

# STANFORD ATHLETICS



## MEDIA RELATIONS

Arrillaga Family Sports Center  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305  
(650) 723-4418 • FAX (650) 725-2957  
*Website: [gostanford.com](http://gostanford.com)*

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## 2010 MPSF TOURNAMENT (Nov. 26-28, 2010) DAY 3 (Nov. 28)

### Avery Aquatic Center – Championship Game Game 12 – (4) Stanford v. (2) USC

Stanford--1-1-1-2-1-1-0-0--7  
USC--3-0-1-1-1-1-0-1--8

Stanford Goal Scorers – Smith-2, Watkins-1, Kent-1, Stefton-1, Schwimmer-1, Wright-1  
USC Goal Scorers – Kurzeka-2, Burton-2, Preuss-1, Virjee-1, Rosenthal-1, Vavic-1  
Goalie Saves: Brian Pingree, Stanford 11 (2,4,2,1,1,0,1,0); Joel Dennerley, USC 12 (2,3,2,2,0,1,1,1)

**STANFORD, Calif.** – Nikola Vavic scored with 2:04 left in the second sudden death period of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championship game to give second-seeded USC (28-2) the automatic berth into next weekend's NCAA Championships, following an 8-7 victory over host and fourth-seeded Stanford (17-8).

Trojan goalie Joel Dennerley made 12 saves, including two key saves in the sudden death periods, as Stanford twice came back from two-goal deficits early, and twice tied the contest with seven seconds remaining in each of the overtime periods.

One of Dennerley's saves came with 54 seconds left in the first sudden death period, when Sage Wright's shot was blocked, after the Cardinal senior broke free to the left of the cage.

Brian Pingree countered with 11 saves, as the Cardinal allowed just two goals the rest of regulation after a 3-1 USC lead in the first.

Both teams traded goals in the two three-minute overtime periods.

Wright tied it at 7-7 in the second overtime on a 6-on-5 opportunity after Michael Rosenthal gave USC the lead with 2:15 remaining. In the first overtime, Peter Kurzeka scored on a breakaway with 1:56 left, before Jacob Smith tied it at 6-6 with seven seconds left on a penalty shot, earned by Jeffrey Schwimmer at two-meters.

Stanford led for nearly five minutes of the fourth quarter before Matthew Burton's penalty shot tied it at 5-5 with 1:18 left. Dennerley had blocked a Forest Watkins shot and then sent the ball ahead, leading to the regulation tying breakaway.

Stanford used two fourth period goals to take a 5-4 lead, as Peter Sefton tied it with 6:42 remaining, before Schwimmer put the Cardinal on top with the shot clock running down with 4:45 left.

Kurzeka finished off the third quarter with a 4-3 lead for USC following a goal with 1:22 left.

The Cardinal fought back after twice trailing by two goals to tie it at 3-3 midway through the third quarter. Ryan Kent's goal at 4:34 tied it at 3-3, after Stanford closed to within 3-2 at the break on a Smith goal with 4:19 left in the half.

The Trojans took a 3-1 advantage in the first after Connor Virjee scored with 24 seconds left and also led 2-0 midway through the quarter before being shutout for nearly 15 minutes.

The fourth seeded Cardinal reached the finals after upsetting top-ranked Cal on Saturday, 8-6, while USC doubled up UCLA 10-5.

Cal will serve as the host of the four-team NCAA Championships on December 4 and 5. Cal, the MPSF regular season champions, defeated UCLA 10-9 for third place. Pacific won the seventh place match 13-5 over Pepperdine and UC Irvine beat UC Santa Barbara 16-12 for fifth place.