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Post-Game Quotes No. 24 California 70, BYU 45

California Head Coach Lindsay Gottlieb

Opening statement:

"What a fun day of basketball in Haas - Star Wars Day, and the Smith family reunion in Haas - there were a lot of things that were positive. I will just say it was my decision that [Kristine Anigwe] was not going to play today. We are good moving forward, and I'm happy to get the win without our best player. I'm proud of everyone, including Kristine, in how we stepped up. I'm not going to take any other questions about it, but I just want to let you know that she will be ready to go for Kentucky. I think it's a good sign that we were able to win a big game without our best player. I thought Mikayla's leadership, along with Penina and Asha was huge. We were good today from the start, and that's something we're happy about coming off of finals, and we think we can get better."

On the team's defensive efforts:

"There are a lot of reasons that I will remember this game with respect to Mikayla. It was fun to honor her for her thousandth point, but more so for what she brings to this program. The reason that I think this was one of her best games was 4-of-5 from three is really nice, but more than anything her defense on [Cassie Devashrayee] who is quite a player. She held their leading scorer who is averaging 21 a game to 4 for 15. I thought Mikayla started us off, and everyone else fed off of that. We mixed up our defenses, I thought we tried to force them into tough shots, which we did in our man to man, and we were able to pressure them a little bit in some of the zones, so I thought our defensive effort was pretty good."

Senior Guard Mikayla Cowling

On her three-point shooting tonight versus the rest of the season so far:

"I think, I just kept shooting. I know early on in other games they weren't falling but I think just being consistent, and keeping with taking the same shots, eventually they would fall. Getting in practice, getting up more shots, and getting open looks from my teammates, they found me, and tonight it was falling for me."

On her mentality:

"Being down one of our main scorers, we all have to step up, we're very deep this year like Lindsey said, so I think every game all of us have to take accountability to do our part, be aggressive every night, and things just worked pretty well tonight."

Freshman Guard Kianna Smith

On having her brother and father in attendance:

"It was fun, I was just playing basketball. My dad and my dad's players have watched me play when I was at Troy, since it's right across the street, so it was nothing new or different, but it was still a lot of fun to have them here at Cal."