



SEC Soccer Tournament: Wednesday, November 5, 2014
Post-Match Quotes

FINAL SCORE: No. 3 Kentucky 2, No. 6 Auburn 1

Kentucky Head Coach Jon Lipsitz

On his team's 2-1 win against sixth-seeded Auburn on Wednesday in the SEC Soccer Tournament Quarterfinals ...

"I thought we really struggled a lot at times. I didn't think we played well after about the first 20 minutes and I thought the second half was about as poorly as we've played in a long, long time. That's because of Auburn; the pressure they were putting on us was really intense. We knew it was going to be and I thought they were fantastic and they made it difficult for us. We just have to deal with that better. We have to still be who we are, but when you're not fighting hard enough to win the ball, it's hard to play a good soccer game. We've got things to work on, we've got a lot of things to look at on film, but we're excited to advance and learn through victory."

On his team scoring two goals in the first 13 minutes of the match ...

"It was the key to the game in the end. We could tell we were ready to play and we trained really well leading up to it, so I wasn't surprised that we did well. But then we lost the rhythm and we just never got it back. It was a really interesting game. That's a tribute to [Auburn head coach] Karen [Hoppa] and her staff. If you look over time, I don't think anyone has done what Auburn has done here. For us to get a victory over them here at Orange Beach is a great moment for our program."

On facing 10th-seeded Tennessee on Friday in the SEC Soccer Tournament Semifinals ...

"We didn't play them this year, so it's fun to play a new team. They are incredibly driven right now and relentless. I watched them play Florida and I was really, really impressed by their play and just gutting it out and finding a way. A lot of times, when you get to the end of the year, it really comes down to a decision that your kids have to make. They've made that decision and it's very clear that [Tennessee head coach] Brian [Pensky] and his staff have them ready, so we know it's going to be as difficult of a game as we've played all year."

Auburn Head Coach Karen Hoppa

On her team's 2-1 loss to third-seeded Kentucky on Wednesday in the SEC Soccer Tournament Quarterfinals ...

"Obviously we had a really slow start and Kentucky came out flying. We gave up two goals that were uncharacteristic for us, but I was really pleased with how my team responded. I thought after the first 15 minutes, we started solving their pressure and I thought we really dominated the match. In the second half, we had them pinned in and on their heels and we were unfortunate not to get the second goal."

On her team's resiliency ...

"We've got a great group and they play hard right until the end. They went down swinging and I'm really proud of our second half."

On her team's 2014 season to this point ...

"We've had a really good season as a team where we've gotten better as the season has gone on. We've certainly done enough to get in the NCAAs and we're going to start preparing for the first round."