

New chapter in track and field rivalry

Saturday's 72nd renewal of the USC-UCLA dual meet will be the first event at the renovated Loker Stadium.

By **BLAKE DORFMAN**
Contributing Writer

The USC track and field program is gearing up for what many call the season highlight: the annual USC-UCLA dual meet, which will take place this Saturday at the newly renovated Loker Stadium.

The crosstown rivalry between the schools is dramatically played out every year in the event, and the last five years have produced three men's meets that were decided by only one point.

A dual meet pits two teams against one another, with certain amounts of points being distributed for the place in which athletes finish. The meet will run on a 5-3-1 format, and the first men and women's teams to score 82 will be the winner.

This season, the Trojans boast a fleet of top-flight competitors. Allen Simms is the nation's best combination triple/long jumper in the country, and juniors Jesse Williams (high jump) and Virginia Powell (60-meter hurdles) are newly crowned NCAA indoor champions. Also, junior sprinters Wes Felix and Phillip Francis lead the best 4x100-meter relay squad in the country, while women's distance runner Iryna Vashchuk is among the elite in the 1,500-meter. The list of elite competitors goes on, and the program has garnered a lot of national attention as a result.

According to current Trackwire rankings, the Trojans are tied for sixth overall in the country, while UCLA is listed at 19th. USC has been much more successful in Pacific-10 Conference and NCAA meets over the past decade, however the dual meet has gone to the Bruins twenty-four out of the last 25 times... How can this be?

The answer is depth. In a dual-meet format, having depth in a team can overpower individual

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Joel Zink | Daily Trojan

Cardinal and gold Hayes. USC sophomore utility Brittany Hayes will lead the Women of Troy into this weekend's Mountain Pacific Sports Federation tournament, where a possible showdown with UCLA awaits. A former high school teammate of Hayes now playing for the UCLA criticized her earlier this season.

Silence will be golden for USC

Women of Troy look to defy talk amongst opponents, critics in push for MPSF tournament title this weekend.

By **ASHLEY ZELDIN**
Staff Writer

Last May, the then-No. 1 USC women's water polo team won its first-ever Mountain Pacific Sports Federation championship. One week later, the Women of Troy crowned their perfect season with the NCAA title.

When the preseason U.S. women's water polo top-20 poll was published in January, the team was surprised to be ranked second behind UCLA. No worries. It looked like a repeat of 2004, when No. 2 USC knocked off top-ranked UCLA in the Stanford Invitational to take No. 1.

But it wasn't to be, as the Bruins retained their No. 1 status with an 8-6 victory over USC (21-3, 11-1 MPSF) in

this year's Invitational championship. Chalk it up to the return of three former Olympians — sophomore driver Kelly Hulen, junior driver Thalia Munro and senior center forward Natalie Golda.

USC had a chance for revenge in the Gaucha Invitational final two weeks later; UCLA handed the Women of Troy another loss, 10-6.

Yet another opportunity to prove their dominance came for USC the next week, but the Bruins defended their home pool with an 11-6 victory.

Perhaps USC deserves to be No. 2?

Not as USC coach Jovyn Vavic sees it. "We're defending conference tournament champions so we are definitely capable of doing it," he said.

The team is more than capable,

with a record of 50-3 since the start of 2004.

"This team is not used to losing; we're used to winning," Vavic said.

But this season, UCLA is used to winning, having compiled a 27-0 record so far.

"We don't want them to have an undefeated season like we did, we don't want to share that with anyone else," junior two-meter Lauren Wenger said.

In their last match, freshman driver Gabrielle Domanic capped the scoring for UCLA. Domanic was the Foothill High School teammate of USC's top scorer, sophomore utility Brittany Hayes. Hayes, who has shown her utility by again leading the Women of Troy in scoring with 42 goals so far

after her team-leading 59-goal 2004 season, was the subject of disparaging comments by Domanic, who told the Daily Bruin before the game that she and Bruin teammate Emily Fehrer

were responsible for Foothill's string of championships while Hayes was a "third link hanging out there along for the ride."

Domanic especially took pleasure in beating USC.

"Just to know my team dominates her like that and to show it back at her is great," Domanic said.

Hayes was unfazed. "I took her comments (with) a grain of salt," Hayes said. "It hurt my feelings that she said that, but the whole team apologized. I moved on from it."

Provided that USC and UCLA both win their preliminary matches, they will again face off in a tournament championship.

"We've been waiting a while to have a chance for a rematch," Hayes said. "Anytime that we can beat them will be bittersweet."

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Chow now has the look of a pro

The NFL will be the latest challenge for USC's heralded former offensive coordinator.

By **DAN GREENSPAN**
Staff Writer

You name it, he's done it all in three decades as a football coach.

Except make the move from Saturdays to Sundays.

That was until February 2005, when he shockingly departed the only game he's ever known for the unknown of the NFL.

When he parted ways with a program he helped restore to glory and left one of the most illustrious protégés in his distinguished career behind.

When he went from perhaps the sharpest and most innovative offensive coordinator in the history of college football to a rookie at age 58.

"It was just time to try something different," Tennessee Titans offensive coordinator Norm Chow said. "The

"It was just time to try something different. The situation presented itself. It was awfully challenging and it just felt like it was the right time."

NORM CHOW
former USC offensive coordinator

situation presented itself. It was awfully challenging and it just felt like it was the right time."

Chow left USC after four years, a time span during which he helped lead the Trojans to back-to-back national championships.

Now he will oversee a team that had only three wide receivers on the roster before the NFL draft and had trouble keeping its talented backfield off the trainer's table.

Most importantly, he will have to determine if his aggressive approach to the game will succeed at the next level.

The past five years have seen

Chow in motion across the country, unlike the first 27 he spent settled in Provo, Utah.

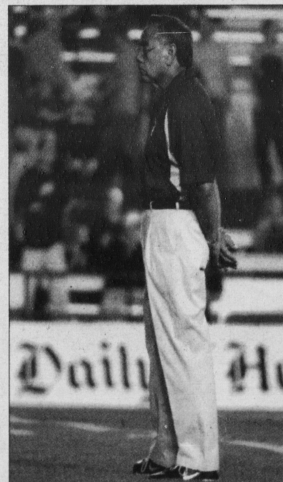
Under the direction of BYU coach LaVell Edwards, he won a national championship and tutored quarterback's Steve Young, Ty Detmer and Jim McMahon.

However when Edwards retired in 2000, his longtime assistant was passed over to succeed him.

Chow, in turn, headed to North Carolina State for a year before joining Pete Carroll at USC.

In two years, he groomed the erratic Carson Palmer into a Heisman Trophy winner and No. 1 overall draft pick.

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Looking up. After playing a major role in bringing the USC football program back-to-back national titles, offensive coordinator and respected passing game guru Norm Chow left to take a job with the Tennessee Titans in the NFL.

Rachel Elias | Daily Trojan

For Lindquist, life is at the beach

Wait, so America's most popular "Dream Job" right now is one that requires wearing a suit every day, the posture of a Buckingham Palace guard and a teeth-gnashing check-to-check smile that must not waver even though you're sweating a bucket or two while a light beats down and you have on more makeup than Miss Senior America?

That must be news to Tracy Lindquist, who gives new meaning to dressing down for work, which she puts on a bikini for every morning. And almost daily, she reports to the largest office you've ever seen this side of the Mississippi that doesn't offer a view for one simple reason: It is the view.



Lindquist

Yes, like the dude who gets paid to test drive Lamborghinis for a living, like the coed who is hired to replace Kate Hudson in kissing scenes and the logistics group responsible for measurements of Three Mile Island, Lindquist crosses off the hours in her day by playing beach volleyball. Professionally.

Lindquist, a senior setter on the USC women's volleyball team that went undefeated and captured a national title in 2002, is scheduled to make business trips this summer to, among other places, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Honolulu.

An average day usually means punching the clock — if one should be lying around — in

Patrick Kinmartin

Associate Sports Editor

Huntington Beach. But there are those dogged ones like Wednesday, when she had brave traffic to pick up a three-hour shift on Hermosa Beach. *Shucks!*

"It's definitely glamorous," Lindquist said of a career with benefits that include a bronze look and abs that can't be created for \$19.99.

"Just the other day, it was real nice out and I stopped, looked around and thought, 'This is beautiful.'"

Still, there is an uglier side to playing on the AVP Tour (the beach volleyball equivalent of the PGA or NFL), which Lindquist detailed genuinely enough to remove herself from sounding like the hip-hop artist who has to attend just so many music video shoots on a regular basis.

For starters, her salary is earned, literally: She and her playing partner, Katie Lindquist, her older sister, can only make as much money as advancing deep into tournaments allows them to. In short, a weekend filled with struggles equates to a tough loss for the ole' checking account.

To compensate, Lindquist is a part-time substitute teacher for special education programs for preschool through 8th grade. That can cut into time spent on the beach, taking away from Lindquist opportunities in the offseason to prepare for her goal to become a force on the tour.

"I could play full-time the way the top moneymakers could, that'd be awesome," Lindquist

said. "It's just not a possibility right now. I need the money to survive."

Perhaps even tougher for Lindquist is the faultiness of the AVP Tour. Although it is back on the upswing, the AVP went bankrupt in the mid-1990s and still doesn't enjoy the financial security that major professional sports leagues enjoy.

So while a Carson Palmer knows he will be employed for his talents as long as his career lasts, Lindquist can't look 10 years down the line and with a straight face tell people she will be playing on the tour.

"A lot of great players stopped playing altogether (when the AVP filed for bankruptcy)," Lindquist said. "That's weird to think about ... giving up what you love just because of that?"

But hey, as Lindquist has surmised, that's just the way the tide rolls in.

The sport has already taken her to New Zealand and Thailand for the World University Games. She and Katie are also sponsored by an online advertising company in Huntington Beach that pays for their flights to events, and Roxy, a major clothing company that lets them hand-select bikinis and other gear from one of its local warehouses.

"I always thought about doing this as a child," Lindquist said. "Not doing it never really crossed my mind. I grew up believing it would happen."

Let's just call it the making of a dream job.

♦ To comment on this column, e-mail drtrojan@usc.edu or call (213) 740-8829.

Quest for Pac-10 title will heat up in desert

USC and first place Arizona meet up in series that should rattle conference standings.

By KYLE JAHNER
Staff Writer

The USC baseball team has already surpassed its win total from last year with 17 games to play, is ranked 22nd in the nation and has won two out of every three games it has played this season. Just don't look for Arizona to be impressed when the Trojans show up in the desert this weekend.

The ninth-ranked Wildcats (27-14, 10-2 Pacific-10 Conference) will welcome the Trojans (26-13, 8-4 Pac-10) to Tucson, Ariz., with the Pac-10s best record and most potent offense. The three game series is a crucial one for two teams at the forefront of the race for the conference title.

"Clearly this is the biggest series," USC coach Mike Gillespie said. They are in first place; we won't have another crack at them. If we win the series, then the next one will be the most important."

Arizona currently leads the Pac-10 with a .323 batting average and 343 runs scored. The Wildcats have hammered 47 home runs this year, one short of the Pac-10 lead. Outfielder Trevor Crowe leads them with a .415 average, seven homers and 43 RBIs. The junior also has 18 steals in 22 attempts.

USC counters with a pitching staff that ranks second in Pac-10 in earned run average (3.54) behind Oregon State. Ian Kennedy leads what is quickly developing into the conference's Big Three. Kennedy, Zack Kalter and Jack Spradlin each have ERAs under 3.60 in 25 combined starts.

Although the Trojans have won two thirds of their Pac-10 games, most of their major trials are ahead of them. Including Arizona, three of their four remaining opponents are in the top five in the conference and two are ahead of USC in the standings.

"We are going to have to win every series from here on out, we are going to have to beat Arizona, Stanford and Oregon State, all the best teams in the Pac-10," Trojan third baseman Billy Hart said. "It's going to be tough, but I think we can do it."

USC, which came into the season with that type of optimism, has maintained momentum for most of the year, never losing more than two in a row. Loyola Marymount handed them their second consecutive loss Tuesday, and the Trojans will put that statement on the line Friday night in a game that will be televised nationally by ESPN.

Kennedy (7-1, 2.84 ERA) will likely be called on to turn around the momentum of what has proved to be a tough week thus far for the Trojans. The pressman All-American has amassed 94 strikeouts in just 66.2 innings, with only 25 walks and a .209 opponents batting average. The other two games will also be televised, with Saturday's 1 p.m. game on Fox Sports West and Sunday's noon game airing on ESPN.

"We have a great chance of winning the Pac-10 with the way we are playing right now," left fielder Cyle Hanks said.

Even if the Trojans fail to capture the Pac-10 crown in a crowded race for the title — just two games separate the four teams in contention — their season likely won't end. Barring a major letdown down the stretch, USC should gain an at large bid to the 64-team NCAA regionals in May.



Crime Prevention Bulletin Moving-Out?

Last year from the last day of classes to the end of final exams the following crimes occurred:

20 vehicle break-ins; 27 thefts of unattended property; 2 robberies; and 1 residential burglary;

As you prepare to move out of your residence, please remember to be attentive with your property:

Safety Tips

Don't let this happen to you!



- When packing your vehicle, lock your residence each time you leave. Do not prop your door open. Valuable items may be stolen easily while you are at your vehicle.
- Lock your vehicle after every trip of loading. Again, valuable items can be stolen easily while you are gathering your items from your residence.
- Avoid walking alone. Utilize Campus Cruiser 213-740-4911.
- Do not leave your property in your vehicle overnight. Many of the vehicle break-ins have occurred when this happens. Even in subterranean garages.
- Lock all of your windows and doors when leaving. Most students are away from their residence for long periods of time during this week.
- Report suspicious behavior and activity to DPS immediately. Trust your instincts. We would rather respond to a call and determine no crime than respond and take a report when we could have apprehended the suspect.

REMEMBER! MOST CRIMES OCCUR BECAUSE THEY ARE A CRIME OF AN IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY.

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Water Polo

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But as Domanic told the Daily Bruin, "As long as I'm here, I'm going to make it a point that USC doesn't win a national title."

One man does not make a team, says the old adage. The Women of Troy epitomize this.

"We're playing more as a team now, we've gelled more," Wenger said.

"What makes us a strong team is our depth," Hayes said. "We have so many players that they can shut down one person and another will step up to the challenge."

The MPSF tournament might pose a slight challenge, with a field consisting of 13 teams all ranked in the top-20.

"The MPSF tournament, for us, is a preparation for the NCAAs," Vavic said. "We know we're going to be invited. We're not in a position like other teams that don't have a lock."

While competition begins today, USC has a first-round bye.

First up for the Women of Troy will be the winner of today's game pitting No. 7 UC Santa Barbara against No. 10 San Diego State. USC beat the Gauchos by 11-4 and 11-5 margins earlier this season, and routed the Aztecs 12-7.

USC's second round opponent should be determined by the Stanford-California game. USC beat the No. 3 Cardinal and the No. 6 Bears 9-4 and 12-4, respectively.

Meanwhile, UCLA will first meet No. 8 UC Irvine or No. 9 Cal State Northridge, and then most likely will play the winner of the game between No. 4 Hawaii and No. 5 Long Beach State. And Sunday might bring the inevitable, No. 1 UCLA versus No. 2 USC.

"I didn't think we had a chance I wouldn't be coaching," Vavic said. "Every game we go into we think we're going to win. Your mindset is to do the best you can, to go and get it done."