



# MPSF NEWS

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## **MOUNTAIN PACIFIC SPORTS FEDERATION** *2006 Men's Water Polo Coach of the Year*

### JOVAN VAVIC 12th Season – USC

WOODLAND, Calif. – For the second straight season, USC head coach, Jovan Vavic, has been voted by his MPSF coaching peers the 2006 MOUNTAIN PACIFIC SPORTS FEDERATION Men's Water Polo Coach of the Year. Vavic has guided USC to another outstanding season, helping the Trojans along to a program-best 44-game winning streak after an undefeated run through the regular season. In his 12th season at the helm of USC's men's water polo team, Vavic has his Trojans leading the nation in defense with 5.4 goals against per game, and they are now in line to defend their 2005 national championship this weekend. Vavic has kept intact his winning record against all opponents during his time at Troy with a 25-1 record as USC enters the NCAA Tournament for the 20<sup>th</sup> time. This is his third MPSF Coach of the Year award on the men's side of the game and his fourth overall. Vavic also was named MPSF Co-Coach of the Year in 1996 with John Williams. Vavic's career record as the men's head coach at Troy is now 264-53 (.833) overall entering the NCAA Tournament.

Vavic pulled a coaching double sweep when he was named 2003 National Coach of the Year and MPSF Coach of the Year for the men and 2004 National Coach of the Year and MPSF Coach of the Year for the women. The 2004 women's team became the first team in NCAA Championship history to go undefeated (29-0) during the regular season. Vavic oversaw the women's water polo team's move from Division II in 1995 to Division I in 1996, and in 1997, he guided USC to its first-ever Division I National Collegiate Championships appearance and a seventh-place national finish while the 1998 team took fifth nationally. The 2000 squad added another strong showing as the Trojans finished second. He has a 250-95 (.725) record in 11 years with the Women of Troy. Since 1999 when the program was fully funded, Vavic's record is 185-28 (.869) with an even more impressive 132-17 (.886) record in his last five seasons. In 1999, Vavic was named the National Women's Coach of the Year and the MPSF Coach of the Year.

Vavic came to USC in 1992 as an assistant men's water polo coach, and joined John Williams as Troy's co-head coach in 1995, before taking over the men's head coaching reins in 1999 after Williams retired. He and Williams were named National Coaches of the Year in 1998 after leading USC to its first-ever national championship. They also were named MPSF Co-Coaches of the Year in 1996 after leading USC to the conference title.

The 44-year-old Vavic, a native of Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro), spent the 1991 season as an assistant men's coach at UCLA. Previously, he coached three seasons (1987-1990) at Palos Verdes (Calif.) High, where he led Palos Verdes to two undefeated Pioneer League seasons (1988-89). Vavic graduated from UCLA in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in history. He and his wife, Lisa have a 14-year-old son, Nikola, an 12-year-old daughter, Monica, a 7-year-old son, Marko, and a 4-year-old son, Stefan.

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