

**ACC Women's Basketball Championship
Greensboro, NC
#5 Wake Forest, #4 Georgia Tech**

March 5, 2010

#5 WAKE FOREST

Brittany Waters: Thank you for joining us this afternoon at the press conference. We'll get started with a few comments from Head Coach Mike Petersen in a moment.

Brittany Waters: I'm joined by on stage by Head Coach Mike Petersen, Brittany Waters and Courtney Morris. Coach, if we could get some comments from you.

Mike Petersen: Well I thought what we got there was a stretch where we got tentative, we lost our pace against our trap. We in good shape and we didn't have good enough pace for a stretch in there. We bogged our offense down. And then obviously, we had good answer for a Goodlett and we don't have a good answer for Ardossi. She was a great player. She did a phenomenal job. She made a lot of really big plays. She had two fouls, in I don't know, six minutes into the game. And then she thrashed around out there for another 20 minutes and didn't foul again. She must have changed what she was doing I guess. She is a good player and played well and made a lot of big plays for their team down the stretch. I think our pace and her play down at the end of the game was pretty significant.

Brittany Waters: Thank you so much. We'll open it up for questions.

Q Coach, given the great defensive job in the first half, did you feel that it probably should have been wider than 8 points ending in half time.

Mike Petersen: Yeah, I mean we squandered, that was part of the time that our pace got bad. I felt like we squandered an opportunity to have a little bit bigger there for sure. They only had three field goals at half time. We sent them over the line too much in the first half that was part of the problem. But, yeah, I felt it could have been bigger. If you would have come before the game and offered me an 8-point lead at half time I would have said, let's go. And again, we were in control of that game for the vast majority of it. We just weren't able to finish the deal, you know, down the stretch. They made very good plays. And we made some good plays they just made more.

Q Brittany, what was the press? I know you guys have seen presses all year, was there anything specific that it did to you guys in the second half?

Brigitte Ardossi: Nothing different we just lost our poise, and we kept attacking the press and just be aggressive and that is basically it. Nothing different nothing changed.

Q Given you had an overtime game yesterday and physicality how much did that impact the second? Half? And any player or the Coach can address that.

Mike Petersen: I was fine.

Courteney Morris: I was fine.

Brittany Waters: I was fine too. We had enough, we just lost it. We just lost it to our team.

Q Do you think you guys have enough to go into the NCCAA tournament.

Mike Petersen: You better go first. I'm about to filibuster.

Brigitte Ardossi: We hope so. We worked hard to get where we are. Nobody expected us to go this far.

Brittany Waters: Go ahead, Coach.

Mike Petersen: Get your pants on. There is no precedent for a team that's won 8 games in this competition in the ACC to not go. We had 3 wins in the top 50 teams and we have no losses outside of the top 100. Look it up, and see if anybody that has that has not been talked about to go. We are the 5th place team in the 2nd rank RPI Conference in the country. Check the 5th ranked team from the 3rd rank RPI Conference and the 5th place team in the 4th place conference, its St. Johns and Vanderbilt. We have as many top 50 wins as either of those teams, and we have one less outside the top than St. Johns does. Nobody is worried about them making it. I printed out material for the TV crew today about ten teams that either ESPN.com or collegeranking.com and handed them to their crew and said play the blind resume game and see who you put in. These kids can't be penalized because Wake has not been in for so many years. We are the 5th place team in the 2nd or 3rd, depending on which one you believe. Rated RPI Conference in it the country we won 8 games against ACC opponents and we won 3 top 50 games in the last 6 weeks. We have no losses outside of the top 100. What do you think the boys on ESPN would say about that if it was on college game day. So I don't know. There is the answer. Okay. I am not on the committee. I don't have to load on the committee. I don't have to do any of that. What I know is I know the team has competed very hard, and they have a tough schedule, and they did their job, and there were games along the way and overtime loss to Carolina. And buzzer beater to Carolina State and today's game. And all of those things we could have helped ourselves more. I know this. Go ahead and you know play the blind resume game. Take the name off, okay. Just look at who they beat. When they beat them. Who they lost to. Where they played the games. I mean, again, the committee will be great and they'll work hard and they'll be diligent and they'll do their job and they'll be awesome. And they will make a good decision. I get all of that. I know this. Don't put somebody in because they are hosting. Don't put somebody in because you are used to putting them in. Don't not put it us in because we are not used to putting us in. How is that, congressman?

Q [Inaudible]. Sixty years to get in the tournament.

Mike Petersen: I want to have happy players, it means a lot to them. This program is long, and has done a very good job. Okay. We are at the point now we are in the top half of this conference, okay, and deserve to be in the top half of this conference. And deserve to be in the top half. Okay, you work your living brains out all the time and it's everybody's goal. It would mean a lot to us. I have people telling me what would happen if they jumped four spots over you in the lead to get somewhere? I don't know. I just know. The 5th place team and the 2nd ranked RPI Conference. We won three top 50⁺ ST in the last month and a half. It looks like an NCAA tournament team to me.

Did it look like a NCAA tournament team to you today? Give it the eyeball test. That is all I'm asking. Look at the uniform, don't look at what is inside of the uniform. That is all I'm asking for.

Moderator: Any further questions for Wake Forest?

Thank you all very much.