

2013 SEC Soccer Tournament * Orange Beach, Ala. Sunday, November 10, 2013 Championship Match * Post-Match Quotes

FINAL SCORE: No. 2 Texas A&M 2, No. 1 Florida 1

Texas A&M Head Coach G Guerrieri

On Texas A&M winning the program's first SEC Tournament Championship ...

"As they say, words can't describe. It's a real feeling of pride for these kids. We got off to a little bit of a slow start in the season. We lost our first SEC game of the regular season and were able to claw back and win a share of the regular-season title. This is special because this is against the champions from last year and the team we were tied with at the end of the regular season, and a team that we have the utmost respect for. It was going to take a special effort. We had two great goals in the second half to, first, claw back in and then the second one was just a great, great goal by Liz [Keester] to win it."

On Texas A&M freshman Liz Keester being named the SEC Tournament MVP ...

"Not bad for a freshman to come in and do that. We joke with her because her family has been coming here to Orange Beach as long as she can remember. We consider this her new home field and she sure played like it, getting two goals in the semifinal against South Carolina and then one to win the championship for us."

On not getting discouraged by a 1-0 deficit at halftime ...

"We wanted to make sure that the players knew that even though we were down at halftime, we had been playing well. We had gotten a lot of chances, we just didn't get them on frame. To not lose their confidence because the game plan was working. We just had to have the confidence to go out and stick with it, and the grit to make it happen. That's what it came down to."

On preparations for the upcoming NCAA Tournament ...

"I think the SEC is in really good shape for the NCAA Tournament. We're hoping that we can get six, seven, maybe eight teams into the field. For us, this is a chance for us maybe to be a seeded team. Florida should be a seeded team, South Carolina should be a seeded team. This helps us out a lot and we're excited about the announcement on Monday and then, obviously, I think it's a pretty good bet that we're going to play at home for our 19th straight NCAA Tournament, which is really special."

Tournament MVP Liz Keester, Texas A&M

On Texas A&M winning its first SEC Soccer Tournament Title ...

"It was really exciting. I think it was a really great team effort out there. Our defense was solid, our midfield was solid and it was definitely a full team effort to get the win."

On being named SEC Tournament MVP

"It means a lot – it's really exciting. I wouldn't be anywhere without my teammates. They make the passes. They're right there carrying me across the line when we're running. We're all in it together."

On coming up clutch in each of the last two matches for Texas A&M ...

"As funny as it seems, it just goes back to being a soccer game and doing what you love. In the moment, you just play and live in the moment."

Florida Head Coach Becky Burleigh

On Florida's 2-1 loss to Texas AcM in the SEC Tournament Championship ...

"I thought we started out pretty good. In terms of compared to the first time that we played Texas A&M, we dealt with their pressure a little bit better. In the second half, I think we got a little bit passive and allowed them too much possession in their half instead of pressing them a little bit higher."

On upcoming preparations for the NCAA Tournament ...

"We need to figure out what we're going to do with Havana [Solaun] probably not being available. That will be job No. 1. After that, it will just be more of the same – keeping possession of the ball and making sure that we do a good job defending set pieces."

On Havana Solaun, Christen Westphal and Savannah Jordan being named to the SEC All-Tournament Team ... "I think they were all really deserving. Those happened to be our All-SEC players too and I think they stepped up to this tournament and did a really great job."