



**2010  
Northeast Conference  
Women's Basketball Championship**

**Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds**

**Maurice Stokes Center**

**Loretto, PA**

**March 6 & 7**

**#2 Long Island vs. # 6 Central Connecticut State**

**POST GAME QUOTES**

**March 7, 2010 / Semifinal Two**

**Central Connecticut State Head Coach Beryl Piper...**

*Opening statement...*

Obviously, it's a disappointing loss. I said to Leanne [Crockett] it was a lot more fun coming in here yesterday after winning. I think it's most disappointing for our seniors to go out today with a loss. We came out yesterday and played really hard for 40 minutes. For us, it's kind of been the way our season has gone. We've had a lot of games where we just couldn't put a full 40 minutes together and struggled. In the first half, we didn't play our game. We didn't play with confidence. Everybody was kind of looking for someone else to get it done. Kind of just passing the ball around and running offense to run offense, but to not do anything. I thought the second half, we played a lot better. I think we took care of the basketball better in the second half. It's too little too late when you don't put 40 minutes into a game like this at this time of the year.

*On the team's toughness in getting to the Northeast Conference Semifinals...*

Emily, in the last few games, has played well for us and hit some key baskets for us at time. When we beat Sacred Heart at their place the first time, P.J. really stepped up as a leader and pretty much told her teammates the game's not over when we were struggling a little bit. We were sick today. Kerriane was in the hospital last night, and P.J. was in the hospital this morning with viruses. You can't ask for more of an effort, you know, trying to suck it up and play. Yesterday's game was unbelievable. At halftime, Kerriane was throwing up, and she came back out and played. She was out there playing today and doing everything she could to help us win the game. I guess you can't ask for more than that from kids. I just wish we could've given a better effort in the first half.

**Central Connecticut State's Leanne Crockett**

*On her team's momentum on the court in the second half...*

Like coach said, we just couldn't get the defensive stop. When we played Long Island last time at our place, we cut it to six after being down double-digits, and we just couldn't get it back again. It felt like the same scenario here again. We got it to three and could not get over to take the lead. I think our intensity picked up in the second half, but like coach said, it's just too little too late, and we couldn't get over the hump.

## **Long Island Head Coach Gail Streigler**

### *Opening statement ...*

It was a nailbiter, that's for sure. We won it with our defense, which is what we've been preaching all year. From day one, we talked about when we get to the end of the season, the two things you have to be able to do is play great defense and get defensive stops in those situations, and to be able to execute in the halfcourt. We did one of the two tonight in the last couple minutes of the game. Chelsi hit a couple of big-time free throws to really ice it for us, so overall, the kids just gutted it out. I don't think it was our best performance of the year, but a win's a win, and we're going to the championship and have a chance to go to the NCAAs, and that's what we've been talking about all year long. It was a team win from top to bottom.

### *On the upcoming matchup with St. Francis...*

They've beaten us twice. We're going to have to go out and play a really good basketball game. Both games were close games. I don't know how many points they were, but they were close pretty much all the way through. They have a couple of really good players who are scorers. I think they are playing the best they've played all year right now. I think they look the best that they've looked all year right now. But I think we're playing well too, defensively, we've got to pick up our offense a little bit. We've got to come up with some answers to try to guard some of their players. The success that we've had this year, after the tough season we had last year, is just a great thing.

## **Long Island's Chelsi Johnson**

### *On reaching the NEC Championship and being one win away from the NCAA Tournament...*

It feels good to be able to make it here. I think as a team we've come together well. We've really learned to play with each other throughout the season. We didn't play too well today or yesterday, but I think we'll be able to get together and play our best game on Sunday.

## **Long Island's Ashley Palmer**

### *On what Long Island needs to do better this time to beat St. Francis...*

I think we need to take it one step at a time. We have off Monday, back to work on Tuesday, so I think on the court that we can work on some things, get better. This is a week to get better for the championship.