



SFA POSTMATCH QUOTES

Stephen F. Austin Head Coach Debbie Humphreys

Opening Statement...

"What an amazing journey that we have been on this season. It was a lot of fun, but it certainly did not end the way we would have liked it to. This was a really special group that accomplished a lot. I think it is important to focus on all the positive things that we did accomplish. We have to put ourselves in this position enough that we are not overwhelmed, and it just becomes what we do. We've won a first-round one time. We get ourselves here enough, we're going to start winning more matches in the NCAA Tournament.

On Baylor's block...

"There was a pretty good size factor on the other side of the net. They are not just big, but they are very athletic and very good volleyball players as well. They did a really nice job. We knew that this was going to be a challenge. We have worked in our gym as much as we could, trying to simulate a big block this past week and over the course of the entire season. Until you have that all across the front row, that's not something we can simulate in our own gym. That first set, I'm sure you saw, we were still trying to figure out how high we had to swing. Second set, I thought we settled down and did a better job.

On taking that next step...

"When we moved to the WAC a couple years ago, we knew that we were going to have to make some adjustments. Certainly, some of that starts with getting kids that are playing the game a little higher above the net at more positions. We are working through that in recruiting. It's really important to us, it's not just about getting a bunch of kids who can touch over 10-foot. We have kids who can touch over 10-foot in our gym. You have to have the right people. Right now, we have the right people in our gym. It's important to find the right people who can also touch over 10-foot. That's going to be the key because what has allowed us to be successful over the long-haul is the team chemistry piece and how much we rely on each other. We do not rely on just one kid to go get a bunch of kills; we have a very balanced offense for the most part. We do not want to go away from what we are – good passers, scrappy defenders, frustrating teams that way. Tonight, the size factor just won out, we did not have an answer for that."

Stephen F. Austin Middle Blocker Ielan Bradley

On Baylor's block...

"It's mostly just trying to see where I am in relation to the ball and the block in front of me, so seeing what seams I have and just trying to swing high and if I am swinging it's not going to come right back in front of me."

Stephen F. Austin Outside Hitter Ariana Pagan

On this year's team...

"Yes, super, super proud. I love these girls. The team chemistry was amazing all year long. That's what we need to get into the long run and get into the NCAA Tournament and win the championship. I think that was huge because this is not an individual sport, it has to be a team sport. We have to play for each other and that's why we got the season-long outcome, just not today. We are super grateful to be here and it's up from here. We set the standard so now we are going to want more and next year we are going to come back stronger."

On defending against Baylor's service...

"I knew they were going to be flatter just with more pace. I was trying to stay focused on getting my feet to the ball and staying low. It's definitely tougher than our conference but I try to do the best that I can and help my teammates too."