



## 2009 ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT POST-GAME QUOTES

### GAME 5 – No. 1 North Carolina vs. No. 8 Virginia Tech

#### North Carolina Head Coach Roy Williams

##### Opening Statement

“I am very happy to be here. It was an ugly game but I have said many times that you have to win some games ugly to have a great year and that was one of them. You have to congratulate Virginia Tech because they did some big time things. I think our inside play was big late in the game with Tyler [Hansbrough]. Take away three or four possessions where they got two or three different shots and I think we were good on the back boards. I thought Bobby [Frasor] did a good job in place of Ty [Lawson]. We got some good contributions from guys at the end of the game like their supposed too.”

##### On the lack of Virginia Tech turnovers and still being able to beat them without the ACC Player of the Year

“I am extremely proud of the club. It’s been a difficult week not knowing if Ty [Lawson] was going to play. We told the team late last night that he was not going to play. I was proud of Bobby [Frasor] and Larry [Drew II]. It certainly shortened our rotation on our perimeter to say the least because it took away one man. It was an ugly game to say the least, but I am real proud of the guys for winning ugly. Sometimes you have to win in the 50’s, 60’s or 70’s. It’s just more fun to win in the 80’s or 90’s.”

##### On the status of Ty Lawson

“I thought we were confident before the game started. Bobby [Frasor] was the quarterback his freshman year and we won 23 games. As he said, it’s hard to duplicate what Lawson does out there no question, but Bobby gives us some different things and I thought he played to his strengths which is important.

“Basically, I have no idea about Ty Lawson and his status. I know you guys don’t want to hear that, but I would think it’s unlikely he would play tomorrow but he felt much better today than he did yesterday. We still think it would be u likely that he would play tomorrow.”

##### On whether he considered fouling on the last Virginia Tech shot

“In the huddle, we said if we could foul on the dribble then do it. Especially if we could get them in the back court or somewhere around the 10 second line we were going to foul. At the same time, I said don’t foul anybody taking a shot and we said we were switching on screens. I’m not trying to answer for Tyler [Hansbrough], but he was supposed to be on A.D. Vassallo because there was a screen. That was good because the last thing they heard before we left the huddle was don’t foul on the shot but if you could on the floor then do it.”

##### On the health of the bench

“Larry [Drew II] gave us some good minutes in the first half and I expect him to be able to do that tomorrow. Justin [Watts] has been hurt a little bit, but he gave us some good moments. He was really intelligent one time. We threw him the ball in the corner and he saw Tyler [Hansbrough] was open inside so he got him the ball there. That’s a pretty good thing to do. I do feel that Larry will give us more good things tomorrow. It was a tough game for a freshman in his first ACC Tournament game. I’m sure he felt some pressures at times, but he did some good things. Except his turnover on the break which just about drove me crazy.”

*(continued)*

## **NORTH CAROLINA QUOTES - CONTINUED**

### **North Carolina forward Tyler Hansbrough**

#### **On play of Virginia Tech's A.D. Vassallo and the last couple of possessions**

"I just wished him the best of luck on whatever happens. He's a good player. Down the stretch, we were trying to get the ball inside. I just happened to be open and luckily the ball went through the rim. We just made some big plays down the stretch."

#### **On the held ball with five seconds left**

"I saw him coming down the lane. It looked like he just stopped and I went over to get the ball. Plain and simple."

#### **On switching over to A.D. Vassallo on the last play of the game**

"I saw A.D. kind of cut loose so left my man and was pretty confident he was going to take the last shot. I stepped out there and I didn't foul him because I thought he was close to shooting so I didn't want to take a chance there. I just put my hand up and hoped he would miss."

### **North Carolina guard Bobby Frasor**

#### **On his mentality coming into the game**

"No one is going to be able to fill Ty's [Lawson] shoes. He's the ACC Player of the Year, All-American guard and gets us so many easy plays. No one can duplicate that. I just wanted to come in with a steady hand, not turn the ball over and get guys the ball. I'm surrounded by scorers here so I don't need to be putting up a lot of shots or doing things like that. I thought I did a decent job of that."



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#### Virginia Tech Head Coach Seth Greenberg

##### Opening Statement

“Our theme for the last 24 hours has been ‘same story, different ending.’ Unfortunately, we got the same story and the same ending. We just couldn’t get a defensive rebound when we needed one. I thought we competed at a very high level. I thought we took great care of the basketball. We just weren’t tough enough when we needed to. We were battling guys six inches taller than us. We thought we were blocking out, but I guess we weren’t blocking out well enough because they kept on jumping and getting the rebound. I’m really proud of our guys, and I thought we competed really hard and did lot of very good things to put ourselves in a position to win. We just weren’t able to finish.”

##### What did you see on the final play that resulted in a held ball?

“What I saw doesn’t count, so it makes no difference. The only people that count were they guys wearing striped shirts.”

##### What were you trying to do on the final possession?

“We were in 54, it’s a double ball screen. We wanted to put Ed Davis in a ball screen, we thought he struggled with ball screens all night. We just didn’t do a good job. First, we wanted to get A.D. (Vassallo) on a quick flare screen to give him a chance to go 1-on-1, but it just didn’t work.”

##### What changed in the second half?

“I think once you get the feel for the game and what the other team’s trying to do, people try to take away what you’re trying to do. We tried to take away Ellington and Hansbrough, we just didn’t do a good enough job taking away Hansbrough.”

##### On Hansbrough’s performance in the final minutes

“He came up with the offensive rebound putback. We had good position we just couldn’t get the rebound. He jumped over us and got the rebound. He’s a fierce competitor. He’s got a great competitive spirit.”

##### On playing North Carolina without Ty Lawson

“They’re still going to run, they’re still going to establish Hansbrough. They’re going to try and free up Ellington. It’s not like they’re void of players. They have a lot of players. Bobby Fraser was a McDonald’s All-American. They took a Player of the Year out and put a McDonald’s All-American in. It’s pretty good to have luxury.”

(continued on back)

## **VIRGINIA TECH QUOTES - CONTINUED**

### **Virginia Tech Players:**

**A.D. Vassallo**

#### **On his final shot**

“I only had three seconds left. I had to make quick decision. I didn’t think Hansbrough would come out and help. I thought I had the open look, then I saw him. I jumped up over him and had a good look, it just didn’t go in.”

#### **On getting into foul trouble early in the game**

“I got in foul trouble. I was hitting shots at that time so I guess it was bad timing to pick up a second foul. I was trying to do the best I could to keep the guy in front and the [referees] made the call. [Virginia Tech] did a great job picking it up, they actually went up 7-9 when I was on the bench. They were doing their job. Dorenzo [Hudson] stepped up when I was out, J.T. did a good job of knocking shots down so our team was playing great at that time.”

#### **Thoughts on the game**

“We had the opportunity to win. I thought we were dominating the game. We were fighting them every possession. We just couldn’t come up with that one stop, that one rebound for us to gain possession. I think at the end we rushed a couple of shots. I took a bad shot at the end I wish I could have back. But we fought. We did everything we could. We were in the game. I was hoping that last shot would have gone in and we would go to overtime and get another chance.”



## 2009 ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT POST-GAME QUICK QUOTES (From Locker Rooms)

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### North Carolina Players:

#### **Danny Green**

##### **On not having Lawson in the line-up:**

“They’re a good team. We knew it would be tough and the fact that we didn’t have Ty (Lawson) made it even tougher. We knew it was going to be a hard fought, grind it out type of game.”

#### **Wayne Ellington**

##### **On the intensity of today’s game:**

“It was a game about making plays. Not only on offense but on the defensive end, and we made clutch plays down the stretch to pull out the win.”

### Virginia Tech Players:

#### **Malcolm Delaney**

##### **On NCAA Tournament chances:**

“I doubt they put us in the tournament going off of last year. I guess I’ll hope for the best. I think we should be in. We got the quality wins. I know there are other teams in the same situation we are in but I think we’re a NCAA (Tournament) team.”

#### **Jeff Allen**

##### **On the jump ball at the end of the game:**

“I thought it was a foul but other people thought it wasn’t so it was a jump ball, and that’s something you just have to deal with.”