

2009 ACC Women's Soccer Championship
WakeMed Soccer Park, Cary, NC
Wednesday, November 4, 2009
#3 North Carolina 3, #6 Maryland 0

Maryland Coach Brian Pensky

On Maryland's game performance...

"It's Carolina. It's a tough challenge, but it's still disappointing. We came out of Sunday feeling pretty good. I feel like we had a chance today. Our intentions were pretty good. The first goal they broke us down with Casey Nogueira running down at our back line, switching it to Tobin Heath. [They are] two of the best players in the country. I thought we competed hard, but we're not where this group [North Carolina] is yet."

On what the team can take from this game...

"I don't feel we leave here feeling dejected, I think we leave here feeling disappointed and feeling like we could have been better. We could have put them more on their heels because we are a confident group. I don't think we got enough out of the midfield area and I don't think we got enough out of our forwards either. We just told the players that we won't play against any other faster or more connected pressure than that group [North Carolina] there. We just have to get used to playing quicker under that kind of pressure."

On the confidence of the team...

"It might be shaken a bit. It's tough because at the end of the day we have to realize we are on a three game losing streak and two of those games are against the number two RPI team in the country. So, we can't beat ourselves up over this."

Maryland defender, Brittany Cummins

On the team's loss to North Carolina...

"I don't think, tonight, we played poorly. I think that the effort was there, but we didn't execute like we can or have been in the past. I don't think we did the things we know how to do."

On playing North Carolina in the first round...

“Initially, I think that we were more so excited about it. In retrospect, I think there were other teams that were presented with an easier challenge. It’s the hand you’re dealt.”

Anson Dorrance, North Carolina head coach

“It’s tough to beat a team twice, and we just played them (a 1-0 UNC win last Sunday). To come in and win by a shutout and to score a couple of goals ... I’m very excited.”

(On playing the late game in the quarterfinals):

“We tried to do some things throughout the day. We tried to keep the girls awake, and then we tried to have some substitution patterns that rested them a bit more. And toward the end, as I’m sure you could see, we were trying to rest our starters a little bit. We have all kinds of strategies based on what time we’re playing and what’s going on, and we certainly made those adjustments coming into tonight’s game.”

(On the own goal following Maria Lubrano’s shot that hit the post and gave UNC a 2-0 lead)

“I thought Maria did a good job of beating the keeper and getting a good shot, even though it didn’t go into the goal. She kept it low and she kept it on the frame, and when you keep it low and keep it on the frame, good things happen. We’ve preached that to these kids all year, and the ball took a positive bounce.”