

## **2004 Headlines**

**July 28, 2005**

### **POWERS; MERLO HELP USA TO 11TH PLACE VICTORY OVER CUBA**

Irvine, Calif. – Former UC Irvine All-Americans Jeff Powers and Rick Merlo added goals in the U.S. men's national water polo team's 10-6 victory over Cuba in the 11th place game at the FINA World Championships in Montreal Thursday.

Powers scored two goals, while Merlo notched one to help Team USA to the win. Former UCI All-American Ryan Bailey played 13 minutes but did not score.

**July 26, 2005**

### **POWERS SCORES A GOAL IN USA'S LOSS TO GERMANY**

Irvine, Calif. – Former UC Irvine All-American Jeff Powers scored one goal in the U.S. men's national water polo team's 5-3 loss to Germany at the FINA World Championships in Montreal Tuesday.

Powers (San Luis Obispo, Calif.) scored the only goal of the second quarter with a quick backhand shot from the hole position.

USA led 3-1 after the first half, but the Germans scored four goals and shut out the Americans in the second half for the victory.

The USA will play Cuba for eleventh place at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday (July 28).

**July 25, 2005**

### **ITALY KNOCKS USA OUT OF MEDAL ROUND**

**MONTREAL** --- Italy defeated Team USA 6-5 Sunday in the FINA World Championships in Montreal, sending the Americans into the ninth-place bracket. The U.S. will face Germany on Tuesday.

UCI's trio of Ryan Bailey, Rick Merlo and Jeff Powers went scoreless versus the Italians.

**July 22, 2005**

### **BAILEY, POWERS SCORE ONCE FOR USA IN LOSS TO SERBIA & MONTENEGRO**

**MONTREAL** --- Former UC Irvine All-Americans Ryan Bailey and Jeff Powers scored one goal each in the U.S. men's national water polo team's 8-4 loss to Serbia and Montenegro in group play at the FINA World Championships in Montreal Friday.

Adam Wright and Jesse Smith also scored while goalie Brandon Brooks had 11 saves for the Americans (2-1). Aleksandar Sagic scored six goals for Serbia and Montenegro, which improved to 3-0.

**July 20, 2005**

### **UCI PRODUCT JEFF POWERS SCORES 4 GOALS IN TEAM USA'S WIN OVER CUBA**

**MONTREAL** --- Former UC Irvine All-American Jeff Powers scored four goals to help the U.S. men's national water polo team defeat Cuba, 13-6, at the FINA World Championships in Montreal Wednesday.

Team USA's Tony Azevedo led all scorers with five goals. Ryan Bailey, another former Anteater standout, scored once while UCI product Rick Merlo did not score in 12 minutes of action. Goalie Brandon Brooks had six saves for the Americans.

The U.S. (2-0) plays Serbia and Montenegro, also 2-0, in group play Friday.

**July 18, 2005**

### **3 FORMER ANTEATERS ON U.S. NATIONAL TEAM**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- Three former UC Irvine standouts are members of the U.S. National Team that is competing in the 2005 FINA World Championships in Montreal.

Ryan Bailey, Rick Merlo and Jeff Powers are UCI's representatives on the 13-player roster. Bailey and Powers competed in the 2004 Summer Olympics while Merlo was a first-team All-American as a senior for the Anteaters last fall.

The USA opened with a 7-4 win over Japan Monday as Powers scored two goals.

**May 23, 2005**

### **COACH NEWLAND GUIDES NEWPORT ZONE TO TITLE**

UCI coach Ted Newland led Newport Zone, with a host of players with Anteater ties, to the Premier League Division I title over the weekend. Former UCI All-American Ryan Bailey was named MVP of the tournament.

**May 17, 2005**

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

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- Matt Garcia, Curt Merlo, Ty Newland and Cole Robinson were among the school-record 182 UCI student-athletes who were honored as 2004-05 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 2,579 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 31, 2004**

**UC IRVINE'S RICK MERLO NAMED FIRST TEAM ALL-AMERICAN;  
BARRY, NOON ALSO HONORED**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- UC Irvine senior driver Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) has been selected a 2004 first team All-American by the American Water Polo Coaches Association.

Merlo scored 62 goals for UCI this season when he was also named first team All-Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.

Junior driver Dreason Barry (Eugene, OR/North Eugene HS) was named second team All-American this year after leading the Anteaters with 65 goals. He was a third team All-American in 2002 before sitting out last season with an injury.

Senior 2-meter defender Dan Noon (Santa Ana/Saddleback HS) was named to the All-American honorable mention team. Noon had 38 goals this season for UCI, which finished 16-14 overall and fourth in the final national poll.

UCLA's Brett Ormsby was named the national Player of the Year and the Bruins' Adam Krikorian was chosen as Coach of the Year.

**December 1, 2004**

**UC IRVINE'S RICK MERLO NAMED TO ALL-MPSF FIRST TEAM;  
DREASON BARRY, DAN NOON SELECTED TO SECOND TEAM**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- UC Irvine senior driver Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) has been named to the 2004 All-Mountain Pacific Sports Federation first team while two teammates were selected to the second team.

Merlo scored 62 goals for the Anteaters this season, including 13 games with at least three goals. He scored 132 goals in his UCI career and was an All-MPSF second team choice a year ago.

Named to the All-MPSF second team this season were UCI senior 2-meter defender Dan Noon (Santa Ana/Saddleback HS) and junior driver Dreason Barry (Eugene, OR/North Eugene HS). Noon scored 38 goals for UCI this year and 123 in his career. Barry led the Anteaters in scoring this season with 65 goals and he has scored 146 in three years at UCI.

Coach Ted Newland's Anteaters finished fourth in the MPSF Tournament at Stanford last weekend and were 16-14 overall this season.

Stanford senior driver Tony Azevedo was named the MPSF Player of the Year and Cardinal head coach John Vargas, a former UCI All-American and Olympian, was named Coach of the Year.

**November 29, 2004**

### **ANTEATERS END SEASON 16-14 OVERALL; FINISH 4TH AT MPSF TOURNAMENT**

**ANTEATERS PLACE 4TH AT MPSF TOURNEY:** UC Irvine concluded the 2004 season with a 16-14 overall record after placing fourth in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Tournament at Stanford this past weekend.

The Anteaters opened with a 6-5 win over Long Beach State last Friday as seniors Dan Noon (Santa Ana/Saddleback HS) and Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) scored two goals each. Junior goalie Joe Wynne (Los Altos/St. Francis HS) recorded four saves.

Top-ranked UCLA defeated UCI 10-6 on Saturday. Noon and junior Dreason Barry (Eugene, OR/North Eugene HS) led the Anteaters with two goals apiece and Wynne had eight saves.

USC claimed third place with a 7-4 victory over UCI Sunday. Four Anteater players scored one goal each and Wynne made eight stops.

**SCORING LEADERS:** Barry led the team in scoring this season with 65 goals followed by Rick Merlo with 62. Noon scored 38 goals and sophomore Colin Mello (Sanger/Reedley HS) followed with 26. Sophomore Tim Hutten (Los Alamitos HS) had 22 goals to round out the team's top five.

**IN GOAL:** Wynne had 229 saves in 30 starts this season.

**COACH NEWLAND REACHES 714:** Ted Newland ended his 39th season as the Anteaters' head coach with a career record of 714-345-5 to lead all collegiate water polo coaches in victories. He notched victory No. 700 in UCI's 19-8 win over Redlands Sept. 4 at the UC San Diego Triton Invitational.

**November 17, 2004**

### **UCI REMAINS NO. 5 IN THE NATION; HOSTS CAL BAPTIST TONIGHT**

**IRVINE, Calif. ---** Coach Ted Newland's Anteaters remained in the fifth spot of the latest Collegiate Top 20 poll released today. The top four spots also remained the same with UCLA, Stanford, USC and Cal holding their positions.

UCI hosts No. 19 Cal Baptist tonight (Wednesday) at 7:00 in the season's home finale.

### **Men's National Collegiate Top 20 Poll Week 11 Poll, 11/17/04**

1.	UCLA	100
2.	Stanford	95
3.	USC	90

4.	California	85
5.	UC Irvine	78
6.	Long Beach State	71
7.	Pepperdine	68
8.	Loyola Marymount	66
9.	UC Santa Barbara	63
10.	UC San Diego	57
11.	Princeton	52
12.	St. Francis	47
13.	UC Davis	39
14T.	BYU-Hawaii	34
14T.	Pacific	34
16.	Navy	25
17.	Whittier	16
18.	Redlands	15
19.	Cal Baptist	11
20.	Santa Clara	7

**November 3, 2004**

**ANTEATERS RANKED 5TH NATIONALLY THIS WEEK**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- UC Irvine moved up two spots to No. 5 this week in the Coaches' Top 20 poll released Wednesday. Coach Ted Newland's Anteaters travel to No. 6 Loyola Marymount for a non-conference game at 3:00 p.m. Thursday and host seventh-ranked UC Santa Barbara in a MPSF game Sunday at noon.

**November 2, 2004**

**UC IRVINE'S DREASON BARRY NAMED MPSF CO-PLAYER OF WEEK**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- UC Irvine junior Dreason Barry (Eugene, OR/North Eugene HS) has been named the MIKASA co-Player of the Week in Mountain Pacific Sports Federation men's water polo.

Barry scored a total of six goals in last weekend's two victories that extended the Anteaters' current winning streak to five. He scored a pair of goals in Saturday's 9-7 win over No. 3 USC and added a game-high four in Sunday's 10-6 victory over No. 8 UC San Diego. Barry leads UCI in scoring with 50 goals in 21 games.

The Anteaters, 13-8 overall and 3-2 in the MPSF, travel to No. 6 Loyola Marymount for a non-conference game at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, then host fourth-ranked UC Santa Barbara in a MPSF contest Sunday at noon.

Barry shared the award this week with UCLA goalie Joe Axelrad.

**October 26, 2004**

**UC IRVINE'S RICK MERLO NAMED MPSF CO-PLAYER OF WEEK IN MEN'S WATER POLO**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- UC Irvine senior driver Rick Merlo (Clovis/Buchanan HS) has been named the MIKASA co-Player of the Week in Mountain Pacific Sports Federation men's water polo.

Merlo scored three goals each in the Anteaters' wins over Pacific (9-6) and fifth-ranked California (8-7) last weekend. He leads the team in scoring with 47 goals in 19 games this season. The victories extended UCI's win streak to three as the Anteaters (11-8, 2-2 MPSF) prepare to host No. 3 USC Saturday at noon.



Merlo shared the honor this week with Stanford senior Tony Azevedo.

**UC IRVINE REMAINS AT NO. 5 NATIONALLY THIS WEEK**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- The UC Irvine men's water polo team, 4-1 overall, remained at No. 5 in the national poll released by the Collegiate Water Polo Coaches Association Wednesday. Stanford continues to hold the No. 1 spot, followed by USC, UCLA, California and UCI.

Fourteen of the nation's top 20 teams, including the top seven, compete in the Southern California Tournament hosted by USC this weekend. In group play Saturday, Coach Ted Newland's Anteaters face No. 15 Pacific at 12:45 p.m. at McDonald's Swim Stadium.

Senior Rick Merlo and junior Dreason Barry lead UCI in scoring with 13 goals each. Barry was named Mountain Pacific Sports Federation co-Player of the Week Sept. 6 after scoring all 13 of his goals in the UCSD Triton Invitational Sept. 4-5.

**September 4, 2004**

**UC IRVINE HEAD COACH TED NEWLAND GAINS 700TH CAREER WIN**

**LA JOLLA, Calif.** --- UC Irvine men's head water polo coach Ted Newland claimed career victory No. 700 Saturday night as the Anteaters topped the University of Redlands, 19-8, in the Triton Invitational at UC San Diego. Newland, in his 39th season at UCI, leads all collegiate water polo coaches in wins and currently has a career mark of 700-331-5. [\(read more\)](#)

**September 1, 2004**

**UC IRVINE RANKED 7TH IN PRESEASON POLL**

**IRVINE, Calif.** --- The UC Irvine men's water polo team is ranked seventh in the initial Collegiate Water Polo Top 20 poll of the year. Stanford, USC and UCLA hold down the top three spots.

Coach Ted Newland's Anteaters, who return six starters from last year's team that finished 10th nationally, open the 2004 season in the Triton Invitational at UC San Diego this Saturday and Sunday (Sept. 4-5). UCI faces La Verne at 10:30 a.m. and Redlands at 6:00 p.m. Saturday in group play. Other ranked teams in the tournament are No. 9 UC San Diego, No. 10 UC Santa Barbara, No. 14 UC Davis and No. 16 Air Force.

Newland, in his 39th season as head coach at UCI, needs two wins to reach 700 for his career. He enters the weekend with an Anteater mark of 698-331-5.

### **COLLEGIATE WATER POLO TOP 20 POLL September 1, 2004**

1. Stanford --- 98
2. USC--- 96
3. UCLA --- 92
4. California --- 86
5. Pepperdine --- 78
6. Long Beach State --- 73
7. UC Irvine --- 69
8. Loyola Marymount --- 67
9. UC San Diego --- 56
10. UC Santa Barbara --- 54
11. Navy --- 51
12. Princeton --- 45
13. Pacific --- 43
14. UC Davis --- 32
15. St. Francis College --- 30
16. Air Force --- 26
17. BYU-Hawaii --- 18
18. Queens College --- 14
19. Santa Clara --- 12
20. Cal Baptist --- 10

### **August 30, 2004**

#### **ANTEATERS OPEN 2004 SEASON AT TRITON INVITATIONAL; COACH NEWLAND EYES 700TH CAREER WIN**

**UCI OPENS SEASON IN LA JOLLA:** The UC Irvine men's water polo team opens its 2004 schedule in the Triton Invitational at La Jolla Saturday and Sunday (Sept. 4-5). In group play Saturday, the Anteaters face the University of La Verne at 10:30 a.m. and the University of Redlands at 6:00 p.m. Sunday's game times will be based on Saturday's results. Other teams competing include host UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, UC Davis, Air Force, Pomona-Pitzer and Whittier College.

**TED NEEDS 2 FOR 700:** Ted Newland, who leads all collegiate water polo coaches in victories, begins his 39th season as head coach of the UC Irvine program with a career record of 698-331-5. Newland gained career victory No. 600 in La Jolla Nov. 3, 1996, in a 14-6 win over UC San Diego. He is assisted again this season by Marc Hunt and Pat Glasgow.

**FAMILY TIES ARE STRONG:** Newland, 76, has his 21-year old grandson, Ty, on the Anteater roster this season. Ty is the son of George Newland, who was an All-American in 1980 while playing for his father at UCI.

**RETURNING SCORING LEADERS:** Senior Dan Noon led the Anteaters with 67 goals last season, senior Rick Merlo had 47, junior Nate White 21 and sophomore Tim Hutten 15 to pace the UCI scoring attack. Merlo was second team All-Mountain Pacific Sports Federation and Noon third team last season. Junior driver Dreason Barry, who sat out last season with a knee injury, returns after scoring 66 goals in 2002 when he was a third-team All-American.

**IN GOAL:** Junior goalie Joe Wynne had 190 saves in 29 starts last season.

**LAST SEASON:** UCI was 12-17 overall last season and finished fifth in the MPSF with a 3-5 mark. The Anteaters were 10th in the final national ranking.

**COACH NEWLAND SAYS:** "Overall, we are stronger than last year. Noon will be our primary setter and (Rick) Merlo does a good job of driving and posting up. Hutten is one of the better two-meter defenders in our conference. "As always, our extra-man offense and defense will make a big difference in where we end up. Stanford, USC, UCLA, Cal and Pepperdine will all be strong."

**OLYMPIC PRIDE:** Five former Anteater players under Newland were members of the 2004 USA Olympic team: Omar Amr, Ryan Bailey, Genai Kerr, Dan Klatt and Jeff Powers.