



MINNESOTA-DULUTH PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES

Friday, March 20, 2009

Head Coach SHANNON MILLER

Opening Comments

Well obviously I'm disappointed in the outcome of the game. We wanted to win tonight like any team does today and get to the final. I'm extremely proud of how hard we fought today and the things that we had to battle in the game tonight. The shots on the clock were even, the scoring chances were probably relatively even. I'm just really proud of how hard my team battled, and extremely proud of the season that we've had. We did lose our number one goalie about eight weeks ago and a lot of people didn't think we'd get here this weekend, so we were really proud just to be here and very proud of how hard they worked.

On the score being uncharacteristic of the rivalry with Wisconsin

I think there's a difference between is the score getting away from you or is the game getting away from you? The score was getting away from us, the game was not. Five on five, we created tons and tons of great scoring chances. Like Hayley said, we hit a post when it was 2-0, all of a sudden it's 2-1, it changes everything. We had tons of great scoring chances and couldn't score. We were facing the Team USA goaltender, we knew that going into the game and she played phenomenal.

On the major penalty being a turning point in the game

That was a turning point in the game clearly. To be in a game like this and have to [penalty kill] for five minutes is pretty unbelievable. And to lose your top offensive player... is obviously going to hurt you.

Sophomore Center HAYLEY IRWIN

Comments on the game in general

It's not the outcome you want in a Frozen Four. Every team shows up to play hard. It was a battle out there. The score probably didn't reflect that - a 5-1 game - but we never gave up until the last buzzer went. I think we left everything out there. We didn't get the bounces, but next year maybe we will get the bounces.

On the score being uncharacteristic of the rivalry with Wisconsin

No, I mean we had a breakaway to start. We had the chances at the beginning and we didn't capitalize on them. They came down and got a couple on us and it's a 2-0 game and we hit a post. So I don't think we ever stopped believing we weren't in it.

On goaltender Johanna Ellison

She got the opportunity to play against the (Minnesota) Gophers and she absolutely stood on her head. To be honest with you I think the whole team looked back on her and thought who is this goalie. She knew she was going to be the starting goalie from then on in and in practice she wanted it, she enjoyed the opportunity to get that spot. It was great to see a kid like that improve in a senior year. You don't really think you can improve much, but she sure did. She came up big for us and she's the reason why we got to where we are today.