



# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SPORTS INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS • HER 103  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90089-0601 • TELEPHONE: (213) 740-8480 FAX: (213) 740-7584  
WATER POLO SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR: JASON POMMIER • EMAIL: pommier@usc.edu

FOR RELEASE: Nov. 2, 2004

## No. 3 USC Looks to Regroup At No. 11 Pepperdine This Weekend *Trojans (17-3) try to get back on winning track in MPSF contest*

**LOS ANGELES** — The No. 3 USC men's water polo team (17-3, 3-2) will travel to No. 11 Pepperdine (10-11, 2-4) on Saturday (Nov. 6) for a Mountain Pacific Sports Federation match beginning at noon. Saturday's game will be broadcast on a tape-delayed basis by College Sports TV.

**RANKINGS** — USC is ranked No. 3 in the latest men's collegiate national Top 20 poll.

**LAST WEEK** — USC had an eight-game winning streak snapped with a 9-7 loss at No. 8 UC Irvine on Saturday. Thomas Hale led the Trojans with three goals.

**JOVAN VAVIC** — In his 10th season as the head coach of the men's water polo program, **Jovan Vavic** has built the Trojans into a national power, which culminated with the 1998 and 2003 national championships. Last year, he was named National Coach of the Year and Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Coach of the Year after leading the Trojans to the national title with a 24-3 record. Vavic came to USC as an assistant men's water polo coach to John Williams in 1992 and was named co-head coach in 1995. He took over the reins as head coach in 1999 when Williams retired. Vavic is also the head coach for the USC women's water polo team, winning national championships in 1999 and 2004. During the 1998-99 season, Vavic did something no other coach has accomplished as his teams won three national championships: besides capturing the 1998 men's and 1999 women's titles, his 1999 men's club team won the Men's Senior National Club Championship. Vavic has a 32-year water polo career. In addition to his coaching experience, he was a member of a Yugoslavian club team that was a four-time junior national champion (1973-74-76-77). Vavic also played for the Monte-Negro State team, which won the Yugoslav Nationals in 1977 and 1978.

**VAVIC'S CAREER RECORD** — **Jovan Vavic** has a 208-49 (.809) record with the Trojans.

**MILESTONE WIN** — With an 11-6 win on Oct. 2 against UC Santa Barbara at the Nor-Cal Tournament, head coach **Jovan Vavic** recorded his 200th career win at USC.

**Z MAN** — Junior two-meter defender **Juraj Zatovic** (Bratislava, Slovakia) led the Trojans in scoring last year with 57 goals, earning **All-America** and **All-MPSF first team** honors. This season, Zatovic leads the team with 33 goals. He recorded 12 goals in four matches during the 2004 So-Cal Tournament, including a team-high four goals in the Trojans' 8-6 win against No. 1 Stanford in the championship match. He also was named **2003 NCAA All-Tournament first team** after the Trojans won the national championship. Zatovic played for Slovakia in the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

### 2004 USC Men's Water Polo Schedule (17-3 overall, 3-2 MPSF)

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>UC Irvine</b>	<b>W 10-6</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>Pepperdine</b>	<b>W 10-4</b>
<b>Sept. 18-19</b>	<b>So-Cal Tournament (1st Place)</b>	
	Air Force	W 12-1
	UC Santa Barbara	W 12-6
	California	W 11-6
	Stanford	W 8-6
Sept. 24	at UC Santa Cruz	W 15-2
Sept. 25	*at Stanford	L 8-9
Oct. 2-3	at Nor-Cal Tournament (3rd Place)	
	Air Force	W 10-3
	UC Santa Barbara	W 11-6
	UCLA	L 6-8
	California	W 14-10
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>*California</b>	<b>W 9-7</b>
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>W 14-3</b>
<b>Oct. 16</b>	<b>Pomona-Pitzer</b>	<b>W 18-4</b>
<b>Oct. 16</b>	<b>Redlands</b>	<b>W 14-4</b>
Oct. 20	at Loyola Marymount	W 10-2
<b>Oct. 22</b>	<b>*Pacific</b>	<b>W 10-4</b>
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>*UC Santa Barbara</b>	<b>W 7-3</b>
Oct. 30	*at UC Irvine	L 7-9
Nov. 6	*at Pepperdine	Noon
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>*UCLA</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
Nov. 14	*at Long Beach State	Noon
Nov. 20	at Cal Baptist	TBA
<b>Nov. 21</b>	<b>U.S. Nat'l Team (Exh.)</b>	<b>Noon</b>
Nov. 26-28	MPSF Championship (Stanford, Calif.)	TBA
Dec. 4-5	NCAA Championship (Stanford, Calif.)	TBA

\* Mountain Pacific Sports Federation game  
Home matches in **bold**, at USC McDonald's Swim Stadium

**THE 'DON'INATOR** — Sophomore goalie **Don Ricci** (Sacramento/Jesuit HS) assumed the No. 1 goalkeeper position this season and has made an immediate impact. He recorded 34 saves in three matches during the 2004 So-Cal Tournament. In the semifinal match against No. 4 Cal, he made 15 saves in an 11-6 win and followed up with a 12-save performance against Stanford in USC's 8-6 win in the championship match. In 11 matches this season, he has registered 87 saves.

**HALE TO THE CHIEF** — Sophomore driver **Thomas Hale** (Long Beach/Wilson HS) is second on the team this season with 32 goals after finishing sixth with 23 goals last year. Hale led the Trojans with four goals on Oct. 3 in a 14-10 win over No. 3 Cal in the third-place match at the 2004 Nor-Cal Tournament in Stockton, Calif. He scored a team-high five goals on Oct. 10 in a 14-3 win over No. 17 Bucknell.

**SCORING SHIN** — Senior utility **James Shin** (Long Beach, Calif./Wilson HS) finished second in scoring last year with 44 goals, earning **All-America third team** honors. He was also named **2003 NCAA All-Tournament second team** after the Trojans won the national championship. This season, he is tied for fourth on the team with 19 goals.

**STABLE OF TALENT** — This year, the USC men's water polo team has 10 players with experience on the U.S. Junior National Team. The players are: seniors **Garrett Gentry** and **Nick Andrejich**, junior **James Shin**, sophomores **Thomas Hale**, **Trevor Clark** and **Juan Delgadillo**, redshirt freshman **Adam Shiling**, and freshmen **Thomas Corcoran**, **Jordan Van Norman** and freshman **Frank Reynolds**. The roster also includes junior **Juraj Zatovic**, who played for Slovakia in the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

## 2004 USC Men's Water Polo Statistics

Overall Record: 17-3 MPSF Record: 3-2

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Overall	MPSF	USC Leading Scorer
Sept. 11	UC Irvine	W	10-6	1-0		Hale - 3
Sept. 12	Pepperdine	W	10-4	2-0		Clark - 2
Sept. 18-19	<i>So-Cal Tournament (hosted by USC) - 1st Place</i>					
	Air Force	W	12-1	3-0		Zatovic - 3
	UC Santa Barbara	W	12-6	4-0		Gentry/Delgadillo - 2
	California	W	11-6	5-0		Zatovic - 4
	Stanford	W	8-6	6-0		Zatovic - 4
Sept. 24	at UC Santa Cruz	W	15-2	7-0		Kaiser - 3
Sept. 25	*at Stanford	L	8-9	7-1	0-1	Shin - 3
Oct. 2-3	<i>at Nor-Cal Tournament (Stockton, Calif.) - 3rd Place</i>					
	Air Force	W	10-3	8-1		Van Norman - 2
	UC Santa Barbara	W	11-6	9-1		Zatovic - 3
	UCLA	L	6-8	9-2		Six players with 1
	California	W	14-10	10-2		Hale - 4
Oct. 9	*California	W	9-7	11-2	1-1	Zatovic/Shin - 2
Oct. 10	Bucknell	W	14-3	12-2		Hale - 5
Oct. 16	Pomona-Pitzer	W	18-4	13-2		Child - 4
Oct. 16	Redlands	W	14-4	14-2		Delgadillo - 5
Oct. 20	at Loyola Marymount	W	10-2	15-2		Zatovic - 3
Oct. 22	*Pacific	W	10-4	16-2	2-1	Four players with 2
Oct. 23	*UC Santa Barbara	W	7-3	17-2	3-1	Hale - 2
Oct. 30	*at UC Irvine	L	7-9	17-3	3-2	Hale - 3
Nov. 6	*at Pepperdine					
Nov. 13	*UCLA					
Nov. 14	*at Long Beach State					
Nov. 20	at Cal Baptist					
Nov. 26-28	at MPSF Championship (Stanford, Calif)					

### USC Goal Scoring

Juraj Zatovic	33
Thomas Hale	32
Juan Delgadillo	22
James Shin	19
Jordan Van Norman	19
Thomas Corcoran	13
Cameron Kaiser	12
Nick Andrejich	10
Brooks Cook	9
Trevor Clark	8
Brandon Child	7
Garrett Gentry	6
Ted Zepfel	6
Kevin Schwimer	4
Nick Healy	4
Frank Reynolds	4
Tyler Wilson	4
Matt Norris	2
Jeff El-Hajj	1
USC Total	215
Opponent Total	103

### USC Goalies

Goalie	Games / Quarters	Saves	GA
Don Ricci	11 / 39	87	53
Adam Shilling	9 / 31	61	
Justin McCain	7 / 11	16	

### Goals by Period

	1	2	3	4	OT
USC	54	56	56	50	0
Opponents	24	22	28	29	0