
ACC Women's Basketball Championship
Greensboro, NC
March 5th, 2005

Quarterfinal Round Quotes

DUKE BLUE DEVILS

COACH GAIL KOESTENKORS: I'm just really proud of the team. I thought this was our most complete effort both on both ends of the floor. I thought we had great focus, great energy and tremendous intensity from start to finish. It was one of those nights when, you know, everything is clicking. And, you know, we got a lot of good looks and we were able to knock our shots down. So I'm just really proud of the team for coming in ready to play. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

THE MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. Mistie, can you talk about the success you guys have had in Greensboro Coliseum and the attitude you take going onto the floor here?

MISTIE WILLIAMS: Yes, definitely. I know the tradition started years before I got here and I think coming into Duke and coming into the Greensboro Coliseum, we all know that tradition and it's kind of like we have to have that pride and come to court with that pride knowing that, you know, we have had that tradition here. I mean we talked about it in practice. We talked about it together as a team that, you know, we have to come out here and play, put 110 percent on the court because every team is going to come after what we have accomplished.

Q. Gail, could you point to anything specific about the fact that you came out, you hit nine of your first 10 shots, you built a huge early lead, did you say anything in particular to them, was there anything that really ignited the team tonight?

COACH GAIL KOESTENKORS: I don't think so. We just talked about playing with purpose and passion. We have had some excellent practices since our last game and we feel like, you know, we are playing very, very well together. And I think we understand that we all have to come ready to play. And we are best when we have our post playing well and our guards. And when we try to do, to play a game and just take advantage of the inside or the outside attack we're not nearly as good. So I thought today we just shared the ball extremely well, and I thought we were very, very focused and ready to go.

Q. Mistie, was the loss to North Carolina last week a motivating factor in tonight's win?

MISTIE WILLIAMS: Mississippi yes, I mean no one ever wants to lose. You know, we just have to take that game in stride with the rest of, you know, the games that we've lost this season. And, I mean, you can't really dwell on a loss. The ACC tournament is a hole new season for us and that game ended the ACC season and were on to tournament season so we don't really think about it that much.

Q. Alison, you were much more effective than we've seen you in past games in the first half, you made six out of seven shots, you were going hard for the basket, did you have that in mind when the game started?

ALISON BALES: I think I need to play with more aggressiveness on offense and that was what I tried to do. That is what I tried to do.

Q. Alison, Coach Goestenkors said in the Carolina game you were the bright spot, you seemed a lot more aggressive, do you think that carried over today?

ALISON BALES: Yes, I mean like I said, it comes from practice. So like I said before, I really thought my offense aggressiveness needed to be picked up. That's what I tried to do tonight. That's what I have been doing since our last game in practice.

Q. Wanisha, you were four for six on threes, six assists, one turnover, either one of them more pleasing to you than the other?

WANISHA SMITH: Well, I mean just looking back at the season, that one turnover was really surprising me, and I'm really happy about that one. I'm just happy with it.

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