



SEC Soccer Tournament: Friday, November 7, 2014
Post-Match Quotes

FINAL SCORE: No. 1 Texas A&M 1, No. 5 South Carolina 0

Texas A&M Head Coach G. Guerrieri

On his team's 1-0 win against fifth-seeded South Carolina in the SEC Tournament Semifinals ...

"It was a challenge. South Carolina came in, they had a game plan and, physically, they have a lot of height and a lot of powerful people. They were kind of trying to knock us out of our game a little bit. I thought that, for the first part of the second half, they had done that. Credit to our kids that we were able to get back under control, get the ball back down and have a couple of chances at the end. I thought we had a goal there on the ball that Shea [Groom] hit that [South Carolina's Sabrina] D'Angelo made a brilliant save on, but then a couple of corner kicks and a great finish by BB [Bianca Brinson]. For us, we played them about a week ago; we didn't close out a game that we were winning late and I thought we did a good job of it today."

On what his team learned from its earlier meeting with South Carolina this season ...

"Game management. When a team is chasing like South Carolina was there at the end, I thought we did a really good job of making it to where they played where we wanted to go. We needed to keep our heads and understand that the clock was ours at that point. Even though we didn't really stall anything out, we just found ways of putting the ball and keeping the ball where it wasn't going to get scored against us."

On Bianca Brinson's game-winning goal in the 87th minute ...

"It was a great, great serve from Kelley Monogue, who has been doing that her entire career. Without Janae Cousineau and without Annie Kunz in the game for us – those are two of our taller players – Brinson really timed it well. Her role in that particular one was to seal the back post and she got in there and made sure it was there. It was a brilliant, brilliant serve and really unstoppable for their goalkeeper."

On playing in Sunday's SEC Tournament Championship Game ...

"If I haven't said how much I love being in the SEC, let me say it one more time. For all of Texas A&M, it has just been a wonderful ride. Being a part of this conference is huge, so to be able to play for another championship on Sunday at the beach, it's a pretty good deal. Whether it's Tennessee or Kentucky, we

know that we'll have our hands full. These are two teams that are playing really well right now. They may be the two hottest teams besides us in the conference. It will be a great game. We're looking forward to the challenge and we're looking forward to a day off tomorrow."

Texas A&M Forward Bianca Brinson

On her team's 1-0 win against fifth-seeded South Carolina in the SEC Tournament Semifinals ...

"It was the semifinals, so it was a huge game for us. South Carolina is a great team. At the beginning, we were connecting passes and, after a while, we kind of fell off and people were getting hurt so we had to make other accommodations. We went into another formation there for a second. As the game was going on, the clock was running down and it just took heart after that. We just found a way to win."

On her winning goal against South Carolina in the 87th minute ...

"There was not much time left on the clock and I didn't want to go to penalty kicks. Usually, Janae [Cousineau] is in the middle so there was an extra space there. The ball was just coming towards me and, as it was coming closer and closer, I just thought, okay, this is it. I jumped up and it went in."

On playing in Sunday's SEC Soccer Tournament Championship ...

"It's a big win and now we just have to worry about recovery and getting ourselves healthy for Sunday's game. We're pumped and we're ready."

South Carolina Head Coach Shelley Smith

On her team's 1-0 loss to top-seeded Texas A&M in the SEC Tournament Semifinals ...

"I'm proud of the girls. Obviously, we're disappointed in the result. We wanted to make the finals and put ourselves in a position to win a championship. The heart you saw with this team and the fight, and we played a tremendous team in Texas A&M. They showed how strong they are. I thought we battled. We didn't have the best first half, but we came back and really did well the second half to put ourselves in a position to win the game. We just didn't find the net on a couple of opportunities but, overall, I thought we played very well. We'll build off of this going into NAACAs next week."

On preparations for the upcoming NCAA Tournament ...

"We have to put a full effort out there for 90 minutes. We can't come out like we did today – a little bit flat. We also can't allow certain things on set pieces and we need to manage games. We didn't manage the game very well against Missouri. I thought we did a better job tonight. It's always a learning situation. A&M just showed that it took a special moment to win the game. We had some special plays to keep us in the game and close to scoring, and it didn't happen for us. [South Carolina goalkeeper] Sabrina [D'Angelo] showed what kind of saves she can make to keep us in a game. [Texas A&M's Bianca] Brinson is a tremendous player. They have several good, strong individuals. Someone had to step and finish this game off – be it us or them – and give credit to A&M for finishing the game."