



2010 NCAA® Women's Tournament • Second Round Game
Monday, March 22, 2010 • Thompson-Boling Arena, Knoxville, Tenn.



Final Score: No. 1 Tennessee 92, No. 8 Dayton 64

NO. 1 SEED TENNESSEE LADY VOLS POST-GAME QUOTES

Head Coach Pat Summitt

Opening Statement:

"I thought our basketball team really stepped up, and they were ready to play. Our defense and board play is huge for us. The amount of times we got paint points really opened up things for us playing inside out. (Alicia) Manning was tremendous, and she has been. She had one bad game and that has been about it. Taber (Spani) came off the bench and gave us real big lift and shot the ball very well. What can you say about Angie (Bjorklund)? I think she is one of the best shooters in the country and one of the best players."

You like to use the phrase teaching moment and was Saturday a teaching moment for Alicia Manning?

"The interesting thing about Alicia is that I knew she was pressing (Saturday). The only thing I said to her was when we were walking down to the pressroom was to let that go. You are going to be just fine. Focus on what you have to do in this next game, and she was great. I did spend some time with Glory Johnson watching some tape and talking to her and also with (Alyssia) Brewer. But A-Town (Alicia Manning), I just thought she just had a bad game. Been there and done that. Forget it. Move forward and you are going to play great."

Speak to the value of that start – a 21-6 run to open the game.

"It was very important. I could feel the energy in the locker room, and they were just wanting to get out on the court ASAP with all of that energy. I thought they were ready to play. I just reminded them that they had to commit to their defense and our board play. Take care of the basketball, and we are going play from the inside out. Let's get as many touches as we can to our post game. That is our bread and butter. They wanted to take our post game away and we did a lot of inside out. They knocked down shots. I was glad to see that because we are going to have other people try to take away our post game. So our perimeter game has to be there and be efficient."

Giving what they were trying to take away inside if Alicia (Manning) and if Taber (Spani) aren't having nights like they had could it been uncomfortable and kind of a grind-it-out game?

"We have had to grind several games out because of that and because a lot of people are keying on our post game. I do think our perimeter scoring has been so invested in getting into the gym and not just in practice. Thank goodness we have Pratt Pavilion because I can tell you they are making good use of it. That is why Angie (Bjorklund) is shooting the way she is. She has influenced (Shekinna) Stricklen to be right there with her most of the time. You have to tell Taber (Spani) to get out of the gym. She would stay there all night. We have people who are investing in helping this team anyway they can."

Sophomore Forward Alicia Manning

You smiled when you got the standing ovation, and after last game was there something that you felt that you needed to prove in this game that made you play the way that you did?

"I felt like last game I let the team down getting in foul trouble, I guess I felt like I needed to pick it up and make up for what I didn't do in the other game"

How much of what you did tonight was because they were taking away the inside game versus just having a good night?

"We always concentrate on getting the posts good touches and that opens up the guard play so much, and I think the defense they were playing was a triangle and two – face-guarding (Shekinna) Stricklen and Angie (Bjorklund), so that opened it up for me and Taber (Spani), so the posts just helped us get some touches and we knocked down some shots."

Can you speak to how much confidence and momentum you get when you start out up 21-6?

"I'm going to give that one to the fans, their energy and their passion and everything they did that really helps us, and it gives us a boost and keeps our momentum going. They have been great for us all year and especially these past two rounds"



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Junior Guard Angie Bjorklund

Can you speak to how much confidence and momentum you get when you start out up 21-6?

"I agree, we had a great turnout tonight, and that just gives us such a boost. Like Alicia (Manning) was saying – it keeps us going as a team, and I am looking forward to seeing our fans travel with us because I know they always do. We have the best fans in the country. I also think it's just important to start the game strong, because that builds momentum and so I thought we all did a good job of that"

You mentioned hoping that the fans keep traveling. How nice is it now to move on and stay in the state of Tennessee in the next round?

"I think that is another great advantage for us. Anywhere we go we are going to get a ton of fans traveling with us and that just helps our energy level when we build a lead and when we go on a run. So I think we are all looking forward to traveling and especially staying close to home"

Freshman Guard Taber Spani

How much of what you did tonight was because they were taking away the inside game and it was there versus just having a good night?

"I think, of course, it helps when they are doubling the inside and pretty much every team faceguards Angie (Bjorklund), so it always helps, but I think it just speaks to the balance and the talent of this team. Everyone that comes in really can add offensively and on the defense and boards. I think it's a combination of both but it definitely helps when you have great talent inside and then you have Angie and (Shekinna) Stricklen, who can penetrate and shoot from the outside"

You hit your first seven shot, and they weren't all easy shots. What were you feeling?

"I think when I go in, I am expected to come in and make an impact, especially when we get off to these great starts – we need to come in and keep the level up. And the coaches have really challenged everyone that goes into the game to make sure that the level stays high and that everyone is playing hard on every possession for however many minutes you get, so I was just trying to be aggressive and I think that I can add a shooting ability to the team. I was just trying to play to my strengths"