

ACC Women's Basketball Championship
Greensboro, NC
#2 Duke 69, #7 Virginia Tech 56
March 3, 2006

VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES

COACH BETH DUNKENBERGER: Well, you know, I thought we had a much better game against them this time around and a better game plan. For us to win a game like this, we've got to knock down some open shots, some easy open shots early. We've got to stay focused on that defensive end and not have mental breakdowns, and we've got to take better care of the ball. And when we do those things, we'll be able to step up and beat a team of Duke's caliber that's ranked so high in the nation.

Q. Beth, they had 31 turnovers, did you guys feel that you missed an opportunity to beat them tonight?

COACH BETH DUNKENBERGER: I do, and we were forcing turnovers. But we've got to knock down some easy shots. We shot 38 percent, which isn't terrible. But we had an awful lot of lay-ups, especially early on, that would have given us a little bit more confidence and maybe gotten them a little bit more jittery early on.

Q. What happened to Nare (Diawara) in not having her available for much of the second half, how did that affect you?

COACH BETH DUNKENBERGER: Nare was playing really good. What happened, one of those kids had an offensive foul, I'm not sure if it was an elbow or what, but it caught her right here in the corner of her mouth, and her tooth actually went all the way through to the outside, so there was a hole in her mouth. Luckily our team doctor, Doctor (Mike) Sampson was with us, and he was able to stitch it up to stop the bleeding. She was a trooper, she went back in there, but obviously she was in a great deal of pain at that point.

It altered our post substitution. She was having such a great first half, you hate to see her really get knocked out like that.

Q. For either of the players, is there a sense of disappointment knowing that Duke kind of had an off game tonight, that you guys couldn't capitalize on that?

CARRIE MASON: Yes, I think so. 31 turnovers we forced. Like Beth said we missed some lay-ups early which could have give us some confidence and could have changed the whole game. We just have to be able to finish and stay focused and not have mental breakdowns.

- - -

