



**2014 NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Semifinal #1
#2 Syracuse vs. #6 Virginia
May 23, 2014 – Johnny Unitas® Stadium**

Virginia Post-Game Quotes

Virginia Head Coach Julie Myers

(Opening Remarks)

"I couldn't be more proud of the team and of all the players. I think to get to this stretch of the season, to get to the final four, and to really put their hearts into it, into a game. Admittedly we didn't play great today but I have to give Syracuse all the credit in the world. I think they played incredibly well. They were physical, they were tough and strong and they made it really hard for us to find a rhythm but it wasn't out of a lack of effort on our part or discipline or effort. We were prepared coming in and again I give Syracuse all the credit in the world for jumping out to a lead and really having a very dominant game all over the field. It's hard to see the season end but I only have pride and love for the girls on the team. They couldn't have done more for us."

(You had talked about how your team had improved since the regular-season game with Syracuse, have they improved as well? What's different about them now?)

"Yeah I think Syracuse played one of their best games of the season. Of course, at this point of the year, everyone's supposed to be playing better than you did in the winter months of February. But I do think that their best players were impossible to stop between Alyssa Murray and Kayla Treanor and they had a bunch of other defenders that really stepped up big as well. Their best players played great and that's exactly what you need to win a championship. I thought Morgan [Stephens] did an awesome job on [Kayla] Treanor. We knew she was going to do some damage but really Alyssa Murray stepped up big when they needed it. I think Syracuse played their best game."

(Gary [Gait] said earlier that he was surprised that you didn't slide or double team Treanor or Murray. What went into that decision?)

"Well I think they were supposed to slide but what they did so well early in the game was hitting those cutters coming off the stacks so it made our middies and the other defenders that were defending the stack just a little bit gun shy. They were a little nervous to leave to go that slide because they were scoring off the top. And we had Katie Webster come over top a couple of times and I think one of the Cross kids did as well. They did it early so it just got in our heads, rattled us a little bit. It made us hesitate just enough to that slide that it was effective."

(What makes Kayla so tough to defend? Originally meant for junior defender Morgan Stephens but Coach fielded the question.)

"I mean she's tough. She's left-handed, right-handed. She feeds, she scores. She has too many weapons to limit, I mean totally effectively. And she's got great teammates that are there for her as well. I think that's what Morgan [Stephens] meant to say."

(Do you think this kind of lays the foundation for another postseason run?)

"I mean I think the fourth years – Maddy, Liz and all of them did a great job in really reestablishing Virginia lacrosse and putting us back in that final four map and discussion. I think they left a great legacy. When I'm ready to look forward to next year, I'll feel pretty good about it because I know the fourth years did a great job of leaving their mark and teaching the girls what hard is and what good attitudes can do and just that there's nothing in the world that they can do. I do feel like the fourth-years have left us in a good spot. I'm not quite ready to think about next year and so forth but I do know that we do have great leaders and again, the lessons were learned. The fourth-years did a great job of leading the way."

#35 Sophomore Attacker Kelly Boyd – 3g

"We knew they were going to be playing a backer for defense so we practiced that all week. Just quick ball movement... But they pushed out more than we expected so the feeds in were a little harder since we were so far out. That was a little tough for us but once we got our rhythm down in a few possessions. But just not enough time."

#19 Senior Midfielder Maddy Keeshan

"I mean I think it's definitely tougher as you go further into the season, especially into the NCAA tournament. I mean the final four is the best teams so I think it definitely gets more difficult going forward. But in terms of time between games, I think we managed our time really well and those are times that we came closest as a team. We really came together. So I think that kind of benefitted us more, especially as we were doing well and doing better as the season we really came together. So that really helped us."

(What were your emotions in the final seconds as you realized your college career was coming to an end?)

"I mean I think ending on this season, I couldn't ask for a better way to go out. I love the girls on the team this year. I've loved them every year. I love Virginia. It's always tough to lose in the end. I think we fought really hard and we definitely put our heart into the game. So it's sad but at the same, I wouldn't change if for anything."

(Did you guys feel that? Talking about momentum after ending 1st half with a goal and outscoring them 3-2 to start 2nd half.)

"I think definitely. So the game before this, we were down 8-4 at half against UNC and kind of took the momentum back coming into the second half. So I think we were kind of used to that. We like being down, I mean, obviously we rather be up but going into the second half that's kind of, if we're down, that's kind of somewhere we strive. We definitely felt the momentum back."