

ACC Women's Basketball Championship
Greensboro, NC
#3 Maryland 71, #11 Georgia Tech 66
March 3, 2006

MARYLAND TERRAPINS

COACH BRENDA FRESE: I will tell you just a tremendous, a very hard-fought game. I thought Georgia Tech came out and really took it to us. They were extremely physical. They were really aggressive. Really, their defensive pressure really caused us a lot of problems, and they just did a tremendous job, we are fortunate enough to be able to come away with a win. I liked our poise down the stretch. I thought we hit some big shots really when we needed to, especially in a game where we were a little bit out of sync tonight.

Q. Brenda, how do you explain you had 21 turnovers, then at the end, you score on seven straight possessions, can you take me through the last stretch, how you guys did that?

COACH BRENDA FRESE: The turnovers were caused, obviously, by the defensive pressure that Georgia Tech was really placing on us, both with the guards and the post players.

We did a lot towards those last seven possessions. Some isolation with Crystal on the post. We looked at from our guard's end, we had a couple of isolation sets.

I thought Marissa stepped up and hit a couple of key shots for us in a game that she was struggling with. We just did a nice job slowing down and keeping our composure.

Q. Talk about the play of your freshman, (Kristi) Toliver and Coleman, they really came through for you in the final minute?

COACH BRENDA FRESE: Yes, they really did. Toliver hit that shot, that deep 3 in the corner. Then Marissa was a little bit out of sync tonight, within her offensive rhythm, but really stepped up and hit that key shot from the free throw line and then stepped up when she got fouled and made free throws. Obviously, we struggled at the free throw line tonight which is uncharacteristic of us. It's definitely a new environment, you got to get used to the background. I think you see a lot of times the advantage with the team that's already played the night before. It's great to be able to get that first game under our belt.

I thought Laura Harper was hesitant, her first ACC tournament, and it's nice to be able to get those jitters out.

Q. Coach, can you talk about the severity of Shay Doron and will she be able to start tomorrow night?

COACH BRENDA FRESE: We are really going to have to check here day to day. She had a deep thigh bruise this week and it's going really going to be contingent on how she respond tonight. We will evaluate her tomorrow.

Q. For Coach and Crystal, Duke beat you twice this year, and waxed you really good last year in the semi-finals, just thoughts about playing them again, if you are thinking it's your turn now?

COACH BRENDA FRESE: We always love playing against great competition. Duke is just another team to us. Obviously that brings out our best. The exciting thing is, from last games's rematch in the ACC tournament's we're two completely different teams. We have a true point guard. We have a lot more depth this year. We like how we match up. I think every game we play them, we learn more about ourselves. At their place we played them for 38 out of 40 minutes and we need to play a 40-minute game.

CRYSTAL LANGHORNE: Its a new game, so we're not looking at what happened in the past, we are just looking for tomorrow and what we're going to do.

Q. Crystal, as the game wore on, and they were up by four points late in the second half, did you have any concerns, one, we might not win this game? And two, any hope that that No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament will go by the wayside?

CRYSTAL LANGHORNE: I wasn't thinking like maybe we're not going to win, I'm thinking maybe we're going to get back in this game, and we're going to win it. I think we play a lot of close games, and we're pretty confident when the games are pretty tight like that.

Q. Crystal, as the game is going and you kept missing the free throws, what was going through your mind after having improved so much at the free throw line?

CRYSTAL LANGHORNE: I was just trying not to think too much, trying to laugh it off, even though it wasn't funny. I wasn't trying to stress myself too much out of it.

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