

This Is UCLA

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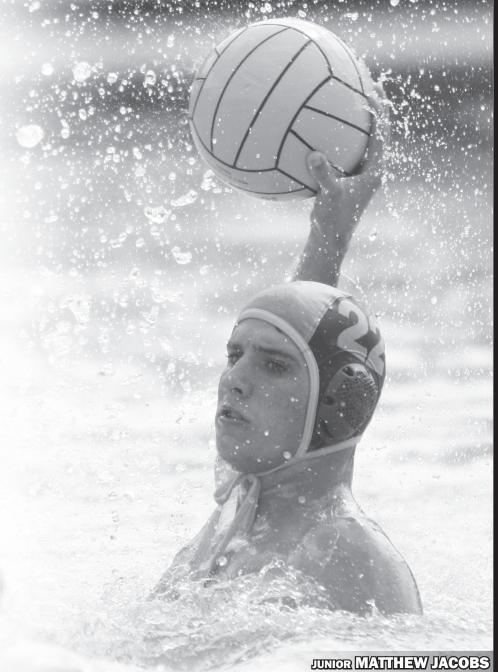
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CREDITS: The 2006 UCLA men's water polo media guide and cover was prepared, written, edited and designed by Alex Timiraos, Sports Information Assistant. Additional editing and assistance provided by Rich Bertolucci, Associate Sports Information Director; Danny Harrington, Assistant Sports Information Director; and Liza David, Assistant Sports Information Director. Photography ya ASUCLA Campus Studio (Don Liebig/Scott Quintard/Todd Cheney), Jeff Sipsey, Brock Scott Photography and Dwight Belden. Special thanks to ASUCLA Photography, Berliner Studios, Andrew Bernstein, Ruth Chambers, the Los Angeles Visitors and Convention Bureau and Scott Quintard for their photos in the UCLA Experience.

ON THE COVER: The cover photo features UCLA's seven senior men's water polo players (top row, left to right: Grant Zider, Michael March, Brad Greiner, James Palmer; bottom row: Logan Powell, Tyler Krikorian, Will Didinger) and Royce Hall on the UCLA campus in Westwood.

PURCHASE: Copies of the men's water polo media guide can be purchased in person at UCLA's Sports Information Office for \$6.00. By mail, make checks payable for \$7.00 to UC Regents and mail to UCLA Sports Information, Men's Water Polo Guide, PO Box 24044, Los Angeles, CA 90024-0044.



QUICK FACTS

Location	J.D. Morgan Center, PO Box 24044
	Los Angeles, CA 90024-0044
Athletics Phone	(310) 825-8699
Acting Chancellor	Norman Abrams
Director of Athletics	Dan Guerrero
Assoc. Athletic Director	Ken Weiner
Faculty Athletic Rep.	Donald Morrison
Event Management	Dave Martinez
Home Facilities	Sunset Canyon Recreation Center
	Rose Bowl Aquatic Center
Enrollment	36,890
Founded	1919
Colors	Blue and Gold
Nickname	Bruins
Conference Mounta	in Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF)
Conference Water Polo	Contact Al Beaird
Conference Phone	(925) 296-0723
Conference Fax	(925) 296-0724

National Affiliation	NCAA Division I
Head Coach (Alma Mater)	Adam Krikorian (UCLA '97)
Record at UCLA (Years)	138-41 (8th year)
Coach's Phone	(310) 206-6455
2005 Record	21-8
2005 MPSF Record (Finish)	5-3 (4th)
2005 MPSF Tournament	5th
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	17/5
National Championships	Eight (8)
(1969,	'71, '72, '95, '96, '99, '00, '04)
Sports Information Director	Marc Dellins
Men's Water Polo Contact	Alex Timiraos
Coarta Information Office Dha	
Sports Information Office Pho	ne (310) 206-4008
Sports Information Fax	(310) 206-4008 (310) 825-8664
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Sports Information Fax Sports Information E-mail Central Ticket Office	(310) 825-8664 atimiraos@athletics.ucla.edu 310-UCLA-WIN



SUNSET CANYON RECREATION CENTER

Entering its 42nd year as the home of Bruin water polo, this parklike facility offers year-round recreation for UCLA faculty, staff and students. The center features a 50-meter pool with diving facilities, a 25-yard family pool, picnic and barbecue areas, a sand volleyball court and large grass areas for sunning, frisbee and volleyball. In addition, there are 10 lighted regulation tennis courts. Also available are an outdoor amphitheater, various meeting rooms and lounges, adjacent parking and access for people with disabilities.

The Sunset Canyon Recreation Center is the home of both the UCLA men's and women's

water polo teams and functions as the primary facility for the UCLA diving team. An ideal setting for collegiate water polo, Sunset Canyon is located off the northwest side of DeNeve Drive, just east of the residence halls. In 1999, the Jim Toring Memorial Scoreboard was added to the facility in tribute to the former two-time All-American who tragically passed away in 1998 following an accident that occurred in Paris during a trip with the U.S. National Team.

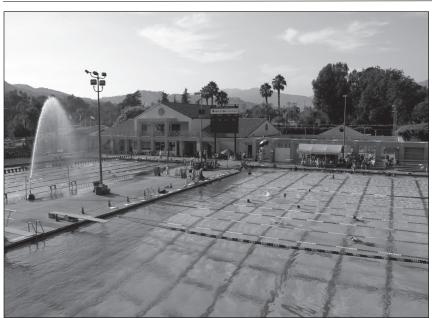
This season, UCLA features four men's water polo contests at the Sunset Canyon Recreation Center. The Bruins kick off their home slate with an exhibition game (opponent TBA) on Sept. 9, before getting the regular season underway on Sept. 14 against Cal Baptist. UCLA will also host conference foes Long Beach State (Nov. 17) and UC Irvine (Nov. 19).

Directions: The Sunset Recreation Center is located on the UCLA campus on De Neve Drive, between Charles E. Young Drive North and Bellagio. From the Westwood Plaza parking kiosk, proceed along Charles E. Young Drive North. Turn right onto De Neve, and the Recreation Center parking lot will be on your left before you reach the softball field at the corner of Bellagio.





Rose Bowl Aquatics Center



Located in Pasadena, just south of the historic Rose Bowl, home of UCLA football, the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center hosts at least one Bruin water polo contest each fall. Water polo games played at the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center are traditionally scheduled several hours prior to the start of a UCLA home football game, allowing fans to enjoy both Bruin events.

This fall, the Bruins welcome MPSF rival Stanford (Sept. 30) and have tentatively set a date to host the annual UCLA Alumni Game (Oct. 7) at the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center.

Directions: The Rose Bowl Aquatics Center is located near the football stadium in Pasadena. From the San Diego Freeway (405) travel north to the Ventura Fwy (101). Take the Ventura (101) east to the junction of the Hollywood (101) and Ventura (134) Freeways, approx. five miles. Take the Ventura Fwy east past the Golden State Fwy (5) into Pasadena, approx. 15 miles. Exit at Linda Vista. Turn right on Linda Vista to Seco, veer right on Seco to Arroyo Blvd, turn right on Arroyo. The RBAC is at the end of the street on the left. Address: 360 N. Arroyo Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91103



SPIEKER AQUATIC CENTER

...coming in the fall of 2008

The UCLA Athletic Department announced the construction of the Spieker Aquatic Center in April 2006, outlining plans for the project to be completed by the fall of 2008. The new aquatic center, to be located at the Sunset Canyon Recreation Center on campus, will house a 52-meter x 25-yard deep-water pool and diving well (1m/3m boards, 5m/10m tower). Plans to break ground are slated for the summer of 2007.

Thanks to the generous lead gift of former student-athlete Tod Spieker and his wife Catherine, the aquatic center dream will become reality. Spieker, a 1971 UCLA graduate, swam for the Bruins from 1968-71 and was an All-American in 1969. Presently, he and his family reside in Atherton, Calif.

The UCLA Athletic Department is working in conjunction with UCLA's Cultural and Recreational Affairs to develop the new center. Once completed, the Spieker Aquatic Center will offer the opportunity to not only host UCLA athletic events, but also Master's swimming events, individual club swim meets and U.S. Water Polo events, along with regional, national and international competition.

"We are excited that soon we will be able to practice, compete and host events in a state-of-the-art facility that meets the excellence of both our water polo programs," men's and women's water polo head coach Adam Krikorian said. "The Spieker Aquatic Center proves there is a commitment by our university, athletic department and alumni to further enhance the total experience for our student-athletes."

Diving will be able to host U.S. Diving Senior National Championships in the new facility. The new pool will also allow UCLA to host annual



collegiate and junior diving invitationals (i.e. The Bruin Invite/JO Regionals and Zones, with the hope of hosting a Junior National Championship). The state-of-the-art facility will bring together all three of UCLA's intercollegiate aquatic sports — water polo, swimming and diving — in one venue.

The \$10-million project includes a clubhouse

that will contain locker rooms, coaches' offices and meeting rooms which currently do not exist for intercollegiate athletics. The Spieker Aquatic Center will be a lighted facility and will hold 800 spectators in the permanent grandstand. For large-scale events, UCLA will have the ability to seat an additional 1,700 spectators in temporary seating.

Tod Spieker is the President of Spieker Companies, a multi-family and apartment complex company located in Palo Alto, Calif. Spieker continues to compete in the Master's swim program and was inducted into the International Master's Swimming Hall of Fame in 2005. The Spieker family gift is currently the second-largest donation in UCLA Athletics' history.

UCLA Director of Athletics Dan Guerrero and his staff are thrilled that the long-time vision and planning has finally become reality. "This new venue, designed specifically for intercollegiate athletic competition, will allow the UCLA Swimming, Diving and Water Polo programs to fulfill their unlimited potential. UCLA is about champions and championships, and this was an important and necessary step to insure future success. We are thankful for Tod and Catherine's lead gift and for making our dream come true," Guerrero said.





Looking to win its ninth national championship in program history, the UCLA men's water polo team enters the 2006 season with a strong combination of veteran leadership and experience. After having lost just two seniors to graduation, the 2006 squad returns 14 players from the 2004 NCAA title squad and 15 players from last season.

The Bruins welcome back four of their top five goal scorers from last season – seniors **Logan Powell** and **Grant Zider**, junior **Justin Johnson** and sophomore **Krsto Sbutega**. Over 70 percent of UCLA's offensive output (goals scored) from 2005 returns to action this year. More importantly, UCLA returns seven seniors and six juniors who add to the team's depth.

"The great thing about this team is that we have eight seniors back, and they're going to bring leadership and experience," head coach Adam Krikorian said. "They're really going to set the tone for how we want to approach every single day."

In addition, seniors **Michael March** and **Brad Greiner** return to the pool this fall after having missed the 2005 season. As a junior in 2004, March recorded 26 goals on 55 attempts and tallied 18 assists and 25 steals. In his first two seasons at UCLA, Greiner played in 42 matches and scored eight goals on 23 attempts.

Two veterans—March and sophomore **Pat Morrison**—underwent surgery in the offseason and look to regain their dominant form. Avoiding injuries will prove vital to the Bruins' success.

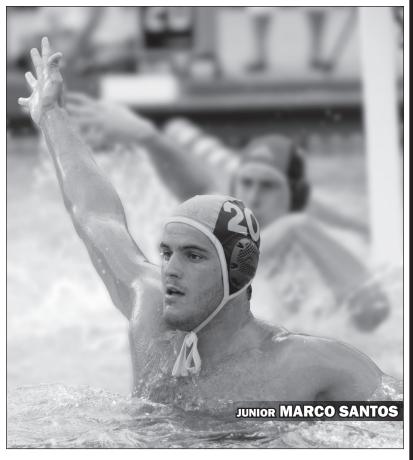
"One of the keys for us will be to stay healthy," Krikorian said. "Those two guys coming off of surgery are talented players who can help this team very much. March is a very talented player who has a tremendous amount of skill. Keeping him healthy is going to be first and foremost for us."

Senior goalkeeper **Will Didinger** posted an impressive junior campaign, his first full season as the Bruins' starting goalkeeper. Didinger recorded a 5.92 goals against average and 191 saves in 101 quarters played. This season, Didinger will continue to be challenged by junior **Matt Kellogg** and freshman **Chay Lapin**. Kellogg played in five matches last year, starting three, and posted a 2.96 goals against average in 15 quarters. Lapin redshirted in 2005 and could see playing time in 2006.

"The goalie situation will be very competitive throughout the year," Krikorian said. "Will Didinger had an excellent year in the goal last year; however, this season he is going to be pushed by the two goalies behind him – Matt Kellogg and Chay Lapin."

Left-handed attackers March and Powell, along with Sbutega, who scored 28 goals as a freshman last season, should provide plenty of the team's offensive fireworks in 2006. Both March and Powell were pivotal members of UCLA's 2004 national championship season and will be looked upon to lead the Bruins back to the NCAA tournament this year.

"March and Powell are two very experienced, composed players who are going to help us in every aspect of the game," Krikorian said. "Krsto improved tremendously over the course of last



season, and he took that momentum into the offseason. He's deadly from anywhere in the pool, and we're really looking for him to have a big year."

UCLA will also rely on Zider and junior **Marco Santos** to combine for a strong 1-2 combination at the center position. Zider nearly doubled his career goal total in 2005. After having scored 30 goals in his first two seasons combined, the senior center registered 25 goals last season.

"Grant Zider was very inspirational for us last year," Krikorian said. "He had a breakout season and we look for him to do a lot of what he did last year. He's great at holding down the middle for us."

Johnson and junior **Matthew Jacobs** contributed significantly in 2005, and the Bruins expect more of the same this year. Jacobs played in all 29 games (starting 14), and Johnson played in 27 matches.

"Justin and Matt will be playing pivotal roles for us," Krikorian said. "These guys are long, tall, athletic defenders with good speed."

UCLA starts its regular-season slate at home against Cal Baptist on Thursday, Sept. 14. The Bruins will appear in the NorCal Tournament that weekend and participate in the SoCal Tournament one month later (Oct. 14-15).

The following Saturday, the Bruins begin a six-game road stretch which includes crosstown-rival USC (Oct. 21), Loyola Marymount (Oct. 28) and MPSF-conference foes California (Nov. 4), Pacific (Nov. 5), Pepperdine (Nov. 11) and UC Santa Barbara (Nov. 12).

"We play in the toughest conference, and every game that we play is going to be tough," Krikorian said. "Cal, USC and Stanford have finished in the top four for quite some time, and they will always be our biggest competition. Pepperdine and Pacific are improved since last year.

"Some of our non-conference opponents such as UC San Diego and Loyola Marymount are very talented teams that can beat you on any given day. UC Santa Barbara and Long Beach State are up-and-coming teams with new, young coaches that are going to do good jobs with their water polo programs."

SOPHOMORE KRSTO SBUTEGA



NUMERICAL

No.	Name	Position	Year	Ht./Wt.	Hometown (High School)
1	Will Didinger	GK	Sr.*	6-4/200	Manhattan Beach, CA (Mira Costa)
1	Matt Kellogg	GK	Jr.*	6-4/190	Alamo, CA (San Ramon Valley)
1	Chay Lapin	GK	Fr.*	6-5/205	Long Beach, CA (Wilson)
2	Brian Jacobs	Def.	Jr.*	6-3/195	Santa Cruz, CA (Soquel)
4	Tyler Krikorian	Att.	Sr.*	6-1/200	Manhattan Beach, CA (Mira Costa)
5	Scott Swanson	Att.	Fr.*	6-1/175	Long Beach, CA (Wilson)
6	Pat Morrison	Att.	So.*	6-1/195	Sacramento, CA (Jesuit Prep)
7	Justin Johnson	Utl.	Jr.*	6-7/225	Mission Viejo, CA (Mission Viejo)
8	Brad Greiner	Def.	Sr.*	6-6/195	Yorba Linda, CA (Esperanza)
9	Christopher Allen	Def.	So.*	6-3/180	Lake Forest, CA (El Toro)
10	Cameron Smith	Att.	Jr.*	6-1/180	Manoa, HI (Punahou)
11	Krsto Sbutega	Att.	So.*	6-0/175	Kotor, Yugoslavia (L.S.S. Reghi [Rome, Italy])
12	James Palmer	Att.	Sr.*	6-5/210	Marin, CA (Tamalpais)
13	Cole Consani	Def.	Fr.*	6-4/210	Manhattan Beach, CA (Mira Costa)
14	Logan Powell	Att.	Sr.*	6-4/205	San Clemente, CA (San Clemente)
15	Grant Zider	Ctr.	Sr.*	6-4/235	Portola Valley, CA (Menlo)
16	Scott Davidson	Att.	Fr.*	6-1/180	Seal Beach, CA (Los Alamitos)
17	Michael March	Def.	Sr.*	6-4/220	Newport Coast, CA (Corona Del Mar)
18	Dylan Mobley	Att.	Fr.*	6-1/175	Portola Valley, CA (Sacred Heart Prep)
_ 20	Marco Santos	Ctr.	Jr.	6-4/220	Miami Beach, FL (Miami Beach Senior)
21	Jeffrey Smith	Def.	Fr.*	6-3/205	San Clemente, CA (San Clemente)
22	Matthew Jacobs	Def.	Jr.*	6-3/195	Santa Cruz, CA (Soquel)
23	Tyler Jemmett	Att.	Fr.*	6-1/195	San Diego, CA (Bishop's School)
	Russell Simpkins	Att.	So.*	6-0/195	Santa Cruz, CA (Soquel)
	Kyle Healy	Def.	Jr.	6-6/235	San Clemente, CA (San Clemente)
	Brian Flacks	Att.	Fr.	6-1/175	Calabasas, CA (Harvard-Westlake)
	Clay Jorth	Att.	Fr.	6-0/215	Costa Mesa, CA (Newport Harbor)
	Kevin Kuga	Att.	Fr.	6-1/170	Dos Pueblos, CA (Goleta)
	Jacob Murphy	Def.	Fr.	6-3/180	Corona Del Mar, CA (Corona Del Mar)
	Kevin Schmidt	Att.	Fr.	6-7/195	San Jose, CA (Bellarmine)
	Tyler Smith	Utl.	Fr.	6-6/220	Los Altos, CA (Los Altos)

Head Coach: Assistant Coaches: Adam Krikorian (8th season) Matt Flesher (2nd season) Brandon Brooks (2nd season) Coralie Simmons (1st season)

Team Manager:

Coralle Simmons
Carter Brutschy

GK - goalkeeper; Att. - attacker/driver; Ctr. - center; Def. - defender; Utl. - utility *indicates used redshirt year

Pronunciation Guide

Brad Greiner - GRY-ner Tyler Jemmett - JeM-it Chay Lapin - Shay Luh-PEEN Kevin Kuga - KOO-guh Krsto Sbutega - KER-stow s-boo-TAY-guh

ALPHABETICAL Ht./Wt. 9 Allen, Christopher Def. So.* 6-3/180 6-4/210 13 Consani, Cole Davidson, Scott Fr. 6-1/180 Att. Didinger, Will GK 6-4/200 Flacks, Brian Att. 6-1/175 Greiner, Brad Def 6-6/195 Healy, Kyle Def Jr. 6-6/235 Jacobs, Brian Def. Jr.* 6-3/195 Jacobs, Matthew Def. Jr.* 6-3/195 Jemmett, Tyler Att. Fr.* 6-1/185 Johnson, Justin 6-7/225 Jorth, Clay Att Fr. 6-0/215 1 Kellogg, Matt GK Jr.* 6-4/190 Krikorian, Tyler Att Sr. 6-1/200 Att. Fr. 6-1/170 Kuga, Kevin Lapin, Chay GK Fr. 6-5/205 17 March, Michael Def Sr.* 6-4/220 <u>6-1/1</u>75 Mobley, Dylan Att Fr. Morrison, Pat Att. So. 6-1/195 Murphy, Jacob Def Fr. 6-3/180 12 Palmer, James Att. 6-5/210 14 Powell, Logan Att. Sr. 6-4/205 Santos, Marco 6-4/220 Sbutega, Krsto Att. So. 6-0/175 Schmidt, Kevin Fr. 6-7/195 Att. So. 6-0/195 Simpkins, Russell

Guide to Water Polo Positions

Smith, Cameron

Smith, Jeffrey

Swanson, Scott

Smith, Tyler

Zider, Grant

Attacker: Similar to the guard and forward positions in basketball. Look for these players to shoot often and create offensive chances for their teammates, as well as disrupt the opponents' offensive play. Also known as a driver.

Jr.*

Fr.*

Fr.

Fr.

Def

Att

6-1/180

6-3/205

6-6/220

6-1/175

6-4/235

Center Offense/Defense: Similar to the post position in basketball. These players station themselves in front of goal and engage in constant physical battles for position. Defenders are similar to football safeties by preventing opponent breakaways on counterattack.



2006 Team Photo – top row (left to right): Assistant Coach Brandon Brooks, Kevin Schmidt, Cole Consani, Justin Johnson, Kyle Healy, Grant Zider, James Palmer, Christian Pulido, Logan Powell, Michael March, Tyler Smith, Brad Greiner, Chay Lapin, team manager Carter Brutschy; middle row: assistant coach Matt Flesher, student athletic trainer Emily Vran Vranken, staff athletic trainer Jenny Nickerson, Pat Morrison, Jeffrey Smith, Will Didinger, Tyler Krikorian, Cameron Smith, Brian Jacobs, Matt Kellogg, Marco Santos, Christopher Allen, Dylan Mobley, assistant coach Coralie Simmons, head coach Adam Krikorian; bottom row: Jacob Murphy, Scott Swanson, Tyler Jemmett, Matthew Jacobs, Scott Davidson, Krsto Sbutega, Russell Simpkins, Brian Flacks, Kevin Kuga, Clay Jorth.