

# U.S. Blanks Germany To Advance To Women's World Cup Final



WANG LILI/XINHUA/SIPA USA/TNS  
Players from the United States celebrate a 2-0 victory against Germany in the semifinals of the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup in Montreal, Canada, on Tuesday.

BY ANNE M. PETERSON  
AP Sports Writer

MONTREAL (AP) — Carli Lloyd buried a penalty kick, Hope Solo got another shutout and the United States beat top-ranked Germany 2-0 on Tuesday night to advance to the title match at the Women's World Cup.

Lloyd's penalty kick in the 69th minute went into the right side of the goal less than 10 minutes after Celia Sasic shot wide on a penalty kick for Germany. "Just slotted it home. I knew what I had to do," Lloyd said.

Solo has posted five straight shutouts for the United States in the tournament. Kelley O'Hara came in off the bench and scored in the 85th minute, delighting the pro-American crowd.

The second-ranked United

States will play the winner of Wednesday night's match in Edmonton between defending champion Japan, ranked No. 4, and sixth-ranked England. The final is set for Sunday at Vancouver's BC Place.

"It's a dream come true," Lloyd said. "This is what we trained for."

It was the fourth World Cup meeting between Germany and the U.S. In each of the first three games, the winner went on to win the title.

The marquee matchup led to lines of fans waiting to get in about three hours before the game. The line for the main souvenir stand snaked up a half-dozen ramps to the building's third level at one point.

WORLD CUP | PAGE 8

## Japan Faces Upstart England In WC Semifinal

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Coach Norio Sasaki can say whatever he wants in suggesting his Japanese players are superior to England's.

Coach Mark Sampson would prefer to see that decided on the field Wednesday, when his upstart Lionesses face the defending champion Nadeshiko in the Women's World Cup semifinal. The winner advances to face the United States in the final at Vancouver, British Columbia, on Sunday.

Pausing for five seconds after being informed what Sasaki had told reporters earlier Tuesday, Sampson began by saying he expects a game of contrasting styles.

"We'll have to appreciate and respect the quality they've got technically," Sampson said. "But we've got some half-decent players technically ourselves."

They've been more than half-decent enough to get sixth-ranked England this far in making the nation's deepest run in four tournament appearances.

"We've upset the apple cart so far," Sampson said, in noting how England has won four straight, and coming off a 2-1 win over host Canada. "We know we've made life very difficult for every one of our opponents. And that'll be our intention tomorrow."

It's also not lost on England that they're 1-0-2 in their past three meetings against Japan. And that includes a 2-0 win in the 2011 World Cup preliminary round in Germany.

"They are the world champions, and we have to respect that," midfielder Jill Scott said. "But we have beaten them before, so why not again tomorrow?"

Sasaki is aware Japan has never beaten England since he took over as coach in 2008. And yet, he believes that's about to change.

"I don't think the players are overconfident. But it seems that the coach is overconfident because we lost last time," Sasaki said, referring to himself, through a translator. "In terms of the stamina, both teams will have a tough game. But even with the conditions, I think the Japanese players are superior."

The fourth-ranked Nadeshiko are 8-0 in World Cup play since losing to England.

They've rolled through this tournament with an efficient, ball-control, creative passing style that relies on patience and teamwork that's effectively worn down opponents. That was the case in their 1-0 win over Australia in the quarterfinal on Saturday, when Mana Iwabuchi subbed in and scored in the 87th minute.

"I think we can probably do that, or we can probably do even better than we did against Australia," Sasaki said, before looking ahead to the championship game. "So we will definitely go back to Vancouver, I believe that."

Here's a number of things to look out for as the two nations meet for only the second time in World Cup play:

**OHNO IN EDMONTON:** Japan forward Shinobu Ohno was reminded that she scored three goals at Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium during the Under-19 world championships in 2002.

"That was a long ago, so I really don't remember that," Ohno said through a translator.

Sasaki then interjected and said he expects Ohno to score, because that's the reason he selected her to attend the news conference.

"Well, I'll try hard," she said.

**SPOILSPORTS?** After spoiling Canada's bid to play the semifinal on the nation's birthday, Sampson isn't sure what type of support England will receive from its Commonwealth cousins.

"We're more than happy to play that pantomime villain role, but I really hope not," Sampson said. "Maybe the neutrals might start to support an England, who are certainly the rank outsiders of this tournament at the moment."

**CYPRUS BOOST:** Sampson credits the Lionesses winning the Cyprus Cup in March as providing an invaluable boost to his team entering the World Cup.

## Post 12 Scores 20th Win

HARRISBURG — Mason Townsend struck out seven over seven innings and helped his cause with three hits and three runs scored to lead Yankton past Harrisburg 7-1 in American Legion baseball action on Tuesday.

Levi Schmidt had three hits and three RBI for Yankton. Adam Walter and Ben Cameron each doubled, with Walter driving in two and Cameron scoring once. Brad Ulmer homered. Sheldon Gant and Colin Muth each had a hit and a run scored. Adam Heine added a hit in the victory.

Townsend picked up the win. Hunter Cameron struck out two in two innings of relief.

Yankton, 20-7 overall and 5-0 in region play, travels to Sioux Falls East on Thursday. Start time for the twinbill is 4 p.m.

## Golf Halfway Through Year: Turnover At Warp Speed

BY DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

The No. 1 player in golf already has three wins in 2015, including a World Golf Championship, and he has finished in the top 10 at both majors.

Halfway through the year, however, Rory McIlroy is playing second fiddle.

Remember the hype over McIlroy going for the career Grand Slam at the Masters? That was three months ago, and it seems like a lot longer. The attention has shifted to Jordan Spieth and his bid for an unprecedented sweep of the four majors in the same year. The real Grand Slam.

Arnold Palmer created it. Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods pursued it.

And now it falls to a 21-year-old Texan who just three years ago wasn't even a full PGA Tour member.

"We watch the elite athlete. We watch the mental focus and the preparation and the drive to become the best," Bubba Watson said. "That's where he's heading. Who knows if he'll ever become No. 1 in the world, but he's trending in that direction pretty quickly."

GOLF | PAGE 8

## Norfolk Tourney Champs



The Yankton Inferno U19 boys' soccer club won its age division at the Norfolk Soccer Tournament this past weekend, beating the Norfolk Express 2-0 in over time in the final. Team members include (front) Ryan Lietz, (middle) Gabe Wenzlaff, Chase Huber, Jared Rafferty, Alex Wieseler, Brady Skillingstad, Cody Perakslis, Cole Lewno, (back) coach Wes Chambers, Steven Bray, John Dannenbring, Brady Dangler, Derek Brenner, Seth Druin, Connor Chambers and Isaac Schulz.

## Four Teams, 129 Coyotes On SL Commissioner's List

ELMHURST, Ill.—South Dakota placed 74 percent of its list-eligible student-athletes on the 2014-15 Commissioner's List of Academic Excellence released Tuesday by the Summit League office. In addition, the Coyotes' women's golf team, women's tennis team, and men's and women's track and field and cross country teams received Team Academic Achievement Awards for obtaining the highest percentage among league members.

In all, 129 USD student-athletes were named to the list including 11 who have earned all A's. The percent is up three points from 71

a year ago. In order to be selected, the student-athlete must carry a 3.00 or better cumulative grade point average, used a year of eligibility and previously completed one academic year at the nominating institution.

South Dakota's women's golf (7 of 7) and women's tennis teams (6 of 6) placed 100 percent of its eligible student-athletes on the list. The Coyotes' women's track and field and cross country squad placed 29 of 32 student-athletes on the list for 91 percent. The men's team placed 18 of 24 on the list for 75 percent.

Other Coyote programs

that turned in a high percentage include soccer (17 of 20, 85 percent), softball (9 of 11, 82 percent) and women's swimming and diving (17 of 23, 74 percent).

Among the women's basketball honorees was Bridget Arens, a sophomore from Crofton, Nebraska. Hannah Withrow, a junior from Yankton, was honored for women's golf. Connor Fitzsimmins, a junior from Yankton; and Cody Snyder, a senior from Lake Andes, were honored for men's track and field. Kristin Steffen, a senior from Crofton, Nebraska; Elizabeth Szymanski, a sophomore from Vermillion; and

Rachel Weinandt, a senior from Yankton, were honored for women's track and field.

For South Dakota State, area honorees included Jenna Grossenburg, a junior women's track and field athlete from Yankton; Chloe Cornemann, a junior women's basketball player from Yankton; Megan Mingo, a sophomore women's golfer from Yankton; Kip Kinsley, a sophomore men's track and field athlete from Yankton; Bobbie McLaury, a senior women's track and field athlete from Elk Point; and Cory Jacobsen, a junior men's basketball player from Viborg.

## On The Road Again: Luke Ridnour Dealt For Fourth Time In Less Than A Week

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Luke Ridnour may be in need of a rest — or a good travel agent — after being traded for the fourth time in less than a week.

The Oklahoma City Thunder sent the veteran guard and cash to the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday in exchange for a trade exception and the rights to forward Tomislav Zubcic.

It was just the latest move for Ridnour: After averaging 4 points and 2 assists for Orlando last season, he was dealt to Charlotte last

Wednesday in a deal involving Memphis and then almost immediately sent to the Thunder along with a conditional 2016 second-round draft pick for guard Jeremy Lamb.

And now he's on the move again. Ridnour has played for five NBA teams in 12 years, and the former Oregon Duck has a career scoring average of 9.3 points per game.

The Thunder will have one year to exercise the trade exception. Zubcic was the 56th overall pick in the 2012 draft and has yet to play in the NBA.

## USOC Leaders Stick With Boston's Troubled Bid

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — Leaders of the U.S. Olympic Committee are sticking with Boston as a candidate for the 2024 Olympics, knowing full well that getting the city to the starting line in this contest could be as tough as actually landing the games.

The USOC board met Tuesday to discuss the Boston bid, which has been troubled by tepid polling data and opponents who, among other things, don't want taxpayers footing the bill for a huge international event.

Thoughts that the board might turn elsewhere or pull the plug altogether were put on hold. They were replaced by a show of support for the Boston 2024 team, now under new management, along with a not-so-subtle nod to the reality that the city needs to find a support level among its residents well above the current low to mid-40 percent range.

"We want to see a positive trend, and the sooner the better," said USOC chairman Larry Probst, who was joined by CEO Scott Blackmun and the leaders of the Boston bid at a news conference. "We want to see it get to 50 percent relatively soon, and ultimately get to the mid-60s range, certainly before the vote of the IOC."

That vote comes in 2017, but the key date is Sept. 15, 2015, which is when all cities must declare themselves candidates. Probst made reference to "circling back" with the Boston leadership in the next few weeks, and both Probst and Blackmun said they'd be monitoring the polling numbers carefully.

Boston joins Paris, Rome

and Hamburg, Germany as the officially declared candidates.

Had the board wanted more certainty, it could have ditched Boston and looked to Los Angeles — an awkward and difficult choice that may have netted a better final result because Los Angeles has hosted the Olympics twice and there has been talk that some IOC members would like a "safer" American choice.

Instead, the USOC said it was all-in with Boston, which unveiled its new "Bid 2.0" to the public on Monday.

"I've seen their presentation five times in the last six days, and each time, it keeps getting better," Probst said.

So, the board decided the right thing to do was to see how that plan plays out before simply walking away. The \$4.6 billion blueprint was filled with before-missing specifics about venues and cost. Probst and Blackmun said they were impressed with the man who will oversee it: Celtics co-owner Steve Pagliuca, who replaced John Fish as chairman nearly six weeks ago.

"We've had so many conversations with Scott that he hasn't had time to talk to anyone else," Pagliuca deadpanned, after Blackmun was asked if anyone at the USOC had, in fact, had conversations with Los Angeles.

The answer: An emphatic "No."

"We're focused exclusively with Boston," Blackmun said. For now, at least.

A referendum on the Olympics is set for next year in Massachusetts and Boston

BOSTON | PAGE 8

## Winning In Yankton



The Yankton Twins won their 11-under division of the Yankton Twins youth baseball tournament on Saturday, June 27. Team members include (front) Landen Loecker, Mac Ryken, Drew Ryken, Lucas Kampshoff, (back) Cooper Grotenhuis, Luke Bernatow, Michael Mors, Dawson Vellek and Samuel Kampshoff.

SOCCER | PAGE 8