



2024 Santa Clara University MEN'S WATER POLO

2024 Schedule (12-10, 1-4 WCC)

Date	Opponent	Network	Time (PT)
Sept. 7	Fresno Pacific	ESPN+	W, 18-4
<u>Princeton Invitational (Princeton, N.J.)</u>			
Sept. 13	Iona		W, 16-6
Sept. 13	#6 Princeton	ESPN+	L, 9-15
Sept. 14	Bucknell		W, 20-16
Sept. 15	Wagner		W, 17-10
Sept. 20	* #9 San Jose State	ESPN+	L, 10-11 (SV)
Sept. 21	George Washington	ESPN+	W, 17-10
Sept. 27	#13 UC Davis		W, 14-12
Sept. 28	~ Alumni Game		--
<u>Big West/WCC Challenge (San Jose, Calif.)</u>			
Oct. 5	#17 UC Davis		L, 7-14
Oct. 5	#12 UC Santa Barbara		L, 8-9
<u>Lancer Joust (Riverside, Calif. & Fullerton, Calif.)</u>			
Oct. 11	Cal State Fullerton	ESPN+	W, 12-9
Oct. 11	Concordia University Irvine		W, 15-13
Oct. 12	Biola		W, 14-8
Oct. 17	#9 California	ESPN+	L, 10-14
Oct. 24	* #14 California Baptist	ESPN+	L, 12-13
<u>Julian Frasier Memorial (Santa Clara, Calif.)</u>			
Oct. 25	UC Merced	ESPN+	W, 15-9
Oct. 26	#13 Harvard	ESPN+	L, 10-11
Oct. 27	#19 Brown	ESPN+	W, 13-12
Nov. 1	* #9 Pepperdine	ESPN+	L, 10-11
Nov. 2	* #17 LMU	ESPN+	W, 13-9
Nov. 8	* #5 Pacific	ESPN+	L, 5-13
Nov. 9	#2 Stanford	OverNight	L, 9-19
Nov. 15	* Air Force	ESPN+	2 p.m.
Nov. 22-24	WCC Championship (@ Stockton, Calif.)		TBA
Dec. 6-8	NCAA Championship (@ Stanford, Calif.)		TBA

Home games in **BOLD** | Neutral games in *Italics*

* WCC game | ~ Exhibition | Rankings are CWPA Men's Varsity Top-20

All times are Pacific and subject to change

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#17 Santa Clara (12-10, 1-4 WCC)

vs.

RV Air Force (13-17, 1-3 WCC)

Santa Clara, Calif. • Sullivan Aquatic Center • 2 p.m. PST

Watch Live: ESPN+
Thomas Dunn (play-by-play)
Live Stats: thefosh.net

Series History

Series History (since 2007).....Air Force leads, 14-10
In Santa Clara..... Santa Clara leads, 5-4
Current Streak..... W4, Santa Clara
Last Meeting..... Nov. 10, 2023 | W, 13-11 (OT)
First Meeting..... Oct. 21, 2007 | L, 4-11

Match Notes

- The No. 17 Santa Clara University men's water polo team hosts its final home game of the 2024 season on Friday when it welcomes Air Force for a West Coast Conference clash on Senior Day at Sullivan Aquatic Center.
- The Broncos have won four consecutive meetings against Air Force and five of their last six. That includes two wins at home (2019, '22) and two wins at the conference tournament (2021, '22).
- Three of the Broncos' last five meetings against the Falcons have gone into overtime. Santa Clara won two of those games, both coming in the two most recent matchups between the two teams (Nov. 18, 2022 and Nov. 10, 2023).
- Santa Clara is in search of its second conference win of the season. A win Friday would give the Broncos multiple conference wins (minimum two) for at least the last 13 full seasons (not counting Winter 2021, when no conference games were played).

Season Notes

- Santa Clara dropped two games last week on a challenging road trip against two top-five nationally ranked opponents. They fell, 13-5, at No. 5 Pacific on Friday, then were clipped, 19-9, by No. 2 Stanford on Saturday. The Broncos were competitive in both games, however. They were within one of No. 5 Pacific through the first period and only trailed by four at halftime (6-2). The Broncos hung tough with No. 2 Stanford, keeping it a one-goal game into the third period at only 7-6.
- The Broncos will honor nine seniors in a pregame ceremony Friday. Those nine playing their final home game as Broncos at Sullivan Aquatic Center include: **Zach Fales**, **Gavin Fisher**, **Max Hendrickson**, **Mason Jaeger**, **Gojko Kapovic**, **Ben Kyrillos**, **Connor Long**, **Jack Palmer** and **Wyatt Stenson**.
- Santa Clara swept the KAP7 WCC weekly awards a week ago (week of Oct. 28-Nov. 3), with senior attacker **Zach Fales** being named Player of the Week and freshman utilityman **Riccardo De Simon** being named Newcomer of the Week.

Fales scored seven goals, grabbed five steals and tallied two assists in two WCC road games, including powering No. 18 Santa Clara to a 13-9 win over No. 17 LMU on Saturday. He also drew four kickouts and recorded two field blocks on defense in the two games. De Simon scored five goals and tallied three assists in the Broncos' two road games while helping Santa Clara in a big way to beat No. 17 LMU on Saturday. De Simon played well on both sides of the ball on the weekend with six steals, three drawn kickouts and three field blocks on defense.

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Season Notes

• **Riccardo De Simon** owns two other WCC Newcomer of the Week awards this season on top of his award last week, giving him three. He won it for the week of Sept. 23-29 after helping lead the Broncos to a milestone road victory at No. 13 UC Davis. He also won the award for the week of Sept. 9-15 after scoring 11 goals across four games at the Princeton Invitational.

• Santa Clara redshirt freshman **Luke Baird** has added to classmate De Simon's newcomer prowess this season, earning his own KAP7 WCC Newcomer of the Week award on Oct. 15 after helping lead the No. 17 Broncos to a perfect weekend at the Lancer Joust. Baird totaled seven goals, four steals, three field blocks and an assist with two multi-goal performances in three games. Baird tied for the game high on Oct. 11 with a season-best four goals in the tournament opener versus host Cal State Fullerton. He came back in the nightcap with two more goals against Concordia University Irvine for a six-goal day. Baird added another goal on Oct. 12 in the Broncos' 14-8 win over Biola, one of 10 Broncos to score in the game.

• The Broncos already have 12 wins on the season and look to surpass their win totals from each of the past four years. Santa Clara still has at least two more games to play in 2024 and haven't won more than 13 games in a seasons since 2019 (15).

• Senior attacker **Zach Fales** was one of 20 student-athletes from across the country named on Oct. 17 to the 2024 Cutino Award Watch List, the award given annually to the top NCAA Division I collegiate male and female in water polo. Fales is the Broncos' leading points-getter with 90 total points. He has team highs in goals (53) and assists (37). Fales is also second on the team with 34 steals.

• Santa Clara head coach **Keith Wilbur** reached his 300th career men's water polo win this season thanks to a 14-12 win at No. 13 UC Davis on Sept. 27. He's earned all 300 of his wins at the helm of the Broncos' program. Wilbur is in his 23rd season as head coach of the program and is the winningest coach in program history. He began his tenure at Santa Clara in the fall of 2002.

Keith Wilbur Career Milestone Wins

No.	Opponent	Score	Date
1.	Whittier College	7-5	Sept. 9, 2002
50.	Air Force	8-6 (OT)	Oct. 16, 2005
100.	University of Redlands	10-9	Nov. 21, 2008
150.	University of La Verne	18-5	Sept. 25, 2011
200.	St. Francis (NY)	8-4	Sept. 12, 2015
250.	Occidental College	18-10	Oct. 5, 2019
300.	UC Davis	14-12	Sept. 27, 2024

• The Broncos (12-14 in 2023) finished 2023 ranked tied for 18th in the nation alongside WCC rival Pacific. Santa Clara has 13 matches scheduled in 2024 against teams ranked in both of the preseason top-20 polls, including showdowns against top-five teams California (No. 2/2) on Oct. 17, Stanford (No. 3/3) on Nov. 9 and Princeton (No. 5/5) on Sept. 13.

• All seven members of the WCC received votes in the CWPA preseason national poll, with six of them earning placement in the poll. WCC Preseason Coaches' Poll favorite Pacific was the highest-ranked WCC member at No. 7. San Jose State landed at No. 9, Pepperdine was No. 13, LMU was placed at No. 16, Cal Baptist earned a No. 17 showing, and the Broncos came in at No. 19. Air Force earned three votes in the CWPA poll.

• Santa Clara returns its top two points scorers from 2023 in **Zach Fales** and **Gojko Kapovic**. Fales earned first team all-WCC honors and was tabbed an All-American honorable mention by the ACWPC after scoring a team-high 61 goals and totaling 101 points. Kapovic was the team's leading assists-getter with 59 and was second on the team with 88 total points. He also scored 29 goals (fourth on the team).

• The Broncos also return their starting goalkeeper from a year ago, **Harrison Labrosse**. The sophomore Labrosse made 159 saves in 16 starts. He also grabbed 12 steals on the season while logging a season-high 13 saves on two occasions.

2024 Men's Water Polo Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown
1	Wyatt Stenson	GK	6-7	180	R-Jr.	Woodside, Calif.
1A	Owen Van Stralen	GK	6-0	185	R-So.	Orinda, Calif.
1B	Harrison Labrosse	GK	6-5	170	So.	Lafayette, Calif.
2	Zach Fales	Att.	6-3	190	Sr.	La Jolla, Calif.
3	Harrison Villella	Cen.	6-3	205	R-So.	Bainbridge Isl., Wash.
4	Max Hendrickson	Att.	6-0	175	R-Jr.	Redondo Beach, Calif.
5	Mason Jaeger	Cen.	6-2	235	Sr.	El Segundo, Calif.
6	Gavin Fisher	Att.	5-11	185	R-Jr.	Costa Mesa, Calif.
8	Ben Kyrillos	CenD.	5-11	200	R-Jr.	La Jolla, Calif.
9	Reese Jenican	Cen.	6-4	215	Jr.	Yorba Linda, Calif.
10	Charlie Kosinski	Att.	6-0	180	R-Fr.	Greenwich, Conn.
11	Jack Palmer	Util.	5-10	205	R-Jr.	Dallas
12	Gojko Kapovic	Att.	5-10	185	Sr.	Makarska, Croatia
13	Connor Long	Util.	6-1	205	Sr.	Cupertino, Calif.
14	Jason Alietti	CenD.	6-5	200	So.	Pasadena, Calif.
16	Julien Chow	Util.	-		R-Fr.	Palo Alto, Calif.
17	Thomas Wisdom	Util.	6-1	190	R-Fr.	Saratoga, Calif.
20	Grant Roesch	Util.	6-3	185	So.	Moraga, Calif.
21	Riccardo De Simon	Util.	6-3	187	Fr.	Bologna, Italy
22	Luke Baird	CenD.	6-5	240	R-Fr.	Springfield, Va.
23	Charlie Engs	Att.	6-2	175	R-Fr.	Orinda, Calif.
24	Jack Fisher	Att.	6-3	170	Fr.	Manhattan Beach, Calif.
26	Reece Hammond	Util.	6-5	190	R-Fr.	Long Beach, Calif.
28	Henry Engs	Util.	6-1	220	Fr.	Orinda, Calif.
RS	Weston Bancroft	Util.	6-3	195	Rs.	La Jolla, Calif.
RS	Tyler Swensen	GK	6-4	200	Rs.	Laguna Beach, Calif.
RS	Jensen Welton	Util.	6-2	195	Rs.	Austin, Texas

AROUND THE WCC

WCC Men's Water Polo Standings

Pl.	Team	Conf.	Overall
1.	Pacific	5-0	17-1
	Pepperdine	5-0	20-6
3.	California Baptist	3-2	19-11
4.	San Jose State	2-2	14-6
5.	Air Force	1-3	13-17
6.	Santa Clara	1-4	12-10
7.	LMU	0-6	7-14

2024 WCC Men's Water Polo Preseason Poll

Pl.	Team (1st Pl.)	Pts
1.	Pacific (5)	35
2.	San José State (1)	30
3.	Pepperdine	26
4.	LMU	22
5.	California Baptist	16
6.	Santa Clara	12
7.	Air Force	6

2024 Men's Water Polo Preseason All-WCC Team

Name	School	Yr.
Tommaso Baldineti	LMU	Sr.
Jeremie Cote	Pacific	Sr.
Adam Csapo	Pepperdine	Jr.
Reuel D'Souza	Pacific	Sr.
Brendon Gyapjas	San José State	So.
Tom Leggett	Air Force	So.
Caleb Teraoka	California Baptist	Gr.



2024 Santa Clara University MEN'S WATER POLO

CWPA NATIONAL TOP-20 POLL

(Week of Nov. 13)

Rk.	School	Previous Rank	Pts.
1	UCLA	1	100
2	Stanford	2	94
3	Fordham	3	89
4	Southern California	4	87
5	Pacific	5	81
6	Princeton	6	75
7	California	7	69
8	UC Irvine	8	65
9	Pepperdine	9	60
10	UC San Diego	12	52
11	UC Davis	11	48
12	Long Beach State	10	44
13	San Jose State	13	41
14	UC Santa Barbara	14	40
15	Harvard	15	30
16	California Baptist	16	26
17	Santa Clara	17	21
18	Brown University	19	13
19	LMU	18	10
20	Navy	t-20	6
RV	George Washington	t-20	1
RV	Salem University	NR	1
RV	Air Force Academy	NR	1

Season Notes

- Santa Clara ranked in the academic awards last school year. The team had a WCC-best 10 total honorees on the 2023 WCC All-Academic team. It later ranked in 16 All-Academic awards from the ACWPC this summer. 2024 senior **Connor Long** earned "Outstanding" honors from the ACWPC.

ACWPC NATIONAL TOP-20 POLL

(Week of Nov. 13)

Rk.	School	Previous Rank
1	UCLA	1
2	Stanford	2
3	Southern California	3
4	Fordham	5
5	Pacific	4
t-6	Princeton	6
t-6	California	7
t-6	UC Irvine	8
t-9	Long Beach State	9
t-9	Pepperdine	10
11	UC San Diego	12
12	UC Davis	11
t-13	San Jose State	13
t-13	UC Santa Barbara	14
t-15	Harvard	t-15
t-15	California Baptist	t-15
17	Santa Clara	17
18	LMU	18
19	Brown	19
20	Navy	20