



November 26, 2011  
MPSF Men's Water Polo Tournament

**NO. 3-SEED UCLA EARNS 7-6 OVERTIME WIN AGAINST NO. 2-SEED CALIFORNIA**  
*Bruins advance to MPSF Tournament's title match with Saturday's overtime victory*

**LOS ANGELES** – No. 3-seed UCLA secured a 7-6 victory in overtime against No. 2-seed California in an MPSF Tournament semifinal game Saturday afternoon before 1,267 at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center.

Paul Reynolds broke a 6-6 tie in the first of two three-minute overtime sessions, scoring at the 1:25 mark. UCLA's defense held California scoreless the rest of the way, sending the Bruins (22-4) into the championship match against crosstown rival USC (22-2) on Sunday at 3 p.m.

California (21-4) trailed, 6-3, with 2:14 remaining in the third quarter. But the Golden Bears used a 3-0 scoring run through the final minute of regulation to close the gap and send the contest at UCLA into overtime.

Ivan Rackov led California with two goals. UCLA received two goals each from Reynolds and Griffin White.

With 53 seconds to play in the third quarter, Rackov scored to close the Golden Bears' deficit to 6-4. Following Rackov's goal, UCLA's Chris Wendt and Cal's Ayal Keren were assessed majors and ejected from the game.

Cal's Giacomo Cupido scored with 5:14 to play in the final quarter, reducing UCLA's cushion to 6-5. With 22 seconds left in the game, a five-meter penalty was called against UCLA's Bret Lathrope. Bruins' assistant coach Daniel Leyson was issued a red card (ejected) and Cal's Rackov tied the game, 6-6, slamming home a penalty shot.

Reynolds scored the game's only overtime goal, scoring at the 1:25 mark in the first of two overtimes. In the final overtime session, UCLA wrested control of the ball with 27 seconds to go. Cal had one opportunity to score in the final three seconds and was unsuccessful.

UCLA never trailed against California. The Bruins led 1-0 after an early 6-on-5 goal in the first quarter from Josh Samuels (3:56). The Golden Bears tied the game, 1-1, on a score from Collin Smith with 3:01 left in the opening frame.

The Bruins used a 2-0 scoring run in the second quarter to secure a 3-1 cushion by halftime. UCLA received an extra-man goal from White (3:23) and an even-strength goal from Reynolds (2:15).

UCLA led 4-1 with 4:20 left in the third period on a 6-on-5 goal scored by Paul Pickell. After Cal's Cory Nasoff scored with 3:43 left in the third quarter, UCLA's Brett Hays answered with a goal from two meters, putting the Bruins ahead of the Golden Bears, 5-2.

UCLA finished 3-for-10 on power-play opportunities. The Bruins limited California to two goals in 10 power-play chances.

Stanford will face California in the third-place match at 1:30 p.m., and UCLA takes on USC in the championship game at 3 p.m.

**UCLA 7, California 6 (OT)**

|            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | OT | OT | F |
|------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| UCLA       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1  | 0  | 7 |
| California | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0  | 0  | 6 |

**UCLA Goals:** Paul Reynolds 2, Griffin White 2, Brett Hays, Paul Pickell, Josh Samuels

**UCLA Saves:** Matt Rapacz 9

**California Goals:** Ivan Rackov 2, Giacomo Cupido, Cory Nasoff, Luka Saponjic, Collin Smith

**California Saves:** Justin Parsons 7

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