

# NEWS

## RECAP: GOALS FROM ANNEST AND MILLER SEND COLORADO RAPIDS WOMEN TO WPSL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS



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**STILLWATER, OKLA.** — The **Colorado Rapids Women** advanced to the **WPSL Championship** delayed semifinal match that stretched into early Saturday morning.

**Mari Annest** and **Shiloh Miller** scored for the Rapids at **Neal Patterson Stadium** on the first **WPSL Championship Semifinal** appearance.

The Rapids now face Sacramento-based **California Storm** in Sunday's championship final. **Rhythm F.C.** 1-0 in Friday's curtain raiser.

Lightning in the area that stopped the night's first semifinal match for more than two hours before 11 PM CDT. According to league officials, it was the latest kickoff and match in league history.

The late start cut warmups short for both teams, making for a frantic start as both sides suffered from uncertain delays.



After considerable and unproductive back-and-forth in the first 20 minutes of the match at the end of the first half, **Amanda Attanasi** created the first real opportunity of the match outside of the Rapids penalty area, missing just wide after creating space for herself.

“I was happy with the way things went for us in the first half,” **Bill Schute**, SJEB FC head coach, said. “When the game was going on, we had a hard time keeping up that intensity in the second half.”

At the other end, the Rapids failed to put a single shot on goal in the first 45 minutes.

“That wasn’t us at all in the first half,” **Sebastian Giraldo**, Rapids head coach, said. “That was a challenge for us that with the delay and it was difficult for us to get started.”

At the start of the second half—and a new day—the Rapids regained the form that enabled them to succeed throughout the season, maintaining possession for long periods and probing for seams in

The Rapids' first true chance came in the 52' minute when **Alesia Garcia's** tireless holdup found Glover cutting in from the right flank. Glover's shot went wide, and the tide turned

"Alesia [Garcia] was incredible for us tonight," Giraldo said. "Her ability to press and h

From there, the Rapids ceased control of the match, but it wasn't until the 66' minute tha

The goal came from the determination of **Adi Walick** in the central midfield. Walick found yards from goal. The low, driven shot emerged late from the crowd blocking SJEB FC goal her entire body behind the ball, it crossed behind her over the goal line to put the Rapids

"Adi did a good job getting me the ball in the middle," Annest said. "I had half-a-space a it go in."

When **Kelly Francis** barely missed getting on the end of a cross from Garcia, it looked like she would get a second goal which finally came in the 78' minute. Miller cleaned her own rebound and the far post with her right foot from 12 yards out.

With 11 minutes to play, it looked like Walick's hard work was paid off with a goal of her own. The score was raised to keep the score 2-0.



Now the Rapids look to the Final versus the Storm in a matchup Giraldo expects to be a g

Kickoff for Sunday's WPSL Championship Final is scheduled for 7:30 PM CDT at Neal Pa  
WPSLSoccer.com/live (<https://elevensports.com/en/competition/womens-premier-socc>

## Box Score

### Colorado Rapids Women

Sommers, Reuland, Baker, Gilchrist, Gallegos, Meyer, Walick, Piper, Annest, Glover, Ga

Head Coach: Sebastian Giraldo

### SJEB FC

Piso, Stuart, Farnham, Hollywood, Pepe, Gargiulo, Drumm, Attanasi, Reimet, Kenton, Lap

Coach: Bill Schute

### **Goals:**

66' Mari Annest-Colo.

78' Shiloh Miller-Colo.

### **Misconduct:**

None

### **Rapids/SJEB**

Shots: 9/2

Shots on target: 5/2

Saves: 2/3

Corner Kicks: 5/4

Fouls: 5/5

Offside: 2/2



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