

The Coach's Corner (Jan. 9, 2007)

ANNCR: This is "The Coach's Corner" with RIT Tigers hockey coach Wayne Wilson. Here's WYSL 1040's J.C. DeLass.

DELASS: Coach, it's a showdown with Sacred Heart this weekend—two games against the conference leader at their place.

WILSON: You know, we're coming off a really good weekend where we had beaten Quinnipiac, who were ranked 16th, and lost a tough one, but played extremely well against Niagara. So I think those two games, in particular, are great preparation for Sacred Heart—and always tough to win when you're on the road against a strong opponent like Sacred Heart.

DELASS: Coach, you're not able to participate in the conference tournament this year. These games this weekend, they really take on a playoff atmosphere for you, don't they?

WILSON: They certainly do. I mean, our last 14, 15 games here are our playoff games because we can't play anymore than that. So that's our approach—is that these are must-win games and really try to focus in on them a little bit harder, and we've got a tough stretch of games here.

DELASS: As you analyze these games this weekend, what are some of the keys to victory when you play against Sacred Heart?

WILSON: I think we may have a little bit more depth, but their one line is very explosive. We're going to be playing a team that has goaltending very similar to ours, very strong goaltending. So a lot of similarities in the teams, and I think we've just got to, when we go on the road, just be focused on the task at hand, and maybe let the home team get whatever distractions that come with playing at home.

ANNCR: RIT Tigers hockey all season long on your local sports leader WYSL 1040, and wysl1040.com on the Web.