NCAA Women's Basketball Championship: Second Round -Texas vs Illinois

Sunday, March 23, 2025 Austin, Texas, USA Moody Center

Illinois Fightin' Illini Berry Wallace Brynn Shoup-Hill

Media Conference

THE MODERATOR: We're going to take some questions from the media here in Austin, Texas.

Q. Both Brynn and Berry, when you watched Texas last night, you've seen the film, what stands out about them aside from them being a number one seed.

BRYNN SHOUP-HILL: For me, what I took is their size, athleticism and how intense they are on defense. I think that's something we can also relate to and something we have to prepare for. Overall in every position, they're super tall, super athletic so that's definitely something we'll have to watch out for in our game.

BERRY WALLACE: Yeah, I agree, obviously just their defense and they're playing really hard the whole game. They have a lot of good players. Just knowing that we have to come out and be aggressive and match their physical and just match their energy on the court, so just being prepared for that.

Q. How much did playing in the Big Ten prepare y'all for the NCAA Tournament and playing a team like Texas?

BRYNN SHOUP-HILL: I think just having that good competition every single game definitely prepared us. Some of the top teams in our league I think kind of match up or are similar in some ways to Texas, so I think that's definitely a good preparation for us.

BERRY WALLACE: Yeah, I think it was super good playing in the Big Ten. I think we even saw it last night, knowing that we play in a really good conference and there's a lot of good players so we're meant to just match up with these teams that we're going to be playing against.



And I agree, a lot of teams are similar. There's one of every kind of team in the Big Ten, so just knowing that we're ready and prepared to play anyone we see in the tournament.

Q. Berry, Texas has a couple of good freshmen who are contributors and play, they got their first NCAA Tournament experience last night. What was that like for you to get your first NCAA Tournament, make that debut and play on a big stage as a freshman?

BERRY WALLACE: Yeah, it was super exciting, obviously just really hay energy. It was cool to get to play, even on this court, too, and with a bunch of fans watching us. It was really fun. I was glad we were able to get to win and I'm just excited to keep playing more competition against better teams.

THE MODERATOR: Ladies, I think we'll say congratulations again to you. Thank you for coming up and answering a few questions and best of luck to you tomorrow. Thank you.

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