



Mike Schofield

23rd Year as Navy head coach - Pittsburgh (1979)

Career Record: 488-191-1

Mike Schofield returns for his 23rd season at the helm of the Navy water polo program.

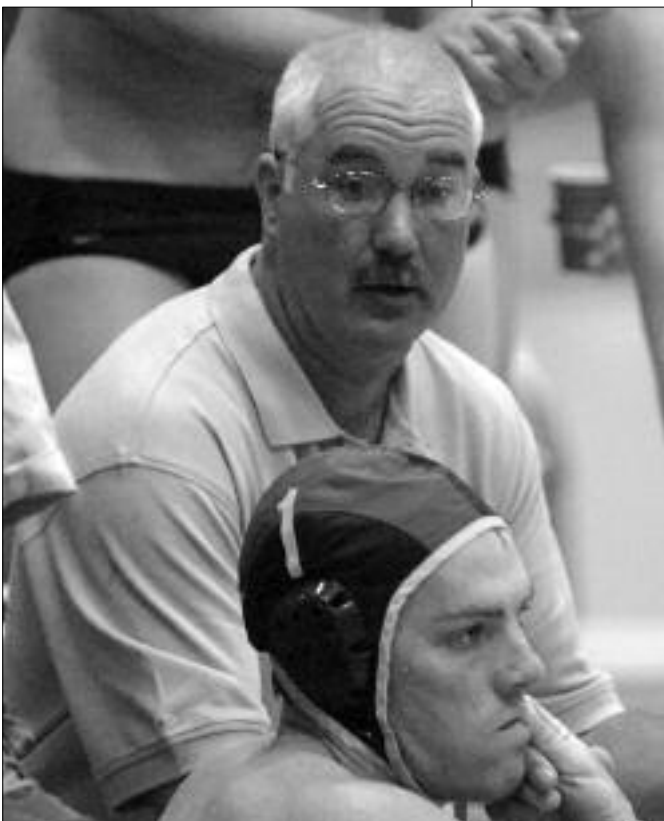
Under his direction, the Mids have won seven Eastern Championships and competed in 12 NCAA Tournaments. Fifteen Navy athletes have earned All-America honors under Schofield.

Last year's team was one for the record books as Navy amassed a 24-7 record and won the program's seventh Eastern Championship. The 24 wins kept a remarkably consistent streak in tact, as the Navy water polo program has won at least 19 games in all 25 years since the program's resurrection in 1982. The 24 wins were tied for the seventh most in school history and Navy went 19-1 against teams from the East. The Mids also won 14 games in a row from Sept. 27 to Nov. 12, the fourth-longest streak in school history.

Schofield has had a long line of All-American athletes under his guidance. Last season, Aaron Recko and George Naughton received third-team and honorable mention accolades, respectively, running the All-American total to 21. It marked the eighth straight year that a Navy water polo player was named All-American, beginning with Jason Pace (HM) in 1999. Sean Foster (2nd) and Nick Hill (HM) followed up Pace's honor in 2000. Hill was named honorable mention twice more in 2001 and 2002. In 2003, Joe Donahue was a third-team

Schofield Year-by-Year						
Year	Rec.	Pct.	South	East	NCAA	Notes
1985	22-7	.759	-	2-1	-	
1986	28-8	.778	-	3-0	1-2	The 28 wins set a school record; 19 straight victories.
1987	20-13	.606	-	3-0	0-3	
1988	26-9	.743	-	3-0	0-3	His first full class ended with a 96-37 record.
1989	19-9	.679	-	2-1	-	Won 100th game against Princeton (Oct. 6, 1989)
1990	25-7	.781	-	2-1	0-3	Opened season 8-0 and 14-2.
1991	20-10	.667	-	2-1	0-3	Eleven-game win streak during the season.
1992	19-11	.633	-	2-1	1-2	
1993	21-7	.750	3-0	2-1	1-2	Won 200th game against UC-San Diego (Nov. 28, 1993)
1994	26-7	.788	3-0	2-1	1-2	Winning percentage is tops in his career.
1995	22-8	.733	3-0	2-1	-	
1996	20-8	.714	3-0	1-2	-	
1997	23-8	.742	3-0	1-2	-	Coach of the U.S. World University Games team.
1998	20-10-1	.661	4-0	1-2	-	Won 300th game against Queens (Oct. 4, 1998)
1999	21-11	.656	2-1	2-1	-	
2000	24-12	.667	4-0	3-0	0-2	
2001	20-6	.769	2-1	2-1	-	
2002	22-6	.786	4-0	2-1	-	
2003	25-8	.758	3-1	3-0	0-2	Won 400th game against Cal Baptist (Sept. 7, 2003)
2004	19-12	.613	3-1	2-1	-	
2005	22-7	.759	3-0	2-1	-	
2006	24-7	.774	3-0	3-0	0-2	Sported a 19-1 record against East Coast foes.
Total	488-191-1	.718	43-4	47-19	4-26	

selection. Following Donahue, Patrick Rollo and Alex Ratcliffe were third-team selections in 2004 and 2005.



The Mids also succeed in the classroom as well. Led by Eric Gardiner's 4.00 GPA, one of six players nationally to record a 4.00, six Navy players were honored by the Collegiate Water Polo Association as having a 3.20 GPA or better. In all, nine players sported a 3.00 GPA or better.

Schofield is well recognized in the water polo community, having also coached on the international level, guiding the U.S. Water Polo Team at the 1997 World University Games to a fifth-place finish. He also served as an assistant for the 1992 National Team and as an assistant for the U.S. Water Polo Team that won gold medals at the World University Games in both 1991 and 1993.

The Midshipmen compete in the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA), which consists of 20 schools divided into

northern and southern divisions. The southern division has been dominated by Navy, as it has won 19-of-25 divisional titles since 1982.

Schofield also directs the Naval Academy Aquatic Club, which produces some of the top young water polo players and swimmers in the country, many of whom have continued their careers at the Naval Academy.

Schofield graduated from Pittsburgh in 1979, where he was the captain of the water polo team and received most valuable player recognition. In 1982, Schofield arrived in Annapolis and assisted in resurrecting a water polo program that had been dormant for 32 years. He took over the head coaching duties in 1985, and his teams have enjoyed 15 20-plus win seasons, playing to an overall record of 464-184-1. Schofield has been named Eastern Coach of the Year seven times including last season (1982, 1984, 1986, 1990, 2000, 2003, 2006). In 2004, Schofield added National Coach of the Year to his resume, and in March of 2004 was inducted into the United States Water Polo Hall of Fame.

Mike, his wife, Gina, and their sons, Kevin (13) and Matthew (9), reside in Arnold, Md.



Mladen Stanicic **Assistant Coach** **Third Year at Navy**

Mladen Stanicic returns for his third season of his second stint as Navy water polo assistant coach. Stanicic began coaching at Navy in 1987.

"It would be hard to list all of the areas of our program that Mladen has helped make better- he does great work with our goalies, our shooters, our young guys, and runs much of our extra man offense," said head coach Mike Schofield. "Administratively, he is very skilled and has a great feel for every aspect of our program."

After immigrating to the United States, he briefly volunteered as a coach for the Fordham University men's water polo team. After relocating to Annapolis, Stanicic joined the Naval Academy Aquatics Club as a coach. He also volunteered with the men's varsity team as an assistant coach, particularly in 1988, helping the Mids to win the Eastern Championship and participate at the NCAA tournament.

He continued in his role as volunteer coach with varying degrees of engagement. After 1988, he specialized in coaching the Navy goalkeepers.

Throughout the years following 1988, Stanicic continued to work with the Naval Academy Aquatic Club and led both men's and women's teams to several national championships including the Women's Open in 1999 and multiple-age group titles in 20 and under, 18 and under, 16 and under and 14 and under competitions.

He earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Split at Zadar, Croatia, in 1981.

Mladen and his wife, Miriam, are the parents of Maro (27) and Blaise (20). Miriam serves as the USNA Director of Community Relations.

Both Miriam and Mladen are also highest-level interpreters and translators with U.S. Government, including the Department of Defense. Their assignments have included interpreting for U.S. and foreign heads of state, Secretaries of State, Secretaries of Defense and Chiefs of Defense. Their translating work included non-proliferation and export control treaties.

Maro is a former Naval Academy Aquatic Club swimmer and water polo player and Blaise is one of the NAAC current standouts. In 2005, Blaise became a member of the U.S. Junior National Team. Last year, while competing at the University of Maryland, Blaise was the team's third-leading scorer, and will serve as the team captain as a junior. Maryland is coached by former Navy assistant Carl Salyer.



Cmdr. Tom Popp, USN **Vol. Assistant Coach** **First Year at Navy**

Cmdr. Tom Popp, USN, returns to Navy water polo after an 18-year hiatus as a volunteer assistant coach and team officer representative. He is assigned to Navy as an instructor in the Aerospace Engineering

Department.

A native of San Jose, California, Popp was a two-time high school water polo All-American at Bellarmine College Preparatory under legendary coach Larry Rogers. While playing for Navy under Coach Schofield from 1985-88, Popp helped lead Navy to three Eastern Division Championships (1986-1988) and three NCAA tournament appearances. A two-time MVP of the Eastern Division (1987, 1988), he also earned All-American Honorable Mention in 1987 and third-team All-American honors in 1988. As a senior, Popp was awarded the Naval Academy Athletic Association Sword for Men in 1989, presented to "that man of the graduating class who is considered by the Association's Athletic Council to have personally excelled in men's athletics during his years of varsity competition."

During this same period, Popp also participated on the U.S. Men's Junior National Team (1985-87), traveling to several European competitions, the Junior Pan-American Games in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and the 19 & Under World Championships in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Following his senior NCAA season, Tom trained with the U.S. Men's National Team from 1989 through April 1991.

After graduating in 1989 with a bachelor of science in Aerospace Engineering, Cmdr. Popp completed naval flight officer training and qualified as an E-2C Hawkeye aircraft mission commander. In January 1995, following deployments aboard the USS Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier, Cmdr. Popp enacted orders to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and was selected as a U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) Cooperative program student. Upon graduating from USNTPS at NAS Patuxent River, Md., in December 1997, Cmdr. Popp was awarded a Masters degree in Aerospace Engineering, transitioned to the Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer community, and flight tested several new E-2C advanced avionics systems.

After his test squadron duty, Cmdr. Popp served on the staff of Commander U.S. Naval Air Forces Pacific Fleet (COMNAVAIRPAC) at NAS North Island in Coronado, Calif., (February 2000 to April 2002). He returned to NAS Patuxent River in May 2002 as the AEDO Community Manager within Naval Air Systems Command. Subsequently, he assumed the T-45 Integrated Product Team (IPT) lead for the Naval Undergraduate Training Systems program office (PMA-273) in 2004 before returning to his alma mater in May 2007.

Tom, his wife, Ruth (formerly Ruth Chasen (Navy '89)), and their five daughters, Frances (16), Naomi (14), Hannah (11), Mary (7), and Ellen (2) reside in Arnold, Md.

Support Staff



Chauncey Winbush
Associate AD



Cmdr. Tom Popp, USN
Officer Representative



Judith Harrison
Faculty Representative



Rett Warren
Strength & Conditioning



Ray Chronister
Athletic Trainer



Chris Forman
Sports Information