

**NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE CUP  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2008  
STANFORD COACH AND PLAYER QUOTES**

**Head coach Paul Ratcliffe**

*Opening Statement*

“We’re excited to be here playing against the best teams in the nation. We can’t wait to get out on the field and make a go of it.”

*On staying focused*

“It’s business as usual for us. We’re excited to be here, but our goal is to win a national championship. We’re going to take care of business and play to the best of our abilities and get the nerves and kinks out early in the game and let instincts take over and play good soccer.”

*On Notre Dame*

“Notre Dame is a fantastic team. We played them last year so we know a little bit about them. I have a lot of respect for what they’ve done with the players they have. It’ll be a competitive game. Hopefully we’ll play well against them and get the result we want.”

*On how the team has evolved*

“I think we have more weapons now, it’s hard to key on certain players. Goals are coming from a lot of different players, all three front-runners are exceptional players, our midfield has a lot more creativity. The back line has been strong all year. We don’t have one or two superstars, we’re just all around great.”

*On the upperclassmen helping the freshman*

“We’ve had great leadership. The seniors have done a fantastic job of integrating the freshmen. The freshman group is a really talented group. They love soccer and they work very hard. They mesh well together and that’s a big part of our success.”

**Senior Marisa Abegg**

*On the pressure of the College Cup*

“I think we’ve really grown as a team. We all are a lot more composed and relaxed. We know that we’re a very good team.”

*On the development of the new players*

“Every year, getting new players, it’s hard starting out and adjusting to new players, but I think all seven of our freshman have done such a good job of coming in and making a big difference in terms of our team environment and they’ve also made a big impact on the field. It’s easy to get along with a group that is very talented.”

**Senior Allison Falk**

*On the game against North Carolina earlier in the season*

“It was a great game for us to play such a great team early on in the season and see how we matched up against them. It’s great that we’ve already played them and UCLA coming into the tournament.”