



November 25, 2011
MPSF Men's Water Polo Tournament

NO. 2-SEED CALIFORNIA EARNS 15-9 VICTORY AGAINST NO. 7-SEED UC IRVINE

Ivan Rackov leads California with five goals in first-round match

LOS ANGELES – Ivan Rackov scored a game-high five goals to lead No. 2-seed California past No. 7-seed UC Irvine, 15-9, in a first-round MPSF Tournament match on Friday afternoon at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center.

California overcame an early 1-0 deficit, taking the lead for good at the 4:41 mark in the first quarter on a 6-on-5 goal from Blake Kelly. The Golden Bears (21-3) outscored UC Irvine by a 5-2 margin in the opening quarter.

UC Irvine (15-12) was led by two goals each from Jacob Mourer, Max Parrague and Brian Pickford.

The Golden Bears led at halftime, 6-4, and opened the third quarter with consecutive goals from Rackov at 7:37 and 6:32 to claim an 8-4 cushion. UC Irvine responded by reducing its deficit to 8-6 at the 4:44 mark in the third quarter before California pulled ahead for good.

California closed the third quarter with three more goals and led, 11-7, heading into the final period.

The Golden Bears outscored the Anteaters, 4-1, in the fourth quarter. California's 15-9 lead marked its largest of the game. Leading 12-9 with 6:18 left in the contest, California scored the contest's final three goals.

California goalkeeper Justin Parsons was credited with seven saves. UC Irvine's Jimmy Friedrich recorded five stops.

California advances to the semifinal round and will face either No. 3-seed UCLA or No. 6-seed Pepperdine on Saturday afternoon. Game time at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center will be 3 p.m.

CALIFORNIA 15, UC IRVINE 9

	1	2	3	4	F
UC Irvine	2	2	3	1	9
California	5	1	5	4	15

UC Irvine Goals: Jacob Mourer 2, Max Parrague 2, Brian Pickford 2, Trent Baxter, Alan Robertson, Mitch Wise

UC Irvine Saves: Jimmy Friedrich 5

California Goals: Ivan Rackov 5, Ayal Keren 2, Collin Smith 2, Marin Balarin, Zach Greenwood, Blake Kelly, Cory Nasoff, Luka Saponjic, Charlie Steffens

California Saves: Justin Parsons 7

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