

**Virginia Tech Women's Basketball**  
**Head Coach Kenny Brooks Q&A Highlights**  
**Wichita State Postgame Radio Interview**  
**Dec. 21, 2019**

***On redshirt freshman Chloe Brooks earning her first collegiate minutes:***

“People don’t understand those two minutes that she got in were the culmination of two and a half years of fighting through tremendous pain, through ups and downs. We’ve had hours upon hours upon hours of conversations and they’ve been gut wrenching as a father and as a coach. To see her battle back and to be on the floor is something to behold and I’m so proud of her, everyone is. We had a lot to celebrate today, we broke the 3-point record, the kids got all their grades in, they broke records there, but I think the highlight of the day was watching Chloe get on the court.”

***On the reaction of the team to Chloe Brooks’ debut:***

“She’s a good player and I hate to use a cliché but she’s a coach’s kid. She sees the game differently and she’s been sitting on my lap since she was three years old watching film and understand everything. Not only understands a lot about basketball, she understands my system and what I want. Sometimes I don’t call on her at the end of practice if I want the kids to know what I’m thinking because she knows exactly what I’m thinking. To have her out there today, again, I think she’s going to be able to go out there and contribute for us in some ways. Watching her go through so many ups and downs with this foot injury – it’s not just a sprained ankle, you know it’s nerve damage where you can’t really tell, you don’t understand what it’s all about and she’s fought through tremendous pain and she’s still in pain. Her heart is so big and she wanted to come out and play today. I can’t tell you – I’ve seen a lot, this is one of the proudest moments I’ve ever had.”

***On the team’s success in the non-conference this season and the difference between past teams:***

“The kids. The comradery, the way that they cheer for each other, they love each other, they celebrate each other. They do so many different things and they’ve done it unconditionally. I thought Lydia [River] would probably be the player of the weekend and she didn’t score a point yesterday (against Rice). Taylor Geiman comes out today has 11 points in the first half. Today [Aisha] Sheppard and Dara [Mabrey] didn’t really have it going but Taja [Cole] stepped up after she struggled yesterday and I kind of sat her for a little bit. These kids they really cheer for each other, they love each other and everything matters. I’ve mentioned it before, we had the highest GPA in a semester, our academic coordinator told me ever. It just goes to show you they are the epitome of what you call a student-athlete. These kids come out there they work extremely hard on everything that they do to represent Virginia Tech and I’m very proud to be associated with them. We’re 10-1 right now but I just love the way this group has wanted to develop and continue to get better and better. I just really like where we are right now.”

***On having a team that craves knowledge and pours over the scouting report:***

“It’s just a different feel. The way these kids really get along and the way that they really love what they’re doing, love being around each other. It’s a great feeling for a coach, it’s all you can ask for is that they come out and represent on the academic side, they represent on the basketball side and they’re wonderful citizens and that’s all you can ask for and it’s pretty much a coach’s dream.”

***On getting set for Florida State and ACC play:***

“Well priority number one is these kids are going to be able to go home and be able to be with their loved ones, their families and really celebrate the holiday season. We’ll get back at it, we come back the 26<sup>th</sup>, the day after Christmas and well start prepping for – the scheduling gods are really not fair to us. We go to I think number sixth-ranked Florida State, then we have to turn around and go right to number nine-ranked NC State. But if you want to be the best you have to beat the best and we’ll get the opportunity, we have 18 of them now to play the best teams in the best conference so we’re looking forward to it. We feel like we are one of those teams as well and as much as we may dread playing some of those teams, I’m sure some of those teams dread playing us because I think that we are going to be a good basketball team come January and February and March.”