



**2008 NCAA Frozen Four
Pepsi Center – Denver, Colo.
April 10, 2008
Notre Dame Press Conference**

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Jeff Jackson, Head Coach

Q: Comments:

A: It was kind of a crazy game. There was no time in which I felt comfortable. Even though we started out well, there was a time we started off well back in January as well. They are an explosive team to feel comfortable. I knew it was going to be tight game.

Q: When do you think your team had crossed the boundary as underdog?

A: I have a rich tradition in playing the underdog role. The underdog thing is overblown. When you get to this level, the teams in college hockey are so close where anything can happen. With all of the breaks, there are so many things going on in that game that you try to play through it.

Q: What do you attribute your Frozen Four success to?

A: You always base things on what happens in the past. You have to rely on your experiences. I'm fortunate that we've had the opportunity. You try to get your team to peak at the right time. We turned the corner and are back on the rise again. There is no easy way to bottle peaking; sometimes it happens early. The biggest thing is getting your team to believe in something.

Q: What are your thoughts on Boston College

A: Another tremendous offensive team. They come at you in flurries. They have a great offensive team. They turn that game around in a 3-minutes time span. They're going to be similar to Michigan in some ways. They have good depth, offensively. They're going to be dangerous.

Q: How difficult is it to shut down players like Porter and Kolarik

A: We don't shadow people, we just play. If everyone plays defensively, and everyone buys into playing that way, it's a collective team effort. It's a goaltender and the five players on the ice, we defend as a unit.

Mark Van Guilder, Sr., Forward

Q: What did you talk about in the lockerroom before overtime?

A: We just said that we have one overtime to play for a national championship game. I don't think there's too much else you have to say. We realized that you have to put the second and third period behind you and move on.

Q: When they pulled Sauer after the first period were you guys happy to see the freshman come in?

A: I don't think we noticed right away. We just kind of played, tried to get rubber on him as much as we could. He played well. Give him credit, its tough to come in, in that type of situation. We just tried to get shots from anywhere on him.

Calle Ridderwall, Fr., Forward

Q: Calle, when can you remember scoring two goals and one of them being an overtime winner?

A: I don't think I've ever scored an overtime goal like that, especially not in a big game like that, that's probably the first time.

Ryan Thang, So., Forward

Q: Ryan did you guys use Eric's (Condra)'s absence as motivation?

A: Definitely. Eric has been a huge contributor to our team since he got here his freshman year. He's led the team in points every year, so when he went down it was huge blow, but everyone knew that we had to pick up the slack.

Brock Sheahan, Sr., D

Q: Defensive strategy:

A: Our forwards were doing the right thing, pressuring back. Even on their goals we played good defensively. Those three [Michigan] players are three of the best players I have played against in college hockey.

Q: On mindset after Michigan tied game at 3-3

A: They scored that goal and the older guys on the bench said, let's calm down, we've been in this situation before.

Q: On BC's Nathan Gerbe:

A: BC's going to be another good hockey team we face. ... I faced him last year, I haven't played against him this year. But he's going to be a tough guy to handle.

Kevin Deeth, So., F

Q: General reaction:

A: We're really happy. We'll regroup tonight. We're excited to be here, but we're not done yet. We still have business to finish.

Q: On coach Jackson's experience:

A: He's had so much experience in situations like this. He knows what buttons to push and he has taught us how to compete.

Q: On winning the battles along the boards in OT:

A: That's a credit to our strength coach, Tony Rolinski ... Our conditioning makes it so hard for people to push us off the puck. We worked so hard in the offseason to cultivate that.