

# STANFORD ATHLETICS



## MEDIA RELATIONS

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**Stanford (1) vs. Santa Clara (4)**  
**Friday, Nov. 20, 2009**  
**NCAA Tournament Third Round**  
**Stanford, Calif.**

### **Stanford Head Coach Paul Ratcliffe**

#### ***On the difference between Thursday's 1-0 win and last month's meeting with Santa Clara...***

I think everyone knows that this is the last game of the season if they don't get goals, so emotions were high, it was a physical match, and it was a tight game because of that.

#### ***On the effect of the weather conditions on the game...***

I think it was just an emotional game, it was very physical. So that made it less beautiful to watch than usual.

#### ***On if it is good to have a tough test heading into the quarterfinals...***

They're all tough matches, I expect that. It is getting more physical, because like I said, it could be the least game of the year. Again, I expect that and everyone feels a little bit more pressure so it makes for a tighter game.

#### ***On the final 15 minutes of the game...***

I wasn't happy with how we ended the game. We should've cleared the ball a little better, we didn't clear. We wanted to get the second goal, we had a chance but [Christen] Press, unfortunately missed a good chance that she usually puts away. So yeah, I wasn't happy with not getting the second goal.

#### ***On Stanford's response to the physical play...***

I think you've got to be able to take some hits and be ready to hold your own. My hope is that we play good soccer though, and play out of it. But I also think you have to be able to take a hard hit.

### **Stanford forward Teresa Noyola**

#### ***On her goal...***

If it had been an inch lower, she might have gotten to it. She did read it well, which made it even more exciting. I've known Bianca [Henninger] for a long time, played with her, played against her, and to get one on her was great. She's a great keeper.

#### ***On taking the free kick that resulted in the goal...***

I had one from about the same spot last week, and I hit the post on that one, so I had confidence going into that. I knew I could hit it, I practice free kicks, I love to take them, so I think it paid off.

#### ***On the effect of the field conditions...***

I don't think it slowed us down, I think [the ball] did skip a little more than usual, so that might have thrown us off at times. At times you could kind of see players shaking it off, but you have to be ready for that. As far as them putting the pressure on us, that's going to happen all the time in the playoffs, and it's how we deal with it. We held today, and the field conditions are always going to be a factor.

#### ***On the difference from the last meeting between the schools (a 6-2 Stanford win)...***

We knew that they were going to try whatever it took to stop us. They played hard, credit to them. I don't think we thought we weren't the better team, because we knew we were the better team the whole time. The playoffs are like that, it's sometimes a battle to the end. It's do or die for them, obviously, and us. That's how it's going to be for every team. We're not going to win 6-2 in the playoffs.

***On the final dramatic minutes of the game...***

It was the longest 10, 12 minutes or however long it was of my life. I think that we could've done a better job of managing the game at the end, keeping it in the corner, playing it long at times.

**Stanford defender Ali Riley**

***On her foot...***

It's definitely come a long way since last week, but it's definitely not 100 percent, so I'm looking forward to having the next six days to recover even further.

***On the effect of the field conditions...***

I don't know if it was the conditions of the field, I think it's just getting used to playing with a lot of tape and padding on my foot. I felt a little bit slow out there, but it just unusual. All week it's been dry and nice out, so it was a change tonight. But you can't blame it on the field.

***On the team's defensive performance...***

I think in the first half we were playing a little too conservatively, giving them too much time on the ball. In the second half they really kicked it up a notch, they wanted to win it and they brought it, especially in those last 10 minutes. They put a lot of pressure on us, and something we do need to work on is clearing the ball harder and farther, so that'll be something we work on this week.

***On Kira Maker's save in the final minutes...***

All I remember is the ball coming to Kira, I turned around and saw her pat it up into the corner and then it just bounced. I didn't know if anyone was around but I just kicked it as hard as I could towards the stands over there. She did awesome, and it wasn't easy with the hecklers behind her, so I was really proud of her tonight.

**Santa Clara Head Coach Jerry Smith**

***On the Stanford goal...***

[Teresa] hit the free kick perfectly, right into the upper corner of the net. For Bianca to get a hand on it was a hell of a goalkeeping play on it, it was just hit perfectly. When you hit a perfect free kick, it's going to be tough on any goalkeeper to save. What everyone has to realize is that there's two parts to defending a dead ball, the goalkeeper covers one side of the goal, and the wall covers the other side of the goal. Teresa's shot beat the wall today, it didn't beat our goalkeeper. Teresa challenged the wall and hit it to the other side, and it was a hell of a shot. For Bianca even to get there I thought was truly amazing. As I told our team today, what knocked us out of the tournament was the undisputed number one team in the tournament, and a hell of a free kick shot that I think would've gone in against any goalkeeper.

***On the team taking this performance into next season...***

We won four games a year ago. For us, we put in a year's worth of work at the end of last season. For us to have the regular season that we did, we got better, we got stronger and stronger and stronger, to get back into the NCAA Tournament, back into the Sweet 16, and no matter how you look at it, the only team to knock us out is the undisputed number one team in the country. I am so proud of this group, all the effort, all the commitment, all the hard work that they put in for an entire year, there's so many parts of it that it would take me forever to describe it, but the leadership, Jordan's leadership, our captains' leadership, has really, really made the difference. We kept getting better and better each week and it culminated in the difference of the score between the first time we played Stanford and tonight's game. It was a dogfight, the game could have gone either way, they did a little better job on their free kicks than we did on our free kicks, and that was probably the difference in the game. But to go to a nail-biter game after getting blown out of the water only a couple of months ago, is a real credit to our players and how hard they've worked all year.

**Santa Clara defender Jordan Angeli**

***On the difference between the two meetings of the schools...***

Over the past year our team has just grown in leaps and bounds. I'm so proud of the work that we've put in, and I think now we know how hard of work it is to get where we want to go. I think that's instilled in the girls. This program is going to continue to be successful and it's going to continue to push to make the NCAA Tournament. Now that I think that the girls have that in them, I think that they're going to lead the girls coming in and it's going to continue building.