

Postgame Quotes

(3) UCLA vs. (6) Loyola Marymount - Friday, May 14, 2010

2010 National Collegiate Women's Water Polo Championship Aztec Aquaplex | San Diego State University | San Diego, Calif.

(6) Loyola Marymount 5, (3) UCLA 4

NCAA Championship - Quarterfinal Round, Game 2

LMU Head Coach Kyle Witt

Opening comment:

"To try and describe that game in a couple of minutes isn't really going to do it any justice. I think anyone who was here today saw an evenly matched game between two great teams and we were fortunate to come out on top. I would say that we came in with a pretty good plan and the girls followed it very well, but it was all them. They went in and executed everything in water, they were relentless on their drives and they made up for mistakes for each other. If someone screwed up (on defense), our goalie made a save, if someone screwed up on offense, we had players sprinting their butt off to make sure there was no counter-goal. It was definitely a team effort today and I couldn't be more proud of this program. I'd definitely like to thank (former head coach) John Loughran for this opportunity he gave me and this one's for him."

On his team's offensive and defensive plan:

"It was just to be patient and wait for the best shot. When you have a goalie who was playing as well as she (Kristine Cato) was today, you want to make sure you limit the amount of shots they are going to take on her, but definitely give the defense a chance to succeed in front of her.

"(On offense) the girls are all very experienced and knew what to do. They went out and executed and did everything they needed to do. There wasn't much communication in the huddle other than just , 'hey, relax you guys are playing great and have fun,' and they went out and did the job."

LMU Freshman Kristine Cato

On her performance and the team's defense:

"I have really grown in confidence with my defense in front of me. We have been working on it all practice for weeks and weeks on different things that might get thrown at you. We definitely did what we needed to do and they definitely helped me out on defense and limited the shots that really made my job a lot easier. I definitely cannot play the game without my defense."

On what this win will mean for the team for the rest of the tournament:

"We just cannot let down. We were definitely celebrating, because it's a huge achievement for our program and stuff. But to the same token, we have USC tomorrow and we still have the mindset of winning an NCAA championship."

LMU Senior Anne Scott

On her goal:

"(It) was more about waiting and looking for an opportunity to take a shot. We were patient with the ball and the cage looked open, so I shot it and luckily, it went in."

On what the team learned from the first meeting with UCLA:

"Coming into this game we just carried a lot more confidence in ourselves. The big thing for me is the name – we're playing UCLA – they have many appearances here at the NCAA championships. But practicing and talking about it and watching game film, they just became another team. We were able to be confident in each other and support each other to take them on as a team. We (were able to) break them down, took some good shots and played some good defense."

UCLA Head Coach Brandon Brooks

Opening comment:

"Obviously, I'm very disappointed in the outcome. Today I don't think we executed well. I think at times we showed mistakes characteristic of youth and I think we looked a little nervous. I think we came out and didn't necessarily put in the appropriate work and didn't execute early, then things got tighter and it got difficult for us. I'm still very proud of the season we have had and proud of the girls I coach, and I'm proud to be a Bruin.

On if it was LMU's defense or UCLA's own offense that caused problems for the team:

"I think it's definitely a combination of things; the pressure got to us a bit and their goalie came up with some saves. They were doing a good job defensively, they were active, they were moving and I think it threw us off a bit. It became tight towards the end."

UCLA Junior Priscilla Orozco

On if there was too much pressure on the team with the expectation level gained from 5-straight national championships: "It's always hard to stay on top; that in itself is hard. But we just try to take it a game at a time. We didn't focus on the five championships, (but instead) we were trying to get another one. That wasn't really our focus, we just wanted to focus on one game at a time."

On the mindset playing a LMU team that they had beaten earlier in the season:

"As a player, I don't think it's different just because you beat them before. Just the fact that it's the NCAA tournament; whoever we play, we are going to respect them and do whatever it takes to win. So I don't think the win in the regular season affected us today."