

**The Northwestern Wildcats and University of Pennsylvania Quakers meet up for the second time this season, sixth time in three years, and third time in the NCAA Final Four. So far the Wildcats hold a 4-1 advantage on the Quakers, ending their season for the past two years, but can Penn make their third match-up in the Final Four a charm? Only one thing is for sure, both teams are going to leave all and everything they have on the field. This will be a very tough, intense game.**

We at WomensLax.com were fortunate enough to chat with Penn's Ali Deluca & Katie Mazer, and Northwestern's Hannah Nielsen & Morgan Lathrop to get their insight on the developing Penn/Northwestern rivalry, how their teams have used their regular season game to prepare for this weekend's rematch, and most importantly, if they prefer Jen or Angelina?

## University of Pennsylvania

**Q: In Your Opinion- who is the biggest threat on NU?**

**Deluca:** Hannah Nielsen, she is an extremely smart player in all aspects of attack. She knows how to work the ball. She is a triple threat, she has everything. I think she'll be the biggest player to stop.

**Q: You lost to Northwestern earlier this season in a close game - how have you used that game to prepare for this weekend's rematch?**

**Mazer:** In reality it's really hard to beat a good team twice, we learned that last year when we beat them and then lost in the tournament.

**Q: Penn and NU have developed quite a rivalry over the past few years - how does it feel facing them for the third time in the Final Four?**

**Mazer:** It's awesome we like to play them because of the rivalry and because last year they knocked us out after we beat them in the regular season. We've played them 6 times in three years, so we know their line up pretty well compared with other teams. It's a great rivalry and we just hope it's a really good game.

**Q: How is this year's team different from other Penn teams in the past?**

**Deluca:** We usually have a pretty stable team, we're a bunch of athletes, and that is what we pride ourselves on, we don't have the best stick skills but we're all athletes. Girls have stepped up this year, we're a lot more versatile, our attack has progressed and really come together. Every year we've been getting smarter and better.

**Q: Why will your team win on Friday?**

**Mazer:** We're the best team, we work the hardest.

**Q: What would winning a National Championship mean to you?**

**Deluca:** It means everything; it's a goal I've had since I first stepped on Franklin Field.

**Q: On your team you are most likely to:**

**Deluca:** Say something stupid

**Mazer:** Instigate and egg people on

**Q: One word to describe your team:**

**Deluca:** Athletic

**Mazer:** Awesome

**Quick Picks:**

**Tewaaraton Trophy/ National Championship:**

**Deluca:** National Championship

**Sweet Check/ Sweet Goal:**

**Mazer:** Sweet Check

**UNC/Maryland:**

**Deluca:** UNC

**Burger/Salad**

**Mazer:** Burger

**Jen/Angelina:**

**Mazer:** Angelina

## Northwestern University

**Q: In Your Opinion - who is the biggest threat on Penn?**

**Lathrop:** In general their offense is very well balanced. It's hard to say one specific person because anyone at any time on their team can step up and have a good game and that is what's happened all season long.

**Q: You beat Penn in a close game earlier this season - how have you used that game to prepare for this weekend's rematch?**

**Lathrop:** Even though we won that game I don't think that we had our best game. There is a lot that we could have improved on, and have improved on since then. I think we can play an even better game against them on Friday.

**Q: Penn and NU have developed quite a rivalry over the past few years - how does it feel facing them for the third time in the Final Four?**

**Nielsen:** I think it's exciting. It's always fun to play in big games where you do have a rivalry with another team. I think Friday night is going to be exciting and a close game. We're looking forward to having fun and being in the Final Four.

**Q: How is this year's team different from other NU teams in the past?**

**Lathrop:** Since I've been here, this is the largest senior class that we've had, which is reminiscent of the 2005 team that had such a large senior class. We have a lot of senior leadership and almost the whole senior class is out on the field so there are definitely a lot of emotions.

**Q: Why will your team win on Friday?**

**Nielsen:** I can't say that we're gonna win, but we're gonna go out there and play the best we can. Hopefully everyone will step up and play together.

**Q: What would winning a National Championship mean to you?**

**Lathrop:** Everything.

**Q: On your team you are most likely to:**

**Nielsen:** Be shaking my head at everyone

**Lathrop:** Be running my mouth

**Q: One word to describe your team:**

**Nielsen:** Rambunctious

**Lathrop:** Crazy

**Quick Picks:**

**Tewaaraton Trophy/ National Championship:**

**Nielsen:** National Championship

**Sweet Save/ Sweet Interception:**

**Lathrop:** Sweet Save

**UNC/Maryland:**

**Nielsen:** Maryland

**Burger/Salad**

**Lathrop:** Burger

**Jen/Angelina:**

**Nielsen:** Jen