

## **Rutgers**

### **Head Coach**

#### *Opening statement...*

First of all I want to congratulate Duke. I have known their head coach Robbie (Church) for quite some time. I just told him that it's tough for his seniors to go out, but that's what happens at this time of the year. For our own group I couldn't be more proud. We have Allie our sports information director alerting us to how few people on the pitch have actually played in a NCAA game. I think that we have sustained a number of setbacks including a number of injuries to key players, but that hasn't stopped us a bit. This is a great moment for our program. It's a testament to the commitment by the players, to each other more than anything.

#### *On goalkeeper Erin Guthrie...*

I think I'm going to give Erin a nickname. I'm sure she's had many over the course of her years and time with her teammates. But when Erin is in goal, we expect a shutout. I don't think she had to do anything spectacular tonight, but she's always solid on the things she needs to be solid on, and part of that is organizing the defense in front of you.

### **#1 Erin Guthrie**

#### *On not allowing a goal after a lot of pressure in the first half...*

Yeah, we definitely had the better of the play in the first half. Then, they really started coming after us. What has been so consistent this year has been our defense. Of the shots that they had on goal none of them were really anything where I had to do much. So really that is a credit to the defense, but really as a team we played tremendous defense. We played really good defense from forwards, midfielders, and defenders. So just being able to stop them, and putting up a zero up on the scoreboard was just huge for us. The first goal scored by Kelsey Dumont was clutch. It was everything that we needed for us to come out on top. So, I am very proud of the whole team.

### **#3 Kelsey Dumont**

#### *On the offense making the most of its opportunities...*

With soccer you never know how many opportunities you are going to get. So whatever opportunities you do get you have to make the most of them. So I think our team was very focused the last two weeks. We were focusing on when you do get the opportunities; you have to put them away. Since that was a focus you could tell we put a lot more numbers in the box. So it kind of makes sense that we were able to put two away today.

## **Duke**

### **Duke Head Coach: Robbie Church**

#### *Opening statement...*

First of all, congratulations to Rutgers. We wish them well as they move forward here. I am very, very proud of our group. It has been a difficult year for our group. I felt that after we got past the initial jitters in the first fifteen minutes, I thought that we played really well. I think that the game was won and lost in the first half. It was won and lost in the sense of we completely controlled the game. We had a number of opportunities. We unfortunately just could not capitalize on top of those opportunities. We were really playing some very good soccer. In that twenty to twenty-five minute stretch we had them back on their heels. You know, this is a funny game, and you got to be able to finish. That has been something that has hurt us all year. We were able to punish them, and get so many good shots. We didn't lose from a lack of effort from my team. Each and every one of our players has been very committed all year long. We are just very proud of what they have done. I think that we ran out of gas a little bit in the second half. I would like to thank our four seniors who have been our captains this year. This has been a difficult year at Duke University. We have represented this university very well, and we did it with class and dignity.

#### *On whether this was a learning experience for the younger players...*

Because of all the injuries earlier this year, we had to play five freshmen. That is difficult in our conference, really that is difficult in anybody's conference. We did have a lot of freshman play a lot of minutes. So I think they gained some valuable experience. Losing four of the best players that have ever played in our program is going to be tough to replace them.

### **#13 KayAnne Gummersall**

#### *On the opportunities for goals in the first half...*

Obviously we got a number of chances, and unfortunately we just couldn't finish them. Sometimes that just happens. Like coach said, congratulations to Rutgers for doing just that. I thought we played tough, and that I thought that we played better in the first half then we did in the second half. Like they said, unfortunately we just couldn't put away one of those chances. In the NCAA tournament you are only going to get a certain number of chances. You are not going to beat someone if you don't do that.

### **#5 Jane Alukonis**

#### *Thoughts on the exit from the first round...*

Of course we are very disappointed. The past two years we have done very well in the tournament, and we feel that we a tournament team come tournament time. I thought that

everything we did preparing to come into this was great. This kind of a tough pill to swallow knowing that it's over. The younger players got a lot of experience this year so that sets the program up well for the future.