

**West Virginia vs. Duke  
NCAA Women's Soccer Tournament  
Quarterfinal Quotes  
November 26, 2016**

**Duke University Head Coach Robbie Church**

**Opening Statement**

Congratulations to West Virginia. They're a great team. They've had a phenomenal year. I think they are going to do very well moving forward in the College Cup. We wish them luck as they move forward. I'm very proud of our team. We've had a number of injuries and some really good players not playing for a while. We had to make some changes and move some players in different positions as the year has gone on. We played in a very tough league and as you saw at the end, we were pushing until the very last second. I thought we played well and obviously stats speak for where we really dominated in the second half. I'm not sure what happened with the goal, but it was ruled that it didn't go in, so that's how it stands. I'm very proud of our group. They fought until the end and it's a really special group. It's a hard group to let go because of all the quality of the young ladies in that group. Both on the field and in the classroom and in the community; they've represented Duke University very well and our soccer program especially our senior class has taken us to great heights. We look forward to following that group I know they are going to do some great things in their lives.

**On game plan facing the WVU defense**

We felt it was going to be a very close game obviously because defensively they're so athletic. It's pretty amazing how athletic. I've been in this a long time and I'm not sure I've seen a team more athletic, especially the backline. We have some talent offensively for us too, so we felt like we could get at them. They were much more dominant in the game when they won in September, but if you break that game down and the goals, some crazy things happened in the goals that led to that. Obviously, them scoring on a set play, I really have to look at that again before too many comments are made. It looked like we didn't do a good job of clearing the first ball and the second ball got in, fairly soft goal at that point. When you have two really good teams, two some of the best in the country, set plays is what can separate you offensively and defensively and they did a good job. We had nine corner kicks in the second half and they did a good job of their clearing, so they're very good. They're very good individually and they're very good collectively as a group. The goalkeeper (Rylee Foster) coming back in return, I thought she played well. She had some very nice saves, a couple of really good saves. I think it's a really good team going forward to the College Cup and I think they have a really good chance in the College Cup.

## **West Virginia University Head Coach Nikki Izzo-Brown**

### **Opening Statement**

First and foremost, I'd like to congratulate Duke on an incredible season. Obviously, that team put pressure all over us. I felt that was a Final Four game and unfortunately, we had to settle it before the Final Four. Then I'd like to say as a coach, you put a game plan together, but ultimately it's about a team executing it. I'm so proud of this team and the iron-will they had to prevail with all that pressure. They found a way to pull it out tonight and I'm just proud of them.

### **On what the second half was like to defend more when WVU is used to being a possession-oriented team**

Duke was throwing everything at us. Obviously, they were getting very direct and putting a lot of balls in. Kadeisha has anchored that backline all year and she was incredible with the cues and reading that. It was definitely a different game for us, but I give tons of credit to Rylee Foster, who dealt with all of that pressure and the back line for making those types of adjustments.

### **On making the decision to use Rylee Foster in goal instead of Michelle Newhouse**

I've talked to both keepers numerous times and as a coach you have tough decisions. Michelle Newhouse has always made my decision difficult. I have tremendous confidence in her and she's a big part of this. She didn't get the start in this game, but it was a tough call. I thought Rylee had some strengths that were going to play to this type of team and fortunately enough, we made the right call. I think either way we would have won the game. I'm very blessed to have two excellent goalkeepers, but Rylee played out of her mind tonight. She was incredible.

## **Senior Defender Kadeisha Buchanan**

### **On what it was like to defend Duke in the second half**

I think all year coach stressed focus and in the second half it took nothing but focus. Just to get the team organized from the beginning I think we got a little bit flustered, so communicating amongst the backline and trying to get the backline to communicate to the midfielders and the forwards just to get the team tight. I think we got the job done in the end. I think Rylee (Foster) played an amazing game and got us through some stuff. I think on the backline Easter Mayi Kith, Bianca St. Georges, Amandine Pierre-Louis and Ashley Lawrence; we all played a big role.

## **Junior Midfielder Alli Magaletta**

### **On scoring the game winning goal**

It was just a corner regular set piece and actually Kadeisha (Buchanan) did a lot of the dirty work on this one. She got the header and I tipped it in, so it was a great moment.

### **On if Alli Magaletta knew where she was directing the ball since her back was facing the goal**

No, but it's always nice to try and get it in there and it worked.