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Water Polo Men, Day 4: MNE 12 CAN 4

FINA Communication Department

A five-goal burst spanning the first and second quarters helped Montenegro beat Canada 12-4 and advance to the quarterfinals. Playing the qualification round at Bernat Picornell Pool, Montenegro was held to 2-1 at the quarter before expanding the margin to 5-1 at halftime and 6-1 in the third, which was tied at 3-3. A 4-0 final quarter rounded out the victory. Canada struck some form with Constantin Kudaba scoring twice from well outside and Kevin Graham finishing off what was formerly a sloppy extra-man play. At 7-4, Canada was well placed to drill further into the deficit.

Antonio Petrovic took the gloss off Canada's performance with a swift goal three seconds from the final break for 8-4.

Canada tried everything to pierce the Montenegrin defence, which proved impenetrable.

Earlier, Montenegrin captain Nikola Janovic and Mladan Janovic scored a pair each and Frenchman-turned-Montenegrin Ugo Crousillat scored off his left arm.

Aleksandar Ivovic was dangerous from close in or well outside and his three goals pushed him to 13 for the championship.

Montenegro has now beaten Canada four times at elite level, including a 12-0 score at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Match 26: 10:50, Quarterfinal Qualification, MONTENEGRO 12 CANADA 4

Quarters: 2-1, 3-0, 3-3, 4-0

Referees: Alan Balfanbayev (KAZ), Gabor Vogel (HUN).

Extra Man: MNE: 2/5. CAN: 0/2

Pens: Nil

Teams:

MONTENEGRO: Zdravko Radic, Drasko Brguljan (2), Vjekoslav Paskovic, Antonio Petrovic (1), Darko Brguljan, Ugo Crousillat (1), Mladan Janovic (2), Nikola Janovic (2), Aleksandar Ivovic (3), Sasa Misic, Filip Klikovac (1), Predrag Jokic, Milos Scepanovic. Head Coach: Ranko Perovic.

CANADA: Robin Randall, Constantine Kudaba (2), Oliver Vikalo, Nicolas Constantin-Bicari (1), Justin Boyd, Scott Robinson, Alec Taschereau, Kevin Graham (1), Devon Diggie, John Conway, Luka Gasic, Jared McElroy, Ivan Marcisin. Head Coach: Alex Beslin.

FLASH QUOTES:

Aleksandar Ivovic (MNE):

“This was a great game, from start to finish we were on point. Our strong defence made all the difference. We hope we can keep up this level of play for the quarterfinals.”

Drasko Brguljan (MNE):

“Canada have five or six very good players but we broke them in the second half with our persistent pressure. This was good preparation for our game against Serbia. They are one of the best teams in the world but we will do our best and give our all.”

Nikola Janovic (MNE):

“We are one of the eight best teams. Next match we will play against the competition favourites Serbia. We have a lot of experience with them so we know it will be hard for us.”

Ranko Perovic (MNE Head Coach):

“We won this match convincingly. Our defence was very good in the first half and this decided the winner.”

Ivan Marcisin (CAN):

“I am very I disappointed because we did not get the result we wanted. In this match we came out very strong and we thought that the match could be even but they scored way more goals. The field of play is great but I would have loved for the water to be colder! It is my first World Championship and it has been a great experience.”

Neil Muir (CAN Assistant Coach):

“I feel disappointed with the performance of my team. We made a lot of mistakes and I am angry with the result.”
