

**ACC Women's Basketball Championship  
Greensboro, NC  
#5 Wake Forest, #12 Miami**

**March 4, 2010**

**#5 WAKE FOREST**

Amy: Welcome to today's press conference. We have a few items. We are going to start with the opening statement from the Head Coach and then we will go to questions. When we get to questions, we have two wonderful mic holders here dressed in pink. If you can raise your hand and give us your name and affiliation that is helpful. Keep in mind in case you need to refer to this press conference it will be streamed live on THEACC.com and archived here as well.

I'm joined up on the podium by Wake Forest Head Coach Mike Petersen and Tiffany Roulhac and Sandra Garcia and Secily Ray. Coach, when you are ready opening statements.

Mike Petersen: Well, I thought I told the team afterwards that this group has been very resilient. I like that word and it sounds good when we say it. They have been resilient. We have bounced back from hard losses to play great. And we have come back from some very bad gussets to win games. But they grind. They don't really give up and they keep playing hard, and I thought we did that today. Again, when we win it's not usually real pretty. That is not us we are worried about being good and looking good and tonight we are not worried about being good. I thought we were really good. I'm really proud of Tif, she came off the bench and it was a huge, huge for us. Big energy for us and big defense and directed traffic well for us and then the other two up here obviously Sandra and Ses finished off well. It's a great win for us I'm not going to act like I'm not happy I'm pretty happy.

Amy Yakola: Let's take questions we'll start here in the middle with, John.

Q Tiffany, did you think you would play that many minutes in the second half? You were down by 11 and you started running off. Let's talk about the amount of playing time you had in the second half.

Tiffany Roulhac: I don't think of playing. I come in and do what I can to help the team. We needed energy and that is what I thought I could bring to the team, and I was getting emotional and fighting back.

Q Mike Potter from the Independent, Coach, were you fully expecting a one position game and the fact that Miami is the last seed where is the balance of this conference?

Mike Petersen: It's good. I mean, I heard Katie's teleconference before the tournament and she made a really good point, we don't consider ourselves the 12th seed.

She said we consider our first round match up is Wake Forest. And she made a really good point look at our lead. They are the 12th seed and they beat Florida State and they tied them first now, that is zero degrees separation and Boston beat Duke and Clemson beat Boston. It's a mosh pit. If you are not ready to play regardless of who are you playing, if you are not ready to play you will get beat in this league, period. These teams were ready to play and I think it speaks to the depth of the conference and I think it speaks to the quality of student athletes and the coaches. And we just happen to hang around a little bit longer than they did today. We just made one more play.

Q This is a question for Secily and I would like Coach Peterson to answer it as well. I want to find out what you learned from those close games this year. Not you personally, but as a team and what keeps you guys so calm at the end of the close games like that.

Secily: I guess you stay together and you don't let the score get to us, and we just try to fight to the end and win the game.

Mike Petersen: I guess what I know is win, until I win or lose. I like winning better than losing. But I think what is best said, this group, if they just hang in there and grind, you know, and we got a saying that you don't fix team problems with individual plays, okay. You fix team problems with team plays and we do that, we are pretty good. You know, when we are that fist that we talk about and not five individual fingers, we are pretty good. When we try to fix team problems with individual plays that is when start running, that is what we have learned. When we battle these comebacks we were down 11 with 3 minutes when Virginia Tech won, but we stayed together and kept playing.

Amy Yakola: We'll go back to John.

Q Sandra, I wanted to ask you, you guys were down by 11. What turned it around for you guys? Was there any one thing?

Sandra Garcia: Tif brought lots to the huddles and we executed the defense and we had energy and we wanted to fight back and win and wanted to stay together.

Q What did you think of the first tournament game?

Sandra Garcia: It was a good experience.

Q You were able to score well at some point in the game and not well in others. What changes and adjustments were you making?

Sandra Garcia: When I was going without a problem and they were kind of making that a back personal face line and that changed it up a little bit. But that was a change up really.

Q Bob Sutton with the Times News in Burlington, what happened differently after they got to the basket, quite often they are down the stretch?

Mike Petersen: I didn't let them shoot a lay up that was better. I just thought we were a little more focused. You know the difference was I think teams do this. I think we are as guilty as this as anybody. When you are up two or three and that basket won't beat you,

you are in this. I can't fault no one. We have the ball-back mentality and we were down by one and I have to sit down and guard. Courteney Morris was guarding the ball and I told her this after the game. I will say it now, five players recognized on the defensive conference are outstanding players. In 30 years of coaching I have never coached a better on-ball defensive player than Courteney Morris. That kid can bounce and make a lot of steals and that kid has taken 28 charges this year by herself. That is more than, I'm going to guess, every team in our league. That kid is a great defender and at the end of the game she had them all. That is the biggest difference and she is a great individual defender and made great individual defensive play and we got the rebound.

Amy Yakola: Do we have any further questions? We'll take one more from Mike.

Q For Sandra, the first experience with the session of the ACC Tournament with the kids in here, what did you think of the atmosphere in here today?

Sandra Garcia: I think it was loud.

It didn't bother me. I liked it.

Amy Yakola: Great. Thank you all very much.