

2016 NCAA Women's Water Polo Championship

May 15, 2016 – Dirks Pool at Spieker Aquatics Center – Game #10 (5th Place Game)
Arizona State 8, UC San Diego 2

Arizona State Quotes

Head Coach Todd Clapper opening statement:

"I am just really proud of how the team responded in the second half. I feel like we have been battling this weekend just offensively. In the third quarter, everyone loosened up and got confident in each other and themselves and it was really good to see them finish that way."

On 6-on-5 struggles today and the play of his goalkeeper, Mia Rycraw:

"I think Mia allows us to do a lot of different things both 6-on-6 and 5-on-6. So we just felt like we could key in their shooters that way they would stay back a little more and make sure we could shrink the goal for Mia, that way we would have some success. Field players did a good job at blocking the corners and Mia was really great at the center of the cage and she was making some really good saves."

Daisy Carter on her last collegiate game:

"It was good to finish like that. I feel like the whole game was every goal, every person felt it. It was a really team effort out there. It was a really good way to finish."

UC San Diego Quotes

Head Coach Brad Kreutzkamp opening statement ...

"I told my team, you know today's game is not how we envisioned it playing out, we certainly wanted to upset that team. ASU is just phenomenal, they have a phenomenal goalie, a phenomenal zone defense. They play together really, really well. We tried everything we could to break it and we were unsuccessful on almost every try ... We are staying super focused on the big picture that this was the best season in the modern era that UCSD has had in women's water polo and I'm really proud of our team for that."

In terms of power plays ...

"I'll put it back on ASU again – they are such good ball defenders, they are in front of the cage all the time, they've got a huge presence in front of the cage, both with their goalie and their field players. They are really calm, they don't get rattled. Our 6-on-5 is predicated on ball movement, getting people to get out of position here and there and they never did. And so we kept trying one way or another, different 6-on-5s, different personnel, and it just didn't happen."

On ASU goalie's 20 saves and offensive efforts ...

"We came in hoping to try to skip the ball. Let's face it, when you do have a goalie like they have, and I think we do, and it's fun having this one (Courtney Miller) on our team that we can have that kind of result as well. I think a lot of other teams probably are saying that same thing, sometimes 'How do you get it past Miller?', but in reference to your question, absolutely. When she has 20 saves and we're trying to skip, we're trying to go high, we're trying to go quick, we're trying to do it off cross passes, we're trying to do it on counter attacks, we're trying to get isolation by getting somebody down, we are trying everything we possibly can. She was just in the zone today. I give her all the credit in the world."

Courtney Miller on coming back to NAAs after a successful season ...

"We've definitely had our biggest win of all our appearances at NAAs this time around, so I guess that was a really awesome experience, and this game didn't really go how we hoped it would but I mean it doesn't really take anything away from the season that we've had."