

November 25, 2011 MPSF Men's Water Polo Tournament

## HENNESSY'S LATE OVERTIME GOAL LIFTS NO. 3-SEED UCLA PAST NO. 6-SEED PEPPERDINE, 5-4 Cullen Hennessy scores with 10 seconds remaining in second overtime period for UCLA

**LOS ANGELES** – Cullen Hennessy snapped a 4-4 tie with 10 seconds left in the second overtime period, leading No. 3-seed UCLA past No. 6-seed Pepperdine, 5-4, in a first-round MPSF Tournament match on Friday afternoon at the Bruins' Spieker Aquatics Center.

UCLA (21-4) tied the game, 4-4, on a goal from Griffin White with 5:19 remaining in the fourth quarter. Neither team found the back of the cage until Hennessy scored for UCLA over 11 minutes later. UCLA's defense held Pepperdine scoreless over the final 15:56.

Pepperdine (12-12) led by a 3-1 margin early in the second quarter and hung to a 3-2 cushion at halftime. The Bruins tied the contest, 3-3, on a 6-on-5 goal from Paul Reynolds with 5:16 to play in the third quarter.

The Waves answered, taking a 4-3 lead on a 6-on-5 goal from Danny White with 1:56 left in the third quarter.

Both teams failed to capitalize on numerous offensive possessions in the final minutes of regulation and in overtime. UCLA goalkeeper Matt Rapacz made a crucial save on a five-meter penalty shot Danny White with 1:49 to play in the first overtime session.

UCLA gained possession with 26 seconds to play in the second overtime period and called a timeout. With the clock ticking, Hennessy received a pass from Reynolds two-meters from the cage and slammed the shot past goalkeeper Bence Valics in front of a roaring home crowd.

UCLA stole the ball from Pepperdine on the Waves' final possession before the buzzer sounded.

Rapacz finished in the cage with 11 saves for UCLA. Pepperdine's Valics was credited with 15 stops, including three saves in overtime.

UCLA went 2-for-7 on power-play chances. Pepperdine converted on 3-of-7 power-play opportunities.

The Bruins advance to a semifinal contest on Saturday afternoon against No. 2-seed California. Game time at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center is 3 p.m.

## **UCLA 5, Pepperdine 4 (OT)**

	1	2	3	4	ОТ	OT	F
Pepperdine	2	1	1	0	0	0	4
UCLA	1	1	1	1	0	1	5

Pepperdine Goals: Matthew DeTrane, James Perry, Brandon Picone, Danny White

Pepperdine Saves: Bence Valics 15

UCLA Goals: Griffin White 2, Cullen Hennessy, Paul Reynolds, Josh Samuels

**UCLA Saves:** Matt Rapacz 11

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