

Postgame Quotes

(1) Stanford vs. (8) Pomona-Pitzer - Friday, May 14, 2010

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

(1) Stanford 23, (8) Pomona-Pitzer 3

NCAA Championship - Quarterfinal Round, Game 3

Stanford Head Coach John Tanner

Opening comment:

"That was how we wanted to start the tournament – come out with a lot of energy and enthusiasm and take advantage of our size advantage. I also thought we were decisive with the ball and took advantage of those early opportunities. It was fun to come out and get playing after two weeks of build up. The atmosphere is great here at San Diego State and we're looking forward to our next great challenge tomorrow."

On how they prepared for Pomona-Pitzer:

"We prepare the same way we do for any other game. We got the information we could on Pomona and we prepared for them the same way we did for any other team. In terms of us getting ready to play, it's just show up here and there is this electricity in the place and it doesn't take a lot to get athletes excited when you have worked all year to get these three games when everything's on the line."

Stanford Senior Alex Koran

On if the LMU upset of UCLA registers in their mind heading into their game:

"It registers for sure, because you can see it on people's faces. But we all reassure each other that we need to be thinking about the game that we're playing at that very moment. ... That's the one thing we've emphasized as a team, just be in the moment and ready to do what we've been training for and just play Stanford polo."

On if they feel added pressure being the top seed:

"I don't think we feel added pressure, (but) I think we just feel that this is the time to prove that we're the No. 1 team. This is the time to show what we've been training for and to show that we're going to do what we do best, which is just to win the game."

Pomona-Pitzer Head Coach Alex Rodriguez

Opening comment:

"Stanford was very impressive today. I thought my girls fought hard and didn't give up, and I'm extremely proud of them. We've had a pretty good year winning our conference in a scenario when we were down by four. Coming out here playing Stanford is a big difference (compared to) Division III. Their quickness and their speed I think really affected us. Their length (as well); they seemed really long compared to us. It's quite a large difference."

On if this game builds the character of his team:

"This is our third year out of four that we've been here, and we kind of know what to expect coming in. It's almost more of a capstone to our season. We know Stanford has a lot of weapons; girls who will be in the Olympics or possibly could have been already. As a Division III program, my kids are generally more here for academics and balance in their lives, so they actually look at it as an exciting challenge. We talked at halftime about trying to make your moment; trying to get your goal, trying to get your assist, your steal, just trying to make a play and not worrying about the score. I have a pretty mature, well-educated group, and I think they understand that they are excited to be here."

Pomona-Pitzer Senior Sarah Woods

On the NCAA tournament experience:

"It's a fun experience. It's very challenging playing Division I schools and it's very intimidating. We had our banquet last night and we talked about the progress that women's water polo has made over the years, it's amazing. It's more of an honor to just be in this tournament and represent the women in this sport."