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MOUNTAIN PACIFIC SPORTS FEDERATION

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2006 MOUNTAIN PACIFIC SPORTS FEDERATION MEN'S VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE					OVERALL						
	W	L	PCT	HOME	AWAY	W	L	PCT	HOME	AWAY	NEUT	STREAK
1. *UC Irvine <1>	20	2	.909	11-0	9-2	27	4	.871	15-1	10-2	2-1	Lost 1
2. *Hawaii <4>	19	3	.864	9-1	10-2	23	5	.821	13-3	10-2	0-0	Lost 1
3. *Pepperdine <5>	15	7	.682	9-2	6-5	17	8	.680	11-2	6-5	0-1	Lost 1
4. *BYU <6>	14	8	.636	11-1	3-7	18	9	.667	13-1	3-8	2-0	Lost 5
4. *Long Beach State <3>	14	8	.636	8-3	6-5	23	10	.697	12-3	6-6	5-1	Lost 1
6. *CS Northridge <7>	13	9	.591	7-4	6-5	18	11	.621	7-4	9-6	2-1	Lost 3
7. !*UCLA <2>	12	10	.546	7-4	5-6	24	12	.667	12-4	8-6	4-2	Won 12
8. *UC Santa Barbara <9>	9	13	.409	6-5	3-8	13	16	.448	10-7	3-9	0-0	Lost 4
9. USC <13>	7	15	.318	5-6	2-9	11	18	.379	6-7	2-9	3-2	Lost 3
10. Pacific <NR>	6	16	.273	5-6	1-10	8	20	.286	6-6	1-12	1-2	Won 1
11. Stanford <NR>	2	20	.091	2-9	0-11	4	24	.143	3-9	0-11	1-4	Lost 15
12. UC San Diego <NR>	1	21	.046	1-10	0-11	2	27	.069	1-11	0-14	0-0	Lost 1

*MPSF Champion; <> Denotes National Ranking.; *Climched MPSF Tournament berth.*

UCLA, UC Irvine advance to NCAA Tournament

No. 2 ranked UCLA continued its late-season surge to win the MPSF Tournament and earn an automatic berth in the four-team NCAA Tournament with a 3-1 victory over No. 2 Long Beach St. Top-ranked UC Irvine, which lost 3-0 to the 49ers in the semifinals at Irvine, was selected the lone at-large team to the NCAA Tournament, its first trip the national championship event. UCLA is making its 25th appearance in the NCAA Tournament and has won 18 national titles. The NCAA Tournament is at Penn State with the semis on Thursday and the championship Saturday. Here's a look at the semifinal matchups:

UC Irvine (1) vs. Penn State (4): UC Irvine won the MPSF regular-season title but had its 21-match winning streak end in the conference semifinals to Long Beach State. The Anteaters are led on offense by MPSF Player of the Year OH **Jayson Jablonsky** and OH **Matt Webber**. On defense, MPSF Newcomer of the Year freshman L **Brent Asuka** ranks third nationally in digs (3.08 per game). Webber is seventh in the nation in kills (4.69 pg) and Jablonsky is 17th (4.17). UCI is also strong in the middle with MB **Aaron Harrell** ranked fifth in hitting (.463) and MB **David Smith** tied for 15th (.413) and No. 14 in blocking (1.27 pg). S Brian Thornton leads the nation in assists (13.76 pg). Penn St. is making its eighth straight NCAA Tournament appearance as the East champion. The Nittany Lions tied with Hawai'i for the best hitting percentage in the nation (.342). MB **Nate Meerstein** is 4th nationally in hitting (.480) and OH **Matt Proper** is 16th in kills (4.19).

UCLA (2) vs. IPFW (3): The Bruins return to the NCAA Tournament, where it lost 3-2 to Pepperdine in last year's final. OP **Steve Klosterman** is ranked No. 20 in the country in kills (4.09 pg) and MB **Nick Sheftic** is tied for 13th in hitting (.427). L **Tony Ker** is fourth nationally in digs (2.82). While UCLA has no player averaging more than a block a game, Indiana-Purdue at Ft. Wayne relies heavily on its block. The Mastadons, who upset top-seeded Loyola-Chicago to win the Midwest title, is returning to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1999. MBs **Josh Stewart** (1.53 pg) ranks fifth nationally in blocking and **Serdar Sikca** (1.48) is ninth. On offense OH **C.J. Macias** is second nationally in kills (5.42).

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MPSF MOLTEN PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Woodland, Calif. - OH **Paul George** (Chatsworth, Calif.) earned the MPSF Molten Player of the Week with 32 kills (.423) and three aces in tournament victories over Pepperdine and Long Beach State last week to lead seventh-seeded UCLA to the 2006 MPSF Men's Volleyball Championship.

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CSTV/AVCA TOP-15 Poll

May 1, 2006

Rank	Team	Last Week	Points
1	UC IRVINE (14)	1	238
2	UCLA (1)	5	222
3	LONG BEACH STATE	2	199
4	HAWAI'I (1)	4	192
5	PEPPERDINE	3	188
6	BYU	6	159
7	CS NORTHRIDGE	7	142
8	IPFW	10	123
9	UC SANTA BARBARA	9	102
10	Loyola Chicago	8	96
11	Penn State	11	94
12	Ball State	14	44
13	USC	13	48
14	George Mason	12	43
15	Ohio State	15	26

MPSF CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

At UC Irvine's Bren Center

Thu., Apr. 27 – MPSF Semifinals

#7 UCLA d. #3 Pepperdine 3-0: 30-26, 30-28, 30-23

#4 Long Beach St. d. #1 UC Irvine 3-0: 30-26, 30-20, 30-23

Sat., Apr. 29 – MPSF Championship

#7 UCLA d. #4 Long Beach St., 24-30, 30-28, 30-23, 30-24

NCAA TOURNAMENT

At Penn State's Rec Hall

Thu., May 4 – NCAA Semifinals

#2 UCLA vs. #3 IPFW, 3 pm PDT

#1 UC Irvine vs. #4 Penn St. 5 pm PDT

Both matches live on ESPNU

Sat., May 6 – NCAA Championship

Semifinal Winners advance to NCAA Championship Final, 4 pm PDT

Televised live on ESPN2

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2006 MPSF MOLTEN PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Week	Student-Athlete	School
Jan. 9	Tyler Hildebrand, S	Long Beach St.
Jan. 16	Matt Webber, OH	UC-Irvine
Jan. 23	Ivan Perez, OH	BYU
Jan. 30	Jonathan Winder, S	Pepperdine
Feb. 6	Juan Figueroa, OH	USC
Feb. 13	Jayson Jablonsky, OH	UC Irvine
Feb. 20	Jose Delgado, OH	Hawai'i
Feb. 27	Andy Hein, MB	Pepperdine
March 6	Eric Vance, OH	CS Northridge
March 13	Pekka Seppanen, OH	Pacific
	Duncan Budinger, OP	Long Beach St.
March 20	Brian Waite, MB	CS Northridge
March 27	Juan Figueroa, OH	USC
April 3	Nick Sheftic, MB	UCLA
April 10	Robert Tarr, OH	Long Beach St.
April 17	Lauri Hakala, OH	Hawai'i
April 24	Norm Hutton, OP	Long Beach St.
May 1	Paul George, OH	UCLA

MPSF VOLLEYBALL ON THE WEB

Midweek sports updates are available on the MPSF website at www.mpsports.org.

2006 NCAA MEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

May 4 & 6 at Penn State University – For championships info, game times and ticket prices link to the following NCAA webpage:

<http://www.ncaasports.com/volleyball/mens>

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