



Postgame Quotes

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Semifinal Game



#1 Long Beach State 1, #4 UC Riverside 0 (OT)

LBSU Head Coach Mauricio Ingrassia

(Opening statement) "Hats off to UCR and their coaching staff, all their players. That's the best UCR team in maybe 10 years. Nat's done an outstanding job with their program. They're 55 in the RPI. They didn't get there by accident. Very happy with our girls and the game they played because we adjusted half-way through the game and they read the game. They understood what was needed and created a ton of opportunities. I felt good about our performance. Felt great about our grit. We had to grind it out. Happy to be playing Sunday."

(On message to team) "I was telling them to score. Really, that's it. This was their day. This was their night. I thought we created quality opportunities. I thought we made a good amount of plays behind the line."

(On facing Riverside in semis) "They play hard. No one's going to come here and play nice. We have to be ready for them. We're a more technical team so we have to move the ball quicker or step up to that level of physicality."

LBSU Sophomore Ashley Gonzales

(On game-winner) "I saw Jessica [Vincent] lose the ball, I got it back, played a one-two, played it back to the six and hoped someone would get a foot on it."

(On playing in title game) "That's one of our biggest goals, and this year we want to hold up the trophy."

LBSU Freshman Fatmata Kamara

(On game-winner) "On the previous play I just missed the ball that came across, and I told [my teammates] at the half that if you get the ball inside I'll do my best. Ashley [Gonzales] played a great ball."

(On scoring opportunity) "We knew it was coming, we always tell each other, 'It's coming, it's coming.' We were knocking on the door."

UCR Head Coach Nat Gonzales

(Opening statement) "Congrats to Long Beach. They're a good team. When we drew them I knew we were up against them. It's hard to beat a team twice in the same year. We got them in their place and they got us here. They're super talented and super technical. We tried to slow their best players down, credit to them. They got the #1 seed for a reason."

(On team) "I said it earlier in the year, it's just time. My first goal, before I had the job, just looking at the roster we weren't seeing seniors and juniors making big impacts. As a coaching staff we wanted to treat the program so that they'd be fighting as seniors and I think you saw that – you saw them fighting. I think it hurt so bad for these girls because we felt like this was our year. We've done a lot of good things but it's time. Nurturing the program so they're fighting when they're older. So they can utilize their experiences."

(On senior class) "They saw the bottom. They came in and I remember [Tyler] Cunningham telling me, 'Are we still going to have a team?' She thought it was like club soccer where people leave. They hung in there with us. They've been coachable. They've gone through the journey with me."