



Today's Scholar-Athletes ~ Tomorrow's Leaders

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2006 Patriot League Women's Basketball Tournament
Post-Game Quotes: Quarterfinal Round
Thu., March 2, 2006 (West Point, N.Y.)

COLGATE HEAD COACH KRISTIN HUGHES

(re: Navy trailing by three points with 13 seconds remaining)

“The theme for us this season has been to get defensive stops and grab rebounds. I thought Navy made a great run at the end. But, I think our kids did a good denying them good looks.

“We definitely let it get too close for comfort. But at the same time, you expect a team like Navy to have some runs left in them.”

(re: Colgate's success the past few years)

“For the exception of Megan Ballard, we do not have many players with much tournament experience. If you asked these players what their No. 1 goal was in September, they would tell you to make the (Patriot League) championship game.

“I think they have done a really good job of not paying attention to our record or our seeding, or whether or not they are playing at home or on the road.”

(re: Possible semifinal opponent)

“Obviously, we will be watching both teams, and both opponents will be tough for us. It's hard to look too far ahead, though. So, we will try to watch both teams and prepare (for Saturday's semifinal) the best that we can.”

COLGATE SENIOR MEGAN BALLARD

(re: Playing Navy for the third time in 12 days)

“The first time we played them, we may have been a little unfocused, and the last time we played them, we knew we could have won the game.

“The advantage is that you get to know the team really well. Our scouting report didn't have any (Navy) player names on it because we knew all of them. We knew we could win, so we came in with a lot of confidence.”

(re: Colgate's success in the Patriot League Tournament)

“This team has a lot of heart. We play with passion. We never give up, and that is instilled in all of us.”

(re: Difference down the stretch)

“The last time we played them it was a similar scenario. It was a close game and we tried to learn from our mistakes – limit turnovers and make free throws. I think we did that today.”

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NAVY HEAD COACH TOM MARRYOTT

(re: Last 13 seconds of the game)

“We always try to keep the floor spread and look for our point guard to make a play. (Laura Skrel) has been good all year. We had some good opportunities late to find some open people.

“At the end, I think we were a little weary. We had some people (on the court) who played too many minutes. That said, those players did a great job of giving us a chance down the stretch.”

(re: Play of Kate Hobbs – tied school’s single-game record for rebounds [16] in a PL contest)

“She is athletic and she has some determination. Our players are really looking for her to make something happen because she is playing with confidence.

NAVY SENIOR ASHLEY PELZEK

(re: Last 13 seconds of the game)

“Colgate realized that we have three or four pretty good three-point shooters out there. They played really tight on us, and we didn’t have much time to get down there and get a good shot off.

“I thought (Colgate) did a good job, defensively, preventing us from getting off that shot.”

(re: Playing a team three times in 12 days)

“It’s tough because when you have beaten them twice, you come in with a lot of confidence. I don’t think we were overconfident. But at the same time that can be your downfall.

“Sometimes, that team can figure out the little things that beat them before. Last Saturday (regular-season finale vs. Colgate) went right down to the wire. It could have gone either way. Tonight (the outcome) just went the other way.”

(re: Difference tonight)

“(Colgate) was able to get to the basket in key moments of the game and convert some shots that hurt us.

“We have been a good second half team all season, but you can’t play behind against a good team like Colgate and expect to win.”