

**NO. 1 USC EDGES NO. 2 UCLA, 9-8, TO WIN SOCAL TOURNAMENT TITLE**

The Trojans held off a late Bruins' rally to earn first place

LOS ANGELES – The No. 1 USC men's water polo team won its eighth consecutive SoCal Tournament crown with a 9-8 win over crosstown rival No. 2 UCLA at Spieker Aquatics Center on Sunday evening. Freshman Nikola Vavic and sophomore Tobias Preuss led the Trojans with two goals apiece. Vavic registered the game-winning goal with 35 seconds left, snapping an 8-8 tie. USC led the contest by three goals, 7-4, with 5:48 to play in the game before UCLA charged back, tying the contest at 8-8 on a goal from sophomore Josh Samuels with 50 seconds remaining in the final quarter. Junior goalie Joel Dennerley registered 15 saves in goal for USC (15-0). Freshman Cristiano Mirarchi led host UCLA (8-2) with three goals. Freshman goalkeeper James Hartshorne recorded 10 stops in the cage for the Bruins.

USC 9, UCLA 8

Team	1	2	3	4	F
No. 2 UCLA	1	1	2	4	8
No. 1 USC	1	3	2	3	9

UCLA Goals: Cristiano Mirarchi 3, Josh Samuels 2, Cullen Hennessy, Emilio Vieira, Chris Wendt

UCLA Saves: James Hartshorne 10

USC Goals: Tobias Preuss 2, Nikola Vavic 2, Brian Boswell, Matthew Burton, Jeremy Davie, Peter Kurzeka, Michael Rosenthal

USC Saves: Joel Dennerley 15