been like for her

“I’m in the hotel room, and it’s pretty normal. I played overseas in Korea and China. And in both those countries you have to live in a hotel room. So, I’m actually used to the hotel environment. And it’s even better than over there because everyone speaks English. I get to see my teammates every day. I get to see other human beings. There’s a pool. I’m actually very comfortable in my bubble situation. And then my teammates are also in the villa right across. I get to go visit them and get a different view every now and then. So I’ve been enjoying the bubble.”

On if Stella Johnson reminds her of any players

“Stella’s very aggressive. I love how she crashes the boards and being so little. I like her energy. I’m trying to think of a player that she reminds me of but

honestly she’s her own player. No one in particular that I can think of.”

On Ruthy Hebard

“Man, I love Ruthy. I love her. Just everything that she brings to the team is great. I love her personality and how she’s picking up very fast on plays, the lingo. Just the teams’ camaraderie. Ruthy’s doing a really great job. I think that she’s going to fit into the system really well. She’s got a great attitude and she’s continued to get better every day.”

On the growing fan base in Alaska

“Yeah, it’s dope. I’m a fan of Alaska myself. My family has always loved Alaska. I think, Stef[anie] [Dolson] and I were actually talking about taking a trip to Alaska before we even knew we were going to have an Alaskan teammate. So, it’s really dope that she’s from Alaska and that we have a new fan group over that way. I think that’s really exciting and I’m excited to go visit her, like we already told her we’re coming.”

On if she’s assumed a leadership role

“For sure have, just being a vet[aran] now. It’s only right that I’m more vocal and I speak up. I think my biggest role in the entire situation that we’re in is just having that positive mindset and encouraging the team to just stay focused on the good things, the positive things. I try to be encouraging vocally and just have like an uplifting attitude so that I can just rub off on everyone else surrounding me.”

On the one thing she couldn't come to the bubble without

"Honestly, I can't even say. It's kind of personal."

On how her role could change without Jantel Lavender

"Well the season ended with Jantel being out so my role definitely increased at the end of the season. I think it's just gonna carry on into this year and I think my mindset since the beginning of last year is just to make sure that I'm ready to step up and to make sure that I'm doing the best I can to fulfill the role. Jantel, she's more of a vocal leader than anything and just not having her voice around in practice or in timeouts is going to be the toughest thing for us to readjust to. So I think the biggest part is like the vocal side of things and just having the experience, that type of leadership. So as far as on the court I'm going to continue to learn and do what James [Wade] needs me to do offensively and defensively."

CLOSING STATEMENT

"Basically just that this season's going to be a special one. Obviously, we're in this bubble and a lot of people are talking. There's always going to be rumors, there's always gonna be a lot of things said but the only thing I'm going to leave saying is that this team is a championship team and this year is going to be a really good year for us."

