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## Water Polo Men, Day 4: HUN 16 KAZ 7

FINA Communication Department

Hungary defeated a defiant Kazakhstan 16-7 and created history in bringing up 1000 goals at World Championships, en route to Tuesday's quarterfinals. Newcomer centre forward Krisztian Bedo, just turned 20, was the person to claim this slice of Hungarian history, netting on a cross pass on extra-man attack for 13-5. The man who made it possible was Kazakhstan scorer Ushakov, who gained the exclusion that led to the goal. It was unusual to watch Hungary behind for the second consecutive match (in Friday's draw with Australia) as Kazakhstan shot to a 4-2 lead at quarter time, only to see Hungary grab the lead at 5-4. Sergey Gubarev equalised with his third goal from his favoured deep-right position and the game was still keeping the fans on the edge of their seats.

It must have been something that head coach and triple Olympic champion Tibor Benedek instructed his team halfway through second quarter to "get into gear" as Hungary scored four goals by halftime and then four in the third before Kazakhstan next saw a goal on its side of the ledger — Yevgeniy Medvedev. Hungary by now was well on the way to settling the team ahead of the quarterfinal clash with Greece.

Hungary led 15-6 at the final break and probably went back into first-quarter mode, content with the knowledge that it was now in the second half of the competition that matters.

Benedek would have been most pleased with the extra-man conversion count of eight from 10, the best of the championship.

For its part, Kazakhstan wanted to leave with a flourish and Branko Pekovich fired in the last goal to depart these championships.

**Match 30: 18:50, Quarterfinal Qualification, HUNGARY 16 KAZAKHSTAN 7**

Quarters: 2-4, 7-1, 6-1, 1-1  
Referees: Gideon Reemnet (NED), Radoslaw Koryzna (POL).  
Extra Man: HUN: 8/10. KAZ: 2/4  
Pens: Nil.

#### **Teams:**

**HUNGARY:** Viktor Nagy, Miklos Gor-Nagy (1), Norbert Madaras (2), Bence Batori, (2) Marton Vamos (1), Norbert Hosnyanszky (2), Adam Decker (1), Marton Szivos (2), Daniel Varga (2), Denes Varga (1), Krisztian Bedo (1), Balazs Harai (1), Attila Decker. Head Coach: Tibor Benedek.

**KAZAKHSTAN:** Nikolay Maximov, Sergey Gubarev (3), Yevgeniy Medvedev (1), Roman Pilipenko, Murat Shakenov, Alexey Shmider, Vladimir Ushakov (2), Anton Koliadenko, Rustam Ukumanov, Mikhail Ruday, Ravil Manafov, Branko Pekovich (1), Valeriy Shlemov. Head Coach: Sergey Drozdov.

#### **FLASH QUOTES:**

##### **Daniel Varga (HUN):**

“This game was easier than expected even though we started badly. It has helped us gain confidence for the quarterfinals. Though Greece are a very strong team we are now positive about our chances.”

##### **Krisztian Bedo (HUN):**

“I’m amazed that I made the team. But I think it is even more important that the team has won after a very slow start and picked up their game towards the end. I feel privileged, as a young newcomer, to have scored our 1000th goal in the World Championships overall.”

##### **Vladimir Ushakov (KAZ):**

“After this match we were upset because we started well in the first quarter, but then we got into some problems. This championship has been a good test, we’ve got a tough group but we’ve been 50 percent — some games played well and others we didn’t. We’ve played against teams that were stronger than us.”

**Nikolay Maximov (KAZ):**

“We started well but after that Hungary played stronger. We made mistakes and we couldn’t take advantage when we were one man up.”

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