The OFFICIAL MAGAZINE *of* Ucla ATHLETICS

BRUIN blue

FALL 2017

MISS VAL

KONDOS FIELD
Anxious for nothing and grateful for everything

PLUS:

Josh Rosen
EMBRACING THE JOURNEY

FIRST LOOK

Go inside UCLA's Wasserman Football Center

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

UP CLOSE WITH *Darwin Beacham*

FILL IN THE BLANK: *One-on-one with Zoey Goralski*

& **GUERRERO**

THE INSIDER'S VIEW

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THE INSIDER'S VIEW

WELCOME FROM ATHLETICS DIRECTOR DAN GUERRERO

DAN GUERRERO

The start of a new year is traditionally the most popular time to make a major change in life. Whether it's quitting a bad habit, beginning a new exercise routine or diet, or resolving to be better in some other way, most of us see New Year's Day as a fresh start. But on a college campus, fall is also a season of new beginnings. The start of a new school year is a turning of the page, and presents an opportunity for all of us to reevaluate ourselves, including where we've been, where we currently stand, where we are going, and who we want to be along the way. What are the core values that will guide us forward?

Sometimes, a fresh start comes with the flipping of a calendar — a clean slate, a new school year with a blank notebook, or a new season with a 0-0 record. UCLA students and our fall sports teams can certainly relate to that. In this issue, you'll gain some insight into Josh Rosen's new perspective this football season, having come back from season-ending surgery in 2016.

Sometimes, a fresh start comes from enduring a personal battle and coming out on the other side. You'll read in this issue about Miss Val's triumph over breast cancer. Anyone who has had the privilege of spending time with Val could anticipate that the attitude with which she approaches coaching gymnastics, and life in general, would serve her well in such a battle, and it did. One of the most valuable lessons she teaches her student-athletes during their time at UCLA is about choice and personal accountability: how the choices you make impact everything in your life. Not only does personal accountability result in a benefit for a team, but it also has an equal, if not more significant impact on the person practicing it. Miss Val chose to focus on gratitude, rather than anxiety, and we are all grateful to see her on the other side, cancer free.

Sometimes, a fresh start comes from the infusion of something new — an external influence that breathes new life into a person or an organization. This point in time is a defining moment for UCLA Athletics. We just embarked upon a record-setting new apparel and footwear partnership with Under Armour, the global leader in innovative sports performance products. Under Armour is a visionary brand that continuously invests in new, cutting-edge technology and develops some of the finest product on the market. We feel strongly that this partnership gives our student-athletes the tools they need to perform at the highest level, and the greatest competitive advantage, now and in the future.

As part of the partnership launch, Under Armour worked tirelessly with us to build a comprehensive new branding initiative that maintains the most important traditions and staples of the UCLA brand, but also evolves our brand essence with an eye toward the future. With the help of Under Armour's extensive branding and marketing arm, as well as its commitment to storytelling, we will further solidify our brand at home and abroad.

On August 1, we opened the state-of-the-art Wasserman Football Center, a building that can, without a doubt, be considered among the best football operations facilities in the nation. It provides our student-athletes with the resources and support to pursue excellence every single day, and guarantees that UCLA will continue to be the premier intercollegiate athletics program in the nation.

We are also within months of opening the Mo Ostin Basketball Center, which will serve as a fantastic new home for both our men's and women's basketball programs. These milestones are a testament to the outstanding support of our community, and their significance for our current student-athletes and for the future of UCLA Athletics cannot be overstated. We will look back upon this moment in time as one that elevated us to a new level.

A fresh start can be born from a multitude of events or factors, but it doesn't have to be. Sometimes, it doesn't come from any external forces, but rather, from the simple decision to make a change. We each have the opportunity to wake up on any given day, at any given time in our lives, and change any part that doesn't make us happy or content. A self-reflection could be the key to finding that which is currently lacking in one's life. It could be virtues such as patience, tolerance, inclusiveness, open-mindedness or appreciation. Or, it could be one of those New Year's Resolutions I mentioned at the beginning of this column.

Making a change, especially a major one, can seem daunting, but in times when a task feels too big or overwhelming, I like to remember one of Coach Wooden's many pieces of wisdom: "Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." It's fitting that Coach Wooden and Miss Val had such a close relationship, and it would serve us all well to remember Coach's words, and Miss Val's lesson about choice and personal accountability, and take them with us into each day.

I'm looking forward to a terrific year for UCLA Athletics. I know you are as well!

Go Bruins!

Dan Guerrero

Dan

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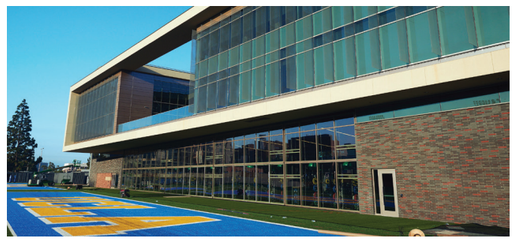

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UCLA ATHLETICS ECLIPSES GOAL

Comprehensive campaign aimed at benefiting student-athletes.

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WRITERS:
CHRIS FOSTER, EMILY LERNER

MANAGING EDITOR:
DANNY HARRINGTON
dharrington@athletics.ucla.edu

LAYOUT & DESIGN:
IMG COLLEGE
KRISTY MARQUES, SARAH JANE SNOWDEN, MATT COY, KRISTIN PRATT, MATT MONTAVON

ADVERTISING:
IMG COLLEGE
DAMON DUKAKIS
(310) 825-0328
Damon.Dukakis@img.com

IMG

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG DREAMS

LONZO BALL *walks across the stage after being drafted second overall by the Los Angeles Lakers during the first round of the 2017 NBA Draft at Barclays Center on June 22, 2017 in New York City. (Photo: Mike Stobe/Getty Images)*

INSET: **TJ LEAF** *joins NBA commissioner* **ADAM SILVER** *after being drafted 18th overall by the Indiana Pacers during the first round of the 2017 NBA Draft. Leaf was one of three UCLA players taken in the draft, joining* **LONZO BALL** *and* **IKE ANIGBOGU** *(not pictured). (Photo: Mike Stobe/Getty Images)*

HOME SWEET HOME

The **UCLA FOOTBALL TEAM** *officially kicked off fall training camp under the lights on Aug. 2, as the team began preparation for its season opener against SEC opponent Texas A&M on Sunday, Sept. 3 at the Rose Bowl. The rare Sunday kickoff is slated for 4:30 p.m. (Photo: Jesus Ramirez)*

INSET: Donors and special guests gathered at UCLA on Aug. 1 to celebrate the grand opening of the new state-of-the-art **WASSERMAN FOOTBALL CENTER**. *The building officially opened one day prior to the start of fall camp on Aug. 2. (L-R): Athletic Director* **DAN GUERRERO**, **CASEY WASSERMAN**, *Chancellor* **GENE BLOCK** *and head coach* **JIM MORA**. *(Photo: Don Liebig).*

Athletics
2017

Behind the Scenes with UCLA Athletics

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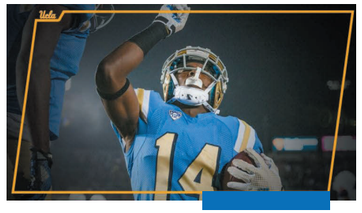

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EASLEY HONORED

Bruin great **KENNY EASLEY** *poses with his bust during the Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium on August 5, 2017 in Canton, Ohio. Easley will be honored at halftime of UCLA's season opener against Texas A&M on Sept. 3. (Photo: Joe Robbins/Getty Images)*

2017 UCLA FALL SPORT
HOME SCHEDULES

WOMEN'S SOCCER

AUG. 11	@ 5PM	VS. CANADA FISU
AUG. 13	@ 6PM	VS. CSU BAKERSFIELD
AUG. 18	@ 7PM	VS. SAN DIEGO STATE
AUG. 24	@ 7PM	VS. SANTA CLARA
AUG. 27	@ 5:30PM	VS. UC SANTA BARBARA
SEPT. 15	@ 7PM	VS. PEPPERDINE
SEPT. 28	@ 5PM	VS. OREGON
OCT. 1	@ 1PM	VS. OREGON STATE
OCT. 12	@ 8PM	VS. UTAH
OCT. 26	@ 7:30 PM	VS. STANFORD
OCT. 29	@ 1PM	VS. CALIFORNIA
NOV. 3	@ 7PM	VS. USC

MEN'S SOCCER

AUG. 16	@ 7PM	VS. UTAH VALLEY
AUG. 20	@ 7PM	VS. L.A. ALL-STARS
SEPT. 11	@ 7PM	VS. UNLV
SEPT. 24	@ 6PM	VS. CSUN
SEPT. 28	@ 8PM	VS. CALIFORNIA
OCT. 1	@ 5PM	VS. STANFORD
OCT. 15	@ 5PM	VS. SAN DIEGO STATE
OCT. 26	@ 4:30PM	VS. OREGON STATE
OCT. 29	@ 5PM	VS. WASHINGTON

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

SEPT. 13	@ 2PM	VS. LOYOLA MARYMOUNT
SEPT. 20	@ 8PM	VS. USC
SEPT. 22	@ 8PM	VS. OREGON
SEPT. 29	@ 7PM	VS. WASHINGTON
OCT. 1	@ 1PM	VS. WASHINGTON STATE
OCT. 13	@ 8PM	VS. STANFORD
OCT. 14	@ TBA	VS. CALIFORNIA
NOV. 3	@ 6PM	VS. ARIZONA
NOV. 4	@ 7PM	VS. ARIZONA STATE
NOV. 9	@ 8PM	VS. COLORADO
NOV. 10	@ TBA	VS. UTAH

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(Photo: Deanna Hong)

ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING & GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING

by **CHRIS FOSTER**

The words careened through Valorie Kondos Field's head that June day in 2014.

The UCLA gymnastics coach was on the phone with her doctor and learned she had breast cancer. The image of her mother, who had died of colon cancer many years earlier, shot to mind. The memories of those terrible days danced through her head.

Yet there was something else. As soon as she hung up the phone, she heard the words that would accompany her on this journey.

"I heard very clearly, 'Be anxious for nothing and grateful for all things,'" Kondos remembered. "It was like universal energy, something cosmic, that to me translated as God. And I heard it twice."

Kondos (or Miss Val as she is affectionately known) told her husband, former UCLA football defensive coordinator and associate athletic director, Bobby Field, about the voice.

"Bobby told me that it was from the Bible," Kondos said. "I looked it up, and my world just stopped. I had heard it before I read it. This was obviously a commandment, not a suggestion."

It was this new attitude of being grateful that helped her face the disease head on. She immediately changed her inner dialogue from, "I have to go to chemotherapy" to "I get to go to chemotherapy."

Kondos, now cancer free, says that going through a year of treatments has made every aspect of her life better. By applying the commandment of being "anxious for nothing and grateful for everything," Kondos has seen everything in life "explode in living color," she said.

Even in retrospect, those words apply to how she has shaped her career.

During her time at UCLA, Kondos has evolved into one of the premier gymnastics coaches in the nation, even though the only formal training she had was in classical ballet and piano.

Her first taste of gymnastics came in 1976 when she was 16 and looking for summer employment. She contacted a local gym and asked to be their dance coach. When they heard she was a pianist, they hired her to play the compulsory and optional floor exercise routines.

Six years later, she was beginning her first season with the Washington D.C. Ballet when she heard UCLA needed a dance coach for their gymnastics team. She contacted the head coach, told him her credentials and was offered a full scholarship in lieu of a salary to be the school's dance coach/choreographer/balance beam coach.

In 1990, after eight years of being an assistant coach and choreographer — while also earning a degree in history from UCLA — Kondos was hired as the Bruins' head coach. Senior women's administrator Dr. Judith Holland felt she was perfect for the job.

"I was looking and looking for a coach," remembered Holland. "I got to thinking one night, thinking that here was this very good person who was a good recruiter and got along with all the gymnasts. I told my secretary the next day to find Miss Val."

Kondos added, "I remember being shocked when she asked me to be the new head coach, and all I could think to tell her was that I didn't even like sweatpants and tennis shoes."

She ultimately accepted the job, but with the team struggling in her first two years in charge, Kondos decided to resign, feeling she was correct in her assertion that this wasn't the job for her. While walking through the UCLA bookstore on her way to deliver the news, she came across coach John Wooden's book on leadership and opened it to the page that contains one of his most famous quotes. It read, "Success is peace of mind which is a direct

ARIANA BERLIN *(right) was working a show at SeaWorld when Kondos Field noticed her and asked her to be a part of UCLA's team.*

MISS VAL

ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING & GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING

result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming."

This, as she described it, "was the biggest 'aha' moment of my life." In order to be successful in the job of head gymnastics coach, she had to be her best and not try to be someone else, as she had been doing.

"It was the first time I understood that when you try to be someone else, you become a second-rate version of someone else," Kondos explained.

To UCLA's benefit, Kondos decided to stay on as coach. She became, as she said, "a leader worth following," leading the Bruins to unprecedented heights, including all six of the program's NCAA team titles. Kondos would go on to be named the national coach of the year four times and is a member of the UCLA Athletic Hall of Fame (her husband will join her there this year). In 2016, she was named the Pac-12 Gymnastics Coach of the Century, joining the likes of Coach Wooden, who won the same award for men's basketball.

Kondos' shift to believing in and becoming her best was rooted in her 17 years of classical ballet training.

"I knew how to work through pain, to work hard, but most importantly, I knew how to prepare well enough to be calm and confident when I stepped on the stage," says Kondos.

This was exactly what she needed to impart on her student-athletes.

Over her 27-year career as a head coach, her lack of formal gymnastics knowledge and training has been refreshing to her young gymnasts.

"Gymnastics is pretty cutthroat," said Samantha Peszek, a 2008 U.S. Olympic silver medalist who competed for UCLA from 2011-15. "You get serious at a young age. It felt good to have a coach who wanted her athletes to do well, but her definition of success was peace of mind, knowing you did your best, rather than performance-based."

"One of Miss Val's major lessons is about choice," said Ariana Berlin, who competed at UCLA from 2006-09. "The choices you make impact everything in your life."

Dr. Holland didn't know how close Kondos had come to quitting. She would have been unlikely to accept the resignation.

"I thought she was the best dance coach in the nation, hands down," Dr. Holland said. "With her background, she had the ability to see things other people couldn't."

Her appeal as a coach has been attractive to gymnasts who have performed on the biggest stage. Olympic gold medalists Madison Kocian (2016) and Kyla Ross (2012) — the only gold medalists to ever compete in college — competed for UCLA this past season.

In 1998, Kondos made another decision that would have a big impact on her career and her life. She nagged her husband for three solid weeks to invite Coach Wooden to dinner.

Field finally called Coach Wooden and said, "I'm sure you get 100 invitations a day and know you have other obligations and the last thing you need is another invitation …' Coach Wooden cut in and said, 'Bobby, I'm confused, are you inviting me to dinner or telling me why I shouldn't come?'"

Coach Wooden did, in fact, come to dinner, and that was the start of an extremely close and familial relationship that would thrive until the day he died.

VALORIE KONDOS FIELD *watches the scores come up at the 2004 NCAA Championships at Pauley Pavilion, where the Bruins won their fifth NCAA title.*

One of Kondos' fondest memories of Coach Wooden was in 2004. The UCLA gymnastics team had just won their fourth NCAA Championship in five years, and she and Coach Wooden were interviewed by the *Los Angeles Times*. The writer said, "Miss Val, you are becoming the next John Wooden." Before she could respond, Coach Wooden jumped in quickly and said, "Why would she want to be another Coach Wooden when she can be a great Valorie Kondos Field?"

Being "a great Valorie Kondos Field," as Coach Wooden said, was important from the time she received the news that she had breast cancer.

THE WOODEN ATHLETIC FUND

Chris and Jennifer Arranaga Invest in Tomorrow's Champions Today.

Chris and Jennifer Arranaga are passionately committed to UCLA and supporting Bruin student-athletes through the Wooden Athletic Fund. Chris, President of Gorilla Marketing, earned his BA at UCLA in 1982, then obtained his MBA from UCLA's Anderson School in 1985. His wife Jennifer is also a UCLA graduate who earned her BA from UCLA in 1995 in Anthropology. Jennifer founded her own publicity and public relations firm, The Trinity Group, in 2012. But it was when Jennifer worked at UCLA Athletics, first in Fan Travel, then in Corporate Sponsorships, that she met Chris, and the two have been inseparable since.

Attending UCLA was an experience that continues to positively impact both of their lives. Chris' company is one of UCLA's Alliance Vendors, and his promotional items have been used by UCLA Athletics for their annual donor gifts as well as for department events and giveaways since the 1980's.

Chris began bringing his daughter Gennifer to UCLA campus when she was little enough to fit under the Bruin Bear statue. She went on to not only earn her BA at UCLA, but played on the Bruin basketball team. As a parent of a Bruin student-athlete, Chris got to see firsthand the great opportunities bestowed on student-athletes, and how important it is to give back.

Having always been concerned with the prestige and integrity of UCLA, Chris stays connected and involved, as he believes it enhances the value of his own education. He first began contributing to UCLA Athletics in the 1990's with gifts to UCLA Women's Basketball, and he and Jen became Wooden Athletic Fund donors in 2003 when they joined at the Bruin All-Conference level. The Arranagas have upgraded their membership four levels to where they are now Director's Circle members.

"I loved going to UCLA and was lucky enough to get the opportunity to earn my BA and my MBA there. Besides the great education I received, I met my wife Jen here, and then my daughter Gennifer played basketball for the Bruins. Giving back to UCLA has always been important to me. UCLA continues to provide part of my living, but more importantly, it's part of my social outlet too. I give back to the University that gave me my earlier opportunities and some of my greatest life experiences."

UCLA and the UCLA Athletic Department thank the 8,513 Wooden Athletic Fund members, including the Arranagas.

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MISS VAL

ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING & GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING

"I went into combat mode," Kondos said. "I refused to let cancer be a stigma. I told people who knew not to treat me like I was sick. Sick is when you feel horrible. I felt fine. One of the biggest choices I made was to label my chemo treatments as my chemo spa, because a spa is where you go to feel better."

> *"I refused to let cancer be a stigma. I told people who knew not to treat me like I was sick. I looked at the chemo treatments like they were a spa. I was going to the spa to get better."*
>
> **— Valorie Kondos Field**

Kondos mostly kept the news private. Being at a top research institution like UCLA, she was fortunate to be placed into a special study that gave her targeted chemotherapy.

"It was like a smart bomb attacking only the cancer cells and not everything else in my body," said Kondos. This chemotherapy was the type that didn't result in hair loss or sap her strength. She missed only one gymnastics meet.

While Kondos withheld the news from the gymnastics community — "I didn't want them to treat me like I was sick" — she made a point of talking about it in detail to her team.

"It was so great to be able to share it with these young women," Kondos said. "That was a gift."

She went so far as to invite her student-athletes to feel the tumor.

"It sounds a little weird and I'm not sure how the HR Department would react, but these young women had been told their whole lives to do self-examination, and we're all told to feel for something that feels like a hard round pea," said Kondos. "I just said, 'Does anyone want to know what a malignant tumor feels like?' I remember one athlete saying, 'This is weird I'm feeling Miss Val's boob,' to which I replied, 'No you're feeling what a malignant tumor feels like.'"

For her athletes, this was just Miss Val being Miss Val. Each student-athlete has a story about how Miss Val has affected their life.

Berlin, who stopped competing in gymnastics after being seriously injured in an automobile accident when she was 14, was performing as a hip-hop dancer in a SeaWorld show that Kondos had choreographed. Kondos was so impressed by her work ethic on the show that she invited her to walk on at UCLA, allowing Berlin to achieve her long-time dream to be coached by Kondos. Berlin would go on to compete in every meet in her career and became a four-time All-American.

To say Berlin and Kondos are close is an understatement.

"I call my mom about everything," Berlin says. "Then I call Miss Val to get a second opinion."

Peszek, a three-time NCAA Champion, has a similar relationship with Kondos and appreciates how Kondos mentors both inside and outside of the gym.

"I was taking this class that was really giving me a hard time," remembered Peszek. "It wasn't going well, and midterms were coming up. Miss Val told me to skip practice, that I was doing fine in the gym, and to take a day to study.

"She is empathetic and understands what you're going through, especially the little things. She listens and helps you find a solution without making you feel guilty."

Kondos consistently stresses that message in the many speaking engagements she is asked to do and is currently working on a book entitled, "Winning In Heels." In it, she hopes to reach and empower more women of all ages.

"I tell them that there is only one thing that's important — that's taking responsibility for your life, your thoughts, emotions and actions," Kondos said. "Once you do, you can start choreographing your own life. You only get one life, and it's yours to do to the best of your abilities. Be grateful for that every day."

And anxious for nothing.

VALORIE KONDOS FIELD *and her husband* **BOBBY FIELD** *(far right) enjoyed a special relationship with legendary UCLA basketball coach* **JOHN WOODEN**.

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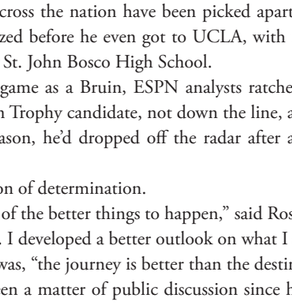
by **CHRIS FOSTER**



JOSH ROSEN

Talented signal caller is embracing the journey, not the destination.

Throughout the offseason, UCLA center Scott Quessenberry watched quarterback Josh Rosen.

"One of the guys would be having a dark day and you could see that getting through the workout was going to be tough," Quessenberry said. "Josh would step in. He'd push them, 'come on, you got this, we need you.' He wasn't being a rah-rah guy, but he would know the right thing to say."

Quessenberry had a word for that.

"Juice," he said.

This is the path to leadership Rosen has been following.

"It's how you play on the field and how you carry yourself, whether you can be a person teammates can rely on all year," Rosen said. "It's up to me to push the envelope and it's up to the team to give me the go-ahead."

Few student-athletes across the nation have been picked apart as much as Rosen, now a junior. He was scrutinized before he even got to UCLA, with the glare of the spotlight finding him at Bellflower St. John Bosco High School.

After playing his first game as a Bruin, ESPN analysts ratcheted up the hyperbole by touting him as a Heisman Trophy candidate, not down the line, as a freshman. By the end of Rosen's sophomore season, he'd dropped off the radar after a season-ending shoulder injury in the sixth game.

That led to an off-season of determination.

"Getting hurt was one of the better things to happen," said Rosen, now a junior. "I took a step back and refreshed. I developed a better outlook on what I am trying to do."

The lesson last season was, "the journey is better than the destination," Rosen said.

Rosen's journey has been a matter of public discussion since he was at St. John Bosco. He was the No. 2-ranked quarterback in the nation after throwing for 8,473 yards and 90 touchdowns during his high school career. Every big-time school wooed him. He chose UCLA and enrolled early to prepare for the 2015 season.

More success followed. In the season opener against Virginia, Rosen threw for 350 yards and three touchdowns in a performance that impressed.

Rosen finished with 3,688 yards passing, topping 300 yards six times, and 23 touchdowns.

It was a whirlwind season.

"I enrolled early, started as a true freshman, I was going 100 miles per hour," Rosen said.

Rosen was asked to perform that season. The Bruins were well-stocked in leadership, including linebacker Eric Kendricks, center Jake Brendel and receiver Jordan Payton.

JOSH ROSEN

EMBRACING THE JOURNEY

UCLA had eight players taken in the 2016 NFL Draft.

"That was a senior-heavy team," Quessenberry said. "We had leadership in all different forms. There wasn't much that needed to be said after [Eric Kendricks] was done talking."

Rosen took on more of a follower role.

"I just kept my head down and listened to everyone and worked hard," Rosen said.

Still, leadership qualities were apparent, even before he came to UCLA.

"You saw it in high school, for sure," head coach Jim Mora said. "That doesn't always translate to college. It's all about action, performance, commitment, accountability. Those things demonstrate leadership."

Rosen knew the evolution would take time.

"It's a slow transition," he said. "Over the course of a career, you take on more and more. You grow older in the program."

But Rosen also benefited from a life-changing moment.

Late in the sixth game last season, while trying to rally the Bruins against Arizona State, he was sandwiched by two defenders and slammed to the ground. The result was a shoulder injury that required season-ending surgery.

"I've been there," said Quessenberry, who missed the 2015 season after a shoulder injury. "Those can be dark days."

Yet Rosen found the silver lining. The opportunity to step away from the day-to-day grind, he said, "was refreshing and gave me a better outlook on what I'm trying to do."

Those thoughts accelerated at the start of the new year.

"On Jan. 1, I was watching the bowl games, seeing other guys getting to play in them," Rosen said. "I knew I had to change how I approached things physically and mentally."

> *"Getting hurt was one of the better things to happen. I took a step back and refreshed. I developed a better outlook on what I am trying to do."*
>
> **— Josh Rosen**

The change was subtle, but effective.

"It's like if you're bowling with bumpers," Rosen said. "You can fire the ball down the lane or you can try to stay off the edges and stay down the middle. You get more pins that way."

Translation:

"You don't want to ruffle any feathers," Rosen said. "You want to be supportive and help as many guys as you can."

Quessenberry and other UCLA players noticed a difference.

"It wasn't just showing up on time for workouts, it was showing up early," Quessenberry said. "It was working with the young quarterbacks, keeping them on track. If someone needed juice, he'd give them juice. It was a cool thing to be around, watching him grow into the role."

Rosen said he looked for ways each day to have an impact.

"Sometimes it was stepping in when guys had a disagreement, sometimes it was just killing a workout," he said. "I was looking for anything that could earn their respect."

Word was trickling back to the coaches.

"He didn't play much last year, and it's hard to have a leadership role when you're injured and not playing," Mora said. "All the indications we were getting in the offseason was he had matured as a leader."

That seemed clear in spring practice.

Rosen has always had a swashbuckler personality as a player. He has exuded confidence in his own abilities, accepting the challenge, even if it sometimes meant gambling on throws.

Critics could fuel those desires. Rosen admits, "I am so confident in my abilities that I felt I could prove everyone wrong."

Spring practice saw a change. The swagger remained, but there was an eagerness to absorb new ways to approach the job.

Jedd Fisch, a veteran NFL and college coach, was brought in to be UCLA's offensive coordinator. Rosen set about doing things the way Fisch wanted them done.

Fisch said, "I knew his talent was extremely high." What he learned was that Rosen was, "phenomenal to coach."

It's the way Rosen carried himself during spring practice that impressed Fisch.

"He has embraced what we have asked of him in terms of studying and preparedness and leadership on the field," Fisch said. "And he has been trusting when we're doing something a little bit different. Doing what he has done has gotten him to where he is at. We want to help him get higher and better than that."

The change in approach comes, in part, from a change in focus.

Rosen's NFL future has long been a source of speculation. That chatter has become louder with Rosen eligible to declare for the draft after this season. In May, he was projected as the first-overall pick by *Sports Illustrated's* Chris Burke.

In the past, such talk might have found Rosen's ear. The view now, he said, was to look no further than the next day.

"I'm taking everything for what it is and not looking down the line," Rosen said. "Right now I'm having fun every day. I'm excited about what's coming the next day."

That single-minded focus had others falling in behind.

"Josh is the type of guy where you feed off his energy," Quessenberry said. "We're ready to follow his lead."

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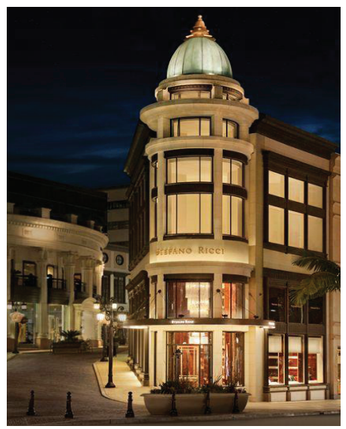

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A Q&A with

DARWIN BEACHAM

UCLA's Director of Football Equipment Operations

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN THIS PROFESSION?

I was a sophomore in college at Michigan State and I was working a part-time job with the event staff in the athletics department. One day I saw football practice going on at Spartan Stadium, so I asked my boss 'Who are all the kids out there running around?' He explained to me that they were student managers. I asked him what the chances were that I could get a job like that and he made a call for me. Next thing you know, I'm working as a student manager that spring. From there I was able to get an internship with the New York Jets right out of college. I've also worked in the NFL with the Redskins and in Major League Baseball with the Nationals. All of those jobs have gotten me to where I am today.

DO YOU NOTICE ANY DIFFERENCE IN WORKING WITH PROFESSIONAL VERSUS COLLEGE ATHLETES?

I feel the biggest difference is that professional athletes take what they do very seriously because it's their job. Student-athletes like to have fun and can goof around a little bit more. But in terms of how I approach the job, there is no difference. Also, Coach Mora likes to run his program like a professional organization. He wants his players to be taken care of and to be able to get everything they can, within the NCAA rules, of course. Even when I was a student manager, if we had a player come in and want an extra pair of socks, the answer was almost always no. But Coach Mora does not want his players to be in that type of situation, so we try to help out where we can.

AS MANY PEOPLE KNOW, UNDER ARMOUR IS THE NEW APPAREL PROVIDER FOR UCLA ATHLETICS. WHO HAS INPUT ON WHAT KIND OF GEAR THE PLAYERS WEAR?

It varies depending on the organization or university. But it is almost always someone with the team — whether that's a head coach, assistant coach, or operations person — working hand-in-hand with the equipment manager. At UCLA, I'll tell you that Coach Mora definitely likes to have a say in what type of equipment the team gets. In fact, he's told me before that if he wasn't a head coach he would be an equipment guy. He's a gear guy and is someone who likes to have input, which is great. I don't think he ever wants a situation where we are just handed equipment without someone from UCLA having a say in it and I think that's a good thing. So a lot of the looks that you'll see on our football team this year, much of it is a result of his input.

HOW MUCH INPUT DO THE PLAYERS HAVE ON WHAT THEY WEAR?

When it comes to designing what the uniforms will look like, that's obviously more of a high-level discussion between the apparel provider and the school administration. But we will seek input from the players, usually the captains, on certain looks for a game, or things they would like to see from an apparel perspective. We have roughly 120 guys on the roster and we try our best to customize every piece of equipment for that particular player. Also, this is performance gear, so you want it to fit properly, especially in a sport like football where you don't want anything loose or hanging off that will give an opponent something extra to hang onto.

HOW DO YOU KEEP THE EQUIPMENT AND APPAREL ORGANIZED FOR 120 PLAYERS AND COACHES?

I'll be honest, it's a lot of organized chaos. There are definitely some days where if you were to walk into the equipment room it might look like a disaster. But we have a system and we use a pretty extensive database that keeps track of all the player sizes and particulars that come with their equipment from head to toe. Moving into the new building, I wasn't sure exactly how I wanted to lay things out, but it's starting to come together. If you walked over there now, you would see 120 player bins all filled with everything from each player's travel bag, game helmet, practice helmet — essentially all their gear for the year. It's a lot of work on the front end, but once it's all sorted out and put together, everything flows a lot easier.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE JOB?

Well first and foremost, I love football. I played in high school and didn't have the opportunity to play in college, but I still wanted to be involved in the game. Being able to have the best seat in the house for college football games every Saturday; it doesn't get better than that. The other thing I really like is when I see pictures or video of our players and they look good. I know I had a part in that and there is a sense of accomplishment there. It makes you feel good about doing your job.

YOU'VE HAD A BUSY LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS IN TERMS OF HAVING TO MOVE INTO A NEW FACILITY AND DEAL WITH THE CHANGE OF APPAREL PARTNERS, NOT TO MENTION THE PROMOTION IN JOB TITLE.

Oh yeah, it's definitely been busy. People always ask me how I'm doing and they always look at me weird when I say this, but I'm really looking forward to camp starting. I think the start of camp would give me the sense of normalcy that I'm used to instead of having all this extra stuff going on. We are pretty much done with the Under Armour transition as far as getting all the items in. And we're in the new facility now, so that part is taken care of. Now it's just getting everything organized and ready for the season. Now that I'm the director, there is also just learning the day-to-day things associated with being the boss and dealing with issues as they come up. These last few months have been a challenge, but I think it's been a smooth transition.

HOW HAS THE NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH UNDER ARMOUR BEEN FOR YOU?

I can tell you this; our players love the new gear, especially the footwear. The cleats always seem to be the thing that if a player has an issue, they will let you know right away, and I can tell you we have had zero problems thus far. I would say that outside the normal logistical issues of actually getting all of our equipment here and ready to go in time for camp, it's been a great thing for this department.

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Head Coach Jim Mora

FIRST LOOK

INSIDE THE WASSERMAN FOOTBALL CENTER

Open nearly two years after the groundbreaking, the Wasserman Football Center is home to the UCLA football program. The state-of-the-art training facility, which was designed by ZGF Architects LLP and constructed by PCL Construction of Los Angeles, spans approximately 75,000 square feet of space that encompasses the Troy Aikman Strength and Conditioning Center, the Jim and Carol Collins Head Football Coach's Office, locker rooms, training and treatment room, Gregory and Jodi Perlman Nutrition Center, Mary and John Manuck Hydrotherapy Room and meeting spaces such as the Terry and Andrea Donahue Team Auditorium. Other amenities include the Joseph and Patricia Yzurdiaga Barbershop, Andy and Shannon Meyers Players' Lounge, and Marilyn Silva-Lund and David Lund Recruiting Lounge and Terrace.

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ZOEY GORALSKI

PEOPLE TEND TO ASSUME THAT I'M *organized,* BUT THE TRUTH IS I'M REALLY *quite messy.* MY FAVORITE PART OF BEING A UCLA STUDENT-ATHLETE IS *being surrounded by excellent athletes and people,* BUT IF I COULD SWITCH LIVES WITH ANYONE FOR 24 HOURS IT WOULD BE *Guy Fieri because he gets to eat fantastic food everywhere in the country.* I WOULD NEVER GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT MY *coffee* AND WHEN I'M NOT PLAYING SOCCER I CAN OFTEN BE FOUND *taking a nap in my bed.* WESTWOOD IS GREAT AND MY FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS IS *Powell Library,* BUT IF I COULD GO HOME FOR A DAY I WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE TO HEAD TO *Portillo's (the best hot dogs in Chicago).* IN 10 YEARS I HOPE TO BE *surrounded by dogs and living on the beach.* SOMETIMES AFTER A DIFFICULT PRACTICE OR WORKOUT I LIKE TO WIND DOWN BY *reading a Harry Potter book.* THE BEST ADVICE THAT ANYONE HAS EVER GIVEN ME WAS *to fake it until you make it.* IF I WON THE LOTTERY I WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE TO *visit Greece and then take some of the money and eat at a 4-star restaurant every night.* SOMETHING THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT ME IS *that I'm pretty good at crossword puzzles.* THE UCLA STUDENT-ATHLETE THAT YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO WATCH PLAY IN PERSON IS *Jessie Fleming.* THE ONE THING I WISH I HAD KNOWN BEFORE MY FRESHMAN YEAR IS *how to cook for myself.* I CHOSE MY UNIFORM NUMBER 26 BECAUSE *I've had the same number since I was 10.* I HAVE NEVER BEEN PROUDER THAN WHEN I *committed to be a Bruin!*

Zoey Goralski #26

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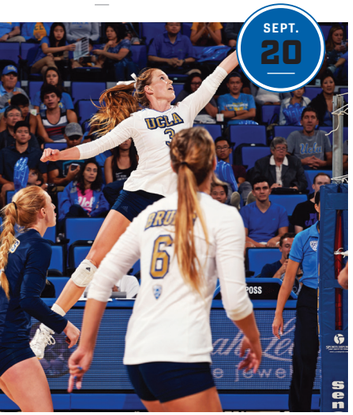
8/17

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FIVE UPCOMING EVENTS TO ATTEND

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS. USC

SEPT. 20



The UCLA women's volleyball team, winners of three straight over its cross-town rival, welcomes USC to Pauley Pavilion on Sept. 20 at 8 p.m. The Bruins' streak started back in 2015 with a 3-2 win at the Galen Center and continued last season when UCLA swept USC in both meetings, one of which included a 3-2 UCLA victory after the Trojans had three match points in the fourth set. Outside hitter Reily Buechler is the senior leader on this year's team, as the All-American helped UCLA to an NCAA Regional Final appearance and a 27-7 overall record a year ago. The Bruins will also have several newcomers on this year's squad, including Iowa Gatorade Player of the Year freshman Mac May, and LMU transfer Sarah Sponcil, who earned All-America honors twice during her three seasons with the Lions.

TIME: 8 P.M.
TICKETS: $8 GENERAL ADMISSION ($5 YOUTH)

MEN'S SOCCER VS. STANFORD

OCT. 1

The four-time national champion UCLA men's soccer team squares off with the two-time defending national champion Stanford Cardinal on Oct. 1 at Drake Stadium. The Bruins bring back a potent group of attackers from last season, including the team's top point scorer Brian Iloski. On the back end, the Bruins retain a young crop of talented players in Matthew Powell and Erik Holt, who helped lead UCLA to its 44th consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance a year ago. The match will prove to be a pivotal test that will likely help determine the winner of the conference crown.

TIME: 5 P.M.
TICKETS: $8 GENERAL ADMISSION ($5 YOUTH)

FOOTBALL VS. OREGON

OCT. 21

UCLA and Oregon have not squared off on the gridiron since 2014 when future Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota and the Ducks left Pasadena with a thrilling 42-30 victory over Brett Hundley and the Bruins. Jim Mora and the Bruins will be bolstered by the return of quarterback Josh Rosen from injury, along with an experienced group of running backs that includes senior Nate Starks and juniors Bolu Olorunfunmi and Soso Jamabo. On defense, linebacker Kenny Young is already making waves by being named to the watch list for the Lott Impact Trophy, an award given to the nation's best defensive player. That Saturday will be "Gary Beban Day" at the Rose Bowl. In addition, UCLA's 2017 Hall of Fame Class will also be recognized on the field.

TIME: TBA
TICKET INFO: 310-UCLA-WIN OR UCLABRUINS.COM/TICKETS

MEN'S WATER POLO VS. USC

The most intense rivalry in all of college water polo takes place at UCLA's Spieker Aquatics Center on Nov. 11, as the Bruins host cross-town rival USC. UCLA finished last season with a 25-3 overall record and a third place finish in the NCAA Tournament. Seniors Max Irving, Matt Farmer and Alex Roelse will lead the way for the Bruins in 2017. Irving was third last year in scoring with 30 goals and was named Second Team All-MPSF and an Honorable Mention All-American. Farmer was seventh on the squad in scoring last year (21 goals) and garnered Honorable Mention All-MPSF acclaim. A 2016 Olympian for Team USA, Roelse was an Honorable Mention All-MPSF selection and was also tabbed as an Honorable Mention All-American after finishing fourth on the team in scoring with 29 goals.

TIME: TBA
TICKETS: FREE ADMISSION

NOV. 11

WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. USC

NOV. 3

Three years ago UCLA and USC set an all-time NCAA women's soccer attendance record when 10,128 fans watched the Bruins defeat the Trojans, 2-0 at the LA Coliseum. UCLA aims to break that attendance record when it hosts USC at Drake Stadium on Nov. 3. The Bruins are led by Olympic bronze medalist and All-American Jessie Fleming, who led the team in scoring as a freshman in 2016. Head coach Amanda Cromwell has assembled a roster that is filled with national team players from the United State, Canada and Australia.

TIME: 7 P.M.
TICKETS: $8 GENERAL ADMISSION ($5 YOUTH)

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UCLA ATHLETICS ECLIPSES GOAL

COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN AIMED AT BENEFITING STUDENT-ATHLETES

by **EMILY LERNER**
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, UCLA ATHLETICS DEVELOPMENT

UCLA Athletics Director **DAN GUERRERO** *(right) presents* **CASEY WASSERMAN** *with a commemorative football during the opening ceremony for the new Wasserman Football Center on Aug. 1. (Photo: Reed Hutchinson)*

UCLA Athletics has produced more world champion athletes, Olympic medal winners, and world record holders than any other school in the country. So it follows that a Bruin student-athlete is offered the best in academics, coaching and training to produce productive and well-rounded individuals. But in order to maintain a first-class athletics program, particularly as UCLA Athletics receives no state funding, private donations and fundraising are critical.

This year, the UCLA Athletics Department has once again eclipsed its annual fund raising goal. In 2013, the UCLA Centennial Campaign was launched with an ambitious goal of raising $4.2 billion for the university. In order to achieve the campaign's goal, each segment of the university established its own target with UCLA Athletics pursuing a goal of $260 million over the term of the campaign. One of the most aggressive fund-raising efforts in the history of intercollegiate athletics, the aim is to meet this goal in 2019, the 100-year anniversary of the founding of UCLA.

This comprehensive campaign is dedicated to providing student-athletes with incomparable experiences both academically and athletically. It focuses on impacting UCLA Athletics and Bruin student-athletes in three separate and distinct ways, each one of equal importance. These are to enhance operational support that provides resources for our more than 650 student-athletes, boost student-athlete support with scholarship endowments, and enhance the student-athletes' overall experience with capital projects that lead to state-of-the-art facilities.

In 2016-17, for the fifth consecutive year, operational and scholarship support gathered through the Wooden Athletic Fund, the department's general fund, reached record-high numbers by raising $14.6 million from an also record-high 8,513 Wooden Athletic Fund members. Contributions to the Wooden Athletic Fund go to each sport for their greatest needs, as determined by the head coaches and the Director of Athletics.

This was also a banner year for the Forever Champions initiative, UCLA Athletics' scholarship endowment program. With the UCLA Chancellor's Centennial Scholars Match Program providing a 50 percent match on any scholarship endowment gift of $125,000 and up, private support for endowments this year alone reached $8.5 million, and 46 new student-athlete scholarship endowments were established. These 46 new scholarships covered 16 different sports, becoming the largest number of new endowments in one year since the inception of the Four Deep Scholarship Endowment Campaign.

Established during the first UCLA Athletics Campaign (1987-92) the Four Deep Scholarship Campaign was the start to building a strong foundation of scholarship support for our student-athletes. Building on the Four Deep campaign, the Forever Champions initiative allows donors to create an endowment to the sport of their choosing. These endowments live on in perpetuity, creating perpetual resources for our student-athletes. This not only supports scholarships for current student-athletes, but the support will be there for generations of student-athletes to come. Additionally, donors also enjoy exclusive lifetime benefits through the Wooden Athletic Fund for establishing a scholarship.

Congruently, donations for capital projects made a tremendous impact on UCLA Athletics in 2016-17, with capital campaigns progressing for the Wasserman Football Center, Mo Ostin Basketball Center, Elvin C. "Ducky" Drake Stadium, Wallis Annenberg Stadium, and the addition of Mapes Beach at Sunset Canyon Recreation Center.

The new on-campus home of UCLA Football, the Wasserman Football Center, opened its doors to great fanfare on Aug. 1, 2017. The new 75,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility boasts all of the amenities necessary for an elite football program. This new center will be a focal point for recruiting and retaining the best student-athletes and coaches, and there are many new amenities afforded football student-athletes. During the Grand Opening celebration of the Wasserman Football Center, more than 300 guests gathered to hear speakers including Chancellor Gene Block, Director of Athletics Dan Guerrero, Head UCLA Football Coach Jim Mora, and the lead donor to the project, Casey Wasserman.

"This is a new chapter for our football program," stated Block. "We have

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an extraordinary facility, and it makes a difference. The Wasserman Football Center is our latest accomplishment and really a reminder of the excellence across all disciplines, from academic to athletics."

The importance of a building like this means everything to an intercollegiate athletic program. The ability to recruit and retain top talent of both student-athletes and coaches is paramount, and state-of-the-art facilities go far in UCLA's ability to do both.

"This building provides the best training facilities in the country — state-of-the-art equipment all designed to ensure the health and safety of our student-athletes, to improve those student-athletes' experience here in Westwood, and of course, to allow them to be at the top of their game and to reach their highest potential," said Guerrero. "Simply put, the Wasserman Football Center will help them shape their future and the future of UCLA Athletics."

In addition to recruiting and retaining top talent, the center will provide current football student-athletes with the resources necessary to train, meet with coaches, view film, procure treatment, and yes, even take time out from classes and practice to relax with their teammates.

Situated adjacent to the Wasserman Football Center, the Mo Ostin Basketball Center will be opening very soon in fall of 2017. The new 35,000 square foot facility will house practice gyms for UCLA men's and women's basketball, locker rooms, athletic training facilities, strength and conditioning areas, equipment and video facilities, and will honor UCLA basketball's storied history and those involved in those historic moments.

While those projects are completed, or close to completion, ongoing projects remain. Elvin C. "Ducky" Drake Stadium, home to UCLA track and field, also received a major renovation this year. On April 29, 2017, "Sherie and Don Morrison Plaza" was dedicated in a ceremony attended by UCLA track and field greats Rafer Johnson and Jackie Joyner-Kersee. The updated plaza features an entryway with magnificent bronze recognitions at the entrance to Drake Stadium highlighting the accomplishments of former UCLA coach Ducky Drake, Johnson and Joyner-Kersee. A wall of honor featuring UCLA's 40-plus Olympic gold medalists, world champions, and world record-holders stands near a timeline of the legacy of UCLA track and field. Johnson shared his thoughts and feelings at the Drake Stadium dedication.

"This is an unbelievable moment for me, to be standing in Drake Stadium where all around us are memories of athletes who have made this university and who have shared in some of those great moments," stated Johnson. "This means a great deal to me."

This not only brings validation and recognition to UCLA's track and field accomplishments, it will also impact current and future student-athletes. By viewing the illustrious history of UCLA track and field, they will know that their achievements will also be recognized.

RAFER JOHNSON *(left) and* **JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE** *pose in front of their plaques at Drake Stadium (Photo: Don Liebig)*

"I've traveled the world and all I can talk about is UCLA. So now when people come to Drake Stadium they will be able to read the rich history of UCLA and what UCLA has to offer on many levels," said Joyner-Kersee. "UCLA, you have made my dreams come true by my just being a student-athlete here."

When you take into consideration all three categories — operational, endowment, and capital project support — what is needed is to thank the many individuals who contributed to UCLA Athletics. Instrumental in this record-breaking year, Josh Rebholz, Senior Associate Athletic Director for External Relations, is well aware of how much Bruin fans love and support the UCLA Athletics program, which is the reason for the record-breaking contributions this year.

"We want to thank the nearly 10,000 individuals who have invested in our student-athletes this past year," said Rebholz. "Due to the generosity of our passionate supporters, we are building a financially sustainable future for UCLA Athletics and making key investments that will enable us to build upon our standing as the premier intercollegiate athletics program in the nation. We are so proud to see alumni, fans and friends of UCLA around the world join us in our dedication to providing our student-athletes with a rewarding experience both academically and athletically, while ensuring our top-ranked programs compete successfully amongst the nation's elite."

Casey Wasserman, whose Wasserman Foundation contributed the lead gift for the new Bruin football center, could not have put it more succinctly.

"It's an honor to be able to have our name on this building," stated Wasserman. "I think athletics is underestimated as a way to change people's lives. To be able to bring young student-athletes to this university, expose them to this university through their skill and their passion … their success in life will not necessarily come from being athletes; it will come from being Bruins."

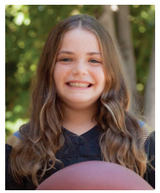
Making a big difference in young lives

The UCLA Kid Captain program recognizes pediatric patients who are facing serious illnesses with exceptional courage, strength and determination. UCLA Athletics and UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital are proud to join together with Bruins everywhere to create special memories for these amazing kids.

For information about how you can become involved, visit: **uclahealth.org/KidCaptain**

Phoenix Murillo

Casey Rohrer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The Wooden Athletic Fund
405 Hilgard Ave.
Box 951639, 175 Morgan Center
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1639

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