

SENIOR NIGHT

In a thrilling soccer match against Florida Tech, Aidan Smith (1), displayed incredible skills with several remarkable saves. At the 36-minute mark, she made a great save following an initial shot attempt. Throughout the game, Brooke Steigerwalt, a senior, shown as an exceptional mid-field player, showcased her talents. The team faced adversity when their mid-fielder Tali O'Leary, had gotten injured, leaving them a player down for a brief period. With this happening Florida Tech was the first to convert a goal. Second half came around where Florida Tech yet again converted their second point in the game. Jay Richardson a forward senior executed great passes across the field, but with Florida Tech team managed to defend effectively. They added pressure to the game causing the Spartans to struggle controlling the ball and experience challenges. With many new faces and changes to the team this game was already known to be a difficult one. I had received some motivational quotes from some of the players which helped overcome challenges. They were told to stay focused and strong no matter what was happening on the field.



This type of atmosphere is what you call home. The University of Tampa has Pepin Stadium as their main field right in the middle of campus. The stadium was filled with parents, friends, and classmates buzzing with energy. All coming together to celebrate the seniors' contributions. As seniors geared up for their night, their was pride and nostalgia that brighten the mood in the stadium. The girls took the field and looked good at first. Even though this game was a home advantage the girls still had trouble with communication at first. The sun was setting and the night breeze was starting, it got a little chilly but it was the perfect weather to be playing soccer. The senior night showdown has been a tribute for the seniors.



Jay Richardson taking a shot on goal but sadly missing, by an inch. She performed really well by making amazing passes to her teammates that would help her team score a couple of times.



Aidan Smith discusses what she believes the team could do to help for the next games to come. "Stepping to the ball sooner when it's in our defensive half would prevent more shots on goal." Which can be seen in the next couple games played the defense would help protect the goalie from having to touch the ball as much.



It's not
over
until the
final
whistle.



Hannah Kirkpatrick,
mid-fielder,
emphasized resilience
as halftime arose.
Words of aspiration
and motivation was a
positive impact on the
team.

Sofia Libman, a sophomore who transferred from Campbell University, shows her powerful defense on the field. She took the ball down the field in attempt for a goal. Unfortunately her pass did not fully commit to a goal the team was able to try and score.



In the face of adversity, the seniors offered words of encouragement and motivation to their teammates. Brooke Steigerwalt, the skilled midfielder, rallied her teammates with, "We've got this, don't let up now." With this type of energy the girls were able to keep a smile on there face and push through till the end of the game. Words of aspiration is a significant way to help a team come together and to not think negatively. With the spirit from the seniors and fans they demonstrated the power of a team that stands together no matter what happened. As some people may say "Teamwork makes the dream work."



Madison McElhone, a determined mid-fielder, emphasized the importance of teamwork, saying, "We need to communicate and support each other." Communication anywhere is key to performance. By having support the team was able to communicate with one another really well for the game. McElhone had played excellent when the ball was close to the home goal. She would use her communication skills to enlighten a teammate on what to do and where the ball was at the time.

Seniors Ignite Resilience

In the face of trouble, the Tampa Women's Soccer Team drew strength from the seniors' transactional leadership. Despite the challenges and the tough loss, the team refused to give way to despair. Instead, they harnessed their collective unity which helped transform the disappointment into a driving force for the future games. The essence of resilience determined every player's actions, serving as an important reminder that setbacks are temporary roadblocks into the journey. With this shared determination, the team pushed themselves to their absolute best potential, demonstrating not only their skills on the field but their ability to play as a team. As the final whistle blew, marking the end of game, the players left with their heads held high knowing they had given there all. Hopefully this experience will help fuel the leadership and efforts of the Women's Soccer Team.