

2009 SWATCH FIVB World Championships *Presented by ConocoPhillips*

Vaagen Harbour, Stavanger, Norway
July 4, 2009 WOMEN'S Post Match Quotes
Provided courtesy of www.vfstavanger.com

Larissa Franca, Brazil – After Saturday's semifinal three-set win over compatriots Maria Antonelli/Talita Antunes – "I'm very happy now to be in the final. You know I'm a perfectionist and I hate not playing perfect. It was a very hard match, with both teams wanting to win very badly, but I think Juliana played very well. Now we have 46 of the 48 best teams in the world behind us. That's so good."

Juliana Felisberta Silva, Brazil – After Saturday's semifinal win over her compatriots – "I like to win matches like this. I think we were strong, and both Antonelli and Talita were making the match very tough. How do you tackle your teammate's (Larissa) comments during the game, especially when something is going wrong. Ah, she's talking, talking, talking all the time, and I have no problems with that. I just remind her I pay the half of the hotel and everything, and she laughs. I have no problems with that. No problems, she keeps her and my mind on the match always wanting to win every ball. That's something everyone would like to have in their partner."

Talita Antunes, Brazil – After Saturday's loss to Juliana/Larissa – "They played better than us in the last part, and they made all the side outs work for them. We gave them their first set loss in this tournament but it wasn't enough. We always go to tie break against them, but maybe next time we can make it. I hope Juliana/Larissa or Ana Paula/Shelda can get the title, but I also think that the Americans Ross/Kessy seem strong."

Jennifer Kessy, United States – After Saturday's three-set semifinal win over Brazil's Ana Paula Connelly/Shelda Bede – "I was pressing Shelda out on the lines in this match, and I could see that Ana Paula was going more and more over towards her. Then in the third set, I started to serve more between them, and it worked. But I really don't know how it's possible to serve out Shelda, but I guess I did."

Ana Paula Connelly, Brazil – After Saturday's semifinal loss to Americans Kessy/Ross – "We had a terrible start in the third set. They killed us in the third set. I wanted to call a medical time out before the third set but Shelda said 'no' because we played so well in the second set."

Talita Antunes, Brazil – After winning the Bronze Medal match over fellow Brazilians Shelda Bede/Ana Paula Connelly – "Just focusing on our own things, we always do that."

Maria Antonelli, Brazil – After victory over another Brazilian team – "I just started, and I got a bronze medal. We played better and better during the match. It's very special to win my first medal at the world championships. Shelda in particular gives us a hard time her defense is so great. She's so small (165 cm), so you just have to look for her hands, and they are almost everywhere. I hope she plays more, she's too good to quit now. (Shelda is 36)."

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Ana Paula Connelly, Brazil – After Saturday's Bronze Medal loss to Brazilians Antonelli/Antunes – “I didn't even warm up before the bronze final, in fear of getting exhausted. I was trying to eat bread before the match, but I threw up again just before the match, and I was running on just fluids. I was afraid I couldn't really do a good job out there, but still it was great to be out there. I'm glad we managed to make as much as a match as we did, but it was really too much for me to do a world class match out there. I still think we were in the match for a long time out there, not giving up, even coming back a few times. We fought, but I didn't even warm up before the match. I was afraid of getting exhausted. It's a pity for Shelda, this probably being her last World Championship. I tried, but I was just dead. I'll be back in Stavanger next year. I promise!”

Jennifer Kessy, United States – After winning the Gold Medal match over Brazilians Juliana Felisberta Silva/Larissa Franca – “It was unbelievable to be out there tonight. This is what we have worked for. This has been our goal since we lost a qualifying spot for the olympics. We've worked super hard for this. This is our second win here and it makes Stavanger very special for us. We'll never ever forget Stavanger, ever.”

April Ross, United States – After winning the Gold Medal match over the Brazilians – “We have worked very hard to achieve this title, but we also know that you need a little bit of luck to win any event you enter. We beat a very good team today. They compete very hard throughout every match they play. We feel very proud to win this title on the day that our country celebrates Independence Day. Our hard work really paid dividends today.”

Juliana Felisberta Silva, Brazil – After losing the Gold Medal to the Americans – “They always manage to play well. They hit good, and are crazy enough to make the wins. They played very well, and deserved to win today, they were better. The focus they had made it very difficult for us.

But I really wanted a sword and I, have a lot to be grateful for. You know I love this game. It's my life. I every day thank God for my life, my family, country, trainers, sponsors and everyone in my life. After my injury, to think I can come back to play in a final. It's amazing.”