

1 that he needed to think about what's going on at that point. He
2 was part -- he was just witnessing a blackmail letter and --

3 Q. Rick Avare speaks for you?

4 A. He was giving his thoughts, not for me.

5 Q. So Rick Avare controls Tim Sypher's future?

6 A. No. You're -- you need to ask Rick Avare that, and that's
7 totally out of line, that type of question.

8 Q. Which question?

9 A. That Rick Avare is controlling Tim Sypher's future.

10 Q. You said he was speaking on his own behalf.

11 A. No. He was telling him from his heart that, Tim, you have a
12 family. You have to think long and hard about this.

13 Q. Now it's "this," not "future" anymore.

14 A. I don't know what he was alluding to. You'll have to ask
15 him that question.

16 Q. All right.

17 A. I just found it strange with the text.

18 Q. So at that point in time then, you suspected Tim Sypher was
19 involved?

20 A. No. I didn't know what to think at that time. I was
21 still -- again, I'll repeat this once again. My focus was to
22 try and win a championship, and this was the biggest game of the
23 year. And it was -- it was a time where I did not sleep on two
24 different -- because of what was going on with this blackmail,
25 what was going on with scouting. We'd stay up all night. We

1 were fatigued mentally and physically. This was the biggest
2 game for the year. This was a chance for the first time for the
3 University of Louisville to win a Big East championship, and I
4 was totally focused in on that.

5 Q. All right. As a result of that conversation, you gave Tim
6 Sypher a bonus?

7 A. No. We won the championship and that's when everybody got a
8 bonus.

9 Q. And how much later was that when they got their bonus?

10 A. I'm not sure, sir.

11 Q. So a person you believe is involved in perhaps --

12 A. No, I didn't believe -- when he got the bonus, I did not
13 believe he was involved in that.

14 Q. You did not believe he was involved?

15 A. No.

16 Q. And on 3-6-2009, you didn't turn this over to law
17 enforcement?

18 A. I'm sorry, sir?

19 Q. On March 6th of 2009, you didn't turn this matter over to
20 law enforcement?

21 A. In West Virginia?

22 Q. You know, anywhere, Mr. Pitino.

23 A. Well, I'm -- you're asking me specifically March 6th. I
24 was -- is that the date that we played West Virginia?

25 Q. Yeah, let's go with March 6th.