



2010 NCAA® Women's Tournament • Second Round Press Conference
Sunday, March 21, 2010 • Thompson-Boling Arena, Knoxville, Tenn.



NO. 8 SEED DAYTON FLYERS PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES

Head Coach Jim Jabir

Opening statement:

"We are very excited and pleased to be playing in the second round. I can't think of a better place to play than the Mecca of college women's basketball. We're going to come out and try to play Dayton basketball the best we can. I've been very, very proud of our team all year and I'm sure we're going to come out and do the things we aim to do."

On how he saw his team grow as the game progressed:

"I thought we started the game fairly well. I think we hit our first couple of shots and I felt like 'Ok, we're doing alright.' Then the bottom fell out a little bit. But, when I saw the field-goal percentage after the game, I felt like we did bear down. We started attacking more; we were more aggressive. I felt that we settled for threes and weren't as aggressive on the offensive boards as they were. I thought that was reversed in the second half and we got after it. I think we learned a little bit at halftime."

On if his team seemed nervous to be playing in its first-ever NCAA Tournament game:

"I went to church today with Justine [Raterman] and her parents. We were on our way walking back from church and I said 'When I took you out that first time [yesterday], you kind of looked like you had seen a ghost. I didn't know where you were.' She said that she started the game feeling pretty comfortable and then missed a couple of shots, and her confidence started to ebb. She kind of went into some place that I'd never seen her before. After sitting for a bit, she was able to kind of get herself back together and become the Justine that we know and love. She picked it up. I think there was that period where she needed to refocus. Overall, I was pretty happy with the way we came out. I don't think we matched their intensity in the first half, but I don't think that nerves played that big of a part."

On how advancing to the NCAA second round is for the growth of the program:

"It's literally everything. You take steps to continue your progress and your growth of the program. For us to achieve success yesterday and to win and come back in the fashion that we did, and get the opportunity to coach against a legendary coach in a legendary play against all these All-Americans is just one more step in our trajectory. I think that you always need to continue to improve and always need to continue to build. One step is so important. It's historic. It's very, very important."

On the difficulty of facing No. 1 seed Tennessee on its home court:

"I sincerely believe that outside of our little world in Dayton, there's probably not a lot of people who think we stand a chance of winning and I understand that. I think this is a good experience for our kids. I think we will really challenge ourselves in a way that we've not really been challenged all year. We've played Louisville, we've beaten Michigan State and we've played some good teams that are in the tournament. There won't be any challenge as big as this one. If it doesn't break us, it will stretch us and make us stronger. I see it as a positive and that's how we're approaching the game. We are going to try to be the best we can be and if it's not good enough, it's not good enough. Hopefully we will grow and, next year, we will be better for it."

Senior guard Kendel Ross

Would you rather play Tennessee on their court in front of their fans, or would you rather it be a neutral site?

"For me, I love playing them here. I have played on many stages. I love playing in big games, and I love big crowds. There's no better place to play Tennessee than at home, for me."

With this being your first NCAA Tournament experience, what has prepared you to play at this level?

"I feel like we started the season with a tough schedule. Our coaches set up a really strong schedule for us. The Purdue tournament really allowed us to prepare, especially because we had big games there. Just our schedule in general has allowed us to play like that all year."

Can you describe the emotion of Saturday's 18-point comeback victory and the fact that you are preparing to play Monday instead of going home?

"There are two reasons I'm thinking of right now. We didn't want to go home tomorrow. First, it's the NCAA Tournament so why give up when you're down 18 points? There's no point. You're just going to work as hard as you can either way, and hopefully at the end of the game we come up with a win, and we did. My second reason is that a couple of days ago it was my dad's birthday so I thought I would give him a birthday present."



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Justine Raterman was apparently here at one of Pat Summitt's camps as a junior in high school. Have you talked to her about what she gained from that?

"She did mention she had been to a team camp here and that it was great. But I think the only thing she gained for tomorrow's game was maybe being on the court. Other than that, I don't know that it's going to help us that much tomorrow."

Sophomore guard Patrice Lalor

Would you rather play Tennessee on their court in front of their fans, or would you rather it be a neutral site?

"This is a great opportunity to play in front of a large crowd and have people see what Dayton is about."

With this being your first NCAA Tournament experience, what has prepared you to play at this level?

"Practice, I think, has a big part in preparing us to play on this stage. We practice extremely hard every day so I think that's a major part, along with our schedule."

Can you describe the emotion of Saturday's 18-point comeback victory and the fact that you are preparing to play Monday instead of going home?

"We had nothing to lose. We just went out and played as hard as we could. We were down 18 and we just kept playing and kept playing."

Freshman guard Kari Daugherty

Would you rather play Tennessee on their court in front of their fans, or would you rather it be a neutral site?

"I am such a big fan of huge crowds. Back at Dayton, we try to get as many people to come out as we can. It's not quite as many at our games as the men's games, but our fan base has been growing. I can't wait to play in front of a big crowd like we will tomorrow, so it's going to be exciting."

With this being your first NCAA Tournament experience, what has prepared you to play at this level?

"I would have to agree with the schedule. But I would also include our practices. Our coaches have done a great job all year of pushing us to our limits and making us work extremely hard. This is what we've prepared for all year. We've been working hard for it, and practice has made us ready for this. We've been working hard all season, and this is what we came to do."

Can you describe the emotion of Saturday's 18-point comeback victory and the fact that you are preparing to play Monday instead of going home?

"When we were down 18, the tournament is so final. If you lose, you're done. Your season is completely over. I don't think we were ready for it to be done yet. Everyone had their moment; it was a complete team effort yesterday. And it showed that everyone wanted to keep playing. We weren't going to be beaten then because we wanted to play one more game, hopefully a couple more. But we're taking it one game at a time."