



2010
Northeast Conference
Women's Basketball Championship

Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds

Maurice Stokes Center

Loretto, PA

March 6 & 7

#5 Saint Francis (Pa.) vs. # 1 Robert Morris

POST GAME QUOTES

March 7, 2010 / Semifinal One

Saint Francis Head Coach Susan Robinson Fruchtl ...

Opening statement...

You guys saw a great game. My hat's off to Robert Morris, Sal and the staff, they had an unbelievable NEC year, 17-1, and they are tough. This game was a lot like the first game we played here. We were up at half, and they chipped away and obviously beat us in overtime. Angela Pace is a great player, very deserving of all the honors she's received. Our kids just hung tough. We played with no fear, and that's kind of been our thing, which they came up with. This I guess is seven games now that we've won in a row, something like that. The last play, we didn't get the initial look that we wanted, but we just kept playing. That's something we work on every day. A simple penetration and kickout, and Hodges spotted up beautifully and knocked it down. It was a great battle to see and great for the conference.

On her team withstanding the Robert Morris run in the second half...

We talked about that at halftime, but at the same time, we played with no fear. They're going to make a run, and we had to make a run. We answered most things through most of the half, which was really good to see. They have tremendous athletes, and they did a great job of getting some threes, getting some layups, but I thought we did a good job of coming back and scoring ourselves.

On her team's new zone offense instilled today...

We put in a new little zone offense and just really allowed the players to read a lot of things and find the open person. When a team plays zone you are going to have to hit some shots. We didn't come in with the design of saying we were going to take 33 threes, there's no number, but if you're open you take it. We did end up the conference season the best 3-point shooting team in the conference as far as number of makes per game. I think it was seven per game that we made, and we made 14 today, which we are capable of. We just said we gotta go for it, because it's Janie and Hodges' senior year, so we gotta go for it.

St. Francis' Britney Hodges

On her taking the leadership reins and knocking down the game-winner...

I give it all to my teammates. Brittany Lilley kind of screened two people and got me open, and I just had to have confidence and shoot a three. It's what I do, shoot threes.

On the team's mindset when Robert Morris took the lead late in the second half...

Sam said we need a stop, and that's what we did. We pulled together as a team and got the stop that we needed.

St. Francis' Allison Daly

On the team's mindset when Robert Morris took the lead late in the second half...

I think the thing that we have done for the past couple of games is that we have always been committed to what we were learning and what we've been taught. Every time we get down, in every situation, we've always looked at each other and always been like 'we're confident, we can do this.'

On her superb shooting performance...

It all comes down to passing and finding the open player. Brittany Lilley had 10 assists today, and that was amazing, especially with just being an off-guard, a combo guard. Everybody on the court was just looking for each other. We had confidence in each other's shots.

St. Francis' Samantha Leach

On the team's mindset when Robert Morris took the lead late in the second half...

I just remember saying that if you have any doubt in your mind, sub yourself out right now. I had all the confidence in the world in every one of us. It was definitely a confidence issue, and we definitely have confidence.

Robert Morris Head Coach Sal Buscaglia

Opening statement ...

First of all, congratulations to St. Francis. They came out on fire. They couldn't miss, really. They shot the lights out. They really stepped it up with their shooting. But, on the other hand, I thought more about my team. We were way down, we usually don't play man-to-man defense, but we switched to man because, to St. Francis' credit, they shot the ball so well, so we had to get the tempo of the game up. I thought that worked really well for us. Basically, it came down to one shot that they hit. I think they were getting very nervous because we were coming back and then we take the lead, and we missed a free throw at the end. Quite honestly, we had three looks at the basket, and they just didn't go for us. I'm proud of them. Thirteen straight wins, we won 22 or 23 games with seven losses, excluding this one. We were the No. 1 seed, we won the regular season, and how could you not be proud of that? Kudos to St. Francis, but also kudos to my team for their efforts.

On if the team was overconfident coming into the game...

There's no way. In a conference tournament, anything can happen. No way were we overconfident.

Robert Morris' Angela Pace

On carrying her team in the second half...

Yeah, I knew we were down and we were going to have to catch up as much as we could. It was a dogfight from the beginning. All I know is that I played hard and my team played hard for 40 minutes.

On the team's poise in coming back from a double-digit deficit...

Like I said, it was a dogfight. We all wanted it, but we just came up short at the end.