

**Mark Krikorian Opening Statement:**

Overall, I thought it was a good first game for us into the NCAA tournament. I think before I talk at all about our team, I certainly need to speak about the south Alabama team. Those kids came in here and they competed like crazy. Richard, his staff, put together a fantastic game plan and I think they frustrated us for quite a while and the kids played great coverage. The number of shots they blocked and challenged the ball all over the field. We have a great deal of respect for them, and we had a lot of respect for them before the game and even more now. Those kids at South Alabama have just played a fantastic quality today and I think we feel good that we are able to continue and advance in the NCAA tournament. So, now to talk a little bit about our group, I thought our group was persistent, we showed imagination in the attack, a lot of different ways, the goals game in different fashions which is always nice. Players played hard, worked hard for each other and I thought our kids made each other better through the course of the game. So, I will take this, we will learn from it, we will get better from it, we will get together tomorrow and look at the clips that we are going to take from this evening and hopefully we will be ready for the next opponent whether it be SMU or Texas.

**Question: Coach you knew obviously that they were going to be a lot of different, having seen them way back in August, now a different look and everything. What were some of the things they were doing to kind of frustrate you and avoid that first goal? Can you talk a little bit about that, what they were doing?**

**Coach Mark Krikorian:** Sure, they played with a lot of number behind the ball and we kind of expected they might play a little bit low. We figured that they would probably play with five in the back line and then stack a few players in front of the back line and try to minimize that space in the middle of the field. I thought they did a very good job with that. But our kids, they displayed a pretty good patience for the course of the game. It hard to defend that low for 90 minutes and not give up chances. I thought our quality in the box wasn't sharp enough. We had a number of other looks that on a different day maybe we can score another goal or two earlier and the game comes a little easier for us. But, you know, wonderful crowd, wonderful environment, beautiful evening here in Tallahassee, and you know, first game for some of these kids in the NCAA tournament. So, for me, I look at it as our kids did a really good job, we are going to continue to grow from it and hopefully we will be better in the next round.

**Question: For the players, seeing an opponent like this, seeing them in round one, how much does that help to kind of, you know, now you're in flow of the tournament and, you know, as you go along, what benefit did you see from tonight?**

**Emily Madril:** I think they were a good opponent as Mark said. I think that we definitely felt the pressure, I think they came out with a different game plan than the first time. I think just keeping us on our toes a little bit, definitely wasn't easy, definitely had to keep the ball a lot and find the right chances. I think it was a good first round for us.

**Beata Olsson:** Yeah, I agree, they were aggressive and in their own half and as Mark said, they have many people behind the ball, and we did not have much time on it. So, for us it was a real challenge getting those goals and it was a good fight.