

**NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE CUP
Penn State Press Conference Quotes – 11.29.12**

Coach Erica Walsh, PSU

When asked on the state of North Carolina and Stanford...

“Well you’ve just stated some real heralded programs that I have a ton of respect for all of those different programs that you just mentioned. It’s hard to say the days of Carolina are over when Carolina is sitting in the room with us right now. And there is no one in our sport that we have more respect for than Jansesn D, and the work that he’s put in. For Penn State that’s the next step for us, it’s one thing to get here one time, and we’re enjoying every minute of it, but the next step is for us to get here year after year and Stanford has been the second program along with Notre Dame that has shown that they have the staying power year after year through their coaching, through their recruiting, through the support of the university to continue to excel at the highest level and that’s what it’s all about for us coaches. Turn these young women into people and student athletes that are ready to go out into the world to be successful in the development of everything that they do and Stanford has shown they obviously have the model to be successful.”

When asked about the effectiveness of the NCAA soccer model...

“It depends what you’re referring to. If you’re referring to an educational model, then no, there is no downside. This is the best model there is. If you’re referring to development of the future of your national team, then one could argue that if you go into a residency program when you’re 14 years old, and that’s all you do all day every day, that ultimately that will provide more success down the road, a la the Japanese and some of these other countries that are committing their young players into residency. But for me it’s the only model that’s why I stay in the college game. That’s why I love the NCAA and what it provides both the coaches and administrators and most importantly the student athletes is that balance of both.”

When asked on her goalkeeper’s tie to Florida State...

“Yeah it’s interesting because obviously that is a hot topic. And as you know my past goes through Florida State as well, and I was at the college cup with them in 2005 and it seems like a million years ago at this point, and I think it’s the same for Erin. We’re here, we’re with this program, and Erin would do anything for these players and this university. She’s jumped in with both feet, she’s Penn State through and through and especially in light with what’s transpired over the past year, we’ve all come out the other side of it stronger, more united and Erin’s been a big part of that. So I think she’s learned from her opportunities through Florida State, but here and now she’s a Penn State Nittany Lion.”

When asked about her experience in the college cup and how she’s passed that knowledge to her players...

“I mean look at this. This is the highest stage, it’s fantastic, but you’re looking at three players who’ve trained with the national team and that have competed in world cups. You’re looking at Maddy Evans who’s been the leader of our university, our student athlete advisory board, and McNulty who’s played in, again, world championships for Canada, Raquel Rodriguez. So much experience across the board on this roster. Erin Cook, did it on the professional level, winning championships in the WSA. So again it’s not another game, quote unquote, because it’s the college cup, and it’s the big one. But at the same time we’ve had so many players compete on big stages, whether it’s academically, athletically, through World Cup, or being the president of SAB, they’re prepared for the challenge.”

Kori Chapic, M/D, Sophomore

When asked about their three back system...

“I think that in a three back there is a lot of differences between a three back and a four back, with rolling up on midfielders and holding back sometimes more than you really would because you don’t have as many people behind you. So I think that our transition this year led by Whit Church, who’s such a great leader in the back and has such a great mentality and she’s been able to kind of hold us together and be able to teach myself as well as Bri Hovington and freshman Corey Persson. We’ve all learned so much from her and so much from our coach and with Erin McNulty behind us also with all that experience that she has. I think that altogether our unit has actually

been able to be very successful this year with such great leaders that have been through it, just the great mentality of Whit Church.”

When asked about her experience...

“I think coach said it the best, with Erin’s got such great experience with the time she spent at college cups, playing at the highest level. I think that it goes for all over the field and she’s been a very key role for us in the back line, and she helps us there. But you know there is a lot of players that are leaders with their experience, I mean they all play a great role in being great followers too. I think as a team, there is times when our leaders step up at the right times, and there are other times when they know to stand back and when to follow and play that correct role. And I think that there has been moments so far in this tournament, and throughout the season where different people have stepped up at the right times and ultimately it’s lead us here. I think Erin McNulty has definitely stepped up at the correct times and I think that we’re looking forward to keeping it going with her”.

Christine Nairn, M, Senior

Regarding their tough preseason schedule and how those tough games and losses now translates...

“I mean we’ve kind of had that mentality all season, we’ve played against Stanford and we’ve played against BYU and to use those were our do or die games and we needed to get results in those games. I think we might not have won those games but we learned a lot about ourselves and where we’ve come from in the past few years and where we want to go. I think maybe not getting the results in the beginning of the year will help us kind of take the steps in the right direction for games like tomorrow against Florida State. We’re prepared, we’ve done a ton of video and we’ve learned more about ourselves in this past tournament then we have all season. So we’re ready and may the best team win. We’ve learned some of our strengths and some of our weaknesses and how to recognize moments in a game where we can kind of impose ourselves on other teams, and we want to play our style, which is soccer on the ground to feet, and I think that is when we are at our best. We are playing our best soccer right now and I think we’ve shown that in the past couple games, and we’re ready to continue to show that to the rest of the country.”

When asked about her mindset...

“Business as usual. I mean she forgot to include herself in there, she’s been to world cups, you know we look to her for that sense of calmness in times like these. We can look to our seniors and our captains all we want, but if our coach isn’t leading us in the right direction, and showing us how to act and how to behave in these scenarios and situations, we might as well be lost. She’s been here and we’re ready to follow her wherever she takes us.”

Maya Hayes, F, Junior

When asked about if any trash talking is going on...

“No there hasn’t been any trash talking actually. I actually just saw Megan last night, I talked to Crystal Dunn, talked to a few people, and we’re just excited to see each other more than anything. There is no trash talk though.”