



November 25, 2011
MPSF Men's Water Polo Tournament

NO. 4-SEED STANFORD EDGES NO. 5-SEED UC SANTA BARBARA, 11-10

Peter Sefton snaps 10-10 tie with 1:46 to play in fourth quarter, sealing Stanford victory

LOS ANGELES – No. 4-seed Stanford outlasted No. 5-seed UC Santa Barbara, 11-10, in a first-round MPSF Tournament match late Friday afternoon at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center.

Travis Noll led Stanford (19-5) with a game-high three goals.

UC Santa Barbara (15-11) received two goals each from Jesse Gillespie and Teddy Zhang.

The Cardinal snapped a 10-10 deadlock on a power-play goal from Peter Sefton with 1:46 to play in the final quarter. In a second half that featured four ties, Stanford never trailed after tying the game, 7-7, with 5:29 left in the third period.

Stanford cruised to a 4-2 cushion in the first quarter against UC Santa Barbara.

The Gauchos continued to close the deficit, only to have Stanford regain a two-goal advantage in the second quarter. Each team added three goals in the second period and went to the locker room at halftime with Stanford ahead, 7-5.

UC Santa Barbara scored the first two goals on the third quarter, knotting the game at 7-7. Matt Gronow scored his team-leading 39th goal with 6:34 to play in the third period, and teammate Chase Racich found the back of the catge just 1:05 later to tie the game.

Both teams continued trading goals the rest of the way. Stanford led, 8-7, on a power-play goal from Paul Rudolph before UCSB's Zhang tied the game (4:17, third quarter) with his second goal of the day.

The Cardinal took a 9-8 lead on Forrest Watkins' second goal of the game with 10 seconds remaining in the third period. UC Santa Barbara evened the margin with a goal from Lazar Komadinic at the 5:11 mark.

Stanford regained the one-goal cushion on a strike from Noll, his third goal of the contest, with 3:48 left in regulation. UCSB's Brian Shoemaker converted on a 6-on-5 opportunity, tying the game at 10-10.

Stanford advances to the first of Saturday's two semifinal matches. The Cardinal will face No. 1-seed USC. Game time at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center is 1:30 p.m. No. 2-seed California will face No. 3-seed UCLA at 3 p.m.

Stanford 11, UC Santa Barbara 10

	1	2	3	4	F
UCSB	2	3	3	2	10
Stanford	4	3	2	2	11

UC Santa Barbara Goals: Jesse Gillespie 2, Teddy Zhang 2, Matt Gronow, Matt Johnson, Lazar Komadinic, Bryce Miller, Chase Racich, Brian Shoemaker

UC Santa Barbara Saves: Myles Christian 7

Stanford Goals: Travis Noll 3, Paul Rudolph 2, Forrest Watkins 2, Ryan Kent, Andrew LaForge, Peter Sefton, Jacob Smith

Stanford Saves: Brian Pingree 10

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