

## COACHING STAFF



# JOHN SAVAGE

Head Coach  
14th Season at UCLA  
17th Season overall  
Nevada '91

Through 13 seasons as UCLA's head coach, John Savage has established the Bruins as a consistent national championship contender. Savage helped UCLA reach college baseball's pinnacle in 2013, as the Bruins won their first-ever NCAA baseball title. Under his guidance, UCLA has advanced to the postseason in nine of the last 12 seasons, hosting an NCAA Regional in five of the last seven, including four-straight from 2010 through 2013.

Savage completed his 13th season as UCLA's head coach in 2017. He is currently the third longest-tenured head coach in UCLA baseball program history and has gone 449-328-1 in the past 13 seasons. In eight trips to the postseason at UCLA, Savage has compiled a 35-18 record (.660 winning percentage), recording the most postseason victories of any head coach in program history.

With Savage at the program's helm, UCLA advanced to the College World Series in 2010, 2012, and 2013, and reached the best-of-three championship series in 2010 and 2013. UCLA defeated Mississippi State, two games to none, at the 2013 College World Series. In 2010, the Bruins advanced to the championship series for the first time in school history, falling two games to none to South Carolina.

Savage's strong work with UCLA's program has been equally evident in player development and the MLB Draft. Over his 13 seasons in Westwood, UCLA has produced 88 draft selections. In addition, he has coached 15 players at UCLA that have competed in the major leagues.

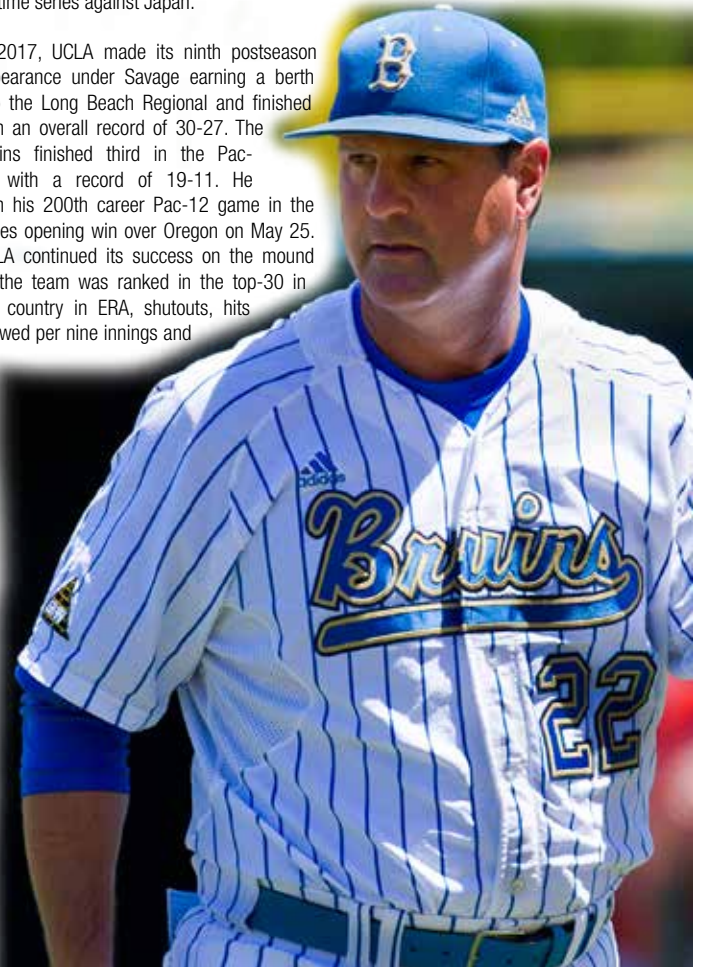
Savage is one of just six head coaches in college baseball history to have guided his team to a College World Series title, produced the first overall pick in the MLB Draft, and coached at least one Golden Spikes Award winner. Also included in that illustrious group are former head coaches Skip Bertman (LSU) and Jim Brock (Arizona State) and Augie Garrido (Cal State Fullerton, Texas) and current head coaches Tim Corbin (Vanderbilt) and Jim Morris (Miami).

A tenacious recruiter with a keen eye for developing talent, Savage and his coaching staff has found success on the recruiting trail. 10 of his 12 recruiting classes have been nationally ranked in the top-25 by Baseball America. UCLA's incoming class in the fall of 2012 was rated No. 2, nationally, by Baseball America, the highest-such ranking of any of Savage's recruiting classes.

UCLA's incoming group in the fall of 2006 was ranked No. 5, followed by No. 13 (fall 2007), No. 7 (fall 2008), No. 7 (fall 2009), No. 19 (fall 2010), No. 3 (fall 2011), No. 2 (fall 2012), No. 7 (fall 2014), No. 3 (fall 2015) and No. 16 (fall 2016).

In the summer of 2017, Savage was the manager of the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team after being an assistant coach in 2000. He led the U.S. to a 15-5 record over the summer, including 11-4 during international play. The United States won all three international series it competed in, including going 4-0 against Chinese Taipei and 3-2 versus both Cuba and Japan. The win over Cuba marked the third-straight series win, while also improving to 23-18 in 41 all-time series against Japan.

In 2017, UCLA made its ninth postseason appearance under Savage earning a berth into the Long Beach Regional and finished with an overall record of 30-27. The Bruins finished third in the Pac-12 with a record of 19-11. He won his 200th career Pac-12 game in the series opening win over Oregon on May 25. UCLA continued its success on the mound as the team was ranked in the top-30 in the country in ERA, shutouts, hits allowed per nine innings and



### Savage's Year-by-Year Head Coaching Record

| Year             | School          | Record           | Pct.        | Conf.          | Pct.        | Postseason                                   |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 2017             | UCLA            | 20-27            | .526        | 19-11          | .633        | Long Beach Regional                          |
| 2016             | UCLA            | 25-31            | .446        | 12-18          | .400        |                                              |
| 2015             | UCLA            | 45-16            | .738        | 22-8           | .733        | Los Angeles Regional (Pac-12 Champions)      |
| 2014             | UCLA            | 25-30-1          | .455        | 12-18          | .400        |                                              |
| 2013             | UCLA            | 49-17            | .742        | 21-9           | .700        | NCAA Champions                               |
| 2012             | UCLA            | 48-16            | .750        | 20-10          | .667        | College World Series (Pac-12 Co-Champions)   |
| 2011             | UCLA            | 35-24            | .593        | 18-9           | .667        | Los Angeles Regional (Pac-10 Champions)      |
| 2010             | UCLA            | 51-17            | .750        | 18-9           | .667        | College World Series runner-up               |
| 2009             | UCLA            | 27-29            | .482        | 15-12          | .555        |                                              |
| 2008             | UCLA            | 33-27            | .550        | 13-11          | .542        | Fullerton Regional                           |
| 2007             | UCLA            | 33-28            | .541        | 14-10          | .583        | Fullerton Super Regional                     |
| 2006             | UCLA            | 33-25            | .560        | 13-10          | .565        | Malibu Regional                              |
| 2005             | UCLA            | 15-41            | .260        | 4-20           | .167        |                                              |
| 2004             | UC Irvine       | 34-23-1          | .595        | 10-11          | .476        | Midwest Regional                             |
| 2003             | UC Irvine       | 21-35            | .375        | 8-13           | .381        |                                              |
| 2002             | UC Irvine       | 33-26            | .559        | 14-10          | .583        |                                              |
| <b>Career</b>    | <b>16 years</b> | <b>537-412-2</b> | <b>.566</b> | <b>233-189</b> | <b>.552</b> | <b>1 title, 3 CWS, 4 Super Reg., 10 Reg.</b> |
| <b>UCLA</b>      | <b>13 years</b> | <b>449-328-1</b> | <b>.578</b> | <b>201-155</b> | <b>.565</b> | <b>1 title, 3 CWS, 4 Super Reg., 9 Reg.</b>  |
| <b>UC Irvine</b> | <b>3 years</b>  | <b>88-84-1</b>   | <b>.509</b> | <b>32-34</b>   | <b>.485</b> | <b>1 Regional</b>                            |

### Savage's Year-by-Year Assistant Coaching Record

| Year          | School         | Record           | Pct.        | Conf.         | Pct.        | Postseason                            |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2000          | USC            | 44-20            | .688        | 16-8          | .667        | College World Series                  |
| 1999          | USC            | 36-26            | .581        | 17-7          | .708        | West Super Regional                   |
| 1998          | USC            | 49-17            | .742        | 21-9          | .700        | NCAA Champions                        |
| 1997          | USC            | 42-20            | .677        | 17-13         | .567        | South II Regional Final               |
| 1996          | Nevada         | 30-19            | .612        | 8-13          | .381        |                                       |
| 1995          | Nevada         | 35-18            | .660        | 12-9          | .571        |                                       |
| 1994          | Nevada         | 41-15            | .732        | 16-5          | .761        | Midwest Regional (Big West Champions) |
| 1993          | Nevada         | 28-19-1          | .615        | 7-14          | .333        |                                       |
| 1992*         | Nevada         | 43-11-1          | .791        | ----          | ----        |                                       |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>9 years</b> | <b>348-165-2</b> | <b>.677</b> | <b>114-78</b> | <b>.594</b> | <b>1 NCAA Championship</b>            |
|               |                |                  |             |               |             | <b>2 Super Regionals, 5 Regionals</b> |

\*Nevada maintained an independent affiliation in 1992.

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WHIP. The pitching staff was led by All-American and All-Pac-12 selection Griffin Canning and also All-Pac-12 team honoree Jon Olsen. Offensively, UCLA was led by All-Pac-12 selection Sean Bouchard and Freshman All-Americans Kyle Cuellar and Michael Togli. The Bruins were one of only four teams in 2017 to defeat No. 1 Oregon State in the regular season, earning a 7-1 victory on ESPNU. Additionally, six Bruins were selected in the MLB Draft, highlighted by Griffin Canning (47th pick, second round) and Sean Bouchard (266th pick, ninth round) as Savage now has 32 players selected in the first 10 rounds. Canning also became the sixth UCLA pitcher since 2005 to be drafted in the first two rounds.

In 2016, the Bruins missed the postseason for just the third time in the past 11 seasons, finishing with an overall mark of 25-31. However, it was a year full of milestones for Savage who recorded both his 400th career win at UCLA and 500th career win as a Division I head coach. Savage's 400th win in Westwood came in dramatic fashion as UCLA topped crosstown rival USC in Dodger Stadium in a 14 inning thriller. Individually, first-year pitcher Kyle Molnar was named a Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American, after finishing second in the Pac-12 among freshman in strikeouts, and senior outfielder Eric Filiu earned All-Pac-12 honors. Additionally, five Bruins were selected in the MLB Draft, highlighted by Grant Dyer (227th pick, eighth round) who became the 30th player under Savage to be selected in the first 10 rounds.

In 2015, Savage led the Bruins to a 45-16 overall record, including a school record 22 conference wins. The team's success resulted in the program's 11th Pac-12 Conference Championship and the number one overall seed in the NCAA Tournament. The Bruins lost just one weekend series all season and won as many as eight games in-a-row. For the first time in his career, Savage was named Pac-12 Coach of the Year as he led his pitching staff to the lowest earned run average in the nation (2.17). The team ERA also set a new UCLA record for lowest team ERA in a single season.

Known for his ability to coach pitching, the 2015 staff was one of the best in school history. For the second time in his career, David Berg earned both the Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year and NCBWA Stopper of the Year awards. Berg broke the NCAA record for most career appearances, finishing his four-year run with 175 appearances. Senior left-hander Grant Watson also had a record-breaking year, making the most career starts (63) in school history and moving into second in UCLA history in career wins (30). Serving as the staff 'ace', James Kaprielian led the conference in strikeouts (114) for the second-straight year and threw nine no-hit innings to combine with Berg for the program's first ever no-hitter on May 15. Eight Bruins were selected in the 2015 MLB Draft, including Kaprielian (16th overall), who went in the first round, and Kevin Kramer (62nd overall), who went in the second round.

UCLA's 2014 ballclub fought through an injury-plagued season and missed postseason action after going 25-30-1. Relief pitcher David Berg secured All-Pac-12 honors for the third time in as many seasons, earning all-conference acclaim with right-hander James Kaprielian and



**Coach Savage with sons Jack and Ryan, daughter Gabrielle and wife Lisa**

catcher Shane Zeile. Kaprielian became the third pitcher under Savage to lead the conference in strikeouts (108), joining Trevor Bauer and Tim Murphy in that category. UCLA finished the season with four selections in the MLB Draft, including two top-10 round picks (Shane Zeile, fifth round and Max Schuh, seventh round).

Savage helped UCLA post a perfect 10-0 mark during its 2013 run to the NCAA title, going 4-0 against national seeds in the tournament while eliminating two of them – No. 5 Cal State Fullerton in Super Regional action and No. 1 North Carolina at the College World Series. The Bruins' pitching staff limited the opposition to four runs in five College World Series games. In the 68-year history of the CWS, only one national champion has surrendered fewer runs than UCLA's 2013 ballclub (California allowed three runs in 1957).

UCLA went 49-17 in 2013, marking the program's second-highest single-season victories, and matched the school record with 21 conference wins. For the eighth consecutive year, UCLA finished with no lower than a third-place finish among Pac-12 teams. Berg became the conference's first-ever reliever to earn Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year honors. Three-year starting shortstop Pat Valaika became UCLA's first player to secure Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year acclaim.

Savage was named the 2013 National Coach of the Year by Collegiate Baseball, Baseball America, the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) and Perfect Game USA. His work with UCLA's pitching staff that season was no more evident than with the success of starting pitchers Adam Plutko, Nick Vander Tuig and Grant Watson. Plutko and Vander Tuig capped their UCLA careers in 2013 as the winningest pitching tandem in school history (56 total wins in three seasons).

### John Savage's 32 Major Leaguers

| NAME              | SCHOOL    | YEARS   | MLB TEAM              |
|-------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|
| Chris Singleton   | Nevada    | 1992-93 | Chicago White Sox     |
| Chris Prieto      | Nevada    | 1993    | Los Angeles Angels    |
| Andy Dominique    | Nevada    | 1994-97 | Boston Red Sox        |
| Lyle Overbay      | Nevada    | 1996-99 | Milwaukee Brewers     |
| Randy Flores      | USC       | 1994-97 | St. Louis Cardinals   |
| Morgan Ensberg    | USC       | 1995-98 | Houston Astros        |
| Seth Etherton     | USC       | 1995-98 | Cincinnati Reds       |
| Eric Munson       | USC       | 1997-99 | Detroit Tigers        |
| Jason Lane        | USC       | 1998-99 | Houston Astros        |
| Ron Flores        | USC       | 1998-00 | Oakland Athletics     |
| Barry Zito*       | USC       | 1999    | Oakland Athletics     |
| Justin Lehr       | USC       | 1999    | Oakland Athletics     |
| Steve Smyth       | USC       | 1999    | Chicago Cubs          |
| Mark Prior        | USC       | 2000-01 | Chicago Cubs          |
| Brian Bannister   | USC       | 2000-03 | Kansas City Royals    |
| Anthony Reyes     | USC       | 2000-01 | St. Louis Cardinals   |
| Sean Tracey       | UC Irvine | 2002    | Chicago White Sox     |
| Josh Roenicke     | UCLA      | 2003-06 | Colorado Rockies      |
| David Huff        | UCLA      | 2006    | Cleveland Indians     |
| Hector Ambriz     | UCLA      | 2003-06 | Cleveland Indians     |
| Brandon Crawford* | UCLA      | 2006-08 | San Francisco Giants  |
| Trevor Bauer*     | UCLA      | 2009-11 | Arizona Diamondbacks  |
| Tyson Brummett    | UCLA      | 2006-07 | Philadelphia Phillies |
| Jermaine Curtis   | UCLA      | 2006-08 | St. Louis Cardinals   |
| Charles Brewer    | UCLA      | 2007-09 | Arizona Diamondbacks  |
| Gerrit Cole*      | UCLA      | 2009-11 | Pittsburgh Pirates    |
| Rob Rasmussen     | UCLA      | 2008-10 | Seattle Mariners      |
| Erik Goeddel*     | UCLA      | 2008-10 | New York Mets         |
| Matt Grace*       | UCLA      | 2008-10 | Washington Nationals  |
| Cody Decker       | UCLA      | 2006-09 | San Diego Padres      |
| Trevor Brown      | UCLA      | 2010-12 | San Francisco Giants  |
| Pat Valaika*      | UCLA      | 2011-13 | Colorado Rockies      |

\* In the MLB in 2017 | # 2002 American League Cy Young Award Winner

### John Savage's Head Coaching Milestones

- Jan. 29, 2002: first victory: UC Irvine 6, UCLA 4
- June 4, 2004: first postseason appearance: vs. Arizona (Notre Dame Regional)
- July 1, 2004: hired as UCLA's head baseball coach
- Jan. 29, 2005: first victory at UCLA: UCLA 7, Cal Poly 4
- May 10, 2005: 100th career head coaching victory: UCLA 11, UC Irvine 1
- June 2, 2006: first postseason game at UCLA: UCLA 3, UC Irvine 2 (Malibu Regional)
- June 19, 2010: first College World Series game at UCLA: UCLA 11, Florida 3
- April 20, 2013: 300th win at UCLA: UCLA 1, Oregon 0
- May 19, 2013: 400th career win: UCLA 5, USC 2
- March 6, 2016: 400th career win at UCLA: UCLA 5, USC 2 (14)
- April 23, 2016: 500th career win: UCLA 4, Oregon 2
- May 25, 2017: 200th career Pac-12 win: UCLA 6, Oregon 0

### The Savage File

#### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Named Head Coach of USA Baseball Collegiate National Team (2017)
- Coached the first ever two-time NCBWA Stopper of the Year winner (David Berg 2013, '15)
- Named Pac-12 Coach of the Year for the first time in his career (2015)
- Coached UCLA to a school-record 22 conference wins to take the Pac-12 title (2015)
- Coached UCLA to its first NCAA Championship in program history (2013)
- Named the Collegiate Baseball, Baseball America, ABCA and Perfect Game National Coach of the Year (2013)
- Became one of 10 Pac-12 coaches all-time to lead their teams to back-to-back CWS appearances (2013)
- Became first coach in UCLA history to lead the Bruins to two College World Series (2012)
- Coached the first-ever Golden Spikes Award winner (Trevor Bauer, 2011) at UCLA
- Produced the school's first-ever No. 1 MLB Draft selection (Gerrit Cole, 2011)
- Led UCLA to its first-ever appearance in the finals of the College World Series (2010)
- Helped the Bruins garner their first-ever national seed in the NCAA Tournament (2010)
- Guided UCLA's 2010 program to its longest win streak to program start (22-0 record)
- In 2010, UCLA hosted first NCAA Regional since 1986; first Super Regional host ever
- Named National Coach of the Year by CollegeBaseballInsider.com at UCLA in 2010
- Helped UCLA produce the national strikeouts leader in 2010 (Trevor Bauer, 165)
- In six seasons as UCLA's head coach, has produced 18 All-Pac-10 Conference selections
- Coached UCLA to three consecutive postseason berths for first time in school history
- Led the Bruins to the 2007 NCAA Super Regionals at Cal State Fullerton
- Tied UCLA's program record with 12 selections in the 2006 MLB Draft
- Finalist for National Coach of the Year by CollegeBaseballInsider.com (UCLA '06, UCI '04)
- Helped guide UC Irvine to its first-ever NCAA Division I Regional appearance (2004)
- Resurrected UC Irvine's baseball program in 2002 after being hired in July of 2000
- Has coached four pitchers who became first-round selections in MLB Draft
- Assisted U.S. National Team as pitching coach in the summer of 2000
- Served as USC's pitching coach and recruiting coordinator from 1997-2000
- Landed nation's top-ranked recruiting class at USC in 1999-2000 (*Collegiate Baseball*)
- Earned *Collegiate Baseball's* Assistant Coach of the Year honors in 1998

#### PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS

- Sixth-round draft selection in 1983 by the New York Yankees as a senior at Reno HS
- Chose to attend Santa Clara University, where he pitched for three seasons (1984-86)
- 16th-round draft selection in 1986 by the Cincinnati Reds
- Played three years of professional baseball (1986-88)

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In 2012, UCLA didn't miss a beat despite losing the No. 1 and No. 3 overall MLB draft selections (Gerrit Cole, Trevor Bauer) from the pitching rotation. The Bruins went 48-16 and returned to the College World Series for the second time in three seasons. In addition, UCLA won the Pac-12 co-championship (tied with Arizona), marking the first time in school history that the Bruins had won back-to-back conference titles. UCLA hosted the NCAA Los Angeles Super Regional for the second time in three years after hosting its third consecutive NCAA Regional. The Bruins entered the 2012 postseason as the NCAA Tournament's No. 2 overall seed and had seven players selected in the first 15 rounds of that season's MLB Draft.

In 2011, the Bruins captured their first outright Pac-10 title since 1986 just days before seeing top pitchers Cole and Bauer selected No. 1 and No. 3, respectively, in the MLB Draft. No college program had seen two of its players selected within the draft's first three selections since 1978 (Arizona State). Bauer was named UCLA's first-ever Golden Spikes Award winner and became the first player in school history to earn National Player of the Year honors from either Baseball America or Collegiate Baseball.

Savage helped UCLA's 2011 pitching staff post the nation's third-lowest ERA (2.44), the lowest mark on record in school history. Likewise, the Bruins' staff finished the year second, nationally, in strikeouts per nine innings (9.8) and hits allowed per nine innings (6.61).

In 2010, UCLA set the school record for single-season victories, compiling a 51-17 overall record after opening the season with a school-record 22 consecutive wins. The Bruins also won a program-best 43 regular-season games and landed their first-ever national seed (No. 6-seed) in the NCAA Tournament. UCLA hosted postseason games at Jackie Robinson Stadium for the first time since 1986 and swept all three NCAA Regional contests. The Bruins overcame a Game 1 loss to Cal State Fullerton with consecutive victories in the next two games of the NCAA Super Regional to advance to Omaha for the first time since 1997.

UCLA finished second in the Pac-10 Conference, a league that sent eight of its 10 teams to the postseason. The Bruins' pitching staff set the school and conference records for most strikeouts in one season (700). Additionally, UCLA logged the country's second-lowest ERA (3.00) and ranked first in the nation in strikeouts per nine innings (10.2) and ranked second in hits allowed per nine innings (7.31). Savage was named the National Coach of the Year in 2010 by CollegeBaseballInsider.com.

The development of Cole and Bauer proved instrumental to UCLA's success in 2010 and 2011. In his career at UCLA, Bauer (2009-2011) established UCLA's all-time records in strikeouts (460), wins (34) and innings (373.1) and set the program's top two marks in single-season strikeouts. Bauer logged a nation-leading and Pac-12 record 203 strikeouts in 2011 after having led the country with 165 strikeouts in 2010. Cole served as UCLA's Friday night pitcher in each of his three seasons (2009-11), logging 376 strikeouts, the second-highest career total in program history and becoming the first pitcher in program history to record at least 100 strikeouts in each of his first three seasons.

Savage's work at UCLA during his first five seasons (2005-2009) paid major dividends in setting up the program for long-term postseason success. He became UCLA's first-ever head baseball coach to lead the program to at least three consecutive NCAA postseason appearances (2006-2008).

In 2009, Savage led UCLA to a third-place finish in the Pac-10 for the fourth consecutive season. The Bruins went 27-29 with a 15-12 mark in Pac-10 play. That year, UCLA's pitching staff finished ninth in the nation in strikeouts per nine innings (9.3). The team's success on the mound was fueled by the emergence of Cole and Bauer, who finished their freshman campaigns as two of the conference's three freshmen to earn All-Pac-10 team honors. Bauer captured National Freshman Pitcher of the Year honors from Louisville Slugger/Collegiate Baseball. Cody Decker became the only Bruin to hit 20 or more home runs under Savage in one season. He finished his senior season with 21 homers, becoming UCLA's first Pac-10 home run leader since 2002.

In 2008, UCLA went 33-27 with a 13-11 Pac-10 record, culminating in an NCAA Regional Final berth at Cal State Fullerton. Left-handed starter Tim Murphy became UCLA's first pitcher to lead the conference in strikeouts (111) since 1996, when Jim Parque totaled 116 strikeouts. The Bruins' regular-season schedule featured 26 games against teams that advanced to NCAA postseason play. UCLA's 2008 ballclub was led by a strong mainstay of talented infielders, including Jermaine Curtis at third, Brandon Crawford at shortstop and Alden Carrithers at second.

In 2007, Savage helped UCLA overcome an 8-14 start and record a 33-28 overall record, en route to the program's first NCAA Super Regional appearance since 2000. The Bruins went 14-10 with a third-place finish in the Pac-10, winning 19 of 23 games midway through the season. UCLA swept the NCAA Long Beach Regional with a trio of masterful starting performances from Tyson Brummett, Gavin Brooks and Murphy. The Bruins' season ended with consecutive losses to Cal State Fullerton at the NCAA Fullerton Super Regional.

In 2006, the Bruins engineered a remarkably-strong turnaround with a 33-25 overall record and third-place finish in the Pac-10. Guided by the nation's No. 5-ranked incoming class (Baseball America), Savage and the Bruins advanced to the NCAA Malibu Regional after having played the

nation's most challenging schedule, as ranked by Boyd's World. The Bruins' 2006 campaign marked the first year in which UCLA won each of its home conference series.

Much of the college baseball world noticed UCLA's success in 2006 and aimed their praise toward Savage. Following the 2006 campaign, Savage was named a finalist for the National Coach of the Year award by CollegeBaseballInsider.com. In July 2006, Baseball America hailed Savage as one of "10 People to Watch in the Future." The magazine listed the Bruins' head coach with other distinguished baseball personnel such as Mets all-star third baseman David Wright and then- L.A. Dodgers' assistant general manager Kim Ng. Baseball America lauded Savage for his winning ways: "UCLA has always been viewed as a sleeping giant on the West Coast, and it looks like Savage has the giant stirring."

Savage was hired by UCLA Athletic Director Dan Guerrero on July 1, 2004, to replace the retired Gary Adams. Prior to taking over UCLA's program, Savage had made stops as head coach at UC

### **Savage's Former Pitchers what they're saying...**

#### **GERRIT COLE – Pittsburgh Pirates 2011 MLB Draft (1st overall pick)**

"Coach Savage taught me how to become a complete pitcher. He not only improved my game on the field, but also made a huge impact for me working with the mental game away from the field. In my eyes, there isn't a pitching coach better than him out there."



#### **TREVOR BAUER – Arizona Diamondbacks 2011 MLB Draft (1st round, No. 3 pick)**

"Coach Savage was instrumental in my development as a pitcher. He allowed me the freedom to learn through my experiences while providing the proper structure to lead me in the right direction. His knowledge created an environment very conducive to my growth as a player and person."



#### **DAVID HUFF – Cleveland Indians 2006 MLB Draft (1st round, supplemental)**

"Everyone that comes into UCLA's program has talent and athleticism. Coach Savage takes that talent and shapes it into a quality professional ballplayer. He has been very instrumental in my success at the collegiate and professional levels."



#### **ROB RASMUSSEN – Florida Marlins 2010 MLB Draft (2nd round)**

"Every pitcher Coach Savage recruits has the 'stuff' to be great. He helps young pitchers sharpen their talent, allowing them to improve their game mentally and physically. Baseball is a grind, but he makes sure that you are forming good habits that prepare you to have a successful season."



#### **HECTOR AMBRIZ – Cleveland Indians 2006 MLB Draft (5th round)**

"After I missed the 2005 season with an arm injury, Coach Savage really helped me regain my confidence on the mound. He makes it a priority that his players not only succeed in college, but that they also have a chance to excel as professional ballplayers."



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Irvine (2002-2004) and as an assistant coach at USC (1997-2000) and Nevada (1992-1996).

Coincidentally, Guerrero hired Savage at UC Irvine four years prior, giving him the unique opportunity to help launch a dormant college baseball program. Savage showed his ability to not just coach a team, but to resurrect a program in three seasons at UC Irvine. He used the 2000-01 school year to build the program from scratch, before turning on the lights at Anteater Ballpark and getting the season underway in 2002.

In their first season at the Division I level and under Savage's guidance, UC Irvine posted a 33-26 overall record and the pitching staff set a school record with 487 strikeouts. After going 21-35 in 2003, Savage and the Anteaters broke through with an NCAA Tournament appearance in 2004. That season, UC Irvine went 34-23-1 and competed at the NCAA Notre Dame Regional. In his third season as UC Irvine's head coach, Savage saw freshman pitcher Blair Erickson earn national Freshman of the Year accolades from Collegiate Baseball as well as Big West Conference Freshman Pitcher of the Year honors. The Anteaters earned their highest national ranking at the time, climbing to the No. 7 spot in Collegiate Baseball's weekly rankings in April 2004. At season's end, Savage was tabbed a finalist for National Coach of the Year honors by CollegeBaseballInsider.com.

As pitching coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Southern California (USC) from 1997 through 2000, Savage helped the Trojans produce consecutive Pac-10 Pitcher of the Year selections in Seth Etherton, Rik Currier and eventual American League Cy Young Award winner Barry Zito. Etherton was named the 1998 Sporting News National Player of the Year, helping guide the 1998 USC program to the NCAA Championship. Also under Savage's mentorship was former Chicago Cubs right-hander Mark Prior.

As the Trojans' recruiting coordinator, Savage helped facilitate the nation's top-ranked recruiting class in 1999-2000, as ranked by Collegiate Baseball, and served as an assistant coach to then-USC head coach Mike Gillespie for the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team in the summer of 2000. Team USA went 27-3-1 that summer, bringing home a gold medal from the Haarlem Baseball Week Tournament in the Netherlands.

Savage was honored as Collegiate Baseball's Assistant Coach of the Year in 1998, following the Trojans' run to the College World Series title. USC advanced to the NCAA Super Regional in 1999 and back to the College World Series in 2000.

Savage served as an assistant coach at the University of Nevada from 1992-1996, helping the Wolf Pack compile a 177-82 record in five seasons. During his tenure at Nevada, the baseball program won the 1994 Big West Conference title and strung together its first back-to-back 35-win seasons in school history. In five seasons as an assistant coach at Nevada, 24 Wolf Pack players signed professional contracts. Savage began his coaching career as the pitching coach for Reno High School (Nevada) during the 1988-1989 school year.

Savage was a sixth-round MLB Draft selection by the New York Yankees in 1983 following his senior season at Reno High School and later would be inducted into the Reno High School Hall of Fame in 1997. Savage chose to attend Santa Clara University, where he pitched for three seasons. He was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 16th round of the 1986 MLB Draft. Savage played two seasons in the Reds' minor league system before moving on to help the independent league Salt Lake City Trappers set a professional baseball record with 29 consecutive wins in 1987.

Following his professional career, Savage earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education, with an emphasis in physical education and history, from Nevada in 1991.

Savage, 50, and his wife, Lisa, have four children – Julia (20), Jack (18), Ryan (16) and Gabrielle (14).



**Coach Savage as head coach of the U.S. Collegiate National Team in 2017**

### Savage's Head Coaching Record vs. Opponents

| at UC Irvine          | W-L-T          | at UCLA               | W-L              | Overall               | W-L-T            |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Arizona               | 2-7-1          | Arizona               | 23-17            | Arizona               | 25-24-1          |
| Arizona State         | 0-1            | Arizona State         | 15-24            | Arizona State         | 15-25            |
| Baylor                | 3-3            | Baylor                | 4-3              | Baylor                | 7-6              |
| Bethune-Cookman       | 0-0            | Bethune Cookman       | 2-0              | Bethune Cookman       | 2-0              |
| BYU                   | 2-1            | BYU                   | 0-0              | BYU                   | 2-1              |
| Cal Poly              | 7-2            | Cal Poly              | 13-8             | Cal Poly              | 20-10            |
| California            | 5-4            | California            | 24-15            | California            | 29-19            |
| Cal State Bakersfield | 0-0            | Cal State Bakersfield | 5-1              | Cal State Bakersfield | 5-1              |
| Cal State Fullerton   | 2-7            | Cal State Fullerton   | 12-27            | Cal State Fullerton   | 14-34            |
| Cal State Northridge  | 2-7            | Cal State Northridge  | 14-6             | Cal State Northridge  | 16-13            |
| Creighton             | 0-0            | Creighton             | 2-0              | Creighton             | 2-0              |
| East Carolina         | 0-0            | East Carolina         | 5-1              | East Carolina         | 5-1              |
| Florida               | 0-0            | Florida               | 1-0              | Florida               | 1-0              |
| Florida State         | 0-0            | Florida State         | 0-1              | Florida State         | 0-1              |
| Fresno State          | 3-3            | Fresno State          | 4-3              | Fresno State          | 7-6              |
| Georgia               | 0-0            | Georgia               | 3-1              | Georgia               | 3-1              |
| Gonzaga               | 3-0            | Gonzaga               | 4-2              | Gonzaga               | 7-2              |
| Hawaii                | 3-1            | Hawaii                | 1-0              | Hawaii                | 4-1              |
| Hofstra               | 0-0            | Hofstra               | 3-0              | Hofstra               | 3-0              |
| Houston               | 0-0            | Houston               | 0-1              | Houston               | 0-1              |
| Illinois-Chicago      | 0-0            | Illinois-Chicago      | 1-0              | Illinois-Chicago      | 1-0              |
| Kent State            | 0-0            | Kent State            | 1-0              | Kent State            | 1-0              |
| Long Beach State      | 6-5            | Long Beach State      | 16-13            | Long Beach State      | 22-18            |
| Loyola Marymount      | 0-0            | Loyola Marymount      | 6-5              | Loyola Marymount      | 6-5              |
| LSU                   | 0-0            | LSU                   | 2-0              | LSU                   | 2-0              |
| Maryland              | 0-0            | Maryland              | 2-4              | Maryland              | 2-4              |
| Miami                 | 0-0            | Miami                 | 1-5              | Miami                 | 1-5              |
| Michigan              | 0-1            | Michigan              | 2-0              | Michigan              | 2-1              |
| Michigan State        | 0-0            | Michigan State        | 3-0              | Michigan State        | 3-0              |
| Minnesota             | 2-1            | Minnesota             | 2-1              | Minnesota             | 4-2              |
| Mississippi           | 0-0            | Mississippi           | 3-3              | Mississippi           | 3-3              |
| Mississippi State     | 0-0            | Mississippi State     | 4-0              | Mississippi State     | 4-0              |
| Missouri              | 0-0            | Missouri              | 0-1              | Missouri              | 0-1              |
| N.C. State            | 0-0            | N.C. State            | 5-0              | N.C. State            | 5-0              |
| Nebraska              | 0-0            | Nebraska              | 4-2              | Nebraska              | 4-2              |
| Nevada                | 0-0            | Nevada                | 0-1              | Nevada                | 0-1              |
| New Mexico            | 0-0            | New Mexico            | 1-0              | New Mexico            | 1-0              |
| North Carolina        | 0-0            | North Carolina        | 4-3              | North Carolina        | 4-3              |
| Notre Dame            | 0-1            | Notre Dame            | 2-0              | Notre Dame            | 2-1              |
| Oklahoma              | 0-0            | Oklahoma              | 3-6              | Oklahoma              | 3-6              |
| Oral Roberts          | 0-1            | Oral Roberts          | 3-0              | Oral Roberts          | 3-1              |
| Oregon                | 0-0            | Oregon                | 15-12            | Oregon                | 15-12            |
| Oregon State          | 0-0            | Oregon State          | 13-25            | Oregon State          | 13-25            |
| Pacific               | 5-4            | Pacific               | 5-4              | Pacific               | 10-8             |
| Pepperdine            | 5-2            | Pepperdine            | 14-6             | Pepperdine            | 19-8             |
| Portland              | 0-0            | Portland              | 2-1              | Portland              | 2-1              |
| Purdue                | 0-0            | Purdue                | 2-1              | Purdue                | 2-1              |
| Rice                  | 0-0            | Rice                  | 0-1              | Rice                  | 0-1              |
| Sacramento State      | 2-1            | Sacramento State      | 3-0              | Sacramento State      | 5-1              |
| Saint Mary's          | 3-0            | Saint Mary's          | 3-1              | Saint Mary's          | 3-1              |
| San Diego             | 3-5            | San Diego             | 2-2              | San Diego             | 5-7              |
| San Diego State       | 3-4            | San Diego State       | 9-9              | San Diego State       | 12-13            |
| San Francisco         | 0-0            | San Francisco         | 4-1              | San Francisco         | 4-1              |
| San Jose State        | 0-0            | San Jose State        | 3-2              | San Jose State        | 3-2              |
| Santa Clara           | 3-2            | Santa Clara           | 0-0              | Santa Clara           | 3-2              |
| South Carolina        | 0-0            | South Carolina        | 0-2              | South Carolina        | 0-2              |
| Southern              | 0-0            | Southern              | 2-0              | Southern              | 2-0              |
| Stanford              | 0-0            | Stanford              | 19-20            | Stanford              | 19-20            |
| Stony Brook           | 0-0            | Stony Brook           | 1-0              | Stony Brook           | 1-0              |
| TCU                   | 0-0            | TCU                   | 4-2              | TCU                   | 4-2              |
| Texas                 | 0-0            | Texas                 | 2-5              | Texas                 | 2-5              |
| Texas A&M             | 0-0            | Texas A&M             | 0-3              | Texas A&M             | 0-3              |
| Texas A&M-C.C.        | 0-0            | Texas A&M-C.C.        | 1-0              | Texas A&M-C.C.        | 1-0              |
| UC Davis              | 0-0            | UC Davis              | 2-1              | UC Davis              | 2-1              |
| UC Irvine             | -----          | UC Irvine             | 20-11            | UC Irvine             | 20-11            |
| UCLA                  | 4-0            | UCLA                  | -----            | UCLA                  | 4-0              |
| UC Riverside          | 4-5            | UC Riverside          | 9-7              | UC Riverside          | 13-12            |
| UC Santa Barbara      | 6-3            | UC Santa Barbara      | 7-9-1            | UC Santa Barbara      | 13-12-1          |
| UNLV                  | 4-1            | UNLV                  | 2-0              | UNLV                  | 6-1              |
| USC                   | 2-4            | USC                   | 31-17            | USC                   | 33-21            |
| Utah                  | 0-0            | Utah                  | 15-4             | Utah                  | 15-4             |
| Vanderbilt            | 1-0            | Vanderbilt            | 1-1              | Vanderbilt            | 1-1              |
| Virginia              | 0-0            | Virginia              | 1-0              | Virginia              | 1-0              |
| Washington            | 2-6            | Washington            | 26-13            | Washington            | 28-19            |
| Washington State      | 2-2            | Washington State      | 26-13            | Washington State      | 28-15            |
| Winthrop              | 0-0            | Winthrop              | 2-1              | Winthrop              | 2-1              |
| Wright State          | 0-0            | Wright State          | 3-0              | Wright State          | 3-0              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>         | <b>88-84-1</b> | <b>TOTALS</b>         | <b>449-328-1</b> | <b>TOTALS</b>         | <b>537-412-2</b> |



## REX PETERS

Assistant Coach  
7th Season at UCLA  
Cal State Fullerton '89  
Hitting/Outfield Coach

Rex Peters enters his seventh season as an assistant coach for the Bruins in 2018. Peters serves as the Bruins' hitting and outfield coach and plays a central role in the program's recruiting efforts.

During Peters' six seasons with the Bruins, UCLA has gone 222-137-1, twice advancing to the College World Series (2012, 2013) and winning the program's first-ever NCAA title in 2013. During the Bruins' postseason run in 2013, UCLA's hitters routinely came up with timely hits, lifting UCLA to a perfect 10-0 record en route to the championship. Outfielder Eric Filia enjoyed the greatest success in the 2013 postseason, batting .444 to lead the Bruins.

Over the last six years, UCLA has had 19 position players selected in the MLB Draft, including eight of those players within the draft's first 10 rounds. In 2017, infielder Sean Bouchard was a ninth round pick to the Colorado Rockies after ranking in the top-10 in the Pac-12 conference in home runs, slugging percentage, doubles, RBIs. In 2016, four UCLA position players were selected on day three led by Luke Persico in the 12th round. Infielder Kevin Kramer was a second round selection of the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 2015 draft after hitting .323 with a team-high 82 hits and 55 runs. Infielder-converted-catcher Shane Zeile was a fifth round selection of the Detroit Tigers in the 2014 draft after leading the Bruins with a .324 batting average and a team-best .401 on-base percentage. In 2012, outfielder Jeff Gelalich was chosen 57th overall (Cincinnati Reds), the highest selection by any UCLA position player since 2000, when Chase Utley was selected 15th overall by the Philadelphia Phillies.

In 2017, Peters helped the UCLA offense become one of the best in the Pac-12. During conference play, the Bruins were tops in home runs (25) and RBIs (174), while also top-3 in slugging percentage and runs scored. In addition, Peters helped Kyle Cuellar and Michael Togliola earn Freshman All-America honors and Sean Bouchard was named an All-Pac-12 selection.

In 2015, Peters led the UCLA offense to an extremely productive season which saw the team hit .284 with a conference-high 130 doubles. The Bruins ranked within the top-three in on-base percentage, runs, hits, RBI, doubles, total bases and walks among Pac-12 teams. Ty Moore and Kevin Kramer led the charge, hitting .342 and .323 respectively. Additionally, UCLA hitters claimed Pac-12 Player of the Week four times last season.

In Peters' first season with the Bruins (2012), UCLA's team batting average jumped 41 points from the previous year. Not only did UCLA earn its second consecutive Pac-12 title, but the Bruins hosted the NCAA Los Angeles Regional for the third straight season and advanced to the College World Series for the second time in three years. UCLA's batters also recorded the fewest strikeouts and strikeouts per game since 1986. Outfielder Beau Amaral, a seventh-round draft pick by the Cincinnati Reds in 2012, was named to the Division I Rawlings Gold Glove Team.

Prior to coaching at UCLA, Peters spent nine years as the head coach of UC Davis. He guided UC Davis through multiple transitions as the program's head coach from 2003-2011, helping the Aggies ascend from NCAA Division II status to Division I beginning in 2004. In addition, UC Davis joined the Big West Conference in 2008, earning its first-ever berth as a Division I program in the NCAA Tournament that spring.

In nine seasons at the helm of the UC Davis baseball program, Peters helped produce 21 MLB draft selections. Most notably, third baseman Daniel Descalso was selected in the third round of the 2007 MLB draft by the St. Louis Cardinals and made his major league debut with the organization in 2010. In addition, seven UC Davis ballplayers earned ABCA or NCBWA All-Region honors during Peters' nine-year tenure as head coach. UC Davis compiled a 35-24 record in 2008, winning its first of three games at the NCAA Stanford Regional. The



Aggies registered three series sweeps that season and three victories against area-rival Stanford. A school-record seven players were selected in the June 2008 MLB Draft.

In his second season as head coach at UC Davis (2004), Peters helped the Aggies post a 37-15-1 record, including a 32-7 mark in the program's final year with the California Collegiate Athletic Association. While no longer eligible for postseason play as part of its transition to Division I status, UC Davis finished atop the conference standings by better than a seven-game margin. Along the way, the Aggies enjoyed school-record streaks of 16 straight victories and 20 consecutive conference wins.

In 2003, Peters guided the Aggies to a 36-24 record and their first NCAA Division II postseason berth since 1995. UC Davis swept through the West Region tournament, highlighted by back-to-back shutout victories, and advanced to the national tournament for only the second time in school history. For his part, Peters was honored as the ABCA/Diamond Sports West Region Coach of the Year.

Peters arrived at UC Davis after spending the previous nine seasons as head coach at Chapman University (Orange, Calif.), where he compiled a 248-131-2 overall record. He led the Panthers to three appearances in the NCAA Division III College World Series, including a third-place finish in 2000.

Peters set program records as a head coach for most wins and highest winning percentage, having led the Panthers to the NCAA West Regional five times. He was named West Region Coach of the Year on three occasions. Additionally, Peters coached six All-America selections, two Academic All-Americans, nine Academic All-District players and 29 All-Region honorees.

Between his nine years at UC Davis and nine seasons at Chapman, Peters collected a 482-396-3 (.549) career record as a head coach. He secured his 400th career victory as a head coach on March 15, 2008, in UC Davis' doubleheader sweep of Santa Clara.

Prior to his 18 years as a head coach, Peters served one season as an assistant coach at Chapman under head coach Gary Henderson. He spent the previous four years playing in the Los Angeles Dodgers' organization after being drafted by the club in the 24th round of the 1989 MLB Draft. In the minors, he advanced as high as double-A San Antonio. In 1989, his first season in professional baseball, he was named the MVP for the Salem Dodgers.

Peters graduated from Cal State Fullerton in 1989 with his bachelor's degree in physical education. He was an honorable mention All-America selection for the Titans, helping lead them to a third-place finish at the 1988 College World Series. Peters earned his master's degree in education with an emphasis in physical education from Azusa Pacific in 1994.

Peters and his wife, Deborah, have six children and reside in Culver City, Calif., with his son, Jake.

### The Peters File

#### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Led UCLA to its second Pac-12 title in his four years with the team in 2015.
- Led UCLA to the program's first NCAA Championship in 2013
- Helped UCLA earn a second straight Pac-12 title and College World Series berth in 2012
- Coached UCLA's hitters to a 41 point raise in batting average in 2012
- Helped UC Davis transition to NCAA Division I status as the program's head coach
- Coached UC Davis to the NCAA Regional in 2008, its first year in the Big West
- Had a program-record seven UC Davis players drafted in June 2008
- Guided UC Davis to a 37-15-1 record in 2004, his second season with the program
- In 2003 (first season at UC Davis), led Aggies to first postseason since 1995
- Led UC Davis to the Division II national postseason tournament in 2003
- Through nine seasons as Chapman's head coach, led team to three Div. III CWS trips
- Set program records at Chapman for most coaching wins, highest win percentage
- Was named West Region Coach of the Year at Chapman three years
- Guided Chapman to five trips to the NCAA Div. III West Regional
- Served one season as an assistant coach at Chapman (1993)

#### PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS

- Drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 24th round of 1989 MLB Draft
- Spent four seasons playing minor league baseball for the Los Angeles Dodgers
- Played two seasons under head coach Augie Garrido at Cal State Fullerton (1988-89)
- Transferred to Cal State Fullerton after playing two seasons at Orange Junior College

### Peters' Year-by-Year Assistant Coaching Record

| Year | School | Record  | Pct. | Postseason           |
|------|--------|---------|------|----------------------|
| 2017 | UCLA   | 30-27   | .526 | Long Beach Regional  |
| 2016 | UCLA   | 25-31   | .446 |                      |
| 2015 | UCLA   | 45-16   | .738 | Los Angeles Regional |
| 2014 | UCLA   | 25-30-1 | .455 |                      |
| 2013 | UCLA   | 49-17   | .742 | NCAA Champions       |
| 2012 | UCLA   | 48-16   | .750 | College World Series |

### Peters' Year-by-Year Head Coaching Record

| Year          | School          | Record           | Pct.        | Postseason                                  |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 2011          | UC Davis        | 18-36            | .333        |                                             |
| 2010          | UC Davis        | 26-29            | .473        |                                             |
| 2009          | UC Davis        | 13-42            | .236        |                                             |
| 2008          | UC Davis        | 35-24            | .593        | NCAA Stanford Regional                      |
| 2007          | UC Davis        | 24-32            | .429        |                                             |
| 2006          | UC Davis        | 18-34            | .346        |                                             |
| 2005          | UC Davis        | 27-29            | .482        |                                             |
| 2004          | UC Davis        | 37-15-1          | .708        |                                             |
| 2003          | UC Davis        | 36-24            | .600        | NCAA Div. II CWS                            |
| 2002          | Chapman         | 29-12            | .707        |                                             |
| 2001          | Chapman         | 37-11            | .771        |                                             |
| 2000          | Chapman         | 33-12-1          | .728        | NCAA Div. III CWS                           |
| 1999          | Chapman         | 39-5             | .886        | NCAA West Region Finalist                   |
| 1998          | Chapman         | 29-13            | .690        | NCAA First Round                            |
| 1997          | Chapman         | 31-16            | .660        | NCAA Div. III CWS                           |
| 1996          | Chapman         | 24-16            | .600        |                                             |
| 1995          | Chapman         | 16-20            | .444        |                                             |
| 1994          | Chapman         | 10-25-1          | .292        |                                             |
| <b>Career</b> | <b>24 years</b> | <b>704-532-4</b> | <b>.569</b> | <b>1 title, 2 CWS, 2 Super Reg., 5 Reg.</b> |



## BRYANT WARD

Assistant Coach/  
Recruiting Coordinator  
3rd Season at UCLA  
East Carolina '02  
Hitting/Infield Coach

Ward begins his third season as an Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator for the UCLA Baseball program in 2018. Ward spent the previous five seasons serving in the same position for Loyola Marymount University and assumes duties as the infield coach and assistant hitting coach for the Bruins.

Ward helped lead the LMU Lions to a 146-124-1 overall record during his tenure, including a trip to the West Coast Conference Championship game in his final season. Prior to joining LMU, Ward served four seasons as an assistant coach for the University of South Florida (2007-10), two seasons on the Cal State Fullerton staff (2005-06) and one season as an assistant coach at Pitt (N.C.) Community College (2004).

Ward joined the LMU coaching staff in 2011 as the recruiting coordinator, infield coach and third base coach. Known for his defensive coaching prowess, Ward propelled LMU to a school-record .980 fielding percentage in 2015, ranking fourth best in the country. The 2015 mark bested his defense's .973 fielding percentage from a year prior, which at the time was also a school-record. His work with the infield has been highlighted by 2014 WCC Defensive Player of the Year David Fletcher who was recently selected in the sixth round of the 2015 MLB Draft.

In 2014, he also added the title of hitting coach to his duties, leading the Lions to their highest team batting average in the BBCORE era. This past season, Ward led LMU to a .272 team batting average, ranking second in the conference in home runs (32) and doubles (102).

A tenacious recruiter, Ward has consistently excelled in bringing in top-level classes. In his first season with LMU, Ward brought in the nation's No. 23 ranked class (as ranked by Baseball America) – the first top-25 class in 15 years for the Lions. The Greenville, N.C. native also brought in a top-25 class in 2013, hauling in the nation's No. 22 ranked class to give LMU two top-25 classes in three seasons. His recruiting and coaching efforts have resulted in 13 players being selected in the MLB Draft and 29 players earning All-WCC selections

### The Ward File

#### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Led LMU to the WCC Championship game in 2015.
- Helped LMU record a school-record .980 fielding percentage in 2015.
- Tutored David Fletcher who earned the WCC Defensive Player of the Year award in 2014.
- Recruited two top-25 classes to LMU (2011 and 2013).
- Led USF to its highest team batting average since 1997 in 2009 (.315).

#### PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS

- Led East Carolina to four consecutive NCAA Regional appearances and one Super Regional appearance.
- Left in 2002 as the school's winningest player.
- Finished ECU career fifth in games, seventh in at-bats and third in doubles.



during his five seasons with the Lions.

While at USF, Ward served as hitting coach, position player development coach and third base coach. In Ward's four years in Tampa, the Bulls had a 125-110 overall record and a team batting average of .295. His 2009 offense hit .315 – the highest team batting average at USF since 1997. Additionally, Ward led two hitters to consecutive individual BIG EAST batting titles in 2008 and 2009. During his four years with USF, 27 Bulls were selected in the MLB Draft.

As a player, Ward was a four-year standout at East Carolina University where he helped guide the Pirates to a 182-67 overall record with four consecutive NCAA Regional appearances and one NCAA Super Regional appearance. Ward finished his ECU career ranked fifth in games played (194), seventh in at-bats (687), and third in doubles (50), and left in 2002 as the winningest player in school history.

Ward earned a degree in communications from ECU and currently resides in Hermosa Beach with his wife, Anna, their daughter, Harper Iris Ward (4), and son, Jackson Bryant Ward (2).

### Bryant's Year-by-Year Assistant Coach Record

| Year          | School              | Record           | Pct.        | Postseason                             |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| 2017          | UCLA                | 30-27            | .526        | Long Beach Regional                    |
| 2016          | UCLA                | 25-31            | .446        |                                        |
| 2015          | LMU                 | 33-21-1          | .609        |                                        |
| 2014          | LMU                 | 33-24            | .561        |                                        |
| 2013          | LMU                 | 24-27            | .471        |                                        |
| 2012          | LMU                 | 27-27            | .500        |                                        |
| 2011          | LMU                 | 30-25            | .545        |                                        |
| 2010          | South Florida       | 26-32            | .448        |                                        |
| 2009          | South Florida       | 34-25-1          | .575        |                                        |
| 2008          | South Florida       | 31-27            | .534        |                                        |
| 2007          | South Florida       | 34-26            | .567        |                                        |
| 2006          | Cal State Fullerton | 50-15            | .769        | College World Series<br>Super Regional |
| 2005          | Cal State Fullerton | 46-18            | .719        |                                        |
| <b>Career</b> | <b>13 years</b>     | <b>423-325-2</b> | <b>.565</b> | <b>2 Super Regionals, 1 CWS</b>        |





## NIKO GALLEGO

Assistant Coach  
4th Season at UCLA  
UCLA '10  
Assistant Infield Coach/  
First Base Coach

Niko Gallego enters his fourth season with the UCLA Baseball coaching staff, serving as the team's volunteer assistant coach in 2018. Gallego joined the program prior to the 2015 season as an undergraduate assistant coach after spending the previous four years as a minor league player, most recently with the Lake Elsinore Storm.

Gallego primarily serves as an infield coach and assists with the hitters. In 2017, UCLA ranked second in the Pac-12 conference as one of only two schools with a .980 fielding percentage or better. The Bruins were also third in the conference in fewest errors committed at 43. Middle infielders Ryan Kreidler and Chase Strumpf each posted a .965 fielding percentage or higher.

Assisting with the defensive effort, Gallego helped UCLA secure a .977 fielding percentage in 2015, good for second in the Pac-12 and 18th in the nation. The Bruins turned 42 double plays and infielders Chris Keck (5) and Trent Chatterton (8) each had single-digit errors, posting fielding percentage marks of .972 and .968 respectively. His work helped lead the Bruins to a 45-16 record in 2015 and the program's 11th Pac-12 Championship.

The Yorba Linda, Calif. native played three seasons at UCLA (2008-10), leading the Bruins to NCAA Regionals in 2008 and 2010 and the team's third-ever trip to the College World Series in 2010. In 141 games (133 starts) for the Bruins, Gallego hit .274 with 64 RBI and 81 runs. A two-time honorable mention All-Pac-10 honoree, Gallego was selected in the 27th round of the 2010 MLB Draft by the Arizona Diamondbacks following his junior season in Westwood.

In 2010, Gallego started more games than any other Bruin (67). The starting shortstop batted .267 with three home runs, two triples, 14 doubles, 33 RBI and 51 runs. Gallego led the team and ranked second in the Pac-10 with 27 stolen bases (on 29 attempts). His stolen base total was more than any Bruin since former major leaguer Eric Byrnes had 30 steals as a senior in 1998. Overall, Gallego recorded 14 multiple-hit contests, including one four-hit game and one three-hit effort.

### The Gallego File

#### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Helped UCLA to a 45-16 record in 2015, earning the program's 11th Pac-12 title.
- Assisted in UCLA securing a .977 fielding percentage in 2015 and a .980 fielding percentage in 2017, both ranked second in the Pac-12.

#### PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS

- 27th round selection of the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 2010 MLB Draft.
- In 255 minor league games, racked up 174 hits, 92 runs and 65 RBI between A and AA.
- Starting shortstop for UCLA's 2010 College World Series team.
- Started more games than any other Bruin in 2010, starting 67.
- Led the team and ranked second in the conference with 27 steals in 2010.



As a sophomore in 2009, Gallego started 55 games, all at shortstop, while batting .273 with eight doubles, one triple, 27 RBI and 26 runs. That season, Gallego collected 12 multi-hit games, including two three-hit efforts. In addition, he had a career-best seven game hit streak from April 14-25. In 2008 as a freshman, Gallego played in 19 games (11 starts). Gallego batted .317, totaling two doubles, one triple, four RBI and four runs while hitting safely in nine of 11 starts.

Over 255 career minor league games, Gallego racked up 173 hits, 92 runs and 65 RBI between A and AA ball. In his rookie season with the Visalia Rawhide, Gallego hit .238 with 18 runs and 14 RBI in 39 games at shortstop.

Gallego graduated from Esperanza High School and currently resides in Hollywood.

### Gallego's Year-by-Year Assistant Coach Record

| Year          | School        | Record        | Pct.        | Postseason             |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 2017          | UCLA          | 30-27         | .526        | Long Beach Regional    |
| 2016          | UCLA          | 25-31         | .446        |                        |
| 2015          | UCLA          | 45-16         | .738        | Los Angeles Regional   |
| <b>Career</b> | <b>3 year</b> | <b>110-74</b> | <b>.598</b> | <b>2 NCAA Regional</b> |



## STEVE RODRIGUEZ

Director of Operations  
2nd Season at UCLA  
UCLA '11

Steve Rodriguez begins his second year as the UCLA baseball program's Director of Operations in 2018. Rodriguez played for the Bruins from 2009-11 and played in the minor leagues from 2011-16 for the Arizona Diamondbacks and Atlanta Braves.

Rodriguez's duties include handling all day-to-day operations, specializing in statistical analysis, working with the organization and breakdown of game video, and assisting with facility upgrades. He also serves as a liaison between the baseball program and pro scouts.

Rodriguez, a native of Lomita, Calif., played in 147 games at catcher, making 137 starts, in three seasons in Westwood. He holds a career .215 batting average with 10 home runs and drove in 64 runs. Rodriguez also served as catcher for first-round Major League Baseball draft selections Gerrit Cole and Trevor Bauer and helped the UCLA pitching staff compile a 3.33 ERA with over 1,700 strikeouts during his career. Also during his time at UCLA he played for the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team in the summer of 2010.

Rodriguez was selected in the 15th round of the 2011 MLB amateur draft by the Arizona Diamondbacks and made it to as high as Double-A with both the Diamondbacks and the Braves. He hit .221 in his professional career with four home runs and 79 RBIs. Rodriguez had one of his best seasons in 2014 when he was promoted to Double-A Mobile and hit .267 with a .352 slugging percentage and scored 11 runs in 60 games for the BayBears.