

Virginia Postgame Quotes at Virginia Tech

Head coach Tony Bennett

On shooting in first half versus the second half:

“A little bit fool's gold. We made some at the end of the shot clock that it looks good, we may be separated the lead a little bit, but we almost had a bail ourselves out with some of those at the end with certain guys and we probably we took too many. But we were having a hard time getting post ups or getting to the free throw line through drawing files or drives. Again, they really bottled up the lane and defended and then they were pretty quick to the threes and sometimes we had to take them. Certainly, wasn't one of our better efforts and but partly due to they're good defensive taking the lane away and then challenging, leaving us with some late threes, which is what you want to do when guarding the right way.”

On being happy with the shot selections:

“Not particularly, it didn't feel that way, I'll watch the film and see. I thought Reece (Beekman), he looked like a first year, a freshman out there and I think he lost some assertiveness. When his shot wasn't going it kind of put him a little bit in a divided mind. I thought some of the looks were good, I probably shouldn't speak too surely until I watch it, but I didn't think we had enough variation. They were big and good at the rim and then when we got some of the open ones, we couldn't make them. Again, some breakdowns defensively. I'm not saying we scored enough points, but you can't guard like that at the end, or in that stretch fall apart and expect to beat a team a good team like Virginia Tech.”

On if team struggled for full 40 minutes or just the final eight:

“It's never for the full 40 minutes but you just can't have big gaps where you're not getting stops or being assertive enough. It was too easy for them to post up, do things and then make some plays and we just weren't right. And boy let that be a lesson because you can't survive like that. So again, we'll try to grow from it. There were stretches we got a lead, we ran some good stuff, had stretches a good defense, I'll always acknowledge that. But, either a half of basketball or a part of basketball doesn't work, it has to be start to finish. We knew Virginia Tech was going bring, in a rivalry game, you're going get their best shot so can we give them our best shot, partly due to them, partly due to us we did not do that for long enough to win enough possessions at all. They just sort of got momentum and we couldn't hang on.”

Redshirt Senior Forward Jay Huff

On the message in the locker room:

“There were a lot of things that we didn't do right, a lot of it was on defense. I take a lot of responsibility for that. There was a lot of just missed assignments, some stuff that we needed to do better, obviously. That was really it. We just didn't show up tonight, the way that we needed to.”

On if it was too much finesse at times:

“I think in some ways. I think a lot of it was just, they made plays we didn't. I think sometimes we made the right play didn't finish, things like that.”

On challenge Keve Aluma presented:

“He’s a really good player. Sometimes it's tough when Papi (Francisco Caffaro) and I get in foul trouble, it's hard to play as aggressively which is really difficult with a guy like him who's really aggressive. He had a heck of a game. Hats off to him. I hope we get to play him again and have a different result.”

On what you can take away from a matchup like this:

“There's a lot of guys like him, and I think he had a great night. I'm hoping that next time I can just slide my feet a little bit better. That's really all it is, just hope we have a better night.”