



STANFORD MEDIA RELATIONS

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STANFORD WOMEN'S WATER POLO CARDINAL NOTES

The Cardinal: Seeded second heading into the NCAA tournament with a 22-4 record, Stanford has lost to only two teams this season, top-seeded USC and third-seeded UCLA. After a heartbreaking 9-8 overtime loss to the Bruins just two weeks before the MPSF tournament, the Cardinal defeated UCLA in the semifinals of the tournament, 5-4. Stanford has yet to defeat the USC Women of Troy this season after three close losses earlier in the year.



The Tournament: Played in an eight-team format for the second year, the NCAA tournament is single-elimination with a bracket format to determine 1st through 8th places. Eight of the top collegiate women's water polo teams, representing NCAA Division I, II, and III, will be playing May 12-14. Five of the teams, including Stanford, earned automatic berths by conference victories while three were selected at-large. UC Davis is hosting the National Championship tournament for the first time.

MPSF Honors: Stanford claimed the MPSF conference title this season after defeating No. 5 Hawaii, 6-3, in the finals of the tournament. Five Stanford players were honored with All-MPSF recognition. Freshman Lauren Silver was named MPSF Newcomer of the Year, as well as making the MPSF All-Freshman Team and receiving All-Conference Honorable Mention. Junior driver Katie Hansen and junior goalkeeper Meredith McColl were named to the All-MPSF First-Team, while junior two-meter player Christina Hewko was named to the Second-Team. Senior driver Scotti Shafer rounded out the group of Cardinal honorees with All-Conference Honorable Mention.

Stanford Scorers: Silver has led the team in scoring all year and stands now with 47 goals in her 26 games played so far this season. She scored a season-high four goals against No. 7 UC Irvine in Stanford's first match of the MPSF tournament. Following closely behind is Hansen with 45 goals this year. Hansen was last year's lead scorer totaling 43 goals.

Defensive Anchor: Stanford's starting goalie, Meridith McColl, has a total of 207 saves and has allowed only 109 goals so far in her 26 games as goalie. McColl, on top of being named to the All-MPSF First-Team, was nominated as a Peter J. Cutino award finalist. She and two other athletes were nominated as finalists for the award that honors the most outstanding female water polo player for 2006. The winner will be announced June 3rd.

2006 Stanford Schedule & Results (22-4, 13-2 MPSF)

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
Feb. 4	Pacific	W, 17-2
Feb. 11	Michigan (1) USC (1)	W, 12-4 L, 9-7
Feb. 12	San Jose State (1) Cal (1)	W, 13-5 W, 6-4 (3rd place)
Feb. 18	at UC Santa Barbara	W, 8-5
Feb. 19	at Cal St. Northridge	W, 11-4
Feb. 25	vs. UC San Diego (2)	W, 11-4
	vs. Cal (2)	W, 8-3
Feb. 26	vs. UCLA (2)	W, 4-2
	vs. USC (2)	L, 6-5
Mar. 4	UC Irvine	W, 5-2
Mar. 5	Long Beach State	W, 14-5
Mar. 9	at USC	L, 7-6
Mar. 11	at UC Davis	W, 9-3
Mar. 24	Princeton	W, 12-3
Mar. 28	at Hawai'i	W, 12-6
April 2	Cal	W, 8-4
April 7	UC San Diego	W, 15-4
April 8	San Diego State	W, 7-2
April 9	Arizona State	W, 15-6
April 15	at UCLA	L, 9-8 (OT)
April 21	at San Jose State	W, 9-3
April 28	at UC Irvine (3)	W, 10-4
April 29	vs. UCLA (3)	W, 5-4
April 30	vs. Hawaii (3)	W, 6-3
May 12	vs. Marist (4)	3:00 PM
May 13	Semifinals (4)	TBA
May 14	Championship (4)	TBA

(1) - Stanford Invitational
(2) - Gaucho Invitational at Santa Barbara
(3) - MPSF Tournament at Irvine
(4) - NCAA Tournament at Davis
bold indicates home game

2006 National Collegiate Top 20 (May 3, 2006)

Rank	School	Last Week	Pts.
1	Stanford	3	99
2	Southern California	1	94
3	Hawaii	4	90
4	UCLA	2	88
5	California	5	80
6	Arizona State	9	74
7	San Diego State	10	67
8	Loyola Marymount	6	63
9	UC Irvine	7	58
10	UC Davis	14	55
11	Hartwick	12	52
12	San Jose State	8	48
13	Long Beach State	11	42
14	UC Santa Barbara	13	36
15	Santa Clara	17	32
16	Michigan	16	25
17	UC San Diego	15	21
18	Princeton	20	14
19	Cal St. Northridge	19	9
20	Indiana	18	5

2006 NCAA Championship qualifiers in **bold**

Stanford at the NCAA's: Last season, Stanford took second to UCLA after a heartbreaking 3-2 loss in the championship finals of the NCAA Tournament. Stanford defeated USC in the semifinals, 5-4, to advance to championship game. The Cardinal has made the Final Four ever year since 1997 and has placed in the top three since John Tanner became Head Coach in 1998. The Cardinal won the National Championship in 2002, and placed second in 1999, 2001, 2003, and 2005.

Tanner's Team: John Tanner is in his ninth year as head coach for the Cardinal. He led the team to a 195-35 overall record in his first eight years at the helm of the women's water polo team, adding a 22-4 record so far this season. Tanner has produced one National Championship, 12 U.S. National Team members, and four Olympians in the last five years. His squad competed in the NCAA Championship game in each of the first three years of the NCAA tournament.

**2006 Stanford Water Polo Statistics
(22-4, 13-2 MPSE)**

Stanford Scoring

Lauren Silver	47
Katie Hansen	45
Scotti Shafer	29
Nancy El-Sakkary	23
Christina Hewko	21
Jacquelyn Gauthier	18
Alison Gregorka	15
Jessica Steffens	13
Laurel Champion	9
Koree Blyleven	8
Megan May	8
Kira Hillman	2
Heather West	2
Megan Nesland	1
Jenna Scalmanini	1

Team	1	2	3	4	ot	2ot	F
Stanford	79	68	47	48	1	0	243
Opponents	22	29	27	33	2	0	113

Goalie Saves (Games/Games Started)	Saves	Goals Allowed
Meridith McColl (26/26)	207	109
Alison Gregorka (2/0)	0	4
Stanford (26)	207	113
<i>Opponents (26)</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>243</i>

Stanford	243
<i>Opponents</i>	<i>113</i>

2006 Stanford Women's Water Polo Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (High School)
1	Meridith McColl	GK	5-11	Jr.	San Diego, CA (Capistrano Valley High School)
2	Megan May	Driver	5-5	So.	San Diego, CA (The Bishop's School)
3	Jacquelyn Gauthier	Driver	5-7	So.	Irvine, CA (Woodbridge)
4	Alison Gregorka	2MD	5-10	Jr.	Ann Arbor, MI (Pioneer H.S.)
5	Scotti Shafer	Driver	5-6	Sr.	Carlsbad, CA (Carlsbad HS)
6	Jenna Scalmanini	Driver	5-8	So.	Alamo, C A (Carondelet)
7	Laurel Champion	Defender	5-9	Sr.	Palo Alto, CA (Palo Alto HS)
8	Megan Nesland	Driver	5-4	So.	Long Beach, CA (Wilson)
9	Kira Hillman	Driver	5-7	Fr.	Carlsbad, CA (Carlsbad High School)
10	Katie Hansen	Driver	5-9	Jr.	Coronado, CA (Coronado H.S.)
11	Nancy El-Sakkary	2M	5-10	Sr.	Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec
12	Koree Blyleven	Driver	5-7	Fr.	San Diego, CA (The Bishop's School)
13	Heather West	Driver	5-8	Fr.	Davis, CA (Davis Senior HS)
15	Christina Hewko	2M	5-10	Jr.	Newport Beach, CA (Corona del Mar H.S.)
17	Jessica Steffens	2MD	6-0	Fr.	Danville, CA (Monte Vista HS)
20	Lauren Silver	Driver	5-9	Fr.	Long Beach, CA (Wilson High School)

Head Coach: John Tanner

Assistant Coach: Susan Ortwein