

MARYLAND



SPORTS NEWS

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Postgame Quotes

#14/14 Maryland 74, Indiana 70

Head Coach Brenda Frese

Opening Statement:

“Obviously you’re able to see the depth of the Big Ten with just how every night it’s going to be a battle. I thought we were able to get in in waves from different people tonight. Stephanie Jones at the start really set the energy early. Kristen [Confroy] in the first-half with her 13 points. I thought Channise [Lewis] just had a great command of the court tonight. Kaila [Charles’] response coming out of the locker room after half. Late game Eleanna [Christinaki] and Brianna Fraser down the stretch. So just a lot of different contributions which we’re going to have to have over the course of the game. I like our toughness down to the finish. They have some great seniors when you talk about [Amanda] Cahill and [Tyra] Buss. Any win you can get is a great win in conference play.”

On keeping Indiana scoreless at the end of the game:

“Obviously we kept trying to change a little bit of our defense throughout the game. But I just thought we did a better job of tightening up in the late game between Buss and Cahill wanting to take over. I thought we did a much better job being in sync with the team we had on the court late game.”

On Eleanna Christinaki’s performance in the fourth quarter:

“I loved her response she was demanding the ball in crunch time. It speaks volumes how she keeps getting more comfortable and confident. She was fearless and she was confident. That’s what she’s capable of doing and now it’s just going to get her into the flow of the team. You see how physical the game is so it’s just a great response.”

On still adjusting without Blair Watson:

“No question. You’re not going to recover in one game or two or three practices like we’ve had. It’s reforming your team after you lose her. I said to myself, and my staff, that I have to do better calling timeouts when we’re playing. Wanting to use them late game when I see our fatigue. We used to be able to play though that with a deeper bench but now it’s about adapting and adjusting. I shouldn’t be leaving with two timeouts in my pocket. So those are things we’re all working through. I love their response. I’m proud of all of them, but what we’re asking Kaila [Charles] to do is a lot. And she takes it on her shoulders and wants to do it for us. Even starting on [Tyra] Buss defensively to set the tone for us. She’s doing so many things we’re asking of her.”

On scoring more in the paint in the second half:

“I thought that between Stephanie [Jones], Kaila, and Brianna they did a tremendous job of letting the game come to them in the second half when they had a huge presence for us inside. That was a big difference for us. And we were hitting three’s from the perimeter in the first half. Different flows of the game we have to adjust to.”

On getting Christinaki momentum in the second half:

“That’s all Eleanna. You just saw her will to win and make big plays. She’s just a tremendous scorer and it was great to see. It’s something we’ve got to have.”

Freshman Guard Channise Lewis

On scoring two threes and helping the team's confidence:

"It definitely raised my confidence going into the second half and also opened a quarter for my other teammates. They started getting much tighter on me in the second half. When all those two shots went in and brought the game to a tie both times, I think it just brought the fire in the second half."

Sophomore Guard Kaila Charles

On what brought her change seen in the second half:

"Coach challenging me in the locker room. She told me I wasn't having a great first half, so she basically said 'You can do more than that. Just wake up and get in the game. Stop being passive.' So I just went out there and stuck in the present more than the past, didn't worry about my past mistakes and I was just playing."

Senior Guard Kristen Confroy

On the team's performance:

"It's a game of runs and we know that. I think early in the season we learned that we could keep great poise with the South Carolina game and the UConn game. We learned that we could keep a level head and move forward...I didn't even know what the score was most of the time to be honest. I think just continuing to be locked into what we were doing in that moment and knowing that when we put our head on and work, we're going to get the outcome that we want."

Indiana Head Coach Teri Moren

Opening Statement:

"Well, we're disappointed. We should've won the game. We were up seven in the fourth quarter and we just shot ourselves in the foot. We just didn't get the stops we needed. I'd have to go back and watch film to evaluate the shots we got but as I said to our kids, it's not as much about the shots as it is just your hunger to get stops. And that's what's so disappointing because I thought that we showed up in a big way today and I'm really proud of our effort. Turned the ball over too much in the first half but took care of it in the second half when they were in their three-quarter court press. One of the disappointing areas was Kym Royster tonight for us, our starting five... was too quiet and we needed her to step up in a big way and help us scoring. But what I love about this group is that in spite of the record, they've just continued to fight. We're really close. It's just that we're one or two plays away from winning at a high level. So I'm really proud of my group."

On if she thought Maryland would play different versus the last matchup:

"Well, Maryland's different. There's no question when you lose Brionna Jones and the other cast. Brenda [Frese] has always had some really good teams in here. So no question coming into the game that we knew this was a different Maryland team. However, they're still at home and they came off a tough loss against Michigan State so we knew that there was probably going to be eagerness to get back in the win column. But like I said, it's just a shame that I thought for about 36 minutes, we outplayed them tonight."

On if the ending two-minute stretch was a result of Maryland doing something differently:

"No, I don't think that. Again, I'd have to look back. I just remember Tyra [Buss] missing a reverse layup, Tyra missing a runner at the rim, and Jaelynn [Penn] I think we were up one and she and No. 3 [Channise Lewis], the little freshman, in between her and the bucket and she comes up a little short. A lot of what's happened to us is that we're playing all those freshmen, we're playing Tyra a lot of minutes, we're not very deep, and so I think that once we get into the fourth quarter, we're trying to do a better job of managing their minutes but I do think those young kids mentally are still growing into being able to play a lot of minutes and not lose focus and be able to finish and overcome their fatigue."

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