

Postgame Quotes

(4) California vs. (6) Loyola Marymount - Sunday, May 16, 2010

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

(4) California 11, (6) Loyola Marymount 7 NCAA Championship - Third-Place Game

Cal Head Coach Richard Corso

Opening Statement:

"We knew that LMU was going to be a really tough opponent. They have a good team and they are playing for a lot of different reasons. They're well coached and we knew it would be a tough game. We played them early in the season and we kind of had our way with them. The second and third time we played - they have good players, good tactics, good technique - we knew it would be a much harder game. We had to establish ourselves early, not only on offense, but on defense."

Cal Senior Meghan Corso

On finishing third after getting to the NCAA championships for the first time:

"It's been a long time coming, especially my group of seniors and the fifth-years (seniors). We've worked so hard to get to this tournament and we knew that since we were here that we were only going to do great things. It's just been one of the best experiences ever for all of us and we knew that we were going to go for it - we have nothing to lose - and by us finishing third, it sets the bar for Cal women's water polo that it has developed into one of the leading programs."

LMU Head Coach Kyle Witt

Opening Statement:

"We just ran out of gas. They played hard the whole game.

"I think the stats this year will say how good we were and everything we accomplished, but I think we really grew as a team through this whole process, both with the first year and with this weekend.

On being down 4-1:

"When you start down like that, it mentally defeats you. I really feel like the injuries and fatigue hurt a little more. But they never stopped and that's something that I was really happy about. We earned a lot of exclusions. I think we had a poor 6-on-5 percentage today, but I do think they never stopped. They never stopped driving, they never stopped trying to enter the ball into two-meters (and) they never stopped countering. We did everything we had to do, we just didn't have it today."

On the future of the program:

"We lose four seniors - two that got minutes for us. We've got a good class coming in. I think we've definitely let everyone in the water polo community - potential recruits, current recruits, referees - everyone knows that we can hang. We're right there. I think we earned a lot of respect this weekend and the way to build on that is to continue to play with the heart and desire that we've always had and now have the talent to back up. That exemplifies our team and I think that will carry us to the next level, which as everyone saw this weekend, we were so close to getting to."

LMU Sophomore Casey Flacks

On the mental toll on the team following the last two days:

"It definitely has (taken a mental toll). The win over UCLA was nothing but exciting for the team in general. (It) really got

us excited and finally put us up and out there in the top four - that was an accomplishment in itself. Yesterday was rough, but we had smiles throughout. We are happy to be here and to have the experience, hopefully, to come back next year and be back where we are and even better. We've come together as a team - we've come a long ways since our past season. This season has been nothing but exceptional, even today, we kept smiles on our faces. We're happy - not ecstatic - but you can't take it away from us."