

MARYLAND



SPORTS NEWS

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Postgame Quotes

#15/15 Maryland 111, Howard 49

Head Coach Brenda Frese

Opening Statement:

"I thought we showed a lot of character and toughness tonight. We practiced really hard yesterday and took a lot and gained a lot from our film session. I thought we came out ready to play for 40 minutes tonight so it's a great feeling when you can share the basketball like we did, with 27 assists. The unselfishness we displayed and the number of career highs for a lot of players, again I think just shows the mentality of this team and how much they want to continue to get better and improve every night. I'm very pleased about our response in the middle of a very difficult stretch right now."

On what she saw in the aforementioned film session:

"We continue to want to control the things we can control and that's giving effort for 40 minutes. That's in everything we do. There's a few things we talked about. Well actually there's a lot of things we talked about. Rebounding was a big area for us and being able to get ball reversals in our offense and I thought we really took that to heart in those two areas and saw a lot of success as a resulting."

On Kristen Confroy's performance:

"I saw a really complete, all-around game. It thought she played free. KC has really been working extremely hard and sometimes you want to press upon the game, versus how she played tonight, and I thought she played really relaxed and confident. She had a really wonderful all-around game."

On learning early in the season:

"I think the biggest thing is just the effort play. We saw when we played Niagara that we had a really slow start and didn't play that game hard for 40 minutes. I thought tonight we pushed through the fatigue and set the standard ourselves and didn't let off. So I think the difference is just continuing to set our bar and standard, that we want to play as hard as we can, to keep creating habits."

On a better first quarter start:

"It's been the same lineup so I think our mindset we pushed through the wall. We were tired and I could see our fatigue from the UConn game and I thought we tried to fight through it. Again, our mindset was really good tonight."

On benefitting from three point shooting:

"It's huge for us. When you talk about how people are going to game plan against us and you see the results across the board that now we have an inside-outside presence. Now we can do that every single night and we want to build upon this."

On how she feels about the team's early season results:

"We played the number one and number two teams in the country back-to-back within a week. We were saying on the bench that we played one Monday night and then six days later we had UConn. What I like is our response out of it. What I've seen is growth from that. That's going to be exciting as we move forward because we still have a lot of difficult games ahead of us."

Senior Guard Kristen Confroy

On the team's development since preseason:

"You know the biggest thing I think we continue to improve every day is that we're going to play hard as a team. Every day we're working on making that 40 minute game and I was really proud of how we played a complete game tonight, we didn't let up any of the 40 minutes and that was a big thing early on that we struggled with having to come back from South Carolina and playing in the fourth quarter. I think continuing every game that we have a young team with people growing into new roles and so every game we're just really trying to be better than we were the day before."

On her personal improvement since UConn:

"UConn was just a very frustrating game for me in particular and for our team in general and so evaluating it and moving on from it, taking what I could from it and moving on in the season is what I really try to do. That feeling after the game is really not very good so it really fired me up for the rest of the season and I really tried to show that today."

On the fun-loving attitude of the team:

"I think that of the four teams I have been on here, this is the most fun team. Our chemistry is phenomenal and I think a lot of it has to do with our trip to Taiwan. There were eight of us in one room and it really brought us all together. We spent the better part of 16 days together and we really learned a lot about each other off the court and Coach has really been challenging us to take that chemistry onto the court and I feel like we really did that tonight."

Sophomore Guard Blair Watson

On the importance of her perimeter shots:

"I think I get my confidence from my teammates and they look to give me the ball and they know that I can shoot it and that I'm going let it go and grab the confidence that they give and just kind of go from there. When they see me and we're working well together then it all just flows together."

Junior Forward Brianna Fraser

On driving the ball coast-to-coast:

"Coach Frese actually encourages me to put it on the floor because sometimes I am, you know, a little nervous about it, but she gives me confidence."

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