

**ACC Women's Basketball Championship  
Greensboro, NC  
#6 NC, #11 Clemson**

**March 4, 2010**

**CLEMSON TIGERS**

Amy Yakola: I'm pleased to be joined at the desk by Clemson Head Coach Cristy McKinney as well as student athletes Lele Hardy and Sthefany Thomas. When you are ready we'll take opening statements and questions.

Cristy McKinney: It's a disappointing end to a disappointing season. NC State should be given a lot of credit for playing a extremely hard. They were really trying to take us out, which is what they wanted to do, trying to negate our inside game. And they did a good job. Part of that was us not doing some things we could have done. And not being ready. And that has kind of been our deal all year is inconsistency. And we picked a bad day to have a bad game.

Amy Yakola: Questions.

Coach, talk about the list that Sthefany gave your team in the second half. You had trouble scoring and she came in and I think she had 8 points in 3 minutes something like that. And Sthefany, maybe can you comment on that as well?

Cristy McKinney: That was huge for us. And we know that Sthefany can score. We really needed it and I think we got dependant on it. But Sthefany can score, and we know that. And we are going to look for her to do some big things next year on the court.

Sthefany Thomas: I just felt like Coach McKinney had a lot of confidence in me. And I was feeling good and shooting the ball, but it was not good enough, I know.

Disappointed that we couldn't come up with a win. But, um, I mean I was trying to bring energy to the team and scoring but it just wasn't enough, so.

Amy Yakola: Any further questions?

Q You had a steal and a breakaway and it's 44-40 and they call a timeout. Did you feel that broke the momentum when they called that timeout and you scored thereafter?

A I don't think it broke the momentum. It was 8 minutes in and we started shooting and just let -- we just started shooting and didn't play our defense and that is what broke it out a little bit.

Q Coach, talk about NC State, did it frustrate you in size, it seemed like your post players had a little trouble scoring tonight?

Cristy McKinney: The first half really it was pushing our guards, and trying not to let our guards see a post. At times we did what we needed to do there which was penetrate. If they are putting that much pressure on your guards you have to let it go. Just pushing it on our post and our posts were for whatever reason were not as tough as they needed to be. I have seen nights where our posts have been tougher and done a better job. I wish I had an answer for that. We played tough. I don't think we matched that like we needed to.

Amy Yakola: Thank you very much.