



## Phillips 66 Big 12 Men's Basketball Championship

### GAME NOTES

SPRINT CENTER: March 10, 2017

### **No. 2 West Virginia 51, No. 6 Kansas State 50**

#### *Big 12 Championship Notes*

- West Virginia improved to 2-0 in the semifinals of the Big 12 Championship and 4-4 overall. Kansas State's semifinal record moved to 2-3 and 13-21 overall. The Mountaineers are now 4-1 as the No. 2 seed.
- The Mountaineers advance to their second-straight Big 12 Championship final. They face the Cyclones after sweeping the regular season match-ups, 85-72 in Ames and 87-76 in Morgantown.
- The (2) WVU vs. (4) ISU matchup marks just the second time those two seeds have met in the Big 12 Championship final.
- WVU grabbed 44 rebounds, good for its highest rebounding total in a Big 12 Championship game. The previous high was 42, set last night against Texas.
- K-State held the Mountaineers to just 26.7 percent field goal percentage, its best defensive effort in a Big 12 Championship game and WVU's lowest shooting percentage in a tournament game.

#### *Individual & Team Notes*

- West Virginia scored a season-low 51 points. The Mountaineers' 24 first half points also matched a season-low.
- Tonight's win was the 817th of Bob Huggins' career, which places him now in eighth on the NCAA's all-time wins list.
- With the Mountaineers' 12-point comeback, WVU has overcome a double digit deficit three times this season. WVU's 12-point comeback also equaled the largest rally of the 2017 Big 12 Championship. Texas had previously overcome a 12-point deficit against Texas Tech and TCU rallied from down 12 to Kansas to win.
- Sophomore forward Esa Ahmad, who hit the go-ahead free throw, led the Mountaineers with 15 points. Big 12 Sixth Man of the Year WVU senior guard Tarik Phillip came off the bench to score 13 points, which is the 14<sup>th</sup> time he has reached double figures this season.
- West Virginia led for just 1:29 of the game. It took its final lead with 19 seconds left on the clock.
- This was KSU's first loss this season when holding its opponent under 65 points.