

**ACC Women's Basketball Championship  
Greensboro, NC  
#8 North Carolina, #9 Maryland**

**March 4, 2010**

**NORTH CAROLINA TAR HEELS**

Amy Yakola: Again, as a reminder we'll start with an opening statement from the Coach and we'll open up it for questions. We have two mic holders and let us know your name and affiliation and that is appreciated. I'm pleased to have at the desk North Carolina Head Coach Sylvia Hatchell, Chay Shegog, and Cetera DeGraffenreid. Coach, when you are ready.

Sylvia Hatchell: Well, the game started. I was wondering when they were going to miss a shot.

I think they made 10 of the first 14. And they finally pulled off a little bit. We got so far down that we had to fight back the whole game. We got back up when Cetera made that 3 I thought we were going to pull it out. And just didn't.

We did good things at the end, but we didn't play smart like we needed to. Maryland, they are a really good team. They are young like us, but I think the fact that this game is an 8-9 game in our confidence just shows you how the conference sits, the fact that this was our 8-9 game. But I know we are a bolt team and RPI is 29 and I look back and in the history of the ACC a team that had an RPI even in the 30<sup>+</sup> ST has always made the NCAA tournament. And our strength of schedule is 22. And then we have 10 wins against the top RPI teams and top 100 RPI teams. And then, you know, the other thing is we always played 14 conference games, so that makes it hard to balance things out because we only play 14. But because of that, you know, our 14 conference games, we had played 9 of our 14 against the top 6 teams in the league, and 5 of those 9 on the road. So we had a tough schedule, the RPI is good, the schedule was good and we have got some real good quality wins. We hope that will help us get in.

Also I know this shouldn't be a factor but the fact that we played without Jessica all year too. That is my little campaign, I guess you would say for, you know, an NCAA bid.

Maryland is a great team and they played hard and started off like fire crackers. And we started off lackadaisical but we finally got going. I thought Chay did pretty good, we got the ball inside of her. The team did a good job for us. But, again, the rebounding was big, and you know, we just had some spells out there when we weren't a very good team. Sometimes we were a very good team. I thought if we played the whole game, like we did the last 7 minutes we would have won the game.

Amy Yakola: Let's take questions.

Q When Kizer got into foul trouble very quickly both in the first and second half was that your part of your plan?

Sylvia Hatchell: We were trying to get it in there, we were trying to get the ball inside and all. I felt that Chay was aggressive taking the ball in there too. That was good for us. We didn't take advantage of it enough.

Amy Yakola: Back here to Mike.

Q A little more on how Chay played today and also Laura coming off the bench in the second half.

Sylvia Hatchell: Well we need a strong inside play.

Like I said, I thought Chay was aggressive offensively the way she got the ball, and Laura went in there and gave us some good time. And you know with the rebounds and scoring. They are both sophomores and we are still pretty young in spots out there. We are still try to find a consistent play at the 3 position and, you know, the 4 position. So, we just keep trying different people trying to do different things.

But, you know, you win championships with defensive rebounding, and at times our defense needs to be better and the rebounding is the thing that got us the most this year.

Q Lynetta was very efficient when she was in the game, Coach Frese said you answered four on the floor, what would you say to that?

Sylvia Hatchell: Well, I guess she is probably right. She had 9, 12 and then 22 points and 10 rebounds. She is tough right there around the basket. Lynetta, I have known the kid for the past four or five years, I watched her a lot in AAU and stuff. You know let me tell you what, I when she decides to play, she's an all American.

That is when she decides to play. I have seen her really do some damage when she wants to.

And she did that to us today.

Q Chay, can you speak to the toughness of trying to rebound today and just maybe this team struggle rebounding over the past four or five games?

Chay Shegog: I mean rebounding has been one of -- I don't want to say weakness of this team, but it's something that we really have to work on and it's been our main focus for the past four or five games, but the entire season. We have to knuckle down and do it. We have to want it more than the other team.

Q Cetera, you got a lot of practices in one game and you are getting ready for whatever the next tournament you play in. What does the team need to accomplish during that time, do you think?

Cetera DeGraffenreid: Trying to get the team back that played against Duke and rebounding, definitely rebounding. That one rebound can put us up at any time. Definitely rebounding.

Amy Yakola: Do we have any further questions for North Carolina? Thank you very much.