



2018 Big West Women's Soccer Tournament

Thursday, November 1, 2018

Semifinal Game

Final - (1) Long Beach State 1, (4) UC Davis 0

UC DAVIS

No. 1 Long Beach State

Head Coach Mauricio Ingrassia -

(Opening statement)

"I just want to congratulate UC Davis, that's one of the best Davis teams that we've seen. And we've seen them twice now in the last week and we've had a heck of a battle up at their place, and they gave us another battle here and we're fortunate to score the goal. It settled down a bit after that, but I want to congratulate them because they had a stellar season. And I want to congratulate my players, especially my senior class. They are the rock of the program and they've stepped up for the last 12 months, and they're getting rewarded now. There's been a lot of setbacks but they've bounced back each and every time. I'm just so proud of them, and proud of these two right here, so proud of all of them. And we're excited to be playing in our 4th final in five seasons and we're happy to say that Long Beach State is always in the conversation."

(On Dana Fujikuni)

"First of all, Dana is one of the best people and a pleasure to coach. She came in and she was a little nervous at first, but she grew each season. She's a tireless worker and she has a great heart for the team. But this year she stepped up to a whole new level, it was almost like the game became easy for her. And sometimes you see that when players mature, and as a fifth year senior that grows and matures and leads and feels the responsibility of the program, I think that's what we saw this season. And she's been rewarded, she carried our team for a long time while Ashley was finding her form again. And her engine is second to none, she's a tireless worker. We're really going to miss her next year and we won't be able to replace her. But hopefully we'll be able to reinvent our midfield a little bit without Dana, but we're very proud of her."

Senior, Midfielder Dana Fujikuni -

(on weight of semifinal matchup)

"Every game we come to is a championship game and we have to treat it like that. We can't just come out casual. Every game we have to get in that mindset and that's how we come out strong."

Senior, Goalkeeper Imani McDonald -

(on what made the difference tonight)

"Coming into this game, we absolutely wanted revenge given that we believe that we should've won. I'll take fault for two of the goals, so I owed my team a much better performance. And after we scored I knew that we had to hold it down including the back four, so I'm happy to come out on top for this one. But absolutely, we got to be there for our teammates."

No. 4 UC Davis

Head Coach Twila Kaufman -

(Opening statement)

"First of all hats off to Long Beach State, for finding a way to score a goal against us. We wish them well. I'm just a little bitter-sweet because we're super proud of these seniors, and obviously not so happy about the result but that's part of soccer. And Ari has been an amazing captain for us so I'll let her do most of the talking. She's gone 10 points, 11 points, 11 points and 14 points just like that in her career here. And she definitely belongs and it wasn't by accident and we're super proud of her."

Senior, Midfielder Ari Zamora -

(on senior class)

"It started with my freshman year we had a very strong senior class, and we were actually Twila's first recruiting class. And when she brought us in she said that we were going to be the class that makes history. Every year we progressed and grew closer and closer. I personally think that every single year that this group of girls has gone through so much adversity and we've all come together and supported each other on and off the field, and that has helped our team grow so much every year. And to continue to make history every single year is something I'm so proud of, and so grateful for Twila to just guide us through it. She's always been our biggest supporter and has always pushed us, and without that we wouldn't be here today. Like Twila said hats off to Long Beach, but I don't want to hear anything less or that anyone is not proud of us because we continue to keep breaking barriers. And I don't want this program to be unseen, because we are all brought here to do something special. And they're going to make history, we're going to win it one year, and I believe this group of girls has the talent and tenacity to do it."