

Hello USC Friends and Boosters,

Every four years, the University of Southern California Women's Volleyball Team takes an international trip. In the spring of 2007, the team traveled to London and England, before heading to Poland for a few days. We played two competitive matches and toured Auschwitz (the WWII prisoner of war camp site) for three days, as we were hosted by the Polish Volleyball Federation. We then represented the United States in a four team international tournament with Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, finishing second. We continued our tour through Slovenia and Italy, before stopping in Montreux and Switzerland to play one match against the Swiss National Team, while also watching two days of the Volleyball Master International Tournament to conclude our 11 day trip.

Besides our volleyball competition, we studied each of the countries that we visited prior to leaving the United States. We divided up into groups of two and each group selected a country to research and came back to the team with information to use on the trip. We used elements such as language, monetary system, culture and history to compile our research. We used this trip as a way to create a true interdisciplinary studies effort and the players will never forget our experience.

I would like to offer this opportunity to this year's team to travel in May of 2012. I have raised over \$50,000 over the last three years, but I do not have enough to make this trip work. Our costs are about \$2,200 per individual plus airfare. We are looking at airfare under the \$1,500 mark, but we are not being too successful as of yet. We have estimated about \$4,000 per member of our traveling party. We will travel approximately 19 to 24 in our official traveling party with 13 members being our players.

We are about \$50,000 short to make this trip a reality. If you can help or know of people who would be willing to help us make this trip a reality, please contact me at your earliest convenience. We are not limited to the number of people that can travel, so you or any donor would be able to come with us as long as you pay your own way. This would also allow the overall price of the tour to go down for each individual.

Thanks for hearing me out and I look forward to seeing you at our remaining matches this season. We think we have a great chance to be in San Antonio in December for the NCAA Final Four and would love to have you there with us. My best and Fight On!

Tentative itinerary for the 2012 Europe Trip:

May 25- Depart Los Angeles

May 26,27, and 28: Milan,Italy- Italian Junior National Team

May 29- Venice,Italy-Sightseeing/Cultural Experience

May 30,31- Maribor,Slovenia- Slovenian National Team and Sightseeing

June 1,2,3,- Belgrade Serbia- Vizura Professional Volleyball Team

June 4- London- Sightseeing/Cultural Experience

June 5- Return to Los Angeles