



Gymnastics SID: Liza David
SID Phone: (310) 206-8140
UCLA Web Site — www.uclabruins.com

For Immediate Release:
February 26, 2001

TOP-RANKED UCLA GYMNASTS HOST FIFTH ANNUAL BRUIN CLASSIC

UCLA will face 15th-ranked Cal, UC Santa Barbara, Utah State

2001 UCLA Gymnastics Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
1/5	@Maui Invitational - Nebraska, Arizona State	1st, 196.2
1/14	@Cal State Fullerton	1st, 196.825
1/19	@Stanford	1st, 196.925
1/21	UTAH	1st, 197.5
1/26	@ Arizona State	2nd, 196.0
1/28	ALABAMA, CAL STATE FULLERTON, SOUTHERN UTAH	1st, 197.5
2/11	UCLA INVITE - Arizona, Washington, CSUF	1st, 197.5
2/16	@Oregon State	1st, 198.25
3/4	BRUIN CLASSIC - Cal, Utah State, UCSB	2:00 pm
3/9	@Michigan	7:00 pm
3/11	@Michigan State	1:00 pm
3/18	GEORGIA	2:00 pm
3/24	Pac-10 Championships	6:00 pm
4/7	NCAA REGIONALS	6:00 pm
4/19	NCAA Championships	TBA
4/20	NCAA Championships	TBA
4/21	NCAA Championships	TBA

Home meets in **BOLD FACE CAPS**
Home meets held at Pauley Pavilion
All times local to meet site



COMING UP - The top-ranked UCLA gymnastics team (12-1) will attempt to win its fifth consecutive Bruin Classic team title when it hosts 15th-ranked California (10-8), UC Santa Barbara (2-11) and Utah State (4-5) on Sunday, Mar. 4. The meet will take place in Pauley Pavilion at 2:00 pm.

BRUIN CLASSIC HISTORY - Since the Classic began in 1997, UCLA has remained the only team to win the team title. The Bruins won last year with a meet-record 197.575. Last year's Classic saw three perfect 10s performed on vault (UCLA's Lena Degteva and Heidi MoneyMaker back-to-back and Michigan's Sarah Cain). Tiffany Simpson of Washington was the first all-around champion in 1997, but it has been all UCLA ever since. Mohini Bhardwaj is the reigning all-around champion, as well as the reigning bars and beam champ. She set the meet records last season for the bars (9.975), beam (9.9) and all-around (39.725).

LAST YEAR'S CLASSIC - UCLA captured the team title in 2000 with a meet record 197.575, besting third-ranked Michigan. Three perfect 10s were recorded on vault, with UCLA's Lena Degteva and Heidi MoneyMaker scoring back-to-back 10s, and Michigan's Sarah Cain ending the meet with a 10 of her own. UCLA swept the all-around, with Mohini Bhardwaj (39.725), Degteva (39.7) and MoneyMaker (39.7) all breaking the 39.7 plateau.

TWO FORMER BRUINS RETURN TO WESTWOOD - Former Bruins stars Trina Tinti (1984-87) and Megan Fenton (1992-95) return to UCLA in a different role as head coaches for California and UC Santa Barbara, respectively. Fourth-year head coach Tinti was an All-American on floor for UCLA in 1984 and was awarded Most Outstanding Female Athlete honors by the university that year. Fenton was the first UCLA gymnast ever to score a perfect 10 on the uneven bars, which she did at the 1993 Pac-10 Championships, and was a two-time All-Pac-10 selection on that event. Fenton succeeded current UCLA assistant coach Randy Lane as head coach of the Gauchos. Both Tinti and Fenton started their collegiate coaching careers as assistant coaches at UCLA.

A QUICK GLANCE AT THE COMPETITION - California enters the meet ranked 15th nationally and scored a school-record 196.075 in a loss to Stanford Feb. 18. Senior Pari Olver ranks 22nd nationally in the all-around and floor exercise. Utah State holds the No. 7 ranking in the North Central region. The Aggies, which are coached by Ray Corn, hold a season-high of 194.9 and compete at home against San Jose State Monday before heading out to Los Angeles. UC Santa Barbara holds a season-best 189.5, set Feb. 17.

FOLLOW UCLA HOME MEETS LIVE - Fans can follow all of UCLA's home meets live on the internet on UCLA's official athletics website, www.uclabruins.com. Live stats and text commentary on UCLA routines will be provided.

BRUIN GYMNASTICS A PERFECT 10! - In just half of one season, the 2001 UCLA Bruins have already scored 12 perfect 10s, matching UCLA's combined all-time mark entering the year. Prior to the start of 2001, only 12

Bruins In The Top 25 National Rankings

Gymnast	V	UB	BB	FX	AA
Dantzschler	—	1st	—	1st	—
Maloney	—	—	3rd	—	—
Parker	5th	—	—	17th	—
Thompson	—	15th	—	—	—
Tousek	—	—	—	2nd	—

perfect 10s had ever been scored in UCLA history. In a little more than two months, the Bruins have equaled that number. Leading the wave of perfect 10s has been freshman Jamie Dantzschler, who has a school-record five (three on floor, two on bars). She has scored at least one perfect 10 in four of seven meets. Senior Mohini Bhardwaj is close behind with four 10.0s this year (three on floor, one on bars). Bhardwaj's first three floor routines of the season earned perfect 10s. Also earning perfect marks this year were sophomores Kristin Parker (floor, Jan. 19) and Onnie Willis (vault, Feb. 16) and freshman Kristen Maloney (beam, Feb. 16). Of UCLA's 12 perfect 10s this year, eight have come on the road.

UCLA ATOP NATIONAL RANKINGS - The Bruins maintain their No. 1 position in the national rankings with a regional qualifying score (RQS) of 197.12. The Bruins are also ranked first nationally on bars (49.4) and floor (49.565) and are second on vault (49.175) and fourth on beam (49.06). The RQS is compiled by taking the top six scores, three of which must be away scores, dropping the high and averaging the remaining five marks. UCLA has been No. 1 all season, except for one week when an early reporting deadline precluded the Bruins from entering its Jan. 14 meet score of 196.825, which was the highest team score in the nation at the time.

DEPTH OF SQUAD DROPS MANY BRUINS OUT OF TOP 25 - One downside to having the kind of depth UCLA has can be seen in this week's national rankings. Because none of UCLA's gymnasts have had to compete in the all-around six times (no one has competed all-around more than four times), no Bruins are ranked in the all-around. When rankings were based on average score a week ago, five were ranked in the Top 25 nationally. A shortage of competitive meets has dropped Mohini Bhardwaj out of the rankings. The top all-around two

UCLA Career High Scores

Gymnast	V	UB	BB	FX	AA
Antolin	9.9	9.85	9.85	9.925	39.05
Beckerman			9.875		
Bhardwaj	9.95	10.0	9.95	10.0	39.8
Dantzschler	9.925	10.0	9.825	10.0	39.55
Dong	9.85			9.475	
Erickson				8.975	
Johnson	9.625		9.125		
Jones	9.875	9.925	9.875	9.875	39.425
Maloney	9.85	9.9	10.0	9.95	39.475
Parker	9.95	9.975	9.95	10.0	39.675
Raab		9.725			
Thompson	9.85	9.925	9.875	9.875	39.425
Tousek	9.85	9.975	9.95	9.95	39.1
Velasco	9.75	9.775	9.85	9.85	38.85
Williams			9.225		
Willis	10.0	9.975	9.85	9.975	39.675

weeks ago, Bhardwaj has not competed on any of the four events more than five times this year. Five Bruins remain ranked this week - Jamie Dantzschler, who is first on bars and floor; Yvonne Tousek, who holds the No. 2 spot on floor; Kristen Maloney, who ranks third on beam; Kristin Parker, who is fifth on vault and 17th on floor; and Doni Thompson, who ranks 15th on bars.

BRUINS HAVE NATION'S TOP MARKS - UCLA gymnasts have recorded the nation's highest individual and team scores this year.

Individually, Mohini Bhardwaj has the nation's top all-around total this year with a 39.8. With perfect 10s, Onnie Willis (vault), Bhardwaj and Dantzschler (bars and floor), Kristen Maloney (beam), and Kristin Parker (floor) are tied for the highest marks on their respective events. As a team, UCLA has posted the nation's highest overall total (198.25), as well as the highest totals on vault (49.575), bars (49.75) and beam (49.7).

UCLA SETS SCHOOL, PAC-10 MARK AT OSU - UCLA finally broke the elusive 198 mark for the first time in school history, scoring a national-high and Pac-10 record 198.25 in a dual meet victory at Oregon State Feb. 16. The Bruins scored 49.5+ on vault, beam and floor to achieve their school record and received perfect 10s from Onnie Willis (vault), Kristen Maloney (beam) and Jamie Dantzschler (floor).

BRUINS BREAK BEAM RECORD - UCLA shattered the school record on the balance beam at Oregon State with an amazing 49.7 (out of 50) team total. Doni Thompson started the set with a 9.85, setting the stage for big marks from her teammates. Onnie Willis equaled Thompson's mark with a career-high tying 9.85. Kristin Parker and Yvonne Tousek followed with back-to-back career-high 9.95s (Parker earned a 10 from one judge). In the fifth spot, Kristen Maloney made history by becoming the first Bruin ever to score a perfect 10 on beam, and then Mohini Bhardwaj closed with a career-high 9.95 to give UCLA its 49.7.

WILLIS IMPROVES ALL-AROUND BEST - Sophomore Onnie Willis continues to post career-high numbers each week. A week after scoring a career-high 39.6 in the all-around to win the UCLA Invitational, Willis recorded a new career-high of 39.675 to claim her second consecutive all-around title at Oregon State. In that meet at Corvallis, Willis scored her first perfect 10 of the season and second of her career on the vault,

Top 25 Rankings (as of 2/26) (by RQS)

1.	UCLA	197.120
2.	Alabama	196.860
3.	Utah	196.775
4.	Georgia	196.425
5.	Stanford	196.330
6.	Nebraska	196.165
7.	Michigan	196.150
8.	Iowa State	195.735
9.	Arizona State	195.700
10.	Florida	195.690
11.	Penn State	195.620
12.	Ohio State	195.435
13.	Oregon State	195.380
14.	Iowa	195.235
15.	California	195.005
16.	Minnesota	194.970
17.	West Virginia	194.955
18.	BYU	194.890
19.	Michigan State	194.785
20.	Oklahoma	194.655
21.	Illinois State	194.630
22.	Arizona	194.490
23.	Washington	194.440
24.	Denver	194.415
25.	CS Fullerton	194.395

and then nearly scored another 10 on the floor exercise with a career-high 9.975. Willis was selected as last week's Pac-10 Gymnast of the Week, the second such honor of her career.

BRUIN BYTES - Sophomore Malia Jones is expected to return to the lineup after missing two meets with tendonitis in her knee ... Mohini Bhardwaj had a streak of 38 consecutive hit routines snapped after sitting down her vault at Oregon State Feb. 16. To illustrate how impressive Bhardwaj's streak was, UCLA's longest active "hit" streak is currently nine, held by Onnie Willis and Jamie Dantzscher ... Doni Thompson has hit 21 of 22 routines on the uneven bars in her career, a hit percentage of 95.5 ... Thompson is also 18-19 on beam for a 94.7% ... UCLA has not had to count a fall on floor in nearly two years, and its last sub-49 score on floor came in 1999 ... Bhardwaj has hit all 26 floor routines in her career ... Willis and Kristin Parker have each hit all 17 of their floor routines ... The Bruins' score of 49.575 on vault at Oregon State was the second-highest vault total in school history ... UCLA's floor score of 49.65 also ranked second..

UCLA TRAVELS TO MICHIGAN FOR OLYMPIC-SIZED DUAL MEET - All of the collegiate gymnasts from the 2000 U.S. Olympic team will be in action Mar. 9 when Bruins Jamie Dantzscher, Kristen Maloney and Alyssa Beckerman face Olympic teammate Elise Ray of seventh-ranked Michigan in Ann Arbor. Following that meet, the Bruins will take on Michigan State in East Lansing on Mar. 11.

UCLA TO HOST NCAA WEST REGIONALS - The defending NCAA champion and top-ranked UCLA gymnastics team will host the 2001 NCAA West Regional Women's Gymnastics Championship in Pauley Pavilion on Saturday, Apr. 7. The meet begins at 6:00 pm.

Teams from five other universities, plus six at-large individual all-around competitors, will compete for team and individual titles, and the top two teams from each of the six regionals around the country will qualify for the NCAA Championships, which will be held in Athens, GA Apr. 19-21. The five teams and six individual competitors competing at the regional will be determined based on rankings Mar. 26.

Tickets for the regional championships can be purchased at UCLA's Central Ticket Office, (310) UCLA-WIN. Reserved tickets are \$9 for adults and \$7 for youth. General admission prices are \$6 for adults and \$4 for youth.

BRUINS SURROUNDED BY NATIONAL CHAMPIONS - If any one team in the nation knows what it takes to win, it is UCLA. Not only have nine Bruins won an NCAA team title, but many have won national championships for their respective countries. Included amongst UCLA's national champions are: Kristen Maloney (1998, 1999 U.S. all-around and 2000 vault and floor champ), Yvonne Tousek (2000 Canadian all-around, bars and floor champ, 1999 floor and vault champ), Jamie Dantzscher (1999 U.S. bars champ), Alyssa Beckerman (2000 U.S. beam champ) and Doni Thompson (1995 U.S. beam champ), not to mention defending NCAA bars champion Mohini Bhardwaj.

HEAD COACH VALORIE KONDOS FIELD - In her 11th season as head coach of the Bruins, Valorie Kondos Field has positioned her team as the premier program in collegiate gym-

nastics. Not only has she consistently recruited the top talent in the world, but she has produced the results. In the past five years alone, Kondos Field has led UCLA to two NCAA titles and one runner-up finish, four Regional titles and three Pac-10 Championships. She has been voted the national coach of the year by her peers three times in the past five years.

DEAR DIARY - Head coach Valorie Kondos Field will share her thoughts with readers in an online diary published by CNNSI.com. Kondos Field's diaries will run on Wednesdays.

BRUINS SIGN ANOTHER IMPRESSIVE RECRUITING CLASS - Following two straight top-notch recruiting classes, that saw the likes of Doni Thompson, Kristen Maloney and Jamie Dantzscher come to Westwood, head coach Valorie Kondos Field

has signed another stellar class for the 2002 season. Set to join the Bruins next year are 2000 Canadian Olympian Michelle Conway and Level 10 standout Christie Tedmon.

Conway, who trains at Sport Seneca, had a 13th-place finish on floor at the Olympic Games. At the 2000 Canadian Championships, she placed third in the all-around, vault and beam, second on floor and fourth on bars. In 1999, she led her team to a gold medal at the Pan American Games and became the first Canadian woman in 20 years to win a Pan Am Games individual medal in the all-around when she captured the silver. Conway also competed at the 1999 World Championships.

Tedmon is a former international elite gymnast from Pozsar's Gymnastics. In 2000, she won a silver medal on floor at the Level 10 Nationals and was third in the all-around and vault and second on beam at the Region 1 Championships. Competing as an international elite, she qualified for the 1998 American Classic and placed first in the all-around, vault, beam and floor at the Region 1 Zone Championships. Tedmon competed at three Level 10 Nationals and won two regional vault titles in 1996 and 1997, as well as a regional floor title in 1997.

2001 Individual Event Winners

BHARDWAJ - 9
All-Around - 2, last 1-28
Vault - 1, 1-28
Bars - 2, last 2-16
Beam - 1, 1-21
Floor - 3, last 1-28

DANTZSCHER - 8
Bars - 4, last 2-11
Floor - 4, last 2-16

WILLIS - 7
All-Around - 2, last 2-16
Vault - 3, last 2-16
Bars - 1, 1-26
Floor - 1, 2-11

PARKER - 6
All-Around - 1, 1-19
Vault - 3, last 1-28
Beam - 1, 1-28
Floor - 1, 1-19

TOUSEK - 4
Bars - 1, 1-14
Beam - 1, 1-14
Floor - 2, last 1-26

MALONEY - 4
Beam - 4, last 2-16

THOMPSON - 2
All-Around - 1, 1-14
Floor - 1, 1-26

JONES - 1
All-Around - 1, 1-26