

2016 NCAA Women's Water Polo Championship

May 14, 2016 – Dirks Pool at Spieker Aquatics Center – Game #5 (Consolation)

UC San Diego 10, UC Santa Barbara 5

UC San Diego Quotes

Head Coach Brad Kreutzkamp opening statement:

"Probably one of the funnest wins I have experienced as a coach. We put together a plan and to watch them execute it and to watch them comfortably do it and to play with confidence – that's a heck of a Santa Barbara team – and to beat them like we did, certainly has to do with a lot of the experience and seniors that we have on this team. Playing in this tournament as many times as they have, I didn't see any fear in their eye, they didn't seem scared. They played confident and calm. I was really happy with the way we played."

On his team's execution (6-for-7) on power play situations:

"It seems like it is the bane of existence for a water polo coach to try and do well on 6-on-5. There will be times when we go 1-for-10 and I'm yelling at my team, 'Why do we even practice? Why do we even practice doing the things we need to do?' And then we go into games like this and finally in the end, when it pays off and it wins us the game, it just felt really happy to watch how confident we shot the ball today compared to yesterday."

Emma Sasson on her team's experience in the NAAs over UCSB's lack of experience:

"I think experience helps. I think we don't get to caught up in the excitement of it being NAAs. We are here to do a job and to still play polo. We are going to play hard and I think with the experience, we are able to have the flow that we have always wanted."

UC Santa Barbara Quotes

Head Coach Serela Kay opening statement ...

"We are in an NCAA Championship so everyone here is a competitor and a champion, whether it is from their conference or earning an at-large bid. I think that it is something we still need to learn, as a team and a program, after you are successful in order to rise above again, you have to work harder, smarter and come together as a team. I think we could have done a better job of coming together as a team. I'd like to give UC San Diego credit. They are fighters and did a nice job of wanting that game and controlling it the whole time."

On UCSD's momentum swing in the second quarter:

"I definitely think they grabbed momentum with that. We struggled with our 5-on-6 defense, they were 6-for-7. They did a nice job on their power plays. I believe we were 2-for-5 or something like that. We needed to do a better job in that area."

On what she told her team after the game:

"How does a champion respond, right? We are Big West Champions and we are representing an amazing conference. I think it is important to go out with pride, so we talked about that. We have been resilient and persevered this whole season and faced adversity so, this is just another bump on the road."