



PAC-10 NEWS

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2010 WOMEN'S GYMNASTIS SEASON KICKS-OFF

The 2010 Pac-10 women's gymnastics season begins this weekend with five teams competing, including two top-10 duals. The action begins Friday when No. 10 OREGON STATE hosts the Salbasgeon Suites Invitational. Led by the reigning Pac-10 Gymnast of the Year, SR **Mandi Rodriguez**, the Beavers welcome No. 13 Illinois, Air Force and Alaska. No. 25 WASHINGTON opens its season at home against No. 15 Nebraska.

The action continues on Saturday when No. 7 STANFORD travels across the country to five-time defending champion and preseason No. 1 ranked Georgia. Also heading east is No. 20 ARIZONA who takes on No. 8 Arkansas. In a top 5 battle, No-5 UCLA welcomes No. 2 Utah. The Bruins and Utes are two of the four teams that have won the NCAA women's gymnastics title since 1982 (UCLA - 5, Utah 9).

By the Numbers:

Pac-10 teams return seven gymnasts that were named to the 2009 National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics All-Americans. First team All-Americans returning are Oregon State SR **Mandi Rodriguez**, Stanford JR **Carly Janiga**, and UCLA SO **Vanessa Zamarripa** and RS-JR **Brittani McCullough**. Returning second team All-Americans are Oregon State JR **Jen Kesler**, and UCLA JR **Nicole Tom** and SO **Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs**.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Friday, January 8

Salbasgeon Suites Invitational - Corvallis, Ore., 7 p.m.
No. 13 Illinois/Air Force/Alaska at No. 10 OREGON STATE
No. 15 Nebraska at No. 25 WASHINGTON, 7 p.m.

Saturday, January 9

No. 20 ARIZONA at No. 8 Arkansas, 7 p.m.
No. 7 STANFORD at No. 1 Georgia, 4 p.m.
No. 2 Utah at No. 5 UCLA, 4 p.m.

All times are local to site

Rankings from 2010 Preseason Coaches Poll

PRESEASON COACHES**TOP 25 POLL**

1. Georgia (13)	739
2. Utah (6)	718
3. Alabama (8)	680
4. Florida (2)	676
5. UCLA (2)	632
6. LSU	576
7. STANFORD	563
8. Arkansas	537
9. Oklahoma	516
10. .OREGON STATE	503
11. Penn State	493
12. Michigan	421
13. Illinois	369
14. Auburn	365
15. Nebraska	365
16. Missouri	349
17. Denver	215
18. Ohio State	200
19. Boise State	194
20. ARIZONA	169
21. West Virginia	122
22. Minnesota	120
23. Iowa State	107
24. Michigan State	76
25. WASHINGTON	64

RETURNING ALL-AMERICANS**First Team**

Mandi Rodriguez, SR., OSU
(Vault, Floor Exercise)

Vanessa Zamarripa, SO., UCLA
(Vault, Balance Beam, Floor Exercise,
All-around)

Carly Janiga, SR., Stanford
(Uneven Bars)

Brittani McCullough, RS JR, UCLA
(Floor Exercise)

Second Team

Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs, SO., UCLA
(Vault, Uneven Bars, Floor Exercise,
All-Around)

Carly Janiga, SR., Stanford
(All-Around)

Jen Kesler, JR., OSU
(Uneven Bars)

Vanessa Zamarripa, SO., UCLA
(Uneven Bars)

Nicole Tom., JR., UCLA
(Floor Exercise)

PAC-10 NOTES

ARIZONA: Coming off their 23rd-straight postseason appearance, the Wildcats open the 2010 season at No. 20 in the GymInfo Preseason Coaches' Poll. RS-SR **Sarah Tomczyk**, an All-Pac-10 first team selection for floor last season, scored a 9.775 on the apparatus at the NCAA National Championship last season. SO **Rebecca Cardenas**, an All-Pac-10 second team selection on floor and SO **Deanna Graham**, an All-Pac-10 second team selection on vault, add depth for head coach **Bill Ryden**.

ARIZONA STATE: After finishing fifth at the NCAA South Central Regional last season, the Sun Devils are led by JRs **Mary Atkinson** and **Beate Jones**. Jones, an All-Pac-10 first team selection in the all-around last season, will lead a group of 10 underclassmen. Head coach **John Spini** adds two freshmen: **Amelia Rew** and **Sammie Seaman**, who are expected to make an immediate impact.

CALIFORNIA: A 2009 All-Pac-10 honoree and lone senior **Sophia Hocini** is the veteran on a squad that welcomes seven newcomers. Hocini has competed at the NCAA Regionals in her first three seasons and will be looked upon for experience, along with JRs **Stefanie Cheng** and **Avery Gee**. Cheng was a first team All-Academic Pac-10 first team selection and Gee qualified for the regionals last season.

OREGON STATE: Nine letterwinning gymnasts return for the Beavers, including SR **Mandi Rodriguez**, the reigning Pac-10 Gymnast of the Year and a 2009 first team All-American on the vault and floor exercise. JR **Jen Kesler**, a two-time All-American on uneven bars, will lead a squad with four elite freshmen who are all expected to have an impact in all four line-ups.

STANFORD: Since 2001, the Cardinal has seven top-10 team finishes and has advanced to the NCAA Super Six four times in eight years. Last year's NCAA runner-up on the uneven bars SR **Carly Janiga** returns as well fellow seniors in regional bars champ **Allyse Ishino** and vault All-American **Blair Ryland**. Four-time and reigning Pac-10 Coach of the Year, Kristen Smyth also has a solid junior class led by all-around standout **Shelley Alexander**, and international veterans like **Alyssa Brown** and **Nicole Pechanec**.

UCLA: The Bruins return five All-Americans in SR **Anna Li**, JRs **Brittani McCullough** and **Niki Tom**, and SOs **Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs** and **Vanessa Zamarripa**. Head coach **Valorie Kondos Field** welcomes a talented freshman class, led by two-time World Championships competitor **Lichelle Wong** and former junior international elite **Monique De La Torre** from Glendale, Ariz.

WASHINGTON: The Huskies are coming off their highest Pac-10 finish, fourth place, in the last six years. Under the guidance of head coach **Joanne Bowers**, Washington has advanced to the West Regionals three-straight years and has sent individuals to the NCAA Nationals in two-of-three years. With no seniors, JR **Samantha Walior** and SO **Hatsune Akaogi** will be looked upon for experience.

2010 PACIFIC-10 WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS COMPOSITE SCHEDULE/RESULTS

(Times are local. Schedule subject to change.)

Friday, January 8

Salbasgeon Suites Invitational, 7 p.m.
 Illinois/ Air Force/ Alaska at OREGON STATE
 Nebraska at WASHINGTON, 7 p.m.

Saturday, January 9

ARIZONA at Arkansas, 7 p.m.
 STANFORD at Georgia, 4 p.m.
 Utah at UCLA, 4 p.m.

Friday, January 15

Lady Luck Invitational, 6 p.m.
 ARIZONA STATE/ Kentucky/ LSU/ Missouri
 UCLA at WASHINGTON, 7 p.m.

Saturday, January 16

OREGON STATE at Ohio State, 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 17

ARIZONA at STANFORD, 2 p.m.
 ARIZONA STATE at CALIFORNIA, 2 p.m.

Friday, January 22

UCLA/ San Jose State at CALIFORNIA, 7:30 p.m.
 WASHINGTON at OREGON STATE, 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 24

ARIZONA at ARIZONA STATE, 2 p.m.
 UCLA at STANFORD, 2 p.m.

Friday, January 29

CALIFORNIA at ARIZONA, 7 p.m.
 STANFORD/ Seattle Pacific at OREGON STATE, 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 31

ARIZONA STATE at UCLA, 2 p.m.

Friday, February 5

UCLA at ARIZONA, 7 p.m.
 Utah at ARIZONA STATE, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 7

OREGON STATE at CALIFORNIA, 2 p.m.
 WASHINGTON/ San Jose State/ Sacramento State/
 at STANFORD, 2 p.m.

Friday, February 12

ARIZONA at OREGON STATE, 7 p.m.

Saturday, February 13

ARIZONA STATE at WASHINGTON, 2 p.m.

Sunday, February 14

STANFORD at UCLA, 2 p.m.

Friday, February 19

ARIZONA at Alabama, 7 p.m.
 STANFORD at ARIZONA STATE, 7:30 p.m.
 CALIFORNIA at WASHINGTON, 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 21

OREGON STATE at UCLA, 2 p.m.

Friday, February 26

OREGON STATE at ARIZONA STATE, 7:30 p.m.
 UCLA at Cal State Fullerton, 7 p.m.
 Arkansas/ Seattle Pacific at WASHINGTON, 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 28

ARIZONA/ Denver/ West Virginia at Nebraska, 2 p.m.
 CALIFORNIA/ North Carolina/ Eastern Michigan at
 STANFORD, 2 p.m.

Friday, March 5

WASHINGTON at ARIZONA, 7 p.m.
 Central Michigan at ARIZONA STATE, 7:30 p.m.
 CALIFORNIA/ STANFORD at San Jose State, 7 p.m.
 OREGON STATE at LSU, 7 p.m.
 STANFORD at San Jose State, TBA

Saturday, March 6

UCLA at Georgia, 4 p.m.

Friday, March 12

Minnesota at ARIZONA, 7 p.m.
 ARIZONA STATE at BYU, TBA
 OREGON STATE/ Penn State/ Southern Utah
 at Utah, 7 p.m.
 WASHINGTON at Oklahoma, 7 p.m.

Sunday, March 14

CALIFORNIA/ TWU at UC Davis, 2 p.m.
 Michigan State/ Cal State Fullerton at UCLA, 2 p.m.

Friday, March 19

Kentucky at OREGON STATE, 7 p.m.
 WASHINGTON at Seattle Pacific, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 20

ARIZONA/ CALIFORNIA/ NC State at Denver, 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 21

STANFORD at UC Davis, 2 p.m.

Saturday, March 27

Pac-10 Championships, Tucson, Ariz. 3 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, April 23 and 24

NCAA Event Finals