

West Virginia vs. Texas Quotes – 12/30/15

West Virginia Head Coach Mike Carey

Opening Statement

I thought our girls battled tonight, especially our young players. I was pleased with our young players. I thought our veterans didn't step up like they should have. After that first period when Texas went up 10-0, we played pretty even the rest of the game. We came out flat, and we came out not playing and not doing what we needed to do. I definitely thought our young players, like Tynice Martin and Alexis Brewer, both went in there and weren't intimidated. They played hard.

On the offensive struggles affecting the flow of the game

Surely if I drive in and I see someone standing there, I can jump, stop and take the shot or pick it. If you look at our assists, we had eight, but we didn't move the ball. There is too much one-on-one and not enough ball movement. We took too many three's, and we just didn't hit them.

On the play of the point guards

If you look off the bench we had 35 points. It starts with the point guard. My philosophy on point guards are look early in the offense and distribute the ball, doing the timed shot, attending the shot clock and making something happen. We have to correct that. There's not enough moving and there's not enough passing.

On Big 12 play

When we had Olivia (Seggie) in there we were playing five-on-four. They were taking us out of our sets because their man was doubling over people. We can't play five-on-four. I told them after the game that we played hard and we battled, but we just didn't play smart. We just have to get better with our timing. It's off. Our picks weren't good, and our off-picks weren't good. When we drive, what we want to do is get in the paint, but if someone is standing there, jump, stop and make a play. We just didn't do those type of things. That's where the game was won in the paint. They were bigger and stronger than us in the paint. They had 15 offensive rebounds, and we had 13. Execution wasn't there. I'm upset we lost, but I was glad to see us battle. Texas is a good team. They are a legit top-five team. We battled them hard with 11 new players. I wish we could play Texas and the top teams in the league every night. That's the only way you're going to get better.

Texas Head Coach Karen Aston

On today's game

I'm really proud of our team, we haven't won here since we've been in the Big 12, so I think this is a really big win. Any road game in the Big 12 is a big win. I think for our team mentally it's a big one. I think West Virginia is really good, and our teams play so similar that you know it's going to be a war and a dog fight, and that's pretty much what it was. I thought our defense was really solid. In particular, I thought the third quarter, which I was pleased about because that's been a quarter that we kind of struggle in, but I thought we came out of the gates at the beginning of the game and at the beginning of the third quarter really well. The big girl (Imani Boyette) we brought here was really good. She made a lot of plays that don't show up on the paper or statistically, and I thought she was terrific help most of the evening. Probably her best game of the year.

On the early push

It was big because it gave our team a lot of energy. We thrive on making plays on defense and helping each other, and we've talked about being much better when we do help. I think it gave us a lot of confidence and energy, but when you look at the first half the same thing happened with us. We had Imani (Boyette) sitting and (senior guard) Empress (Davenport) sitting most of the first half, so we had two or three in foul trouble also. The typical West Virginia vs. Texas game.

On coming into the season expecting a strong team

When I think you have the depth in our division, I think it enables you to play solid defense and put some pressure on people. The other piece to it is having some size, Imani (Boyette) and Kelsey (Lang) in particular, that anchors your defense, and Imani was an absolute anchor. She made a lot of plays off the ball tonight.

On Bria Holmes

I'm going to buy her a graduation present when she's finished. She is a phenomenal player. There really is no game plan with her. Other than to make her take difficult shots and contested shots, I thought collectively as a team we did a great job on her. (Tynice) Martin really hurt us too.