

QUOTES | GAME #2



NO. 10 VIRGINIA 74, NO. 15 BOSTON COLLEGE 59

VIRGINIA CAVALIERS

**COACH JOANNE BOYLE
KELSEY WOLFE
ATAIRA FRANKLIN**

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: Just excited to get our first win down here. It's all about advancing. I thought the team for the most part we played a pretty well rounded game on both ends of the floor. I was excited about that. We played team basketball, which is what we've been working towards. It's nice to get our first win.

Q. Kelsey, it was an 11 point game with about 6 1/2 minutes left. Maybe BC looked like they were going to come back again on you guys. You throw up that bank sink, kind of take us through that. And how big was that maybe a sign that you were going to finish it out?

KELSEY WOLFE: I think that was a big sign. The shot clock was going down. I think I was 3 feet off the 3 point line and I just shot it, it went in, banked in. Bre said on the bench that she called the bank for me, so that's probably why it went in.

Q. Ataira, could you talk about that stretch, 19 points in about 9 or 10 minutes between the first and second halves.

ATAIRA FRANKLIN: I think I started the game 0 for Wednesday, and Coach Cory told me, I think you want it too much, just let the game come to you. I think I got more into the flow of the game, especially defensively getting tips and steals, and running the transition with my teammates, I think the game started to come to me a little easier.

Q. How proud are you that you did finish this one out, it wasn't even a squeaker? They got within about 9 with a minute and a half left. How proud are you that you closed it out?

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: Yeah, we talked about it. And they've had our number a little bit. It's nice to get down. Like I said, when you're in a tournament everybody's record is null and you're coming in to advance as much as you can throughout the tournament. For us to put a pretty complete game together, obviously it's going to build our confidence. It's nice to play team ball when you get W's.

Q. Could you talk about playing BC after that previous game where you probably thought you were going to win that one, and blowing the big lead in that game. Was there any kind of revenge? Did they have more of your attention after having done that the first time?

KELSEY WOLFE: Yeah, I think so, and I know the last season our first tournament was against BC and we lost against them. We knew we had to come out and really execute down the stretch and just take care of what we could take care of and execute our game plan.

Q. Coach, in playing that inside/outside game and really getting the shots when you needed it, was that something that was key, that you had to do against this team that really more or less plays from the perimeter and was struggling?

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: Yeah, we changed our offense a little bit and I thought it freed up our guards to get better looks. We got some touches inside. We finished. We got to the free throw line.

I thought overall our offensive flowed better. We missed some chippies and missed some easy pull ups. But I liked the flow of what we were doing just based on how they were playing us.

Q. There were some patterns developing again, Sarah's early fouls. Did you like the way you handled the rest of that half without her, and her discipline, she comes out on the floor and no fouls the rest of the game?

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COACH JOANNE BOYLE: Yes, we've been playing a lot of first halves without Sarah I. And we talked about keeping her in the game. I thought she was a lot more disciplined. And she wanted the ball. And it's always nice I thought we might have to go with our small lineup tonight, completely small, we didn't. And I thought Syd and Sarah Beth both came in and gave us a few minutes here and there, and that let us rest her. And we went with our typical four guard lineup. We got a lot of different looks tonight and everybody contributed.

Q. No secret that you don't have one of the tallest teams, how important is it that you out rebound them 37 24?

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: We talked about attention to detail. And I think in the last game they out rebounded us by a few. And that was a team that was minus 6 on the boards. That was one of our focal points tonight. We were going to do everything not to give them second chance points, and I thought we did a great job of paying attention to that detail.

Q. How does it feel to win? You guys have lost four in a row, six of seven. Just what does that do for you confidence wise, and kind of look ahead tomorrow against a Georgia Tech team?

ATAIRA FRANKLIN: I think that right now we understand how essential it is to really lock in and execute in these games. It's literally do or die for us. We love playing together and these are the last games we'll get to play together as a team. I think everyone is eager and excited and hungry to finish out the season strong.

KELSEY WOLFE: What she said is good.

Q. What was the difference midway through the second half when you look at some of your other games? Was it just attention to detail?

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: Yeah, we got some stops. We got some crucial stops. Where we've struggled it's either we're not getting stops or we have a lull in offense. I thought both ends of the floor were pretty complete tonight.

But when we had to get stops I felt we did, that was big for us. Even when we weren't scoring every time down the floor. I thought we did a nice job offensive, but ultimately rebounding and getting crucial stops was important.

Q. You talked about leading up to this about how your seniors are going to be accountable for how you finish this thing. Kelsey gets two huge 3s there to stretch it out. And Franklin the huge lip going into halftime. How crucial were these two in taking accountability?

COACH JOANNE BOYLE: They were. And that's the great thing about seniors, you want them to go out in a tournament like this and carry what they need to carry, and they did that tonight. They've been here before, they're familiar with this.

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BOSTON COLLEGE EAGLES

COACH ERIK JOHNSON
KATIE ZENEVITCH

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: This was quite a year for us. We started out with a lot of promise coming off of a really good performance here in Greensboro a year ago, and returned with really good players, certainly like the player to my left, Katie.

And we really had a roller coaster of a year. We had a seven game winning streak. We had some really good wins, but we weren't deep enough to deal with some of the injuries and the things we had to deal with.

Tonight playing without Kristen Doherty was tough. Katie Zenevitch has been a great senior leader, but we're not at a point yet where we're quite deep enough, talented enough, big enough, to withstand some of those things. Kristen, by the way, is okay, she was too sick actually to even come on the trip.

But like I said, I'm so proud of the foundation that Katie and Kristen have built in terms of just really, really caring about this program. She just mentioned in the locker room about loving basketball again, finding that passion. At a place like Boston College, we're going to win games because we have smart kids who believe and who care, and are playing for something bigger than themselves.

To be able to have those young players here, Katie's passion and her love for what we're doing and also pushing them for what the future is going to be, I thought was really, really inspirational.

Q. Did you think when Kristen first went down with the flu that she would be able to play for this week? For those of us who haven't seen her play, where did her absence affect you most?

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: What's interesting about Kristen is the media at media day called her the Swiss Army knife because she's got an attachment for everything. She's a little bit of everything. She's our best defender. She's a great rebounder, and leading assist maker and leading scorer.

From a leadership standpoint, so much more falls on Katie's shoulders. Nicole Boudreau stepped up in great ways. Kelly Hughes stepped up in great ways. But look, when you're not really deep, it sort of bumps everybody up the ladder once. Now somebody else is guarding the best player, our shooters had to attack more themselves rather instead of being there and being the recipients of some of the great passes that Kristen does.

We beat Virginia without Kristen, believe it or not, when we played them earlier the season. We got down 15, had a great comeback. These guys always believe. And like I said, the woman sitting to my left has everything to do with that. She works so hard and poured her sweat, blood, and tears into this program. She's inspired her team to be able to play even beyond their capabilities at times. We just didn't have enough tonight.

Q. Did you think last week that she would be able to play?

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: Katie will tell you, it's been a roller coaster through the whole thing. She's had to deal with concussions, a back injury, and an infection she got pretty sick from. Some of those symptoms have crossed each other up. It's been day to day.

But you know what, I think these guys do a great job of coming into practice every single day and being ready, hey, who do we got. Nicole Boudreau has a bad back, she doesn't practice sometimes. Katie actually missed senior night, believe it or not, it's the only game she missed since I've been coaching her.

But the team adjusted. We went out and battled with Maryland and got Katie back in the lineup and she came to battle again.

Q. Coach, you obviously were trying to get that run, but Virginia was matching. When you're trying to get to that point Virginia was matching it. What were you telling to your team to keep pressing on during the second half?

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: We went back to our last conference game was at Georgia Tech, a similar thing

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happened, where we were getting some good offense going and we were scoring, getting in transition. We couldn't get the stops when we needed the stops.

I thought our coverages were good, our communication was solid. When they really wanted to go one on one, they made some big shots. We had a couple of over helps, we gave up some 3s, and obviously they hit big ones.

A lot of it has to do with Virginia, they did a great job. When you want to win a game at that level you need to be able to score and get the stops. And we couldn't get the stops when we needed them.

Q. You talked about making the stops. Was that one back breaking, at the end of the shot clock, Kelsey Wolfe banks from the 3 at the top of the key that sprung them ahead, was that kind of a back breaker for you, because you had that possession?

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: There were a few of them. The 3 that Franklin hit at the end of the half. She hit two in a row. We over helped a little bit off of her, gave her another look. We had just hit a 3 to cut it to 4. You're going into halftime with momentum, and now they hit a big one. You've got Wolfe's bank in 3 at the end.

We've hit our share of those. That's part of basketball. We don't sweat that stuff. The mental approach of these guys is really good in that way.

Q. What's your best memories of playing for BC in the ACC and what's next for you in basketball?

KELSEY WOLFE: Best memories is just being with this group of girls every single day. They become your sisters. We're together 24/7. Being in the locker room, rooming with one another on away trips, even rooming at school with one another. These are memories that I'm going to have for the rest of my life and I'm so thankful for them.

And the new coaching staff to come in and just to help me with personal things and just basketball. And finding passion and love in it has been awesome. And basketball, further basketball, we'll see, not a hundred percent sure yet.

Q. They play a lot of four guard lineups. How big was this rebounding No. 37 to 24 that they were able to beat you on the boards like that?

COACH ERIK JOHNSON: We're a four guard lineup, too. It's a match up where we're often giving up size, and they're often giving up size. It was a breath of relief for both coaches to say we've got four guards and they have four guards.

Unfortunately, we out rebounded them and beat them at our place; they out rebounded us and beat us tonight. The game does come down to often that physical competition, who is going to grab the ball.

There were a bunch of balls tonight that I felt like in live action I felt we could have grabbed. They hustled, they got to it.

We'll certainly break down the film and helping the returners with ways we can get more of those rebounds. You have to give credit to Virginia, they went out and got it when they needed it.

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