

FOUR BIG TEN SQUADS
 RANKED IN PRESEASON COACHES POLL;
 PSU'S PERSONETT NAMED GYMNAST OF THE WEEK

BIG TEN WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS CONTACT
 Robin Jentes, Associate Director of Communications
 E-Mail: rjentes@bigten.org
 Work: (847) 696-1010 ext. 143 • Cell: (773) 368-0048

1500 West Higgins Road • Park Ridge, IL 60068-6300 • Phone: (847) 696-1010 • Fax: (847) 696-1110 • Website: www.bigten.org

Jan. 10, 2007

BIG TEN GYMNAST OF THE WEEK

Brandi Personett, Penn State
 Fr., Katy, Texas/Cinco Ranch

Personett earns her first Gymnast of the Week accolade after finishing third in the all-around at the Super Six Challenge last weekend. In her first collegiate meet, the true freshman scored a 39.075 in the all-around, while also tallying a third-place finish on the floor (9.825) and a fifth-place showing on the beam (9.800). Personett aided the Nittany Lions to a third-place finish at the Super Six Challenge, their best showing ever in the event. The Katy, Texas, native, becomes the first PSU gymnast to claim weekly accolades since Meredith Hoover was honored on March 1, 2006.

THIS WEEK IN THE BIG TEN

January

- 12 ILLINOIS at Missouri 7 p.m.
- LSU at IOWA 7 p.m.
- MICHIGAN at West Virginia 7:30 p.m.
- Arizona at MICHIGAN STATE 8 p.m.
- 13 Iowa State at MINNESOTA 6 p.m.
- Ball State at OHIO STATE 7 p.m.
- PENN STATE at Arkansas 7 p.m.

All times are local to meet site.

LAST WEEK IN THE BIG TEN

January

- 5 Penn State at Super Six Challenge 3rd/6

2007 BIG TEN GYMNASTS OF THE WEEK

Jan. 10 Brandi Personett, Fr., Penn State

GYMINFO PRESEASON POLL

Team	Points
1. Georgia (28)	793
2. Utah (7)	758
3. Florida	697
4. Alabama	684
5. UCLA	615
6. MICHIGAN	594
7. Nebraska	592
8. Stanford	583
9. LSU	526
10. Oklahoma	504
11. Arizona State	451
12. Oregon State	409
13. Iowa State	345
14. PENN STATE	344
15. Arkansas	340
16. Arizona	314
17. Denver	288
18. Missouri	265
19. North Carolina	243
20. Auburn	179
21. MINNESOTA	178
22. Kentucky	112
MICHIGAN STATE	112
24. West Virginia	87
25. Boise State	51

Other team receiving votes: BYU, ILLINOIS, North Carolina State, OHIO STATE, New Hampshire, IOWA, Southern Utah, Maryland, Utah State, Cal State Fullerton, Washington, California, San Jose State, Sacramento State, Pittsburgh, Illinois-Chicago, Ball State, Central Michigan

2007 BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2007 Big Ten Women's Gymnastics Championships will be held on the campus of Penn State University on March 31.

Last year, Minnesota snapped Michigan's seven-year title streak with a winning performance in the 2006 Big Ten Women's Gymnastics Championships. The Gophers, who have been the only group to defeat Michigan in the Big Ten Championships in the past 14 years, celebrated the fifth title in program history.

Be sure to check out the Big Ten website for updated information.

BIG TEN TIDBITS

In the Rankings: Four Big Ten teams are ranked in the GymInfo Preseason Coaches Poll. Michigan, which is rated No. 6, leads all conference squads in the coaches poll, ahead of No. 14 Penn State, No. 21 and No. 22 Michigan State. Illinois, Iowa and Ohio State also received votes.

All-American Returnees: A total of four Big Ten standouts - Michigan's **Becky Bernard**, **Katie Lieberman**, **Carol McNamara** and **Tatjana Thuener-Rego** - who earned All-America honors last season will return in 2007.

Big Ten Success: The Big Ten has recorded nine top-10 team finishes in the last seven years of the NCAA Championships. Last year, Michigan fell just short of the program's 10th Super Six berth as the Wolverines finished fourth in the preliminaries session of the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Championships. Michigan leads all conference schools with 15 appearances in the NCAA Championships and is followed by Iowa and Penn State, which have earned six berths each.