

## **2003-04 Headlines**

**August 30, 2004**

### **TEAM USA BEATS ITALY TO FINISH SEVENTH**

ATHENS, Greece -- The United States defeated Italy 9-8 to finish seventh at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Former UCI All-American Jeff Powers scored a goal in the win. Team USA finished fourth in their preliminary bracket in which the first three teams all advanced to medal games.

**August 27, 2004**

### **TEAM USA DEFEATS AUSTRALIA 6-5**

**ATHENS, Greece ---** The United States Olympic team defeated Australia, 6-5, Friday and advances to Sunday's seventh-place game versus the winner of Italy-Croatia at the 2004 Athens Games.

**August 24, 2004**

### **USA BATTLES AUSTRALIA IN SEVENTH-PLACE BRACKET GAME**

ATHENS, Greece -- Team USA will battle Australia Friday (Aug. 27) in a seventh-place bracket game. The U.S. won three of four meetings with the Aussies at the FINA Championships leading up to the Olympic Games.

**August 23, 2004**

### **USA SUFFERS A 9-5 LOSS TO SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO**

ATHENS, Greece -- Team USA suffered 9-5 loss to Serbia and Montenegro Monday, failing to qualify for the medal round.

**August 21, 2004**

### **USA FALLS TO RUSSIA; NEEDS TO BEAT SERBIA-MONTENEGRO**

ATHENS, Greece -- Team USA lost to Russia 9-7 on Saturday night before 4,108 fans at the Indoor Pool of the Olympic Aquatic Centre in Athens, missing out on a shot to secure a place in the quarterfinals. The U.S. must now win its game on Monday against Serbia and Montenegro (3-1).

**August 19, 2004**

### **BAILEY SCORES IN USA LOSS TO HUNGARY**

ATHENS, Greece -- Former UC Irvine standout Ryan Bailey scored the first goal of the game, but Team USA would go on to lose 7-5 to defending Olympic champion Hungary in Athens Thursday.

**August 17, 2004**



## **POWERS, KLATT NOTCH GOALS IN WIN OVER KAZAKHSTAN**

ATHENS, Greece -- Former UC Irvine All-American's Jeff Powers and Dan Klatt each recorded a goal in the USA's win over Kazakhstan in Athens Tuesday.

**August 16, 2004**

## **BAILEY, POWERS SCORE IN OLYMPIC WIN OVER CROATIA**

ATHENS, Greece --- Former Anteaters Ryan Bailey and Jeff Powers scored one goal each in the USA's 7-6 victory over Croatia in the Olympic opener at Athens Sunday.

**July 15, 2004**

## **FIVE FORMER UC IRVINE PLAYERS SELECTED TO U.S. OLYMPIC MEN'S WATER POLO TEAM**

LONG BEACH --- Five former UC Irvine players have been selected to the 13-man United States Olympic Men's Water Polo Team that will compete in Athens, Greece, next month. Team USA head coach Ratko Rudic introduced the team Wednesday night.

Center Ryan Bailey (Long Beach Millikan HS) will be competing in his second straight Olympic Games, while the first-time selections from UCI include driver Omar Amr (Sunny Hills HS), defender Dan Klatt (Clovis West HS), center Jeff Powers (San Luis Obispo HS) and goalkeeper Genai Kerr (Coronado HS).

All five competed at UCI for head coach Ted Newland, who begins his 39th season with the Anteaters this fall. Newland leads all NCAA water polo coaches in victories with 698 as he has a UCI career mark of 698-331-5 (.677). Including this year's squad, 11 of Newland's former Anteater players have competed for the U.S. Olympic Team.

Team USA competes in the FINA World League Super Final this Friday through Sunday (July 16-18) at the Charter All Digital Aquatic Centre in Long Beach. The U.S. faces Greece Friday night at 8:45.

Olympic men's water polo competition in Athens begins August 15 as Team USA is in Group A with defending Olympic champion Hungary, Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia, Russia and Kazakhstan. ([read more](#))

**July 12, 2004**

## **FORMER ANTEATERS CONVERT PENALTY SHOTS TO HELP USA TO 11-10 VICTORY**

Mission Viejo, Calif. -- Former UC Irvine All-Americans Ryan Bailey and Jeff Powers scored two of the American's three penalty shots to help the U.S. National Team to an 11-10 victory over Serbia and Montenegro at Capistrano Valley High School Sunday night. ([read more](#))

**July 11, 2004**

## **TEAM USA LOSES TO SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO**

**Los Angeles, Calif.** --- Former Anteater Ryan Bailey scored one goal but the U.S. National Team lost to Serbia and Montenegro, 9-6, at USC's McDonald's Swim Stadium Saturday. The teams play Sunday (July 11) night at Capistrano Valley High School at 7:00. ([read more](#))

**July 8, 2004**

### **USA FALLS TO HUNGARY**

Irvine, Calif. -- Former UCI All-American goalkeeper Genai Kerr had eight saves but it wasn't enough as Hungary defeated the U.S. National Team 11-8 Wednesday in La Jolla . The US will take on Serbia and Montenegro on Saturday (July 10) at the McDonald's Swim Stadium in Los Angeles. ([read more](#))

**July 7, 2004**

### **BAILEY NAMED USA TODAY OLYMPIC ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

Irvine, Calif. -- Former UCI All-American Ryan Bailey was named the USA Today Olympic Athlete of the Week after netting five goals in an 11-9 win over Hungary, the reigning Olympic, World League and World Champions. ([read more](#))

**July 6, 2004**

### **RYAN BAILEY SCORES 5 GOALS TO LEAD USA PAST HUNGARY**

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif.** --- Former Anteater All-American Ryan Bailey scored five goals to lead the U.S. Men's National Team past Hungary, 11-9, at Corona del Mar High School Monday. The two teams meet again Wednesday in La Jolla at 8:00 p.m. ([read more](#))

**July 2, 2004**

### **FIVE ANTEATERS FEATURED ON USA NATIONAL TEAM**

Former UCI water polo standouts Omar Amr, Ryan Bailey, Genai Kerr, Jeff Powers and Dan Klatt will compete with the USA National Team in a match against Hungary at Corona del Mar High School Monday (July 5) at 3:00 p.m. ([read more](#))

**May 18, 2004**

### **THREE MEN'S WATER POLO PLAYERS NAMED BIG WEST SCHOLAR-ATHLETES**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- Phil Garcia, Mark Masterson and Rick Merlo were among the school-record 176 UCI student-athletes who were honored as 2003-04 Big West Conference Scholar-Athletes at the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics'



annual banquet Monday night at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This year's honorees bring UCI's total to 2,397 conference scholar-athletes since 1983.

Requirements for this award include maintaining a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA) over three quarters or a 3.2 GPA over two quarters for freshmen. Student-athletes must also earn letters in their sports. The Scholar-Athlete award was implemented by the Big West Conference to honor those student-athletes that have maintained a high level of scholastic excellence while participating in intercollegiate athletics.

**December 2, 2003**

### **THREE UC IRVINE MEN'S WATER POLO PLAYERS HONORED BY MOUNTAIN PACIFIC SPOTS FEDERATION**

Irvine, Calif. - UC Irvine juniors Rick Merlo and Dan Noon and senior Phil Garcia were named to Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF) men's water polo all-conference teams, announced by the league office Tuesday.

Merlo was a second team selection, scoring 47 goals this season. Noon was a third team choice after leading the Anteaters with 67 goals. Garcia was an honorable mention honoree adding 62 goals in 2003. This is the first MPSF selection for each athlete.

**December 1, 2003**

### **ANTEATERS END 2003 SEASON 12-17 OVERALL**

**UCI FINISHES 12-17:** The UC Irvine men's water polo team concluded the 2003 season with an overall record of 12-17 after an eighth-place finish in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Tournament at Belmont Plaza last weekend.

The Anteaters lost to second-seeded Stanford 9-5 in the first round Friday. Senior Phil Garcia and junior Dan Noon scored two goals each for the Anteaters and sophomore goalie Joe Wynne had eight saves. Pepperdine converted a goal with one second remaining to edge UCI 11-10 Saturday after Anteater sophomore Chris Peters had tied the score with 11 seconds left. Garcia scored three goals with Noon and junior Rick Merlo scoring two apiece. Wynne had nine stops. UCI lost another heartbreaker Sunday in a 9-8, overtime loss to UC Santa Barbara. Rick Merlo led the Anteaters with a trio of goals and Garcia added two in his final game at UCI. Wynne had five saves.

**TED NEEDS 2 FOR 700:** Ted Newland completed his 38th season as head coach of the UC Irvine program with a career record of 698-331-5. He was assisted again this season by Marc Hunt and Pat Glasgow.

**SCORING LEADERS:** Junior Dan Noon led the Anteaters with 67 goals this season, senior Phil Garcia had 62, junior Rick Merlo 47, sophomore Nate White 21 and freshman Tim Hutten 15 to round out the team's top five scorers.

**IN GOAL:** Sophomore goalie Joe Wynne had 190 saves in 29 starts this season.

**November 24, 2003**

**UCI RANKED SIXTH:** The Anteaters are ranked sixth nationally in the latest Collegiate Coaches' Poll. USC is first, Stanford second, California third, UCLA fourth and Pepperdine fifth.

**November 9, 2003**

**UC IRVINE UPSETS PEPPERDINE 8-7**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- Sophomore Nate White scored the eventual game-winning goal to lead No. 8 UC Irvine to an 8-7, upset win over fifth-ranked Pepperdine in Mountain Pacific Sports Federation men's water polo at the Anteater Aquatics Complex Sunday. ([see results](#))

**November 8, 2003**

**UCLA TOPS UC IRVINE 10-7 IN MPSF ACTION**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- Junior Brett Ormsby scored five goals to lead No. 4 UCLA past eighth-ranked UC Irvine, 10-7, in Mountain Pacific Sports Federation men's water polo at the Anteater Aquatics Complex Saturday. ([see results](#))

**November 3, 2003**

**ANTEATERS OPEN 5-GAME HOMESTAND WITH UCLA, PEPPERDINE**

**HOMESTAND STARTS WITH BRUINS, WAVES:** The UC Irvine men's water polo team (10-12 overall, 2-3 MPSF) opens a five-game homestand with No. 4 UCLA Saturday (Nov. 8) and fifth-ranked Pepperdine Sunday in Mountain Pacific Sports Federation action. Both games begin at noon at the Anteater Aquatics Complex.

**ANTEATERS SPLIT ON ROAD:** UC Irvine split a pair of MPSF games on the road this past weekend. Juniors Dan Noon and Rick Merlo scored four goals each to lead UCI past ninth-ranked UC Santa Barbara, 10-8, at Santa Barbara Saturday. Merlo's goal with 1:55 left in the fourth quarter gave the Anteaters the lead for good at 8-7. Senior Phil Garcia, who had two goals in the game, scored with 1:10 for a 9-7 lead before the Gauchos' Brian Alexander scored with 51 seconds remaining to cut the UCI lead to 9-8. Noon then completed the scoring on a goal with 21 seconds left in the game. Merlo scored three goals in the second quarter to give UCI a 5-4 halftime lead. UCI sophomore goalie Joe Wynne had nine saves.

The Anteaters dropped a 15-8 decision to No. 1 USC in Los Angeles Sunday. Senior Phil Garcia and Rick Merlo scored three goals each for UCI. Wynne had six saves in goal.

**SCORING LEADERS:** Noon leads the Anteaters in scoring with 54 goals and Garcia has scored 48. Rick Merlo follows with 39 and sophomore Nate White has 14.

**IN GOAL:** Wynne has 134 saves in 22 starts this season.

**COACH NEWLAND:** Ted Newland is in his 38th season as head coach of the UC Irvine program as he nears 700 career victories. His UCI record is 696-326-5. He is assisted again this season by Marc Hunt and Pat Glasgow.

**August 30, 2003**

**UCI'S RICK MERLO SCORES THREE GOALS IN U.S. LOSS TO SPAIN**

**DAEGU, South Korea ---** UC Irvine junior Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) scored three goals but the United States men's water polo team fell to Spain, 7-6, in the seventh-place game at the World University Games in Daegu, South Korea, Saturday.

Spencer Dornin of the U.S. tied the game at 6-6 on a goal with 1:52 remaining in the fourth quarter, but Spain's Ivan Gallego scored on a back-handed goal in the waning seconds for the victory.

Merlo rejoins his UC Irvine teammates this week as the Anteaters prepare to open the 2003 season at UC San Diego's Triton Invitational Saturday and Sunday (Sept. 6-7). Coach Ted Newland's squad will face La Verne at 10:30 a.m. and Air Force at 6:00 p.m. in group play Saturday at UCSD's Canyonview Pool.

**August 27, 2003**

### **UC IRVINE'S RICK MERLO HITS GAME-WINNING SHOT IN WIN OVER RUSSIA**

**DAEGU, South Korea ---** UC Irvine junior Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) hit the game-winning shot with five seconds remaining to lift the U.S. Men's Water Polo Team past Russia, 7-6, at the World University Games in Daegu, South Korea, Wednesday.

Merlo's shot into the left corner of the cage capped the Americans' comeback from a 6-3 deficit with less than six minutes left in the game.

Michael Hausmann scored with 5:27 left to cut the Russians' lead to 6-4, Will Quist scored an extra-man goal at 4:26, then Matt Flesher scored off a steal with 3:33 remaining to tie the game at 6-6 leading to Merlo's heroics.

"I knew there was only about five seconds left in the game," Merlo said on the USOC website. "I had the idea that I would take a foul and then shoot it because I couldn't get the ball to the two-meter man and I got lucky. "The team played awesome in the fourth quarter. The emphasis should be on the team and Merrill (Moses, the U.S. goalie)."

"Our guys just never gave up," said U.S. coach Jovan Vavic, who is head coach at USC. "Our key players stepped it up and Quist scored a big goal In the last quarter we had four different people score a goal. That's huge." The U.S. continues second-round play against Serbia and Montenegro on Thursday.

**August 10, 2003**

### **AMERICANS WIN GOLD AT PAN AM GAMES**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic ---** The U.S. men's water polo team, behind three goals from former UC Irvine All-American Jeff Powers, defeated Brazil, 13-7, to claim the gold medal in the Pan American Games at the Juan Pablo Duarte Olympic Aquatics Center in Santo Domingo Sunday night. The victory assures the USA a berth in the 2004 Olympics at Athens, Greece.

Ex-Anteaters Ryan Bailey and Omar Amr scored two goals and one, respectively, in the gold-medal win. UCI's Genai Kerr recorded two saves in goal. The Americans outscored their opponents 144-33 in the tournament.

**August 7, 2003**

**U.S. REMAINS UNDEFEATED AT PAN AM GAMES**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic** --- The U.S. men's water polo team remained undefeated at the Pan American Games with an 18-4 victory over Colombia Thursday. The American squad, featuring five former UC Irvine standouts, completes preliminary play Friday against Argentina.

In Thursday's win, UCI's Jeff Powers scored three goals, while Omar Amr and Dan Klatt added one each. Genai Kerr, who played the first half in goal, just missed scoring on a pool-length shot that hit the crossbar as the half ended.

**August 6, 2003**

**U.S. DEFEATS CANADA 11-5 AT PAN AM GAMES**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic** --- Former UC Irvine All-American Ryan Bailey netted two goals to help lead the U.S. past Canada 11-5 in the Pan American Games Wednesday. Bailey's goal from the hole with 4:09 left in the first quarter gave the Americans the lead for good at 2-1. The U.S. faces Colombia Thursday.

**August 5, 2003**

**USA ROLLS PAST MEXICO 18-1 AT PAN AM GAMES**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic** --- All five former UC Irvine players contributed in the U.S. water polo team's 18-1 victory over Mexico at the Pan American Games Tuesday.

Jeff Powers scored four goals, Omar Amr 2, and Dan Klatt and Ryan Bailey one each. Genai Kerr recorded four saves in goal. The U.S. faces Canada Wednesday.

**August 4, 2003**

**ANTEATER ALUMS CONTINUE STRONG ROLES IN PAN AM GAMES**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic** --- Former Anteater All-Americans Ryan Bailey and Jeff Powers scored two goals and one, respectively, in the U.S. men's water polo team's 14-2 win over Puerto Rico at the Pan American Games Monday. Genai Kerr recorded a pair of saves for the U.S., which faces Mexico Tuesday.

**August 3, 2003**

**EX-ANTEATERS LEAD USA TO PAIR OF PAN AM GAMES WINS**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dom. Republic** --- Former UC Irvine All-Americans Omar Amr and Ryan Bailey scored three goals each to help lead the U.S. men's water polo team past the Dominican Republic 24-0 in the opening game of the Pan American Games Saturday.

On Sunday, ex-Anteater standouts Jeff Powers and Dan Klatt scored two goals apiece as the U.S. went on a 13-0 run in topping Brazil 17-5. Genai Kerr, another former UCI player, recorded five goalie saves.

The U.S. faces Puerto Rico today (Aug. 4).

**July 26, 2003**

### **TRIO OF ANTEATERS SCORE IN USA LOSS TO SPAIN**

Barcelona, Spain -- After beating Slovakia 11-5, the U.S. men's water polo team was edged, 9-8, by defending World Champion Spain in the fifth place game at the 2003 FINA World Championships at Club Natacio Barcelona.

Former Anteaters Dan Klatt, Jeff Powers and Ryan Bailey all contributed a goal in the loss.

The sixth place finish equals the team's placing at the Worlds in Rome in 1994. The team will compete in the Pan American Games (Aug. 3-11) next.

**July 23, 2003**

### **BAILEY SCORES, BUT USA LOSES TO GREECE**

Barcelona, Spain -- Former UCI All-American Ryan Bailey scored a goal in a 4-2 loss to Greece at the 2003 FINA World Championships at Club Natacio Barcelona in Spain. The U.S., undefeated in the tourney before this game, can now place no higher than fifth in the tournament. A win over Slovakia on Thursday (July 24) would send the U.S. to a play for fifth, while a loss would put the team in the seventh place game.

**July 18, 2003**

### **AMR, BAILEY SCORE TWICE IN USA WIN OVER AUSTRALIA**

**Barcelona, Spain** --- Former UC Irvine All-Americans Omar Amr and Ryan Bailey scored a pair of goals each to lead the USA to a 13-7 win over Australia Friday. Ex-Anteater Jeff Powers added one goal as the Americans earned first place in Group B of the 2003 FINA World Championships. ([see complete release](#))

**July 17, 2003**

### **AMR, POWERS SCORE IN USA 14-4 ROUT OF JAPAN**

Barcelona, Spain -- The U.S. men's water polo team defeated Japan 14-4 on the second day of the 10th FINA World Championships in Barcelona, Spain.

Former Anteater Omar Amr scored two goals while Jeff Powers added one goal in the victory.

The U.S. will close out preliminary play on Friday (July 18) against Australia.

**July 15, 2003**

### **ANTEATERS HELP USA TO 5-5 TIE IN OPENING GAME OF FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHPS**

Barcelona, Spain -- The U.S. men's water polo team made a strong opening day statement at the 10th FINA World Championships in Barcelona, Spain, playing 2003 European champion Serbia and Montenegro to a 5-5 tie at Club Natacio Barcelona.

Wolf Wigo scored after former UCI All-American Ryan Bailey drew an ejection at set to knot the game at 3-3. In the third quarter, former Anteater Jeff Powers came from beneath two defenders in the hole and netted a turnaround goal to tie the game at 4-4.

The score was tied at 5-5 heading into the fourth quarter where neither team was able to muster many good looks at the goal, with defense ringing in as the main theme in the final frame.

The U.S. will be back in action in a 12:00 p.m. game against Japan on Thursday (July 16).

For complete coverage of the FINA World Championships go to [usawaterpolo.com](http://usawaterpolo.com)

**July 8, 2003**

### **FORMER UCI ATHLETES COMPETE FOR TEAM USA**

Irvine, Calif. -- Five former UC Irvine athletes are members of the USA men's water polo team that will participate in the 2003 FINA World Championships in Barcelona, Spain from July 13-27.

The former Anteater players include Omar Amr, Ryan Bailey, Genai Kerr, Dan Klatt and Jeff Powers. Bailey was named the USA Water Polo Player of the Year for his play in 2002.

UC Irvine has more players than any other university, boasting of 5 of the 13 man roster.

The top three teams at the FINA World Championships will gain an automatic bid for next year's Olympic Games in Athens. Team USA will get its second shot at Olympic qualification at the Pan American Games Aug. 3-11 in the Dominican Republic. The first-place team there will earn a ticket to Athens.

Follow Team USA at [usawaterpolo.com](http://usawaterpolo.com)

**May 19 , 2003**

### **MCCLUSKY, POWERS HONORED AS SCHOLAR-ATHLETES**

Tom McClusky and Jeff Powers were among a school record 170 student-athletes honored as 2002-03 Big West Conference Scholar-Athletes at the program's annual banquet Monday night (May 19) at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

This year's list of scholar-athletes brings UCI's total to 2,221 since 1984. The 170 honorees best the old mark of 148 set in 1998-99. Requirements for this award include maintaining a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA) over three quarters or a 3.2 GPA over two quarters for freshmen. Student-athletes must also earn letters in their sports.

The Scholar-Athlete award was implemented by the Big West Conference to honor those student-athletes that have maintained a high level of scholastic excellence while participating in intercollegiate athletics. UCI expanded the award to include teams that do not participate in Big West-sponsored sports.