



DUKE CROWNED 2019 NCAA DI WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPION **WINS SEVENTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – Duke University edged Wake Forest University, 3-2, clinching the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Championship at Blessings Golf Club (par 73, 6,397 yards). The tight contest went extra holes in three of the five matches before the Blue Devils won their seventh national championship and their first in match play.

With the score tied at two through 19 holes, Miranda Wang sealed the victory for Duke, facing off against Letizia Bagnoli on their 20th hole, a par five No. 2 on the course, and two-putting for the title.

Ana Belac's 5&3 win over Vanessa Knecht was the first score in for Duke, with the four remaining matches being tied up soon after. Emilia Migliaccio put the first point on the board for Wake Forest, defeating Gina Kim, 1-up through 18.

Duke regained the lead, up 2-1, as Jaravee Boonchant edged last year's medalist Jennifer Kupcho, making par on their 19th hole. Wake Forest's Siyun Liu evened the up score up for the Demon Deacons as she birdied their 20th hole, defeating Virginia Elena Carta, who has now won an individual (2016) and team championship.

"You know, I couldn't feel more proud than I do right now," said Duke head coach Dan Brooks. "It's been a heck of a week. But we've had a tough team all year long, and so they were tough this week, but they have been tough all year long. We've had plenty of weather and all kinds of stuff this year, and it's required a lot of patience. College golf does that, and I've never been with a group that has just stayed positive and just ground it out, and they did it this week, just like they have been doing it all year."

Wake Forest, who advanced to the championship match with wins against host Arkansas and Auburn, made its first appearance in the NCAA Championships match play portion of the tournament under first-year head coach Kim Lewellen.

"I knew they were special when I went into the office for the first time," said Wake Forest head coach Kim Lewellen. "I didn't know any of these young ladies but they embraced me. We wanted to be on this stage and compete, and it was an outstanding match. Duke came out on top, but I'm very proud of these ladies. We've got two freshmen and a junior so we've got another chance at it."

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH RESULTS:

Duke 3, Wake Forest 2

Siyun Liu (WF) def. Virginia Elena Carta (D) in 20 holes

Jaravee Boonchant (D) def. Jennifer Kupcho (WF) in 19 holes

Miranda Wang (D) def. Letizia Bagnoli (WF) in 20 holes

Emilia Migliaccio (WF) def. Gina Kim (D), 1-up

Ana Belac (D) def. Vanessa Knecht (WF), 5&3



2019 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Blessings Golf Club, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Wednesday, May 22, Par 73, 6,397 yards

CHAMPIONSHIP QUOTES

Dan Brooks, Duke head coach, Duke defeated Wake Forest 3-2

You know, I couldn't feel more proud than I do right now. It's been a heck of a week. But we've had a tough team all year long, and so they were tough this week, but they have been tough all year long. We've had plenty of weather and all kinds of stuff this year, and it's required a lot of patience. College golf does that, and I've never been with a group that has just stayed positive and just ground it out, and they did it this week, just like they have been doing it all year.

On the team's grit...

I was with Miranda Wang almost the whole match, and she was down before the win. The whole team is that way. We have such a gritty team this year, it's fantastic.

On trailing in four matches...

This course is loaded with key holes, anything can happen here. If you keep your cool, just stay calm and play, things will fall in your favor.

Virginia Elena Carter, Duke, Duke defeated Wake Forest 3-2

Today, we knew it was going to be a very long day because it was not just the semifinals. We were hoping obviously to get into the final, as well, so we talked a lot with the team about being patient and just doing our own thing and cheering each other on, and that's exactly what we did, and not only we won in the semifinals, but we sat at lunch and talked almost about forgetting the semifinals and having the mind ready to go for the next match, which was more important, I guess, and the last one, and just putting all we got into that.

We were tired. I mean, a lot of golf played in a few days, but we did it. We stayed patient and we believe in each other.

Jaravee Boonchant, Duke, Duke defeated Wake Forest 3-2

On beating No. 1 Jennifer Kupcho...

This golf course requires a lot of patience. I just had to hang in there and keep doing what I was doing.

On the momentum change...

The bogey on 15 really brought me down. But I got the birdie on 17 and that gave me more confidence going into 18.

On her first team championship...

It means a lot. It's really an amazing opportunity and experience. We've been working hard for the whole year and it paid off.

Kim Lewellen, Wake Forest head coach, Wake Forest fell 3-2 to Duke

What an exciting championship here with the venue, the volunteers, the teams, the competition. It was just an exciting time. I think I speak for the entire team; we say thank you to everyone. Obviously we would have liked to have come out on top but we've had a great year and congratulations to Duke.

I knew they were special when I went into the office for the first time. I didn't know any of these young ladies but they embraced me. We wanted to be on this stage and compete, and it was an outstanding match. Duke came out on top, but I'm very proud of these ladies. We've got two freshmen and a junior so we've got another chance at it.

On Jennifer Kupcho legacy...

It's hard to describe the impact. I think that the world has seen it, just recently in the last few months with how she's impacted women's golf by winning Augusta National and being a national champion. But also by deferring her LPGA status to be here with her team and help us get to the final match today, to win an ACC Championship, she's done a lot for Wake Forest University and a lot for women's golf. So her impact, yes, is on Wake Forest University, but it's going to impact women's golf for a lifetime. She's a pioneer at Augusta National holding that trophy for the first time. She's done a lot for this sport.

Emelia Migliaccio, Wake Forest head coach, Wake Forest fell 3-2 to Duke

What an honor to be here, represent Wake Forest and compete for a National Championship. It's just incredible to see how women's golf continues to evolve and I can't wait for next year.